

MEMO

Middlesbrough & Eston Methodist Outburst

JUNE TO
AUGUST 2016



*He has made
everything beautiful
in its time*

Ecclesiastes 3:11

FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Here we are nearly half way through the year! A lot of events, both at home and in church, will now be memories but there is always more to look forward to. You may have a holiday planned, be going to a summer wedding or finishing school, college or university. At church there may be plans afoot for summer fayres, family fun days, holiday clubs and more.

You may have some interesting stories from the past about things you have done or seen in your church or in the Circuit, perhaps something that could be collated as part of the Circuit history. Did you embrace Le Tour de Yorkshire? Would you like to spread the word about something successful that you've been involved in? Has anything happened that you think could encourage others?

Why not share these with the rest of the Circuit and beyond? Remember that MEMO is about us and for us. It would be marvellous if every church could contribute something, no matter how small! We know that there are some great things

happening out there! If you can't get an article to us, we will arrange to pick it up from you.

Two things to look forward to at the beginning of July are 'More than Gold' which will take place at Stewart Park on the 2nd. There will be a more ecumenical feel this year and lots going on – a truly family day out. It is always good to join with others and share the love of God. You can also do this at the Circuit evening service at Grove Hill the following day.

On behalf of Dave and Elaine in the Communications Team I would like to wish you all a happy, warm and sunny summer.

Many blessings
Anne Smith

DEADLINE FOR NEXT EDITION OF MEMO

Please send all contributions to the Communications Team by the 3rd July 2016 C/O the Circuit Office, Nunthorpe Methodist Church, Connaught Road, Nunthorpe, Middlesbrough TS7 0BS

Or email to mbrocircuit@gmail.com



The Superintendent's Letter

Dear friends,

The Open Door

I have just been reading Dorothy Pearson's e-mail from Bethlehem where she is having a working holiday. Her correspondence reminds me of our visit to Bethlehem and to the Church of the Nativity. All who visit must bow down, very low, to get in through the unusually small opening which is the doorway. Once inside one can visit the 'actual place' where Jesus was born. That open doorway reminds me of the beginning of all our worship - the starting point of all our service. For Christians; before we start any new project, begin any new exciting venture for God, put strategies in place or raise funds - our main purpose for being, is our reverence and devotion to God; our starting place must always be Worship!

With that fundamental truth in place, I look again at the 'Open Door' and realize that this can be a metaphor for our Christian service. Of course there are many groups who use this picture to express what they are about. I have a theory that for the church, the 'Open Door' is a really good symbol of what **we** are about. As we reflect on how welcoming our churches are and how we can offer people a place where they can feel accepted and valued, a place where they can feel safe to share their life-stories, we need to show the ever open door.

Huw, Una and I are often the churches' 'face' as people come to us seeking those 'rites of passage,' which are so often reckoned what the church is for! We can open the door, but it's up to you to keep the door open so that those who simply 'use' the church for their, 'hatches, matches and dispatches,' will feel so welcome and valued, that they will want to explore further this Grace that is on offer in Jesus.

Another thought, too. The door which is open means we and others can come in to be nurtured and fed, supported, comforted, challenged and continue to grow in that grace. But it also means that we can go out to share the love we have with those who may never come in. If

Christ's Kingdom is to grow we need to explore ways of being his body outside the churches' door, 'across the world and across the street.'

We were challenged at Synod on Saturday - The youngest representative was probably about 50 - the majority were in their 60's - 80's. One or two ministers were slightly younger. If this is representative of the whole church - where will the church be in ten - twenty years time? The church of the 'Open Door' has to get to grips and be serious about how we get outside the door and be the 'servant church' we were called to be.

Each one of us, if we are committed to Christ and his good news, no matter what our age, is called to share what God's love means in our lives. We share it best in our day to day relationships. I pray that we will take those God given opportunities and 'Open the Door' to someone who longs to have access to God's love and grace. Remember, when people experience a door being slammed shut in their face they will probably never return, whereas, an open door, even just left ajar, will be a source of entry and return of coming in and going out to share the good news of Jesus.

Oh, and, by the way, THANK YOU ALL for the Manse new front door!

With Love to you all,

Sue



*The Easter Offering for
the Circuit Was £1008.95
to World Mission*

Circuit Service

*Eston Grange Methodist Church
Sunday 3rd July at 6.00pm*

LOST AND FOUND

**Charles Taylor wrote this article for
Nunthorpe Snippets newsletter in June 2007**

At ten months old I was missing and was found in the larder, nibbling at raw sausages hanging down from the shelf above.

At seven years old I was missing during a school outing to an exhibition in Newcastle. When found I am alleged to have said that I was not lost; I was exploring. I was found by someone who cared.

At twenty, during the war, I was missing when shells from a very large enemy gun mounted at Cap Gris Nez in France struck the barracks at Dover. I was missing because I was searching the caverns beneath Dover Castle. I was found because someone came searching for me.

I have always felt that for me, as the poet Kipling has written, there was “Something lost behind the Ranges” He also wrote that it was “waiting.....” and that I ought to “Go”. It is part of my philosophy that whatever lies at the horizon, be it ranges or abyss, ought to be viewed as an invitation and not as a barrier. There is always “something there, waiting.....” for you, for me, to explore, to discover, to enjoy. “To seek, to find and not to yield”. A life without quest is mere existence.

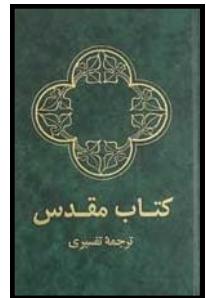
Life has its meaning in quest. Finding the Holy Grail is the great desire, secret or open, for everyone of us. I believe that for me I shall find it “Deep within the heart of God”.

I have always been cautious in my believing, mixing faith with reason. Blind leaping in faith is not in my nature. There is logic in life, and meaning too. Life, every life is so precious, so enriching, that what seems to us sometimes to be the end can surely be an error due to our limited human vision. So I believe that behind the ranges of the Dark Mountain which men call death there is “Something”, even better, even greater. I believe that that “Something” is what God is. Therefore as I have gone questing in mortal life, I trust to do so into immortality.

I know that the search is a two-way endeavour. In life, I sought God until he found me, by an amazing grace. So also it shall be in death. With that I am content.

That was a while ago!!

You might vaguely recall the Christmas of 2015 and an appeal that went out on Christmas Day to gather funding to buy Bibles and New Testaments in Farsi in particular to help the growing number of Asylum Seekers asking about Christianity and seeking baptism.



Since then we have been able to hand out New Testaments in the Farsi language to about 8 new Christians just starting out on their faith journey with Jesus and have been able to present 16 newly baptised Farsi speaking Christians (from Iran or Afghanistan) with complete Bibles on their special day.

The number of Asylum Seekers coming to Linthorpe Road waxes and wanes depending upon where the people are in the residency seeking process. Some of the earlier group have now moved on to places like Leeds, Manchester, Glasgow and London and each have taken with them a letter of introduction from us to their new church.

A smaller number are currently settled in Middlesbrough but the Church keeps finding new people walking through the door at different stages of their Christian journey or even just starting to ask questions about faith.

It remains a stimulating and exciting time – seeing people coming to faith and being baptised, having the honour of baptising folk from Christian families in Iran or Afghanistan who could not be baptised publically at ‘home’ for fear of persecution and hearing the faith journeys of all who ask, about what has brought them to the point of seeking baptism.

Palm Sunday will have seen another step forward as we will not only baptise a young man whose faith has helped him through some extraordinarily difficult times but also welcome into membership of the Methodist Church one of our ‘long standing’ asylum seekers baptised by Rev Sue back in 2014.

Please continue to pray for the folk seeking asylum, those who are refused residency and those who are offered residency, the work of MAP and the Church family at Linthorpe Road facing such challenging times with a very fluid, English as a second language, congregational mix.

And thank you for your support which continues to be such a blessing to these brothers and sisters in Christ.

Rev Una.



Stainton Methodist Church



BIG SING



with

LOCKWOOD BRASS

Sunday, June 26th 4pm

MELDYKE SQUARE, STAINTON

LED BY

Rev Sue Greenwood



JOIN US TO CELEBRATE THE
QUEEN'S 90th BIRTHDAY



Refreshments in
Memorial Hall



Prayer of hope

Father,

Thank you that nothing is impossible with you. When circumstances seem to conspire, when situations are entrenched, when relationships feel fragile, help us to remember that you are the God who breaks through barriers, who opens eyes and transforms lives of even the most unlikely people.

Help us to remember Paul - who he was and what he became – to be encouraged and full of hope and thanks,

In Jesus name,

Amen.

The Role of the Circuit Steward

We continue our series in Memo looking at the duties of the Circuit Stewards.

Did you know that it's believed that faith groups around the UK collectively

Deliver 220,000 social action projects?

Serve 48 million beneficiaries?

Mobilise 2 million volunteers?

Give over £3 billion worth of social support?

So says the Cinnamon network* in its faith action audit conducted at this time last year. As part of my role as the Circuit Steward for social justice I've been given a privileged view of the way in which the Church locally has contributed to this national picture. Within the Circuit we are all very familiar with the excellent work of MAP that has been faithfully supported by our Circuit for many years. I have been able to see how the project works and the skills brought to it by the manager and volunteers representing the Circuit, as a trustee on its management board.

The other major part of this aspect has been joining the board of Together Middlesbrough and Cleveland on behalf of the Circuit. TMC is a partnership between the Church Urban Fund and local groups with the aim of supporting community projects that address the very real consequences of poverty in our area. As such it works with projects as diverse as the Foodbank, homelessness initiatives and holiday clubs for children particularly ensuring that those most at risk of going hungry are fed.

TMC provides training opportunities for developing skills in a variety of areas, currently we have been able to provide a number of sessions to raise awareness of mental health issues. Indeed, some members of our churches have attended the Dementia Friendly Church training provided recently at the Trinity Centre in North Ormesby.

I've been able to see the full scope of what TMC is doing by serving as its treasurer and seeing the way in which its resources are gathered and distributed in service. It is particularly encouraging to see how the coordinated response of Christians locally to questions of social justice is shown in Anglicans, Catholics, Methodists, Baptists and Independent Church members coming together for the benefit of the vulnerable.

Further to this work I have also enjoyed the opportunity of attending the

Church Councils of 2 of our smaller churches and gaining an insight into the vision and commitment that they have in wanting to connect with the communities they serve. All in all I have found the role I have challenging and demanding but thoroughly enjoyable. It has been a wonderful opportunity for my own horizons to be broadened and to be able to bear testimony to the work of Kingdom building where we are called to serve

* www.cinnamonnetwork.co.uk

Stuart Nimmo

SATURDAY 2nd JULY

Our preparation for this year's Outreach Event to be held in Stewart Park on Saturday July 2nd from 12pm to 4pm, goes on with much prayer and hard work.

We are glad to be working alongside our brothers and sisters in the other Christian churches in the neighbourhood. We are also grateful that so many people are prepared to be so committed to this special ministry, giving unreservedly of their time and talents, to ensure this is a memorable time of ministry, and mission. We always worry about finance and we are grateful for the generosity of our Circuit in supporting this event in so many ways.



We do need First Aiders and also Stewards. If you can spare some time, then please contact me. The Stewards are there to talk to people about what is going on and why we are doing this event. They also will direct people to the main parts of the event, which this year, weather permitting, will reach out more in to the Park. The Marquee will still be an important centre for the day, and also means we are weather proof!

Alan, Rev Sue and I really will appreciate any support you can give to this important outreach and not least we ask for your prayers.

If you want to know more, or be involved in any way, please contact me.

Thank you very much

Dave Elliott

Living Dangerously

Remember my trip from Richmond to Piercebridge, when I travelled the line of the road first built by the Roman army in the early 70s AD? At about the same time, their counterparts at the other end of the empire, Palestine, had just ended a long and costly four-year siege of its capital Jerusalem. Having camped around it all that time, they finally breached its walls and set about completely gutting it. The massive temple was left in smoking ruins and the entire population were either killed or removed.

It marked the end of an era for the Jewish people and had forced the Jesus 'story-tellers' of Jerusalem to take to the road. It happened within a lifetime of Jesus' execution, to a city that had been the setting of his last week on earth. It was also the scene of his friend's activity following his death. They continued to attend their local Jewish 'Meeting Place', searching their ancient writings as they tried to make sense of Jesus life.

They congregated frequently in the Temple precincts to discuss how to handle their growing numbers and to continue their worship as loyal Jews. (1) They also met regularly in each other's homes to share a meal and their memories of Jesus, telling and retelling their stories about him over the years to a growing number of residents and visitors to the city.

But it was a stage awaiting the final curtain.

During that fateful forty years the final act in the history of the city was played out amidst increasing unrest and violence. Some of it was directed toward the followers of Jesus, but most was the result of civil unrest directed against the brutal presence of the occupying army, but everyone got sucked in.

At the start of this turbulent period the story-tellers were keeping a very low profile after their leaders' arrest, probably fearing that they also would be rounded up and punished. They clearly didn't want to risk being seen in public. So they met secretly behind locked doors, afraid of the authorities. (2)

Within weeks of his execution, however, emboldened by a powerful sense of his continuing presence, they spilled out into

the excitable festival crowds, risking life and limb to tell the story of their vindicated leader. (3)

The tables were turned, now the authorities began to fear them.

Their success in drawing the crowds risked the harsh intervention of the hated army of occupation for whom crowds spelt trouble, civil unrest and rebellion. If that happened the religious hierarchy risked the loss of their many privileges and wealth and the undermining of all that they stood for. Silencing the trouble-makers became an urgent matter. Throughout the next forty years there were frequent arrests and appearances before the highest civil court, the National Council. But that did not stop them. They ignored the threat of serious consequences by continuing their activities right under the noses of the authorities. (4)



Although they were raising issues of belief, the crowds they drew could quickly be hijacked by those seeking to throw off the brutal restrictions of the occupiers. For over thirty years there were constant outbreaks of violence against the state, until the festering antagonism finally erupted into massive rebellion, a four year siege of the city and finally break through and total destruction.

By then most of the 'story-tellers' had slipped out of the city but not before many of their most influential number had been killed. Stephen, a promising and eloquent recruit, was stoned by a mob, James, one of the original eyewitnesses, was beheaded.

James the brother of Jesus was also stoned with the approval of the authorities. Both Peter and Paul, the leading figures in the spread of the Jesus stories were executed far away in Rome.

The stories we read in comfort and safety were transmitted, in those early years, by ordinary people who were prepared to live dangerously.

(1) Acts 2v46. (2) John 20v19. (3) Acts 2v14.

(4) Acts 5v 27-42

Trinity Methodist Church
Trinity Ramblers invite you to a



**'ROYAL'
COFFEE
MORNING'**



On Saturday 18th June 2016
from 10 a.m. to 12 noon

Musical Interludes by Eric Pearson



CAKE

TOMBOLA

BOOKS

CRAFT
STALLS

AND LOTS MORE

**Cost £1.50 including drink
and strawberry scone**

Proceeds to Development Fund
Donation to Church Charity



Most popular Bible Stories: no. 1 - The Feeding of the Five Thousand

Scripture Union has produced a Top Ten Must Know Stories. These were voted by parents and teachers as the most important Bible stories to share with the next generation. Top of the list is the feeding of the 5000, a story found in all four gospels and telling us important truths about Jesus and our relationship with Him.

Jesus and His disciples were confronted with a huge crowd (at least 10,000 including the women and children) in a lonely place with no food! When the disciples suggested that He send them away, Jesus challenged them: ‘you give them something to eat’ (Matthew 14:16). When we see the spiritual needs of own community, Jesus challenges us with the same words! So how do we respond?

Look with compassion: ‘When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, He had compassion on them’ (v14). Do we see people in the same way, as those in all kinds of need, often lacking meaning and purpose in their lives? Unless we feel the needs as Jesus did, we cannot respond to those we meet at work, school, or in our community.

Respond in obedience: The disciples simply offered what they had to Jesus: ‘Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, He gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then He gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people.’ (v19).

When meeting the needs of others we simply offer to Jesus what we have, however insignificant it may seem, for Him to multiply to feed the crowd. He will use our plans, skills, time and energy. However, it is often only when we come to the end of ourselves, that God’s power can be released through us.

News from the March Circuit Meeting

PROPERTY MATTERS –The Trinity funding applications have been successful. Grants received from District and Connexion; £150,000 to the development fund and £33,600 to support a lay worker

INVITATION/STATIONING – Rev Huw Sperring leaves our Circuit in summer 2017. The Circuit have now started the process of seeking a replacement and if possible would like to appoint a Superintendent Minister thus enabling Rev Sue Greenwood to step down and return to Presbytery Ministry with her current churches. Stuart Nimmo and Leslie Duffield to lead on this

RESOURCE CENTRE at Linthorpe Road – MAP is being well used, lettings are good and the cafe has re-opened and is highly recommended. The front property is almost ready to be re-let and there is someone lined up to rent the premises. It was also noted the importance of the Linthorpe Road Centre, being in the town centre it is a very important place for Mission

SAFEGUARDING - Mark Braithwaite is the Safeguarding Adviser. He is working with the Circuit to ensure our DBS checks are all correct. As a circuit it is important that we are vigilant to safeguarding concerns, and know how to protect ourselves, young people and vulnerable adults, and also to know where to go for advice. CBS training sessions to be held and run by Kay Braithwaite / Bernie Nixon

FLAME - Hayley was congratulated on her new appointment and thanked for her work in the circuit. There will be a Circuit Service held on the evening of July 3rd in recognition of Hayley's work over a period of 10 years.

LOCAL PREACHER NEWS - Dawn Harris successfully completed her LP training and is now a fully accredited local preacher. She will be recognised at the Circuit Service on 29th May at Grove Hill. It was with sadness that the meeting noted the death of Harold Beeforth who died in January, his well-attended funeral, was testimony to the quality of his ministry and service over so many years

MORE THAN GOLD (2016) to be held on Saturday 2 July noon – 4pm, the plan is to start on the ‘world map’ to celebrate the theme of Global Celebration. Future planning for ‘More than Gold’ - it will take place every 4 years (in Olympic years) and in intervening years support

various holiday groups run by our Circuit and the Anglican church

MAP - Ailsa thanked the meeting for all the wonderful support received from our churches. Middlesbrough is now oversubscribed for housing Asylum seekers, they will now start being housed in the Eston area, and Ailsa asked us to be aware that this means they will be very isolated,

LISTENING TO OUR CHURCHES – The need for sharing has been highlighted as of great importance within our Circuit. To enable us to share our resources, equipment, books, skills etc., lists are being compiled of what is available and where. Another initiative is sharing of knowledge through ‘training/ apprenticeships’ - this would help prepare anyone interested in undertaking roles and responsibilities within our churches/circuit

CHINESE CHURCH – Last year Teesside University opened a branch campus in Hong Kong and China. Through this they were able to recruit more students to study in the UK this year offering them additional courses and places. The Chinese mission in Middlesbrough has a steady attendance of 40 to 50. We have to say goodbye to Julia Leung, Pastoral worker in the Chinese Church as she moves onto pastures new.

FRESH EXPRESSIONS – Although originally for <30> FE is for people of all ages, there is a good programme of events for the coming months and all age groups are welcome. The group will continue when Huw leaves our Circuit.

Breakfast Bun Coffee Morning

at Eston Grange Methodist Church
on 9th July,
10.30 am till 12.00 Noon

All proceeds in aid of Christian Aid.

Connexions and Connections

The main theme of a recent ‘the Connexions’ magazine was “Chaplaincy”. The word chaplain derives from the Middle English word ‘chapeleyn’ ; from Old French, ‘chapelain’ or from Medieval Latin ‘coppelanus’, from *capella* (chapel). So the original chaplains were clergymen attached to the ‘chapel’ then later attached to hospices, prisons, universities, and later still to military units or on board ships – known as padres (fathers) Now they are no longer confined to buildings, but are more like the wandering friars or roving Lollards moving freely in communities, providing listening ears alongside practical help and taking the Good News wherever there is human need. So any situation can be a work place for those called to be Chaplains.

The Revd Stan Brown’s article in the magazine states:

“Chaplains need permission to enter, we have to negotiate access for Chaplaincy to take place. In the Gospels we read of Jesus depending on the hospitality of others and instructing those disciples he sent out to do the same. Jesus deliberately made himself vulnerable as a guest and had no place to call his own. Yet so much of our thinking of mission is focused on the church as a host and house – inviting people to come in and join us. Our complex society is at one and the same time secular and multi-faith yet shaped and influenced by Christianity, but whether we like it or not, Christians find themselves in a minority and the church no longer the centre of the community. We need to learn the grace of being guests”

Some of the chaplains who have taken the message to heart now work in such diverse situations as airports, holiday resorts (Norfolk Broads) docks (Felixstowe) agricultural shows (Cornwall) tourist resorts (Grenada in the Caribbean) City Centre Missions (Wolverhampton) livestock markets, prisons, the English canal system (a truly moving ministry!) and most surprisingly of all, a casino (I bet that’s a winner!)

As well as the ordained chaplains the Methodist Church is now developing Pioneering Pathways to encourage those who are called to explore new approaches to their ministry.

Pioneers come in all shapes and sizes, ordained and lay, part-time and full-time, paid and self-supporting. This is nothing new, just a new realisation and emphasis.

In the early church they were simply called ‘followers of the way’ and later ‘Christians’. In times past they were just called good neighbours or volunteers. They wore no religious habits, dog collars, uniforms or even badges but just went about seeing needs in their local communities and doing what they could to alleviate suffering, pain and poverty. It was often a lonely job but all the great

reforms were the visions of individuals who saw a need and did something about it.

It would be inspiring to hear from all the chaplains and volunteers in our own circuit, who have interesting stories to tell of their own personal experiences of working in their communities.

This appeal goes out to all those who have done this valuable work, perhaps for years, unseen and unnoticed, and also to those who are breaking new ground. Don't be modest! It is not boastful to share with others what is being done in Christ's name and for his great glory. Your contribution is unique and it may help other, timid, prospective volunteers to join you and inspire us all to greater efforts as we remember that more people are brought to Christ through the personal concern and influence of the individual than by mass Public Crusades.

It's everyone's challenge – whether your vocation is a Chaplain, a Pioneer, a Volunteer or a Pilgrim.

As it says in the words of the hymn:

‘...and the creed and the colour and the name won't matter. Were **you** there? ’

Vera Pearson



Eston Grange Methodist Church Concert

On
Saturday 18th June 2016
At 7.00pm

Tickets £6.00 each including refreshments.

Please contact Maureen Borley
01642 0294154

Methodist Women in Britain



**Incorporating Women's Network and British
unit of the World Federation of Methodist
and Uniting Church Women**

There will be no Circuit Network Meetings during June, July and August.

District Methodist Women in Britain event

Thursday June 30th at 7pm

President's Evening at Saltburn Methodist Church TS12 1DE.

This will be a Fashion Show with a difference, if you would like to participate please come in a Recycled/Charity Shop outfit.

Light Refreshments will be served.

All ladies welcome.

Kath Smithies

Circuit Network Secretary



Trinity Family Friendly Centre (TFFC)

At Trinity we would like to thank the District Grants Committee for providing us with funding to employ a lay worker for TFFC. Jane Perrott was appointed to the post. There are exciting things in the pipeline to reach out and embrace family members as well as children.

Middlesbrough 'Live at Home' scheme is now using the premises to host their Friday meeting and are looking forward to using our new café area when the conversion work is completed. This is a start to welcome older residents in the area to benefit from our facilities

Anne Smith

Asking

I never go forth to meet a new day
Without asking God as I kneel down to pray
To give me the strength and courage to be
As patient with others as He is with me!

Anonymous



"Er... Minister?... You're a praying man, aren't you?..."

Words of Wisdom?

Lips - Generally speaking, you aren't learning much when your lips are moving.

Growing up - Your child has started growing up when he stops asking you where he came from and starts refusing to tell you where he's going.

The Parish Pump

SONGS OF PRAISE

On March 13th a good number of us gathered at Avenue for another opportunity for worship and fellowship.

As always, our thanks to the Avenue team for their hard work in preparing this lovely church for the service. Also thank you to them for their warm welcome and real help in all we needed.

We were inspired by the messages from Stuart Nimmo, Lynda Jukes and Rev Una (who stepped in at the last minute for Jane Perrot) Their messages about Lent, about Prayer, Learning and the Bible were very enlightening.

It was good to have Ruth on the organ, her ministry of music is always very special.

I hope we will be having another Songs of Praise before long and that we will be asking someone from each of our churches to select a favourite hymn so we can share in their personal testimonies.

Dave Elliott

The Flame Project

Keep the FLAME Burning

By now I expect everyone will know that I have moved on to further children's and family work in Northallerton as my contract was coming to an end. This has meant that the FLAME Project has closed.

The good news is the legacy should continue. Thankfully due to the support of volunteers from the Methodist Church, ecumenical working and help from YFC some of the school clubs will continue. These will be at Newham Bridge Primary, Beechgrove Primary and Green Lane Primary Schools. Also I know plans are underway so Messy Church could continue in the churches where it has been started.

Also as I write in the final week of my work here in Middlesbrough & Eston we are thinking of how to keep the puppet ministry going it has been very popular and a great form of evangelism. In addition I am looking at how to ensure Girl's Brigade at Ormesby Methodist Church continues. Most specifically we need a team leader.



The Easter Celebration activities at Newham Bridge, Breckon Hill, Overfields and Caedmon Primary Schools were a great success and a wonderful opportunity to share the Gospel with both children and staff. Hopefully such work can continue even if in a different way so that the links with the community and good relationships built up over many years are not lost.

My sincere thanks to those who have supported the work as volunteers and by prayer. Without you none of this would have happened. It has been a great joy and privilege to be the Families Outreach Enabler in the Middlesbrough & Eston Circuit. As a new chapter begins my prayer is that you would keep the flame burning in your outreach initiatives and that you do indeed make Christ known and share God's love.

God bless,
Hayley

THANK YOU HAYLEY

On behalf of the Circuit and the many communities in which she has served, we would like to say a sincere thank you to Hayley. We have appreciated the extent of her Ministry to families and schools and her ministry as a Local Preacher, we wish her the very best in her new appointment at Northallerton Methodist Church. Our Circuit Service on 3rd July 2016 will give us chance to say farewell.

News of our Preachers

It was great news that the Circuit meeting agreed with the recommendation from the Preachers' meeting that Dawn Harris should become recognised as a Fully Accredited Local Preacher. We thank God for her ministry and celebrate her success. We can all rejoice together at the completion of her training.

We also pray for Kate Dykes as she continues her training to become a Preacher. Many churches have enjoyed Kate's preaching and been inspired by her messages.

We are thankful for the work done by Ruth Lewis our Circuit Local Preachers' tutor. Her guidance and her support help our Preachers though that journey of training.

Obviously it would be impossible to fill the Plan without our Local Preachers, who work so hard to respond to the Ministry to which we are called.

We are also grateful for the ministry of our Worship Leaders. It is good that Anne Smith and Lesley Duffield are now regular members of the Preachers' meetings; we hope other Worship Leaders will come along and join this fellowship.

Lastly our Ministers are very important members of the Preachers' meetings and I am sure we are all very thankful for their leadership of our worship.

If you, or someone you know, feels a call to preach, either by training to become a Worship Leader, or a Local Preacher, then please speak to your Minister, or contact me in person.

Dave Elliott
Local Preacher Secretary

Come and join us
Nunthorpe Singathon

We have local adult & children's choirs
joining us throughout the day
to raise the roof of our lovely building !



Grand Finale Concert

7:30pm until 9pm

Join the audience at any time
throughout the 21st May

Refreshments available throughout.

Opportunities to Sing
Join our Community Singing
at 10am, 12noon 2.30pm
and 6.30pm

Entrance £2

All proceeds to
the Garden Project.

Tombola and
bring & buy music stall.

Nunthorpe Methodist Church, Connaught Road TS7 0BP
www.nunthorpemethodistchurch.co.uk

EVENTS AROUND THE CIRCUIT

Saturday 4th June, Big Coffee Morning at Normanby, 10.00am to Noon

Saturday 18th June, Royal Coffee Morning at Trinity Methodist Church 10.00am to Noon (see p 12)

Saturday 18th June, Teesside Apollo Male Voice Choir concert at Eston Grange at 7.00pm (See p17)

Saturday 25th June, The Richardson Singers at Linthorpe Road at 7.30pm

Sunday 26th June, Stainton Big Sing 4.00pm (see p7)

Tuesday 28th June, 10am to Noon Coffee Morning at Avenue Community Project, all welcome.

Saturday 2nd July, More Than Gold Event, Stewart Park, Noon to 4.00pm (see p9)

Saturday 2nd July, Big Coffee Morning at Normanby, 10.00am to 12.00 Noon

Saturday 9th July, Big Breakfast Coffee Morning at Eston Grange, 10.00am to 12.00 Noon (see p15)

Tuesday 26th July, 10am to noon Coffee Morning at Avenue Community Project, all welcome.

Saturday 6th August, Big Coffee Morning at Normanby, 10.00am to 12.00 Noon

Tuesday 30th August, 10am to Noon Coffee Morning at Avenue Community Project, all welcome.



Worry

I have so many problems that if a new one comes along today, it will be at least two weeks before I can worry about it.



The Parish Pump

PRAYER DIARY

JUNE 5th We pray today for our Circuit that together we may work towards proclaiming the good news of Jesus. Pray for Rev Sue Greenwood and Nunthorpe

June 12th We pray today for our young people who may at this time be involved in examinations that they and their families will cope with the pressure. Pray for Rev Huw Sperring and Normanby

June 19th We pray for the Leadership teams of the Circuit and of each of our churches, that those involved will treat this responsibility prayerfully. Pray for Rev Una McLean and for Linthorpe Road

June 26th We pray for all our Local Preachers and Worship Leaders and for the Preachers' meeting taking place this coming week. We also pray for 'More than Gold' that this may be a successful time of outreach. Pray for Rev Len Karn and for Grove Hill.

July 3rd We pray today for all who work in our Circuit with Children and Young People. We pray for Hayley in her new appointment at Northallerton. Pray for Eston Grange.

July 10th We pray today for all who are ill in body, mind or spirit, and for those who look after them at home, or in hospital. Pray for Rev Sarah Ramsden in her Ministry at James Cook University hospital.

July 17th We pray for school staff and for children and families at the start of the summer holidays, that this may be a time of

relaxation and joy for all. Pray for all who are running Summer Holiday clubs. Pray for Trinity.

July 24th We pray for those who are lonely, who have no family close by or who have little in the way of company. Bless those people in our churches who visit and who care. Pray for Ailsa and for MAP. Pray for Stainton.

July 31st We pray for the communities who are our neighbours, that they may know our churches as places of welcome and of support. Pray for Elaine at our Circuit Office and for Jackie and her staff at the Resource Centre. Pray for Marton.

August 7th Pray today for the Avenue team as they seek to continue to maintain this lovely church and enable it to be used by the community. Pray for Ormesby

August 14th We pray for the many Christians throughout our world who don't enjoy the freedom to worship and witness that we so often take for granted. Help us to make good use of our opportunities for mission,

August 21st We pray for those people who have received important examination results this month, that those who celebrate may be enriched in their joy, and those who are disappointed may be comforted.

August 28th We pray for the Darlington District, and for Rev Ruth Gee.