



# Zetland Park Methodist Church Newsletter July and August 2016

- 3<sup>rd</sup> July 10:45 am Jenny Haigh  
6:00 pm Revd. Trevor Haigh *at Marske*
- 10<sup>th</sup> July 11:00 am Revd. Keith Martin : Communion  
3:00 pm Revd. John Henry *at New Marske*
- 17<sup>th</sup> July 10:45 am Revd. Arthur Harbottle : United Service  
6:00 pm Revd. Arthur Harbottle : Communion *at Marske*
- 24<sup>th</sup> July 10:45 am June Feather  
6:00 pm Revd. Arthur Harbottle
- 31<sup>st</sup> July 10:45 am Revd. Bill Middlemiss  
6:00 pm Revd. Arthur Harbottle *at Marske*
- 7<sup>th</sup> August 10:45 am Lynn King  
6:00 pm Revd. John Henry
- 14<sup>th</sup> August 10:45 am Revd. Arthur Harbottle : Communion  
6:00 pm Brian Stephenson / Rosemary Taylor *at Marske*
- 21<sup>st</sup> August 10:45 am Steven Bee  
6:00 pm Revd. Athur Harbottle *at Newcomen*
- 28<sup>th</sup> August 10:45 am Pat Clarke  
6:00 pm Revd. Dr. Jonathan Hustler *at Marske*

All Services are at Zetland Park unless indicated

## Our Time Behind Bars

The morning of Wednesday June 1<sup>st</sup> Thelma and I went to visit Home House Prison, where the person responsible for the break in at our church was being held.

We had arranged to meet him through the Restorative Justice Service which is aimed at helping people to get their lives back to normal when they are released

He had to be in agreement to meet us, and in no circumstances would the authorities allow this to take place if they thought he didn't genuinely want to alter his past behaviour.

We were escorted by a female prison officer to a small room where a volunteer from the Offender Service was sitting in to observe, the prisoner was escorted in by a male officer who stayed in with us through the whole process.

The offender couldn't apologise enough, he hadn't realised that it was a church he had burgled and he never thought there would be victims, But as we pointed out our entire congregation were victims as they gave of their time and money for the upkeep of our church.

We also made a point of the cost and hard work people have undertaken to restore the damage he had done, which was still on-going.

We can't go in to detail of the things we asked him. He asked for forgiveness, which was granted, then he was told that we had prayed for him, and will continue to do so.

The whole process going through security checks, being frisked, walking through endless corridors and the unlocking and locking of door's was quite unnerving , but necessary.

The authorities were very pleased the way the meeting had unfolded and agreed to set us free.

Thelma & Ann.

## From Arthur . . .

During July New Marske Methodist Church will be celebrating the 40th anniversary of their current building. They have adopted the theme "Looking back - moving forward." Remembering and cherishing the faithful service of those who, over many years, have got us to where we are in the present time is very important. To fail to do so is to diminish their faith and service. But, moving forward is also very important if we are to continue to engage a very changed world with the timeless truths of faith that God loves all people.

However, I am also reminded of the words of Jesus, "No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God" (Luke 9:62)! We cannot move forward if we are concentrating on what is behind, on what was, on what used to be! We can only move forward by looking forward and striving to achieve what God wants us to achieve, to help all people know His love and to learn to walk in His way! Faith and discipleship are dynamic, not static! We strive towards the goal Christ left us (Phil 3:14).

By the time most of you read this, the biggest decision our country has had to make in many years will have been made - one way or the other! There will, no doubt, be much discussion about the decision and people's views of the rights and wrongs of it. But it is my hope that, whichever way the decision goes, the Christian church - yes, you and me - will be at the forefront of looking forward, encouraging our country to move forward positively, leading our communities into the future, and especially supporting the most vulnerable in society. And, in the light of the murder of MP Jo Cox, to also be standing against all evil, intolerance and hatred. We are called to lead - the Christian faith is about building up, moving forward, helping people know all that is good and purposeful in their lives which God can give them. There is no place for the church to be looking backwards!

In recent months the memorial in Haiti at the mass grave for the 250,000 people who died in the earthquake in 2010 has been

completed. I was surprised, but highly delighted when I saw what was written above the gateway - ayiti pap bliye. For those who do not read Haitian Creole that translates, Haiti will forget! No, not what you probably expected, either! This is a country, a people moving forward, building up, and not allowing the past to control them or imprison them. May we too have the same faith.

Arthur

### **CHRISTIAN AID**

Thank you to everyone who supported this year's Christian Aid collection. We raised £684.53 which was made up as follows

Money raised by my team	£81.20
June and Paul's afternoon tea	£79.80
Games night	£142.50
Congregations' collections	£221.00
House to house collection	£160.03

Special thanks to June, Paul, Sylvia, Arthur and Sarah without whom there would not have been an envelope collection.

### **Redcar Churches Together**

Prayer Meeting: Sat 9th July, 9 am at St Hilda's

Committee Meeting: Wed 6th July, 7 pm at (venue to be confirmed)

Minister:	Revd. W Arthur Harbottle 177 Redcar Lane, Redcar TS10 2EJ
Tel:	01642 483927
Email:	minister@zetlandparkmethodist.co.uk

**Zetland Park Methodist Church, The Crescent, Redcar, TS10 3AX**

Visit us at [www.zetlandparkmethodist.co.uk](http://www.zetlandparkmethodist.co.uk)

[www.clevelandanddanbymethodists.co.uk/churches/zetland-park-methodists](http://www.clevelandanddanbymethodists.co.uk/churches/zetland-park-methodists)

## **A flavour of the General Church Meeting June 2016**

Zetland Park is my only church which does not produce written reports of its activities for its GCM which means that if you miss the meeting you do not always hear about our progress and challenges. So this is just a flavour of what I can remember, and a few of my own observations, pending publication of the full Minutes. *Arthur*

### **Church Stewards**

Ann Woodhouse, Thelma Barnes, Jeanne Cawley and Sandie Dixon were all re-elected to serve us for a further year and we recorded our thanks to them and to Malcolm Elvidge who, having served more than the normal six year maximum, felt it was time to step down. It was noted that at least one more Steward would be helpful to share the burden of this very important task of leadership in the church which the Stewards have to perform on your behalf. Anyone interested to know more is invited to ask the Stewards or the Minister.

### **Representatives to Church Council**

Church Council is made up of various church Officers and the representatives elected by the GCM. Those elected at the meeting were Sarah Dixon, Donald Ingledew, Sheila Collett, Mavis Betts, Marion Johnson, Malcolm Elvidge & Bee Moir (subject to her acceptance).

### **Membership**

It was reported that our membership was now 60 and we stood to remember the lives of Marjorie Clayton, Gladys Plant, Dorothy Classe, Anne Galloway & Ida Anderson who had died since we last met.

## **Activities**

### **Sunday Worship**

Age catches up with all of us in time and numbers in Sunday worship have reflected this, reducing quite substantially over the past few years as a consequence of deaths within our congregation and due to the declining health and increasing age of our congregation. However, the rearranging of the chairs in the sanctuary has helped the congregation feel more together, and certainly it looks a lot more encouraging from the Preacher's perspective! Our quarterly Cafe-style services remain popular with most members, and our thanks go to those who lead these quite organisationally demanding services. We continue increasing our knowledge of new hymns in Singing the Faith, and our thanks must go to our organists.

### **Sunday Squad**

Though quite small this end of our church life is one which is still growing thanks to the families who keep producing and bringing their children! We would thank the leaders who, week-by-week, prepare and run the activities for the youngsters. Though I was not there I got very enthusiastic reports about the Sunday Squad Anniversary!

## **Lunch Club**

The Tuesday Lunch Club continues to be very popular and a time of blessing to those who attend, both in terms of the table fellowship and the period of reflection and inspiration at the end. Thanks were expressed to the ladies who produce and serve the lunch. However, the need for more drivers continues to be a challenge. After many year's as 'chair' Arthur Middleham has passed this responsibility to Malcolm Elvidge and the transport rota to John Sims.

## **Wednesday Fellowship**

Dwindling attendances are a concern but the sense of fellowship much appreciated by those who enjoy the variety of speakers. It continues to meet fortnightly over the summer for fellowship.

## **Thursday House/Church Fellowship**

Over the year this fortnightly group has looked at a rich variety of material, from study of the Bible to, more recently, the book our new Superintendent Minister has promoted for our consideration, 'Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations'. Attendances have dwindled slightly, not for the first time, but you are reminded that this group is open to all and a marvellous way to enhance our understanding of what it means to be a Christian in today's world. Our thanks were expressed to June Feather for all her hard work in driving this group for us.

## **Friday Prayer Group**

Our monthly prayer time, led by Llyn King, is much appreciated by the three people who commonly turn up! Everyone, of course, is welcome to join any gathering of this group

## **Fundraising**

Our team of fundraisers continue to arrange and run regular events which, though aimed at raising funds, perhaps more importantly enhance the social life amongst us. That said, it was noted that without the attendance of folk from outside the life of the Church most events would be very poorly attended. More helpers with the practical aspects (setting up, clearing away) would be much appreciated.

## **Open the Book**

We are delighted that we now have four of our congregation actively involved in presenting Bible stories to some of the local schools under the Bible Society Scheme 'Open the Book'. This is a most valuable piece of outreach to our community.

## **Property**

Challenges continue to face us in caring for an ageing building, but we thank Paul for all the work he does to ensure it is as well kept as it is. Break-ins at the rear will hopefully be a thing of the past following some major work in the old vestry.

**Footnote** - *This summary has been produced in a very short period of time to meet publication deadlines, so please be forgiving if I have forgotten something, someone, or just have mistakes in it which I have not spotted!*

## Future Events

<b>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>4--6pm</b>	<b>Afternoon Tea with Barry at the Piano</b>
September 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday	10:00-11:30am	Coffee morning for Smiles
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	6:00pm	Harvest Supper with entertainment
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	12:30 pm	Bangers and Mash 12:30. With Cake Stall. Start our Anniversary with a bang(er)!
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> November		Walk through the Old Testament. Whole day event at Newcomen.

### OPEN THE BOOK

A group of us have been taking the Bible Society's Open the Book into three local schools and are sharing Bible stories with the children there. It is an interactive scheme with dressing up, both adults and children. It's great fun. Feel free to join us if you are passionate about sharing the Bible with the young and would like to read the stories or take part in some simple presentation of the stories. There is no age limit and many elderly people are enjoying the experience up and down the country. Come and join us. It will be good to have you on board.

See Lynn King for further details.

### Power Praise

at Marske Methodist Church

An hour of worship with mainly contemporary songs in a café style setting. Second Tuesday of each month.

7pm 9<sup>th</sup> August

### Circuit Prayer Meeting

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August  
8:30am - 9:30 am  
at **Lealholm**

### FRIDAY @ TEN

There will be no meeting July and August.

The next meeting will be on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 10 am. Come and join us and enjoy a cuppa!

See Lynn King for further information

The next Smiles

## Coffee Morning

will be held on Saturday  
3rd September 10 - 11.30.  
To raise money for Christmas  
gifts for the children in  
Romania.

Jenny is still collecting books,  
CDs and DVDs (yellow box in  
church foyer), as well as  
pennies etc (jar in foyer).

## 6th Circuit Open-Air Bible Read Saturday 6th August 2016

From 11.00am-4.00pm

On Danby Village Green  
(or in the Chapel if wet).

Followed by tea in the Schoolroom.

Then at 6.00pm

### A Celebration of the Word Of God.

Lead by Revd. Alan Coates.

*If you are willing to take part and read a  
passage please let the stewards know*

**Mariane Markwart** has asked if she can finish her term of service with us early so that she can return to Argentina for various family reasons including the wedding of her brother in December.

Having been away from home for so much time she has missed out on many family events and we would not wish her to miss out on yet another one, so her support group has accepted her request.

We expect Mariane to finish working with us in mid-November. I am sure we all wish her well as she seeks what God has in store for the next part of her life.

In the meantime her work will continue to consolidate those projects she has already started.

### Charity collection boxes:

Please would holders of **World Church** boxes please bring them in to Jackie Rae for emptying

**JMA boxes** should be handed to Geraldine Sims.

**Mission for Britain** boxes should be handed to Jillian Elvidge.

**Action for Children** boxes should be handed to Alison Davey.

If you wish to join one of the box schemes please see these members.

### Next Newsletter

There will not be a newsletter for August.

Please let Paul have items for the September newsletter (available 28<sup>th</sup> August) by Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August or by email :  
newsletter.editor@zetlandparkmethodist.co.uk

### Newsletter by email

If you would like to receive the newsletter by email please let the editor know.