

Connections



Ashbourne Methodist Circuit

December 2019 – January 2020

Letter from the Minister

The Manse, 16 Booth Drive
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Tel: 01335 342408
email: tim.morris@methodist.org.uk

Dear Friends,

“I’m dreaming of a white Christmas”

What do you want for Christmas? What are you dreaming of? Tinsel, turkey and all the trimmings; peace on earth; a traditional Carol Service; snow? And what do you want for Christmas? A new iPhone; a new set of saucepans; good health and happiness?



The never ending frenzy of TV ads showing us how we must prepare for the “perfect Christmas” started in October! They picture a perfect world, with perfect people, perfect families, and a perfect Christmas table fit for royalty.

Somewhere along the line though we all “buy in” to wanting everything to be right – perfect! Yet perhaps we’ve missed the point, missed the meaning and misunderstood the real spirit of Christmas. The reality is actually something a bit more removed from the cosy, snow-covered, tree-and-tinsel-glittered image we like to invent.

Born in poverty to a refugee family. Born in obscurity in an out of the way place - vulnerable, weak, frail and fragile comes the Christ of Christmas. This is the event we celebrate and give thanks for. So amidst the festivities, parties and season of joy, try and spare a thought for the simple truth at the heart of Christmas. It is summed up so well in John Betjeman’s poem “Christmas”:

And is it true, this most tremendous tale of all,
Seen in a stained-glass window's hue, a Baby in an ox's stall?
The Maker of the stars and sea, become a Child on earth for me?
And is it true? For if it is, no loving fingers tying strings
Around those tissue'd fripperies, the sweet and silly Christmas things,
bath salts and inexpensive scent and hideous tie so kindly meant
No love that in a family dwells, no carolling in frosty air,
Nor all the steeple-shaking bells can with this single Truth compare -
That God was man in Palestine, and lives today in Bread and Wine.

Your minister and friend,

Ashbourne Church Family News

Jesus came to the earth as a babe but He said, 'I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.' John 10 v 10

We pray for those who are not well and for those who care: Dorothy Critchlow, Mary Phillipson, Betty Hadley, Sally Wall, David Franklin, Barbara and David Hollands, Sheila Cook, Sue McKeown and Jenny Waring, and let's keep in mind those we know who are waiting for tests, results and appointments. We keep praying for those we know who need prayer because we believe that God will make a difference in their lives and bring his peace. Many of us visit or ring those who need a call and that cheers many a one when it is short days and long, dark nights. Please let me know if there are needs, and a visit can be arranged.

Congratulations to Helen and Peter Flinn as they celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 20th December, and also to Emily Peers who has just graduated with a first in adult nursing from Sheffield Hallam University.

Christmas and New Year are, for many, a special time with family, but for some it is a time when they are alone or the loss of a loved one is particularly difficult. Let's remember the families of those who have passed away this last year: Les Cole, Betty Little, Jean Bailey, Stuart Mustow, Heather Broadbent, Dorothy Prior, Edith Redfern, Peter Richards, Geoff Sheriff and Margaret Cox.

Let's also remember to pray for our young people in Powersource and Mustard and those who come to Messy Church, as well as the many children from local schools who will be coming to the Advent display in the church. Remember all who lead these groups and those who take school assemblies and Open the Book as well as those from our church who teach in schools. May children and parents feel surrounded by the love of God in Jesus and understand why He was born as a baby into this world. Let's remember some of our young people who will be taking mock exams in January.

On 18th December Ruth, Joy and Christian Mallard will be visiting Kolkata, India for two weeks and will renew friendship with those they made on previous visits. They will be providing a children's programme for the orphan children and young people at Arunima Hospice. Please pray for health, stamina, good relationships and smooth arrangements and security. This is not a holiday (as I well know) so let's be prayerful for them and support in any other way we can.

Prayer continues in the vestry on a Thursday at 9.30am for an hour but just drop in for a shorter time if that suits you. After worship on a Sunday, there are people available to pray with or for you.

Pray for Ruth Barratt, Chaplain to Businesses in Ashbourne and for Elizabeth Spencer, part of the Chaplaincy team at the Royal Derby Hospital. If you are in hospital and need a visit, you or a friend could let her know on 348482. Elizabeth is also a visitor at St Oswald's Hospital in Ashbourne.

Joyce Odell Pastoral Secretary 13.11.2019

Brailsford Coffee Shop (see also back cover)

The Coffee Shop, which is held at the Methodist Church on Tuesday mornings between 9.30–11.30am, first opened in November 2009. It is run jointly by All Saints' Church and the Methodist Church, with volunteers from both Churches and the community helping each week.

As well as providing a friendly place for people to meet, we also raise money for different charities, choosing a different charity each year. Over £7,000 has been donated in the last ten years to about sixteen different charities including YMCA, Brailsford School, ACE Youth Trust, MacMillan Cancer Care and both Churches.

Brailsford Pre-School regularly have bake sales which are especially enjoyed by Alfreton Cycling group who usually call in once a month. We also invite the children from Brailsford School at Easter, Harvest and Christmas to entertain us with singing and playing instruments.

The coffee shop celebrated its 10th birthday at the beginning of November. On Monday 4th November we invited all the helpers, past and present, to a buffet lunch. Helen Naylor from Uppercrust made us a lovely buffet. It was good to be able to thank everyone who has volunteered at the coffee shop.

On Tuesday 5th November, at the weekly coffee shop, we gave everyone free tea, coffee and cakes and also had a celebration cake. We also welcomed Pat Laughlin from Ashbourne Community Transport. ACT are our chosen charity for this year and we gave them £500. Groups have also raised money including Patna book swaps and Traidcraft stalls.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Coffee Shop.

Rachel Jeffery-Walker

Margaret Marie Cox

Margaret was born at home in Station Street, Ashbourne in 1935. She went to the Church of England girls' school on Mayfield Road where she passed her 'entrance exam' (the old 11 Plus) for the Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School.



After completing her schooling, she was told by her mother that she could not go to college or University, but needed to get a job and start earning some money to help the family income. She did as she was told and started work in the office of the Midland Drapery in Derby.

Margaret and Don were married on the 16th July 1955. Margaret was still living with her mum and dad until Don completed his national service when they moved into their first house, a council house on the Park Road estate in Ashbourne.

Margaret worked at William Tatton's in Mayfield, but when her two sons were born, she had to change her working arrangements. Later she worked full-time, becoming the Health and Safety training officer for the factory. Within a short time, she was appointed as the Head of the Personnel department for the factory and two more factories in Yorkshire. This promotion meant Margaret was required to visit the Yorkshire factories, leaving home at 6.00am in the morning and not getting back home until 7.00pm.

Together, Don and Margaret travelled all over the world on holidays. Margaret was always the one who wanted to take up the challenges when on holiday. She climbed up a rock face in Borneo before abseiling back to earth, with Don watching on from the safety of the ground below. She snorkelled on the Great Barrier Reef, climbed into the tunnels in Vietnam and scrambled into the pyramids in Egypt.

One event Don remembers very clearly involved a safari trip in Kenya when their vehicle developed a puncture. The driver informed the group they had to get out of the vehicle so he could change the wheel. This was fine apart from the fact that there was pride of lions, with cubs, only 25 yards away. The driver said they should be ok IF they kept quiet. As you can imagine, the first person out, following the driver, was Margaret taking photographs.

Margaret also spent many hours working within the Church, organising flower festivals, harvest festivals, Christmas and Summer Fairs. She was heavily involved with the development of Gateway, twice helped paint the Century Hall, and taught in the Sunday School along with Eric Matthews. Before teaching at this Church, Margaret also taught at the Beulah Primitive Methodist Chapel in Station Street, where she was the Sunday School Supervisor before it was closed in 1965.

Margaret led a very active and meaningful life, filled with wonderful experiences and always ready to meet a challenge. She faced adversity head on, as can be demonstrated as she fought with her illnesses, keeping her myeloma at bay for more than seven years. Her consultant for that period claimed her as 'his best pupil' who had exceeded all of his expectations in fighting against her myeloma. Margaret died on Sunday 20th October. *(Compiled by her family)*

'FOOTPRINTS' - Memories and thoughts of Margaret Cox

In 1968 my father passed away, having had a brain haemorrhage and being in a coma for six months, at the age of 59 years old. I was 33 years old at that time with two small boys. Most of my life I'd had a strong Christian faith, after attending a Billy Graham meeting at Wembley. During my father's illness, I found it impossible to walk into the church because I blamed God for not helping me.

At my lowest point, I even contemplated suicide, and it was at this time I heard a knock on the window and there stood a Jehovah's Witness. With tears streaming down my face, his word to me was, "Now where is your God?" I was on the verge of a complete breakdown and he nearly completed the job. I just couldn't enter the Church, and felt I had lost my friend and support.

I had been sitting there alone for a while when Minnie Smith (Jan's mum) walked in the door, put her arms around me and prayed. She had brought me a plaque and to me it was a lifeline. The words on the plaque read: "Lord you promised me that, once I followed you, you would always be with me all the way, but I have noticed only one set of footprints in the sand. Why, when I need you, and my church family, am I alone?"

My God replied, "My precious, precious child, I love you and will never leave you during your time of trouble and suffering. When you saw only one set of prints, I was carrying you."

Over the last few months, I have been desperate and needed your thoughts and prayers, so I thank the ones that have carried me with their love and prayers. *(Written by Margaret)*



Methodist Women in Britain

Advent Displays - Thursday 28th November onwards

We shall again be displaying Advent scenes and decorating the Church, from 28 November. The theme this year is - 'We are going on a Journey'.

Nursery and Reception Children from the local schools and nurseries will be coming to look round, have story time, activities and refreshments. The Church will be open during the day and it will be well worth coming in for a look round, a sit and contemplation.

Don't miss it! The displays will be taken down on Friday 27th December - any help will be welcome!.

Alma Swan

Fish & Chips Church

Monday 30th December

11:30am - 1:30pm

Join us in the Century Hall for a sociable Fish & Chips lunch straight from the shop! Enjoy a chat, singing and a quiz in the 'between time' of Christmas and New Year.

Tea and coffee on arrival.

£5 for your fish & chips and a mince pie afterwards.

It's fine to turn up on the day, but it would be useful to be able to let the shop know roughly how many portions we'll be ordering.

Phone Helen Barker (300728) or Fiona Green (343011) to book.



All welcome!

“God in Love Unites Us”

Over the past few months, there have been a number of references in *Connections* to the ongoing discussions, within the Methodist Church, regarding marriage and relationships. The most recent was in John Barker’s report of the District Synod which appeared in the November magazine.

A major report on this subject was discussed at the Methodist Conference in July 2019. A new set of principles outlining the qualities of good relationships was commended for prayerful discussion and response across the Church over the next year.

The report makes a number of proposals, including:

- principles or qualities of good relating
- an understanding of cohabitation
- to allow same-sex couples to marry in Methodist churches
- providing resources and liturgies to celebrate civil partnerships
- prayers for when marriages end in divorce

The Ashbourne Circuit is arranging two meetings in February 2020 to consider and discuss these proposals.

The meetings will be held as follows:

Saturday 1st February, 10.00am - 12.30pm at Ashbourne

Wednesday 12th February, 7.00pm - 9.30pm at Brailsford

The two meetings will be organised on the same lines and cover the same ground. The idea of holding two meetings is to give everyone who wishes to do so the opportunity to be involved. The Brailsford meeting is intended principally for chapels other than Ashbourne, but both meetings will be open to all who find the time and place convenient.

Each meeting will start with an introduction which will outline the background to the Conference report: “God in Love Unites Us”.

The five sections of the report will then be considered:

- Section 1 God has made us to be in relationships and to be sexual
- Section 2 God guides us in all our relating
- Section 3 God’s guidance for marriage: developing our vision
- Section 4 Widening the practice of marriage
- Section 5 Next steps for the Methodist Church

For each section of the report, there will be a brief introduction outlining its content and the issues arising. These will then be discussed in small groups, with a number of questions to be considered. Each group will have a facilitator to guide the discussion and take a few notes.

Feedback

At the end of the meeting, each participant will be given a feedback sheet on which to record their reactions. It is not intended these should be filled in immediately, rather that they should be taken away and considered prayerfully, and then returned later. These views will then be fed into the District Synod when it meets on Saturday 25th April.

The issues are complicated and it is likely that views will differ within our chapels, as in the wider Church. Following the Conference debate, the President, Revd Dr Barbara Glasson, said this: “The debate was full of grace and prayerful thought. There were many personal, often painful, stories shared and representatives listened with great care and attention. My prayer is that this spirit of generosity and love shown today will be reflected as the proposals are discussed across the Church.”

Before the meetings take place, those who wish to take part might find it helpful to look at the materials which are available:

- the report itself runs to 66 pages, but repays careful reading
- there is also a study guide, which is intended to be read alongside the full report – it is not a summary of the report

Some copies of these documents are being obtained and will be made available to chapels - preferably to be passed around. Alternatively, they may be read on-line or downloaded from the Methodist Church website. This will increase our understanding of the issues and inform our discussion.

The easiest way to access these and other related documents on-line is to google “Methodist Church Marriage and Relationships”.

District Meetings

The Nottingham and Derby District is planning “Coffee and Conversation” to discuss aspects of the Marriage and Relationship Report on the following Saturdays from 10.30am-12 noon: 25th January, 8th and 29th February at the District Office, Rivergreen Centre, Clifton, Nottingham. Each will be led by different speakers. For further details, see the poster.

Rev Tim Morris, Elizabeth Hurfurt (342859) and John Dyster (344086)

The Link Development – Update

November 2019



Progress of Building Plans

- Following receipt of Listed Building Consent in March (which we reported last time) we submitted a Planning Application to Derbyshire Dales District Council on 23rd May. This application was for both the work we wish to do to develop our Church premises and for a housing development on the land at the back of the church (as reported before we have been advised to submit one application for all aspects of the development).
- Unfortunately, this application received some objections, the most significant of which was from the Environment Agency who wanted to reduce the area of the land which we could use for development, in particular to avoid land near their flood defence earthwork next to the Henmore Brook. Considering this objection, we were advised that our application would be rejected, which would not be helpful, so in August we withdrew our application before it went to the Planning Committee.
- There were also concerns from the planners about some aspects of the layout and design of the housing.
- Considering these objections and the increased availability of housing for older people in Ashbourne (e.g. Eliot Lodge and elsewhere) we have reviewed housing options, including taking input from local developers and have now submitted a further Pre-Application to DDDC planners with alternative options.
- There are also some detailing queries raised about the church development plans and further technical reports are requested. We are progressing these and believe they can be addressed satisfactorily.
- We expect to get the advice from our further “Pre-App” by the end of November, after which we will make a new Planning Application.
- The slow progress of the planning process is frustrating for all of us, but we are continuing to work hard with our architects AJA and will keep going until we get planning permission.

Other Matters

- In June we went to Methodist Church House in London (“Head Office”) to explain our plans, how they support our Mission Action Plan “Plan for Growth” and understand directly from the Connexional Grants Team what we need to do to obtain a Connexional Grant. They were also very supportive on how to obtain grants more generally and also on how to think of our buildings as a strategic asset.
- We met Ashbourne Town Council Planning Committee in June to present our plans, which were well appreciated, and we received some very supportive comments.
- Ashbourne News Telegraph reporter Gareth Butterfield visited us in August and published a nice piece about our plans.

Fundraising

- The Fundraising Team continue to organise some excellent and enjoyable fundraising activities. The Pop-Up Shop was an amazingly innovative way to get some unwanted items re-cycled and raised a good amount of money. There was an excellent dinner in October with speaker Lydia Slack.

COMING UP: 3 concerts for the pre-Christmas period
please come along and bring your friends, family and neighbours!

f Saturday 30th November – Chameleon Choir

f Monday 2nd December – St Agnes Fountain

f Friday 13th December – Ashbourne Town Band

Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

The Link Development Team: John Barker, Peter Flinn, Catherine Green, Paul Haslam, Ian Marsh, Tim Morris, Tony Walker, Jonathan Webb

CHRISTMAS CONCERT ST AGNES FOUNTAIN

Ashbourne Methodist Church

Monday 2nd December 7.30pm

TICKETS £20 from John Barker 300728 or
Eric & Jenny Williams 346155

Proceeds to the Link Development Fund



WAR – acrostic poem prayers

One of the things we did at the 9.15 am service on Remembrance Sunday was to work together in all age groups to write the following acrostic poem prayers, and we felt they were worth sharing with a wider audience:

Why, Oh Lord,
Are your people still in conflict?
Restore your Kingdom on Earth.

We pray for
All efforts to
Resolve conflicts worldwide.

When will conflict end
And all people know peace,
Released from greed, anger and hatred?

Will you, please, heal the broken,
Answer the cries of the needy,
Release the captives?

We remember those involved in war,
Asking for your peace for them,
Remembering too their politicians.

We pray for those suffering from the effects of war, for
Armaments to be beaten into ploughshares, for
Rebuilding, restoration, reconciliation.

Cathy Stubbs

“From Kniveton to Kenya”

The life-story of Sister Merle Wilde, a much loved personality in the Ashbourne Methodist Circuit who died in November 2017.

Copies available from Ashbourne Methodist Church (ask a steward), or in Cornerstone, or contact John or Daphne Dyster (344086)

Price £4.00 - All proceeds to the Methodist Church World Mission Fund



From Kniveton to Kenya



Sister Merle Wilde

MISSION MATTERS

www.phakamisa.org



Phakamisa is one of our mission partners, working in Pinetown, near Durban, South Africa. Our local contact person is Anne Wills, so do get in touch with her if you have any queries. This newsletter was received recently from the Director Mrs Thokozani Poswa who visited us last May - enjoy!

Richard Odell, World Mission Secretary richard@richarddodell.co.uk

PHAKAMISA NEWSLETTER JUNE–SEPTEMBER 2019

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ Amen. As we are nearing the end of the year, we cannot help but stand in awe of God's faithfulness in every season. The faith that our staff embodied, and the love of God that continuously surrounds us, has brought us this far. We thank God for His mercies that endure forever.

Devotions

As Phakamisa, we build everything on the solid foundation of Jesus Christ and we continue to start our day, every day, with the usual morning devotions. Our care givers continue to pray together and share their testimonies as well. Devotions to them are still one of the important aspects in their lives. You find that when they are sharing or commenting, they say "I ran all the way as I didn't want to miss the devotions. I'm always looking forward to hear the word of God and praying."

During our devotions, we sometimes get some good feedback about the organisation from the care givers. The other day gogo (grandmother) Ncwaba from Lindelani area shared the following:

"I just want to thank Phakamisa for the skills that they teach us. Last week I was approached by our counsellor with some of our community leaders. They told me that they have heard through the grapevine that I make nice beadwork, and they asked if I can teach other community members to do it, and they will pay me. Surprised as I was, we talked and negotiated.

“They then asked me if I had any certificates and, with a big smile, I showed them my Phakamisa beadwork certificate and they were very pleased. I also referred them to come visit Phakamisa to see the beautiful work that is done here. I am very happy, and my children and grandchildren are very excited about this. I love Phakamisa - nothing can separate me from it.”

Early Childhood Development

We are grateful that we were able to enrol students in our Child Minder course and Edu Care and Supervisor course to uplift them. Seventy-five crèche teachers graduated from the Child Minder course in June (that is our six months’ course), and twenty crèche supervisors also received their certificates in the supervisor course. It is always fulfilling when we receive a positive feedback about our training courses. One of the teachers in the Child Minder graduation said, when receiving her certificate:

“I have been waiting for this certificate for a long time. I approached one crèche for a job, and I told them that I was studying at Phakamisa finishing in June. They said that, once I get the certificate, I must come see them. My life is going to change, I promise you.” At Phakamisa we really believe in making a difference in changing lives.

Wandering Schools (Orphans and Vulnerable Children)

Thank you to the Thompson Travellers Group who donated some breakfast meals for our children. As from July, the orphans in our wandering schools have started to eat warm cooked porridge every morning. The smiles that we see in those little faces when enjoying their meals are so adorable. One of the care givers asked one of our teachers what they put in the porridge at school, as her grandchild doesn’t want to eat the porridge any more at home! We would like to also thank the volunteers in the community who assisted the Wandering School teachers with cooking.

Gender Based Violence Awareness Raising Blow a whistle campaign

In light of the recent events surrounding gender-based violence - the xenophobic attacks, the femicide in South Africa, and specifically, after the case of Ayakha Jiyane and her three siblings who were brutally murdered by their father - our organisation saw it fitting, and most necessary, to drive a campaign that would stand together alongside other initiatives in the country and raise awareness on this social epidemic.

We had a march with our male care givers and male friends who joined us during the day. Our objective with this campaign was to raise awareness of gender-based violence in and around the Pinetown community, and also to show that we are part of the struggle and to plead with people to stop abuse.

The campaign was successful, and we were grateful to receive the support of the Pinetown Methodist Church: Superintendent Rev. Sangweni, who joined us during the day and led the march.

We were also happy to receive positive response from the people and cars that were passing by. When distributing the pamphlets on gender-based violence, one of the males said to me “Mama (mother) I would like to apologise on behalf of the men, not all of us are abusers. Some of us are saying NOT IN OUR NAME.” That small discussion meant a lot to us as women at the march.

When we came back, we lit the big candle and our small candles to respect and to pay tribute to all the victims of abuse. Rev. Sangweni led us in this session of candle lighting. He pleaded that the candles be lit first by any members of our volunteering staff who may have been victims of gender-based violence. This was a very touching and emotional moment for the women, many were in tears.

However this session ended on a very powerful and uplifting prayer. De-briefing and counselling sessions were then held with all of the victims, and we had a good closure with regards to this event.

In closing, I would like to thank each and every one who has played a part, in any capacity that has enabled us to make a difference into our disadvantaged communities. God bless you all.

“SIYABONGA –THANK YOU”

Thokozeni Poswa

7-9 Church Lane
031-850 NPO & PBO 930 013111
P O Box 169
Tel/Fax: +27 (0)31 020516
South Africa www.phakamisa.org

65 years of marriage

Dennis and I were married at St Giles Church, Derby, on 27th November 1954. The reason for this date was because a friend of ours, who worked at Birds in Derby, told us there was a flat to rent over the shop on Normanton Road. The rent was £1 a week. It was very difficult to find places to rent, and we wanted to have a place where we were on our own, not a front room in parents' house!

I was made to go to Sunday School, at St Augustine's Church, from a very early age. When my family moved to Kenilworth Avenue in 1940, we all worshipped at St Giles. Eventually I became a Sunday School teacher, and then I was confirmed.

After Dennis and I, with two children, moved to Littleover in 1957, I found the nearest place of worship was Newmount Methodist Church, which I attended and became very involved in. Eventually I decided to move to the Methodist Church at Littleover.

Dennis had always been very supportive in everything I did at church. Then one day, after a Christmas service, Dennis said he would come with me more often.

We moved to Ashbourne in 2007, after 50 years in our house in Littleover. This was a very big decision for us, but after a lot of prayers, and persuasion from our daughter and son, we made the move. We are very happy here and thank God every day for our new church family and being made so welcome.

Now we celebrate 65 years of marriage, I realise that our God is still with us and we count our blessings every day.

Gwynneth (Gwen) Foster

Christmas cards and gifts

I have catalogues available from The Leprosy Mission, featuring a great range of Christmas cards with Bible verses, and gifts. The sales support Leprosy affected people around the world. We also receive commission which has raised over £350 for Ashbourne's Link Project. For more info, please call me on 01335 300338 or email stuart@greenofashbourne.plus.com



**The Leprosy
Mission**
Home shopping

Stuart Green

Health activities in Ashbourne

Janet, from Derbyshire Dales District Council, came to one of our church lunches a few months ago to talk about a new health walk which had been launched. Since then the council has launched some more health activities suitable for older people in Ashbourne:

A Very Easy Walk: Every Tuesday 10.00am meeting outside the cricket pavilion at the top of the park. The very easy walks are suitable for those wanting to be more active, who may need the reassurance of walking with others, or are maybe recovering from injury or illness. It's free, simple and gentle on the body. The walk is led by qualified leaders and lasts about 30 minutes. We also enjoy a cup of tea afterwards in Betty's tea room.

Tone & Strengthen: Every Wednesday 9.30am-10.15am at the Empire Ballroom. This circuit style class is suitable for people of all ages and fitness levels, including those new to exercise. The class is designed to increase cardiovascular fitness while improving muscle tone & strength. The class also works on improving flexibility, posture and balance. All exercises are adapted to meet individual needs & goals.

Chair Based Exercise: Every Wednesday 11.45am-12.30pm at the Empire Ballroom. This class is suitable for those older adults who may suffer with mobility issues, health conditions, or have very little strength. It is low impact and focuses on improving cardiovascular fitness, muscular strength and endurance, which reduces the risk of falls and also improves flexibility and posture. All this helps in performing activities of daily living. The classes are very relaxed and social and are tailored to meet individual needs and goals.

Janet Chadfield

Community Activator, Derbyshire Dales District Council

Janet.Smith@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

Coffee Morning

There will be a Coffee Morning at Kirk Ireton Methodist Chapel, Coffin Lane, Kirk Ireton DE6 3JW on Saturday 7th March – 10am-12noon

All are welcome!





Events for December

Wed 27 Nov 10am–12 noon	Seminar: Getting Started with Fresh Expressions of Church St Oswald's Church. Free	Parish Office 343052
Fri 29 Nov 7.30pm	Wine and cheese evening at St Oswald's Church	
Sat 30 Nov 7.00pm	Chameleon choir concert at Ashbourne Methodist Church	Morag on 07856 285084
Mon 2 Dec 7.30pm	St Agnes Fountain in concert at Ashbourne Methodist Church. Tickets £20 direct or derbylive.co.uk £21.25	Eric and Jenny 346155
Thurs 5 Dec 7.00–7.30pm	Julian Meeting in St Oswald's chapel. Contemplative reading, prayer and silence	Nick Taylor
Fri 6 Dec 5.50pm	Lantern procession	
Fri 13 Dec 7.00pm	Ashbourne town band concert at Ashbourne Methodist church	
Tues 17 Dec 4.00–6.00pm	Ossie's kitchen: community café for an intergenerational social eating experience. Three courses for £3/£1 St Oswald's church centre	Nigel Rode 664159
Thurs Jan 2 7.00–7.30pm	Julian Meeting in St Oswald's chapel. Contemplative reading, prayer and silence	Nick Taylor

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 19th-26th January

For details, see pages 21-22

Mustard programme: December 2019-January 2020

24th Nov	6.30pm	Cornerstone	Belong session 5
1st Dec		Brailsford area	Safari meal around Brailsford area. More details to follow
8th Dec	6.30pm	Cornerstone	Belong session 6
15th Dec	6.30pm	Praise	Praise in the Century Hall
22nd Dec	6.30pm	Church	Carols by Candlelight followed by the Mustard Christmas Meal
29th Dec			No Meeting - school holidays
5th Jan	6.30pm	Cornerstone	Belong session 7
12th Jan	6.30pm	Cornerstone	Belong session 8
19th Jan	6.30pm	Praise	Praise in the Century Hall
26th Jan	6.30pm	Cornerstone	Belong session 9

JMA New Year Lunch

All JMA members are invited to our New Year JMA lunch event on Sunday 26th January.

We will have a bring and share lunch 12 -2pm in the Cornerstone.

If you could let Ruth know if you can attend that would be super.

Many thanks.



From the Editors

We are grateful for all your contributions.

We would welcome items for the next edition, including photos of church activities – **February 2020**

Please note we are unable to include items which are copyright, unless permission is obtained from the copyright-holder.

Last date for contributions: **Wednesday 15th January**

Publication date: **Sunday 26th January**

If possible, please e-mail us at dysters@tiscali.co.uk

If this is not convenient, please contact us on 01335 344086

Daphne and John Dyster

Ashbourne Circuit Church Services - December

Sunday December 1st

Ashbourne 10:30 Rev Mark Broadhurst
 18:30 Praise – Peter Dawson
 Brailsford 10:30 Rev Tim Morris

Parwich 14:30 Lorraine Hawkins

Advent 1

in Century Hall
 United Service at
 Methodist, Communion

Sunday December 8th

Ashbourne 9:15 Café style
 10:30 Ruth Barratt
 18:30 Rev David Leese
 Brailsford 10:30 Tom Parkinson
 Kniveton 14:30 Ann Parkinson

Advent 2

in Century Hall
 Communion

Sunday December 15th

Ashbourne 10:30 Fiona Green/
 Rev Tim Morris
 18:30 Praise – Lorraine Hawkins
 Brailsford 10:30 Robert Sales
 Kniveton 18:30 Diana Whitmill
 Parwich 10:00 Rev Carollyn
 McDonald/ Rev Tim
 Morris
 Tissington 16.00 Rev Alan Griggs

Advent 3

Communion
 in Century Hall
 All Age
 Carol Service
 United Carol Service
 Carol Service

Sunday December 22nd

Ashbourne 10:30 Powersource
 18:30 Rev Tim Morris
 Brailsford 10:30 Rev Mark Broadhurst
 Kirk Ireton 18:30 John Dyster

Advent 4

All Age
 Carol Service
 Carol Service

Monday December 23rd

Brailsford 18:00 Sue Leese

Carol Service

Tuesday December 24th

Milldale 16:00 Rev Tim Morris
 Ashbourne 23:30 Rev Tim Morris

Christmas Eve

Christmas Service
 Communion

Wednesday December 25th

Ashbourne 10:00 Rev Tim Morris

Christmas Day

All Age

Sunday December 29th

Ashbourne 10:30 Tom Parkinson
 18:30 **No service**
 Brailsford 10:30 At Ashbourne

All Age Circuit Service

Ashbourne Circuit Church Services - January

Sunday January 5th

Ashbourne	10:30	Rev Tim Morris	Covenant Service
	18:30	Praise – Rev David Leese	in Century Hall
Brailsford	10:30	Rev David Leese	United Service at Methodist, Covenant
Parwich	14:30	Rev Tim Morris	Covenant Service

Sunday January 12th

Ashbourne	9:15	Café style	in Century Hall
	10:30	Paul Taylor	
	18:30	Rev Tim Morris	Communion
Brailsford	10:30	Ann Parkinson	
Kniveton	14:30	Rev Tim Morris	Covenant Service

Sunday January 19th

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Ashbourne	10:30	Pulpit Swap	
	18:30	Praise – Cathy Stubbs	in Century Hall
Brailsford	10:30	Steve Haines	All Age
Parwich	10:00	Church of England	United Service
Tissington	10:30	Robert Sales	

Sunday January 26th

Ashbourne	10:30	Rev Tim Morris	
	18:30	ACT United Service at St Oswald's Church Preacher: Rev Alan Griggs, Agricultural Chaplain	
Brailsford	10:30	Ruth Barratt	
Kirk Ireton	18:30	Fiona Green	
Kniveton	11.00	Peter Dawson	

Sunday February 2nd

Ashbourne	10:30	John Dyster	
	18:30	Praise – Paul Taylor	in Century Hall
Brailsford	10:30	Rev Tim Morris	United Service at Methodist
Parwich	14:30	Peter Dawson	

The details in **Bold** are changes to the usual plan.

Dates for your diary and your prayers

December 2019

Mon 2nd	19:30	St Agnes Fountain Concert at Ashbourne Church
Tue 3rd	9:15	Circuit Leadership Team meeting
Tue 3rd	19:30	Local Preachers meeting
Wed 4th	12:00	ACT Prayers
Fri 6th	18:00	Ashbourne Late Night Shopping
Wed 11th	12:30	Brailsford Lunch Fellowship
Fri 13th	19:00	Ashbourne Town Band in Ashbourne Church
Sat 14th	19:00	Ashbourne Singers Concert at Ashbourne Church
Tue 17th	12:30	Ashbourne Christmas Lunch
Sat 21st	10:00	Ashbourne Messy Church
Mon 23rd	18:00	Brailsford Carol Service
Tue 24th	16:00	Milldale Christmas Service
Tue 24th	11:30	Christmas Eve Communion at Ashbourne
Wed 25th	10:00	Christmas Day Family Service at Ashbourne
Mon 30th	11:30	Ashbourne Fish & Chip Church (see page 7)

January 2020

Wed 15th	12:00	Ashbourne Learning & Caring group meeting
Wed 15th	19:30	Ashbourne Worship Stewards meeting

Sun 19th		Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins
Mon 20th	12:00	ACT Noon Prayers at St Oswald's Church
Tue 21st	12:00	ACT Noon Prayers at Methodist Church
Wed 22nd	12:00	ACT Noon Prayers at Elim Church
Thu 23rd	12:00	ACT Noon Prayers at All Saints RC Church
Fri 24th	12:00	ACT Noon Prayers at Holy Trinity Church, Clifton
Sun 26th	18:30	ACT United Service at St Oswald's Church Preacher: Rev Alan Griggs, Agricultural Chaplain

Ashbourne Church Activities

Sun	18.30pm	Mustard (Youth Fellowship)
Mon	10.00am	Housegroup: weekly <i>Contact – Gareth Rutledge (418519)</i>
	14.00pm	Craft and Chat in The Cornerstone <i>Contact – Clare Sales (342321)</i>
	19.30pm	Housegroup: weekly <i>Contact – Helen Walker (343910)</i>
Tues	9.00am	kids@cornerstone <i>Contact – Clare Sales (342321)</i>
	10.00am	Housegroup: weekly <i>Contact – Alma Swan (347586)</i>
	12.30pm	Luncheon Club: last Tuesday in month. Century Hall <i>Contact – John & Elizabeth Hurfurt (342859)</i>
	13.00pm	kids@cornerstone (not 3rd Tuesday of the month) <i>Contact – Clare Sales (342321)</i>
Wed	9.30am	Walk and Talk Group: weekly <i>Contacts – Chris and John Dakin (345280)</i>
	19.30pm	Housegroup: fortnightly <i>Contact – Eric and Jenny Williams (346155)</i>
Thu	9.30am	Prayer Meeting: weekly <i>Contact – Brian Hawkins (343174)</i>
	19.30pm	Housegroup: weekly <i>Contact – Jeff Ffoulkes(300443)</i>
	19.30pm	Housegroup: weekly <i>Contact Jo & Paul Taylor (342897)</i>
Fri	19.30pm	Housegroup: fortnightly <i>Contact: Catherine Green (300338)</i>
Thu, Fri, Sat	10.00am	The Cornerstone Coffee Shop <i>Contact – Pat Fielding (345695)</i>

Brailsford Church Activities

Tues	9.30am	Coffee Shop: weekly
Wed	12.30pm	Luncheon Club: monthly (2nd Wednesday)

Hulland Church Activities

Wed	19.30pm	Bible Study: monthly (1st Wednesday) <i>Contact – John Dyster (344086)</i>
Thurs	14.15pm	Women’s Fellowship (1st Thursday)

Tissington Church Activities

Fellowship Group
Contact – Richard Odell (419319)



Jacinth Land celebrating her 90th birthday with Rev Harry Jones



Celebrating 10 years of the Brailsford Coffee Shop (see page 4)