

Almondbury Methodist Church



THE LINK – FEBRUARY 2009

From The Manse - TRAVELLING THROUGH LENT

Dear Friends,

The two major festivals of the church's year are both preceded by a time of preparation. Christmas follows the four weeks of Advent; Easter comes at the end of nearly seven weeks of Lent, which this year begins on Wednesday 25th February.

So what will you be doing for Lent this year? In this pre-Lent season that is one of the questions we might be asking ourselves. As Lent unfolds we make the journey with Jesus in the direction of Jerusalem watching him preparing to challenge and confront both the Roman and Temple authorities, who end up colluding to get rid of him. What does that journey mean with regard to your discipleship?

As you travel through the weeks of Lent you will have your own ideas of changes you wish to make to the pattern of your life. I simply take this opportunity to invite you to participate in an activity which opens up the possibility to reflect personally and corporately on our own spirituality – that is, on our own experience and understanding of God, ourselves and the world. We will be using the book ***God of Surprises*** by the acclaimed writer on Christian Spirituality, Gerard Hughes, as a resource for our own thinking and our conversations. During the course of four weekly sessions we shall share together insights from our reading and experience as we seek to deepen our relationship with God.

If you would like to pursue this opportunity please add your name to the list at the back of church or have a conversation with me.

Best wishes, David

Open House

A warm welcome, good company and excellent food!

3rd & 17th February,
3rd, 17th & 31st March

Coffee is available before meals which are served from 12.00 noon

Enquiries - 01484 420277

CAMEO

All meetings start at 2.30pm

4th February - Brian Crowther

“My Visit to Nepal”

11th February - Games

18th February - Frank Wright

“A day in the life of an amateur auctioneer”

25th February - Games



ANSWERS TO THE CHRISTMAS QUIZ

- 1 Angels from the Realms of Glory
- 2 In Dolcie Jubilo
- 3 Little donkey
- 4 Silent Night
- 5 Good King Wenceslas
- 6 Christians Awake
- 7 As With gladness Men of Old
- 8 While Shepherds Watched
- 9 Ding Dong Merrily on high
- 10 The Holly and the Ivy
- 11 Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning
- 12 See Him Lying on a Bed of Straw
- 13 Once in Royal David's City
- 14 O Little Town of Bethlehem
- 15 Unto us a Boy is Born

Annual Giving to the Church

We are approaching the end of the tax year and the time that the Church claims it's Gift Aid. If you give to the church on an annual basis it would be much appreciated if you could make your payment by the end of March. Please liaise with Jean Boothroyd.

THE WES – LATEST SCORE

Our Coffee Morning last December raised just under £500 and we thank all church members who supported the event.

Our A.G.M. will be held in the pavilion on Friday 27th February 2009 at 7.30 pm. All members are encouraged to attend and will be welcome. Rev David Bidnell will, in accordance with tradition, become our new President. His playing abilities will no doubt be assessed in the nets later!

A series of 10 winter net sessions start on Sunday 8th February 2009 at King James's Sports Hall in preparation for the 2009 season. Yorkshire players, Richard Blakey and Anthony McGrath will be running some specialist wicket-keeping and batting classes. There will also be 5 Saturday morning coaching sessions for our promising younger players.

The next fundraising event will be a meal with wine tasting on a French theme at the pavilion on Friday 6th February 2009. Tickets are limited but please let me know if you are interested in attending.

Keith Crawshaw

New Chairs for The Wesley Centre

After a considerable period of time during which two grants have been secured and the remaining funding found, the Church Council agreed on the chair to be purchased for The Wesley Centre. By the time you are reading this, it is expected that the chairs will have been delivered.

There has been a rigorous process in which the Property Stewards have tested 10 different chairs, considering a number of aspects.

We have purchased 200 chairs together with 20 additional seat pads, to allow for replacement of over-soiled or damaged pads. We are confident that all users of The Wesley Centre will be pleased by the new seating.

John Robinson

Fairtrade Fortnight
23rd February - 7th March 2009

Fairtrade is great news pass it on and make a difference!

A reminder to all that we have a range of fair trade products on sale in the Wesley Centre each Sunday after our service. Please ask if there is an item you would like and we don't have in stock.

Small stall - Big Impact!

Flower Distribution Rota
February 2009

February 1st -	Mrs Helen Megoran
February 8th -	Mrs Brenda Tippen
February 15th -	Mr & Mrs R Stansfield
February 22nd -	Mr & Mrs V Baker

New Style Link

Following agreement from the Church Council, the Link Editorial Team are trialling a new format for The Link over the next few months.

It was felt that it needed a more mod-

ern look and a format that lent itself to being produced and distributed more easily to a wider section of the local community, particularly during periods such as Easter and Christmas. It was also felt that the nature of the content lent itself to a newsletter type approach, and that this format will help us to reduce our impact on the environment through the reduction of paper required as well as reducing the time and costs involved.

If anyone has any comments or thoughts please pass them to Sarah Gathercole, Stuart Walker, Elaine Lee or David Bidnell.

Fellowship Group

Sunday's, 7.30 - 9.00pm,
in the Mollicar Room in
The Wesley Centre.

All welcome on 8/2 & 22/2



Diary Dates for FEBRUARY 2009

Feb 1	MORNING WORSHIP - Barry Lee	10.30am
Feb 3	OPEN HOUSE	12.00pm
Feb 4	CAMEO - Brian Crowther	2.30pm
Feb 8	MORNING WORSHIP - Rev. David Bidnell Holy Communion	10.30am
	FELLOWSHIP GROUP in The Wesley Centre	7.30pm
Feb 11	CAMEO - Games	2.30pm
	Last date for March Link articles (to Sarah Gathercole, Stuart Walker and Elaine Lee)	
Feb 12-14	PANTOMINE - Puss in Boots	7.15pm & 2.15pm
Feb 15	MORNING WORSHIP - Michael Early	10.30am
Feb 17	OPEN HOUSE	12.00pm
Feb 18	CAMEO - Frank Wright	2.30pm
Feb 19-21	PANTOMINE - Puss in Boots	7.15pm & 2.15pm
Feb 22	MORNING WORSHIP - Mike Richardson	10.30am
	March Link Distributed	
Feb 23	Start of Fairtrade Fortnight	
Feb 25	CAMEO - Games	2.30pm

Almondbury Methodist Pantomime Group

presents

Puss in Boots

By Ron Hall

By arrangement with NODA



**Thurs 12th, Fri 13th and Sat 14th February
Thurs 19th, Fri 20th and Sat 21st February**

**7-15pm each Evening and
2-15pm Saturday Matinees**

*(Proceeds from Saturday 14th February evening performance
to Yorkshire Cancer Research)*

Tickets

£6.00 Adults, £3.00 Children

£3.00 Senior Citizens (Thursday & Matinees only)

Booking

To make a booking by phone please ring
01484 500459 or 01484 359649