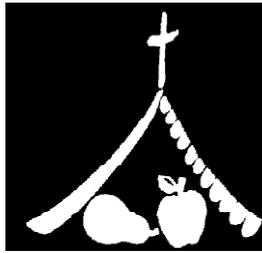


# NEWSLETTER

**April/May  
2012.**



## **Buxton Methodist Church**

The Church in the Market Place



### WORSHIP:

Sunday: 11.00 am and 6.00 pm  
Tuesday: 10.30 am

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### CHURCH ADDRESS:

Buxton Methodist Church  
Chapel Street  
BUXTON SK17 6HX  
Tel: 01298 27065

Website: [www.buxtonmethodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.buxtonmethodistchurch.org.uk)  
e-mail: [admin@buxtonmethodist.co.uk](mailto:admin@buxtonmethodist.co.uk)  
[bookings@buxtonmethodist.co.uk](mailto:bookings@buxtonmethodist.co.uk)

### MINISTER:

Rev J Colin Smith  
1 St James' Terrace  
BUXTON SK17 6HS  
Tel: 01298 23556

# Kwei Lin Chinese Restaurant

Functions, Parties, and Take-away Service  
are always welcomed

*Open Daily (from 5.30 pm to 11.00 pm)*

Tel 01298 77822 Fax 01298 79822

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1 Lower Hardwick Street,  
Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 6DQ  
(Off Terrace Road)

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The *Clarks* Shop @ Bells

17 Spring Gardens, Buxton - 01298 23579

A large selection of Clarks and K Shoes  
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Our new store with many of the most famous brands available  
from stock including:

HOTTER, RIEKER, GABOR, ECCO,

RIVA HISPANITAS

and other specialist brands

No 436  
April/May 2012.

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# Buxton Methodist Church Newsletter

## MINISTER'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

Does the death of one man make a difference? Are we a different people because 2,000 years ago a man was nailed to a cross?

It was a terrible way to kill a man, though reports of what is happening in the torture chambers of Syria make us realise that inflicting long-lasting pain on a fellow human being is not something confined to the past. Certainly, the means of Jesus' death was terrible - but it was not uniquely terrible.

If Jesus' death makes a difference then it is because of who he was. The first way of defining who he was is that he was "the Son of Man". That's a phrase often used in the Gospels to speak of Jesus as one of us. If Jesus wasn't truly human, sharing in all that makes us the vulnerable, limited people that we are, then he can't represent the human race as we come before God.

We sometimes try and turn Jesus into someone who was super-human, with powers and understanding that detach us from him. But it wasn't a super-human who died on the cross – it was our brother and friend, who knows us in our weakness because he has fully entered into the limitations and frailty of human life.

Another title given to Jesus is "Son of God". In the Hebrew Scriptures this was sometimes applied to Israel's kings and rulers. Indeed, the word "Messiah", "the anointed one", picks up aspects of Jesus as king. Jesus comes not just as another man, but as someone to whom God has given authority.

The man Pilate nailed to the cross is the man who revealed with authority what it means to live under the rule of God – in justice and with joy; giving value to every person as God’s daughter or son; faithful in love and self-giving in service.

Yet, Christians have always wanted to go a final step in speaking of the crucified Jesus. Charles Wesley in one of his hymns wrote:

With glorious clouds encompassed round,  
Whom angels dimly see,  
Will the Unsearchable be found,  
Or God appear to me?

Will He forsake His throne above,  
Himself to men impart?  
Answer, Thou Man of grief and love,  
And speak it to my heart.

Didst Thou not in our flesh appear,  
And live and die below,  
That I may now perceive Thee near,  
And my Redeemer know?

Christians make this extraordinary claim – the eternal God, who dwells beyond time and space, has revealed himself, in time and space, in Jesus of Nazareth. So we can speak of a crucified God and see in the way Jesus dies a sure sign of how God thinks and acts on our behalf.

Jesus gives his whole life for the sake of the world God loves. When he speaks words of forgiveness from the cross and promises the dying thief “life”, he speaks God’s word. He speaks with no less authority to us.

Sometimes, it seems as though the world is victorious over Jesus and his vision of the Kingdom. Yet a resurrection faith believes not only that Jesus is raised to life by the power of God, but his resurrection contains the promise that the powers of this world are coming to an end. The life-giving power of God and his love are stronger than death and destruction.

May the Spirit of God help us enter into the darkness of Holy Week, the cross and the tomb and enable us to be witnesses who proclaim with our sisters and brothers in the faith: “The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia.”

Christ’s peace be with you.

Colin.

## **VICE- PRESIDENT'S BIBLE STUDY**

Ruth Pickles, the Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, will be leading an interactive Bible Study at Poynton Methodist Church on Saturday 19th May from 10.00am to 1.00pm.

The theme is - "*Jesus and the Queue Jumper*".

Everyone is invited to attend.

## **CHURCHES TOGETHER in BUXTON Organ Bursary Fund**

Buxton is blessed with a number of talented and committed organists to play the variety of organs in our church buildings; but - in common with the rest of the country – there's concern that there are relatively few younger people taking up the organ to replace those who will eventually need to retire. In a bid to address the issue, Churches Together in Buxton has devised a scheme of support to foster new talent.

Thanks to the generosity of the Bingham and Golsoncott Trusts and churchgoers in Buxton and beyond, along with help from local organists, the package of support includes a substantial contribution towards the cost of organ lessons and organ music, the opportunity to gain experience of accompanying services, regular access to an instrument for practice purposes, and the option to attend a regional event for organists.

We have now embarked on the hunt for our trainee. The competition is by no means restricted to young people, but the successful candidate will need to be in a position to make time for practice. The committee has distributed information about the scheme to music teachers in Buxton and the surrounding area, and information is also available on the Buxton Methodist website ([www.buxtonmethodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.buxtonmethodistchurch.org.uk)). There will be a short event at St Peter's Church Fairfield on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April between 2.30 and 3.30pm, open to anyone who would like to come along and find out more, when Andrew Cummings FRCO will demonstrate what can be achieved on St Peter's organ, and those who attend will have the option of trying out the instrument for themselves.

The closing date for applications is 30<sup>th</sup> April 2012. Application forms are available on the Buxton Methodists website, or from John Anfield (01298 25664) who can also answer questions you may have.

Rosie Shipley

## **CLIFF COLLEGE WEEKEND 1<sup>ST</sup> – 4<sup>TH</sup> June, 2012**

Cliff College is based at Calver and is a Methodist College which prepares many people for different ways of sharing in mission and evangelism - in Britain and around the world.

This year's Pentecost Weekend has the theme of '**Therefore Go**'. It will help us explore the nature of evangelism in the local church and across the world, and a fantastic line up of guest speakers will be helping unpack this in a variety of ways. The teaching will be based around daily themes of:

- Saturday: **evangelism as incarnation** - being good news,
- Sunday: **evangelism as proclamation** - telling good news,
- Monday: **evangelism as demonstration** - showing good news

The youth programme includes **Bible Studies, discipleship and leadership based seminars, live worship, performances** from live bands and DJs, a **quiz show, mountain biking, rock climbing, digital meditation space** - so much there isn't space to tell you all about it here!

For children there is a new programme called '**Awesome**', which will welcome kids from Reception to Y6 into a **multi sensory approach** to learning and worship, with **live music and story telling**. Younger children are catered for in the pre-school group, and in the Crèche. Children with additional needs are especially welcome, and we would love to hear of any specific needs so we can prepare properly.

For more details ask Roger or Colin or go to [www.cliffcollege.ac.uk/page/festival](http://www.cliffcollege.ac.uk/page/festival).

If you wish to, download a booking form and send that to Cliff, or contact the main college reception to arrange your booking - phone: 01246 584200/email: [admin@cliffcollege.ac.uk](mailto:admin@cliffcollege.ac.uk).

### **FROM NIGHTSTOP IN BUXTON**

Thank you for your generous donations of dry and tinned food for the food-bank. Parcels are given to people referred to us to tide them over temporary emergencies like a gap between benefits and employment. The need is increasing.

High Peak Nightstop provides a number of services: emergency accommodation with hosts for 16-25 year olds, food parcels for anyone in urgent need, a tent loan scheme, advice and sign-posting for homeless people.

Colin writes: Donations of dry and tinned food for the food-bank can be left in the box at the back of the church. Wendy Jones has kindly agreed to take our donations to Nightstop as and when needed.

Ann Roberts writes: Thank you very much to everyone who has donated food to Nightstop over the last few weeks. It has been very much appreciated by the volunteers who have now distributed food to well over 100 people. The need is increasing and referrals are being received from 44 different agencies. The box will continue to be at the back of the church for us to continue to be a collection point for donations of food.

There is also going to be a "Hoe Down" in aid of Nightstop at the United Reformed Church on Saturday 21st April at 7.30pm. There will be easy dances led by Alison and John Crowther who have become well known locally for providing very enjoyable country dance evenings. Tickets cost £6 adult and £3 child and tea and coffee will be provided, but everyone is asked to bring a plate of food for a "Bring and Share" supper. It should be a fun evening in support of a good local charity. Please contact Ann Roberts if you would like more information or to buy a ticket (01298 25244).

## **Roger's Updates**

A couple of weeks ago I attended the Lay workers conference. There used to be two conferences, one for youth workers and one for all other categories of lay workers. Now they are merged and it works well.

I was particularly impressed with Steve Emery-Wright, a researcher and lecturer at Cliff College. His topic looked at how we empower children and young people to worship, thereby transforming our churches - lots of food for thought.

There was another excellent workshop (they were all good) on Self Harming. I chose this because I deal with a few young people that self harm and learning more about this was especially valuable and informative. There were many more workshops and worship times, but these two stood out for me.

In April I will attend an alcohol awareness day run by the NHS/PCT (Primary Care Trust) because the abuse of drink and binge drinking is a big issue, not least with young people.

Since January Messy Church at Buxton Methodist has run every two weeks. Far from lowering the average numbers attending because of the increased frequency, the numbers have increased and in March over 70 people attended one Messy Church. The challenge for the Church is how it builds on this and how it builds relationships between the church and those coming to Messy Church. We also need a steady flow of volunteers to make it work.

Rainbows, Brownies Guides and Stepping Stones continue to do well and we are grateful for all those who help and lead these groups. The Friday Parent and Toddler group is also very well attended and is well appreciated by the parents and carers attending.

11 UP has seen most of the original young people leave as they have grown older, got jobs or have boy/girlfriends and choose to party instead. We still have a good number (around 20) but they are a very young 'fractured' group which has its challenges. We have been on two trips this year, one to Glossop to see Philippa Hanna and Roo Walker in concert at Glossop Central Methodist Church and Teen Spirit, a worship event at Bakewell Methodist. Both events were well received and the young people especially enjoyed the concert at Glossop and to prove it, they purchased the CDs of Philippa Hanna and Roo Walker. The young people would like us to host them here at Buxton, but that costs money - about £500 (gross before ticket sales).

Later in the year (July) we have a District Sleepover in Clitheroe with activities at the former grand hotel in Clitheroe and the sleepover at Clitheroe Methodist Church. I hope to take young people from Monyash, Peak Dale, 11 UP and from the Guides to this event. This has been planned by the Methodist District EYC group (Enabling Young Christians) which I am a part of. I also attend the 'Fresh Expressions' group at District level and try to be involved as much as possible within the District.

I'd like to thank those who have contributed towards the buying of Youth Bibles for 11 UP members. On each birthday this year each young person will receive a copy of the Youth Bible which has some very specific features in it making it very relevant to young people. It also ensures a modern language version of the Bible is going into homes. If you wish to contribute to this fund, please let me know. Any amount is gratefully received or you can sponsor a Bible at approximately £11.50 per Youth Bible. Cheques should be made to 11 UP.

The Discovery Zone was launched just as you picked up your copy of the January Magazine. The Discovery Zone (DZ) is a different style of worship that is a relaxed, Café style and for all ages. Breakfast is from 9am which is followed by a time of worship that includes modern songs and film clips to illustrate the theme for the morning. We hope that it will grow and that current church goers might use it as an opportunity of inviting their friends to church if they are non church goers. We have no idea where the DZ will lead us and whether it will be successful or not, but to try is important. Eight people were at the first DZ in January and 18 in February. 11 of the 18 were not church goers or did not ordinarily attend church.

Of those 11, 5 went into the 11am service and 4 of them went into Sunday Club.

Glynis and the team of leaders do a great job for Sunday Club. I am on the Sunday Club rota for the Youth Group part of Sunday Club.

Talk FX is just a name, but the clue of what it's about is in the name - Talk. We discuss many topical and contentious issues, but, I hope, we do it in love and don't cause offence to those who are there. We try and root all we talk about in Scripture. We also enjoy great Chinese food afterwards. It's on the last Sunday of most months at 7.30pm, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, Kwei Lin Chinese Restaurant. You are welcome. We accept donations towards the food. We don't make a charge and people donate according to their financial ability to give. You are most welcome to come along.

I am still involved in leading assemblies in 3 schools and helping in lessons periodically at 2 schools as well as being a governor at another school.

Messy Church in Peak Dale and in Earl Sterndale are still going well and we launch Messy Church in April at Monyash. The Monday night Youth Drop In at Monyash is very well attended and Breakfast Church in Peak Dale is still successful.

The Church Council at Buxton Methodist have agreed that I can trial a modern worship service. It is more than likely that this won't happen until September, but before then I would like to find some people that can play musical instruments that would be willing to form a worship music group to lead our music - guitarists, keyboard, drums, violin, flute, clarinet and more. If you know people, please ask them if they would be involved. We have some very exciting music. We will also want a couple of good singers too. If you can help, please let me know.

Dads often get a bad press and I think society doesn't value them as much as they should. With family breakdown too, it can be difficult for dads in maintaining family ties. The Church Council also agreed to allow me to start something called 'Who let the dads out?' I'm not exactly sure when this will happen, but it may be launched on the back of Fathers' Day. It will be monthly and will be for dads, stepdads, granddads and male carers.

This is an extract regarding what it's all about:

*'We know that parent and toddler work can transform relationships and strengthen families. Yet we also know that mostly mothers have populated the parent and toddler world.'*

*Who Let The Dads Out? is all about creating space where dads and their young children can have fun together and is founded on the Christian principle of wanting to demonstrate God's love to communities.*

*Who Let The Dads Out? toddler sessions are specifically for toddlers and their dads, stepdads, granddads and male carers. They follow the same traditional format as normal parent and toddler sessions. There are toys, craft activities, stories and, if you're brave, even song time, but with a few masculine touches, such as bacon butties and newspapers'. It can also help mum get a break.*

If you feel you might like to be involved with this exciting project, please let me know.

Hopefully this brief synopsis will give you a flavour of some of the work I do and will have updated you with the various groups and ongoing projects that are happening around the circuit..

I am very grateful for all the help and support I do receive and the goodwill often expressed - thank you.

Roger Mallard.

Hollinsclough Flower Festival  
Sunday May 27<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday June 5<sup>th</sup>.  
Help needed with serving refreshments,  
please contact Brenda on 01298 83356.

Thanks.



John had promised he would baby-sit for his daughter, as she was going out. The five-year-old was upstairs and John heard her speaking, but could not make sense of what she was saying, so he went upstairs to hear better.

He stood at the open bedroom door and Queenie was saying different letters from the alphabet, one after another. John asked what she was doing and she continued saying the letters, so he asked again what she was doing. "I'm saying my prayers to God". John asked how saying the separate letters was going to make sense, but Queenie said: "It's all right. God knows what I want to say and he'll put the letters in the right order.

Dorothy Martin.



Concentrating on the Beetle Drive at the Valentines Tea.



More Fun activities at the Valentines Tea.



Kay, Michelle and some of the Brownies doing some junk modelling ☺



Rainbows enjoying their pancakes ☺

## Investing in our young people

In the February/March edition of this newsletter we celebrated the fact that our Church continues to keep its head above water financially, despite the difficult economic climate.

As we now pass the half way mark in the financial year, our Treasurer is forecasting that performance is still holding up – income has gone down slightly compared to the same time last year, but so also has our expenditure, so we hope to end the year more or less where we started.

The visit of Rev Dr Keith Davies, Chair of the Manchester and Stockport Methodist District, who will be taking our morning service on Sunday 22 April, will provide an opportunity for us to look back at some of the successes of the past few months. We have much to be thankful for in the life of our Church, and we shall see some images of recent activities during the service on that day. Elsewhere in these pages you will read about what some of the young people in the Circuit having been getting up to.

We are enormously grateful to all those who support our children as they begin their journey to learn more about Jesus, through Sunday Club, Messy Church, Stepping Stones, Parent & Toddler groups, 11-Up and the uniformed organisations. Our lay worker, Roger Mallard, assisted by many, many volunteers, is doing a wonderful job. We thank the Rank Foundation and the Stockport and Manchester District for their grants that have made this work possible.

These grants, however, meet around 50% of the lay worker's costs and we have committed to raising 'matching funding' for the rest. These costs include salary and associated employment costs, travel to Churches across the Circuit, materials and equipment for our young people. You will have seen, for example, the children's craft work on the walls of the church and heard about the new cupboards for Messy Church in the porch. Youth work also requires books, computer equipment and software, and, it seems, gallons of orange squash!

With this in mind, and with cognisance of other planned expenditure in 2011-12, such as replacement notice boards for the front of Church, some new windows and in all likelihood, a new photocopier, the Finance Committee recommends that we need to raise approximately £15,000 a year above the average income we have achieved in recent years.

To this end, a Gift Day will be held on Saturday 28 April, especially to encourage donations towards sustaining our youth work. We must continue to invest in our young people, growing the Church from the bottom up.

We hope that you will be able to make a donation to our Gift Day appeal and/or that you can encourage others to do so. And if you are a UK tax payer (be that through PAYE or deductions from your state pension), then please do use a gift aid envelope so that the Church can claim a further 25p for every £1 you give.

The Church will be open on the morning of Saturday 28 April, when members of the Finance Committee will be in attendance to receive your gifts, or they can be passed to our Treasurer, Ian Stubbs, to Colin Smith, or posted through the Manse door at any time.

Thank you.  
Kate MacLean  
Chairman, Finance Committee



**Saturday May 12th 10 - 12noon**

**Coffee Morning at Earl Sterndale Chapel in aid of Christian Aid  
and The Red Cross.**

## DO YOU PREFER FREE-RANGE EGGS?

If you and your family prefer Free-Range eggs why not consider buying them from *Good News Family Care*?

When you buy **Good News Eggs**, you not only get wholesome, farm-fresh, free-range eggs for less than you'd pay in the shops, you also help needy young people to gain valuable therapeutic work experience.

You'll get FRESHER eggs too. Eggs have a shelf life of around three weeks but we believe "fresh is best" so we aim to have Good News eggs reach you within a day or so of leaving our Goyt Valley farm.

Our hens are fed on good, wholesome feed and fresh water - nothing more. They are free to roam around a spacious grassy area of the farm during the day and at night they are housed in dry, comfortable barns.

## PRICES

**Large** eggs £2.60 doz  
(30 eggs tray) £5.50

**Medium** eggs £2.40 doz  
(30 eggs tray) £5.00

You can buy Good News eggs from Charis House on Hardwick Square East in Buxton, or from local agents:

Local Agents (phone Brian on 01298 24761 for your nearest agents)  
Farmer's Markets at the Octagon in the Pavilion Gardens



## WHAT DO WE DO AT NETWORK?

We must be doing something right as our numbers have grown and sometimes we have had a job finding everyone a seat.

For those who haven't yet tasted Network, this is what we do.

We feel it is important that our afternoon starts with worship, and each week this opening act of hymns, prayers and a reading is led by a Network member.

Some afternoons are led entirely by Network members, with participation encouraged. And so we have had very good afternoons on favourite books, important photographs, treasured items, music and also themed afternoons such as The Colour Blue, which was interpreted in a variety of ways. Occasionally, when a speaker hasn't turned up, or given apologies at a very late stage, Network members have risen to the occasion, and we have had a good meeting in spite of lack of preparation.

We also have speakers, some who come on a regular basis, such as Colin or Janet, and others who come on a less regular or one-off basis.

We try to find speakers from local groups and charities, and recently had a very good talk about Charis House and the farm that is linked to this charity. Over the years we have heard about the Volunteer Bureau, Citizens Advice Bureau, Magistrates, and The Source.

We also like to tap into the experiences of individuals, and have welcomed ministers and speakers from other denominations, our local preachers, and members of the church. The latest of these was Roy Pickles, who, with the help of Trevor Gilman and John Morten between them illustrated his talk, told us about his 17 years on the Stage Door at the Opera House. This for most of us was an eye opener, and perhaps we hadn't realised the significance of the stage door keeper – checking people in and out, taking messages, making people welcome and becoming friends with so many who “tread the boards”. We also appreciated seeing what it is like backstage, down in the orchestra pit and up in the changing rooms, not necessarily convenient, but full of Edwardian charm.

At every meeting, we take a collection. Sometimes this is for mission work, otherwise we distribute what we have collected in May; some to the church (recognising we have a comfortable and warm room each week) and some to other groups, always remembering any charities that have come to speak to us.

We meet on Wednesday afternoon, starting at 2.30 pm in the Lower Room. If you want to know more, speak to Dorothy Martin (71424) or Ruth Hayter (77810), or just come along and see what you think.

## SERVICES APRIL 2012

**Communion and Prayers** every Tuesday  
in the Quiet Chapel 10.30 am to 11.00 am  
**Sunday Club** every Sunday during term-time 11.00 am  
**Network** for men and women  
Wednesdays at 2.30 pm in the Lower Room

### 1<sup>st</sup> April - Palm Sunday

11.00 am Parade Service Rev Colin Smith

6.00 pm Evening Worship Worship Team

### 5<sup>th</sup> April - Maundy Thursday

8.00 pm Communion

### 6<sup>th</sup> April – Good Friday

8.00 pm Service with Reflections on the Passion

### 8<sup>th</sup> April - Easter Day

11.00 am Holy Communion Rev Colin Smith

6.00 pm Evening Worship Mrs Brenda Bryant

### 15<sup>th</sup> April

11.00 am Morning Worship Mrs Jackie Goddard

6.00 pm Evening Worship Rev Colin Smith

### 22<sup>nd</sup> April

11.00 am Morning Worship Rev Dr Keith Davies

6.00 pm Healing Service and Holy Communion Rev Colin Smith

### 29<sup>th</sup> April

11.00 am Morning Worship Rev Colin Smith

6.00 pm Evening Worship Rev Colin Smith

7.30 pm Talk FX at the Kwei Lin  
Lower Hardwick Street  
With Roger Mallard

## SERVICES MAY 2012

**Communion and Prayers** every Tuesday  
in the Quiet Chapel 10.30 am to 11.00 am  
**Sunday Club** every Sunday during term-time 11.00 am  
**Network** for men and women  
Wednesdays at 2.30 pm in the Lower Room

### 6<sup>th</sup> May

11.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Colin Smith
6.00 pm	Evening Worship	Mr Ian Stubbs

### 13<sup>th</sup> May

11.00 am	Morning Worship-Sea Sunday	Rev Colin Smith
6.00 pm	United Service for Christian Aid at United Reform Church, Hardwick Square	

### 20<sup>th</sup> May

11.00 am	Morning Worship	Mrs Gill Dascombe, District Local Preachers' Secretary
6.00 pm	District Service with Leo Osborne, President of Methodist Conference at Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church	

### 27<sup>th</sup> May

9.00 am	Discovery Zone, in Main Hall	Roger Mallard
11.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev David B Hall
6.00 pm	United Service at St Anne's Roman Catholic Church, Terrace Road	
7.30 pm	Talk FX, in Upper Room, Kwei Lin, Lower Hardwick Street,	with Roger Mallard

## **The power of standing together – a story from Christian aid**

Christian Aid Week tells the story of a community in Sierra Leone that has seen remarkable change. Tenneh Keimbay's life turned around when the Methodist Church of Sierra Leone (MCSL) started to work in her town, distributing tools and teaching farmers simple food production techniques. She talks enthusiastically about the difference this has made: 'Now the children eat two meals all year round, whereas before it was one. They are growing well; they don't cry around me because of hunger. They are happy to go to school because something is in their stomach.'

The benefits of regular food speak for themselves. But the effects of the food production group have been more wide-ranging than this. Tenneh speaks of the huge difference working in a group has made to her. Acting together, the farmers can share their skills and work more efficiently. As she tells us, the bottom line is that 'the group work provides more food'.

Tenneh speaks of the support and the encouragement that the farmers give to each other, and how much can be achieved when the community comes together. 'What inspires me in life is unity,' she says. 'To me, unity means coming together to decide on one thing and take that forward.'

Now that they are no longer limited by hunger, the people of Gbap (pronounced Bap) have come together and successfully lobbied for a new school and an agricultural work centre for the community. The people of Gbap have taken their future into their own hands.

During Christian Aid Week, (May 13<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>) 15,000 churches across Britain and Ireland will organise house-to-house collections and events to raise funds to enable organisations like MCSL to carry out their work transforming communities such as Gbap. Christian Aid currently works with 507 partners in 47 countries in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean, helping people to make change happen. Our donations will be multiplied many times over as many small actions come together to make a huge change. But the giving that takes place during Christian Aid Week is not one-way.

Unity is something that our churches are not always good at and the value of community that has inspired Tenneh is something that we can learn from and be changed by. Christian Aid Week is about raising funds, but it is also a call to unity – an invitation for churches to come together and celebrate the possibility of hope and life in parts of the world where mere survival can be a struggle.

This is a challenge because division and inequality and injustice will always be easier than unity, but Tenneh's insistence that remarkable things can

happen when we come together is not new. We see it in the actions and ministry of Jesus, who pushed against all that leads to violence and separation and called his disciples to model a new way of community.

Can we use this Christian Aid Week to allow ourselves to be changed? If we can work together, with each other, with our churches and with our neighbours both at home and as far away as Gbap, then we may start to see huge change happen.

Tenneh says that: 'when you are a group and work with focus and total commitment, you work at a faster rate; the stronger ones can help with work that weaker ones cannot do by themselves.' As we engage in Christian Aid Week, we can rejoice as we stand together in solidarity. Although we might ask who is the strong and who is the weak – and who is actually giving to whom.

**Be a part of Christian Aid Week this year: if, together, we take small actions we can give people like Tenneh the tools to make big change happen.**

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July**

**The Church Family say a special Farewell to Colin and Caroline, 11am service followed by a Bring and Share lunch in the hall.**

**See Glynis/Anna for further details.**

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 7pm**

**The Circuit farewell. Further details will be published soon.**

# **Dedication of the Easter Offering**

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 7.30 pm

at Peak Dale Chapel

Speaker: Sheila Morris

The theme of this year's service is Entertaining Angels: Transforming Encounters in Mission. We are reminded of Abraham and Sarah visited by three strangers. As they provided hospitality, they discovered their lives would be changed.

The service will involve participation from all the churches and chapels in the Circuit, and will be followed by light refreshments.

The service is open to anyone who would like to attend, but please let Ruth Hayter know, to help Peak Dale Chapel in their catering.

This year we will travel to the service by car and if you wish to attend and need transport, please see Ruth Hayter. Those with spare places in their cars are also asked to let Ruth Hayter know.

In the run-up to Easter, you will find envelopes in church to help you contribute towards the Easter Offering. If you are able to gift-aid the donation, please remember to fill in the details on the envelope with name, full address, date, and amount given.

Ruth Hayter 77810.

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

### WORSHIP TIMES

Sunday 11.00 am and 6.00 pm

Tuesday 10.30 am

Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday morning and the third Sunday evening of each month and every Tuesday morning.

**PEOPLE MEET PEOPLE CAFÉ** is open on market days, Tuesday and Saturday mornings, when the church is accessible for viewing and prayer. You are invited to borrow books from THE CHURCH LIBRARY to be returned within one month.

**NETWORK**, which is a fellowship group for men and women, meets on Wednesdays at 2.30 pm. Other groups for study, prayer and fellowship are often arranged.

**YOUTH ACTIVITIES** include: Sunday Club and Youth Group as part of Sunday morning worship, Rainbows, Brownies. Guides, Stepping Stones, 11 Up, Messy Church, Talk FX and Parents and Toddlers.

As a community church with the community at heart we regularly host numerous organisations in the town including: Junior Strings, Buxton Field Club, Weight Watchers, Yoga, University of the Third Age, Buxton Musical Society and numerous other groups on an occasional basis.

If you require further information, a list of precise times when groups meet and contact numbers, please write to Buxton Methodist Church, Chapel Street, Buxton, SK17 6HX or ring the office number on 01298 27065.

The deadline for the **June/July** edition of the Newsletter is  
**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2012.**

Material in writing, can be given to Anna direct or e-mail Anna Quick on  
[Anna.Quick@btinternet.com](mailto:Anna.Quick@btinternet.com)