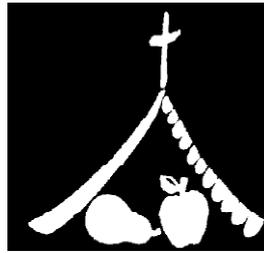


NEWSLETTER

**February/
March.
2012.**



Buxton Methodist Church

The Church in the Market Place



WORSHIP:

Sunday: 11.00 am and 6.00 pm

Tuesday: 10.30 am

CHURCH ADDRESS;

Buxton Methodist Church

Chapel Street

BUXTON SK17 6HX

Tel: 01298 27065

Website: www.buxtonmethodistchurch.org.uk

e-mail: admin@buxtonmethodist.co.uk

bookings@buxtonmethodist.co.uk

MINISTER:

Rev J Colin Smith

1 St James' Terrace

BUXTON SK17 6HS

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No 435
February/March
2012.

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Buxton Methodist Church Newsletter

MINISTER'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

Two events over Christmas started a train of thought. First, there was the joy of having two grandchildren to stay for four nights. Secondly, the pleasure of picking up a post-Christmas bargain, in this case a much-reduced if slightly battered copy of a book about Susanna Wesley.

The grandchildren reminded me of the demands upon parents, not least for Christian parents who seek to bring up their children in the Christian faith. The book about Susanna Wesley told me the story of a remarkable woman, two of whose sons were John and Charles Wesley.

Susanna Wesley grew up within the nonconformist, Puritan tradition which valued the education of girls as much as boys. It was also a tradition which emphasised the ideal of the home as the place where children discovered the Christian way of life through kindly discipline, a reasonable faith and genuine love.

When Susanna became a mother to her ten surviving infants in the rectory at Epworth in Lincolnshire she was equipped both by her own education and by her firm but gentle nature to bring up her own offspring! They all, girls and boys alike, grew up learning to read and write, to understand other languages, and to be able to argue a case or give a good explanation from what they had learnt. Each day there was a short time of reading from the Bible and prayer.

There were times to play and laughter and fun was a part of their lives. Once a week each child had an hour alone with their mother, a time to listen, to ask and to realise just how close were the bonds that bound mother and child. The children grew up to be

very independent but Susanna continued to be a person they would consult on important matters.

Today, there are different pressures on families compared with 18th century England and every family is different. It's certainly not for old men like me to start telling young parents how to bring up their children, remembering, as one does, one's own failures and follies in this department.

Yet Susanna Wesley reminds us that a kindly discipline, the encouragement of learning and questioning, the daily opportunity to share in the practice of a reasonable faith, and "quality time" with those who care for them, are good gifts to give to children and young people.

This is not an easy age in which to be a parent or child – and especially within a Christian context. There are many demands and expectations on them and in the wider world either bemusement or scorn for those who seek to practice their faith.

Perhaps those of us who are older can, with the humility that comes from experience, take a friendly interest in the families within our church and beyond; be supportive of them in our prayers and in practical ways, and reflect something of the joy, purpose and richness of Christian discipleship in our own lives.

Warm greetings,

Colin

Joyce Lawton

Apart from her earliest days, Joyce lived her whole life in Fairfield. As a young woman she married Trevis and they had two sons Keith and Paul. To her great sadness both Trevis and, many years later, Keith, were killed. Yet Joyce was a woman with a strong faith and great determination. Despite her limited education she determined to become a teacher and later gained her degree through the Open University. She also determined to become a Local Preacher and served this circuit for over 50 years, creating worship which brought us into God's presence.

Joyce had wide interests: music, theatre (not least through the Matcham Society), travel and the natural world, especially wild flowers. She delighted in her family and was thrilled when her grand-daughter, Anne-Marie and husband, Patrick, presented her with a great-granddaughter, Bella. Our thoughts are with her son, John, daughter-in-law, Julia, the whole family and John Morten, who cared for her with great selflessness during the last months of her life. For a faithful, wise, warm, witty, loving and life-enriching friend and preacher we give thanks.

Douglas Oldfield

Doug's sudden death after a brief illness came as a great shock to us all. He had a happy childhood with his sister, Julie, and their parents on a farm on Tideswell Moor. After his schooldays he was an apprentice joiner and later worked for Derbyshire County Council. It was whilst visiting Buxton College that he met Margaret. They were married in 1969. He worked as a rent officer for some years and retired in 1998.

Doug enjoyed sport and became a keen supporter of Derby FC, having been a fan of Manchester United in his youth. Amongst other things, he served as Membership Secretary of the Matcham Society, enjoyed travelling and the natural world, and collected for Christian Aid.

Within our church family we remember Doug as a man who quietly lived out his faith. At BMC he arrived early so as to be on the door as people arrived, greeting them with his usual kind enquiry and warmth. One church member wrote, "Doug has been the kindest, most helpful, considerate person, we have ever known. He has been an example to all of us how we should live and behave."

We give thanks for the way faith, love and service went together in his life. We remember his devotion to Margaret, his daughters, Jane and Rachel, and their children, Harry, George, Archie, Phoebe and Lois. With patience, gentleness and constant care he enriched their lives - and ours - and revealed something of God's graciousness towards us.

A Tribute to Doug- from Robin Evison.

Doug was a friend to many people and a constant fixture in our church. The Doug we knew was always the same, calm approachable, understanding and always interested in you as a person. He was never less than courteous and you could always rely on him.

Doug was involved in many aspects of life outside of the church- the Matcham society, friends of the Opera House, Field Club to mention a few.

He was a season ticket holder for Derby County and a regular attender of the Derbyshire County Cricket matches.

Inside the Church Doug was always active. Every Sunday he was there to ensure a welcoming presence at the door. He was in the cafe to deliver warm drinks and a friendly smile. He checked the stewards paperwork. Doug was one of those people who quietly go about their job and you only realise how much they do when they are no longer there.

At the funeral service we said thankyou for the friendship of Doug and assured Margaret, Jane, Rachel and family that we would continue to retain that friendship.

Riding Lights

Roughshod, the young actors from the Riding Lights Theatre Company, the York based Christian theatre group, are coming to perform at our church on Friday 2nd March at 7.00 pm. More details will come out soon but do book the evening now!

On Sunday, 4th March at 11.00, Roughshod will also be involved in our morning worship. Do invite young and older people to come.

Andrew Parker

The Circuit Invitation Committee has invited Rev. Andrew Parker of Sheffield to be Superintendent Minister of the Buxton Circuit from September 2012. He has accepted and we look forward to welcoming him and ask you to remember him in your prayers as he prepares to come and join us.

Andrew hails from Pudsey in the West Riding and his family connections are with West Yorkshire.

After leaving school Andrew completed an apprenticeship in mechanical engineering and later worked on computer systems for a Building Society. Between 1995 and 1997 he worked as a lay worker in Essex, in the Romford and Southend circuits. His ministerial training took place at Wesley College Bristol 1997-1999. Andrew's first appointment was with the Grimbsy and Cleethorpes Circuit. From 2002 until the present Andrew has been a minister in the Sheffield East Circuit. Buxton will be Andrew's first Superintendent post. He was seeking an appointment in a small town or rural situation. He is single and looking forward to working in the circuit. We are sure he will receive our support in the next step forward both for him and our church.

Robin Evison.

Shrove Tuesday Circuit Lunch at Harpur Hill at 12.30 p.m.

Come and share in this annual “Bring and Share” lunch at 12.30 pm at Harpur Hill on Tuesday, 21st February. This is a convivial time before the beginning of Lent in the warmth of Harpur Hill’s church hall. (Buses 185/186 from Market Place stop outside Chapel)

Circuit Ash Wednesday Communion at 10.30 a.m. at Fairfield

This annual service marks the beginning of Lent and recalls both the time Jesus spent in the wilderness preparing for his future ministry and the beginning of the season in which we walk with Jesus on the way to the cross.

The communion service is held “in the round” and includes the placing of ash on our hands (if we wish) as a sign of our renewed desire to follow Christ in his life of self-giving love to death and beyond!

Wedding

3rd December Chris Simcox and Amy Dollery

Funerals

7 th	December	Norma Jean Turner
15 th	December	Douglas Oldfield
21 st	December	Jean Barstow

A brief update on the Circuit Mission Project in Fairfield.

At our last circuit meeting it was agreed that we go ahead with the vision of opening a Christian Community Centre at the heart of Fairfield. A place to offer opportunity for people to explore the Christian faith in a variety of ways; a place to meet the needs of the community through a variety of groups and through a listening and advice service.

To date we have:-

- A working group meeting regularly.
- Given a name to the project 'The Hub', meaning 'the centre of activity', bringing both the community and Christian emphasis together. (The physical space being the centre of activity for gathering, Jesus being the centre of our ethos and principles which will govern our activities).
- Negotiated a rental value on a premises, which has yet to be accepted by the council. (Hope to hear at end of Jan.)
- Checked out some funding sources to which we can apply.
- Launched an appeal for personal giving to help the project off the ground.

Transforming communities, transforming lives is much of what the gospel is about and what we hope to achieve through the work in The Hub. I believe that at a time such as this the church needs to be seen, active and amongst those who need it most.

Please keep us in your prayers as we go forward with this project.

Deacon Janet Heys.

janetheys@btinternet.com

(see picture on page 11)

Youth Group having fun(see picture on page 11)

If you happened to be in Marple Bridge on Sat. 3rd December you may be wondering what our Sunday morning Youth Group were doing disappearing into the old Goyt Mill. Answer. - Scalextric Racing. This was a treat for all their hard work raising money for the East Africa famine Appeal. The Mill has a large multiple lane Scalextric track + the cars have timed races with a commentary + leader board. It was a good afternoon with lots of skill, crashes + bangs! And as with every good day out we called at McDonalds on the way home.

If you know of any young people aged 10 upwards who may be interested in joining this lively group please give me a call on Bx 26088.

Glynis Leyland

Congratulations to Alice Kerry who has recently been awarded a Blue Peter badge for her art work – WOW!😊😊

Bless these gifts to our use and us to your service.

At the start of the calendar year, many of us turn to think about budgets, at home and at work. In these tough economic times, we worry about how to make our resources go further. Can we reduce the weekly food bill? Will we be able to afford a holiday? Will the company be able to keep its full team of staff?

At Church too, the finance committee has been thinking about the Church budget for the year, and we have much for which we can be grateful.

The Church's financial year runs from the beginning of September, so at the Church Council meeting in October, Colin Smith was able to present an annual report for the year ended 31 August 2011. Our Treasurer, Ian Stubbs, ably provided an overview of financial performance for the year.

The total income received over the twelve month period was over £104,000, whilst expenditure slightly exceeded £118,500. The apparent deficit of around £14,500 is not however as bad as it looks. The Church uses a cash accounting system, where the records show funds in and out as at the precise year end dates. At the end of August we had not received the tax refund on gift-aided giving during the year, for example – a figure of almost £11,000 which was paid in September – which might rightly be included in our 2010-11 income total. Similarly, some of the expenditure that occurred early in the year actually related to income received before September 2010.

Total expenditure incurred 01 September 2010 to 31 August 2011

The 2011-12 year has started very well, with receipt of the tax refund described above and some very generous donations in September and October. These include grants of £8,000 and £5,000 from Rank Trust and the Stockport and Manchester District respectively, towards the continuing work of our full-time worker with children and young people.

Nonetheless, we must not be complacent. We have considerable planned expenditure in 2011-12, including kitchen flat roof repairs, replacement notice boards and some new windows, and we must also be prepared for potential reduced café income, lettings and congregational giving as domestic purse strings are tightened. Looking further ahead over the next five years, with planned property maintenance to keep our building in the good condition that's enjoyed by church users and the wider community and the on-going costs of our layworker's activities, 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 21 April, especially to encourage donations towards sustaining our youth work.

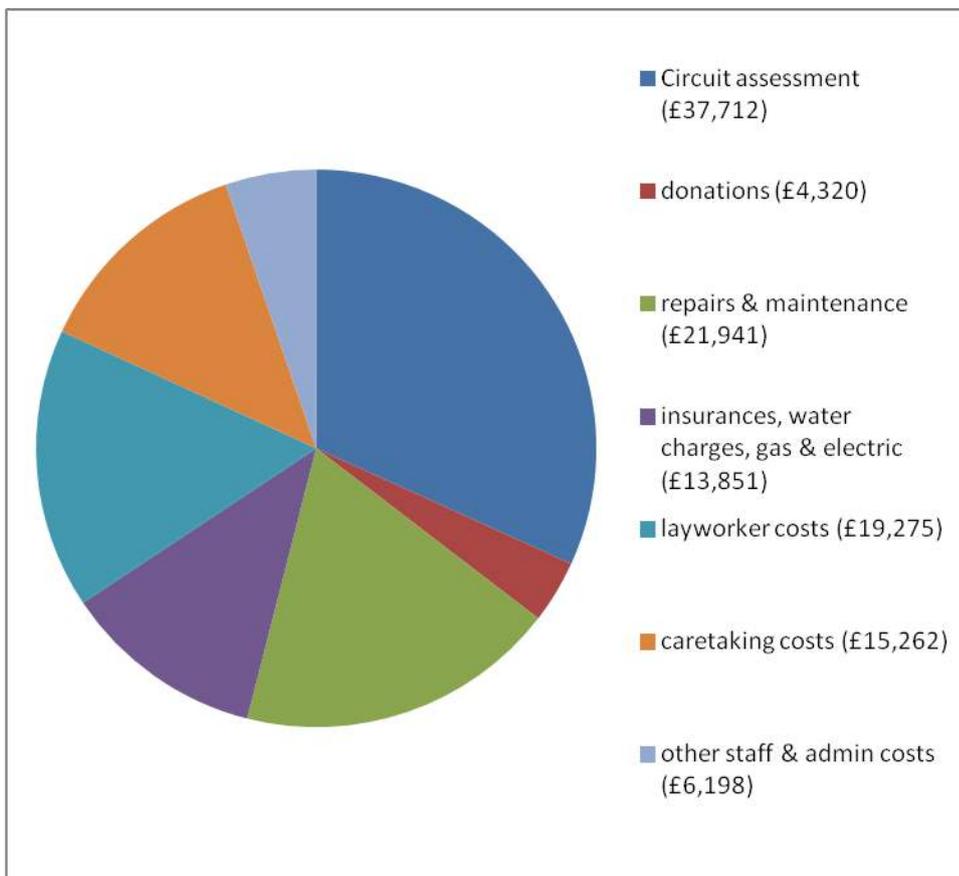
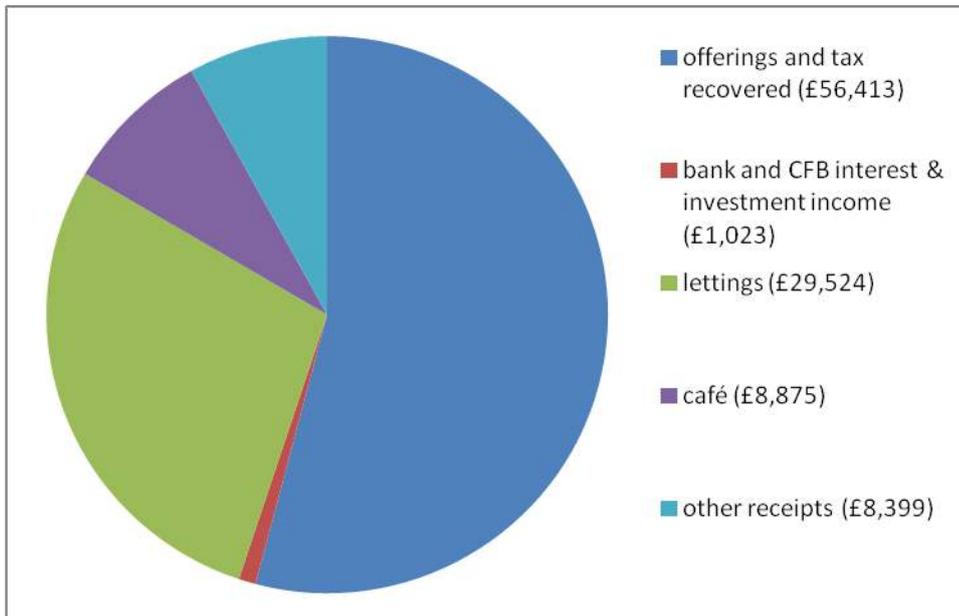
We are very grateful to everyone who supports the work of the Church through personal giving and welcome all efforts to maximise the resources contributed through the use of gift aid envelopes.

However small your contribution, if you are a 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. Thank you.

Kate MacLean
Chairman, Finance Committee

(see charts on pages 10)

Pie Charts relating to the article on page 8 and 9.





Youth Group at Scalextric racing in Marple Bridge.

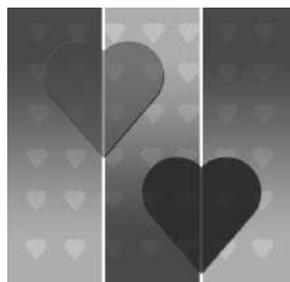


The new Hub up on the Fairfield Estate.

Alternative New Years Resolutions- Anon.

1. Let your family and friends know how much they mean to you.
2. Find ways to make exercise fun and socialable.
3. Do extra acts of kindness to help others.
4. Get outside and enjoy the natural world.
5. Spend more time getting to know your neighbours.
6. Take time each day to be 'mindful' and notice how you are feeling.
7. Change something that has been making you or others unhappy.
8. Support a good cause you feel passionate about.
9. Try something new that puts you outside your comfort zone.
10. Write down three good things that happened each day.

Saturday 18th February
'Valentines Party'
3pm-5pm
Beetle Drive, Tea and Cake.
Come and have fun with
friends.
Entrance by Ticket – available
from Jackie Cowlshaw / Anna
Quick.



Saturday 5th May- Church Walk – more details to follow soon ☺



SERVICES FEBRUARY 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

5th February Education Sunday

11.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Colin Smith Preacher: Ingrid Keith (University Chaplain)
6.00 pm	Taize Service	Rev Colin Smith

12th February

11.00 am	Morning Service	Mr John Wood
6.00 pm	Healing Service and Holy Communion	Rev Colin Smith

19th February

11.00 am	Morning Worship	Rev David B Hall
6.00 pm	Evening Worship	Mrs Brenda Bryant

26th February Lent

11.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Colin Smith
6.00 pm	Evening Worship	Deacon Janet Heys
7.30 pm	Talk FX at the Kwei Lin, Lower Hardwick Street	Mr Roger Mallard

The Morning Service on the 26th February will now be a Holy Communion.

Please note that there are several changes from the information in the plan. The Christian Group- Riding Lights Theatre Company will be sharing in our morning service on 4th March and will be a great opportunity to invite family and friends.

SERVICES MARCH 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

4th March

11.00 am	Morning Worship with "Riding Lights"	Rev Colin Smith
6.00 pm	Evening Worship	Mrs Isabel Sinclair

11th March

11.00 am	Morning Worship	Rev R Davies
6.00 pm	Evening Worship	Rev Colin Smith
		Preacher: Graham Hinds (Agricultural Chaplain)

18th March Mothering Sunday

11.00 am	Morning Worship	Miss Ruth Hayter
		Preacher: Dr Sandra Fach
6.00 pm	Holy Communion	Rev Colin Smith

25th March

11.00 am	Morning Worship	Rev Colin Smith
6.00 pm	Evening Worship	Mrs Audrey Getliffe
7.30 pm	Talk FX at the Kwei Lin Lower Hardwick Street	with Roger Mallard

U.3.A. Biblical Studies

To many people Biblical Studies may not mean much, but to others it can be very relevant to life and quite inspiring.

We meet as a U.3.A. group on the first Friday of the month in our home (In the Hartington Road area).

As people arrive at 10.15 a.m. they are greeted with refreshments and a chance to chat together. We start at 10.30 a.m. and to make sure that what we are doing is relevant to our lives in the 21st century we have a short testimony (from a C.D. made in Cambridge) of what the Christian faith means to someone training for ministry and then listen to a piece of relevant music.

The Bible study starts with a short passage from St Matthew, which we are at studying at the present time.

A short exposition of the passage leads to a discussion and what it means to us today. The text is brought to life in a short extract from a film of St Matthews's gospel.

We end the session with again a short video this time of John Stott on the qualities needed in the Christian life today drawn from the lives of saints down the ages.

For those who have the time we continue our fellowship together with lunch at the Dome.

If this appeals to you please join us. We have about 12 people in the group at the moment but we can squeeze in those who are interested.

If you are not yet a member of the U.3.A. you can come for a taster as a visitor and then join the U.3.A.

Don Sparkes 01298 25134

Good Friday 2012 – Another flutter with Rutter!

It's not too soon to be thinking about the Lenten season.....

Rehearsals for the Churches Together Good Friday evening meditation in words and music start on Friday 10 February. Everyone is welcome to join the choir, experienced singers and novices alike. Don't worry if you can't read music or don't know what 'voice' you sing, with many very able singers in the choir, you'll soon pick it up.

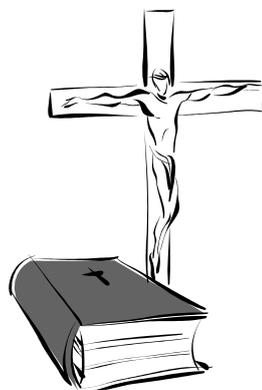
We will meet every Friday evening in the Methodist Church on the Market Place, from 7.30 to 9pm (except perhaps Friday 02 March, when the Riding Lights Theatre Company will be visiting Buxton – we'll work out what to do about this nearer the time!), and also on Tuesday 03 April.

The choir will sing all the movements of John Rutter's Requiem, which we have performed twice before, in 2004 and 2008. It's a very popular, melodic piece by the renowned composer of church choral music (known most particularly for his Christmas carols, such as The Star Carol, and Shepherd's Pipe Carol). The choir will be accompanied by John Anfield on the organ and, we hope, by a small group of instrumentalists.

As before, the music will be interspersed by readings chosen by the Rev Canon Stephen Shipley, and there will be a collection plate for Christian Aid after the meditation.

A voluntary donation of £5 is requested from all participants, to cover the costs of music hire and other expenses.

For more information, please contact Kate MacLean (Buxton 78276; director@creative-heritage.net)



Quality Films 2012

The monthly showing of the films will continue next year 2012 at Buxton Methodist Church on the Market Place. The films will be shown on the last Tuesday of the month at 7.30p.m.

January 31st we have the Jane Austin classic "Emma".

February 15th At the home of Don and Iris "Luther" starring Peter Ustinov and Joseph Fiennes. Must be pre booked ring Don 01298 25134

February 28th Omar Sharif "A Night with the King".

March 27th "Made in Dagenham" by the makers of Calendar Girls

April 24th "Two a Penny". This is a film that had been omitted from the catalogues which we have been able to obtain. Quality films also run library.

We have given away most of the videos but we still have a number of Shakespeare and Dickens classics also some unusual DVD's.

"The tree" is an Australian film about not only the environment but is also a study in bereavement in both adults and children. Ideal for a study or discussion group.

"Father My Lord" about a Jewish family who love by the Torah.

"Amazing Grace" looks at the life of Wilberforce the man behind the freeing of the slaves.

"Where the Wild Things Are" is a six year olds dream that helps him deal with his fears and relationships.

For more information ring Don 012198 25134

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

As in previous years, it was agreed that the loose-cash collections at the special Christmas services should be used to support charities.

The collection at the Christingle service resulted in £250.00 being sent to Action For Children.

The collections at the Midnight Communion and Christmas Day services for Christian Aid resulted in £240.24 which is being sent through the Buxton branch.

Thank you to all who supported these very worthwhile charities.



I am going to hold a **Circuit Prayer Meeting** on the last Thursday of every month at 7.30 till 8.30pm at Fairfield Methodist Church. (In the summer months we may go round the circuit). Everybody welcome, come when you can.
Dates:-26th Jan; 23rd Feb;29th Mar; 26th April.
Deacon Janet Heys

Women's World Day of Prayer
in England, Wales & Northern Ireland



LET JUSTICE PREVAIL

Friday 2nd March 2012 at 2 pm
at St Ann's Catholic Church
Terrace Road

Speaker: Mike Monaghan

Women's World Day of Prayer is a global, ecumenical movement of informed prayer and prayerful action, organised and led by Christian women. The service is written by a different country each year and that country then becomes the focus of the world's prayers on the day itself, which begins as dawn breaks over the islands of Tonga in the Pacific and continues across each continent circling the world in prayer for 36 hours. This year's service has been prepared by the Christian Women of Malaysia.

This service is arranged by women
but is not exclusively for women.
Please feel able to attend.

From Roger

As we look back since the previous Magazine it has been pleasing to see Messy Church grow and during December at the start of the Christmas holidays we ran a fun/activity day which was well received.

Messy Church in Earl Sterndale and Peak Dale continue to do well. Here in Buxton Messy Church has gone to two weekly and those coming has held up well. On 24th we held Messy Church and 52 parents and children came. We thank God for that. I am most grateful to all those that have helped in preparation, helping at Messy Church and those coming at the end to help clear away. A big thank you!

We hope Messy Church will continue to grow but as it does so we will need more helpers and I would encourage you to pop along and see what it's all about and then you will know how you might be able to help in an area that you feel comfortable with.

As many of you collect the magazine this weekend, we will, God willing, have finished our first trial service in the hall commencing at 9 am with breakfast and concluding, including a short time of worship, with the aim to be finished at around 10am, give or take a few minutes. The 9 am worship is called 'The Discovery Zone'. We hope people will encounter God.

For many, an 11 am service is too late and so it was felt trying something earlier was worthwhile. We particularly wanted to reach those who came to Messy Church, those on the fringe of the church and those who attend other groups within the church but perhaps do not come to church services.

We don't know what will happen, who will come but we know it is worth trying something new and it's always better to have tried and failed than to have never tried at all. The next Discovery Zone is on the last Sunday in February and we will report back to the Church Council on how January and February's 9 am worship with breakfast has gone in March. Please pray for Messy Church and The Discovery Zone Roger Mallard



Messy Church on 24th January 2012

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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 **April/May** edition of the Newsletter is
Sunday 11th March 2012.

Material in writing, can be given to Anna direct or e-mail Anna Quick on
Anna.Quick@btinternet.com