

Zetland Park

Methodist Church

Newsletter

October

2014



Worship

5 th October	10:45 am	Rev. Arthur Harbottle : Communion
	6:00 pm	Rev. Arthur Harbottle <i>at Marske</i>
12 th October	10:45 am	Rosemary Taylor
	6:00 pm	Rev. Barrie Morris : Communion <i>at Marske</i>
19 th October	10:45 am	Rev. Keith Martin
	6:00 pm	Rev. Barrie Morris <i>at Saltburn</i>
26 th October	10:45 am	Kathryn Harrison
	6:00 pm	Rev. Arthur Harbottle

Church Anniversary

2 nd November	10:45 am	Rev. Malcolm Newman : Communion
	6:00 pm	Rev. Malcolm Newman

Minister:	Rev. W Arthur Harbottle 177 Redcar Lane, Redcar TS10 2EJ
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I made a big mistake on Tuesday - I walked down to the railway station to catch the train in my 'Sunday' leather shoes! We all know the problem - the shoes we keep for best but which are never properly 'broken in' because they only get an airing on the high-days and holidays - they look great but are not good for what they were made for - walking in! On this occasion the problem was that I had been offered a lift home from the 'welcome' service on Monday evening, so I didn't have the chance to change into my travelling 'robes and foot-ware, so I had no option but to wear my 'glad-rags' to get back to Redcar the following day. Well, long before I got to the station my feet were suffering, and continued suffering for days thereafter!

The strange thing is that faith is a bit like my pair of shoes! If not used regularly, when we do put it into use it can feel very uncomfortable ... just like my 'Sunday' shoes! Faith needs to be well used and regularly exercised. Life is not simple nor the problems that face us always easy to understand. Decisions we may have to make are not always 'black and white'. Sometimes, working out how our Faith relates to our life experience can take a lot of working on.

So, if we only roll out our Faith on a Sunday, to listen to a presented sermon which we never question, our Faith does not really get much exercise. But if we engage with what is said, dare I say, even question what we hear and make the effort to talk through, think through, pray through the questions then our faith will grow, develop and mature. Though we can do this on our own it is far better to do it with others. Wesley put people into 'Classes' to support one another in this way, most growing churches today put people into 'cells' (same principle but different name). Most recently the Inspire Movement has been encouraging people to group into 'Bands' of three or four people (another of Wesley's ideas) to challenge and encourage one another.

The same is true of Bible Study notes. If we only read them through in a morning and then put them down they will do us little good except give us a momentary spiritual boost. Whatever Bible reading I use in a morning is revisited at several points in the day, used against which to measure decisions I have to make during the day, and at the end of the week I try to revisit the whole week's readings to tease out the common themes and maybe the contradictions!

To use another illustration, Faith is like muscles - the more we exercise, the more we use them (and that can be both tiring and painful at times), the stronger they become.

Faith put on one side and only used occasionally will always be weak, but lived and challenged and exercised daily will strengthen and develop into a mature support for whatever life will throw at us.

Blessings, Arthur

The next **Pastoral Visitors** meeting is
on Thursday, 23 October at 7.00 pm.

Smiles Jar

Thank you to everyone who collects their loose coins for the jar in the church foyer. I have given a cheque for £80 to the Smiles Foundation. Well done and thank you again.

Shoebox Appeal

It's that time of year again - busy packing boxes! Can you please let me have filled boxes, donated items or money, by Sunday 26th October so I can get them ready to go in the first week of November.

This will be the last year I will be doing work for the Shoebox Appeal. I have sent, on your behalf, more than 2000 boxes over the past 16/17 years but have decided to concentrate on supporting and raising awareness for The Smiles Foundation.

Let's make this year's Shoebox Appeal a grand success. If anyone wishes to continue my work let me know. Thank you for your support.

Jenny

Church Anniversary Gift Day

The circuit meeting has approved a small development scheme; mainly concerning the replacement of windows in the large and small halls.

The total cost is £13,482 of which we are committed to fund £3,482.

This year's gift day takes place on Sunday 2nd November and is your opportunity to contribute. Please pray and think about this and respond as you feel able.

"Gift Day" envelopes will be available in the foyer.

Church Anniversary Concert

Saturday 1st November @ 7:30 given by Stephen Ridley

An opportunity to hear a Talented Redcar Musician who's one of us. He has been a Musical Director of several shows in the West End and will be touring after Christmas as musical Director of 'Oklahoma'

Tickets £6 including a Buffet Supper

Future Events

September	Monday 29 th	6 pm	Harvest Supper
November	Saturday 1 st	7:30 pm	85 th Chapel Anniversary Concert Steven Ridley Concert Pianist with Buffet Supper
December	Friday 12 th		Harrison Band and Singers with light refreshments

Community Lunch Club eats midday Tuesday

Fellowship meets 7:30pm every Wednesday

1st October : Revd. Arthur Harbottle - Devotional

8th October : Memories

15th October : Lynn and Bill King – The Holy Land

22nd October : Revd. Ron Smith- Early Northern Hospitals

29th October : Mr. T. Gibson – Poetry Readings

Friday @10 for Prayer and meditation:

24th October 10:00

The next **Church Council**
meeting is on Thursday 6
November 2014 @ 7pm.

Thursday group will meet fortnightly at 14 Ely Crescent, from 7.30 p.m.

9 October when we will look at Matthew 22:1- 14 and

23 October looking at Matthew 22:34-46

There will be no books or other resources to pay for; but please bring a Bible. All are welcome to any or all meetings.

Next Newsletter

Please let Paul have items for the next
newsletter by 26th October

Either on Sunday or by email to:

newsletter.editor@zetlandparkmethodist.co.uk

Newsletter by email

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

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