



Zetland Park Methodist Church Newsletter December 2014

Worship

30 th November	10:45 am	Lynn King
Advent 1	6:00 pm	Rev. Arthur Harbottle : Communion <i>at Marske</i>
7 th December	10:45 am	Pam Stenson
Advent 2	6:00 pm	Rev. Arthur Harbottle
14 th December	10:45 am	Stephen Bee
Advent 3	6:00 pm	Rev. Isabel Stuart <i>at Saltburn</i>
21 st December	10:45 am	Rev. Arthur Harbottle : Communion
Advent 4	6:00 pm	Lynn King : Carol Service
24 th December	10:30 am	Rev. Arthur Harbottle : Carols in the Café <i>at Marske</i>
Christmas Eve	11:15 pm	Rev. Betty Bell : Communion <i>at Newcomen</i>
25 th December	9:30 am	Rev. Arthur Harbottle <i>at Marske</i>
Christmas Day	11:00 am	Rev. Arthur Harbottle <i>at Newcomen</i>
	11:00 am	June Feather
28 th December	10:45 am	Rev. Betty Bell
31 st December	11:30 pm	Mike Clarke : Watch-night
4 th January	10:45 am	Brian Clare
	6:00 pm	Rev. Arthur Harbottle : Communion

All Services are at Zetland Park unless indicated

Christmas comes around every year so there cannot be much we don't know or understand about it, surely? Wrong. There is always something new for us to learn, see or discover about this wonderful celebration!

I was reminded of this as I start writing this letter while watching a video description of a marvellous piece of artwork which I brought back from the Continent in August (it was the video not the artwork I brought back, I hasten to add!). While depositing my daughter in The Netherlands we made a trip down to Ghent in Belgium to see the Ghent Altarpiece mentioned in the 2014 film *The Monuments Men*. Though we saw the Altarpiece, now housed in a small, dimly lit and secure environment and marvelled at it, there was a real sense of distance, of separation. Despite the audio description of each part, it was just so hard to see what we were being told about. There was a real sense of disappointment about not being able to really engage with the masterpiece. However, viewing the video, which I picked up from the shop there, with its detailed description and marvellously clear photographs and close-up shots of the finer detail of the painting was truly wonderful - and I am not even an artist!

I believe the same is true of the Christmas story - we can only truly come to understand and grow in our understanding when we take time aside from the parties & festivities, eating & drinking, family and friends to sing the carols, hear the readings and marvel at God's wonderful deeds. Or as the introduction to the traditional Kings College Carol service says, *"to read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child."* But it is actually it needs to be so much more than just repeating the familiar story and singing well known carols; it is really about wondering about and experiencing something of the Love of God that we behold in the story.

So please do come and join us at as many of the services and events as you can, and learn and experience more about the wonderful truth that is at the heart of our celebrations at Christmas, that God came to the world in the baby Jesus, to tell you "I love you, I care for you, I will always be at your side."

I wish you a joyous and blessed Christmas.

Arthur

Christmas Events		
Tuesday 2 nd December	1:30 pm	Children from Ings Farm school are singing after Luncheon club . All are invited to attend.
Wednesday 3 rd December	7:30 pm	Christmas Concert with Marske Band
Friday 12 th December	7:30 pm	Harrison Band and Singers with light refreshments Tickets £5.00
Tuesday 16 nd December	1:30 pm	Children from John E Batty school are singing after Luncheon club . All are invited to attend.
Wednesday 31 st December	8:00 pm	New Years' eve social. Bring food to share. Followed by Watch-night Service at 11:30 pm.
For details of Christmas services please see the front page		

Minister:	Revd. W Arthur Harbottle 177 Redcar Lane, Redcar TS10 2EJ
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Zetland Park Methodist Church, The Crescent, Redcar, TS10 3AX

Community Lunch Club eats midday Tuesday

Fellowship meets 7:30pm every Wednesday

3rd December : Christmas Concert – Marske Band

10th December : Devotional – Fellowship carol service

17th December : To be confirmed

The **Circuit Advent Celebration** will be on Friday 5th December at Marske and the speaker is Rev. Alan Coates.

The faith supper is at 6pm and the service begins at 7pm.

Everyone is welcome.

Final Shoeboxes have been collected and are on their way to Serbia in time for Christmas. With all your help 144 boxes were filled with wonderful things to bring happiness to many children who will not receive gifts this Christmas.

THANK YOU so much not only for this year but for all the support you have given in sending well over 2000 boxes since we started 18 years ago.

As always your generosity has been overwhelming.

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

4th December when we will look at Mark 1:1-8

18th December when we will look at Luke 1:26 - 38 and Christmas social

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 28th December

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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