



Looking to the future in faith

The Weekly Link

28th April to 5th May 2024



www.almondburymethodist.org.uk

We extend a warm welcome to visitors and anyone worshipping with us for the first time

Sunday 28th April

10.30 a.m. Joint Morning Worship at St Paul's Dalton with
The Reverend Kerry Tankard, Chair of the Yorkshire West Methodist District

Zoom Details: **Worship from St Paul's on 28th April**

Meeting ID: **953 5284 4923** Password: **363020**

Prayer for the Week

Creator God,
Giver of life and compassion,
Blessed is Your name,
provider of senses and experiences.
The gift of touch,
that we may know the softness of Your creation in communion with others.

The gift of hearing,
that we may enjoy the sound of the wind that can carry Your spirit.

The gift of sight,
that we may witness the rainbow of Your promise.

The gift of smell,
that we may experience the beauty of Your flowers in other ways.

The gift of taste,
that we may explore the creativity You give us in baking and cooking.

The complexity of Your creation is beautiful –
knowing when some senses may fail us
we are not excluded from Your kingdom,
from the beauty all around us.
Your generosity abounds beyond all words.
We thank You.

God of diversity You have made us,
to experience together a glimpse of your nature.
May we continue to take time to build relationships that honour You

Amen

This week's activities

Sunday 28th April

10.30 Joint Morning worship at St Paul's, Dalton led by the Rev Kerry Tankard

8.00pm Church Fellowship and Study Group Contact John Rushton on wj.rushton@gmail.com or Richard Oldroyd ☎ 517163. Everyone is welcome. Come and join us!

Monday 29th April

10.30am to 1.30 p.m. Monday Luncheon Club. Arrive from 10.30am, but there is no set time. We provide an excellent meal at reasonable cost. Any of our congregation and friends are welcome. If you have a disability and need transport, we can arrange it.

1.30 p.m. CRAFTandCHAT – new members always welcome

7.30 p.m. Table Tennis

Thursday 2nd May

No TOTS as the Wesley Centre is being used for Local Elections

Sunday 5th May 10.30 a.m. Morning worship led by the Reverend Richard Oldroyd

Regular Activities this month (May)

Wild Church	Sundays	9.30am	5th
Morning worship	Sundays	10.30am	5 th , 12 th , 19 th , 26 th
Church Fellowship and Study Group	Sundays	8.00pm	5 th , 12 th , 19 th , 26 th
Lunch Club	Mondays	10.30am	13 th , 27 th
CRAFTandCHAT	Mondays	1.30pm	13 th , 20 th
Table Tennis	Mondays	7.30pm	13 th , 20 th
Open House	Tuesdays	from 10.30am	7 th , 21 st
Zumba Gold	Wednesdays	7.00pm	1 st , 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd , 29 th ,
Zumba Gold	Thursdays	9.45am	2 nd , 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd , 30 th
Midweek Communion service	Thursdays	12noon	16 th
TOTS	Thursdays	1.30pm	9 th , 16 th , 23 rd

ECO WEEKEND - 1st & 2nd June

As part of our efforts to become an Eco-Church we are hosting an Eco Weekend on the first weekend in June.

The weekend will include a coffee morning and litter pick on the Saturday (in conjunction with a number of local organisations) and a mini Wild Church and community service on the Sunday (see attached posters for more details).

We are organising some competitions to engage the wider community and we would encourage you not only to get involved but to invite your friends/family/neighbours to join in too.

At the coffee morning we will have a plant/seed swap table so please bring along any excess seeds & plants that you have at that time. There will also be the box to collect warm teenage clothes for Ukraine and the Repair Cafe will be there and may be able to do some smaller repairs.

In Touch – The Circuit Magazine

The new Circuit Project for 2024 is being led by the Circuit Social Justice Group

Throughout the year it will explore social action and social justice in different contexts, locally, globally, environmentally. Find out more in the March edition of In Touch

To start we'd like to share stories of acts of kindness. These can be stories about how our Church is offering support to the local community or perhaps individual stories personal to you.

If you have any (random) Acts of Kindness you would like to share, please write them down and pass them on to Catherine Barnett who will collate them or you can send them on to Suzanne Bridges on

suzhmc@gmail.com

The Methodist Church, along with over 250 other organisations from across the UK, has signed an open letter to the Prime Minister following the passage of the Government's Rwanda Act

The organisations have come together to make a stand against the Government's Rwanda Plan, which they say breaks international law and *"abandons our duty to share in the global responsibility towards those forced to seek safety"*.

Open Letter to Prime Minister Rishi Sunak on the Rwanda Bill/Act

Dear Prime Minister,

We write to express our shared outrage at the passage of the misleadingly named 'Safety of Rwanda Act'. This is a shameful and performatively cruel law that will risk people's lives and betray who we are as a society.

We all want to be safe - and we want that safety for each other, too. As a country, we are proud to uphold our responsibility to support refugees. Given the chance, communities across our country go the extra mile to welcome those in need. The wider public do not support the Rwanda plan.

But this law would enable the Government to forcibly expel people seeking asylum - including children and survivors of trafficking and modern slavery – despite concerns they could be put at grave risk of harm and human rights abuses. The Rwanda plan will force people who have fled violence and persecution into detention centres where they may face abuse and mistreatment, with no time limit. They will then be removed to a country to which they have no connection, despite our country's Supreme Court ruling that it is unsafe for them. Through this law, the Government will put them at grave risk of mental and physical harm, and of being returned to danger in the countries they fled.

Despite the clear ruling from the Supreme Court, the Government is rewriting the facts so they can shirk our responsibilities to refugees. In doing so, the Government would break international law and further shatter the UK's commitment to justice and the rule of law. While this is a targeted attack on refugees and migrants, an attack on one group's rights is an attack on all of us.

Outsourcing our asylum system to other countries is never acceptable. It abandons our duty to share in the global responsibility towards those forced to seek safety. Instead of continuing down this dangerous path, the Government must guarantee that asylum claims will be heard fairly on our shores, and open safe routes so that people are not forced to take dangerous journeys. As organisations working towards a better future for all, we believe in kindness and compassion.

The Government must listen to the people, abandon this deplorable deal with Rwanda and similar plans with other countries, and protect those who need sanctuary.

Pantomime Award

Kirklees recently held an awards evening at the Town Hall hosted by the Mayor Cllr Cahal Burke to celebrate and acknowledge the work of various volunteer groups in the Borough, who have made an impact on their communities.

Almondbury Pantomime Group was nominated by our Ward Councillors to receive an award. Kirklees is celebrating 50 years existence as a Borough, which neatly aligned to our 50 years of shows. Jill & I attended on behalf of the Group and it was heartwarming to hear about the many incredible things happening around the Borough.



One slide summed up the evening, it read

"Thank you for all your tireless and invaluable work. You are making a tremendous contribution to our communities and making a difference to the lives of people in our Borough"

This award, which will be displayed in Church, recognizes the many hundreds/thousands of people who, over the years, have helped to make the Shows such a positive and joyous experience for so many people.

Thank you one and all.

Almondbury Pantomime Group
Mike & Jill Crowther

SMASH Food Share Local food bank every Friday 9.30 am - 12 noon at St Michael & St Helen's Church, Fleminghouse Lane, Almondbury. A box is available in the Church foyer for anyone who would like to donate. Items regularly needed are tinned and packeted goods, rice, biscuits, cereals, children's treats, cordials to dilute, long life milk, jam, peanut butter, tinned rice pudding, tinned mackerel/sardines, washing powder/liquid, home cleaning products, toiletries and toilet rolls.

Welcome Centre Please also remember the work of the Welcome Centre. Donations of food and toiletries can be made at the collection points in local supermarkets.

Notices for next week to the Revd Philip Barnett (☎ 01484 522954 or email philip-barnett@sky.com) by 6.00 pm Thursday 2nd May please.