

Prayer for Today

Lord, when I don't know what to say to you,
Listen to the longings of my heart.
Jesus, when I don't know what to say to myself,
Remind me that you love me.
Holy Spirit, when I don't know what to say to others,
Whisper, "Courage, I am with you." Amen.

Norma Bartlett, Wincanton Methodist Church

Methodist Women in Britain - Swanwick 2019 Residential Weekend

5th— 7th April: "Passions and Palms – Heavy Lifting and Resilient Hope" with Revd Dr Val Ogden. Full board £170 (bursaries available). Crêche and children's programme available. For more information and booking forms, www.mwib.org.uk; admin@mwib.org.uk; phone 0300 030 1517

Oaks and Acorns Social Group – a new activity organised by local charity HELP, bringing together children from Woodlands Nursery and over-65s in the local area to enjoy crafts, games and other activities together. Meets monthly on a Thursday here at Woodlands from 10.30 am – 12 noon, beginning this week 20th December. More details from Anna or Lizzie on 01423 813090 or email help@harvvs.org.uk.

The return of ... the Caribbean Afternoon! 4.00 – 6.30 on Saturday 19th January. To build on last year's event and strengthen our links with the church in Haiti, we plan a 'bring and share' supper, Caribbean fruit tasting, prayer and craft activities, and the circuit steel band! John and Sharon Harbottle have agreed to do another Skype call so we can find out how they, their community and their church are doing.

David Monroe reports that the winners of **this year's quiz** are Val and Phil Cook of Ripon, with 25 correct answers (no-one got everything right). A copy of the answers can be obtained from David Munroe, or found on the church notice board. Thanks to all who bought a sheet.

Church Notices: any items to be included need to reach Peter and Linda Phillips by 7.00 pm on the preceding Thursday, in writing, either e-mail to peter.linda@theinvernet.co.uk or post/deliver to 50 St Hilda's Road.



WOODLANDS METHODIST CHURCH

Wetherby Road, Harrogate, HG2 7SG

Minister: Rev. Christine Gillespie

Tel: 819663

Website:-

<https://woodlandsmethodistchurch.wordpress.com>

We welcome all those worshipping with us today

If you have recently moved into the area or started attending this church please make yourself known to one of the stewards or leave your name and address on one of the welcome cards to be found in the pews.

NOTICES FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 16th December, 2018 – 3rd Sunday in Advent

Our worship services today:

10.30 am Rev Christine Gillespie *Nativity Service*
Refreshments served in the Middle Hall after the service

6.30 pm Rev Brian Hoare

There is a Loop System in operation in the church and main hall, for those who use hearing aids. **Large Print** copies of all hymns & songs & the Notices are available. Please ask a Steward for further assistance.

We include prayers for others in every service. If you wish someone to be mentioned by name in these prayers, please ask their permission, then pass the name on to the steward on duty.

Prayer Tree. In the Prayer Corner at the back of the Church is a prayer tree, with paper 'leaves' provided for prayers to be written on and hung on the branches. All are free to use this at any time. The leaves are gathered together prayerfully before the evening Communion service each month, then presented with the offering during the service.

Thank you for your offerings on 9th December, amounting to £705.00.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES from 17th – 22nd December

<u>Tuesday 18th</u>	5.45 pm	Carol Singing – details below
<u>Wednesday 19th</u>	7.30 pm	Ladies' Circle Christmas Service with Carols and Holy Communion
<u>Friday 21st</u>	8.10 am	Breakfast Club
	8.30 am	Church open for prayer
	8.45 am	Toast
	2.00 pm	Christmas Film – details below
	7.30 pm	Singing Group rehearsal in the church.

Next Sunday 23rd December, 2018 – 4th in Advent

10.30 am Miss Helen Evison

6.30 pm Rev Christine Gillespie *Candlelit Carol Service*

Friday 21st December at 2 pm, as school breaks up: **Christmas film** The Muppet Christmas Carol. Drinks and snacks on sale to raise money for the Community garden.

CHRISTMAS IS APPROACHING.....

- **Sing for Christmas** at our carol service at 6.30 pm on 23rd December! Our next rehearsal is on Friday 21 December at 7.30 in the church: More details from Peter Phillips
- **Be creative for Christmas** by taking home one or more jam jars and decorating them to hold the candles for our carol service. We need 60 in all: there are examples in the porch to get you going. Then bring the results back to church and put in the box provided in the vestry. We will provide night lights. Sue Ross has more information if needed.
- **Come carol singing** on Tuesday 18 December: meet at church 5.45 prompt to sing at Berwick Grange (6 pm), Tate House (6.30) and Charlwood (7 pm) then back to church for refreshments

- **More carol singing** round the Wards at Harrogate District Hospital on Christmas Eve. A great occasion, supported by many local churches and much appreciated by staff and patients. Meet at 5 pm in the Hospital Chapel - further details on the Notice Board in the Main Hall.

- **Walk off Christmas** on Thursday 27th December, meet at church at 2.20 pm: a walk suitable for all ages, which will be followed by **seasonal refreshments and a Christingle Service at about 4 – 4.15 pm**, when the walkers are back. Feel free to come for all or part of the afternoon.

- **on Christmas Day**, following our usual custom at the service there will be a collection for "Action for Children" instead of the normal offertory.

- **Christmas invitations.** Our Christmas invitation cards are here, and ready in the vestibule for distribution by our Pastoral Visitors. They are given to everyone in the congregation but **this year, don't keep Jesus to yourself – share him with some else and pass your card to a friend or neighbour!** There are always extra copies available as well, to help spread the message of Christmas, and the welcome that all may find here at Woodlands.

Coffee Rota – can you help to maintain this important part of our church life on 23rd and 30th December? Please see Jackie Spittal if you can, or sign up on the list outside the kitchen.

Circuit and District information:

- **Worship: Leading & Preaching. An open forum** at The Bar Convent, York on **Thursday 17th January**, 7 – 9 pm for all who are interested in learning more about this. See Notice in the Main Hall for more details.
- **Called to Ordained Ministry?** Anyone thinking of exploring this possibility is invited to a meeting at the Leeds Church Institute on **Saturday 19th January** 10.30 am – 3.30 pm. See Notice in the Main Hall for further details.
- **District Lay Synod Sunday 17th March** 10.30 am to 4 pm at Pocklington Methodist Church. All lay people are invited. See Notice in the Main Hall for further details.