

## WEEKS DIARY

Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship ***Kids Club*** All Age Worship and Parade 2nd Sunday in the month <b>Café Church (4th Sunday)</b>
	6.00 pm	Evening Worship
Monday	9.15 am	Parents and Toddlers
	6.30 pm	Rainbow Guides Brownies
	7.00 - 8.30pm	Guides
Tuesday	9.15 am	Parents and Toddlers
	7.00pm	'Tuesdays at 7'
Wednesday	1.30-3.30pm	Young at Heart
Thursday	10.00 am	Coffee Morning
	3.30pm	Messy Church (Alternate Weeks)

To find out about Fellowship/Bible Study Meetings please speak to the Minister or one of the Stewards

Alternatively ring Lay Employee  
Shirley Suthers 01706 228234

NEWCHURCH  
METHODIST CHURCH



**December/January  
2008/9  
Newsletter**

**Minister**  
**Rev David Burrow**  
 37 Oaklands Drive, Rawtenstall, Tel: 602882

**Stewards**  
**am**  
 Jean Altham & Maureen Sutcliffe  
 Barbara Jones & Nicola Andrew  
 Liz Stephenson & Elsie Holt  
 Barbara Hyland & Brenda Simpson

**pm**  
 Delia Heap  
 Sheila Crisp

*Please refer to Circuit Plan for contact details.*  
 Lay employee  
 Shirley Suthers 01706 228234 email shirleysuthers@googlemail.com

## FLOWER LIST

### December

7	Mrs D Walsh
14	Christmas
21	Christmas
28	Christmas

### January

2009 4	Mrs D Greenwood	Mrs J Altham
11	Mr R Spencer	Mrs B Simpson
18	Mrs L Johnson	Mrs S Crisp
25	Mrs D Heap	Mrs D Heap

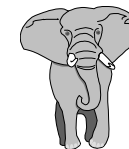
**PROVIDERS**

**DISTRIBUTERS**



Could you be a greeter and welcome people as they come into church? If so please sign on the rota on the noticeboard.

**December**



- 2 2.00-3.30pm Friends at Newchurch with a festive touch
- 3 1.30pm 'Young at Heart' Over 55's Group and every Wednesday
- 5 2-5pm Carol Singing inside ASDA in aid of Action for Children (N.C.H)\* Lots of fun. Just turn up at the top entrance.
- 7 Carols on the Railway meet on Rawtenstall Station at 6pm\*
- 8 7.30pm Circuit meeting at Longholme
- 9 7.45pm Stewards and Development Group
- 11 Over 55's Christmas Dinner at the Rose 'n' Bowl, Stacksteads
- 12 7.30pm Christmas Party in the lounge\*
- 14 3.30pm Christingle Service at Longholme\*
- 18 12.30pm Coffee morning party
- 22 Carols round Newchurch with St Nicholas' then back to Sue Davies for mulled wine and mince pies. Meet outside Boars Head at 7pm
- 23 7pm Carol Service\* If you would like to take part please see Shirley or David.
- 24 3pm Crib Service at Longholme  
11.15pm Christmas Eve Communion
- 25 9.30am Christmas Day service here at Newchurch
- 28 10am Café Church

## HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!

- 6 2 - 3.30pm Friends at Newchurch Group
- 18 10am Covenant service\* Renew your Commitment to God at this special communion service.  
4pm Joint 'Songs of Praise' with St Nicholas
- 22 7.30pm Church Council

**January 2009**



## CHRISTMAS PARTY WITH SINGER JOHNNY MACK

**FRI 12TH DEC 7.30PM**

Tickets £6 Under 16's £3

Fun! Singalong!

Pie and Peas! Crackers!  
and more .....

A great opportunity to bring  
your friends and neighbours



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## Messy Church

Have had lots of fun in 2008.

Join us in 2009 every other Thursday  
from 3.30pm. Games, crafts, singing and  
a meal for 4—11's.

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### ITEMS FOR THE FEBRUARY/MARCH NEWSLETTER

Please can you have all articles/items or news ready for  
23rd March

Items can be left at Watts' News on Burnley Road East,  
handed to the stewards or best of all emailed to us at  
[adrianc.watts@ntlworld.com](mailto:adrianc.watts@ntlworld.com)

Dear Friends,

Once again congratulations are in order to every one who has been working so hard to make all our autumn events such a success. To all those who have planned, prepared, attended meetings, braved wind, rain and freezing temperatures to support all that has taken place during the last two months, 'Thank you' - none of it could have been achieved or have been so enjoyable without you.

Speaking of temperatures it was certainly not cold in Ghana. Eight of us, aged 12 to 55, visited churches, schools, an orphanage, a war museum, a castle built for the slave trade and went down a gold mine (we were searched on our return to the surface - just in case!). We met lots of wonderful people; made presentations, preached, spoke at meetings and ate quite a lot. As in all developing nations there are many needs in Ghana: one of the schools desperately needs a new toilet block, the orphanage can always use lots of help, from volunteer workers to a new vehicle. But even in the face of a lack of resources the people still have within them a sense of joy I could only wonder at. What a privilege it was to preach to and encourage such people.

I know I can correctly be accused of being a misery myself on occasions. It is too easy to moan even when we have so much, so for me Ghana was a timely reminder to **not** take for granted my family, friends and faith. I was shown how important it is to make worship a priority, putting God at the very heart of all we are and do. In spite of their material poverty the Ghanaian Christians danced and sang as they joyfully worshipped God.

During the next few weeks we have many opportunities to worship God, who in Jesus Christ, came to earth. God didn't keep his distance from the sin and suffering of the world but came to experience it all, so that we might experience the joy and peace of knowing him. Such a God is worth getting to know, time put aside to worship such a God is time very well spent.

Please come and join in on Sundays, Tuesday evenings, or if you have primary school children try Messy Church. Our Tuesdays at 7:00pm are developing along the lines of, a song or three, a Bible reading and the opportunity to ask questions if you so wish. Through Advent the theme is 'Windows on Christmas' and we will be looking at how the angels got extremely excited at all God was planning, how Mary responded in wonder to all she was asked to do, how Joseph after initial doubts, obeyed, and finally how the shepherds offered their worship.

With Carols On the Railway, the Christingle Service, the Carol Service, the Crib Service, Midnight Communion and the Christmas Day service there is still a lot of planning and preparing to do just for our worship. When we add in the social events there is even more to be involved with. I would encourage you all though to make sure you have time to be with the people you love and to offer to God your worship as part of his family.

Jacqui, Joseph, Samuel and Thomas join me in wishing you a Joyful Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Yours in Christ,

*David*

As Margo in 'The Good Life' once said, 'You can't have Christmas delivered, you have to make it yourself.'

'Christmas isn't Christmas till it happens in your heart  
Somewhere deep inside you is where Christmas really starts  
So give your heart to Jesus, you'll discover if you do  
That it's Christmas, really Christmas, for you'

## GIFT/PRAYER DAY SATURDAY 8th NOVEMBER

This raised £981, thanks to all who gave.

### Table Top Sale

"Debbie says a big thanks to all who supported her on the recent table top sale held on Sat 22nd November, special thanks to David Andrews and Shirley for their efforts, also Samantha and Amy who manned the church stall. With sales from the table top event plus some Sunday morning sales we managed to raise all together £348 for church funds.

Keep a special look out for the next Table Top event in the Spring of 2009."



# Christmas Word Search

Level 4



G L E T W C R S T O C K I N G  
 Y I P I D A E R B R E G N I G  
 A C O V T R P Y A E C E F F U  
 R E A S L E Q I X O C T A P Z  
 E M I R Y H A U D P S A J O N  
 S E A P O B E T H L E H E M I  
 N R U L O L D O N T F O S P U  
 A R L S L E I G H A A S U D O  
 M Y N O K L T T O Y S I S H R  
 W C E N E M E S I W F E T A N  
 O B M K A J L O Z Y E G V M A  
 N E R N O L U H M G O T E L M  
 S O G I E O Y D N A C X O N E  
 V E R B I J O T H U W B K A N  
 R E E D N I E R Q C A E E R T



- |                |              |              |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Bells       | 9. Holly     | 17. Sleigh   |
| 2. Bethlehem   | 10. Jesus    | 18. Snowman  |
| 3. Candy       | 11. Manger   | 19. Star     |
| 4. Carol       | 12. Merry    | 20. Stocking |
| 5. Christmas   | 13. Ornament | 21. Toys     |
| 6. Elves       | 14. Peace    | 22. Tree     |
| 7. Gifts       | 15. Reindeer | 23. Wisemen  |
| 8. Gingerbread | 16. Santa    | 24. Yuletide |

## Newchurch Methodist Website

Have you visited our website?

[www.newchurch-methodist.co.uk](http://www.newchurch-methodist.co.uk)

You'll find a link to this newsletter, a service plan, a calendar of events to keep you up to date and lots more. Check out the picture gallery and see if you can spot our members at various social functions. There's new pictures for December and an additional section on the News page with details of the yearly accounts prepared by Lynne.



- [Home](#)
- [Kids Section](#)
- [Church Profiles](#)
- [Calendar](#)
- [Service Plan](#)
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- [Prayer Thought](#)

## *Welcome To The Website for Newchurch Methodist*

If there's anything else you would like to see on the website let Nicola know.



Our 'Young at Heart' group for over 55's meets every Wednesday from 1.30 - 3.30pm. Activities so far include visits from the fire service, First Responders, police regarding home security, a tour of radio Lancashire, presentations of old Rossendale, composting and wormeries, quizzes, the odd game of bingo and lots of laughs. £1 weekly including two brews and plenty of cake!

### Are You Missing Out?

*There is so much happening at the moment and we are all so busy that it is easy to forget to spend time with God. It's not always possible to come to church on Sundays for a variety of reasons so - if you can't do Sundays or have missed a Sunday and want to 'tune back in' to God or maybe you just need an additional 'top up' during the week come along to:*

**'Tuesdays at Seven'** a 45 minute reflective service led by minister David each Tuesday at 7pm beginning Tues. 4<sup>th</sup> of November.

### Mission Matters

Circuit World Service & Mission Meeting held at Central in October was quite well attended.

Rev Derek North was an excellent speaker, he showed slides on South Africa which is the District Project to help build and decorate toilets and facilities for young people. The evening raised £104.50. Thankyou to those who supported this meeting.

District Autumn Council Day for Network held in October.

The speaker was Deacon Myrtle Poxon, wife of the Methodist President, she gave an interesting and amusing account of their visit to the King of Tonga's coronation in July this year. About 50 people attended.

On Saturday 8th November Maureen organised an excellent programme of 3 separate sessions during the day with lunch and afternoon tea in between. The final one was a communion service. Unfortunately it wasn't well attended!

## MURDER MYSTERY EVENING

On Friday 31 Oct 08 we held a "Murder Mystery" evening to help raise funds for the church. The evening was enjoyed by 35 members and friends who were entertained by 5 members of the congregation who took the roles of the mystery.

'Parson Snow' (Ron), 'Claire Voyant' (Liz), 'The Organiser' - Debbie, 'Frau Pumpernickel' (Shirley), 'Slaughter the Gamekeeper' (David), 'Lady Ship' (Lynn) and 'Major Windbag' (Richie).

Special thanks to Debbie's daughter Sam who kept everybody in order during the evening.

The mystery was played out whilst enjoying a three course meal provided by a number of the cast and guests. The evening raised £163.75 for church funds.

### **We All Need A Tree**

I hired a plumber to help me restore an old farmhouse, and he had just finished a rough first day on the job: a flat tyre made him lose an hour of work, his electric drill packed in, and his ancient van refused to start. While I drove him home, he sat in stony silence.



On arriving, he invited me in to meet his family. As we walked toward the front door, he paused briefly at a small tree, touching the tips of the branches with both hands. When he opened the door he underwent an amazing transformation. His face was wreathed in smiles and he hugged his two small children and gave his wife a kiss. Afterward he walked me to the car. We passed the tree and my curiosity got the better of me.. I asked him about what I had seen him do earlier. "Oh, that's my trouble tree," he replied "I know I can't help having troubles on the job, but one thing's for sure, those troubles don't belong in the house with my wife and the children... So I just hang them up on the tree every night when I come home and ask God to take care of them. Then in the morning I pick them up again." "Funny thing is," he smiled, "when I come out in the morning to pick them up, there are never as many as I remember hanging up the night before."

*If absence makes the heart grow fonder! Then some people must really love their church!!!*

*When it comes to generosity, some people stop at nothing!*