



ST JOHN'S NEWS AND VIEWS

Number 6

Worship at St. John's



I hope and pray that you are well and managing to keep safe at this time, though I do realise this means, for many, not seeing family or friends over the Christmas and New Year holidays. As a church we have closed our doors once again to communal worship. Whilst official government guidance might allow it to continue we, along with a great number of other churches, felt it unwise and unsafe to do so. Sadly, for the next few weeks, at least, we will not be able to meet together. We will continue with our online services on Sundays, on Facebook and on YouTube, which are broadcast at 10:30am, followed by a short evening service at 6:30pm - just go to www.facebook.com/SettleMethodist

For those who aren't able to access online resources the church provides "Worship at Home" service sheets every Sunday, which offer a short service to read through and to reflect upon in the quiet and comfort of your own home. We will happily provide copies of these services for anyone who isn't able to print them for themselves, please do just ask myself or any of the church leadership team if you would like them, we would be very happy to deliver locally! I pray that you might know the comfort of God's presence and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit at this difficult time and sincerely hope to see you again soon!

Tim

Tired of your own company? Then join our 'virtual' Coffee Pot 10.30-11.30 a.m. every Tuesday. Full details are posted on



[Facebook.com/settlemethodist](https://www.facebook.com/settlemethodist).

If you haven't used Zoom before, please contact Revd. Tim or a church steward.

Yorkshire Preachers: no.4

Jonathan Saville: (*Wesleyan: 1759-1842)

Saville had an appalling start in life. An orphan from infancy, he was mistreated by the family he lived with. Moved to the workhouse in about 1769, he said that the Quaker master in charge there was the first person to show him any kindness. He was stunted and permanently crippled because of an untreated childhood injury. Jonathan became a Methodist in about 1785. Unsurprisingly, with his background, the first text he preached from was, "Man that is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble", (Job 16 v.1). Born at Great Horton Bank Top, Jonathan lived for many years in Halifax.

We shall hear more about him.

Jane Mansergh

Dear God,

How are New Year's resolutions like new shoes? Easy - both seem really fine at first but pretty soon they start to chafe. Most resolutions get abandoned after a few weeks and most new shoes cause agony after a couple of hours heavy partying! The trick is to work at making them comfortable and fit for purpose. Ever since I earned my first pay-packet from a Saturday job, my New Year goal was to hit the sales to find new shoes. I'm not talking practical shoes here, my aim was to find brightly coloured, flamboyant fun footwear, to make me feel good as I strutted my stuff on New Year's Eve! I once bagged an amazing pair of blue and pink sequinned Elton John style platforms! There's a lot in the bible about walking and following narrow paths, which may be more

suiting to sensible hiking boots rather than my scarlet sparkly heels – though my white wellies with pink roses might be OK... However I believe there is a definite place in life for a sense of frivolity. It's more important than ever when times are tough, so my suggested resolution for everyone this year is to make time each day to do something that makes you smile and feel good about yourself, something that lifts your spirits and makes you laugh. For some, that might be wearing your favourite outlandish tie; others might put on their favourite brooch or dye their hair, or maybe sit down and read a comic but for me it will be putting on a pair of my "fun" shoes. Cherish yourself, be happy and complete your outfit with a beaming smile – it's guaranteed to make someone else smile back.

Yours (wearing silver and gold sequinned slippers)

Old Lil Nongle

Christmas Dinner

The "Share a plate Scheme" organised by Churches Together in Settle, Settle Community Christmas Day Meal, and Age UK on Christmas Day was well appreciated.

14 Christmas Lunches and 3 Christmas Teas were taken out by 4 couriers and made by 5 cooks/households. Several other people had also offered to cook - thank you. There were also several people who had initially asked for a meal but then been invited out, or been given a meal by others.

All the people who accepted the meals were grateful and thank the cooks.

Judith Allison

Family News

Since our last newsletter, many of our congregation have had the virus jab. For the rest of us, anxiously waiting, here is a report of the experience from Ian and Chris.

"We received a phone call from Settle surgery, inviting us to have a Covid jab, to which we readily agreed. An appointment was made for us at Skipton Hospital. We gave ourselves ample time for the journey and arrived early. At the entrance we were directed by volunteers to a parking space.

A very nice lady took our names and advised us to stay in the car until it was our turn for the injection. A doctor administered the jab and, except for having to wear a mask, it was just like having a flu jab.

Then we had to wait 20 minutes to make sure there were no ill effects. Sadly this had to be outside in a gazebo, but there was a cosy halogen heater, and to pass the time all the volunteers gathered round to sing carols to add to the festive spirit. It was made better by the fact that there were several familiar Settle faces on the same day.

All in all, a worthwhile, hassle-free experience.

Ian and Chris Sturrock

Hymns

Many people are finding the words of hymns helpful at this time. Two verses which have been brought to my attention during the past week or so are these:

Father let me dedicate
All this year to Thee,
In whatever worldly state
Thou wilt have me be:
Not from sorrow, pain or care,
Freedom dare I claim;
This alone shall be my prayer:
Glorify Thy name.

Lawrence Tuttliett

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!

My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

Stuart Townend and Keith Getty

Wendy Holt