

of fellowship with others. Lunch out with copious tea and coffee stops are also included. Details of this year's trips will be available at the Buns and Worship on the 24<sup>th</sup> March. Again if you know anyone who would enjoy joining us please let me know via the circuit office or by phoning me on 07375 932097.

### Lent and Holy Week 2019

<b>Ash Wednesday</b> 6 March	Communion Service	11am	St Andrew's
<b>Palm Sunday</b> 14 April	Services as per Plan including Circuit Service	6 pm	Grassington MC
<b>Maundy Thursday</b> 18 April	Maundy Thursday Meal <i>(Booking required)</i>	6.15 for 6.30 pm	St Andrew's
<b>Good Friday</b> 19 April	Walk to Rylstone Cross	10.00	St Peter's, Rylstone
	Service	10.00	St Andrew's
	Procession of Cross	10.45	St Andrew's
	Shared Service	11.00	Skipton Town Hall
	Silent Witness	c. 11.45	Grassington
	Open Air Service	12 pm	Grassington Lower Square
	Service & Procession	2.00	Long Preston Parish Church
	United Service	7.00	St Mary's, Bradley
	United Service	7.00	Embsay MC
<b>Easter Day</b> 21 April	Services as per Plan		

Information about the Maundy Thursday meal will be circulated shortly.

# Skipton and Grassington Methodist Circuit (27/18) in the Yorkshire West District Circuit Newsletter & Plan

## March to May 2019

### Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the spring edition of the Plan which includes Lent and Easter this year. This year Easter is almost as late as it can be, falling on April 21<sup>st</sup> so the season of Lent doesn't begin until March. Ash Wednesday is on March 6<sup>th</sup> which coincides with our Circuit meeting at Malham.

I don't know what you are planning to take up for Lent but I have recently been looking at the Christian Aid booklet entitled "Count your blessings" which many of you have used before. Taking us through the days of Lent it certainly challenges us to think about the possessions and the gifts available to us compared with the needs of so many. The money raised by counting our blessings goes to the many projects in which Christian Aid is involved. Those who take part in the challenge are encouraged to put aside an amount of money each week, for example 10p for every light bulb in your house and so it goes on. However, the amount of money given at the end of the challenge is obviously up to the participant but just completing the "counting" is an interesting exercise!

There are, of course many charities which have similar challenges during Lent. Whatever you decide to do I hope that you find blessing as you journey through Lent.

As you will see from the Plan, we have a Circuit evening service on Palm Sunday to mark the start of Holy Week and there will be opportunities around the Circuit to engage with the events of Good Friday

Please send any items for the next Newsletter to Edwin in the Circuit Office by **5 April** 2019.

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and, of course, the celebrations of Easter Day.

Ascension Day is on Thursday May 30<sup>th</sup> when we remember the risen Jesus' ascension to heaven from the top of a mountain in Galilee. It comes 40 days after Easter Day on the Thursday of the sixth week after Easter. This day is one of the oldest and greatest feast days of the Christian year, thought of as one of the original great moments of faith along with the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus and the coming of the Holy Spirit—and yet not one of the most celebrated today. It is remembered by Luke in the opening chapter of the Acts of the Apostles and is a time to remember the command of Jesus to reach out to others, to be his disciples and to remember that, with the coming of the Holy Spirit, his disciples are not alone!

Shalom,

*Janet.*

### **Stationing**

The Circuit Stewards would like to thank everyone for their prayers and support through the stationing journey. All appointments are subject to confirmation by Methodist Conference this summer, but with this proviso, we are very pleased to announce that, from September:

- ◆ Revd Andrew Webb, currently in the Preston Ribble Circuit will become the Circuit's new Superintendent Minister and
- ◆ Tracey Darling will become our Probationer Minister.

Please hold Andrew and his wife Sarah, Tracey and her husband Paul, as well as the rest of their families in your prayers as they prepare for this new chapter in their ministry. In the same way we pray that God's blessings will be upon Richard and Louise, Janet and David, and their families, as they too approach this time of change.

Eileen, Ethel and John

### **Chairs of District Farewell and Welcome Services**

The Farewell Service for Roger Walton is scheduled for Tuesday 23 July at 7pm at Brighthouse Methodist Church.

The Welcome Service for Kerry Tankard will be on Thursday 22 Aug, time and venue to be confirmed.

### **Circuit Farewell and Welcome Services**

The Farewell Service for Richard and Janet is being planned for Sunday 21 July. Circuit Meeting (on 6 March) will be consulted on whether morning or evening is better, so please let your Circuit Meeting reps know if you have any thoughts.

The Welcome Service for Andrew Webb and Tracey Darling will be on the evening of Sunday 1 September.

Venues are to be confirmed, but St Andrew's is most likely owing to size.

### **Messy Church**

In addition to the Messy Church sessions listed in the Plan grid, St Andrew's will be holding one on Friday 5th April from 4-6pm.

### **Report from Vanessa**

As Pastoral Worker for the Elderly for the Circuit I try and keep some of our elderly member in touch with our church family. This includes visits to homes or residential homes. I also facilitate the 'Buns and Worship' we hold in various churches around the Circuit. These are held quarterly on a Sunday afternoon where we pick people up from home to take them around the circuit for a short service followed by an afternoon tea and then return home. During this time people enjoy meeting others in our church family, as well as joining for the service led by one or both of our ministers. Many find the afternoon rewarding on many levels but there is plenty of room for more to come and take part. If you know of anyone who would like to join us on these afternoons please let me know. The next one is on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 3pm at St Andrews.

As many of our members are unable to have days out independently I arrange about 4 trips in the summer months. These usually use the SCAD buses and involve very little walking, but a lot