

## SUNDAY SERVICES IN MARCH AND APRIL

Our Sunday morning service is at 10.45 am. Children are welcome at all our services and we will always try to provide someone to occupy younger children with suitable activities for at least a part of the service. Hospitality is an important part of what we offer here, and our service is followed by tea, coffee, or juice - often with a slice of cake!

March 5 Revd Justine Wyatt - Communion (first Sunday in Lent)

March 12 Chris Partington

March 19 Revd Justine Wyatt

March 26 Revd Patrick Taylor

April 2 Revd Graham Smith - Communion

April 9 Revd Justine Wyatt - Palm Sunday

April 13 6 pm Maundy Thursday – Communion

**Please note this meeting is at 6 pm not as printed in the Circuit list**

April 14 10.30 am - Good Friday Reflection

April 23 Local arrangement

April 30 Revd Madeleine Russell

### If you are a visitor ....

We meet at the Civic Centre and share our premises with other local groups. We also play an active role in the life of the Luddenden Foot Community Association who run the building. We meet regularly for worship and other activities - will you come and join us here?

The Luddenden Foot United Reformed Church moved to the Civic Centre in 2000, but others have joined us since then and we offer an Ecumenical welcome. We have a special relationship with the Methodist Circuit (the local group of Methodist Churches) and seek to work in partnership with other churches.

We hope that you will enjoy being with us, and find peace and joy here!



**Luddenden Foot Church**

**Newsletter March/April 2017**



We meet at:

**The Civic Centre, Station Road, Luddenden Foot, HX2 6AD**

**Welcome.** Here at Luddenden Foot we began our journey through Lent to Easter on 'Pancake Monday,' when the members of the Boys' Brigade made pancakes for us, and we shared some All Age Worship together. We would like to thank our BB officers, members and their families for a really enjoyable evening.

If you would like to know more, or if we can help you with any questions or issues, please contact:

Minister - Revd Justine Wyatt 01422 847142

Church Secretary/Local Church link person -

Wendy Mertens 01422 886703

### **Ecumenical Lent Groups: Living an Authentic Life**

For Lent we are following a course entitled 'Living an Authentic Life', exploring the meaning of discipleship. The Lent groups are organised ecumenically by Hebden Royd Churches Together. One group is meeting at the Civic Centre on Wednesday mornings, 10.15 am for a 10.30 start, to finish at about 11.30 am. This is a 5-week course but we know it is not always possible to attend every time, so join us when you can. If this is not convenient you would be welcome to join one of the other groups locally.

Copies of the course booklet are available for anyone who cannot join a group but would like to use the same readings and reflections at home. This is an opportunity to support and encourage one another in

our discipleship, and to learn from the different experiences and perspectives that people have to offer.

### **Provision of Ministry and Pastoral Care at Luddenden Foot**

The URC has been looking at future possibilities of providing ministry and pastoral care at Luddenden Foot URC, and since the completion of the Review of the 3-year Transitional Ministry Post this work has been continuing.

The Yorkshire Synod Pastoral Committee have appointed the Revd Patrick Taylor and the Revd Bob Warwicker to meet church members at Luddenden Foot after the service on 26 March. Patrick was already planned to lead our worship on that Sunday, and Bob will be able to join us. We will share a soup, bread and cheese lunch and hope to start the meeting by 1.00 o'clock.

Patrick is the URC minister at Christ Church, Hipperholme, one of our United Methodist/URC congregations, and Bob is minister of Waverley URC in Huddersfield, though both also have pastoral care of smaller congregations in the Halifax and Huddersfield area. Both Bob and Patrick have visited us before and are aware of our commitment both to the church fellowship and to working with the local community.

This meeting is for all church members and is open to anyone associated with our fellowship, so please come if you can.

### **Other News**

At our AGM we expressed our thanks to all our church officers and representatives, and especially to Margaret Drake, standing down after many years as pulpit supply secretary, and to Andrew Hartwell, standing down after 16 years serving as our Church Secretary.

Wendy Mertens has offered to take on some of the duties of the Church Secretary/Church Link person, and the Church Meeting gratefully accepted this offer. This is initially for a 9-month period, and it was agreed that some of the secretary's duties will be shared out among church members. Wendy's contact details will appear in both URC and Methodist directories, and her phone number can be found on the front of our newsletter.

However, we still need someone to undertake 'pulpit supply', i.e. finding two people a month from our list of lay/local preachers and ministers who are available to lead worship at Luddenden Foot, and liaising with them ahead of their visit (most now use e-mail). This is an important role as worship is at the heart of all we do. Please do keep this in your prayers and speak to our minister if you feel that this might be something you can offer to do.

### **Philippians 2: 5 - 11**

Amazing God,

We praise you for the love made known in Jesus Christ:  
the love that came to us, not in grandeur and splendour,  
but in tattered cloaks and broken branches,  
riding through crowded streets to betrayal and death.

Vulnerable God,

We praise you for that self-emptying love,  
which did not grasp at wealth and fame,  
and the status of a celebrity,  
but took on the shape of a slave,  
becoming a nobody, hanging on a cross.

All-embracing God,

We praise you for that triumphant love,  
stretching from earth to heaven,  
shouting out your glory for all to hear,  
and proclaiming your name  
as the wondrous, awesome name of love.

Amen.