



Methodist Post

Boston Spa • Clifford • Bramham

November 2018

Ideas and contributions for future editions of the Methodist Post are always welcome.



For the December issue, please send copy by 10 November to: jovernon1@gmail.com

Thank you.

Jo Vernon, Editor (01937 360016)

Don't forget, the magazine is also available to read on our website: www.bostonspamethodistchurch.org.uk



Cover photograph © Charlotte Graham/CAG Photography Ltd

A Gurkha from the Royal Signals based in York, with poppies at the launch of York Minster's commemorations to mark 100 years since the end of the First World War.

A Service of Reflection, for 'All Souls'

**Sunday 4th November, 6pm
Boston Spa Methodist Church**

During the service there will be a time to remember loved ones, when their name will be read, and a candle lit in memory.

If you would like to have your loved one's name mentioned at the service, please contact Revd Steve Jakeman, 01937 842156.

You are also invited to come to come to the service and to light your own candle if you wish.



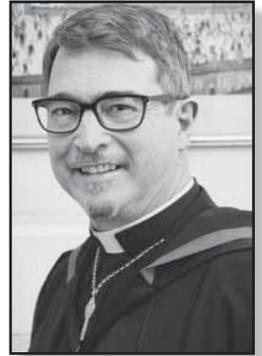
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Minister's Letter

Dear friends,

At the time Sue and I came here, in 2014, we were witnessing events not only in this country but across the world recognising the centenary of the start of the First World War. This year, as I write this, we are looking back to the end of that Great War, the war that was to end all wars. Yet here we are a century later still seeking peace, a peace which seems no nearer to being attained; despite the sacrifice of so many lost over 100 years ago, and still being lost today.



For many this time of year is always a painful process of remembering loved ones who suffered, or simply contemplating the harrowing fate of so many young people. For others in our community it may well trigger more recent memories of war zones and traumas not only of the Second World War but also of recent conflicts.

Now that the clocks have gone back, we move into a dark time of year; a season giving us the opportunity not only of looking back, but also a time of preparation for what is to come.

October the 31st, Hallowe'en, is the Eve of All Hallows; the day before the Feast of All Hallows, or All Saints' Day, which is followed by All Souls' Day on November 2nd. This is the day when we remember those who have gone before us, those who have inspired us and those who shaped our faith and the Church of which we are a part. November is also important because it is the time when we remember those who paid the ultimate price, on Remembrance Sunday.

As we share in our acts of remembrance during November, I would ask you, as part of your daily devotions, to pray each day for those who still suffer because of the conflict that they have experienced or are experiencing in their lives. Pray also that we will, by the grace of God, live lives of such faithfulness that our example will be a witness in the present, and to future generations. Please continue to pray for Peace and Reconciliation, and that God's will be done across this desperate world of ours.

November is not only a time of remembrance and reflection, but also a time of preparation. And remembrance isn't just about looking back; yes, we give thanks for those who have gone before us, but thanksgiving must also be about inspiration. We give thanks but also strive to learn from the example that has been set before us; letting the act of remembrance, and thanksgiving, inspire us to once again to prepare ourselves for the coming of the incarnate God into our lives.

Then, as we move from November into December, we enter the season of Advent; a time of longing and humble preparation as we prepare ourselves for the coming of the Prince of Peace into a world of conflict; the Light of the World into a world of darkness.

Every blessing

Steve



**7pm, Friday 16th November
Boston Spa Methodist Church**

For the Circuit Nepal Charity
Tickets £6 available from church stewards including a pie & peas supper
Teams of up to 6, or come and join a team on the night.



November Diary Dates

Sunday 4th	10.30am	Holy Communion, led by Revd Don Tuttell
	6.00pm	Memorial Reflections Service (<i>see p.2</i>), led by Revd Steve Jakeman
Tuesday 7th	2.00pm	Women's Friendship Group: "Women of Faith" at St Mary's Church, with Mothers' Union
Friday 9th	12 noon	Light lunches to be served prior to...
	1.00pm	Lunchtime Concert (<i>see p.8</i>)
Sunday 11th	9.45am	Remembrance Day: United Service at St Mary's
	10.55am	At War Memorial – Revd Steve Jakeman
Tuesday 13th	2.00pm	Women's Friendship Group: Christmas Tree Decorations
Wednesday 14th	7.00pm	Sacred Space – Reflective Worship
Friday 16th	7.00pm	Circuit Quiz (<i>see p.2</i>)
Sunday 18th	10.30am	Morning Worship, led by Revd Steve Jakeman with Mrs Barbara Hudson as Worship Leader
	6.00pm	Communion Service, led by Revd Steve Jakeman
Tuesday 20th	10.30am	Evergreens Luncheon Club
Wednesday 21st	7.30pm	Men's Group – Speaker: Donald Milne "The experiences of a Prison Visitor"
Sunday 25th	10.30am	Morning Worship, led by Mr Dennis Ashton with Mrs Sue Jakeman as Worship Leader
Tuesday 27th	2.00pm	Women's Friendship Group: Revd Don Tuttell
Wednesday 28th	3.30pm	Messy Church
	7.00pm	Sacred Space – Reflective Worship

Other Weekly Events

Mondays: 3.15pm Ping Pong Club 5.00pm Senior Table Tennis
Wednesdays: 9.30-11am Busy Bees for pre-school children and their carers
 For up-to-date information, see noticeboards/website:
www.bostonspamethodistchurch.org.uk

Church rooms may be booked for private functions. Contact Anne Hovell: 01937 843445



Boston Spa Church Rotas – November

	Church Stewards	Welcome Stewards	Flowers	Coffee
4	Heather Grant Bob Hutchinson	Heather Grant Claire Grant	Ina Smart	Ken Grimditch Judith Grimditch
11	<i>Remembrance Sunday Services at St Mary's and War Memorial</i>			Men's Group
18	K/J Grimditch Barbara Hudson	Chris Mellor Diane Mellor	Sheila Anderson	Barbara Hudson Joy Ackroyd
25	Joan Dyer Arthur Faulkner	Jo Vernon Iain Vernon	Angela Coleman	Sheila Anderson Jackie Marsden Diane Burton

Cleaning		Busy Bees	
29 Oct to 11 Nov	Les Kellett, Sheila Anderson	7	Wendy Wade
12-25 Nov	Anne & David Hovell	14	Christine Mitchell
26 Nov to 9 Dec	Jo & Iain Vernon	21	Carmen Ashton
		28	Jackie Faulkner

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS



Happy Birthday Gordon

Gordon Hurren would like to thank everyone for the birthday cards, and good wishes, sent to him on the occasion of his 90th birthday. He also wanted to thank Rev Steve for dropping in on the surprise celebration party that his wife, Shirley, and his family had laid on for him.

He had a great time with all his family around him; he had been collected by taxi from Harrogate Lodge, where he is recuperating at present, and taken to his granddaughters' house in Chapel Allerton.

Here he had been met by his large family, some of whom had travelled from Canada for the celebration. A great time was had by all.

Exam Congratulations: Arthur and Jackie Faulkner's Grandchildren in France have recently graduated from Toulouse University; Hannah with a degree in Management & Languages (English and Spanish) and is now doing a 'sandwich course' leading to a Master's Degree. Her older brother Daniel has achieved his master's Degree in Pure Mathematics and a Teaching Diploma in Further Maths. French 'Degrees' are not graded, it's just Pass or Fail!

CLIFFORD
METHODIST CHURCH



The church is a bit tucked away at the end of Nursery Way, or from the High Street, where a blue noticeboard points the way

Diary Dates – November

- 4th 10.30am Service of Holy Communion, led by Revd Steve Jakeman
- 11th **9.30am** Remembrance Day Service, led by Revd Steve Jakeman and Mr Donald Milne
- 18th 10.30am All Age Worship, led by Mr Donald Milne
- 25th 10.30am Morning Worship, led by Revd Colin Cheeseman

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 11 November

Please note our morning service will commence at chapel at 9.30am – led by Rev Steve Jakeman and Donald Milne. This will be followed by an ecumenical service at the War Memorial at 10.50am with a minutes silence at 11am.

WORLD WAR ONE IN WORDS AND SONG

On Sunday 11 November (Remembrance Sunday) from 3-5pm in the Schoolroom we will be holding an Afternoon Tea with poetry, writing and songs of the time to commemorate 100 years since the end of World War One. Tickets will be £5 and are available from Kathryn Whaley (tel 01937 845692.) I'm sure you'll agree this landmark occasion truly deserves our special recognition.

	Door Stewards	Flowers	Vestry
4th	Sheila & Katy Biercamp	Mavis Rodgers	Jason Turner
11th	Carol Smith, Margaret Suggate	Catherine Catton	Michael Whaley
18th	Ros McCall, Catherine Catton	Hazel Greenwood	David Barrow
25th	Hazel Greenwood, Julie Norman	Ros McCall	Jason Turner
Schoolroom cleaning – Margaret Suggate *			

* Although a cleaning company now undertakes the cleaning of all schoolroom areas once a month, would the person on the rota please periodically check the toilets and wash towels and tea towels. Thank you.



Michael Whaley
Alison Smith
Yaris Salou

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Two concepts for a truly happy life:

- (1) Use things, not people
- (2) Love people, not things

CLIFFORD MEMORIAL

This month is the centenary of the beginning of the end of the First World War. As with many villages around the country in 1914, the young and not so young enlisted into the army or navy. Potentially, from our village 100 men had enlisted, 23 of those did not return and their names are engraved on our war memorial. Through donations and subscriptions from the people of Clifford the "Memorial" was erected at the top of Willow Lane. It was unveiled by Colonel G R Fox MP on 15 May 1921.

We should also not forget the soldiers, sailors, airmen (the RAF was formed in April 1918) and civilians who came back from the conflict. Although many were fortunately uninsured a great number were severely maimed, mentally or physically, for the rest of their lives as a result of the conflict. All those who had served – women as well as men – not just the ones who had died should be remembered.

REMEMBERED with HONOUR

*Peter Norman
Clifford Local History Group*



Tots 'n' Toys is our Baby & Toddler Group
9.30-11am every Friday (term-time)
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LUNCHTIME CONCERTS AT BOSTON SPA

Friday, November 9th at 1pm

Concert admission is £5 and light lunches will be served from 12 noon

We are delighted to have the very talented group Aires & Gracenotes to entertain us. This is their first performance at our church.



Peter Reasbeck, the pianist, is a retired Methodist minister who played the organ for church services and specialises in accompaniment for Lieder. Peter read classics at Durham and theology at Cambridge.

Rachel van Heel (soprano) has sung as a soloist in numerous operas and concerts.

Dawn Lloyd (mezzo-soprano) sang with the City of Leeds College of Music opera group.

Howard Clinkard sings in numerous choirs including the Leeds Methodist Choir.

Please come and enjoy this concert and bring your friends. All are most welcome.



Judith England

Our Christmas Tree Festival lunchtime concert will be held on Friday, 7 December

“The Good Old Days” with David Owen-Lewis and Vivienne Bailey
accompanied on the piano by Beryl Pankhurst

Check our website for further details of all of our concerts:
www.bostonspamethodistchurch.org.uk

Goodbye to an ‘old friend’

For over 150 years the horse chestnut tree at the rear of the church building, adjacent to Spa Lane, has stood firm – a landmark tree in our village. It quite possibly had been there before the church building was erected in 1847.

When the tree survey was carried out for our building work it was realised that this great tree was in a very bad way – belied by the fact that it still produced leaves and fruit. It was found to be heavily diseased and had lost a considerable amount of bark, and was in fact dying a slow death. Horse chestnuts are notorious, once diseased, for shedding branches without warning and there was a real and present danger of damage to ours and neighbouring property and injury to people walking by.



With a heavy heart we decided that we needed to apply for permission to have the tree felled; an application was made to Leeds Council’s Tree Conservation department. The Conservation Officer, Richard Lapish, and their appointed independent tree expert, came out to examine the tree and they too were of the same opinion; despite the ‘amenity’ value of the tree, it needed be removed. Permission was granted.

And so, on 9th October work commenced to fell the tree. This was not something entered into lightly; if we could have kept this great tree in place we would have, but we had to follow the advice of people who know much more about these things than we do.

Steve Jakeman Photos: David Hovell



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Harvest Festival

Boston Spa Methodist Church celebrated their Harvest Festival with three days of events, commencing with a concert by the popular Wetherby Folk Chorale and culminating with the Harvest Supper.

A Flower Festival was held on 29th and 30th September.

The arrangements, on the theme of God's Creation, were stunning in the beauty of their colours – rich, vibrant autumn shades represented the fruits and vegetables contrasted by the soft, cool shades of the Water of Life and the Harvest of the Sea.

So much love, care and skill had gone into the displays; knitted birds perched among the flowers and foliage, two wonderfully hand-crafted turkeys adorned one of the windowsills depicting Thanksgiving in the USA.

Everywhere, there was a profusion of greenery and a feast of colour to express thankfulness and appreciation of God's wonderful creation.

Visitors were also able to enjoy homemade refreshments throughout the Festival or to buy from stalls selling cakes or Traidcraft products.

Judith England

*... and the year
turns around again*

Wetherby Folk Chorale started the weekend with an evening of songs, poems and prose reflecting the changing seasons. If you missed this entertaining evening, you will have a chance to see them at our Christmas Tree Festival from 3pm on Saturday 8th December.

Festival photos: Steve Jakeman, Jo Vernon



Harvest Flower Festival 2018





... all good gifts around us

The Harvest Festival Communion Service was led by Susan Howdle, Vice-President of the Methodist Conference 1993-1994, and representative of 'All We Can', the Methodist Relief and Development Fund, and Revd Steve Jakeman. During the service, donations of foodstuffs were accepted for the Wetherby & District Foodbank. Monetary donations were to be given to 'All We Can'.

*All good gifts around us
are sent from heaven above;
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord,
for all his love.*

*Singing the Faith No. 130
Matthias Claudius (1740-1815)*

And finally, the Harvest Supper...

The final event over the wonderful Festival Weekend was a harvest supper enjoyed by nearly 30 of us.

Kathy and Bob Hutchinson were the main organisers (though there were other helpers too), and we thank them for their work in the kitchen and preparation.

In addition to the most delicious food (which included an amazing cheeseboard), there was a quiz devised by Bob. But most of all, of course, it was good to have the opportunity to spend time in the company of friends.



Throughout the Festival Weekend, we were entertained with organ music by our very talented organists:

Sam Turner, Jackie Faulkner, David Wilkes, Tony Poles, Malcolm Galloway

Our thanks to them for giving up their time to entertain us.

And a very big thank you to all those who helped in any way – the flower arrangers, the stall holders, the stewards and refreshment providers, and to all those who gave money for the purchase of flowers. But a very special thanks goes to Judith Grimditch (with a little help from Ken!) who masterminded the whole weekend.

The amazing sum of £1,362 was raised over the weekend – well done everyone.



Now approaching its fifth year, Wetherby & District Foodbank would like to thank all supporters for their help, both in their gift of time and physical efforts, food donations – particularly at this harvest time – and also for financial support.

This generosity has helped many like Peter... see his story below.

Peter's story...

Last year, Peter was married with two young children and working full time. Unfortunately the stress of work, life and looking after his family caused a rift in his relationship with his wife, resulting in them separating and getting divorced. This sent Peter spiraling into depression and his illness was so severe that his employers made him redundant.

When he walked through the door of the Foodbank he was a broken man who hadn't eaten a full meal for days and spent most of his time isolated and alone.

He'd lost all hope for his future and he couldn't see a way out of his situation. He felt ashamed and nervous about coming to us, but we soon reassured him and made him feel at ease. He spent the morning with us, talking to the team leader, who used to work for the Citizens Advice Bureau. He left with not only three days worth of food, but with hope.

He came back to us the following three sessions and, each time, he looked lighter and brighter. The last time we saw him he told us that he had an interview the following day and he was hopeful that he was going to get the job.

We asked him what the Foodbank meant to him and this is what he said,

"It gave me the confidence to go out. It's more than just food. Being able to talk to people gave me hope. I was stuck at home, on my own with no one to talk to. In one week my life has transformed. I feel like I've won the lottery."

Andrew Morgan OPTICIANS



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A. J. Morgan, B.Sc., M.C.Optom.

David John Hudson 1930 – 2018

On Wednesday 10th October, following his death on 1st October, members of the church family and friends joined together with John's family to celebrate his life at Boston Spa Methodist Church in a service led by Revd Steve Jakeman.

John was born in Keighley on 5th January 1930; the youngest son of David and Sarah Hudson. He was schooled at Malsis Hall Prep School and Bootham School in York. Both schools gave him a keen interest in sport, firstly cricket and then in Rugby Union.

His claim to fame, whilst at Bootham, was that a young lady from the nearby girls' school, Mount School, had somehow got hold of his school cap which was later returned to him with flowers sewn onto it – the young lady was one Judi Dench.

At the age of 18 he undertook his National Service with the Royal Air Force – where his trade was that of electrician and one of the many stories that he told of his time in the RAF was one of flying on a very foggy day and they had got lost. Nothing daunted the pilot took the plane down and flew low enough so that they could follow the road signs.

On leaving the RAF he went back as an apprentice in the family grocery business, and it was here that he met an evacuee from Guernsey, Bill, also an apprentice, with whom a long-standing friendship was formed which continues through both families to this day.

At that time family holidays were spent in Filey where John's parents had a holiday bungalow, and it was during one of these holidays that he went into a shop where he met a young girl called Barbara, who was working there, having taken a summer job. John and Barbara married in Filey Trinity Methodist church on 8 September 1962. This was followed by a honeymoon in Falmouth, with an overnight stay in Bristol, where John carefully hung his shirts in the wardrobe; it wasn't until they arrived in Falmouth that they realised that he had left the shirts in Bristol!

In 1962 they had moved to Barwick in Elmet and John took up work with the Armour Corned Beef Company, in Morley. Whilst living here John became a Cub Scout Leader (Baloo) and a Youth Leader and something of a DJ running the discos. He also held the more responsible position of treasurer at church.

During their time in Barwick John and Barbara became parents to two boys – Michael coming along in September 1963 and Christopher following in July 1965.

In 1973 the family moved to Boston Spa to be near the new Senior School; at a time when quite a few families had moved to Boston Spa as it had become popular. Many found themselves also joining the church here as did John and Barbara, and they remained here for the next 40 odd years – John taking on the role of Steward twice during that time.

John and the family loved their holidays and John particularly had a soft spot for Malta; and he had continued travelling there for as long as his health would let him. Another favourite destination was France – in particular numerous day trips across the Channel to stock up on essentials!

In 1990 John was made redundant and decided to work for himself, and this was when he started buying BWWs – his pride and joys – he could always be found fastidiously keeping them clean, tidy and, of course, polished.

Some of you may recall the Eclipse that took place on March 9th, 1997. That day was auspicious in more than one way for that was the day that John had been diagnosed with



prostate cancer and had subsequently been given five years to live.

John was having none of that and began to set himself goals; family landmarks such as the birth of another grandchild or great-grandchild. To say he beat the odds is an understatement and last December when it was suggested that he should receive chemotherapy he refused to take it and set himself two more goals – James' wedding on 15th June this year and Jo's graduation on 15th July – he made both, in not inconsiderable style.

Those two final goals reached his health began to decline. The one thing that he didn't want to do was to go into a hospice if he could help it and he doggedly stuck to that decision. In fact, he was due to be moved to St Gemma's on 1st October – he died, peacefully in his sleep during the night before – he wasn't leaving home.

So, it was in remembering the strong character that was John, well respected by friends and family alike, that his family and friends said goodbye to him; missing him but knowing that he is now at peace. We give thanks to God for the life and love of a husband, father, grandfather and friend — John Hudson.

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Getting to know you...

This month, we feature Diane Burton

Diane Burton was born in York but moved as a young child to Boston Spa and has lived in the village all her life. She attended the local schools, namely Deepdale Infants' School, Primrose Lane Junior School and Boston Spa Secondary School. She read Business Studies at Bradford University and gained an HND. She started work as a commercial bank underwriter.

An opportunity arose to join the NHS, and Diane became a support worker. She enjoyed the work so much that she studied for additional qualifications and became a registered occupational therapist. She is now a specialist in safeguarding and works in NHS Hospitals.

Because of family commitments she is happy to live in Boston Spa. She likes the village amenities and finds the transport links ideal for commuting. She also has good access to family and friends.

Diane has many interests including reading, films, theatre and walking – especially coastal walking.

Diane was baptised at our church by Revd. Derek Maylor, and attended Sunday School as a child. She has always felt herself to be God-guided. She has tried other churches – the King's Church and the Salvation Army – but after much prayer she returned to her Christian roots at Boston Spa Methodist Church.

She was immediately welcomed and has become a regular attender. She likes the modern hymns, and has learned much from the sermons she has heard; in fact, she finds them “absorbing”. She enjoys the use of IT in contemporary worship, and particularly values reflective worship, for example the “Sacred Space” services.

As a deeply-committed Christian, Diane recognises the hand of God at each stage of her life.

Diane was interviewed by Carmen



Methodist Women in Britain – Yorkshire North And East District

Friday 2nd November “Called to Proclaim – Partnerships in Action”

District meeting at Haxby Methodist Church, York

Come and find out more about MWiB, Connexionally and in the District



Tadcaster Circuit

Thursday 29th November, 2pm
Advent Service at Ulleskelf Methodist Church

Border controls?

This week my younger son, visiting us from China, needed to renew his passport. That made me think. Our familiar little red book is evidence across the world that we are citizens of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, with all that that means; and for the time being it's also evidence that the UK is a member of the European Union. That of course will soon change.

In June 1985 – in the days before the EU – five of the then ten member countries of the European Economic Community (or “Common Market” as it was then known) met near Schengen in Luxembourg to set up and sign an agreement to abolish passport and other border controls at shared borders. We were one of the five countries which did not sign then, and we never did, in spite of the later EU requirement that EU member countries should sign the Schengen agreement. But then – apart from our important problem border between Northern Ireland and Eire – what shared borders does an island nation have? And some countries which are not members of the EU have signed the Schengen agreement.

As Christians it's all too easy for us to think and live as though there were borders between our life in the church and our life in the world. But, as Paul tells us again and again in his letters to the early churches, Jesus has broken down those barriers. He's abolished them.

It's all too easy to think that the church is the only or the normal place for worship and service; but there should be no recognisable border between our life in the church and our life in the everyday world. It's easy too for us to think that Sunday is the only or the normal time for worship and service; but there should be no recognisable border between our life on Sundays and our daily life in the world. For us there are no geographic borders, and no borders of space or time. We are people who belong to one world but are travelling through another. There are no borders for loving and serving. Jesus abolished them.

Dennis

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Community Christmas Tree Festival

Christmas is coming; the goose is getting fat...

So goes the old nursery rhyme, you know the one that gets repeated as we enter the run up to Christmas. Well at Boston Spa Methodist Church, we have planned a different kind of run up to Christmas, as we present our fifth Community Christmas Tree Festival from 5th – 9th December. Last year the church was dressed resplendently, by both community organisations and local businesses; each decorating their own tree to represent themselves. Live music, which is already celebrated in the monthly concerts at the church, was also in abundance with concerts by various musicians taking place throughout the four-day event.

The festival opens on Wednesday 5th December at 3pm, and we anticipate one of the local schools will be opening the Festival for us, as in previous years, but we are awaiting confirmation. Other delights over the period will be Collingham Training Band serenading us with Christmas music, Peter Wilkes is playing the 'Harrison' organ on the Saturday afternoon followed by the Wetherby Folk Chorale, who will regale us with Christmas songs and readings. (We are in discussion with other artists; keep an eye on our website for further information).

These performances are free, but we will have a very special concert on the Friday at 1pm which will cost £5; this year we have "THE GOOD OLD DAYS" with David Owen-Lewis & Vivienne Bailey, accompanied on the piano by Beryl Pankhurst.

Last year over 30 trees were displayed, and we look forward to once again turning the church building into a magical space in which to enjoy the trees, celebrate, and remind ourselves of the real reason of Christmas. You will also be able to 'put yourself in the picture' this year in a very special nativity stand, - come and have a go!

Food, of course, plays a major part in any celebration and this is no exception; light lunches will be served, along with delicious cakes, mince pies and many other delights!

On Sunday 9th December, at 10:30 in the morning, we will come together to celebrate in a "Messy Christingle", and the Festival will close on the Sunday evening with a Community Carol Service, both led by Revd Steve Jakeman.

If you can help in anyway; baking, setting up, clearing away, serving in the kitchen or stewarding in church please contact Sue Jakeman on 01937 842156.

But most of all please come and join us over the Festival period; bring friends and family to share in the fun!

To keep up to date with what's going on 'Like us' on Facebook:

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