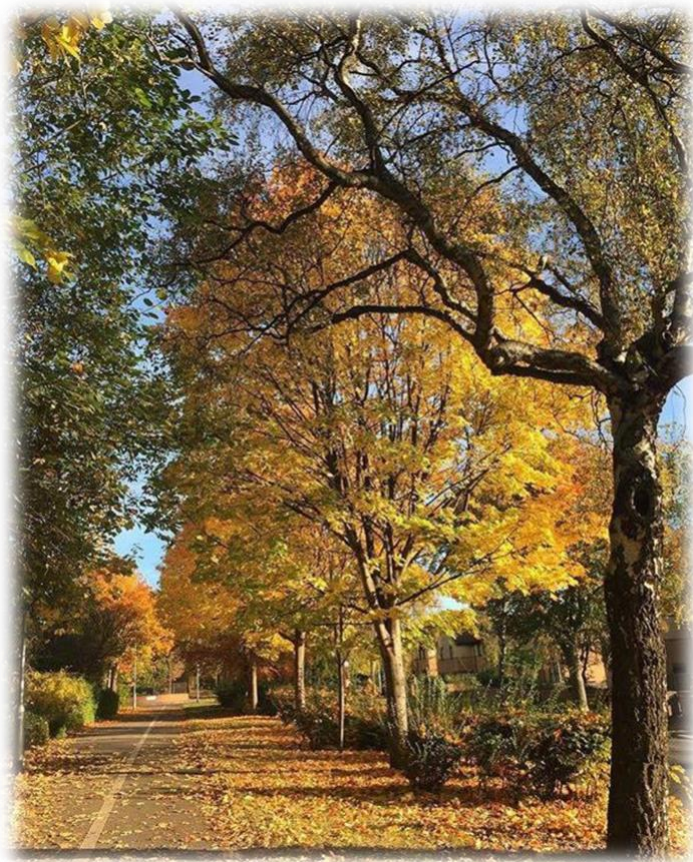


Stainbeck Church (United Reformed)

OUTLOOK

September 2019



**Please worship with us:
Sunday Morning at 10.45am
Thursday Evening at 7.30pm**

<http://stainbeckurc.org.uk>

SEPTEMBER 2019



Dear Friends,

Still in holiday mode I was looking through this year's photos. Good memories and some good walks. Those who enjoy walking will appreciate that need always to see around the next bend or over the next hill. There is a sense of anticipation - excitement even – who knows what we will discover and where the path will take us?

And yet, for many of us it is the familiar, the well-trodden path that we will choose. The one that holds few surprises and where we feel safe.

And I called to mind that poem by Robert Frost, the 'road not taken'; that book by M Scott Peck, the 'road less travelled' and further intrigued I searched the internet – quotes, interpretations, analyses galore. Fascinating the paths we take and the choices we make – as individuals but also as communities and nations.

But what about CHURCH. What about Stainbeck? How do we look to the future?

Watching the installation of the kitchen this week, looking at the ways we plan to use this space in the future, talking to other churches, listening to their hopes and fears, planning the activities led by THRIVE (Chapel Allerton Youth Project), reviewing the work we do through InterACT, enjoying the amazing scenes at the MEANWOOD OLYMPICS today, how



can we not be excited by the opportunities ahead?

And in case the task feels too much I close with a quote from Francis of Assisi. *'Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible.'*

Thanks be to God. Angela

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Where there is tender care and love, God is present

We think of our Lunch Club members who are missing their Monday lunches. These **will recommence on Monday 9th September** in our new refurbished café room. All the volunteers are looking forward to seeing you once again, to enjoy the good fun and banter.

We remember in prayer those within our Church family are in need at this time.

We send our love and prayers to the family of **Pat van Lemmen** who recently died in St. Gemma's. Pat led worship at Stainbeck on many occasions which was much appreciated by the Church Family. She was a member at Headingley St Columba and a good friend to many. She will be sadly missed by her family and friends.

Please continue to remember those in our own congregation who are grieving at this time and their families.

Also, we think of all those, who have on-going health issues or who are struggling in other ways, who come and go through our building: you are remembered – **God loves you all.**



Congratulations to **Megan Booth**, daughter of Helen and Adrian, who married **Ed Day** last month. Good wishes to you both.

HERE AND THERE

Looking back.....

So much to remember! Early in July - a number of us attended the **Leeds Citizens Assembly** at Roscoe Methodist Church (See report below.)

Revd Samantha Sheehan was the speaker at the recent **Mission and Care Group** (<https://stainbeckurc.org.uk/leeds-mission-and-care-group/>) (meeting where she described her work on the 18-25 Project (Generation Y). A summary of her thought provoking and challenging presentation can be found in the recent edition of MICA NEWS together with other partnership news. Copies available in church and on website.

Copies are available of **Leeds Faith in Schools** Summer newsletter (www.lfis.org). Amazing amount of work in our high schools undertaken by the young LFiS's team. Please hold them all in your prayers.

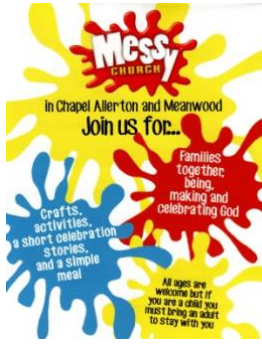
The **After Eight's** garden visit this year in July was at Guiseley. The owners, Vicky and Trevor Harris were very welcoming. They have worked the garden since 1992. Despite the rain we had a nice evening. The garden was superb on three levels and crammed full of beautiful plants. There were plenty of sitting areas to admire the view going across to Baildon, which would have been good if the rain had ceased.

Tea and coffee were served in the Conservatory with cake and buns. Twenty of us visited the garden.



A very good number. Thank you everyone who attended. *Sandra Smith*

The **After Eight's** August event was gentle stroll around Meanwood Park; what could be more relaxing? Nine of us had a lovely amble along the beck, chatting in groups and seeing a Kingfisher; that was very special. We picnicked in a green glade, then headed back down to the little café in the park for coffee/tea and cake. PERFECT. *Ann Coates*



We were so blessed to have a lovely sunny afternoon for the **Messy Church Fun Day** when the garden at Stainbeck was filled with happy, laughing children from across the churches and the neighbourhood. A bouncy castle, a candy floss machine, sparkly face painting, splat the rat, a tasty free BBQ, hook a duck, paper rockets zooming in the sky, the police van to explore ... it was all so busy and exciting; and there was time for conversations too. Many thanks to all volunteers who came along to prepare, join in, support and clear up afterwards.



Messy church families and volunteers were also busy at the beginning of school holidays when all shared in the **Messy Church Seaside Rock Holiday Club**. This too was great fun. Three mornings of seaside activities, games, crafts, songs and reflection. Our memory verse *'Trust in the Lord whatever you do. He will always help you through'* underpinned all that we did together.

There were more free fun activities for children and their families at Woodhouse Cricket Club when the **Meanwood Olympics** were held again. Thank you to **InterACT** for enabling this to continue under **Maureen Lillywhite's** expert management. We never cease to be amazed at the number of families enjoying these activities, the number of local agencies involved and the number of energetic and loyal volunteers! Our thanks to all!

Also our thanks to **InterACT** who continued to provide games and crafts for children on Thursdays running alongside the Café at Stainbeck. These events were also supported with funding from Inner *North East Community Youth Activity Fund*.

Leeds Citizens Together 4th July 2019 Roscoe Methodist Church

Several of us from Stainbeck URC attended the **Leeds Citizens Together** meeting in July. We began, as always, with lovely food and conversations with our fellow Citizens from other groups across the city.

Roscoe Methodist Church choir entertained us then various people from the groups shared the exciting new things that were happening in their part of the city – **Holy Rosary and Roscoe Methodist** working together with the school to tackle traffic issues – meeting with the city council and traffic management to get speeds reduced, better timing of the lights and have a traffic survey done to reduce accidents; **Holbeck** were tackling issues of prostitution and drugs; **PACT** – working with parents of children under 5 and parent champions for parents with children of any age to get the parents involved in schools, churches and other local services to prevent isolation; **Christ Church Upper Armley** had an away day for the PCC to get enthusiastic about meeting with people one-to-one and the problems and challenges of this; **Stainbeck** updated on progress with Team Beckhills; **Moortown** wish to take a similar approach to Team Beckhills on the Lingfield Estate.

We then heard stories from local actions and chose which group to go and find more about to help us move forward in our own local groups.

We then got together in local groups related to the area we are in to see what our next steps should be from what we'd learnt from the previous conversations. For us this meant answering 'What did you learn? And **What is the next Action for North Leeds?**' Talking to people is the key to finding out what people are passionate about. Social isolation of parents with newborns, the environment and the use of space at Moortown Baptist Church (to use the building more widely for the community) were discussed. North Leeds meetings will be set up co-ordinated by Graham Brownlee (MBC).

We then heard about the citywide issues that Leeds Citizens are focusing on – Mental Health, the Living Wage and Youth Opportunities.

Improving **Mental Health** has the greatest momentum at the moment – 4 GP practices have mental health workers and LC is pushing for this to be extended across the city. There are three things they are working on:

- Uncovering the personal testimony of people who are struggling;
- Identifying practical changes;
- Taking action to make Leeds a mentally healthy city.

People from the CCG's have come onto the Leeds Citizens Group to hear the testimonies being shared. Here is how we can help:

1. Have discussions using 4 key questions to get a collective voice for how it is for people in Leeds;
2. Submit the written testimony of people's struggles and also of the successes of those who have got through hard times and what helped them through.

Ann Nicholl from the Leeds Church Institute is leading this work. Are we engaged enough to have a listening event at our organisation (and beyond) to find the answers to the key questions?

By the time you read this we will have assisted Chapel Allerton Baptist Church with their pop up 'Blue Café' at the Chapel Allerton Arts Festival in September.

We also have the opportunity to take part in Leeds Citizens training - some of which is free – to help us to engage better with our community and get more things achieved. Upcoming cluster training is on 21st September, 26th October, 23rd November and 7th December.

The next Leeds Citizens meeting is on 10th October at 6.30pm, venue to be confirmed.

If you want to know more about anything to do with Leeds Citizens, speak to Helen Booth or David Wilson, come along to the next Team Beckhills meeting (every second Wednesday) 9th October 6.30pm in the Stainbeck Church Café or sign up for the Leeds Citizens newsletter (www.citizensuk.org/leeds).

Helen Booth

Looking forward.....

This year it is Stainbeck's turn to plan Churches Together: **Hymns in the Street**. Once again we look forward to celebrating the faith that we share. This year it is good to have Liam accompanying our singing. Please join us. All voices needed!

The next **Mission and Care Meeting** is at St Andrew's on Wednesday 11th September, conveniently near for us. Everyone is welcome and lifts are available. This meeting is at the heart of our evolving Partnership.

And a wider gathering....**The Synod BIG DAY OUT** at Flamingo land on Saturday 14th September. A number of our church families and others have already got their names down for this event. We look forward to hearing their stories of the day and to seeing their photos. We wish them a great time!

Please also note the date for **HARVEST**: Sunday 29th September.

UPDATES on our building

So much has happened in the last few months – the loft has been cleared (amazing work quietly accomplished); the entry re-sited and the new ladder installed; areas allocated to different church groups – boxed and labelled. Anything not used regularly *must* be stored up there.



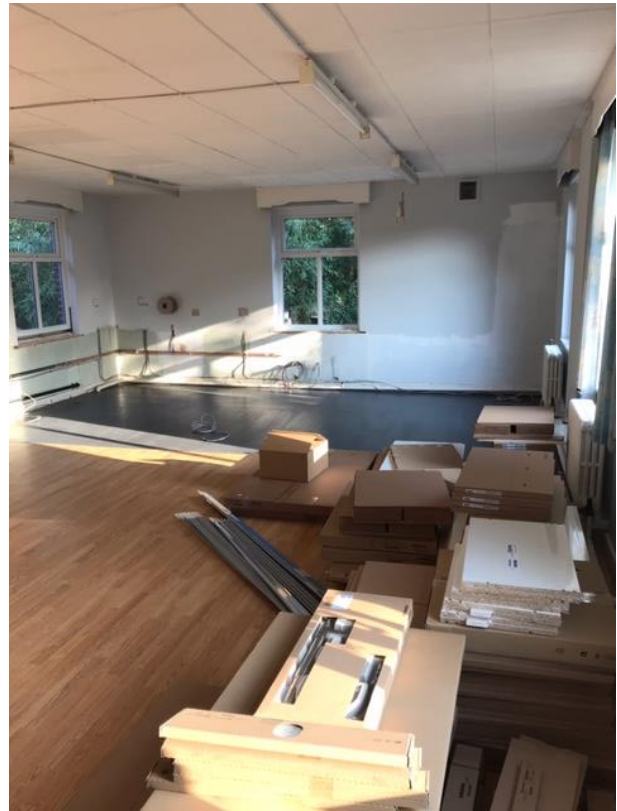
Other cupboards and items have been moved to new locations. The thought, leg-work, mileage and physical effort here have been impressive – as has been the willingness of individuals and groups to compromise, facilitate and



adjust as we look forward to *a new kitchen, a lift and a good deal of refurbishment*. Our thanks to the Management and Property Team, plus Joan and Dylan-Jay, and those many others – you know who you are.

Meanwhile:

- On Bank Holiday Monday (even as I write this) the kitchen is being delivered.
- On Tuesday, 27th August, it will be installed but without worktops.
- On Friday, 30th August, a template will be taken for the worktops.
- Early in September the ceramic work tops will be fitted and the kitchen 'joined up'.
- The lift will be installed on Wednesday, 18th September.



Alongside this **Angels Nursery** is making the changes needed to the downstairs hall and kitchen (which they will be taking over) as well as converting part of the stage into a reception area. There are big changes for them too.

I am impressed and excited by the whole project, but particularly by the strong sense of purpose and rightness that has underpinned the work. It is important to remember that the changes to the building are just the beginning – a spring-board if you like – for the next decade. And it all started with 'an idea in the night'!

Angela

REFLECTIONS

15th July 9.30am Braithwaite camp site in the morning sun. Jasmine woke on Saturday and Sunday with blood in her throat. In a text this morning Elanor told us what happened at the LGI. They were seen by ‘a lovely Nigerian doctor’. He asked Jasmine what she did and she told him about her hope of going to University to become a Speech Therapist. He told her his parents were both killed when he was 10 yrs. old. He never went to school and just did menial jobs. Then he realised his dream was to become a doctor. He said he was proud of what he’d achieved. ‘It shows what you can achieve if you put your mind to it.’ After consulting with ENT and a bit of research, he told Jasmine the bleeding was actually quite common (it looked awful!), and he sent the male nurse off to obtain the antibiotics she needed.

16th July 10pm Knowing we would be driving home today, but in beautiful weather, I decided to do a (strictly) three hour climb of Walla Crag from Keswick. It was a wonderful walk, with panoramic views of Derwentwater, and a very fast descent. Unfortunately, I took what looked like a short cut to the Lake (where I was to meet J., S., and Leon.), but finished up tripping over a hidden wire and falling onto a path in an allotment. I escaped into a farmer’s field but couldn’t find a way out until I slipped through a gap below barbed wire and into a graveyard. But I met them at 2 hours 57 minutes.

2nd August 5pm ‘The overriding tasks today are keeping within planetary limits....while at the same time shifting from a greed-driven to a need-driven economic system’ Anna Coote. New Economics Foundation.

4th August 12.52am What’s the difference between ontology and hauntology? Ontology is the study of what is, and hauntology is the study of what is not. What does not exist can have a powerful influence. The spectre of a ‘Marxist’ Corbynism, and the spectre of ‘unchecked’ immigration, have led to the prospect of a ‘no deal’ Brexit. If only the words in Acts 2:45,46 and Matthew 25:35,36 haunted the world in the same way!

12th August 9.45am Norman Lamont reflecting on his career and Europe. A loss of sovereignty and the spectre (my word!) of political unity had poisoned the case for Europe, and the debate has been hijacked by anti-immigration, anti-foreigner, white English when a perfectly good case could be made for economic and regulatory union, including human rights, and social provision.

15th August 11.25am Heidegger on Art. He uses two examples: the Temple and a painting by Van Gogh of peasant shoes. The look of the Temple can remind us of what we're lacking. To human outlook, it gives a unity of shared purposes, and a presence for basic values and a world view. The painting carries the hope that it will light up the world, beginning to construct, in the responsive individual, the new world we can hope will come. If we substitute the word 'church' both for Temple and painting, we find sentences which indicate that the Church constituted its people's world, and in today's far more individualistic and private way of living, the church still has the power to begin to construct a new world for us.

16th August 11.12pm 'Life is deeply unfair, and by birthright some people will have material comforts and physical safety and some will suffer, and this inequality should be upheld with state sanctioned paramilitary force'. This is the premise, according to Emily Witt, which the arguments at Trump rallies share. Valeria Luiselli, whose books Emily is reviewing in an article in LRB entitled 'Crossing the Border' confronts a young man wearing a MAGA hat the day after the presidential election. She stutters 'a way too emotional sentence about empathy and social responsibility'. He laughs in her face.

23rd August 11.22pm When her best friend dies aged 20, Imogen West-Knights makes a list of all their memories from school and Playstation games onward. She is afraid of losing her friend entirely. Now six years have passed. Her essay in the NS is headed 'Where does all the sadness go?' And it does go, in a way. But she is no longer afraid of forgetting. There are photographs, but also times when something will prompt her memory bringing back all sorts of details. 'Maybe the list will never be finished' she thinks. 'And if this is true, then it must also be true that she will never be completely gone'.

PLC

DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER

Sunday 1st September at 10:30am

Churches Together - Hymns in the Street

Worshipping together in Regent Street, Chapel Allerton

Please note there will be no service at Stainbeck today.

Mon	2 nd	10.30-1.45	Lunch Club closed
Wed	4 th	8pm	Come and Rest
Thu	5 th	11-2pm	Reduced Café with Family Solutions
		12.30-2.30	Make 'n' Do
		7.30pm	Prayers for our shared work in the Community led by Stainbeck. All Welcome
Sun	8 th	10.45am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by The Minister
Mon	9 th	10.30-1.45	Lunch Club re-opens in the Café room
Wed	11 th	7.30pm	Mission and Care Meeting at St. Andrew's, Roundhay. All welcome, lifts are available.
Thu	12 th	11-2pm	Relaunch of Community Café with Family Solutions
		12.30-2.30	Make 'n' Do
		7.30pm	Midweek Worship
Sat	14 th	All Day	Synod Big Day Out at Flamingo Land
Sun	15 th	10.45am	Morning Worship led by Dr Moira Gallagher – Elder at Wigton Moor
		3.30-5.30 pm	MESSY CHURCH at CA Meth Centre
Mon	16 th	10.30-1.45	Lunch Club
Thu	19 th	11-2pm	Community Café with Family Solutions
		12.30-2.30	Make 'n' Do
		7.30pm	Midweek Worship
Sun	22 nd	10.45am	Morning Worship led by Revd Geoff Ellis
Mon	23 rd	10.30-1.45	Lunch Club
Tue	24 th	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
Thu	26 th	11-2pm	Community Café with Family Solutions
		12.30-2.30	Make 'n' Do
		7.30pm	Midweek Worship
Sun	29 th	10.45am	HARVEST THANKSGIVING
Mon	30 th	10.30-1.45	Lunch Club

**LEEDS NORTH & WEST FOODBANK
OUR CHARITY for the MONTH**

<https://leedsnorthandwest.foodbank.org.uk>

DIARY FOR OCTOBER

Sun 6th 10.30am Morning Worship led by the Minister

Transport: if you require any transport to church or for any other event, please contact your Elder or, on a Sunday morning, telephone the Church (2370251) or the Minister (07752904317) and leave a message.

Views expressed by individuals are personal and not necessarily those of Stainbeck Church.

Revd Angela Hughes, Minister: 0113 2669985

Avril and Brian Bellwood, Church Secretaries: 0113 293 5847