



Mount Zion

Methodist Heritage Chapel

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Dear Friends

I'm writing this in Holy Week that started with the Hallelujahs of Palm Sunday when Jesus rode into Jerusalem, to the cries of Crucify Him a few days later. There was the betrayal, the denial a week of so many emotions, yet he was obedient to death on the Cross for our sins. Easter Sunday we will celebrate the Risen Christ at Mt Zion at 2.45pm with Rev Paul Welch.

Here's some of the things that have been happening since the letter in the summer of last year. We had to cancel the August Open Afternoon due to the ongoing work the Chapel.



We had a brilliant Heritage Weekend thanks to a small group of people we were able to put on a small flower festival as we had already advertised it, we decided it couldn't be a Circuit one as we knew we wouldn't have been able to be ready in time. We had Gardinus Nurseries which is behind Mt Zion and they bought plants and

plant arrangements which we were able to sell and they kindly gave us a percentage of the takings and gave us a small donation on top of that. We had more visitors than previous years which was fantastic. We held a service on the Sunday with Rev Ruth Crompton (Superintendent of the Aire Valley Circuit). Hymns and Hers from Illingworth Moor sang before the service, it was a lovely uplifting service.



Rev Colin Sherwood (Circuit Minister) took our Harvest Festival Service and people bought donations for the Elland Food Bank, Colin's car was full when he left with all the generous donations. They were extremely grateful for the donations.

Rev Alistair Newton (Circuit Superintendent) led our Carol Service which was well attended and lovely to see so many stay for refreshments in the Cottage afterwards.

I had the privilege of welcoming a group of eight people from Huddersfield, Lancashire, Bradford and Selby in February. They had been trying to get over to visit for a number of months when they could all come. One of those who came was Rev Lund, who shared how Mt Zion had been the place he started his Christian journey when his Grandfather played the organ, he would sit with him and then when the sermon started he was given a bag of Jelly Babies that would last him through the sermon. It was lovely to hear from him as he shared with enthusiasm of his times at Mt Zion.

We are hoping to make a Booklet of people's stories about their memories of coming to Church or Sunday School or living in the cottage. If you have a story you would be willing to share we'd love to hear from you.



On the 1st March we had a visit from the Vice President of the Methodist Conference Rachael Lampard as part of her visit to the West Yorkshire District. Rachel was very encouraging in the work we are trying to do.. Rachel wrote this about her visit on the President and Vice President Facebook page 'I was taken to Mt Zion Heritage Chapel, a beautiful example of early nineteenth century chapel with box pews, a pulpit that was more than six feet above contradiction and even a "Prophet's Chamber" (a room where John Wesley slept) Worship takes place in the Chapel six times



a year now, there are plans to make the chapel a place of retreat, faith exploration and fun, especially for local families who are otherwise reliant on buses to get anywhere. It was great to talk to Paula, Paul, Ros and Pamela about the vision for the place' Very encouraging words and more people across the Connection will have read about us.

We are going to be Open more this year. On Easter Saturday 30 children will be coming to take part in an Easter Egg Hunt, with crafts and a picnic lunch. We will be Open every Tuesday June-August from 2pm-4pm for Cream Teas, some weeks there will be activities or craft demonstrations. The last Tuesday of each month we will have a service. A number of people have been saying that getting to Mt Zion on a Sunday is a bit difficult for various reasons, so this year we are going to try them on different days. We will also be open on Thursday afternoons June-August where there will be opportunities for volunteering around Mt Zion

The Heritage Weekend 8th-10th September, hopefully with a Circuit Flower Display our favourite hymns, followed by a Songs of Praise.

We will have our Harvest Festival which we are hoping our new Superintendent Minister will take Rev Terry Keen. (Date to be confirmed).

Mrs Kath Melling will take our Carol Service on Sunday 10th December at 2.45pm.



We have now gone digital at Mt Zion we are now connected to the internet thanks to a grant from Nestles. We are extremely grateful not only for the grant but that some of their employees spent the day volunteering with us at the beginning of April. They cleaned and tidied, scraped paint of the walls, they were amazing and we are so grateful to them. This is the feedback one of the volunteers sent us: 'You made us all feel so welcome with the beautiful food, endless tea, history lessons and kindness, only wish I could have done more'



I hope this has given you a taste of some of the things that have or will be happening at Mt Zion, it is very exciting and challenging and we value your continued support and prayers.

You have received this letter because you are already a 'Friend of Mt Zion' or have shown an interest in becoming one. The cost is £10 a year, you will receive updates by email or updates twice a year by post

If you would like to continue being or become 'A Friend of Mt Zion', you can either send a cheque for £10.00 made payable to Mount Zion Methodist Church or you can pay by Direct Debit into our bank account (**Yorkshire Bank Sort Code 05/04/49 Account Number 17651309**). You may feel that you would like to support Mount Zion's Ministry on a regular basis through giving a regular monthly contribution which again can be set up by Direct Debit. If you are a Tax Payer you can Gift Aid your donation

We are reliant on money we receive through donations at our Open Days, through our Friends of Mt Zion, School/Group Visits, Retreats, Weddings, Funerals and collections at the services throughout the year. This all helps towards the running costs to keep Mt Zion open.

We really value your prayers and support. If you live in the area and would like to volunteer at our Open Days, retreat days or with schools visits or group visits please indicate on the form below.

Thank you once again for your continued support and prayers.

Wishing you a very Happy Easter.

Every Blessing

Mrs Paula Prosser (Lay Heritage Co ordinator)

Friends of Mount Zion

Name.....

Address.....

I wish to be a Friend of Mount Zion for an annual payment of £10.00 YES/ NO

I enclose a cheque for £10.00 made payable to Mount Zion Methodist Church YES/ NO

I am willing to pay by Direct Debt YES/ NO

I am willing to make monthly contributions YES/ NO

I am a tax payer and wish to Gift Aid my donation YES / NO

I would like to receive regular updates by email YES/ NO

EMAIL ADDRESS

I don't have an email account and would like to receive updates twice a year YES/ NO

I would like to volunteer on Open Days / School or Group Visits / Retreats (Please Circle)