

Church Activities & Services

Sunday Services

8:30 am
Monthly Communion Service

10:45 am
Morning Service
Junior Church
This service will either be a Family Service or Junior Church will run at the same time.

6:00pm
Evening Service

Please see the plan (page 5) for details of services.

Please see the weekly notice sheet for details of the week's events. These are available in church or on the website at www.altoftsmethodist.org.uk

Weekday Activities

Mondays

Mums and Toddlers: 9:15am
Prayer Meeting: 11:30am
Shell Group (Children's group): 6:30pm
Zumba Class: 7:30pm registration, 7:45pm start

Tuesdays

Tuesday Fellowship: 6:00pm (closes in winter)
Indoor Bowls: 7:00pm
Women's Friendship Group (Monthly): 7:30pm

Wednesdays

Midweek Break (Fortnightly): 10:30am
Table Tennis: 7:30pm

Thursdays

Indoor Bowls: 10:00am
Mums and Toddlers: 1:15pm
Cubs: 6:00pm
Scouts: 7:30pm

Fridays

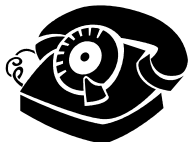
Pilates Classes from 5.45pm

Saturdays

Hailey Black School of Dance: from 10:00am

Please check the notices as some groups close for the summer holidays.

Contact Details



Minister Rev. Barry Lotz 01924 311726
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Senior Steward Mrs. Linda Whittingham 01924 891761
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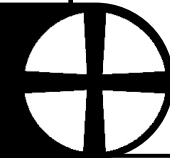
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Growing Through Sharing

Altofts Methodist Church Newsletter



Minister's Letter

And if anyone says to you at that time, "Look! Here is the Messiah!" or "Look! There he is!"—do not believe it. (Mark 13:21)

Fortunately, all of my friends survived the series of rolling and global disasters which were to have struck the world with mass destruction and the second coming (again) or Rapture of Jesus. It was due to take place at on Saturday 21 May, just past and much of the nation's media were keen to let us know of its approach ... and then that it was a non-event.

I do not want in any way to be scathing or negligent of those who challenge us to repentance and who warn us of our responsibility to each other and before God. Direct challenge to meet our responsibility can only make us honest – as we hear about the Southern Cross care home fiasco and the abuse of vulnerable adults in Bristol. It is, however, really difficult to take seriously dates which tell of God's appearance. It prompts me to wonder what kind of world people think we live in.

But the impression created is that this is what Christians believe, so I

shouldn't be too surprised that those who know little of what we do in Church and even less of faith, think that we are just a little daft and are easily ignored. And sometimes we don't help when we behave in ways that are exclusive or ignorant of people who otherwise are struggling.

The immediate context of the verse from Mark above, seems to encourage people who are being persecuted for their faith. In part, they were being persecuted because their faith was perceived as being in opposition to the civic and religious authorities, at a time when the

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www.altoftsmethodist.org.uk

Minister's Letter

distinction between civic and religious responsibility was not as clear cut as it is now. For example, to refuse to pay tax to Rome was as good as opposition and while quiet opposition could simmer without too much reprisal, the authorities thought nothing of mass crucifixions of thousands at a time, if this restored order. Were we to see something like this today, we would surely describe it as the end of the world. So Jesus' answer to give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar (Mt 22:15-22) has sometimes been seen as discouraging people to revolt openly. But the rejoinder, about giving to God what belongs to God, assures us that the power of any authority lies not with that authority. It belongs with God. So, we'd be right to wonder, is there anything (or anyone) which does not belong to God?

So, to times and seasons. Do we know the times and the seasons? Surely we do. Ascension comes 40 days after Easter and Pentecost 10 days later. And these two festivals are the great recognition by the Church that God's presence is not far away, but a present reality. At first glance the Ascension may seem about Jesus disappearing into the wild blue yonder. And the image in Acts (1:9-10) is of the disciples looking up into the sky wondering what has happened. But the message is clear –

Jesus has ascended to the heights of authority so that he is the one calling the shots to all authorities. Any authority anyone wields is authority which is exercised in the presence of God and fully answerable to God. This is not someone far away, but very present and involved.

Pentecost is even clearer, that the Spirit of God is present in our everyday activities of life and we respond as much to others and nature as we respond to God. Hence our responsibility to be careful users of our environment and of goods produced by others, because we participate in the life of God in our lives. Would that those who perpetrated the banking crisis had understood this. Would that those responsible for the care of the most vulnerable have understood this. Would that members of the Church have taken this so seriously that we'd understand, the Messiah is not coming. He is here. And here to stay. Today and every day.

Rev. Barry Lotz.

Desert Island Discs

5th Record

The Padstow Lifeboat – by Malcolm Arnold - Grimethorpe Colliery Band

Reason for choice - This starts with the noise of a foghorn. The music builds up to a crescendo and then the sound of the lifeboat being launched in a storm. A brass band at its best.

6th Record

I'm Coming Home - Tom Jones

Reason for choice - For me I think this is one of his better songs, but I'm biased – I like Tom Jones

7th Record

Radetzky March – Composer : Johann Strauss, snr.

Reason for choice - This always gets my feet tapping.

8th Record

Tijuana Taxi – Herb Alpert and the Tijuana Brass Composer – Herb Alpert

Reason for choice - It captures the flavour of Mexican music in the form of a marachi band (guitars and a single trumpet)

Finally...

If I could only take one record it would have to be my first choice of disc.

My book (the Bible & Shakespeare are already on the island)...” Ice Station Zebra” by Alistair McLean.

My luxury would be Kelly's Cornish Clotted Cream ice cream

Why? I just love it !!

Thank you Rae for letting us into your taste in music (and ice-cream!!) .

Rae did a great job as Senior Steward and has been a great support to Hazel in the same role.

Anyone else like to share their choice of music?

Brenda Walmsley

Desert Island Discs

Mr. Rae Millington M.B.E.

Brief autobiography

I was born and have lived in Altofts all my life. The first 26 years in "The Buildings" (happy memories). Sport played a big part in my life including football, tennis and badminton. For the past 20 years (Hazel may say a fanatical!) supporter of Castleford Tigers. I started work in 1957 for British Transport Commission, later to become British Waterways, at Stanley Ferry as an apprentice carpenter, finishing up as Workshop Foreman. In 1999 I was awarded the MBE for services to lock gate manufacture (a day at the Palace I will not forget). My last job before I retired was the refurbishment of the lock known as Neptune's Staircase on the Caledonian Canal at Fort William.

1st Record

When you Walk in the Room—The Searchers

Reason for choice – This, I can say without doubt is my favourite all-time pop song. In the 80's I had the pleasure of singing (ha ha) with The Searchers at the now long gone Rooftop Gardens in Wakefield.

2nd Record

William Tell Overture—by Rossini

Reason for choice - This takes you through the squabble of the Cantons (counties) to the start of winter with the orchestra taking you from snow flurry into a full blown blizzard and on to Spring (magical). It was also featured in the 1950/60s TV series The Lone Ranger.

3rd Record

Ten Thousand Angels Cry - Lee Ann Rimes

Reason for choice - I first heard this whilst on holiday in Nashville. It took me quite a few weeks back home to find it. The lyric writer tells the story what the angels must have thought when Christ was crucified. Very poignant.

4th Record

Best Thing That Happened to Me – Gladys Knight and the Pips

Reason for choice - This tells the story of a couple who have been through thick and thin and come out the other side stronger and more loving.

Junior Church Anniversary and Prizegiving

Sunday 24 July at 10.45am

Family Service led by
Rev. Barry Lotz



Church Family News

Baptisms

- 6 March 2011 **Zac William**, son of Ian and Jamie Farrand
 20 March 2011 **William George**, son of Chris Walker and Leslie-Ann Baker
 10 April 2011 **David**, son of Richard and Jackie Evans

Funerals

- 31 March 2011 **Lily Watson**, aged 87
 1 April 2011 **Clarence Bennett**, aged 88 of Poplar Drive
 4 April 2011 **Trev Hunt**
 13 April 2011 **Muriel Brain**, aged 93 of Chestnuts Nursing Home
 27 April 2011 **Thomas Williams**, aged 70 of Garforth Drive
 11 May 2011 **Ernest Ratcliffe**, aged 88 of Church Road



Women's Friendship Group

Strawberry Cream Tea



Saturday 9 July
3.30-5.30pm
Altofts Methodist Church
Admission £1.00

All Welcome

The Plan

The details of Sunday services for June to August 2011 are given below.

	5 Jun	12 Jun	19 Jun	26 Jun	
	<i>Easter 7</i>	<i>Pentecost</i>	<i>Trinity</i>	<i>13 Ordinary</i>	
8:30	Lotz HC				
10:45	Mumford	Lotz FC*	Owen	Wilkinson F T	
6:00	4pm Network Service @ Ropewalk	Wadsworth	Sweeting	Lotz HC	
	3 Jul	10 Jul	17 Jul	24 Jul	31 Jul
	<i>14 Ordinary</i>	<i>15 Ordinary</i>	<i>16 Ordinary</i>	<i>17 Ordinary</i>	<i>18 Ordinary</i>
8:30	Harrell HC				
10:45	WL	Aitchison FC	Towle	Lotz F A P	Sweeting
6:00	Knapper	J Heap	Harrell	Circuit Service @ F'stone	Lotz U
	7 Aug	14 Aug	21 Aug	28 Aug	
	<i>19 Ordinary</i>	<i>20 Ordinary</i>	<i>21 Ordinary</i>	<i>22 Ordinary</i>	
8:30	Aitchison HC				
10:45	WL	Lotz FC	Brook	Sadler F	
6:00	Harrell	Wilkinson T	WL	Lotz HC	

A	Junior Church Anniversary	WL	Worship leaders to take the service
CA	Chapel Anniversary	*	Coffee served and fair-trade stall after the service.
F	Family Service/All age worship	^	Coffee served after the service
FC	Family Service with Holy Communion		
HC	Holy Communion		
P	Prizegiving		
SOP	Songs of Praise		
U	United Service/Churches Together		