

## 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](http://www.altoftsmethodist.org.uk)

### Weekday Activities

#### Mondays

Mums and Toddlers: 9:15am  
Prayer Meeting: 11:30am  
Shell Group (Children's group): 6:30pm

#### Tuesdays

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

#### Wednesdays

Midweek Break (Fortnightly): 10:30am  
'Live at Home' afternoon: 12:30pm  
Table Tennis: 7:30pm

#### Thursdays

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

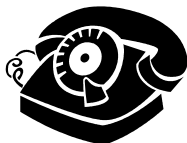
#### Fridays

Pilates Classes: from 5.45pm

#### Saturdays

Hailey Black School of Dance: from 10:00am

## Contact Details



**Minister** Rev. Barry Lotz 01924 311726  
barry.lotz@gmail.com

**Senior Steward** Mrs. Hazel Millington 01924 892213

**Property Steward (room bookings)** Mr. David Whittingham 01924 891761

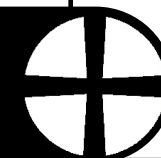


**Notices/GTS** Mr. Tom Ferguson 01924 893004  
tomferg80@gmail.com

[www.altoftsmethodist.org.uk](http://www.altoftsmethodist.org.uk)

## Growing Through Sharing

Altofts Methodist Church Newsletter



## Minister's Letter: Ordination

The ordination of people is a big event in the life of the Church. It's also a big event in the life of those ordained. After my ordination on 27 June, a few people have asked me if I feel different, now after the event. One person asked me if I am different now that I am ordained.

The day of Ordination and Reception into Full Connexion was an emotional day and an important milestone for me. This journey began in 1973 when I first began exploring my vocation in the Church. In that year I began my studies as a Local Preacher "with a view to candidating for the ministry", as we said in those days. After all this time, you can imagine how I might see my exploration, my life, also as an adventure, not all of which has been as I might have planned it.

This has been for me a journey of faith and learning. I have prayed and worked hard at discerning and exploring how I should respond to God, which is my vocation. So reaching the day of ordination was very important to me. It was also important to my family – this was not a journey I undertook alone. The

feeling on the day was one of acceptance, achievement and excitement. I am not altogether sure that I felt worthy – one of the questions asked of the congregation at ordination is "Do you believe and trust that they [those presented for ordination] are, by God's grace, worthy to be ordained?", and the congregation responds "They are worthy!" By God's grace we are all worthy, but at that moment I felt supported and encouraged. I also realized in a very direct way that what had till then been probation, a time of training, assessment and

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[www.altoftsmethodist.org.uk](http://www.altoftsmethodist.org.uk)

## Minister's Letter

continuing exploration, was now concluded in an acknowledgement of my position and responsibility before God in the Church, specifically, but not only, the Methodist Church of Great Britain. This responsibility includes that I now need to continue in the way I had been formed – continue to pray and learn and explore my vocation in the adventure of my life with you, the disciples of Christ, the people of God.

Did this feel different? It took a little while for me to appreciate what had happened, but then I realized that it certainly did feel different. No bells or whistles. No euphoria or an abundance of holiness (ask Celeste, she'll tell you). A bit scary, really. And I began to feel a bit of the weight of responsibility I now have before people and before God. There was also a growing settledness that what I have embarked upon is right for me at this time.

So, am I different? Yes, but not in a way I expect anyone will notice. I

am different in much the same way a person is different after baptism, whether a baby or an adult. That person's responsibility in the Church and before God is different from before their baptism, no matter how they felt or what they thought at the time. Is ordination an end of the journey or a completion? Only of probation. In every other way my journey of faith and learning

continues, just as it does for those who are baptized.

Thank you for all your prayers, cards and support during this time of preparation and my ordination. It is much appreciated. Thank you also for all your encouragement and all you do as we together explore our place in responding to God with all our lives on the mighty adventure which does not always go quite as we might have planned it.

*Rev. Barry Lotz.*



*The Revds Frank Rothwell & Barry Lotz*

## HARVEST FESTIVAL

SUNDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

10.45AM

**FAMILY SERVICE**

LED BY MRS. VANESSA STEWART  
FROM THE CHRISTIAN AFRICAN RELIEF TRUST

6.00PM

**HARVEST SONGS OF PRAISE**

We will be collecting gifts for the Christian African Relief Trust. Your gifts of educational supplies, stationery and dried food (rice in particular is requested this year) will be gratefully accepted at both services.



Churches Together Memorial Service

Altofts **Methodist Church**

Sunday 31 October at 6.00pm

*All Welcome*

# COULD YOU FILL THIS SPACE ?

If you have anything you would like to include in the next issue please let Tom have it by mid November.

Email: tomferg80@gmail.com

## Church Family News

### *Baptisms*

1 August 2010 **Millie Sophia**, daughter of Emma Bell and Gary Crummuck

### *Weddings*

31 July 2010 **Dale Gust** and **Catherine Lloyd**

### *Funerals*

5 July 2010 **Colin Armstrong**, aged 74 of Church Road  
 10 August 2010 **Gillian Joyce**, aged 62 of St. Mary's Avenue  
 11 August 2010 **Beatrice Lowe**, aged 93 of High Green Road

## New Circuit Update

The journey towards creating a new circuit continues. In true Methodist fashion several committees continue to meet to discuss and plan all that needs to be done so the new circuit can 'hit the ground running'.

One of the decisions to be made was to name the new circuit, after all we cannot continue to call it 'new' for ever. After much deliberation the steering group (the umbrella committee co-ordinating the creation of the new circuit) came up with a name for the new circuit. Subject to approval of the four circuit meetings the new circuit will be called 'The Aire and Calder Circuit'. We wanted a name that would identify where we are geographically whilst avoiding using one of the current circuit names—the obvious one being Wakefield. Aire and Calder was chosen because at least one of the rivers runs through each of the four circuits. It was also felt that the theological symbolism of water was an appropriate one. The circuit number will be 16/17. The 16 is the number of the Leeds Methodist District and the 17 is the circuit number. Currently Castleford is 16/17, Wakefield is 16/18, Pontefract & Normanton is 16/19 and Ossett & Horbury is 16/20. Methodist Standing Orders state that the lowest number will be taken when circuits come together.

Before the Aire and Calder Circuit comes into being on 1 September 2010, it is hoped that the circuit officers can be in position. If you think you would like to be a circuit steward, circuit officer, etc. please speak to Tom. There is a list of posts to be filled and an 'expression of interest' form. These will be available at and after the circuit meeting on 14 September.

The recommendation of the invitation committee is that Rev. Richard Oldroyd, currently superintendent of the Wakefield Circuit, should be invited to be Superintendent of the new circuit. This is dependent on this being passed by the current Wakefield Circuit on 15 September. Because he will be re-invited before the new circuit comes into being it is only the Wakefield Circuit Meeting that needs to approve. However, after working with Richard on the steering group, I am sure he is the right choice.

Please continue to keep those involved in creating the Aire and Calder circuit in your prayers over the coming months.

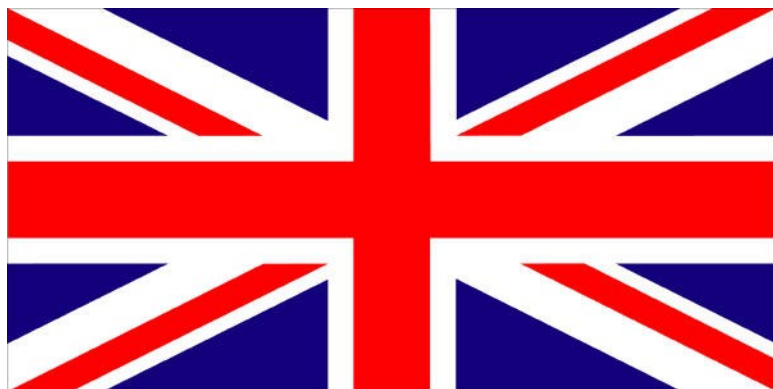
*Tom Ferguson*

*Altofts Methodist Church*

# *Last Night of the Proms*

*with*

*Altofts & Normanton Brass Band  
and  
The Music Makers*



*Saturday 25 September  
7.00pm*

*Tickets at £5.00 for adults and £2.50 for under  
16s are available from the stewards or  
telephone 891761/892213*

*Tickets must be purchased in advance.*

## The Plan

The details of Sunday services for September to November 2010 are given below. Please note there are some corrections to the circuit plan.

	5 Sep	12 Sep	19 Sep	26 Sep	
	<b>23 Ordinary</b>	<b>24 Ordinary</b>	<b>25 Ordinary</b>	<b>26 Ordinary</b>	
8:30	Harrell HC				
10:45	Wilkinson T	P Aitchison FC*	Cookson	CART F H	
6:00	Lotz HC	Miles	Aldridge	WL H SOP	
	3 Oct	10 Oct	17 Oct	24 Oct	31 Oct
	<b>27 Ordinary</b>	<b>28 Ordinary</b>	<b>29 Ordinary</b>	<b>30 Ordinary</b>	<b>All Saints</b>
8:30	Lotz HC				
10:45	Lotz F*	Wood HC	Bradley F	Towle	Lotz
6:00	Sadler	Cookson	Gordon	Lotz HC	Lotz M U
	7 Nov	14 Nov	21 Nov	28 Nov	
	<b>32 Ordinary</b>	<b>33 Ordinary</b>	<b>34 Ordinary</b>	<b>1 Advent</b>	
8:30	P Aitchison HC				
10:45	Aldridge F*	Wooffindin	Owen	Lotz FC	
6:00	Bradley	Knapper	Lotz HC	Kaiga	

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