KEIGHLEY NEW CHURCH

Founded 1789

Dedicated to the worship of the Lord Jesus Christ

Newsletter November 2026

Remembrance service Sunday 8th November 10:30am



“Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”

John15:13

"At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, we will remember them”

KEIGHLEY NEW CHURCH

Braithwaite Village,
Braithwaite Road,
Keighley,
West Yorkshire
BD22 6PX

(Please send all correspondence to the above address)

Contacts for the Church

Minister: Rev. Christine Bank

Tel: 07928047253 or 01274 772451

Email: christine.bank@generalconference.org.uk

Please contact any of the following by email:

keighleynewchurch@gmail.com

Secretary: Rev. Christine Bank

Treasurer: Mrs Kathryn Higgins

Newsletter: Mrs Janet Benson

Hall hire: Rev. Christine Bank

All ages are welcome in Church each Sunday. Our services start at 10:30 am followed by complimentary refreshments in the hall.

Church services in November

November 1st Holy Supper service
Service Leader: Rev. Christine Bank

November 8th Remembrance Sunday
Service Leader: Rev. Christine Bank

November 15th
Service Leaders: Janet Benson, Kathryn Higgins

November 22nd Toy Service
Service Leader: Rev. Christine Bank

November 29th Holy Supper service
Service Leader: Anne Clarkson

All services start at 10:30am.

The Everlasting Flower

The beauty of a flower
Although it fades and dies,
Each year is recreated
For the glory of the skies
And God in His wisdom
Saw fit to make and grow,
The everlasting flower
We have come to love and know,
So that in the winter
When the summer blooms have gone
The perfection of these flowers
Will be ours to gaze upon.

M McWilliam
Supplied by Michael Pepper

Minister's letter:

How many shopping days to Christmas?? Reducing months into 'shopping days' misses so much else. Advent is the traditional period of Christmas preparation; Advent Calendars in September alongside Halloween merchandise feels awkward. Collections held for the Royal British Legion and Remembrance events fit within a few precious days to remind the public their work of supporting service men and women, veterans and their families is really a year-round commitment.

Take Remembrance Sunday: at the core is a two-minute silence held at 11.00am and there is a great deal of planning to ensure this is managed and observed with both dignity and solemnity. Not only in Whitehall where the Cenotaph is the focal point, but at countless other locations wherever people gather at war memorials large and small.

We gather in the church and join with the broadcast from London on the radio in the morning. Our local village of Laycock hold a wreath laying at 2pm on Remembrance Sunday, briefly closing the road through the village while people gather for a time of silence and the wreath is fixed near to the memorial plaque. Most of the year it is simply the wall by the bus stop, but the wreath highlights that there is a carved memorial stone in the graveyard wall with the names of seven local men who did not return from WWI and four who never came home from WWII. Some may have relatives still in the area, others will be unfamiliar, but their names are recorded in stone and will continue to be read by future generations.

Taking a pause to remember, to reflect and to recognise that war has not gone away, that conflict is going on in many places is important. For some it may be to serve as a reminder of other conflicts, of other battles and perhaps ongoing situations which don't make much news but are nonetheless unresolved as opposing forces continue to struggle for the strength to win whatever battle is in front of them.

Minister's letter continued:

Others find memorials serve to inspire greater efforts towards peace and reconciliation, to look not for the sort of 'peace' which a strong force can impose on a weaker opponent by squashing and defeating them, but by finding ways that allow differences to be tolerated, accepted and to work towards a 'live and let live' approach.

Human beings do have strong forces within; human courage and resourcefulness can be quite incredible. There's the confidence that comes from our own certainty as to the outcome that will be most appropriate, the inner sense we are on the right track or with the best group to achieve things. We have the moral and spiritual principles which inspire and give strength in difficult times and add to this the sense of inner confidence, it becomes a formidable force. Sometimes this is at great personal cost, the sense of 'doing what is right' motivates and inspires even the most unlikely people to heroic acts.

Throughout history there have been strong, charismatic leaders who leave their own legacies. History judges the outcomes, and even this can change as interpretations of motivations, the prevailing way of thinking and subsequent generations viewing things in new ways or from very different perspectives and situations mean the true legacy or outcome isn't clear cut.

This year we move through the season of Remembrance and towards Christmas again. Do take time to prepare for Christmas, it's a special time and each year there's a familiar pattern and rhythm which families and communities share. As we enjoy thinking ahead to the end of December, keep taking time to retain an awareness of today and tomorrow, the things that happen and need our energy now will always matter.

Much love

Christine

New Church Websites

If you are looking for a deeper meaning about our daily lives or more information about spiritual development based on the Bible, you may want to browse the internet on these websites. These sites are trying to offer help in understanding this world and the next. You may even find something useful for your life or relationships with others.

www.newchristianbiblestudy.org

This site was started in 2017 under the auspices of the Pittsburgh Society of the New Church, and now carried forward by the New Christian Bible Study Corporation, an online clearing house for people who are interested in the Bible, not just in its powerful literal sense, but also in its inner, spiritual sense. The theological underpinnings of this site are based on Emanuel Swedenborg's religious works.

www.purleychasecentre.org.uk

Look through this website and you will discover a range of events, workshops and retreats



November dates for your diary

- Tuesday 3rd November and Tuesday 17th November, Craft and Chat meet in the Church hall 10am to 12pm.
- Sunday 8th November, Remembrance service.
- Sunday 8th November, Discussion group 12pm.
- Sunday 8th November, Rev. Christine Bank laying a wreath in Laycock Village at 2pm.
- Tuesday 10th November to Thursday 12th November, Rev Christine Bank attending Committee of Ministers meeting at Purley Chase.
- Thursday 12th November, Pie Day at 12:30pm in the hall.
- Saturday 14th November to Saturday 21st November, Rev Christine Bank on annual leave.
- Sunday 22nd November, Toy Service at 10:30 am.
- Monday 23rd November, Christmas card delivery, date to be arranged for that week.
- Thursday 26th November, Coffee morning 11.00 am – 1.00pm. **(Please note there will be no coffee morning in December, it will resume in January)**
- Saturday 28th November, Work Party 9.30am, includes decorating for Christmas.
- Saturday 28th November, Council meeting 12pm to 2pm.

Advance notices

- Thursday 3rd December, Carols in the Churchyard with the Salvation Army at 6:30pm. Refreshments to follow including hot chocolate, mulled wine and mince pies.

Pie day at Church Thursday 12th November at 12:30pm.

Come and join us for a pie, mash and a variety of vegetables, followed by apple crumble and custard.

There will be a list on the hall tables for your choice of pie.

Christine Bank at the Harvest Festival on Sunday 4th October with Violet Christine's Granddaughter offering her help.



Thank you to everyone who contributed food for the Salvation Army food bank.



Our Harvest Festival service.



Christmas card delivery, can you help? Week commencing Monday 23rd November.

Advance notice for Christmas services 2026

The Sundays in December include The Christmas Carol, Lessons and Carols, Favourite Carols and a Christingle service.





Sunday 29th November
1st Sunday in Advent

Sunday 6th December
The Christmas Carol 10:30 am

Sunday 13th December
Lessons and Carols 10:30 am.

Sunday 20th December
Morning Service Favourite Carols 10:30 am.
Christingle service 3:30pm

Thursday 24th December, Christmas Eve
Midnight Sacramental (Communion) Service 11:45 pm

Friday 25th December, Christmas Day
Half hour Family Celebration Service 10:30 am.

Sunday 27th December
Morning service 10:30am.

Christmas Toy service, Sunday22nd November at 10:30am, in support of the Salvation Army

All gifts must be new and unwrapped

Suggested gift list for children and young people.
We believe every child deserves a new gift at Christmas so we are unable to take used or second-hand items for the Christmas present Appeal.

- **0-3:** dolls, teddy bears, cot mobiles, baby clothes, bath toys, puzzles
- **3-5:** dolls and action figures, cars, lorries, colouring sets, pencils, crayons, books, puzzles
- **5-9:** educational games & toys, stationery (colouring sets, pencils, crayons, school sets), books, puzzles, word search, crosswords
- **9-12:** games and toys, stationery, books, t-shirts, hair accessories, gloves, scarves, hats
- **13-16:** books, make-up and toiletries (please try to ensure non-allergic ingredients if possible), gloves, scarves, hats, t-shirts, hair accessories and gift vouchers

If you would prefer to make a cash donation, this will also be forwarded to The Salvation Army Christmas appeal.

Over the years, millions of children and young people have benefited from gifts donated to The Salvation Army.
By giving a gift to our Christmas Present Appeal you can make a real difference in someone's life at Christmas.



Wanting help?

If you wish to know more about our church, or be baptised or married here, if you need comfort in sorrow or advice on personal problems, or want someone to pray with you, please ask and we will do what we can.

You will be most welcome to join in our worship or other meetings or receive a copy of our newsletter.

CONTACT – Rev Christine Bank Telephone 07928047253/ 01274772451

What does the New Church believe?

In one wise and loving **God**, who manifests as the LORD JESUS CHRIST, who shows us the Divine the qualities of love and wisdom.

Salvation means repeatedly being made new by opening our life to God, turning away from our selfish tendencies, and living a life guided by His Commandments.

The Bible is a symbolic parable of our inner life. It is to be understood spiritually rather than literally.

We are given free-will and reason so that we can choose between good and evil, truth and falsity, and we freely enter a state of heaven or hell as a result of these choices.

After we die, as our true character emerges, we shall be with those we love.