

# TODMORDEN BAPTIST HERALD

## FEBRUARY - MARCH 2025

### VALE BAPTIST CHURCH

**Contact Person:**

Mrs Carol Haughey

 01706 816557


Email: [haughey524@btinternet.com](mailto:haughey524@btinternet.com)  
[www.valebc.org.uk](http://www.valebc.org.uk)



### ROOMFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH

**Contact Person:**

Mrs Dilys Peacock

 01422 846684

Email: [dilyspeacock@gmail.com](mailto:dilyspeacock@gmail.com)  
[www.roomfieldchurch.org](http://www.roomfieldchurch.org)



It is true that we must love God with all our heart, mind, and strength, and that we must love others as much as we love ourselves. These commandments are more important than all the sacrifices and offerings that we could possibly make. Mark 12:33

# Vale Pulpit Supply

2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	10.30 am	Peter Foulds - Communion
9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10.30 am	Crawford Kirkwood
16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10.30 am	Patrick Smith
23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	10.30 am	Les Philips
2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	10:30 am	Lynne Smith - Communion
9 <sup>th</sup> Mar	10:30 am	Peter Foulds
16 <sup>th</sup> Mar	10:30 am	Clare Ashton
23 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	10:30 am	Nigel Turton
30 <sup>th</sup> Mar	10:30:am	Lynne Smith

## Why God made friends

God made the world with a heartfelt of love,  
Then He looked down from Heaven above,  
And saw that we all need a helping hand,  
Someone to share with, who'll understand.

He made special people to see us through  
The glad times and the sad times, too,  
A person on whom we can always depend,  
Someone we can call a friend.

God made friends so we'll carry a part  
Of His perfect love in all our hearts.

*Jill Wolf*

## VALE DIARY DATES

- Tue 4<sup>th</sup> Feb      7.30 pm Deacons Meeting
- Tue 25<sup>th</sup> Feb     2pm Ladies Guild AGM
- Tue 11<sup>th</sup> Mar    7.30 pm Church AGM and Deacons Election
- Sun 16<sup>th</sup> Mar    Notes for April-May Herald due today

**Faith goes up the stairs that love has built  
and looks out of the windows which hope has opened.**  
Charles Spurgeon

<p>The following regular meetings take place at Vale , All are welcome.</p>		
<b>Sunday</b>	Meeting for prayer and quiet before Church Service	9.45 am - 10.15 am
<b>Monday</b>	Elevenses, come and have a cuppa and chat in a relaxed atmosphere Community Keep Fit	10.30 am to 12 noon 4.00 - 5.00 pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	Men's Prayer meeting Prayer / Bible Study meeting at Vale Ladies Guild (4th Tuesday in the month)	10.00 am to 11.00 am 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm 2.00 pm
<b>Thursday</b>	Parent and toddler Group (Term Time only)  Tai Chi	9.30 am to 11.30 am  1.30 pm - 3 pm
<b>Friday</b>	Prayer for our Community  Rock Solid Youth Church	10.30 am - 11.30 am  7.00 pm - 8.30 pm
<b>Saturday</b>	Men's breakfast	8.30 am to 10.00 am

**“I have learned in whatever situation I am  
to be content.” *Phil 4:11***

I would like to wish all our readers a happy 2025, but maybe given the uncertain times in which we are living, it would be better to wish you peaceful hearts instead. News at home is not very positive at the moment. In the wake of a budget that seems to have backfired, we face economic uncertainty, personally and nationally.

Internationally Ukraine is facing another year of war with Russia, while Putin’s own position can hardly be called rosy. War continues between Israel and the various Arab nation surrounding them. While other nations have or are facing natural disasters, our thoughts and prayers are with California fighting the worst forest fires in memory.

As Christians it sometimes feels as if God has lost the plot. 30 years ago David and I were about to embark on a major change in our lives. We needed the last piece of the jigsaw puzzle to fall into place. Then just when we thought he had forgotten we needed somewhere to live as we took the next step, a house became available in the ideal place for getting the bus to places I would need to be.

Fast forward to my final year of ministry training, and I was looking for a church who needed a minister. Remembering previous provision, I hung on to the conviction that God was preparing the right place for me. Indeed it turned out that cogs had been turning for some years before I even felt the call to ministry. Vale had been left a legacy which enabled them to employ a minister. I could not have found a more fulfilling place to go.

God rarely allows us to see more than one step ahead when he is unfolding his plans for us and the world we live in. So while events may try our faith and patience, God is at work even when it feels otherwise, and when he acts it may well take us by surprise. Remember the Berlin Wall coming down, and later the fall of Ceausescu? Both events seemed to come out of the blue. God knows what he is doing; all we have to do is trust him.

***Kath Lawson***

# Vale News

## Family News

Rev Kath Lawson took our Christmas Remembrance service which was a lovely one. The service was well attended, and people wrote names or messages on the card candles then put them on the Christmas tree.

We enjoyed Patrick Smith leading our Christmas Day service and Lynne took our last 2024 service on December 29th.

## Eleveneses

On the 9th of December, the children from Cornholme School came to entertain us with Christmas songs and carols. They were absolutely delightful, full of energy and enthusiasm and a credit to their dedicated teachers. We were happy to welcome parents and grand parents who came along and enjoyed themselves.

We look forward to seeing everyone again next year.

The following week ,we held our Christmas party, with festive food and hearty singing .Donations totalling £270 were sent to Hope and Homes for Children, a charity dedicated to rehoming children living in horrendous conditions in orphanages. Thank you everyone once again for your amazing generosity.

Christine C

## Waterside Lodge

Thank you to the "choir of angels" who came along to entertain the nresidents on the 18th of Decemder, and to Ruth and Kevin for musical support. After the singing,people were able to renew friendships and enjoy refreshments.

## Ladies' Guild

Our 2025 sessions start on March 25th with a Members' meeting and the AGM. Please would the ladies bring a story or poem to share?

Nigel Turton is booked for April 22nd and his talk is entitled 'Breaking Out'. This will be an interesting glimpse into Nigel's work.

**Flowers** for the end of November were provided by Cath and family in memory of mum Pam and John. For December by Diane Morris in memory of her dad Bill and by Margaret Noble and family in memory of Violet. For the beginning of January, the family of Albert Yates provided the flowers. Thanks to everyone for your donations and to our friends who wish to remain anonymous.

The next church meeting will be on Tuesday 11th March at 7.30 pm and will be our A.G.M and deacons election.. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

### **Might it be called wisdom?**

It's as we approach old age,  
I think, that we see at last  
the loveliness of things  
once overlooked.

There are moments  
minor epiphanies  
not remarkable in themselves  
that lodge in the memory  
to be recalled long afterwards.

And still I know neither where I am  
nor why

nor does it matter.

Joy Mead, from Words and Wonderings

Donations towards the cost of producing the Herald for the year would be gratefully received by David Lawson.  
A suggested amount is £2 00 for the year.

Smiling is infectious,  
You catch it like the flu,  
When someone smiled at me today,  
I started smiling too.

I passed around the corner,  
And someone saw me grin,  
When he smiled I realised,  
I'd passed it on to him.

I thought about that smile,  
Then realised it's worth,  
A single smile just like mine,  
Could travel round the earth.

So if you feel a smile begin,  
Don't leave it undetected,  
Let's start an epidemic quick,  
And get the world infected.

*Spike Milligan*



### **Enfolded in His love**

The love of God surrounds us like the air we breathe around us,  
As near as a heartbeat, as close as a prayer,  
And whenever we need Him, He'll always be there.

## I Prayed for Thee Today



I prayed for thee today,  
To the God Who has all power  
That He would keep thee close to Him  
And strengthen Thee this hour,  
And that thou be conformed to Christ  
In Whom thy life is hid  
And reflect to all, the Father's love  
As Christ our Saviour did.  
I prayed that thou might know Him well  
And delight thyself in Him  
Who sacrificed Himself for thee  
And cleansed thee of thy sin  
I prayed thy eyes be lifted high  
To Him enthroned above  
Until He brings us home to Him  
Upon His beams of love.

**Vicki Baird**