

The Highlander

July - August 2017

“Lo, I am with you always”

Matthew 28 v 20

Don't forget Him on your holiday !



Sunday Worship in July 2017

2nd	9.30	Breakfast Time Fellowship at Highlands
	10.30	Morning Worship - Maureen Gutteridge
9th	10.30	Parade Service - Worship Leaders
16th	10.30	Morning Worship - Rev Chris Reeve
	4.00	Circuit Farewell Service at Rayleigh Methodist
23rd	10.30	Section Communion Service at Highlands - Rev Pete Moorhouse
30th	10.30	Cafe Church - Kathy McCullough

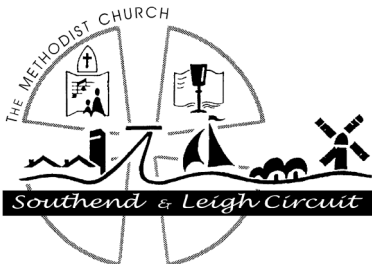
“ Crafty Church ” meets at 10.30 am on Sundays

For young people - meeting Jesus through art and craft

No. 828 Vol. LXVXIV



Come in and FaceTime with Jesus



The Highlander is published by Highlands Methodist Church, Sutherland Blvd, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, SS9 3PT. Highlands Methodist Church is a member church of the *Southend and Leigh Circuit*, 34/10, which is part of the Beds., Essex and Herts. District.

**Highlands Methodist Church
Hospitality in the Midst of our Community**

Minister	Rev. Julia Monaghan	483827
Secretary to Church Council	Patrick Smith	557702
Church Stewards	Lesley/Andrew Hyde	473111
	Jean/Frank Edmonds	525250
	Steve Jones	553898
	Kathy McCullough	714528
	Donald Mayes	473787
Worship Leaders	Jennifer Courtenay	556140
	Frank Edmonds	525250
Church Treasurer	Janet Watson	555702
Property Co-ordinator	Anne Lane	01268 565644
	e-mail: annelane8@btinternet.com	
Crafty Church Leaders	Jean Edmonds	525250
	Ros Bryant	478631
Pastoral Co-ordinator	Maureen Kelly	556152
Church Flowers	Jean Edmonds	525250
Lettings/Use of Premises	Les Davis	558381
Mission Enabler for Older Persons	Julie Peek	479804
Website :	www.highlandsmethodist.org.uk	

All items for the September 2017 issue of *The Highlander* should be handed in writing to **Frank Edmonds** (or put in the "E" section of the pigeon box in Jubilee Room) latest 10.30 a.m. **Sunday 20th August 2017**. Preferably, items may be emailed to frank66thecroft@sky.com
The *Highlander* will be ready for distribution on **Sunday 27th August 2017**.



A Message from your Minister

RETUNING



Dear Readers,

I write this on the hottest day of the year, reflecting that this is weather for the beach and not for dog collars and work. Still, not long now until a week away in France and an opportunity to recharge the batteries after a full and eventful year.

Though in terms of spiritual refreshment, I don't know whether *recharging the batteries* is the right image to be thinking on. Batteries are items that we need to supply ourselves with in order to make things work - as we often discover to our irritation, when we unpack whatever we have bought and find we should have read the small print that tells us, "Batteries not included".

Rechargeable batteries don't work forever either. Sooner or later they lose their capacity for supplying energy. Our Christian faith on the other hand, however we have embraced it, whether through baptism or some other form of commitment, connects us straight to the mains, the source of Life! The love of God, shown to us supremely through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, embraces us in the life-giving power of the Holy Spirit, as she fills our lives with assurance and confidence in Christ.

The challenge is that our reception gets distorted through the static of life, stuff, our preoccupations, and the interference of our busyness! So from time to time, we need to retune and clean and sharpen up our contact points.

That I think is a more helpful picture, because it reminds us that the initiative always lies with God. All we are called to do is respond. Our responsibility lies in making ourselves as open and receptive as we can be to God's gift of life. Spiritual writer, Ann Lewin, says that hymns like '*Father hear the prayer we offer,*' put in front of us a spirituality which leaves us no time for resting in God to sharpen up our contact points. She has therefore rewritten the hymn, and I offer it here to you for reflection.

P.T.O.

A Message from your Minister - continued

The Prayer We Offer

*Not for ease? Why not?
What's wrong with ease?
For most of us the
Problem is not self-indulgence,
But that we allow ourselves too little.
Prohibitions, counsels of perfection,
Drive us and load us up with guilt.*

*Time enough for courageous living
And all that rock-smiting.
Let's rest and wander in green pastures
When we find them, make the space
To let ourselves be loved;
Build up our strength
And grow in confidence;
Drink living water springing in
Great fountains;
Feed on the Bread of Life which satisfies.*

*Then we shall have provision
For the journey, and at last
Arrive, not too unpracticed
In the art of resting
In His presence.*

God bless you Rev Julia x

Rev Julia Monaghan - Sabbatical

Please note that Rev Julia will be on her Sabbatical from 1st October until 10th November 2017. She will be back in action on Remembrance Sunday. We wish her a fulfilling, relaxing time with an opportunity to recharge her batteries. If that is the correct phrase (see Message from the Minister".



Prayer

We pray for our friends who are ill, housebound or bereaved and for those in residential care: Pat Gare *in Admirals Court*, Marie Moore at *Archers Court* in Hitchin and Margaret Ross at *Memory House*. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and their families at this time.

Congratulations

To Margaret Ross who celebrated her 90th birthday on 12th June. She undertook many duties at Highlands including teaching the Beginners Sunday School for 18 years



We send our congratulations "down under" to Ester (nee Barter) and Andrew Willims on the arrival of Daniel Johann Henry Willims born on 26th May at 00:21 local time.

A second grandson to proud grandparents Mary and Bruce Barter and a cousin for Peter Barter



SPRING COFFEE MORNING and PLANT SALE

Congratulations to everyone who contributed to a successful day on 27th May. Despite a heavy shower at the outset you raised £408.30.

Well done.

CIRCUIT FAREWELL SERVICE

On Sunday 16th July at 4.00pm at Rayleigh Methodist Church we say farewell to Rev Norman Hooks, as he enters retirement and Rev Phil Warrey as he moves on to be a Superintendent in the West Country. Both of these ministers have made a huge contribution to the work of this Circuit and they will be greatly missed. All are welcome to join in wishing them well in the future.



Dates to Remember

Knit and Natter Social Group

We are a friendly group of ladies who meet on Tuesday morning from 10am to noon during term time. Some of us knit, some crochet and some of us just natter.

We enjoy each other's company and a cup of coffee/tea and biscuit. You will be made very welcome if you would like to join us.



Highlands Hobbies

We meet from 10.30 am on 6th July to continue our activities in arts and crafts, also some flower arranging. We follow with lunch for those who wish to stay. There is always coffee, tea, cake and plenty of chat. If you would just like to relax with us the latest craze is adult colouring.

Our spin off Pin Point ladies show us how the banner is coming on and are looking for plenty of needlework help from organisations who meet at Highlands

On 20th July we also meet from 10.30 To 12.30 pm. as well as 3rd and 17th August.

All are welcome

Jean 525250 - Ros 478631



MOTHs

We are now on holiday until September. Have a happy holiday.

Pin Point - the new Venture

On Wednesday 12th July at 10.30 at the HUB we will continue with our banner making and all things to do with needlecraft led by Teresa Rutterford and Glenis. We welcome all who have an interest. We also meet on Wednesday 26th July and then every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. The August dates will be 9th and 23rd.



Highlands HUB

We are waiting to serve you a special coffee or a refreshing cold drink at our Wednesday Hub morning from 10.00 to 12.30.

Take a break from your busy life, look in for a chat or information about Highlands through the week.

ABRSM exams

The church has been booked for the following dates:- 30th June, 4th to 7th July and 11th to 15th July. Stewards will be needed, Please check the list in the Jubilee Room to see when you can help.

Original Woodwind Ensemble

The annual *Pudding Concert* will be on Sunday 16th July in the church at 2.00pm.



Summer Entertainment

There will be a Sing-a-long in August with tea/cake - watch out for further details.

See Ros for more details !

Other Highlands dates

Sunday 8th October - Harvest Festival
Sunday 22nd October - Church Anniversary
Saturday 25th November - Christmas Fair

Circuit Events

Saturday 22nd July - ALLEGRO Charity Concert at Wesley Methodist

Further details in the Jubilee Room
or the Circuit website at
www.southendandleigh.org

Alternative Worship

Belfairs Methodist Church - "Thirsty For ???" - 2nd Thursday
Next date — 13th July at 7.00 pm

+ + + +

Wesley Methodist Church - Informal Worship - 4th Tuesday
Next date - 25th July at 8.00 pm

+ + + +

The Fishermen's Chapel - Gospel Choir Service - 2nd Sunday
Next date - 9th July at 7.30 pm

Chapel of St Peter-on-the-Wall, Bradwell

Presents a Harp concert
featuring Lynne Creasey & Harvey Nightingale, baritone
on Sunday 9th July 2017
with afternoon tea from 3.30 pm and an
Evening Service at 6.30 pm
Further details in the Jubilee Room



Future Committee Meetings:

Family - 11th September at 8.00 pm
Church Council - 19th September at 8.00 pm
Property & Finance - 25th September at 8.00 pm
Pastoral - 26th September at 10.00 am

Monthly Movies @ Highlands

A HIGHLANDS WEDNESDAY HUB EVENT

Wednesday 19th July "**Summer Holiday**" at 1.30pm

Borrowing a double decker bus for a mobile home, four young mechanics search for fun in the sun from London to Athens. Bachelor Boy, Cliff Richard dons his dancing shoes and brings a beat to the beach in the breeziest Summer Holiday on record!

This Summer feel good film will get us all in the mood for warmer weather and I will be expecting you all to sing-along with Cliff with the legendary title song.

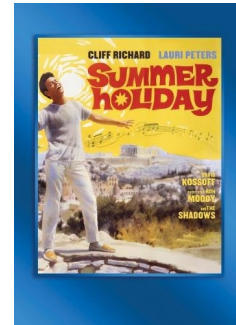
A FREE event (come from 12 noon with your picnic lunch and enjoy some soup. Tea and coffee also available)

Regards

Julie Peek

Mission Enabler for Older People

Wesley & Highlands Methodist Churches



Holidaying at Home at Highlands 2017



presents

"Bring me Sunshine"



Holidaying at Home has returned to Highlands again this summer. We set the bar for fun so high last year I have really enjoyed trying to make this years event similar yet different.

"Bring me Sunshine" is a reference to the fact we are going to get you smiling with a little bit of nostalgia, a gentle stroll and for those that want to; a dance down memory lane with "Dancing through the Decades" show.

We also have what I hope to be an interesting talk entitled "Letters from a Leigh Rectory", a U3A shared learning project with Leigh Heritage Society with tales of parish life of a Leigh on Sea Rectors wife.

There will be Fish and Chips for lunch followed by a Puppetry performance hot from Marlborough Puppetry Festival where Marlborough has been celebrating 70 years of Pelham Puppets.

If you would like to book a place please do not hesitate to call me on 01702 479804 **Julie Peek**

Bring me Sunshine

memoirs
from
Leigh

Puppet
Cabaret

Dancing
through the
Decades

Fish n
Chips



HOLIDAYING

AT HOME

HIGHLANDS METHODIST
CHURCH

WEDNESDAY 16TH AUGUST

10.30AM TIL 3.30PM

COST £7.50 PER PERSON

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE TELEPHONE JULIE ON 01702 479804

This not for profit event has been planned for the older people of Leigh on Sea by the
Older peoples worker for Wesley & Highlands Methodist Churches

Coffee Mornings in July

Saturday 1st	Music at Highlands
Saturday 8th	Action for Children
Saturday 15th	Church
Saturday 22nd	Knit and Natter
Saturday 29th	t.b.a.

Coffee Mornings in August

Saturday 5th	Mission
Saturday 12th	t.b.a
Saturday 19th	t.b.a.
Saturday 26th	Church

Community Day

Thank you to all who contributed or looked in on our Community Day. It was great to come together with the *Showstoppers* who sat with our ladies from Hobbies doing flower arranging and craft and through the day entertained us with songs from the shows. We enjoyed the tea, coffee and lovely cakes, also a delicious buffet lunch sharing at tables set in our church and open to all.

Our Rev Julia spent time with us seeing what we all get up to in the week. She also had the chance to catch up with Father James from St Luke's church in Southend, where *Showstoppers* meet every Wednesday. They meet every Thursday at Highlands when the Hobbies Group has formed a special relationship with them all. Father James was very taken with our wall hangings made by Rev Teresa.

The *Art Group* came in to share the afternoon tea with us, many of them moved to tears by Glenn's performance of *Vincent*.

Andrew, Georgie, Tammy and all from *Showstoppers* had a great day and went on Facebook with many photos thanking the wonderful *Highlands*. If you missed the day maybe we will see you next year.

Flower Rota for July 2017

<u>Date</u>	<u>Donated by</u>	<u>In memory of</u>	<u>Arranged by</u>
2nd		Church Flowers	Jean
9th	Maureen Kelly	Michael & Peter	Jean
16th	Dorothy Allen	John	Jean
23rd	Sandra Harrison	Ken & Parents	Pauline
30th		Church Flowers	Margaret

Flower Rota for August 2017

<u>Date</u>	<u>Donated by</u>	<u>In memory of</u>	<u>Arranged by</u>
6th		Section Service at Belfairs	
13th	Bruce Barter	Kathleen	Mary
20th		Section Service at Wesley	
27th	Frank & Jean	Brian	Jean

Family Committee

The Family Committee are in need of a chair person to take over from me in September. The committee have about 3 or 4 meetings a year in which we discuss what is going on at Highlands as a church and hear about what the cub/scouts and the brownies/guides are getting up to. The committee also discuss the fundraising events such as Coffee Morning Plus and the Christmas Fayre. It is not an onerous role.

If you want to talk to me about the role or if you feel you can be a chair person of this committee then please contact me on 01268 565644 or by email annelane8@btinternet.com

Thank you ***Anne Lane***

ALLEGRO CHARITY CONCERT AT WESLEY

On Saturday 22nd July there will be a fund raising concert with funds going equally between Action for Children and Wesley Building Fund. Last year Highlands hosted a similar concert which was excellent. ALLEGRO give their services free of charge and have raised a lot of money for charity locally.

The theme this year is "Trains, Boats and Planes."

Tickets at £10 are available now from Eileen Simmons.

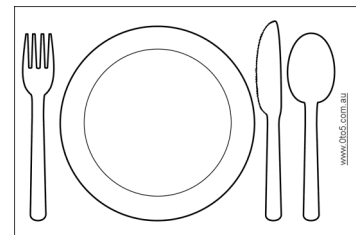
CHARITY MEAL at AFFINITY RESTAURANT

A meal has been arranged at *Affinity Restaurant* for Monday 21st August at 7.00 pm.

The evening will consist of a drink when you arrive followed by a 3 course meal with tea/coffee to follow (other drinks are at your own expense) - £20.00 a head.

It is essential that you book with Ros Bryant or Anne Lane (01268 755291)

This event is in aid of Highlands Methodist Church and Thundersley Methodist Church (Foyer Extension).



 **MEMORY WORSHIP**

.....
Worship for those with
and without Dementia
.....

2PM - 4PM
3RD MONDAY OF THE MONTH



Serving the Homeless / HARP

The very enjoyable Afternoon Tea arranged on 8th June raised £571.

Unexpectedly, Serving the Homeless has also received £700 from the Southend Charity Football Competition as we were the nomination of Bridgemarsh Reserves FC who won their division.

In addition we received £352 from the East Essex Players as a result of an Indian Meal in Benfleet.

We are very grateful for all this additional support.

Our Summer Raffle tickets are now available and the draw will take place on Monday 4th September. The prizes include a Meat Hamper, Selection of Spirits and Wines, Hamper of Italian food and wine, together with numerous other prizes. Get your tickets now for £1 each.

Further fund raising events include:-

Indian Meal at the Shagor Restaurant on 14th September

Jazz Evening on Saturday 7th October at our Lady of Lourdes Parish Centre

An evening of **Songs from the Musicals** on Saturday 18th November.

Thank you for your continued prayers and items at the back of the church. There is still an urgent need for smaller sizes of clothing, including underwear, together with trainers, jeans, sunscreen and toiletries.

I append an extract of a Report from HARP on 5th June this year.

As of 5/6/17 HARP has 174 units of accommodation.

50 units are to be used as part of the 'House First' model to address the problem of persistent rough sleepers. These units have few conditions that have to be complied with and are therefore more likely to succeed with the harder cases.

Last year the "Bradbury Centre" assisted 1104 people. The numbers seeking help has declined for a number of reasons, one being that HARP is more successful in getting people into housing that they can sustain, therefore they are less likely to become homeless again. The 'stock' of homeless people is therefore gradually being whittled down. However new cases are presenting all the time.

*Of the 1104 assisted last year **57%** were found to have mental health problems. It is now the main presenting factor and is increasingly so among young women.*

Of the whole group, 578 were of no fixed abode, i.e. sofa-surfing etc. 400 were at risk of losing their tenancy and 126 were sleeping rough.

*The report on the Winter Shelter programme was very positive. HARP believe that their policy has been successful. The numbers show that **128** people used the Churches Winter Night Shelters. Of these:*

124 worked with HARP services. 52% have now been housed

8 have accessed employment

18 have been placed in Treatment programmes

*The average stay was **16 nights**. The overall number of people using the night shelters, including the Shelter at the Bradbury was **217**.*

The Service Manager's Report showed 326 clients accessing meaningful activities run by HARP. 45 people had found sustainable work. Some had transferred to council accommodation. Examples given included a client (female) who had presented with mental health issues, who had completed their 'Heads Up' course and subsequently was able to complete her Masters Dissertation and is now in council accommodation. Another client (male) had been asked to leave the family home by his mother, who was embarking on a new relationship. He had been sleeping rough, and then took an overdose. He was put in the Night Shelter at the Bradbury then moved into a HARP property, then the Acorn project and finally into Council accommodation. This young man had somehow managed to maintain a part-time job throughout this terrible period.

The other main points:

The Acorn project, which houses 30 young people(predominately 18-25) is now under discussion as the properties in York Road owned by Estuary Housing are due to be redeveloped in 12- 18 months as the existing stock is no longer in a fit state. This would leave 30 young people without accommodation until the rebuild was finished. HARP are therefore looking to purchase a new site in Southchurch Avenue and develop a 'Halls of Residence' type building so that there would be somewhere for these clients to live while Estuary redevelops their site. Discussions are in an advanced stage. The two developments would eventually add an additional 30+ units of accommodation for HARP.

Finally, Ceylon house is having an extension built which will provide 7 more rooms and the White Heather House Project is nearing completion with 11 ladies already in residence.

Thank you for your support of prayers and items at the back of the church.

Frank Edmonds



Serving the Homeless

Charity no 1018354

‘Summer Bonanza’ Draw

Buy a raffle ticket and help us to support local homelessness projects at HARP, Southend YMCA & The Churches Winter Shelters

Prizes to be won include: a Meat Hamper, a selection of Wines and Spirits, an Italian food and wine Hamper, and many smaller prizes.



Tickets £1

Contact : Frank Edmonds (01702 525250)

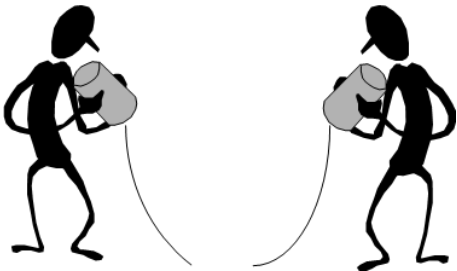
or Phone Linda 558217 for tickets

Draw to take place on 4th September 2017



Are you a **less than perfect**

Pastoral Visitor?



Do you sometimes feel **at a loss for words?**



Are you afraid

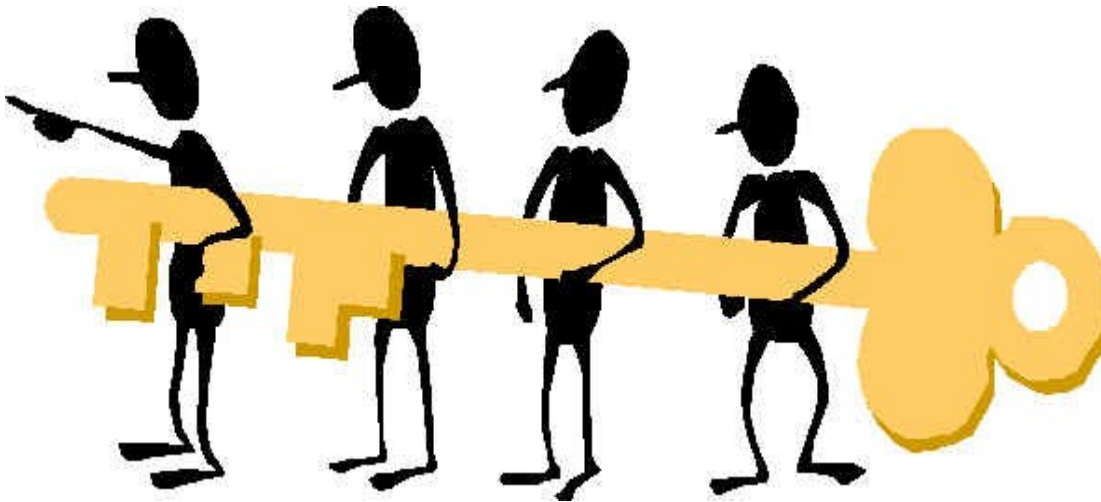
of **putting your foot in it?**



Do you feel **overwhelmed** in encouraging spiritual growth?

Answered **YES** to any of these? **READ ON!!!!**

Come along to Belfairs and enjoy food and good humoured discussion with others who feel the same.



Brush up your Pastoral Skills

A Three Part Refresher

Where?.....Belfairs

When?Wednesdays, August 9th,

September 6th, November 22nd

Starts at?1.30 with a light buffet lunch

Who's in charge?.....Julia!

Do Come!

Contact Anthea Meek 01702 476140 a.m.meek@blueyonder.co.uk

To reserve a place.



Sea Sunday – 15th July

Look around your home. How much of the contents in your cupboards, wardrobe, rooms, and even garage came to you over the seas, via the great merchant ships? What would your home be like without them? Yet when did you last give a thought to the people who bring them to you.

It is a curious fact that seafarers are one of the most important, and yet invisible people groups in our society. We all of us depend on them to fill our homes and businesses with an endless variety of goods, and yet we never see them, never speak to them, and rarely even remember their existence .

It suddenly makes *Sea Sunday* seem good sense: an annual opportunity to give thanks for the seafarers of the world, and to pray for their personal well-being. For going to sea is a lonely occupation. It separates families for months on end. It can sometimes be dangerous, and is always physically demanding work.

So this month, on *Sea Sunday*, let's pause and give thanks to God for the seafarers of the world. Let's remember how their work so enriches our lives. Let's pray for them, for their families, and let's support the organisations that offer them care and support through their chaplaincy work.

In doing so, we will join with thousands of other Christians, from London to Lagos, Manila to Melbourne and Durban to Dunkerque, who each year remember the seafarers who make our prosperity possible.

Still Lost in Translation

For those of you travelling this summer, look out for similar signs!

In a New York medical building: Mental Health Prevention Centre

On the menu of a Swiss restaurant: Our wines leave you nothing to hope for.

In a Baltimore clothing store: Wonderful bargains for men with 16 or 17 necks.

In a Paris hotel elevator: Please leave your values at the front desk.

Parish Pump

Serving the Community 7 Days a Week



Children and Young People

Toddlers Group, Monday	9.30-11.30a.m.	Margaret Wood	557512
		e-mail contact :-	
		highlandstoddlers@hotmail.co.uk	
Rainbows Wednesday	4.00-5.00 p.m.	Karen Packer	474151
Brownies Wednesday:	5.30-7.00 p.m.	Dilys Haddow	710207
Cub Scouts Thursday:	5.45-7.15 p.m.	Lesley Hyde	473111
Scouts Thursday:	7.30 p.m.	Sally Monk	558857
Rangers Alternate Thursdays	7.30 p.m.	Jacqui Hendle	557147
Guides Friday:	7.00 p.m.	Jacqui Hendle	557147

Fellowship Groups

Housegroup meets on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays.

Services to the Community

Regular Sunday Worship

Tuesday Morning Prayer Service at 9.00 a.m.

Midweek Communion :-

2nd Wednesday Belfairs Methodist Church at 9.00 am

3rd Wednesday Wesley Methodist Church at 9.00 am

Highlands Hub : Wednesday from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm in the Jubilee Room

Coffee mornings: Saturday from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon in the Church

Coffee is also available to visitors to the Craft Group on Tuesdays and Hobbies on Thursdays

Traidcraft : Catalogue available for orders. Please contact Pamela and Patrick Smith - 557702.

Social and Recreational

Knit and Natter Group Tuesday 10.00 a.m.-12 noon (*Sept.-July*) Sylvia 01702 556433

Badminton Club Monday 8.00 p.m. Sarah 01702 476009

or Sophia 07796 265676

Hobbies 1st & 3rd Thursday 10.30 a.m. - 12.30p.m. Jean 01702 525250

Ladies Badminton Friday 10.00 a.m. Dilys 01702 710207

MOTHs (*Meet on Tuesdays at Highlands*) 2nd Tuesday 2.15 p.m.

Adult Art Classes Thursday 2 - 4 p.m. Susan 07875 079739

Children's Art Club Thursday 4 - 5 p.m. or 01702 551025

**Goodness is the only
investment that never fails**

Henry David Thoreau

The Highlander

Father, I place into your hands
 the things I cannot do.
 Father I place into your hands
 the times that I've been through
 Father I place into your hands
 the way that I should go,
 for I know I always can trust you.

STF 519



shutterstock - 183790889

Sunday Worship in August 2017

6th	9.30 11.00	Breakfast Time Fellowship at Highlands <u>Section Service of Holy Communion at Belfairs</u> - Rev Julia Monaghan
13th	10.30	Morning Worship - Jane Fulford
20th	11.00	<u>Section Service of Holy Communion at Wesley</u> - Rev Julia Monaghan
27th	10.30	Morning Worship - Worship Leaders

www.highlandsmethodist.org.uk

“



Crafty Church ” meets at 10.30 am on Sundays
 For young people - meeting Jesus through art and craft

Come in and FaceTime with Jesus