

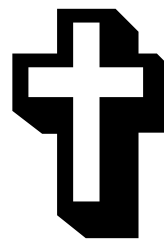
The Methodist Church – Bristol District

Upper Thames Circuit

Monthly Newsletter

No 18

April 2015



My dear friends

I am sure the months are getting shorter - it only seems a few days since I last sat down to write my submission for the circuit newsletter. In the next few weeks there is a lot happening in the life of the Upper Thames Circuit. I am excited that on 11th April at 6.00pm we will begin our 24hrs of prayer ending in the Circuit Service at Cricklade United Church on 12th at 6.00pm. It is especially exciting to see that churches from right across the circuit have signed up for prayer during the twenty four hours. During the service on 12th we will be looking for people to share briefly from around the circuit what God has been doing or saying. If you have something to share please speak to Bob or email Bob and Keith (contact details at the end of the newsletter. As if 24 hours of prayer were not enough, the following weekend sees an opportunity to learn all about the "Inspire Network" in a day at Royal Wootton Bassett on 18th April, led by Revd Sharon Lovelock. There are more details elsewhere in this newsletter, suffice for me to say, if you can possibly get along to this it really is a must. "Inspire" seeks to give the tools we all need for living truly transformed lives, it takes us back to the early days of The Methodist Movement, encouraging the set-up of Bands and Classes and supporting their development in the lives of individuals and churches.

Also of interest to those in the north Swindon Parliamentary constituency will be the Hustings meeting being organised by Highworth Churches Together at 7.30pm on Tuesday 28th April. As I write 4 of the 5 candidates have agreed to come along and answer questions. For the first time in my life I really do not know which way I should vote and so this will be an opportunity to tease out those important issues with those who seek to represent us.

So far we have covered prayer, Discipleship groups and politics, how about finishing with a word from Jesus? It is always good to let him have the last word. As Holy Week approaches, with the Last Supper, arrest, trial and crucifixion of Jesus, we look forward to Easter Sunday and the story of the resurrection, I am reminded that Jesus declared himself in John 14 to be the Way, the Truth and the Life, and in John 11 the Resurrection and the Life. He is the way to the Father and He is the Truth of the Father. In Him is life eternal, through the resurrection of the dead. And as they say, the proof of pudding is in the eating, the proof of what Jesus claimed is in his resurrection from the dead on that first day of the week. Amen and thanks be to God, Father Son and Holy Spirit.

May Jesus the risen Lord, meet with you this Easter time and may he travel with you on your daily journey.

God's blessing be with you

Keith

NB: The deadline for items for the April newsletter is Friday 17th April.

DISTRICT NEWS/EVENTS:

Valedictory and Welcome Services for District Chair(s)

There will be a valedictory service for Rev Ward Jones at 3.30pm on Sunday 12th July in Clifton Cathedral and a welcome Service for his successor, Rev Dr Jonathan Pye, at 7.30pm on Tuesday 1st September in Bristol Cathedral. If there are sufficient numbers wishing to attend these services, transport (in the form of coach/minibus) could be arranged. Senior Church Stewards have been asked to complete a form for each event, identifying numbers for whom transport is required. So if you would like to attend either or both of these events, please contact your Senior Church Steward.

The Key – Training Event

This training day is CRUCIAL for ALL those working with children and young people who have not attended any 'introduction to children's and youth work' training in the last 5 years. Methodist Church Standing Orders suggest that engaging with this kind of training is mandatory along with the Safeguarding training.

It's also a great opportunity to reflect on what you do, to meet other people in similar roles and have the chance to share stories with each other. It's fun and informative, providing practical ideas and gives space for reflection and problem solving. If you have attended similar training many years ago (such as Spectrum or Kaleidoscope) then we still strongly encourage you to attend this as an essential refresher.

It costs just £5 per person.

For further information, please see poster which was sent as an attachment to the email to which this newsletter was also attached.

You can book by going to <http://www.bristol.anglican.org/event/the-key/> Complete the booking form, click 'submit', then pay on the day.

Don't hesitate to contact Emma Mills if you have any further queries or just to let her know you are hoping to attend.

Bristol District Youth Event

Leap & Learn

This DAY EVENT has been put together as a direct response to the young people of the Methodist Church stating that they wanted to learn more about mental health. They identified that they would also like their youth leaders and churches to have more information in order to be better equipped to support them. The young people have identified "high rope" outdoor activities as something they are particularly interested in which is why we are off to "Leap of Faith" at "The Wild Place".

£10 for the full day, including lunch, is a BARGAIN PRICE. For further information, please see poster which was sent as an attachment to the email to which this newsletter was also attached.

If you know of young people in a Methodist Church who might be interested, who aren't involved in a youth group, then they are of course welcome. Ministers & Church Leaders are also invited to attend with their young people. There will be activities on the ground at the 'Leap & Learn' activity centre so those who don't like heights can still actively participate.

Please drop Emma Mills a line sometime between now and the deadline to let her know if you are planning on bringing a group, to give her a rough idea of numbers well in advance.

Bristol District Children & Youth NEWS UPDATE

Full details concerning all the news can be found as an appendix to this newsletter. Unfortunately it arrived too late to be included in the March edition.

CIRCUIT NEWS/EVENTS:

Circuit Plan Amendments

The Circuit Service on 12th April will be at 6.00pm, not 6.30pm as shown in the Plan.

On 17th May the morning service at Shrevenham Methodist Church will be a Local Arrangement, in place of Rev Clive Deverell (who, despite his many talents, cannot be in two places at once!).

Lay Worker Update

RESOURCES FOR MISSION AND DISCIPLESHIP

The Circuit was disappointed to receive the news that the District Grants Committee declined to commit funds for our lay work programme when they met earlier this month. This clearly has implications for our plans for the Circuit.

We met as the Circuit leadership team on 30th March and agreed that we should take time to reflect and pray about this matter. We will also be seeking further understanding from the District Grants Committee.

Please join with us as we pray for wisdom and struggle in discerning the way in which God is leading us in the light of this news.

Pray that we might know whether to pursue our plans in faith that He will provide;

Pray that we might know whether to return to the Committee with alternative applications for funds and whether we should proceed to seek resources from other bodies;

Pray that He will guide us further, if this news is a signal from Him that we should revise our plans and seek to fulfil our calling to mission and ministry in another way.

Pray that we might be as "prudent as serpents and guileless as doves" – knowing both the wisdom and gentleness of God (Matthew 10 v16) as we explore the way forward.

Andrew Fleet

Hi Jinks Adventure Weekend

More than 40 young people and a dozen leaders from Highworth and Blunsdon enjoyed a fantastic weekend of fun, friendship and exploring faith at Legge House in Wroughton from 20th – 22nd March. We were blessed with fine weather for our night hike, 'Where's Wally?' treasure hunt, soap box go karts, paintball target shooting and camp fire. And further blessed to see young lives touched by God as we explored The Armour of God (Ephesians 6:10-18) together. Plans are already afoot for a bigger and better adventure next year!

Inspire Discipleship Day

Come and join us on **Saturday 18th April** from 10.00 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. at Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church. The aim of this day is to help us as Christians take more responsibility, and be more accountable to ourselves and God for our individual spiritual growth. It will give us some clear practical guidance about how that can happen. This is a 21st century understanding of Wesley's ideas on discipleship and mission. Our speaker is the Reverend Sharon Lovelock, the Inspire Leader for the Bristol District. She is a lively and effective communicator and will share a Vision for mission shaped Discipleship. This is promising to be a day when we will learn of God and share together what He is calling us to do in our Churches and beyond. It will look at growth and spiritual disciplines as well as the way in which we share in fellowship and engage in mission. Not to be missed! Bring your packed lunch and enjoy a thorough worthwhile day which, with God's lead, will inspire us for the future!

Circuit 24 hour Prayer

We have had a wonderfully positive response from the Churches for the 24 hours of prayer on **11th April** leading up to the Circuit Service on **12th April**. Some are opening their churches, some our praying at home in their time slots and there has been a real sense that God is calling us to this discipline of Prayer for our Circuit. Thank you.

The completed rota of church commitment for these 24 hours is attached. We are also sending, as attachments to the email to which this newsletter was attached, the following documents, which should be provided to all those who have agreed to pray in your Church (and others who may like it for their regular personal prayer):

- Circuit Service poster (also issued previously)
- Circuit Flyer – Praying for our Ministers*
- Circuit Flyer – Praying for our Lay workers (also issued previously)
- Circuit Prayer Sheet

If you are unable to print these or would like hard-copies delivered to your church for your use please let Andrew Fleet or Bob Mawer know and we will arrange this.

We suggest that the flyers might also usefully sit in the entrance to churches from hereon – so providing a document visitors and members can take and use for their prayers.

* We will over the next few weeks deliver 'Praying for our Ministers' printed on pink paper to accompany the green flyers 'Praying for our Lay workers' (already distributed).

Circuit Service – Sunday 12th April at 6.00 p.m. @ Cricklade United Church, Calcutt Street, Cricklade SN6 6BD

Please encourage as many as possible to join us for our united act of worship on the evening of Sunday 12th April. Once again, please note the start time is 6.00 p.m. (not 6.30 p.m. as published on the Plan). We are looking forward to praising God, waiting on his Word and enjoying fellowship together and are grateful to all at Cricklade United Church for their hospitality. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served after the service.

Advanced Notice - please put Saturday 16th May in your diary!!

On this day, and with the Lord's blessing, Andy and Rhoda Fearon from the Vineyard Church will share with us their experience of the Lord working in Carlisle. Their theme is: "The Challenge of Making Disciples" and we will meet at Holy Trinity Church, Shaw. Posters and flyers for this event are in production and hard copies of these (together with an electronic copy for senior stewards) will be issued in the near future. Don't miss what we pray will be a blessing to all who attend.

Shrivenham Methodist Church

Café Inspire

The next Café Inspire will be held in the Shrivenham Primary School on Saturday, 11th April, from 10.00am until 11.30am. Come along for a coffee, bacon roll and/or some yummy cake and a chance to chat to folk of all ages who enjoy doing the same. Activities (creative and otherwise) are provided for younger and older children. If you would be interested in joining Café Inspire's trip to London for Prom Praise at the Royal Albert Hall on Saturday 25th April, please contact Paul or Michele Holloway on (01793) 784479 as soon as possible. A DVD recording of Fiona Castle's talk at the Café Inspire Curry evening in October 2014 will be available shortly, at a cost to be decided. Proceeds will go to Fiona's international children's charity, Global Care. Please pre-order from Paul Holloway or from Bob Mawer at the Circuit Office.

Phakamisa

The clock is ticking down towards the visit to the UK from Thokozani Poswa, Director of Phakamisa in South Africa. She will join the Phakamisa UK Trust for its meeting in London on 18th April and will be travelling to Shrivenham on the evening of Sunday 19th April. Thokozani will be visiting Gloucester on the Monday and Witney Methodist Church on the Tuesday. She will be the guest speaker at a "late afternoon tea" event at 6.30pm on Tuesday evening, 21st April, at Shrivenham Methodist Church, to which all are invited. Do come along to hear all the latest news and information about what God is doing through this amazing work (which touches the lives of 16,000 children on a daily basis) among AIDS orphans and others who live on the breadline in the townships around Pinetown, South Africa. You can also purchase Christmas Cards and Beadwork to support Phakamisa's work. Some beadwork will be on sale at the event in Shrivenham on the 21st April. Christmas cards are available in various designs to pre-order from July onwards and are usually available from early November. You can find out more about Phakamisa at www.phakamisa.org which is a web site run jointly by the UK and South African Trusts (or contact Bob Mawer at the Circuit Office – contact details at the end of this newsletter).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Sunday 12 th April	Circuit Service at Cricklade United Church 6.00pm
Saturday 18 th April	Discipleship Day at Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church
Tuesday 21 st April	Late Afternoon Tea at Shrivenham Methodist Church 6.30pm Guest speaker Thokozani Poswa (Phakamisa, Pinetown, SA)
Wednesday 22 nd April	Local Preachers' Meeting, Shrivenham Methodist Church, 7.30pm
Saturday 25 th April	District Synod
Saturday 16 th May	Mission and Discipleship Training Day

UPPER THAMES CIRCUIT CONTACT DETAILS:

Office hours: 9.30am – 12.30pm on Wednesdays and Fridays
Telephone: (01793) 764544
Email: upperthamescircuit@gmail.com
Email: superkeithosborn@gmail.com

Circuit 24 Hours of Prayer

Saturday and Sunday 11th & 12th April 2015

Time	Church
Saturday	
18.00	Highworth Methodist Church
18.30	Highworth Methodist Church
19.00	Highworth Methodist Church
19.30	Highworth Methodist Church
20.00	Highworth Methodist Church
20.30	Highworth Methodist Church
21.00	Highworth Methodist Church
21.30	Shrivenham Methodist Church
22.00	Shrivenham Methodist Church
22.30	Shrivenham Methodist Church
23.00	Shrivenham Methodist Church
23.30	Shrivenham Methodist Church
Sunday	
00.00	West Swindon and Lydiard Tregoze Church Partnership
00.30	West Swindon and Lydiard Tregoze Church Partnership
01.00	Cricklade United Church
01.30	Cricklade United Church
02.00	Cricklade United Church
02.30	Purton Methodist Church
03.00	Purton Methodist Church
03.30	Purton Methodist Church
04.00	West Swindon and Lydiard Tregoze Church Partnership
04.30	West Swindon and Lydiard Tregoze Church Partnership
05.00	Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church
05.30	Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church
06.00	Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church

Circuit 24 Hours of Prayer

Saturday and Sunday 11th & 12th April 2015

Time	Church
Sunday	
06.30	Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church
07.00	Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church
07.30	Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church
08.00	Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church
08.30	Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church
09.00	Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church
09.30	Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church
10.00	Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church
10.30	Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church
11.00	Braydon Methodist Chapel
11.30	Braydon Methodist Chapel
12.00	Braydon Methodist Chapel
12.30	Braydon Methodist Chapel
13.00	Blunsdon Methodist Church
13.30	Blunsdon Methodist Church
14.00	West Swindon and Lydiard Tregoze Church Partnership
14.30	West Swindon and Lydiard Tregoze Church Partnership
15.00	West Swindon and Lydiard Tregoze Church Partnership
15.30	West Swindon and Lydiard Tregoze Church Partnership
16.00	Circuit Leadership Team
16.30	Circuit Leadership Team
17.00	Circuit Leadership Team
17.30	Circuit Leadership Team
18.00	Circuit Service at Cricklade United Church

Bristol District Children & Youth

NEWS UPDATE 09

26th February 2015

1. Mental Health Workshop & High Ropes Activities

June 27th : For young people aged 11-23 who are linked with a Methodist Church in the Bristol District & their Youth Workers

EXCITING NEW BRISTOL DISTRICT YOUTH DAY EVENT

Morning = Mental Health Workshop

Afternoon = High Ropes & ground level fun outdoor activities

The young people of the Methodist Church have identified that they want to learn more about mental health in order to support their friends. They also identified that they want their youth workers and churches to be educated so they are better equipped to support people with mental health problems.

This workshop has been organised in response to that request. Dr Pooky Knightsmith who is facilitating this workshop is extremely experienced in working with young people and has experienced what it's like living with mental illness herself. I have attended workshops she has run and found them truly captivating & informative, offering practical solutions, resources and advice about where to go for help. This is her website <http://www.inourhands.com/student-workshops/> The workshop will be interactive & pitched carefully to make sure it's suited perfectly for young people. The youth workers will learn a great deal too.

In the afternoon we will be taking part in 2 hours of fun outdoor adrenaline filled activities at "The Leap of Faith" based at Bristol's new "Wild Place" attraction (just off the Cribbs Causeway M5 junction 17). Again these are activities which the majority of young people from our district have expressed an interest in. There will be high rope activities and also fun team work challenges on the ground, so there will be something for those who don't like heights. Adults are welcome to join in any of the activities (some have an 18 stone weight limit but none have a max age limit!). Check out their website here <http://www.leapoffaith.co.uk/>

The afternoon activities will only be open to those who attend the morning workshop, although if someone wants to attend JUST the morning workshop then they can do free of charge.

The event will only cost each individual (young people & youth workers) **£10 each!** A real bargain considering the Leap of Faith activities alone would usually cost an individual £30!!

SAVE THE DATE: Morning workshop venue & exact timings to be provided soon!

2. The Key

June 13th : Crucial Children & Youth Workers Core Skills Training Day

This training day is crucial for ALL those working with children and young people who have not attended any 'introduction to children's and youth work' training before. In fact Methodist Church Standing Orders suggest that engaging with this training is mandatory along with the Safeguarding training.

Please could you advertise this training day, passing the info onto anyone working with children or young people in an Anglican or Methodist church in the Bristol Area (the whole of the Bristol District and the Bristol Diocese), encouraging them to attend by reinforcing how crucial and

invaluable it is.

The 'Key' training day we ran in January was a huge success and we hope to see many of you at this 2nd one.

It costs just £5 per person (you might want to suggest that your church or circuit can help with this cost?).

SAVE THE DATE: Venue to be confirmed ASAP

(hopefully in the Bradley Stoke area: near the motorway & a fairly central point within the District).

3. MAYC 70th Anniversary Celebration

31st May : The Methodist Association of Youth Clubs started 70 years ago.

Members of the Gloucestershire circuit are organising a service of celebration followed by an afternoon of sharing memories. They have approached me asking if I could help them advertise the event and to see if some of the current young people could be involved/attend. The "Methodist Association of Youth Clubs" finished many years ago and since then we have "Methodist Children & Youth".

This is open to anyone who is interested in attending.

SAVE THE DATE: More info to follow soon!

4. 3Generate

Methodist Church's Children & Youth Assembly (see attachment)

See attached flyer for full information.

NEW DATE 20th – 22nd November

NEW VENUE "PGL Adventure Centre, Swindon"

Please note the booking line opens on Saturday 6th June 9am. This event sold out within a couple of days last year so I strongly advise that you have collected in all the necessary information from the young people wanting to attend by the 6th June so you can get your tickets as soon as the booking line opens. It is a fabulous event and would be great if more of our district attended. Please ask your churches and circuits for assistance with funding.

Don't forget it's open to children too aged 8+ so please pass this onto the children's workers in your church.

Children & young people attend this event without their youth workers, although any offers from youth workers (employed or voluntary) to help at the weekend would be gratefully received. If you volunteer at the weekend then you won't be charged to attend. I have done it for 3 years now and find it really rewarding. Please contact me for further info if you are interested.

5. European Methodist Youth Camp

We are looking for a youth worker (paid or voluntary worker) to possibly take 2 young people to Belfast in the summer! Can you help? Travel and the ticket price which includes accommodation & food will be covered!

We have 2 members of the DYC (age 17 and 14) really keen to go to this conference and it would be a great experience for them. Sadly we are struggling to find an adult to go with them and the organisation state that at least one adult needs to attend to be responsible for young people under the age of 18.

Check out the full details here, it really is a very exciting opportunity http://download.emk-jugend.de/201501161135_EMYC_CampProgrammeInformation.pdf

If you are interested in finding out more please contact Emma ASAP Emma.YoutWorkEnabler@VirginMedia.com or 07989 496316.

It is not 100% certain that we will be allocated the places or that we have got the funding yet but we are investigating all that at the moment. You will not be expected to pay for the event ticket or the transport costs. We are ideally looking for a male youth worker but would be grateful to hear from anyone who is interested (who has up to date CRB/DBS checks and safeguarding training).

6. Matt Papa : Worship

Gloucester Guildhall on Thursday 21st May

Join Matt Papa for an inspiring evening of worship. Matt Papa is an American recording artist based out of Raleigh, North Carolina. He also serves on staff as a Christian worship leader at The Summit Church in Durham. For over a decade, Matt has been singing, writing, and recording songs that are saturated with God's Word. To Papa, a song is more than just lyrics and melody - it's a sermon people will remember.

This video clip gives you a good idea of his music.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y91VvmkIAz0&spfreload=1>

and check him out here telling "The Story of God" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E4cL-Zcxa9M>

Book your tickets here

<http://venues.gloucester.gov.uk/Freetime/Guildhall/listings/music/MattPapa.aspx>

7. Who on Earth Is God?

Making Sense of God in the Bible with Neil Richardson 21st May

WHO ON EARTH IS GOD?

Making sense of God in the Bible

You are warmly invited to an evening with Neil Richardson to explore the themes of his critically acclaimed new book, 'Who on Earth is God: Making sense of the Bible'.

Do you have young people currently asking lots of questions? Why not take them along? We have been informed that this would be appropriate for older teenagers to attend, although it's definitely not a specific 'youth event'.

8. Safeguarding Training

Gloucestershire Circuit dates: Anyone from the Bristol District is welcome to attend (i.e. if the dates suit better than more local training sessions).

As I'm sure you know by now, this training is mandatory and everyone working with children & young people in a Methodist Church must attend this training once every 5 years.

- Wednesday 15 April, Christ Church Nailsworth, 7-9pm.
- Wednesday 20 May, Cinderford Methodist Church, 7-9pm.

9. Connecting Disciple LOCAL

17th June : A chance for lay workers from the Bristol and West Midlands Region to get together, network, worship, celebrate!

This FREE OF CHARGE event is primarily aimed for lay workers but volunteers are more than welcome to attend too.

10. Lay workers Gloucestershire Circuit Support Group

Are you employed by the Methodist Church and based in the Gloucestershire Circuit & feel you will benefit from meeting with others in similar roles?

A new informal support group has been set up for the Gloucestershire Circuit. The first meeting was in a coffee shop in Gloucester City Centre. It's a great opportunity for lay workers to share ideas, off-load, learn from each other, ask for advice, share resources and talk about good news stories too! If you are a lay worker working for the Methodist Church in the Gloucestershire Circuit then it would be great if you could join us. It's all relaxed and flexible.

If you are not a lay worker in Gloucestershire then why not set your own group?

It could be similar to this one, or an interdenominational youth work support group within a particular town/city, or a volunteer youth workers support group for your area?

If any support groups like this already exist, no matter how informal, I would love to hear about it, thanks Emma.

11. Ark Bus Drivers Required

Are you able to help this fantastic project? Are you over 25 with a full clean driving licence?

If interested or if you would like more information, contact them via their website www.thearkbus.org.uk

12. DMLN : Bristol & West Midlands

Discipleship & Ministries Learning Network Facebook Group: A great way to connect with what's going on in our region of the Methodist Church

News, resources, articles and events from the Discipleship & Ministries Learning Network in Bristol & West Midlands.

If the below link doesn't work then type "DMLN Bristol & West Midlands" into Facebook.
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/DMLN-Bristol-West-Midlands/334381623380567?fref=ts>

They are now on twitter too @DMLNbwm

Click on this link to see answers to frequently asked questions about the DMLN
<http://www.methodist.org.uk/learning/faqs>

13.The Youth Work Foundation

Financial support to would-be youth workers across England to help them access [JNC recognised qualifications](#).

The Foundation's mission is to support the most deserving applicants to become qualified youth workers regardless of their background.

This mission is built on a belief that young people benefit from youth workers who have a variety of backgrounds and life experiences

<http://www.nya.org.uk/supporting-youth-work/youth-work-foundation/>

PHAKAMISA SA
PO Box 169
Pinetown 3600
South Africa



PHAKAMISA

A Ministry of
Pinetown Methodist Church



PHAKAMISA UK
UK Registered Charity
Commission No. 1095757
www.phakamisa.org

"PHAKAMISA" is pronounced "PA-GA-MEE-SA" and means "TO LIFT UP, TO MAKE GROW"

We are delighted to welcome Thokozani Poswa, South Africa's Director of Phakamisa, to the UK for two weeks during April. She is pictured (below left - in the white dress) with students receiving graduation certificates at the end of their cookery skills course.

After attending the UK Trust Meeting in London on Saturday 18th April, Thokozani will travel to Shrivenham on the Sunday evening and she will be here for 3 days, during which visits to Churchdown (Gloucester) and Witney are planned, before she leaves for the East Midlands on the 22nd April.



On Tuesday 21st Thozozani will be visiting the Refreshers Group at the Methodist Church before going to Witney. But she will be back to join us for a special evening at 6.30pm to share all the latest news from South Africa. We shall be serving refreshments in the form of "afternoon tea" so please come along and enjoy sandwiches, cakes and scones whilst listening to some amazing stories that Thokozani has to tell.

An extract from her most recent newsletter is given below.

ORPHANS & VULNERABLE CHILDREN (OVC)

Phakamisa runs the OVC programme through "wandering" schools. These schools target orphans and vulnerable children under the age of five in the surrounding areas of Pinetown. Phakamisa provides formal education for them for free. During this term we had a Christmas party for them. One of the groups went to the Spur Restaurant thanks to HUB stores from Umhlanga, who made a Christmas party possible for thirty children. They really put a big smile onto their faces (above right). Thank you very much.

For further information about Thokozani's itinerary, or any of the events at the Methodist Church, please contact Bob or Janet Mawer (01793) 780038, email: upperthamescircuit@gmail.com. You can also visit our web site: www.phakamisa.org