

The Methodist Church / The United Reformed Church

CHRISTCHURCH, THE GROVE, ILKLEY

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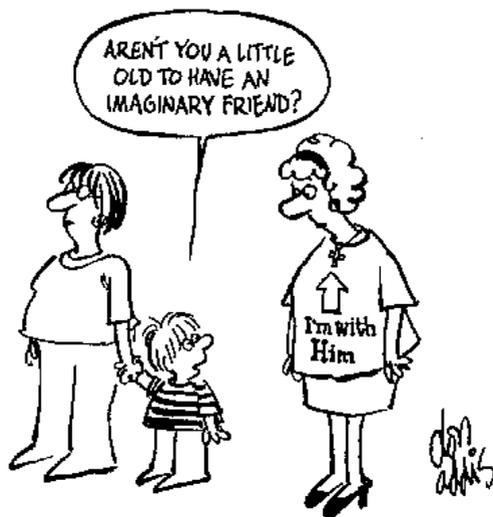
www.christchurchilkley.org.uk



WIDER



HORIZONS



March 2009

MINISTER'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

Soon after Christmas we embarked upon our prayer series. Hopefully you have been listening a little more for God in your own life and in the life of the Church as we seek to know God's will for us next in where we go and what we do. If you're stuck or have questions, please don't be afraid to ask for help - from the Prayer ministry Team on a Sunday (ask a Steward) or from myself, available at any time.

In one of the prayer series we were thinking about the distinction between listening and hearing. You can listen all you like, and hear nothing, or you can long to hear something but never do because you're not listening! My experience of prayer is like listening in life, it is very rare to listen and hear nothing - wither a bird is singing, a child is playing, or some traffic is running by. I find that God is rarely silent, and if only I'll bother to listen he has something to say. The times when he is silent, and there are some, are the times when the finest tuning and the most formulated questions are needed to address him, so that, with the spirit's aid, we may articulate our deepest groanings and longings.

One song I loved learning through our series was "Prayer is like a telephone, for us to talk to Jesus - pick it up and use it every day". Unfortunately it falls into the trap of assuming prayer is one way "We can shout out loud, we can whisper softly, we can make no noise at all. But He'll always hear our call".

Prayer is indeed like a telephone. But it's for a two way conversation. If you've visited the Manse you'll see our old black bakelite phone in the hall, yes, we tell our visitors, it does work, but when using it, the person at the other end can barely hear you. It's a working bit of history but we love the old fashioned bells that ring! Prayer has to be audible at both ends- we need to pray so God can hear us, We need to be still so God can speak to us.

I have a mobile phone, but I don't give out the number because it's rarely turned on, only when I need it do I take it out the drawer, charge it up, and switch it on! A bad example of prayer.

I prefer to think of prayer as being like the internet because it's always there and always on.

Do you remember the early days of the internet when you had to dial up a phone line to send an e-mail or surf the web? Then we got broadband - cheap and easy to use, available all the time. The internet is now available to increasing numbers of people on computers at home - why bother with a 'phone book, just Google a name or company and see what it finds - so easy! Laptops and mobiles mean the internet is available 24/7. That's like prayer to me. It's a relationship that's always there. Listening is a gut, heart, and mind activity, that like breathing, can be going on 'online' all the time - even when we're asleep, God can speak to us through dreams, and our deepest feelings.

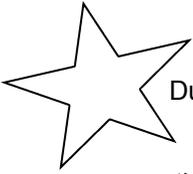
As we enter Lent and approach Easter, let's remember to use it, try and 'get broadband' if we're still on dial up, switch the mobile on if we keep it in the drawer locked away, and develop a relationship that's always there and always listening. At this time of year we must read, ponder, reflect upon, and then remember again, the passion story of Jesus as he's drawn to Jerusalem, goes with the flow, and is majestically crowned with thorns and enthroned upon the cross. To be on broadband listening, and hearing of God's love through this drama is a wonderful annual ritual of deepening faith and restoring spirituality.

Then we look to our Prayer Festival weekend, April 24th-26th when we'll have different activities and opportunities to delve into 2000 years of treasure and explore prayer - both listening, hearing, and saying.

I hope your Lent is a cathartic journey, and your Easter a happy one. God bless,

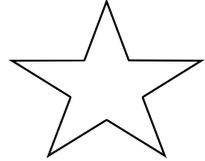
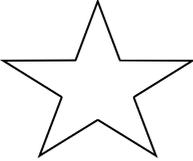
Your Minister and Friend

Rob



During December, customers of the Coffee Centre were able to purchase a silver star (for 50p) on which to write a message of a loved one, to be remembered at Christmas time. These were then placed on the walls around the Coffee Centre. The proceeds (£84) were donated to the charity "Action for Children".

Thanks to all who took part.



Glen Rosa Methodist Home, Ilkley

Could you possibly be a visitor and offer friendship to residents at Glen Rosa? Popping to 24 Grove Road and spending time there is enormously rewarding and lets the residents know we care about them. CRB checks are taken care of by the Home Manager and are quickly arranged. Please contact Avril Benson to offer help or for more details. Thank you.



A "Christchurch, Ilkley"
coloured greetings card
(blank inside—with envelope)
is now available
from the Coffee Centre or Office..

Price: 60p each

What is God calling us to do next in accordance with our vision statement (check it out— inside your 2009 Church Directory) and thus what facilities do we need to expand God's mission and work at Christchurch?

Your thoughts to Michael Noble by 25th April.

Established jointly by Philip Gray from St Margaret's (as a "Fresh Expressions Missioner") and Stuart Jenkins from the Ilkley Baptist Church, Costa Living meet in the Costa Coffee Shop in Brook Street, Ilkley, normally on the first Thursday of each month.

It has been created as an exciting and new opportunity for those who wish to explore questions of faith and modern living, be they of a particular faith or none. Everyone is welcome!

Costa Living, though, is a very good opportunity for those who are already practising Christians to bring along or introduce those who wish to explore questions of faith and modern living in an open way. As a "Fresh Expression" Costa Living has been created as a new kind of Church for our changing culture, one that is primarily for the benefit of people who are not yet members of any church. For more details about the hope for "Fresh Expressions" of Church like Costa Living, please visit www.freshexpressions.org.uk. Costa Living has been established in consultation with Churches Together in Ilkley. Do please support Costa Living in any way you can, and especially by your prayers for this risky venture in evangelism.



Dates and details are:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Thursday 8th January | <i>Why doesn't he do something?
The problem of Evil</i> |
| Thursday 5th February | <i>"Gentle Jesus, Meek and Mild."
What was Jesus of Nazareth really like?</i> |
| Thursday 5th March | <i>Costa Living: What are your values?</i> |
| Thursday 2nd April | <i>I believe in death</i> |

FOYER TOILETS

A big thank you to all who have taken the trouble to put your thoughts about these toilets in writing.

This is a reminder to the rest of you that the last date for the receipt of letters is 28th February. If YOU have not yet written, please write as the more ideas we get the better. I would particularly like to hear from more men!

Thank you, in anticipation.....

Elisabeth Halsall

At the heart of the town

Many of us will be sad to have seen the demise of Woolworth's (Woolies!) in the town and realise the significance to many communities across the country of this folding of a major business.

In line with the Christchurch mission statement, Rob Hilton felt it was right to send Christian greetings to all the staff so just before Christmas a card was sent personally addressed to every member of staff and management at our local store with an invitation to be a part of the Job Club Brian Scott has started. These cards were appreciated and, in fact, a local business consultant used a room at Christchurch to help the staff in a job searching exercise. We have since had a card and a letter of appreciation and felt you all should know the staff of Woolies appreciated the care and concern shown in this way by Christchurch.

“Christ at the centre of the church at the heart of the town”



Many thanks to those who have re-furbished the foyer notices boards in such a clear and eye-catching way, and for the splendid new woodwork leaflet display unit.

An excellent job done, and greatly appreciated.

CONGRATULATIONS

JOYCE GREEN CELEBRATED HER 90TH BIRTHDAY AT THE DALES NURSING HOME, DRAUGHTON ON 29TH JANUARY.



WEST YORKSHIRE DISTRICT WOMEN'S NETWORK
FELLOWSHIP/QUIET DAY.
THURSDAY 30TH APRIL 2009.
AT THE BRIERY RETREAT CENTRE, ILKLEY.
LEADER: REV PETER WHITTAKER
BOOKING FORMS FROM ADELE McARTHUR
£19 INCLUDING LUNCH
DEADLINE FOR BOOKING 1ST APRIL.

ST GEORGE'S CRYPT

Over the next 12–15 months their premises are being re-developed.
The present location of the Crypt is:
St Michael's College, St John's Road,
Leeds LS3
(off Burley Road/Park Lane about 4 minute drive from St George's)

Caring for Life - Granary café and farm shop



At recent meeting of Christchurch Guild a speaker from Caring for Life came to tell us about the work of Caring for Life— based at Crag House Farm in Cookridge. Their motto is 'Sharing the Love of Jesus' which they do by working with homeless or vulnerable people by providing housing and comprehensive ongoing support. They run two homes for men and women as well as providing housing support to many needy people in Leeds. There are also many therapeutic daytime activities at the farm in agriculture, horticulture, craft, cooking and music.

At the newly opened Granary Cafe they sell delicious snacks and meals.

There is also a farm shop selling the farm-raised eggs, white-faced woodland lamb and grass-fed longhorn beef, jams, chutney, fresh baked bread..... and lots more!

All profits are ploughed back into the charity's work.

Do go and visit - more details are on their website

www.caringforlife.co.uk.

(The farm is accessed off the Otley Old Road near its junction with Cookridge Lane and is open 10–4 Monday to Saturday)

Merle Collins

NORTHERN MEN'S CONVENTION

Saturday 9th May Armitage Centre, Manchester.

Main sessions (led by Richard Coekin and Daf Merion-Jones) based on the book of Revelation Chapters 1–3 and 6–7 which have been used as a source of encouragement for Christians during difficult times.

Details from Chris Mannall & Trevor Buckroyd.

A PRAYER RECOGNISE IT?

R Dad @ hevn, LOd B thy nme, TKDC, TWBD on urth Ztizin hvn.
Gvus ths dA R dAIE brd & 4gvus R trspuszs, as W 4gv ths wU trespas vs
us & lEd us nt n2 tempt8n, delivrus frm Evl 4 thniz D kingdm, D pR & D
glrE, 4evr&evr Rmen.

(Translation can be found on page 13)

LOVE IN ACTION

Over the past few months the situation in Gaza has tended to obscure thoughts about other areas around the world that should command our attention. At a recent World Mission and Society Committee meeting prayerful thought was given to the following charities, each of which will receive a gift of £210.

Zimbabwe: to support the Combined Harare Residents' Association, which is based in the suburb of Mbare, the poorest area of the Zimbabwe capital. The CHRA work together to make sure they have access to basic services, such as running water, sewerage, rubbish collection and health-care. These services should be available to all residents; but corrupt local government officials discriminate against poor urban communities. The support is provided through our Commitment for Life programme (www.cforlife.co.uk)

South Africa: to support the Phakamisa organisation through the ministry of the Pinetown Methodist Church. Phakamisa means "To lift up, To make grow" and the project exists to serve and uplift impoverished communities through the provision of educational training for teachers, care support generally, gardening and nutrition programmes and HIV/AIDS support. (www.phakamisa.org)

Water Aid: sustainable water supplies and safe sanitation facilities have been long denied for many of the world's poorest people and many authorities express concern that it is getting more difficult. Support for the "Water Aid" charity assists their mission to overcome poverty by enabling the world's poorest people to gain access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene education. These basic human rights underpin health, education and livelihoods and form the first essential step in overcoming poverty. (www.wateraid.org)

Let Go For Lent



Ash Wednesday - 25th February 7:30pm An act of worship including remorse and contrition

After Eights

A weekly time of prayer for all led by various church groups.

8:00 - 8:45pm in Christchurch "Finding our vision in Lent"

Monday 2nd March - Rob Hilton

Tuesday 10th March - Prayer Fellowship

Wednesday 18th March - Taize team

Thursday 26th March -

Friday 3rd April - Young People

Holy Week

Have I got good news for you! (Approaches to the Passion story)

2:00pm at Christchurch

Monday 6th April Have I got good news for you - today!
(Rev. Stuart Jenkins)

Tuesday 7th April Have I got good news for you - Mark!
(Father Phillip Gray)

Wednesday 8th April Have I got good news for you - From the Old Testament!
(Msgnr Keiran Heskin)

Maundy Thursday - 9th April 7:30am Quiet Communion
Good Friday - 10th April 10:00am Reflective worship
11:15am Walk of witness from All Saints church with Churches Together in Ilkley

Easter Day 12th April 2009

6:00am Sunrise service at the Cow & Calf Rocks

9:00am [Online@9](#) Interactive family worship

10:30am Joyful Easter worship with Holy Communion led by Rev. Rob Hilton

From 12noon with Churches Together in Ilkley - decorating the Easter Cross at the top of Brook Street - please bring your own flowers

6:30pm Cafe - style Prayer, Praise & Preaching led by Brian Scott and Margaret Whitton

Upcoming event

Don't forget! Prayer Festival weekend 24th - 26th April

FAIRTRADE NEWS



Events to mark Fairtrade Fortnight 23 February to 8 March

Saturday 28 February (10 am - 12 noon) - Fairtrade Stall in the church foyer.
Sunday 1 March – usual monthly Fairtrade Stall in the Lower Hall.
Saturday 7 March, 10 am to 12 noon – Fairtrade Stall in the church foyer.
Saturday 7 March, 2 to 4 pm – Tasting Session in the Coffee Centre.

More information will be available from displays in the church foyer.

Visit to the Fairtrade Warehouse in Skipton

A visit to Namaste UK in Skipton has been arranged for 7.15 pm on Wednesday 18 March. Non-food items such as clothes, jewellery, furniture and gifts are available from this outlet. We need a minimum of 20 people to ensure the visit can go ahead so please feel free to invite any family and friends who may be interested. Names to Judith Bray or Christine Henney (via the Office) by Sunday 15 March. Thank you.

BUYING FAIRTRADE REALLY DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO LIVES

CHRISTCHURCH GUILD

Meetings are held on Wednesday afternoons at 2.30pm in the Lower Hall.
There is always a warm welcome to both men and women.

Speakers in March are:

- 4th: Music is my life (*Blanche Woollin*)
- 11th: Vietnam–Cambodia–Thailand (*Margaret Cook*)
- 18th: Gardening - Plants I love (*Pam Lofthouse*)
- 25th: Blenheim Project update (*Myra Jennings MBE*)

Kids' Slot

Anne Frank + You (Human Rights Festival, Bradford)

The Anne Frank Human Rights Festival for Bradford is run by The Anne Frank Trust UK and supported by the Equality and Human Rights Commission and Education Bradford. The exhibition **Anne Frank + You** will be at Cartwright Hall Art Gallery in Bradford from the **3rd to 26th March**. It is a powerful multi-media interactive exhibition that shows how Anne's concerns as a teenager are in many ways the same as the concerns of teenagers today. It explores the life and experiences of Anne Frank and gives a voice to young people today who face discrimination. I will take a group of all ages from Christchurch on Saturday 7th March.

Due to the sensitive nature of the material I would suggest 8-11s be accompanied by a parent but, with parental permission, the 11-16 people can be supervised by Christchurch people. Please let me know if you would like to join us.

Ruth Jones (mrsruthjones@blueyonder.co.uk)

Dates for your diary:

Don't forget the series of youth events being organised by Churches Together in Ilkley. Here are the dates.

Sunday April 26th 7:30pm @ Church House, Church Street, Ilkley.

Sunday June 14th 7:30pm @ Church House.

Sunday September 20th 7:30pm The Big Event

Sunday November 22nd 7:30pm @ Church House.

The services are aimed at those between 10 - 18 years old and have a rock concert feel to them.

And finally...



**COMIC RELIEF FRIDAY 13th
MARCH**

**KEEP YOUR EYES AND EARS
OPEN**

My Favourite Things

To commemorate her 69th birthday / actress / vocalist Julie Andrews made a special appearance at Manhattan's Radio City Music Hall. One of the musical numbers she performed was 'My Favourite Things' from the legendary movie 'Sound Of Music'. Here are the lyrics she used.

Sing it? If you sing it, it's especially hysterical !!! If not out loud at least in your head.

Maalox and nose drops and needles for knitting,
Walkers and handrails and new dental fittings,
Bundles of magazines tied up in string,
These are a few of my favourite things.
Cadillacs and cataracts, and hearing aids and glasses,
Polident and Fixodent and false teeth in glasses,
Pacemakers, golf carts and porches with swings,
These are a few of my favourite things.
When the pipes leak,
When the bones creak,
When the knees go bad,
I simply remember my favourite things,
And then I don't feel so bad.



Hot tea and crumpets and corn pads for bunions,
No spicy hot food or food cooked with onions,
Bathrobes and heating pads and hot meals they bring,
These are a few of my favourite things.
Back pain, confused brains and no need for sinnin',
Thin bones and fractures and hair that is thinnin',
And we won't mention our short shrunken frames,
When we remember our favourite things.
When the joints ache,
When the hips break,
When the eyes grow dim,
Then I remember the great life I've had,
And then I don't feel so bad!

Ms. Andrews received a standing ovation from the crowd that lasted over four minutes, and repeated encores.

Contributed by Renee Burt - by permission of another church newsletter

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

(International and Inter-denominational)



Friday 6th March 2.30pm at St Margaret's Church

“In Christ there are many members yet one body”

An exciting day—when over 3 million people worldwide will be praying and worshipping together using a service prepared by Christian women in Papua New Guinea.



How Green you are.....

Bradford Council is making a real effort to improve the insulation standards of the housing in its area. If you are aged over 60, you can have loft insulation, cavity wall insulation, hot water tank lagging etc. free of charge. If you are aged under 60, you may be eligible for a much reduced quote for any work needed.

The firm contracted to do this work locally is EAGA. You can contact EAGA surveyors on 07908124129 or 07989390713. You will be able to discuss any concerns you have about insulating your home with the surveyor when he comes to assess what insulation you need.

Installing insulation should save money on heating bills and should also reduce your carbon footprint. Your house should also feel cosier - have you tried stopping draughts from badly fitting doors and windows? The recent cold weather, combined with the increase in fuel costs, has made us realise how important insulating our homes can be.

COME and join the CELEBRATION

A WARM INVITATION HAS BEEN EXTENDED BY BEN RHYDDING METHODIST CHURCH TO SHARE IN THEIR CENTENARY SERVICES.

Many members of Christchurch will remember some of the previous ministers who are returning to lead worship at Ben Rhydding during the year.

Sunday 15th March 10.30am — Rev Peter D Sheasby, MA, BD (*Preston*)

Sunday 19th April 10.30am — Rev Peter R Gray (*Ilkley*)

Sunday 5th July 10.30am — Rev Christine J Hey MA (*Uttoxeter*)

Sunday 9th August 10.30am— Rev Peter T Barker (*Kendal*)

Sunday 13th September 10.30am - Rev Rex Owen BA (*Pontefract*)

Sunday 22nd November 10.30am—Rev J Arnold Clay (*Ben Rhydding Minister*)

Sunday 14th June 3pm CENTENARY SERVICE

Followed by tea. Preacher: The Reverend Baroness Kathleen Richardson of Calow

If you would like to stay for lunch after any of the special services, or for tea on Centenary Day, please ring Roger and Barbara Davy via the Office

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“Rosa sat, so Martin could walk.
Martin walked, so Obama could run.
Obama is running, so our children can fly.”

Senator Cleo Fields (State of the Black Union event - February 2008)

If you would like to suggest a quote (*topical, classical, theological, literary, amusing*) please submit it to the Editors for their consideration.

Please supply a source or acknowledgement for the quote.

ANSWER:
If you didn't recognise it -
The Lord's Prayer
in Text-speak

DOROTHEA'S PRAISE & PRAYER UPDATE—January 2009

News of the Mundu Team:

In December the armies of Uganda, South Sudan and DR Congo combined to attack the LRA base in Garamba National Park in DRC. As a result the LRA seem to have split up and scattered. There were reports of atrocities in various places in both DRC and Sudan over the Christmas/New Year period, with many people killed and children abducted.

Bakata & Sadiya's Mundu Youth Seminar (in Yei) went ahead as planned. Bakata writes: "We had on first day 30 participants, and the following day 44 . We selected three topics – trauma healing, literacy and Mundu hymns, because we found that most of them are new to Mundu youth. The impact of the seminar was realized when those who received literacy lessons were able to read Mundu bible for the first time in their lives. We had a few obstacles especially the strong sun heat made it difficult to walk from far distances on foot. Good news is we have opened a church also for Mundu living in Yei, under a mango tree. So people will be praying every Sunday at 10 am." Enoka's Teachers' Refresher Course got off to a good start and should finish on Friday (30th) or Saturday.

Dasuma got the money for the Aba seminar OK – but the seminar has had to be postponed. The LRA have recently been attacking Mundu villages in the Aba area. At least two people have been killed and many are still in hiding.

News of my current assignment:

February looks like being a busy month. From 3rd to 6th February I will be in Horsleys Green checking some chapters of Kab Acts. On 12th Feb I fly to Ilkley for Adele and George's Golden Wedding. On 16th I take the train down to Horsleys Green again and will be working on various things there, probably including Saze Deuteronomy, Zam Luke and more Kab Acts and/or Genesis. From 27th February to 1st March I will be attending the Wycliffe Eurasia Sign Language Consultation. This is because in the future I may get involved in helping with the Irish Sign Language translation project (which is based in Dublin, so wouldn't involve too much travelling!) Please pray for my sister Helen while I'm away.

News from my home church:

The Amazing Journey went well. 165 kids listened to the Bible stories – absolutely spellbound! Pray that they will read the free copies of Luke they have been given and that many will take advantage of the offer of a free Bible.

HAPPY NEW YEAR – and thanks for praying!!

Dorothea (Adèle's sister)



A World Mission focus Group is to be formed.

All welcome

Tuesday 17th March

7.30pm

in the Coffee Centre.

Contact:

Hetley Burnham

WEDNESDAY GROUP

All ladies are welcome at our fortnightly meetings.
Details will be announced in weekly notices.

GATHERING DUST?

Words copy of Methodist Hymn Book (1933)

Music copy of Methodist Hymn Book (1933)

Methodist Worship Book (1999)

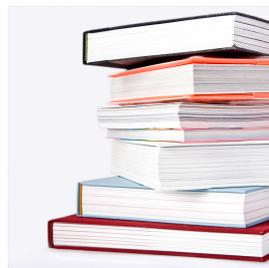
Old Local Preacher's text books:

eg "Groundwork of Biblical Studies",

"Worship & Preaching",

"Studying the Old (or New) Testament".

They could be used by churches or in the theological college in Sri Lanka.



**The deadline for the April (Easter) 2009 edition
of Wider Horizons is 1st March**

Items (maximum words: 300)
preferably by email as a Word attachment
to both George McArthur (mcarthur59@blueyonder.co.uk)
and Christchurch Office (Office@christchurchilkley.org.uk)

WORSHIP AT CHRISTCHURCH March 2009

	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th
9am	On-Line@9	On-Line@9	On-Line@9	On-Line@9	On-Line@9
10.30am	Rev Rob Hilton HC	Chris Eagle & Jeannie Buckroyd	Rev Rob Hilton	Rev Rob Hilton	To be arranged
6.30pm	Lynda Duttine	Rev Rob Hilton PPP	3rd Sunday @ All Saints	Rev Arnold Clay HC	Taize

SHOPPERS' SERVICE EACH FRIDAY at 10.30am

6th Msgr Kieran Heskin; 13th Rev Carole Johnston;
20th Rev Lee Townend; 27th Rev Dan Price



CHRISTCHURCH PRAYER CALENDAR

*You are invited to include the following suggestions of local
and broader concern in your private prayer:*

1st MARCH First Sunday in Lent

The Wednesday Wizards who maintain the fabric of the Church.
Lent house groups organised by Churches Together in Ilkley.
URC Synod meeting at St Andrew's, Skipton, on 7th March.

8th MARCH

The leaders and members of the Wednesday Group; Ilkley's firemen, ambulance drivers and police.

15th MARCH

The church office secretaries and those who administer the work of our committees and concerns; Compassion, working through local churches in the Third World to release children from poverty.

22nd MARCH Mothering Sunday

Family life and any going through marriage difficulties; women trying to support family life in danger zones throughout the world.

29th MARCH Passion Sunday

Our call to review the Christchurch "Vision " and consider what facilities we need to expand our mission and work; people with dementia, the people supporting them and those researching the illness.