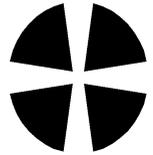




The Methodist Church / The United Reformed Church



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WIDER HORIZONS



August 2009

MINISTER'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

What a fascinating evening we spent at the beginning of July. What had started out as an ordinary Youth Housegroup Bible Study looking at the ministry of Jesus and living the Christian life today, turned into the idea to sleep out on the streets of Ilkley, and, following a visit to St George's Crypt in Leeds, we collected sponsors and cardboard boxes, and 2 leaders and 3 youngsters set up camp. We settled in the doorway of the old Woolworths shop, set up our cardboard sign "Collecting for St George's Crypt", and started asking passers by for their spare change!

And what an eye opening experience it was! Church members furnished us with hot flasks and chocolate! The response from folks we knew was a jovial enquiry and interest and admiration when we told them. The response from people we didn't know was well worth reflecting on: There are many young people (say, in their late teens and early 20's) on the streets of Ilkley on a Friday evening, out for a good night. It's quite something to ask them from pavement level for some money, and a real joy when they stop, engage, show an interest, and admire what we were doing. They reached into their pockets and handbags to give us some change. Once or twice they went to get some change and came back. We were amazed at how many had heard of St George's Crypt, and how much support there was for it. One taxi driver hung around showing an interest and watching others' reactions and finally asked us what we were doing and gave us some cash. When the classical concert in the Kings' Hall finished and the older, more "respectable", people came past, very few of them stopped, listened to our "please" for St George's, and few of them gave us any cash.

We saw a young man stop and wee in a rubbish bin, and another so drunk the taxi drivers wouldn't take him; his mates 'phoned his Dad. One of our number was so concerned that his head was on the pavement, she lent him a pillow, and his mates, while a bit shocked, were pleased for him and grateful.

It was obvious to passers by that we were not homeless, but that we were a bit mad and perhaps admired for what we were doing. We had a fairly jovial evening actually: it was mild, and so we didn't suffer the indignity of the cold; it was dry and we didn't get wet through. By about 2:00am when the streets quietened down we moved into the church atrium for safety's sake and settled on lots of donated cardboard and polystyrene for what turned out to be a pretty good night's sleep. Only to be woken at 7:20am by the sound of dripping water - did you know the church had an automatic watering system for the hanging baskets in there?

What we did experience was just a little bit of what it's like to be on the edge; of sitting on cardboard in a shop doorway and looking out and up at people - and reading their responses on their faces. As we chatted to those who were willing to talk we discovered quite a bit of support. We experienced just a tiny bit of the community of the streets, fear for our safety sometimes, indignity, and subjection to people and watering systems. What was it Jesus said about doing things for others and it would actually be doing it to Him?

Thank you to all who sponsored us, we collected over £75 on the streets and your sponsor money, when collected, will give us just a small but worthy contribution to the work of St George's Crypt - just one of many projects regularly supported through Christchurch.

Your minister and friend,
Rob (and Emily, Lucy, and Alice, with Ruth, Roland, and Christine).

Margaret Kitching

Thankyou to all who joined in Margaret's funeral and thanksgiving services in any way and for your prayers and love for Mum and us.

Thankyou also for donations in her memory for Marie Curie CancerCare, Sightsavers and Oxfam. The total was over £1000.

From the Kitching family

We would like to thank our Christchurch friends for all the cards, flowers and good wishes on our move to Burley.

We are also thankful for all the prayerful support and concern being shown to us during our daughter's long illness.

Blessings, Sue and Mike Kirk

**The deadline for the September 2009 edition of Wider Horizons is
1st August.**

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

Yorkshire Prayer Conference on 15 August 2009

A Letter from Janet Crane

I am writing on behalf of a group of Leaders from different places in Yorkshire who feel, and have felt for quite sometime, God calling us to bring the whole of Yorkshire together to pray. At this critical time in our nation we feel it is significant that we have this call to prayer this year. We realise we are not the only ones praying and that there are many groups and churches praying in their own towns and cities.

Our brief is to bring together people from all over Yorkshire in one place. We believe York is the place for such a gathering and in the light of this we have booked the Theatre at York University for the 15th August 2009. The Theatre will hold 1,900 people and we are hoping to fill every seat! We are sending out information with a booking form attached.

In sending you this Letter, we hope you will catch the vision for the Yorkshire Prayer Conference and pass it on to as many people as possible. We also hope that you will join us in praying for our county and our nation. Many are out of work or struggling financially. Our young people are desperately seeking direction, many people feel overwhelmed by bad news, but we know that the answer to all these situations is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

We are standing in faith on 2 Chronicles 7:14 – 'If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and heal their land.'

There is power in the unity of the body of Christ, we pray for a mighty breakthrough in Yorkshire and our nation.

Please pray that we will see a transformation in Yorkshire and our nation. God is calling His body to pray. Prayer changes things. Prayer moves the hand that holds the power.

If anyone is interested if they let me know I will get them a registration form. Just to note although it is still at York University the venue has changed and I have asked for updated information re this - new leaflets/posters are being printed.

The conference is entitled "God Shall Heal Our Nation" and is based on the text 2 Chronicles 7:14.

The cost is £5 per person and registration is 10:00am to 10:30am.

Jeannie Buckroyd

News from the Revival Christian Life Centre Matugga, Uganda

During Pastor Ivan's visit to Ilkley last month a group of us were privileged to spend an evening with him and Tendo. An amazing evening:

- We were excited to hear news of the primary and secondary schools, the clinic, the orphanage and the vocation centre run by Pastor Ivan and his family
- We were saddened to hear about the arson attacks on the children's dormitories
- We sang with Pastor Ivan and Tendo (one of the girls from Matugga), Sophie and Abigail "I'm going to let it shine" in both English and Lugandan - we even learnt to dance as we sang - African style!
- We learnt of the new agricultural project being set up to enable vocational training in farming skills, to bring in income from the sale of crops and provide a range of crops to improve the children's diet (the cost of basic food-stuff is becoming increasingly more expensive)
- We were humbled as Pastor Ivan prayed for us and thanked us for what we were doing for them
- We were challenged to want to do more to help and support the Revival Centre at Matugga

What can we do?

Pray

Learn more - look at the notice board in the Lower Hall, the church website and its link to Matugga or www.revivalcentrematugga.org.uk

Sponsor a child in Matugga (see the above website), or Merle Collins has details

Give - Pastor Ivan needs to build a new secure boys' dormitory on the site. The cost - £8,000. Can we rise to the challenge?

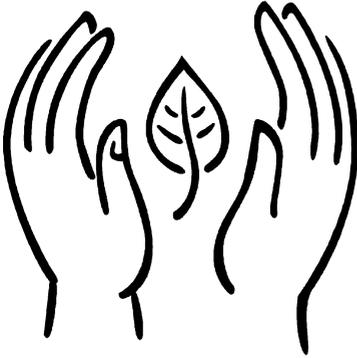
Merle Collins

"The simple desire for God is already the beginning of faith".

Brother Roger of Taize

Submitted by Brian Armitage

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



The Green Spot

Last month I wrote about plastic bottles. This month I want to tell you about the "Doldrums" - an area of the Pacific Ocean where winds and current bring flotsam and jetsam from all over the world. Scientists have found that there is now an area twice the size of France where plastic debris has been deposited to a depth of over 10metres!

No bacteria or animal life exists that can digest plastic pieces. Animals that ingest it, such as whales, may die. However, the sunlight degrades the plastic into ever smaller pieces which scientists guess will take over 1000 years to degrade.

Plastics are made from crude oil, which is due to become more expensive as stocks diminish. Eventually, it will run out so why do we continue to make anything from plastic? Better window frames can be made of wood - a better insulator and a renewable source. Food packaging can be made from wood pulp. Some is already being made from maize. We can find solutions.

We need more scientists - any volunteers?

Elizabeth Halsall

HARVEST OF WHARFEDALE

On September 20th this year the Christchurch congregations will celebrate this Harvest together. There will be a joint act of worship commencing at 10:00am followed by a lunch and exciting activities after that!

The celebrations, ending with worship, will be completed by 3:30pm.

PLEASE NOTE THE DIFFERENT TIMING AND MAKE THIS A DATE IN YOUR DIARY!

This will be a day for all ages to enjoy and contribute to.

Margaret Cook

SEEDS FROM ON-LINE

A few weeks ago our On-Line group spoke about "Seeds". I shared a few seeds that we should plant in our vegetable garden (our lives).

5 Rows of Peas:

Prayers, Promptness, Politeness, Preparedness and Perseverance.

Then 3 Rows of Squash:

Squash... Gossip, criticism and indifference.

We always need lettuce:

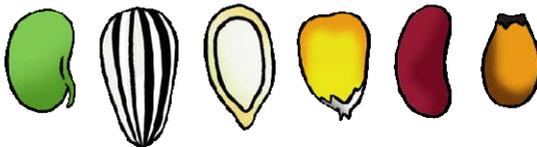
Let us be faithful

Let us be unselfish

Let us be loyal

Let us be truthful

And let us love one another.



No garden would be complete without Turnips:

So turn up in the right spirit

Turn up ready

Turn up ready to co-operate

Turn up with determination to be a blessing to others.

Margaret Cobb

Comings and Goings

The following folk have moved:

Ettie Rigg to Glen Rosa

Cedrick Mattock to Abbeydale

Barbara Gilbank to Glen Rosa

Mike and Sue Kirk to 29 Hall Drive, Burley in Wharfedale, LS29 7LR (862652)

Georgiana & Daniel Higgins to 4 Bolton Bridge Road (430399)

Alice Robinson to Herncliffe Nursing Home, Spring Gardens Lane, Keighley

Mary Mawer to 15 Backstone Way

Joan Baldwin to Glen Rosa

We remember those who have died:

Jack Baldwin, Margaret Atkin, Marjorie Cook, Margaret Kitching

Pastoral Team

Items from the Church Meeting and Council.

Margaret Cook is the recently installed Moderator of CTI.

Rev Rob Hilton and Margaret led the very effective Pentecost celebration at the bandstand.

The AGM - main item - *Celebrating CTI* - and there is a lot to celebrate.

A representative from each congregation shared news of *some of the positive things happening in their churches*. Judy Dixon spoke on behalf of Christchurch.

As well as the established round of joint Services and lent groups etc, there are well established projects. For instance ***The Nile Road House... Oasis Caf  ... The Allotment***

Two new developments...

The Buzz Club at the Baptist Church, for people with learning disabilities, was opened by our MP Ann Cryer, in June. Grant funding has been obtained. It is hoped to open a lunch club, also at the Baptist Church, using graduates from Oasis, and serving meals to local people.

The Oasis caf   is run by Bradford College as an educational activity.

Youth Work continues to have its ups and downs. The newest venture is a series of 4 ***Uprising*** Services of Worship.

Big Bible Read. Thanks to all those who took part. The event began at Whitby when a 100 year old member read the first two chapters of Genesis down the telephone and ended at the start of Synod when a young member of St Andrews, Skipton, read the last chapter of Revelation. Our turn came on Thursday lunchtime when several Psalms were read at Christchurch. Kevin Watson, our Moderator, called to thank all those who took part.

Vision 2020 A consultation process is being undertaken via Mission and Care Groups and every church is invited to participate.

Yorkshire's Gospel During the summer we will be receiving some verses of Scripture and are invited to reproduce them in any form we like. Can we be creative? Would it be an opportunity to engage with local schools? The results will be collated in October to create a Yorkshire Bible. Several Housegroups have agreed to consider how this may be done.

Christian Aid Week 2009 We are grateful to **Alan Lowe** for organising the street collection and to **Rev Rob Hilton** for his challenge, thanks to which we managed to cover every street allocated to us! Alan informs me that **£1,635.66** was collected, including £332.56 from envelopes returned at

Christchurch by members who did not receive them at home. The total sum will be increased as **£732** was gift aided. On the eve of the week a further **£367** was raised by one of our Housegroups which organised afternoon teas in the Coffee Centre. **Ruth Hilton** is willing to serve as our Christian Aid Secretary. She has already attended the Ilkley Christian Aid group.

Dates:

1. **Church Meeting** Monday 7th September. **Church Council** Wednesday 30th September. Both at 7.30pm.

Family Evening for Harvest. Food, fun, dancing to a Celidh Band. Tickets: £3 (adult) / £1.50 (children).

Church Meeting.

1. There is still one vacancy for a representative from the Church Meeting on to Church Council. If you wish to propose someone who is a Church Member get their permission, put it in writing and sign it yourself.
2. Anyone wishing to have an item considered at the meeting should put it in writing.

Both items 1. & 2. should be given to Chris Mannall, Revd Rob Hilton or any of the Church Stewards at least one week before the meeting.

Chris Mannall

News from the Website

You may be interested to know that during our first month of operation (May), we had 13010 pages viewed, and in June this rose to 15584. We estimate that about 50 people each day are visiting us - many more than we had expected.

Recent additions have included:

- a collection of photographs from the Pentecost service held out on the Grove
- a page about Matugga (following Pastor Ivan's visit)
- a collection of study notes from about fifty On-Line services
- a new section of "Events" advertising upcoming special activities

And for website members

- all On-Line Steering Group minutes
- On-Line documents and rotas
- the minutes of the last four Church Meetings

Our next venture will be digital downloads of the 10:30 service and sermon, once we've cracked the problem of file size—we are recording at too good a quality at the moment!!

steve amos

Update from Dorothea Jeffrey - June 2009

Translation Checking

In April I checked Luke 2 & 3 with the Zam Team in Glasgow. And I'm just back from a week at Wycliffe HQ in Horsleys Green where I checked John 5-13 with the Kab translator. I also spend quite a lot of time preparing for these checking sessions ahead of time, and writing reports afterwards. The translation teams send me a "back-translation" - a word-for-word, back into English, interlinear translation of what they have done. I check this for accuracy and faithfulness to the original - often using a word-for-word interlinear translation of the Greek text. It's important not to get confused between the two - especially as one goes from right to left and the other from left to right! Please pray for the Holy Spirit's wisdom for me and for the translators as we try to find the best - clearest and most accurate and natural - ways to express God's message in these languages.

Prayer for Kab and Zam

As a translation consultant, I no longer work with only one language. I have the privilege of working with several translation teams. They are the ones in the front line, and would appreciate your prayers. The Zam team are preparing back-translation of more chapters of Luke for me to check. The Kab translator has already sent me back-translations of all of John and Romans. In July she will travel to another country to meet with a group of Kab speakers and test Acts and the first part of John with them. This is an essential part of the translation process, to ensure that the translation is clear and free from ambiguities and that it uses the most natural and appropriate style. Since Kab is a displaced project (ie located outside the country where the language is spoken) it can be quite a challenge to locate a suitable group of speakers to test it. Please pray also for the distribution of the Kab Jesus film, completed last year and now available on DVD. Pray for safety and wisdom for all involved and that God's Word would reach the hearts of the Kab people.

Zam is also a displaced project - as indeed are all the translation projects I am involved with at the moment. The Zam team are currently exploring ways of using the internet to test the translation of Luke. Isn't it amazing how God can use modern technology to help the spread of His Kingdom? Pray that the team will somehow be able to get good feedback from the Zam community

Give thanks

Good progress with checking of Kab John and Zam Luke
Some progress with my dissertation.

Please pray for

Wisdom for me as I continue the work of checking and for the teams to find ways to test the translations

Distribution of the Kab Jesus film

Recording of God's Story in Lab and John's Gospel in Lig

Peace in Sudan and DR Congo & the LRA to be completely disarmed and disbanded

Those designing programs for the Mündü radio broadcasts

The translation of the Mündü OT & Trauma Healing book, and the recording of the Mündü NT as an audio-book

That many Mündüs will hear and believe the Gospel message.

Submitted by George McArthur
(and for those who may be unaware, Dorothea is Adele's sister!)

A LOOK AT THE FINANCIAL TIMES A SERIES OF THREE SERMONS

Sunday evenings at Christchurch (6:30pm)

Preacher: Rev Arnold Clay

16th August: Building for retirement - (Luke 12:13-21)

23rd August: Cushioning against disaster - (Luke 16:1-13)

30th August: Investing in the future - (Luke 18:18-30)

ALL WELCOME!

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.

Summer Meeting

August 5th – Leeds Donkey Sanctuary

The Guild re-opens on 2nd September

Kids' Slot

New Beginnings

In September, some of our Christchurch children will be making some very big moves in their lives.

Erica East, William Attack, Isabel Jackson and Isabelle Freeman will be starting primary school. Ruairidh Mon Williams, Daniel Jones, Jessica Hatting, Deborah Henney and Lauren Brown will be starting secondary school. Emma Noble has come to the end of this stage of her schooling and awaits her A level results in August. Emily Cade and Lucy Mannall await their GCSE results before joining the Sixth Form in September. We wish them, and their families, all God's blessings in this exciting and perhaps daunting time of their lives. Jesus promises to be with us, even when we can't be with our family and friends during challenging times in our lives, and we pray that this promise would be a reality in your lives.

At On-Line@9, Erica, William, Isabel and Isabelle will move up from our Ladybirds group to our Dolphins group. Ruairidh, Daniel, Lauren, Deborah and Jessica will move up from our Eagles group to YICs (Youth in Christ). Also, Rachel Burns will move up to TICs (Teens in Christ).

A special thank you to all the people who run and support our children's and young people's groups, both on Sunday morning and through the week. The children receive such great teaching and witness such wonderful Christian living week in week out, and we pray that this will stay with them throughout their lives.

Holiday Club

It's not too late to sign up for the King's Club, which this year is called Showstoppers. It will take place at St Margaret's Church, Queens Road, and lasts from Monday 17th - Friday 21st August, 10:00am - 12:00noon and is aimed at 5-11 years olds. You'll meet familiar faces and make new friends as you learn about some showstopping characters from the Bible.

Registration forms are available in the Foyer at Christchurch.

Ruth Jones

POG bags

For those of you not in the know, these are “People of God” bags that I designed to be used to help tell Bible stories to children. They can be used for all ages, but have mainly been used by mums and toddlers for their fortnightly story slot. They have proved really popular!



Each draw string bag contains items to help tell the story of a person from the Bible. (As some characters are more prominent than others, there may be more than one bag per person, eg Daniel.) The adult can then pull things out of the bag to help illustrate what the character does.

We started with eight, and have now run out, so we're putting out a plea to help us make more. I had great fun creating the first lot - scouring shops for toys, thinking of interesting games to play and buying related books.

Each bag contains a copy of the Bible passage, a young children's book of the story (aimed at under 5s), a cuddly toy, a suggested prayer, an artist's painting of the story, and a memory verse. Sometimes there are other props for re-enacting the story, maybe puppets or a board game.

Do you think you could help? Who is your favourite Bible character? David? Hannah? the man born blind? Join together with some other friends and see what sort of props you could come up with to retell your story.

Please check with me first to ensure that your choice of person isn't duplicated. Even if you're only able to start a bag, that would significantly reduce the burden on me to create all of them from scratch.

Please contact me if you want further clarification. Thank you in advance for your help.

Margaret Whitton

Pastoral Changes

It is with a great sense of trepidation that, as a church, we have let Lynda Duttine stand down from the post of Pastoral Secretary this year! Lynda has done this job for about 15 years, and in doing so has built up a tremendous pastoral system, sought out the gifted people and encouraged them into appropriate roles, and carried an increasing amount of administration and paper work. As well as, of course, the pastoral care she herself has shown to so many (if not all?) of us over that time - the thought, care, and prayer she has shown in visiting and sensitively caring for us truly have been a blessing from God.

As Lynda has stood down from this role, the Pastoral Committee and the Church Council have marked her resignation in appropriate ways on all our behalves.

The Pastoral Committee now has the task of making sure the work continues to the high standard Lynda has set. She herself has enabled this hand over to take place incredibly well, found people to replace her for various bits of the job, and in fact carries on with the small and focussed task of arranging the monthly home communions.

Judy Dixon and Jeannie Buckroyd, as well as myself, will now share immediate contact for pastoral matters. In the longer term we shall be seeking to replace Lynda with an overall co-ordinator and practitioner. Your prayers, support, and suggestions in this respect would be appreciated.

Lynda, we say thank you for all you have done, and to you, Jeannie and Judy, we offer our continued support.

Rob Hilton

CHRISTCHURCH PRAYER CALENDAR

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



2nd August: The worship and communion stewards; Care International—working with the poor and vulnerable in some of the poorest countries in the world

9th August: The leaders and congregation of the Shoppers' Service

16th August: Our minister, the Rev Rob Hilton, his wife Ruth and their children, Sam, Ned and Esther; families and individuals visiting Wharfedale on holiday

23rd August: The Resources Committee in its stewardship of our finances; the Methodist Relief & Development Fund supporting and transforming lives of individuals and communities.

WORSHIP AT CHRISTCHURCH
August 2009

	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th
9:00am	On-Line@9	On-Line@9	On-Line@9	On-Line@9	On-Line@9
10:30am	Rev Rob Hilton HC	Rev Ken Sowerby	Stan Loach	Rev Rob Hilton	Chris Eagle & Jeannie Buckroyd
6:30pm	Rev Rob Hilton	Brian Armitage	<i>3rd Sunday</i> Rev Arnold Clay	Rev Arnold Clay HC	Rev Arnold Clay

SHOPPERS' SERVICE EACH FRIDAY at 10:30am

31st Rev Arnold Clay; 7th Father Philip Gray; 14th Dr John Morgan-Wynne;
21st Rev Carole Johnston; 28th Margaret Cook

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Saturday 19th September
HARVEST EVENING
WITH
THE RHIDINGS CEILIDH BAND

Refreshments 6pm
Ceilidh and barn dancing from 7pm
Tickets (available soon) : £3 (adult) / £1.50 (children)

Saturday 21st November
An evening with the **WHITE ROSETTES**
(*European Barbershop Champions 2009*
& *Eisteddfod Choir of the World Finalists 2008*)
Tickets £5 (available soon)

DETAILS FROM MALCOLM ATKINSON

This month's Wider Horizons has been produced by a stand-in team whilst Margo is on holiday. We apologise for any errors and omissions. Normal service will be resumed next month!