



ST JOHN'S NEWS AND VIEWS

Number 12
April 6th, 2021

Worship



Morning services, led by Revd. Tim, and short services of Evening Prayer are posted on our Facebook page

(facebook.com/settlemethodist) and on YouTube every Sunday.

On 11th and 18th April short reflective services, led by Revd. Tim, will be held in church at 5.0 p.m.

Circuit Time of Prayer

You are invited to join in a Circuit Prayer Meeting at 8.00 p.m. on the 8th April (and on the 8th of each month). Online details will be available on our Facebook page. If you are unable to join online, you are still invited to spend a few minutes praying for our churches and for the needs of the wider world, in the knowledge that others will be doing so at the same time.

Continuing our series on roles within the church:

What does a Pastoral Visitor do?

At one time, all Methodists were allocated to classes of about 12 members who would meet regularly for bible study, prayer and conversation about their spiritual lives. A class leader was responsible for leading each group - and collecting members subscriptions!!

The position of class leader has gradually evolved into that of pastoral visitor; he/she is allocated a number of church members and adherents for whom he/she has some pastoral responsibility. Pastoral visitors try

to keep in touch with the members of their groups, informing the minister of any particular needs e.g. serious illness.

Situations Vacant

1. **Invoicing hall users.** Preparing and sending invoices on a monthly basis, using information supplied by Anne Martin. Receiving cheque and cash payments and passing these on to Robin Corbett. More details available from Eileen Edwards or Maurice Walters.
2. **Churches Together representative.** This involves attending about 3 meetings per year and then keeping the congregation informed of any services/activities planned by Churches Together. More details available from Richard Pike.

If you would be willing to take on either of these roles, please contact Revd. Tim.



Coffee Pot

Don't forget our 'virtual' Coffee Pot 10.30-11.30 a.m. every Tuesday. Full details are posted on our Facebook page.

Yorkshire Preachers: no.10

Samuel Hick: cont.

Sammy's habitual kindness has been mentioned. An instance occurred one summer morning when the village of Micklefield was inundated with exhausted soldiers who were on a forced march south. Sammy, always up and about early, saw their plight and gave them bread, butter, cheese, meat, milk and beer, the entire contents of his cellar and pantry. (Soon afterwards his wife was

dismayed to find that there was nothing left with which to make breakfast.) Later, officers called offering to pay for the provisions. Sammy would accept nothing.

It is said that this incident became a legend in the British army and was spoken of on the field of Waterloo. (This is an interesting footnote to the history of the Napoleonic Wars).

Jane Mansergh

FAMILY NEWS



The good and bad times.

On March 9th Glynn and I were blessed with the safe arrival of a healthy grandson, born to Viki and Gareth, who live in Manchester. He is called Sebastian and was 7lb 13oz. He is

gorgeous, although as grandparents we may be biased. He is a hungry little soul and is putting on weight at a pace. His birth, hopefully, signals a change in our fortunes for this year.

As some of you will know, Glynn and I did not have a good start to 2021.

My mum, aged 92, passed away after a short stay in hospital at the beginning of February. While my sister and I were sitting by mum's bedside, Glynn was rushed to A&E with severe abdominal pains and ended up having not one but two emergency operations in Durham hospital. His recovery has not been straightforward but he now seems to be on the road to better health.

Thank you for the support and prayers that we have received during this difficult time.

Best wishes, Liz Brown

Dear God,

I've been thinking a lot about this story of late.

There was once a man, Lee, who saw what he decided was an elephant. He told everyone, convinced he had seen an elephant. When others tried to persuade him that he was unlikely to have seen an elephant, given that he lived in the centre of a town and that the Yorkshire Dales are not the usual habitat for elephants, he grew angry. "I know what I saw! I believe it was an elephant". They answered, "Just because you believe it, doesn't make it true".

Infuriated, he replied, "You've no right to question what I believe. I've a right to my opinion and you're stifling my freedom of speech". They answered, "You can believe what you wish, you've every right to say what you wish. But it doesn't mean it actually was an elephant".

Lee became enraged, shrieking "I've seen pictures of elephants: so I know I am right".

He produced a torn scrap of paper. It showed a picture of a mouse. Beneath the picture were the words THE ELEPHANT AND THE MOUSE. A person pointed to a poster with a drawing of an elephant and a mouse. At the bottom were the words THE ELEPHANT AND THE MOUSE. "Now", he explained, "When you see the whole picture you can see you were mistaken". Lee shook his head angrily.

"How dare you try to say you know better than me? I've a right to believe what I want and to say it". "You've every right to say what you wish", the person replied, "but that doesn't alter the truth". "Why are you picking on me?" Lee shouted. "I'm right and you're just getting at me". With that he stormed into the road - where he was promptly trampled to death by a stampede of what he believed was a herd of mice who had escaped from a local circus....

Yours,

Old Lil Nongle

Tip No.6

Spend less time in the shower. Spending one minute less in the shower each day will save up to £7 off your energy bill each year, per person. Heating water uses a lot of energy.

Borrowed from the Anglican Green Fingers website.

Bible Trivia Quiz

Q. Who was the greatest female financier in the Bible?

A. Pharaoh's daughter; she went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.

Q. Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?

A. Samson: he brought the house down.

Q. Which servant of Jehovah was the most flagrant lawbreaker in the Bible?

A. Moses, because he broke all ten commandments at once.

Q. Where is the first tennis match mentioned in the Bible?

A. When Joseph served in Pharaoh's court.

Q. Which Bible character had no parents?

A. Joshua, son of Nun.

Q. Why didn't Noah go fishing?

A. He only had two worms!

(from *A Bucket of Surprises*, J. John & Mark Stibbe, Monarch Books)

Answers to the last quiz:

(Just to make it a little harder, I also missed out the letter Z. Well done if you spotted that.)

Deuteronomy, Revelation, Zechariah, Obadiah, Psalms, Habakkuk, Hosea, Matthew, Song of Songs, Titus.

More Family News

Many will have enjoyed seeing some of Chris Sturrock's Rupert Bear characters on the online all age service. Here is Chris herself surrounded by her family.



Rupert was 100 years old last November. You may be interested to know that Alfred Bestall who took over from Rupert's originator, Mary Tourtel, and produced the Rupert the Bear cartoons for 30 years was the son of Methodist missionaries and was an ardent Methodist himself.

QUESTIONS

I love the little ones, bright little faces, constantly asking WHY, or HOW. But let's face it, it could be a bit wearing and I for one did not always have the answers.

And so it is in adult life, wanting to know and, to be even more precise in church life, wanting to find out what it is all about!

Sometimes in a service, I want to put up my hand and ask the preacher what something means but I desist. That person has put a lot of hard work into preparing the homily. Just supposing he/she/it/hadn't got the answer on the tip of their tongue. And so I sit on my hands and keep quiet.

In the records of an old church I read the following: "When the priest intoned the words 'I know that my redeemer liveth' a voice from the back shouted out, 'How do you know that?'" That voice belonged to one of my ancestors; he was flung into jail for blasphemy – where would I end up if I raised my hand at an inconvenient time?

I am old now, my face no longer bright but curiosity still active, only following a different direction. What will all those who have gone before think of me? How will the 'organisers' of the afterlife cope with me?

I will find out one day.

I have six honest serving men
They serve me well and true
Their names are HOW and WHY and
WHEN
And WHERE and WHAT and WHO

Audrey Daykin

THANK YOU to all those who have contributed to this and previous newsletters. **Do keep them coming.** Please send any items to Wendy or Philip and we'll see that they are published.

SAD NEWS

It is with great sadness we let you know that Frank Rhodes died peacefully in the early hours of this morning, with his family Jo and Kit beside him.

We will remember them all in our prayers with thankfulness for all that Frank was to us as a church and as a community. The gift of his life was one we will treasure.

May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

Prayer for the Easter season by Revd. Michaela Youngson



When everything was dark and it seemed that the sun would never shine again, your love broke through. Your love was too strong, too wide, too

deep for death to hold.

The sparks cast by your love dance and spread and burst forth with resurrection light. Gracious God, we praise you for the light of new life made possible through Jesus.

We praise you for the light of new life that shone on the first witnesses of resurrection.

We praise you for the light of new life that continues to shine in our hearts today.

We pray that the Easter light of life, hope and joy, will live in us each day; and that we will be bearers of that light into the lives of others. Amen.



HAPPY EASTER EVERYONE