

The
Messenger

May 2017

Saltaire United Reformed Church



Welcome to our church:
a place of worship and
of community.



Notes from the Manse

Our services are children-friendly, with a **Sunday School** for very young children and their carers, which starts after the first 20 minutes of the service.

Coffee and Tea are served after each Sunday service in the downstairs rooms. **Please do join us.**

If you wish to discuss a **wedding or christening**, please see one of the authorized persons at the front desk after a Sunday service.

One of the things that I often recognise as being difficult for people is the ability to forgive. At some point in all of our lives we will struggle and wrestle with forgiveness.

During my training for ministry, my husband Michael had suffered a great deal with depression and anxiety, and I had repeatedly asked for support from the sending synod. My cries for support and guidance had largely fallen upon deaf ears, and over a period of the four years of ministry training I was deeply disappointed.

Disappointment can often lead to anger and resentment. On reflection, I was disappointed with the pastoral committee for not having made an attempt to reach out to me and to my family. I was also disappointed with the members of the synod who had been aware of the situation and, had it seemed deliberately, chosen to look the other way. I had written emails and letters and had left messages with senior staff, who either did not have the time to reply or they could not be bothered.

Towards the end of the final year of training a number of friends and a tutor at the college encouraged me in what I felt was 'righteous anger,' to seek justice from the synod. Although I had accepted that my family and I would not receive the pastoral care that we so desperately needed during the first year, I had as a result harboured a level of anger towards certain individuals that at times I worried would eventually 'eat me up' inside.

During the first year within my first church pastorate I attended an evening service in a local church, and the message was all about forgiveness. I was certain that God was speaking to me that night. The problem I had was that although I had moved on, I had held onto the resentment and anger and I did not know how to let go, or indeed where to begin to offer forgiveness. After the service I shared some of my story with a member of the ministry team, and as the minister listened to the ways in which I had had found it difficult to forgive, he simply said, "Caroline, you have to choose to forgive and, if you forgive, the feelings will follow." I remember that I did not like the suggestion as a way of moving forward, but I was very much aware that the advice the minister had given to me was right. Over a period of time the minister helped me to make a conscious decision to find it in my heart to forgive and to leave the

situation with God, and to move on.

I remember the following day, after speaking the words of forgiveness in prayer to God, as I was relieved that such an enormous weight had been lifted from me. I had struggled for such a long time in letting go and trusting that God had heard my need to forgive those who had wounded me through neglect, and I was also aware that a sense of healing had begun.

Forgiveness does not mean that we ignore abuse, and inappropriate behaviour, as I believe that Our Lord God would not want us to turn a blind eye to any form of abuse. Forgiveness is not about forgetting or convincing ourselves that the hurt we feel does not matter. If we try to force ourselves to forget the hurt we feel inside, the pain and the hurt does not leave us, but instead it can often manifest in other ways. There is never going to be an ideal or right time to let go and to forgive. If we waste time in waiting to offer forgiveness then the time may never come, and our opportunity to bring about a journey of forgiveness and healing maybe something that we regret for the rest of our lives.

Forgiveness is choosing to let go and not to hold onto the ways in which we have been wronged. Once we make a decision to forgive someone, then Our Lord Jesus will join us on that journey and He will restore and heal us. Forgiveness is an important part of our physical, and spiritual well-being.

"Forgive one another one another, just as Our Lord God through Christ has forgiven us."
(Romans chapter 12 verses 19-20)

With every blessing,

Rev. Caroline Andrews

Diary for May 2017

Date	Time	Event
Fri 5 th	1.30pm	Wedding of Daniel Lane and Kim Sprenger.
Sat 6 th	4pm	Wedding of Karl Moulden and Rebecca Lobley.
Sun 7 th	10.30am	Communion Service led by Rev. Caroline Andrews. Organist: Mr Geoff Collins.
Sun 14 th	10.30am	Family Service led by Rev. Caroline Andrews (preceded by THE BIG BREAKFAST for Christian Aid – all welcome). Organist: Mr Robert Moorby.
Tue 16 th	6pm	Church Meeting (meal and prayers precede meeting).
Sun 21 st	10.30am	Family Service led by Dr. Pat Nicholls. Organist: Mr Richard Niczyperowicz
	12 noon	Deadline for June's edition of The Messenger.
Sun 28 th	10.30am	Family Service led by Rev. Caroline Andrews. Organist: Mr Howard Hutchinson.

Regular Church Activities

SUN	10.30am Service: 1pm–4pm	1 st – Communion 2 nd 3 rd 4 th & 5 th – Family Services Church open to the public (all year). Cafe open 1 st Sunday of each month.
MON	1.30–3pm 7–8.30pm	Toddlers' Praise Time Bell ringing practice
TUE	7-7.30pm 7.30pm	Prayer meeting for the Church and Saltaire Elders' meeting (meets 1 st Tue in the month)
WED	6-9pm	5 th Shipley Scout Groups' meetings

The church is open to visitors 2pm-4pm Monday to Friday from April to September.

Please join in! New group members are assured a warm welcome.

Thanks & Notices

COPPERS APPEAL 2017

Thanks to the generosity of our "regular savers" we have £369.18 towards our 2017 Coppers Appeal.

Over the last year or so we have watched the transformation of two of our downstairs rooms, thanks to Mike with a little help from David N. Much still needs to be done. Our next major task is to replace/improve the toilets and kitchen which, as we all know, costs money.

There are lots of demands on our finances but if you can spare your coppers/loose change for our Coppers Appeal, this would be much appreciated. All the money raised goes towards our ongoing restoration/improvement work.

Thank you.

Pauline Sleight.

A RIGHT ROYAL OCCASION

Yes, only another month to go to our Annual Summer Fete!

As you know, we are having a Royalist theme to celebrate the Queen and Prince Philip's Platinum Anniversary and it would be great if everyone could come dressed up, even if only with some Union Jack trimmings.

Book the date now - SAT URDAY, 3RD JUNE - starting at 12.30pm with The Bradford Met. Concert Band and a delicious BBQ. There will be lots of entertainment including our Cafe providing Cream Teas, donkeyrides, children's races and face painting. Have a go at Sumo wrestling, lots of charity stalls, ice cream, tombola, bric-a-brac, cakes, chocolate stalls. Sit in the sun (!) to enjoy watching Spanish Dancers, Children's Peace Dancers and Ukelele Henry to keep the party going.

All this for only £1 with children free !!

Let's make this the best Summer Fete ever!

All offers of help to make it all happen will be most gratefully received.

Joyce Poot and Fund Raising Committee

NEW MESSENGER EDITOR REQUIRED

Due to various other commitments, I am hoping to pass on the Messenger editing duties to someone from August (or earlier if possible). The July/August edition will be the last one I edit. I can provide a template, although after 4 and a half years it may be time for a re-vamp! All that is needed is a few hours each month and a basic computer knowledge. I am happy to answer any questions.

Leona Holland

Quiz Time

1. The character of Belle in this year's film *Beauty and the Beast* is played by which actress?
2. A leap is a collective noun for which animals?
3. Which style of piano music was developed by Scott Joplin?
4. In what year was the Act of Union when the Scottish and English Parliament were joined together?
5. Which Keith Waterhouse novel (1959) was set in the fictional town of Stradhoughton?
6. Which was the 11th studio album by The Beatles which featured the hit "Something" (1969)?
7. Which South African clergyman was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984?
8. Who is the President of the European Council?
9. In the comic strip *Peanuts*, what is the name of Charlie Brown's dog?
10. What is the nickname of Edward, the eldest son of Edward III and father of Richard II?
11. What type of creature is a comma?
12. Which Robert was Archbishop of Canterbury from 1980 to 1991?
13. Easter Island in the Pacific Ocean belongs to which South American country?
14. According to the Bible, how did Judas kill himself?
15. Which German Second World War criminal was the only inmate of Spandau Prison for 21 years?
16. Who invented the steam engine?
17. What are the three primary colours?
18. What residence is situated at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue?
19. Which English test cricketer also played for Arsenal from 1936 to 1950?
20. In the body, what is the technical name for the windpipe?

Thanks to Tony and Elaine Wilson.

Answers on page 8

Eastertide

The Easter season, also known as the Eastertide, is the fifty days which span from Easter Sunday until the day of Pentecost. It is the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus and is the triumph of those who follow him, for in him they inherit everlasting life.

But enough about the general background of the season. The most important question to ask during the Easter season is this; what does the period of Easter mean for us Christians? Whilst I can't vouch for any other Christian opinion, I can certainly give my own.

Easter is the occasion for the celebration of the resurrection, but often we don't seem to fully grasp how Jesus being raised applies to us. If we draw back to the Church at the beginning, the Ancient Romans were often confused by the happiness of those "peculiar Christians", but why were they so happy? They faced persecution and execution at the hands of the Romans, but they have been described as unafraid. What did Easter mean for them?

The resurrection had been the biblical peak for God's creation since Genesis. For before the resurrection, mankind had been severed from the relationship with God, we had swerved from the path which God had wanted for us. But our God is a great God and sent us his love in the form of his son, Jesus.

The long-prophesized saviour of mankind had arrived and performed many wonders, most importantly the resurrection. Jesus was crucified as the ultimate sacrifice for humanity, and in him we live eternally. No longer does death oppress us, in Christ's resurrection we are free.

Therefore, the reason the Easter season is so important, it is our victory which we share in Christ. For we are the Easter People and the Lord is our Shepherd. Whilst we think on the Easter season then, remember this, God loves every one of you. Praise be to our risen Lord.

Edward Convery

ANSWERS

- 1 Emma Watson;
- 2 Leopards;
- 3 Scott Joplin;
- 4 1707;
- 5 Billy Liar;
- 6 Abbey Road;
- 7 Archbishop Desmond Tutu;
- 8 Donald Tusk;
- 9 Snoopy;
- 10 The Black Prince;
- 11 Butterfly;
- 12 Runcie;
- 13 Chile;
- 14 Hung himself;
- 15 Rudolf Hess;
- 16 James Watt;
- 17 Red, yellow and blue;
- 18 The White House;
- 19 Denis Compton;
- 20 Trachea.

In These Busy Times...

Take time to think – it is a source of power.

Take time to be quiet – it is the opportunity to seek God.

Take time to be friendly – it is the road to happiness.

Take time to be aware – it is the opportunity to help others.

Take time to pray – it is the greatest power on earth.

Take time to play – it is the secret of staying young.

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5th Shipley Scout Group

Saltaire United Reformed Church

Meet on Wednesdays in the Church Rooms

Group Scout Leader: Linda Malloy

Beaver Scouts – age 6 to 8 years
6pm to 7pm. BSL: Linda Malloy

Cub Scouts – age 8 to 10½ years
6pm to 7.30pm. CSL: Jennifer Williamson

Scouts – age 10½ to 14 years
7.15pm to 9pm. SL: Neil Holmes

Explorer Scouts – age 14 to 18
8pm to 9.30pm. ESL: Zac Williamson

For more information contact Linda Malloy 01274 400771