

Focus on May 2024



WELCOME TO WESLEY CHAPEL

We are open for Sunday Morning Worship, 10.30am, see p3 for details of our services.

The Nidd Valley Circuit presents a weekly pre-recorded worship, TED Talk style. Please visit <https://www.facebook.com/NiddValley/>

Circuit Morning Prayer Live runs every morning Monday to Friday at 8am on Facebook. This is available for watching again after the live broadcast/ <https://www.facebook.com/NiddValley/>

All links (and much more) can be accessed via our website <https://www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk>

or if you need more information leave a message: <https://www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk/contact>

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Charity Registration 1134055

The deadline for 'Wesley Focus on June is 24 May. Please send any notices, news, articles, photographs to Judith Yeats: 07733 064697 judithyeats0@gmail.com. Focus is also on the website. <https://www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk/our-focus>

WHAT'S ON AT WESLEY

SUNDAY 5 MAY 10.30am. Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev. Leonora Wassell.

THURSDAY 9 MAY 2pm. Wesley Fellowship. Speaker Frank Ellis. *Best Medicine.*

SUNDAY 12 MAY 10.30am
10.30am. Morning Worship . Local Arrangement.

6pm. Wesley Sunday Share via Zoom. (Link will be sent out or contact Les or Judith).

MONDAY 13 MAY 1pm. Lunchtime Recital. Alessandro Fisher (tenor) and Simon Lepper (piano).

FRIDAY 17 MAY 10am. Online Coffee. (Link will be sent out or contact Les or Judith).

SUNDAY 19 MAY 10am. Pentecost. Morning Worship led by Peter Lacey.

SUNDAY 26 MAY
10.30am Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev. Gordon Hay.

6pm Wesley Sunday Share via Zoom (Link will be sent out or contact Les or Judith).

TUESDAYS. 10.30am to 1pm. Wesley Wheelie Welcome Café/ Warm Welcome. Come and join us for a chat. Refreshments will be served.

NIDD VALLEY CIRCUIT MAY ONLINE TALKS. SUNDAY 9am.

May Online Talks (9am):

5 May – Lesley Taylor
12 May – Lesley Taylor
19 May – Leonora Wassell
26h May – Leonora Wassell

WESLEY WHEELIE WELCOME CAFÉ 2024 DUTY ROTA

	10.30 to 12 noon	12 noon to 1pm
30 April	Ian and Eileen	Mike and Maureen
07 May	Jean and Wendy	Mike and Maureen
14 May	Les and Christine	Les and Christine
21 May	Jean and Wendy	Judith and Jackie
28 May	Shelagh and Pat	Shelagh, David, Laura
04 June	Jean and Wendy	Mike and Maureen
11 June	Les and Christine	Les and Christine
18 June	Jean and Wendy	Judith and Jackie
25 June	Shelagh and Keith	Shelagh, David, Laura

Christian Aid Week 2024



This year, Christian Aid Week is from 12 to 18 May. For this reason we have a designated collection at church on Sunday 12 May. Donation envelopes can also be handed in until the end of May.

Your support for this life-changing charity would be greatly appreciated. Your gift could help families in Burundi in Eastern Africa, one of the poorest countries in the world, where a combination of extreme poverty and the climate crises are making survival a daily challenge.

Many thanks

Ulrike

WESLEY FELLOWSHIP

We had a great time at our second meeting of the season, with an All-Sorts Quiz. Following opening devotions and a couple of hymns, thank you Barbara for playing for our hymns which were on the theme of friendship, our quizmaster extraordinaire, Les tested our knowledge and intelligence. Quizzes can be a little competitive and chaotic at times, but it was a great afternoon of friendship and laughter.

Here is our programme for 2024. Do come and join us/

March - Welcome back and the St. Peter's handbell ringers

11 April 'All-sorts' Quiz – led by Les Sudron.

09 May. 'Best medicine' led by Frank Ellis.

13 June. 'An afternoon with the minister' led by Rev. Gordon Hay.

11 July. 'Hobbies and Collections (stamps, coins, key rings etc.) with David and you???' Everyone invited to bring along their favourite things to show and tell their story.

08 August. 'Monologues, Poems, Tales and other things...' with Jenny and you again???' Bring along your favourite poem, short story, funny story or joke!

12 September. 'Let me introduce another Harrogate composer' led by Andrew Hitchen.

10 October. 'Beetle Drive' – last year's was so competitive and full of fun!

14 November 'Open House' led by Deacon Gary and Rev Angie Hoare.

12 December 'Rev Brian Hoare will give a talk entitled 'Advent Customs around the World'. *Please note change of programme.*

All meetings are on the second Thursday in the month at 2.00pm at Wesley Centre.

All are welcome.

THANK YOU TREVOR

We held a thank you party for Rev. Trevor Dixon, or Rev. Trev as he likes to be known. It was lovely to see Christine and the family there too. We presented Trevor with a gift from his Wesley friends, and Trevor gave us a potted history of his life-journey. We spent a happy time, as the photos show.



A Reflection on the Ministerial Life of Trevor

Trevor entered training for Ministry in September 1982 and with Christine went to Oldham in Greater Manchester where he had charge of 2 small churches as well as attending Hartley Victoria College and Manchester University. He was ordained straight from there in Edgbaston, Birmingham in 1985. They then moved to Blackhall in Co. Durham where he had pastoral charge of 3 churches and was Chaplain at one of the local coal mines. Living in a flat roofed bungalow at the top of a hill, from the lounge window they could look out to the North Sea and watch ships passing by.

At the end of 6 years, Hathersage in the Peak Circuit called, where Trevor had 9 churches and was also Chaplain at the local MHA Care Home in the village. During this time, he led a Dambusters Anniversary service at Howden Dam. In 1997 Trevor and Christine moved on their own as they left both children behind in Co. Durham; we think they were old enough to be left. Christine recalls excitedly that they moved into a brand-new Manse with no children....

However, the Methodist Connexion called and quite soon they moved to Rainham in Essex as a priority appointment, where Trevor had 2 churches but was also a part-time industrial chaplain in Dagenham. They celebrated the Millennium on Tower Hill by the Thames.

In March 2002, having received special permission from the President of the Methodist Conference, Trevor moved on his own to Manchester to take up a full time Connexional appointment as an Industrial Chaplain in Greater Manchester. Christine followed in May where they had a double move as they had to change Manses. Trevor and our Circuit Superintendent Minister Ben met many, many years ago when Ben came to a training placement in Manchester and Trevor took him under his wing. Ben helped Trevor in a number of community support schemes including a 'ring and ride' transport scheme. Obviously, Ben never looked back from his time with Trevor and look at him now!

Trevor was a well-known figure along with his hat at many Methodist Conferences around the country as a member of the Conference Arrangements team and ended his last car parking and general logistics volunteer role in 2022; his help was always greatly appreciated by all Conference attendees and contributors.

Continued

Reflection on Trevor's ministry continued.

Trevor sat down in 2008 but that didn't last long, as he was asked to help out in the Tadcaster Circuit for 2 years. In 2010 Trevor was again asked to help out this time here at Wesley Chapel and as they say the rest is history.

It is amazing that as a Supernumerary Minister, Trevor has devoted 14 years to Wesley as our 'minister'. And although no longer in a formal active role within Wesley he will always be our Rev Trev. We are also so pleased that Trevor is staying a part of Wesley life and so we will continue to hear his wonderful singing voice ring out on a Sunday morning and also help us when we are looking for someone to do a bible reading for us.

Throughout his Ministry, Trevor has been Chaplain to the Air Cadets where he had many happy hours. Time was spent staying at camps with them, taking advantage of flights in all types of aircraft. One highlight was a service at St. Clement Danes in London in the presence of the Duke of Edinburgh. Christine recalls being directly behind Prince Philip and thinking he needed a haircut.

Personal highlights for Trevor include being able to officiate at the weddings of both his children. He was also thrilled to be able to baptise his grandchildren.

Trevor's ministry has always reflected his concern and care for all those he met. He often stated how privileged he felt when asked to conduct funeral services and be allowed to be so close to families in their time of grief and loss. As mentioned, Trevor has a pastoral heart and always made himself available if someone 'wanted to talk to the minister'. Whether a member of the Wesley congregation or someone who walked in 'off the street' Trevor gave generously of his time and listened with kindness. And today at our regular Wesley Welcome café Trevor can often be found talking to visitors or some of the local people who are literally 'off the streets'. We have mentioned Trevor's wonderful singing voice and many of us at Wesley have always appreciated and valued his extempore prayers. Trevor is also rightly proud of the part that he played in the last major refurb at Wesley and we are very grateful for the leadership and management he gave at such an important time in the life of Wesley.

Les Sudron

HARROGATE CIVIC SOCIETY PLAQUE

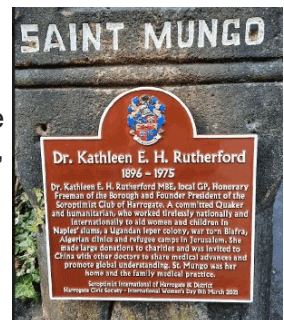
Harrogate Civic Society (HCS) has asked if Wesley Centre would be interested in erecting a plaque outside Wesley regarding the visit to Wesley of the German theologian Martin Niemöller in 1960. This had been mooted a few years ago and the late Malcolm Neesom assisted in writing the text. The cost would be in the region of £1,500 and the HCS would offer a very small contribution. Wesley Centre Management Team feels that such a plaque would heighten the profile of Wesley within the town centre, but have a lot of financial commitments coming up, not least of which is the replacement of the roof in the Cheltenham Parade building and repairs to the chapel roof. A number of Wesley stewards have pledged a personal gift to help raise the money to help gain an HCS brown plaque. If you feel you could support with a pledge of any amount and help get Wesley on the 'Harrogate Heritage Trail', please just let one of the stewards know as soon as possible.

Martin Niemöller (1892-1984) was a U-boat commander in WW1. As a result of his experiences in WW1 he studied theology and became a minister in Dahlem, a suburb of Berlin. He preached against National Socialism and organised the Pastors' Emergency League which led to the creation of the 'Confessing Church'. As a result of his protests against the inactivity of the official church, he was forced to retire in 1934. In 1937 he was arrested by the Gestapo, and interned in Sachsenhausen concentration camp as Hitler's 'personal prisoner'. Martin Niemöller was one of the authors of the 'Stuttgart Confession of Guilt' issued by the Evangelische Kirche in 1945.

(Ulrike's grandmother played the organ in the Confessing Church in East Prussia where she and her family lived.)

Les, Judith, Ulrike and Andrew

This gives you an idea of what a HCS plaque looks like. This can be found on York Road, Harrogate.



WESLEY WHEELIE WELCOME CAFÉ

Our Tuesday Coffee mornings continue to be popular with our own members, visitors to the town and friends from other churches in the circuit. Not long ago we had a visit from Lynne and Joy's sister Kathryn and their niece Andrea. Kathryn and Andrea really enjoyed their visit. Right is a photograph of Kathryn and Rev. Trev.



Below is a photograph of The Harvey Girls. **Lynne writes:** 'Anyone remember the 1946 film of that name starring Judy Garland? It was a musical/western!



The chapel brought back happy memories of both Joy's and Kathryn's weddings at Trinity Methodist Church in Scunthorpe - sadly no longer there but it was almost identical to Wesley. The Harvey girls married the Blakey brothers, Brian and Colin. Their mother Mabel was a pillar of the church (she was my Sunday School teacher) and their father was a Local Preacher'.

....and a photograph of Andrea sent in by her husband.



CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Greetings from Sarah. Lynne was talking recently to Sarah Burton (nee Roberts), daughter of Peggy and Geoff Roberts. Sarah asked Lynne to give her best wishes to everyone at Wesley who remembers her.

Happy Birthday to you... two Sudron boys!



Uncle Daniel



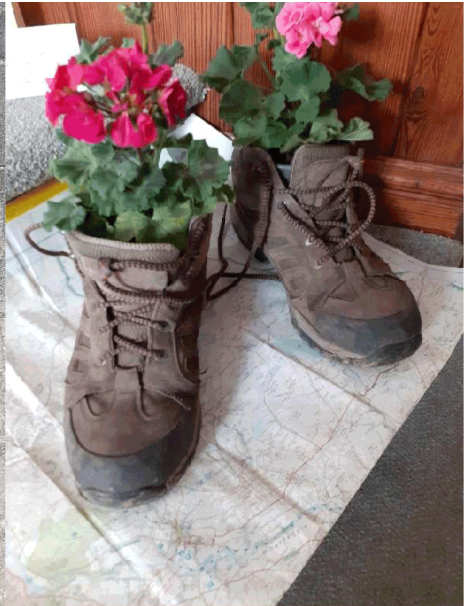
Nephew Rowan

Special super glasses made for Ben by Uncle Daniel



Church Family News continued.

Christine, Les and Margaret visited the Park Grove Flower Festival celebrating its 120th Anniversary weekend on 21st April.



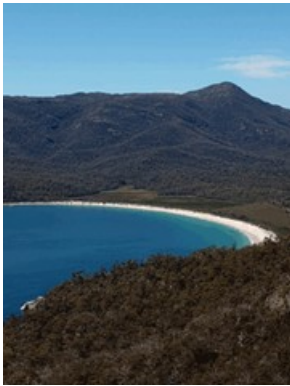
Look hard and you will see Margaret

These boots are made for.....flowers!



Park Grove flowers

Flowers at the Sudron's



DESERT ISLAND DISCS

This month Oliver Thornhill shares his desert island discs. Oliver is the grandson of Jenny and Philip, son of Anna. He was a regular attendee at our Junior Church, and is still very much around, helping out at concerts and at other times.



Shape Of My Heart - Sting

Fields of Gold - Sting. Both of these songs are filled with nostalgia and remind me of the Summer, my favourite time of the year.

Candy - Paolo Nutuni . After a 2 week family holiday in the US, my sister compiled a feature length video of what was a holiday of a lifetime spent at Disney World, Florida and St Pete Beach on the Gulf of Mexico and finally a single day in New York. This song covered part of the film which reminds me of a holiday which means a lot to me.

This is the life - Amy McDonald. This song takes me back to time spent in the South of France - one of my favourite holiday destinations.

Wicked Game - Chris Isaak. This is a Perfect Desert Island song. I love the vocals, the slide guitar and the whole feel of the song.

Walk on the wild side - Lou Reed. Although not a song I listen to often, it was introduced to me at a young age by my parents, and always takes me back to my childhood.

Continued

Desert Island Discs continued.

Still Loving You - The Scorpions. This song reminds me of my dad. He introduced me to bands such as the Scorpions, Metallica & AC/DC, which formed a significant part of my teenage years.

Shostakovich's Piano Concerto No.2 in f Major, OP. 102: II.

I enjoy listening to classical music in the morning on my way to work, and I really like this piece in particular. It's a relaxing piece of music, and it is sometimes nice to listen to a piece without any words.

Thank you for your choices Ollie, I enjoyed listening to them and I am sure others will too. Next month John Ogden will be our castaway and share his desert island discs.

Church family news continued.



Above, the Temple family egg painting.

Right on a visit to one of their fave places. Lovely view from a terrace at Chartwell over Kent to the horizon.

Eileen and Ian have recently returned from a trip 'down south', dog and chicken sitting. For breakfast they had eggs scrambled, poached, fried as well as finding other innovative ways to serve eggs.



EVENING CONCERT WITH ANGELA HEWITT.

Concert-goers were treated to an amazing evening of music when Angela Hewitt delighted a full chapel. As well as Bach's Prelude and Fugues from The Well-Tempered Clavier Book 1, Angela Hewitt wanted us to hear Prelude and Fugues from other composers, and an enthusiastic audience heard music by Mendelssohn, Shostakovich and Samuel Barber.



LUNCHTIME RECITALS



Mondays 1 - 2pm . Admission £10.00 unless otherwise specified

13th May 2024 Alessandro Fisher (tenor) BBC Radio 3 New Generation Artist 2018-2021, and Simon Lepper (piano).

3rd June 2024 Nicholas Daniel (oboe), Hugh Watkins (piano)
Programme to be confirmed.

1st July 2024 Jazz Concert. Richard Wetherall Trio.



AROUND THE CIRCUIT

Bilton Methodist Amblers. The next walk is Saturday 18 May. All walks start on the car park of Bilton Area Methodist Church where we meet to arrange transport at 9.30. Summer walks 5-6 miles. Please bring a packed lunch but we normally go on to a pub or café at the end. If interested please contact Janet Allen, 01423 524634, E-mail janetallen09@btinternet.com

Future Walks. Saturday 8 June, Saturday 13 July, Saturday 10 August, Saturday 14 September, Saturday 12 October.

Bilton. Wednesday Lunch Club. New members welcome, The meal is a balanced 3 course meal consisting of mains, dessert then followed by cheese and biscuits and tea or coffee. Cost £5.50 or £6 if you need a lift. Contact Julie Dekanski 07713 822832 or Ann Ellis 01423 503840 if interested.

Gracious Street

Every Monday 9.30-11.30am. Bridge Café,

Sat, 11 May, 7.30pm. Knaresborough Silver Band concert raising money for Harrogate Homeless Project 7.30pm.

Sat, 25 May, 10am-12noon. Gracious Street Coffee Morning raising money for Saint Michaels Hospice.

First Saturday of every month 8.45am to 10.15am. Men's Breakfast. *The Men's Breakfast* meets in the Castle Hall. Men of all ages and from all churches or none are most welcome. Our chef Robert Aspin, cooks breakfast for us but we have a rota for helping to buy provisions, lay tables, serve the food and clear up after the breakfast. There is no set charge but as a guideline we suggest a donation of £5 per month. This covers the cost of breakfast and builds up a modest fund to enable us to make occasional donations to the church and a variety of other charities.

4 May Rod Moxley: *Blissfully Unaware—My Story.*

18 May Day outing to North York Moors Railway. (Spouses welcome).

1 June. Mark Hunter. *A year in the life of the town crier.*

Around the circuit continued..

Harlow Hill.

Mondays 10am .11.30am. Coffee Morning.

Friday mornings 10am—11.30am. Little Beans Playgroup. Parents, babies, toddlers group. drop in between 10 and 11.30am for play, coffee and a chat. £3 per family.

Killinghall

Every Thursday, 11:30 - 14:00, Resurrected Bites

Coffee Morning. Last Saturday in the month 10.30 to 12 noon through the year except September and December.

Continued

Park Grove.

Message from Rev. Diane Hicks and Members from Park Grove.
Thank you to friends who came and joined in our Anniversary service and Flower Festival in many different ways. It was lovely to see you and we really appreciate your support.

Friday 17 May. Hatrix Band with a concert of light music. £10 including refreshments.

Starbeck.

Thank you to everyone who has attended the concerts at Starbeck Methodist Church this season; we have really enjoyed hosting the events. We hope that you will support our next programme which is as follows:

2024

Saturday 12 October 7.30pm Harrogate Male Voice Choir with the Ryelarks

Saturday 9 November 7.30pm Tewit Silver Band

Sunday 1 December 2.30pm. Christmas concert by Treble Clef

2025

Sunday 12 January 2.30pm Echo42 big band

Saturday 8 February 7.30pm St John Fishers School

Saturday 8 March 7.30pm Abbey B

elles Chorus

April (date to be confirmed) Tewit Youth Band

For further information please message Heather and Len - starbeckfff@gmail.com

Around the Circuit continued.

Woodlands.

Every Friday morning in term time from 7.45am to 10am. Toast Café. Pay-as-you-feel café serving tea, coffee, toast chat. Unplug, Reconnect, Refill.

Every Friday in term-time from 12.15pm. A home-cooked 3 course meal in good company. Contact 07966 755215 to book your place.

CIRCUIT SERVICES FOR YOUR DIARY

SUNDAY 21 July at Woodlands 6.30. Farewell Service for Moses.

SUNDAY 8 September at Woodlands 6.30pm. Welcome service for Rev. Ian Bryon.

Letter from Ben

Dear friends

Some of you may not have heard but on 10th April I had a freak accident at home and badly broke my humerus in 3 places. I was fixed by an amazing surgeon on 11th and am now recuperating well at home. I've seen the surgeon and his team this week and they are really pleased with progress however it does mean that I am out of action. I am officially signed off until 23rd May which is after the beginning of my Sabbatical so I am now not at work until 5th September. I will not be looking at my emails until then.

Rev Lesley Taylor is acting Superintendent in my absence and I have every confidence in the circuit team. I thank you for your prayers and support at this time and I look forward to catching up with everyone when I return later in the year.

Ben

ONLINE SITES THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST.

Nidd Valley Circuit YouTube Channel:

www.youtube.com/channel/UCGs9zOllnk5tMKC8SCeQY1w

Nidd Valley Circuit Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/NiddValley

Gracious Street Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/graciousstreetmethodist

Knarborough TV: www.youtube.com/c/KnaresboroughTV

Please continue to support All We Can, Harrogate Fair Trade Shop, Harrogate Foodbank, Harrogate Homeless Project & Resurrected Bites.

Please be vigilant of scams by letter, email and telephone.

WESLEY MISSION AND VISION STATEMENT

Mission

Wesley will be a place that is open to town centre communities every day of the week, recognised as a friendly place of welcome, acceptance, support and refreshment; a place where the presence of God can be encountered in its day-to-day activities and in regular Christian worship. It will be a place of continuous personal flourishing and fulfilment available for all, enabled through the fellowship and friendship of Christian love and concern.

Vision

Wesley will be part of Harrogate life - a space for people to connect; a place of meeting between sacred and secular. where faith and spirituality are made real in relationships and kindness: a place where the awareness of the presence of God may encourage a journey of faith, spiritual growth and service, with Jesus at its heart.

CIVIC SOCIETY HERITAGE WEEKEND

A date for your diary. Following the success of the past two years, Wesley will be open for the Civic Society Heritage Weekend on **Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th September**. We plan to show our lovely building off to the public and provide musical interludes as we have done before.

INVITATION FROM DISTRICT

Join us for an exciting day of inspiration, workshops, and conversation as we explore together the theme 'The Kingdom of God is like...'
Open to everyone– we are hoping to have 250 people from around the district gathering at York Manor Academy. Find more information on the website here:

<https://www.yorkshirenemethodist.org/district/synods/>

Book your place: <https://forms.office.com/e/8PrNuDypsD>

Date: 11th May 2024

Location: York Manor Academy

Timings: 10am - 3:30pm.

Bring your own lunch and mug! - and please book!

Cliff Fest! Cliff College's annual Festival, running this year from 24-27 May at Cliff College in Derbyshire, is full of Spirit-filled worship, Bible teaching and activities for people and families of all ages. Together we'll be exploring our theme Rerouted: Making Peace on the Journey, with input from Bible teachers including Matt Miofsky and Heather Morris worship led by Matt Beckingham. Book your tickets, accommodation and camping plots now! - www.cliffcollege.ac.uk/cliff-festival.



Flourish

Save the
Date



Flourish 2026 will be exploring the theme 'Woven Threads' - a phrase that recognises that we are individuals that feed into the body of the church, and that each thread has a role in building the tapestry of the Methodist Church.

CYMANFA GANU 2024

The Yorkshire and the North-East annual Welsh Hymn-Singing Festival, the **Cymanfa Ganu**, will be held at the Wesley Centre in Harrogate on Saturday 11th May between 2pm and 4pm (followed by refreshments).

The festival was imported from Wales by Welsh workers in the iron, steel and coal industries in Carlton near Barnsley in 1903, and subsequently travelled rCloud the scattering of Welsh congregations worshipping throughout Yorkshire and the North East of England.

The afternoon is in the form of a Welsh service, with anecdotes from Wales, bilingual prayers and readings.

The festival is open to all those who care to come along, members of your own church will also be most welcome to enjoy, and maybe join in the singing of Welsh hymns, some of which will be in English.

From *'Under Milk Wood'* by Dylan Thomas

Every morning when I wake,
Dear Lord, a little prayer I make,
O please do keep Thy lovely eye
On all poor creatures born to die

And every evening at sun-down
I ask a blessing on the town,
For whether we last the night or no
I'm sure is always touch-and-go.

We are not wholly bad or good
Who live our lives under Milk Wood,
And Thou, I know, wilt be the first
To see our best side, not our worst.

O let us see another day!
Bless us all this night, I pray,
And to the sun we all will bow
And say, good-bye – but just for now!

WEATHER

How we love to talk about the weather. Too hot, too cold, too windy, and many other comments. Our climate is certainly changing, one sees pictures of farm land flooded and crops ruined and very likely to be shortages later in the year. People have had their homes flooded in different parts of the United Kingdom. Recently we have seen flooding in Dubai, a years rainfall in twenty four hours. This week I heard from a friend in Tanzania but this devastating news will never reach the British news. It is about a community at Moshi, which is on the way to Mount Kilimanjaro. Two weeks ago the Sanja river overflowed it's banks, causing devastation with 39 homes washed away including all the food and clothes inside. One person had to climb a tree to save her life.



Fancy going to church and finding this awaiting you. All the crops that had been planted have been washed away on the church side of the River Sanya.

Continued

Weather continued

Below a picture of all that is left of this lady's home. These photographs were taken two weeks after the river burst its banks.



We moan about the weather but haven't we got so many blessings to thank God about? Please remember our brothers and sisters in Tanzania in your prayers. Thank you.

Shelagh Outhwaite

SOME TRIVIA FOR YOU

Moshi takes its name from the Swahili word for 'smoke', possibly because Mount Kilimanjaro which is a dormant volcano today, has been spewing gas in the past and present too, and because of the fact that it is often covered with clouds and mist.

Another African word for smoke is Mosi (Kololo or Lozi language used throughout Zambia and in parts of Zimbabwe. Hence the local name for Victoria Falls, 'Mosi-oa-Tunya', meaning 'the smoke that thunders'.

When we lived in Kenya we had a grey cat which we called Moshi!
Judith


Bible Month June
& July
2024

Join us as we
read **Genesis**
together:



In **SUNDAY WORSHIP & ONLINE TALKS**

- at Trinity, Pannal and Bilton Area - see dates on plan

In **BIBLE STUDY** at Bilton/Starbeck on Mondays at 2pm

- 17th, 24th June, 1st, 8th July

At Park Grove on Thursdays at 10am

- 13th, 27th June, 11th, 25th July

In **DAILY BIBLE READINGS** booklets available free of charge. Share your thoughts and questions in a dedicated WhatsApp group

*Contact Revd Angie Hoare for more details:
angie.hoare11@gmail.com*

METHODIST CONFERENCE 2024

The Methodist Conference will be from 27 June—3 July in Leeds. Ordination Services will take place at five churches in and around Yorkshire on Sunday 30 June, and we are delighted that one of the Ordination Services will be held at Wesley. We believe that tickets are now sold out, however, we are delighted that Wesley has been asked to hold this event in our beautiful chapel.

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-conference/conference-2024/>

HARROGATE CHORAL SOCIETY

The next concert is on 15 June at 7pm at St. Wilfrid's Church. Yet again HCS is doing something very different, and singing compositions by living composers. The concert is entitled **Leonardo** and consists of American composer Eric Whitacre's *Leonardo Dreams of His Flying Machine*, and *Da Vinci Requiem*, by Cecelia McDowell. HCS will be joined by National Festival Orchestra, playing Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*. More details from Jenny, Philip or Judith.

CIRCLESONG

Some of our church family heard Harrogate Choral Society perform this beautiful work by living composer Bob Chilcott. He wrote the music to poetry from indigenous tribes of north America. Some of the words are lovely and so adaptable to our own Christian faith. This was is from the Dakota tribe.

Oh Great Spirit, whose voice speaks in the wind.

Whose life gives breath to all the world.

Hear me!

I am small and weak, I need your power and wisdom.

Let me walk in beauty, let my eyes be glad

beholding the red and golden dawn.

Make my hands touch all things you have made with love.

Make me wise that I may understand the sacred teachings you have taught.

Help me learn the lessons hidden in every leaf and every stone.

I seek strength not to be greater than my brother

But to conquer the enemy within myself.

Make me ready to come to you always with a pure heart and with clear eyes,

So when my life fades away, like the setting sun

My spirit my come to you with honour and without shame.

Oh Great Spirit, whose voice speaks in the wind. Hear me!

WHAT DO YOU SEE?

As time goes by
I realise
That what I see
Through my eyes

Is in my perspective
My personal view
And its probably different
Than what's seen by you

My feelings are altered
By the life I have known
My opinions are tainted
Influenced as I've grown

So in the moment
That we share together
I may see a duck
While you spot a feather.

Edie Koch Suarez (1960-2021).

Thank you to Lynne for sharing this poem.

I was in darkness, but I took three steps and found myself in paradise. The first step was a good thought, the second, a good word; and the third, a good deed. Friedrich Nietzsche

PRAYER CORNER

Prayer is foundational to faith. It's how we communicate with God, and it is the life-giving fuel that powers our actions. It is the sunshine that brings a smile to our face and brings light to hidden faces. It is the rain that helps new creation grow from the hidden depths.

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/faith/the-prayer-hub/>



Hidden God,
you are known to me as absence
more than presence yet
just occasionally the
point of a needle breaks
through the fabric of my life,
makes one perfect golden stitch
and disappears again
into the depths.
It's not much, but
enough to know that
the thread is unbroken
and for that
I thank you.

Rachel Parkinson, District Chair, Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury District

A prayer for wisdom

Faithful God,
we trust in your promise that the darkness so often contains
treasures:
maybe not of our choosing, or initially inviting;
maybe lacking the shine and allure of other more obvious treasure.
May we have the wisdom to dig deep,
to slow our days, to sift our diaries,
to make the space to spot the hidden,
to explore and appreciate all that you have for us.
Help us to see life afresh through your eyes,
to appreciate its darkness and light, its dirt and beauty,
and to be so much more deeply aware
of the treasury of your overflowing love. Amen.

Leslie Newton, District Chair, Yorkshire North and East District

Pickin' a bluebell in the merry month of May



Bluebells at Middleton Woods—Pat and Matthew Webber



A wood near to where Eileen and Ian were staying 'down south'.