



Methodist Post

Boston Spa • Clifford • Bramham
June 2019

Boston Spa Methodist Church

Spring Fayre

Saturday 8th June, Wetherby Town Hall

We are holding another Spring Fair at Wetherby Town Hall this year to raise funds for the church and for charity.

This will be open from 9.00am till 1.30pm.

There will be a café serving morning refreshments and several stalls, including paperback books, cakes, good bric-à-brac, plants and also a tombola.

Help will be needed on the stalls and refreshments, and donations for the stalls and tombola will be much appreciated by the following people:

Cakes for stall and refreshments:

Carmen Newsome-Ashton, Ursula Turner and Barbara Hudson

Books: Ken Grimditch and Heather Grant

Bric-à-brac: Kathleen McGuire and Barbara Parrott

Tombola: Julie Thomson and Judith Grimditch

Plants: Eva Mills

There will also be a list for helpers to fill in on the notice board in the Wesley Room.

Please spread the word around and, most importantly, support this event by dropping in for coffee to meet people and let them know who we are.

Ideas and contributions for future editions of the Methodist Post are always welcome. For the next issue, which will cover July and August, please send copy by 10th June to: jovernon1@gmail.com

Jo Vernon, Editor (01937 360016)

Don't forget, the magazine is also available to read on our website:

www.bostonspamethodistchurch.org.uk



Cover photograph – the banks of the River Wharfe in Boston Spa: Jo Vernon



Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

During May and June, we have been studying, and continue to study, Paul's Letter to the Colossians. What strikes me so strongly about this book is how modern it appears to be; Paul could be sending this letter to any church in the world today.

We are bombarded by stuff and experiences, almost daily, that promise to turn our lives around, to help us be better people, to help us live longer. Social media monitors what we search for, and adverts pop up, in our browsers and on our own social media, offering us similar items, holidays, and exciting opportunities. We are told that if we buy this book or that magazine, we will learn all we need to know about having good relationships, better homes, and that trusting in ourselves is the right way to go.

In his letter Paul is encouraging us to keep our focus on Jesus, because He is the only one who is worthy. He wanted his readers to come to a complete understanding of Christ because in Him is found all wisdom and knowledge. There is none who can compare to Jesus. No one with greater wisdom. No one with greater knowledge.

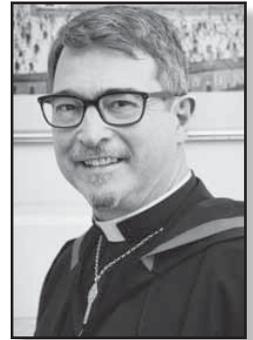
The writer of the book of Hebrews put it this way, "Fix your eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith."

One outcome of our focus on Christ will be that our love for Jesus will overflow from us, and influence all of our relationships. He will encourage our heart; when our hearts are encouraged by Christ, then we walk by faith and not by sight. This means that we are so secure in His love for us that we can trust in Him completely, even though outwardly our world may be falling apart.

It is interesting that when we focus on Jesus our hearts are encouraged, and we are united in His love with others. But the moment we take our eyes off Jesus, and focus on the problems of life around us, then we become discouraged in heart and become polarized by disunity. This makes us vulnerable to the deceit of the enemy. The enemy then comes with fine-sounding arguments to explain why our world around us is falling apart.

How relevant those words are today when we hear and see the violence and prejudice towards human beings who come from other countries, other faiths or appear different in anyway. One of the biggest arguments used prior to the Brexit vote was that refugees, asylum seekers, or anyone in general who wanted to move to the UK, were taking jobs from British people who wanted to work; abusing the benefits system and costing a fortune to the NHS. Unfortunately, this kind of rhetoric sticks!

The origin of the fine-sounding arguments goes back to the Garden of Eden as seen in Genesis chapter three. The serpent planted the seed of doubt in Eve's heart with the question, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'" Eve's mistake was that she listened to the serpent as if he had her best interest at



heart, and as if he were God's equal. Who was the serpent that he should question the Creator?

We live in a fallen world that has to deal with the consequences of sin. As believers, we will experience heartache, illness, and even death. The world will present its explanations and philosophies of life in effort to show a "better way," a way of "enlightenment." But who can have the answers to life that are better than Christ, the One "in whom are hidden the treasures of wisdom and knowledge"?

Paul wrote that he was struggling for the believers to know the mystery of God who is Jesus Christ. I do not believe that this struggle was aimed at directing them to start focusing their lives on Jesus because he complimented them for being "orderly" and "firm" in their faith. I believe that Paul laboured to keep the believers focused on Christ so that they can stand firm in the midst of daily spiritual attacks.

I heard a story once about reporters who were interviewing the wife of the famed scientist Albert Einstein. As the story goes, they asked her to explain her husband's theory of relativity. She is said to have replied, "I don't understand it. But I do know Albert, and if he says it's true then it's true."

There are times when we feel incompetent to stand against the world's 'fine-sounding arguments.' But our best defence is not our ability to articulate our beliefs but rather to keep our focus on the Truth, Jesus Christ, and to live a life that honours him. In other words, "I may not understand, but I know Jesus, and He is the One who has all wisdom and knowledge."

Every Blessing to you all,
Revd Steve

Steve



Baptism of Louie Moses Sharp

Louie with Kirsty, Jonathan, and his Godparents (Ruth Plowman, Vikki Binns, Robert Fleming and Thomas Eastwood).

On the afternoon of the 14th April the church celebrated the Baptism of Louie, son of Kirsty and Jonathan.

The service was led by Revd Steve Jakeman with Heather Grant presenting a Baptism Candle and Certificate, plus a Children's Bible during the service. The Baptism was a joyous occasion as we, along with their family and friends, welcomed Louie into the fellowship of the Christian Church.



June Diary Dates

| | | |
|---------------------|----------------|--|
| Sunday 2 | 10.30am | Service of Holy Communion – Bible Month, week 4, led by Revd Colin Cheeseman |
| | 6.00pm | Reflections Service, led by Revd Steve Barlow |
| Saturday 8 | 10am-1.30pm | Spring Fayre, Wetherby Town Hall (<i>see p.2</i>) |
| Sunday 9 | 10.00am | Churches Together Pentecost Praise Service at St Mary's |
| Tuesday 11 | 2.00pm | Women's Friendship Group – Something different |
| Wednesday 12 | 7.00pm | Sacred Space – Reflective Worship |
| Friday 14 | 12 noon | Light lunches to be served prior to... |
| | 1.00pm | Lunchtime Concert (<i>see p.7</i>) |
| Sunday 16 | 10.30am | Morning Worship, led by Mr Terry Smart |
| | 6.00pm | United (with Wetherby MC) Service of Holy Communion, led by Revd Steve Jakeman |
| Tuesday 18 | 10.30am | Evergreens Luncheon Club |
| Wednesday 19 | 7.30pm | Men's Group (<i>see p.6</i>) |
| Sunday 23 | 10.30am | Morning Worship, led by Dr Alan Bell |
| Tuesday 25 | 2.00pm | Women's Friendship Group – Strawberry Tea |
| Wednesday 26 | 3.30pm | Messy Church |
| | 7.00pm | Sacred Space – Reflective Worship |
| Friday 28 | 7.30pm | An Evening with Graham Kendrick (<i>see pp 20/21</i>) |
| Sunday 30 | 10.30am | Café-style Worship, led by Revd Steve Jakeman with Mrs Sue Jakeman as Worship Leader |
| | 11.30am | Annual Church Meeting |

Future Dates for your Diary

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| 13th July | Literary Lunch at BSMC, as part of Boston Spa Festival – Guest author: Imogen Clark (<i>see p. 11</i>) |
| 28th July | BSMC Anniversary Service, led by Revd Steve Barlow, 10.30am |
| 11th August | Circuit Leaving Service for Revd Steve Barlow, Wetherby |
| 18th-20th October | 'Flourish' District weekend, Scarborough |

Other Weekly Events

| | | | | |
|---|-----------|--|--------|---------------------|
| Mondays: | 3.15pm | Ping Pong | 5.00pm | Senior Table Tennis |
| Wednesdays: | 9.30-11am | Busy Bees for pre-school children and their carers | | |
| For up-to-date information, see noticeboards/website: www.bostonspamethodistchurch.org.uk | | | | |

Church rooms may be booked for private functions. Contact Anne Hovell: 01937 843445

Boston Spa Church Rotas

~ June ~



| | Church Stewards | Welcome Stewards | Flowers | Coffee |
|----|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| 2 | Joan Dyer Bob Hutchinson | Heather Grant Claire Grant | Betty Aspinall | David Parrott Barbara Parrott |
| 9 | UNITED SERVICE AT ST MARY'S CHURCH | | | |
| 16 | Arthur Faulkner Barbara Hudson | Barbara Parrott David Parrott | Mavis Nettleton | Barbara Hudson Joy Ackroyd |
| 23 | J/K Grimditch Pauline O'Melia | Bob Humphries Sheila Humphries | Chris Tunnicliffe | Sheila Anderson Jackie Marsden Diane Burton |
| 30 | Heather Grant Arthur Faulkner | Ursula Turner Barbara Hudson | Jackie Marsden | Graham McGuire Kathleen McGuire |

| Cleaning | | Busy Bees | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| To 9 June | Jackie & Arthur Faulkner | 5 | Barbara Hudson |
| 10-23 | Heather Grant, Claire Grant | 12 | Christine Mitchell |
| 24 June to 7 July | Joan Dyer, Pauline O'Melia | 19 | Carmen Ashton |
| | | 26 | Jackie Faulkner |

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Chris and Roger Tunnicliffe are delighted to announce the arrival in Sydney, Australia on the 2nd May of Toby James, a second son for Pippa and David and a brother for Jack.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Women's Friendship Group
23rd: Angela Coleman

Wednesday 19th June, 7.30pm

"The Yad Vashem: World Holocaust Remembrance Centre, Jerusalem" Speakers: Revd Steve and Sue Jakeman

This is an open meeting
– ladies welcome

Methodist Women in Britain – Tadcaster Circuit

Friday 21st June: District Summer Event at Gracious Street Methodist Church, Knaresborough. Buffet from 5pm

LUNCHTIME CONCERTS AT BOSTON SPA



Friday, 14th June at 1pm

Concert admission £5

Light lunches will be served from 12 noon

Charlotte Rowan is an outstanding young violinist as many of you will know from her past performances with us. Her accompanist is pianist, Charlotte Stevenson, also an extremely gifted musician. We are privileged to have them play for us. Do come and bring your friends.



As it is the end of our season we shall have a small party outside to celebrate and we shall return on Friday, 13th September with Olive Murray, soprano and Christopher Foreman, piano. These musicians are coming from London for the day.

Judith England

Check our website for further details of all of our concerts:
www.bostonspamethodistchurch.org.uk

Christian Aid Service

On Sunday 12 May, we held a Christian Aid Week service. We opened our doors to the members of the local Church of England churches – Boston Spa, Thorp Arch, Walton, Bramham and Collingham. How good to see the main area of our Sanctuary full for worship!



Sarah Jane, the local Christian Aid representative, showed some videos of the maternity support work undertaken by Christian Aid in Sierra Leone, a country with the worst record in the world of deaths in childbirth. It was emotionally moving and, at the same time, uplifting – we ARE making a difference there; but they need more support to consolidate their successes and make them permanent.

CLIFFORD
METHODIST CHURCH



What's happening at the Methodist Church?

Sunday worship at 10.30a.m.

- ❖ Variety of preachers
- ❖ Variety of services
 - Some traditional
 - Some contemporary
 - Some breakfast specials (starting at 9.15am)

Tuesday mornings

- ❖ Communion service
- ❖ Coffee morning
- ❖ Souper Tuesday

Fridays in term time

- ❖ Tots'n'Toys – our baby and toddler group
- ❖ Bits'n'Bobs – our newly-formed craft group

~ Forthcoming Events ~

| | |
|---------------|------------------------------------|
| June 9th | Afternoon Tea and Dance Exhibition |
| June 30th | Strawberry Tea |
| September 8th | Harvest Festival |
| September 9th | Harvest Supper |
| October 11th | Murder Mystery |

See our noticeboards for other events

HOW TO FIND US:

The Outlook cover map shows you we are tucked away behind Church View Mews but you can also reach us through a gate at the top of Nursery Way.

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**For more information please contact
Kathryn – 845692 or Alison – 845511**

Diary Dates – June

* Bible Month – four weeks of themed services focussing on Colossians

- 2nd 10.30am Morning Worship, led by Mrs Linda Smith
- 9th 10.30am Service of Holy Communion, led by Revd Mark Stennett * Wk.1
- 16th 10.30am All Age Worship, led by Revd Steve Jakeman * Wk.2
- 23rd 10.30am Morning Worship, led by Mr Donald Milne * Wk.3
- 30th 10.30am Morning Worship, led by Revd Ken Marshall * Wk.4

| | Door Stewards | Flowers | Vestry |
|---|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 2nd | Sheila and Katy Biercamp | Kathryn Whaley | David Mountain |
| 9th | Catherine Catton | Carol Smith | Michael Whaley |
| 16th | Carol Smith, Margaret Suggate | Carol Smith | Jason Turner |
| 23rd | Hazel Greenwood | Alison Smith | Alison Smith |
| 30th | Alison Smith, Julie Norman | Alison Smith | David Barrow |
| Schoolroom cleaning – Kathryn Whaley | | | |



Samuel Smith
Bethany Hayes
Dominic Anstey

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Life is 10% what happens to us
and 90% how we react to it.

Dennis P Kimbro

Afternoon Tea and Dance Exhibition

There will be another opportunity to sample the famous Methodist Afternoon Tea on Sunday **9th June**. Local children, who attend a Dance Class in our schoolroom each week, will perform there at 3pm and this will be followed by the Afternoon Tea.

Tickets are available from Stewards priced at £7 for adults and £2.50 for children. We look forward to seeing you there.

Strawberry Tea

This annual event will be held on Sunday **30th June** from 3-5pm in Clifford Methodist Schoolroom. Tickets are £6 for adults and £3 for children and are available from Kathryn Whaley in church or ring 01937 845692.

Let's hope for some lovely sunny weather to enjoy scones, strawberries and cream along with a cup of tea or two! See you there!



For more Clifford news, see centre page 13

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Boston Spa Festival (including Open Gardens) 12/13/14th July 2019

This year the fourth Boston Spa Festival will take place on the above dates; building on the previous three year's success.

The scarecrow trail, which is always a great hit, will appear again and the theme this year is Film and TV Characters. Scarecrows will go on display on 8th July so look out for the BSMC Scarecrow appearing on the Sunday prior to that date.

There are so many exciting things happening this year, including the opening of the Stables Lane Park on Sunday 14th July. Watch out for the programme which will be available very soon.

The very first Oasis-Boston 2k Fun Run will take place on the Sunday, and this run will give an opportunity to see the village's new park whilst being physically active and above all having fun! The run is not for profit and is organised by volunteers from the community. You can register on the following link: <https://www.fullonsport.com/event/oasisboston-2k/profile>

At lunchtime on the Saturday 13th the Literary Lunch will once again take place in BSMC, tickets will as last year cost £12 to include your lunch; tickets available through Yeadon's or speak to me to book a place. This year the best-selling author Imogen Clark, who writes contemporary women's fiction about the secrets that hide at the heart of the families that she creates, will be coming to speak to us. She lives in Yorkshire with her husband and children.

Her books include *Postcard from a Stranger*, *The Thing About Clare*, and her new book, *Where the Story Starts*, will be released this month. Tickets will be limited so please book early.

On Sunday, we will be celebrating with a special 'Sing a Song of Praise' at 10:30am which this year will be led by Revd Steve Jakeman and will also include a baptism.

There is lots going on over the three days of the Festival; something to suit everyone from Open Gardens, on the Sunday, to a conducted Heritage Walk, and Classic and 'Super' cars. A variety of music is being performed throughout the weekend and there will be a wide variety of food on offer.

Do look out for the programme – and come and sample the delights on offer; looking forward to seeing you there!

Sue Jakeman



Church isn't just Sunday (1)

Imagine that you're blindfolded and asked to put your hand into a box and feel the contents:

*Is that blood – or tomato ketchup?
Are those cold dead fingers, or sausages?
Is that a jellyfish or just jelly?*

Leading an Assembly at Primrose Lane Primary is way more fun than you might think, especially when you see the faces of our victims (sorry, that should have said "volunteers") when they put their hands in the box. Believe it or not, the theme of this Assembly was "Harvest" and hopefully we got across the message of being thankful to God for food and the other good things in our lives, albeit in a slightly macabre way. (Fans of "Horrible Histories" will know that using this method to teach kids stuff is not quite as off the wall as it might sound.) We also got to sing "Thank you Lord for this fine day" and share a short time of prayer.

Like any Primary School, Primrose Lane has a Collective Worship Policy and Sue and I have been pleased to be able, in a small way, to help deliver that. Coming from the outside though, we have both been hugely impressed by the thought, effort and continual focus that goes into the teaching of "values", which is infused within every aspect of the curriculum. Over a two year cycle, time is spent thinking about issues such as caring, tolerance, courage, respect, hope, patience and many more. The school was cited in the recent Sunday Times as one of the reasons that Boston Spa is one of the best places to live in the UK.

We were also able to take lessons for the kids in Reception and Years 1 and 2, on the subject of "not judging by appearances". We used the Bible story of Samuel choosing David to be the next King of Israel, having first rejected his seven brothers, all of whom looked much better qualified. This involved me dressing up as a scholar, an explorer and a warrior (never need a second invitation – I've never grown up!), whilst Sue read the story. The funniest bit was when, as a warrior I tried to explain to the kids that I should be the King because I was prepared to fight anyone and challenged them to take me on – 25 kids shouted back "yeeesss!" I had to back down very quickly (I did say one of their values was "courage").

We hope that we'll be able to continue working with the school, as part of the Church outreach into the community and building on the existing young families ministry. This includes the good work of Busy Bees, which is aimed at toddlers and Messy Church, aimed at school age kids, with their families and the wider Church family. The number of baptisms we've had in recent months shows that all this work is bearing fruit. ("Watch this space" for even more developments on that front – exciting times!)

Donald



By the time you read this, Easter will be a distant memory, but I wanted to share these articles and photographs with our readers. Ed

Clifford Methodist Church 'Operation Bobtail' – Easter Saturday

The sun shone brightly as we arrived in Boston Spa High Street on Easter Saturday...and our main concern was how to stop the chocolate from melting!

Amidst the hustle and bustle, we greeted young families with a warm smile and the words "Happy Easter", as we offered the children a colourful knitted bunny, including of course, the all important 'chocolate treat'!

The children's faces lit up as they peered into our bags... bags revealing bunnies by the dozen, all needing new homes! Within an hour we had distributed them all... our bags were empty... but little ones could be seen going in and out of shops, holding on ever more tightly to their new little knitted friends.

Given also to friends and neighbours, and distributed to groups using our Church premises, we have sent out 200 (YES...200!) bunnies this year, taking the message of Easter far and wide... even as far as ITALY!

Whilst spreading the GOOD NEWS of the RISEN CHRIST we may also have raised a few smiles! Thank you very much to everyone who contributed to 'Operation Bobtail'.

Alison Smith

Clifford Easter Services

We celebrated twice on Easter morning at Clifford. Rev Steve Jakeman took our 8.30am service – a quiet, simple communion service which was well attended.

At 10.30am, Donald Milne led our family service with a clear message of hope. We dressed the bare cross with a varied selection of flowers and at the end of the service the cross was taken into the Rev Gordon Shaw's garden. Facing into the High Street, it was well placed for everyone to see.

Kathryn Whaley



And in Boston Spa, Churches Together held their Good Friday Walk of Witness from St Mary's, followed by a very moving time of reflection at BSMC, led by Revd Steve. As usual, the church looked stunning over the Easter period, with beautiful floral decorations.



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The Plough Service

What is a Plough service? Well, I looked it up. Originally held after Epiphany in January, it was intended to mark the beginning of the farming year. The blessing of the plough was thought to bring good luck, healthy livestock and good crop yields.

So what are we doing having a Plough Service in May? Since the middle ages, when the tradition started, farming has changed a lot and so, I suppose, has the church calendar.

Anyway, on a cloudy and cold afternoon on the fifth of May, we gathered round a real plough (vintage 1930s, I believe, and recently restored) at Tadcaster church for our local Plough Service.



Such is the optimism of Mark Stennett that he just knew it wouldn't rain (he was right, of course), so we held our short service in what is euphemistically called the garden area at the rear of the church. This a gravelled area – so well gravelled that it caused a scary “sinking” of the chairs when sat upon.

The service was well supported by Boston Spa church members who made up nearly half of the attendees, according to my reckoning. We sang, tried to make ploughs or fruit shapes out of long and fluffy pipe cleaners, sprinkled water of blessing over the plough, thought about God's many gifts and ended (of course!) with a rendering of “We plough the fields and scatter...”.

There was tea and biscuits afterwards – it wouldn't be a true Methodist service otherwise.

We had jolly well better have a good farming year after all that.

Iain Vernon

Who'd be a bulletin editor? The following bloomers have all actually appeared in church bulletins or announced in church services. With thanks to Eva for sending me these.

- The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water'. The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus'.
- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
- At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.
- Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
- This evening at 7pm there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

See p.23 for more

Andrew Morgan

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Getting to know you...

This month, we feature Jacky Turner

My name is Jacky Turner and I was born in 1958 in Harrogate, the middle child to Scottish parents who had relocated three years previously due to work (I have no English relatives). I have an older sister and a younger brother.

I spent my early years in Harrogate, went to West End Primary and then Harrogate Grammar School and went as a family to Trinity Methodist Church. Following this I went to college in Leeds, working in placements in primary schools in Leeds and Ripon and finally the Special Baby Care Unit (SBCU) in Harrogate. I loved this last placement so much that I started my first job there at the old Harrogate hospital – Harrogate General and I am still in touch with several colleagues from that time.

This eventually led me to undertake the paediatric nursery course in Glasgow where I eventually lived for six years working as a Staff Nurse on a post split between Children's Intensive Care and Casualty. My time there was very rewarding, all the more as the friends I shared with lived in places such as Loch Lomond, Tiree, Loch Carron and Troon, and added to this were several very enjoyable inter-railing European trips.

Following this, I returned to Yorkshire and worked again for a short time at Harrogate SCBU, but the majority of my career was with the Children's Cardiac Unit at Killingbeck (then LGI) rising to sister level. During this time I shared a house in Headingley where I met my future husband Jason who was also living elsewhere in Headingley. He later moved away to become a mature university student at Teeside. I bought my first house in Headingley and we married after Jason graduated; our wedding was at Trinity Methodist Church. In 1994, whilst still living in Headingley, we had twin girls called Megan and Iona, but sadly Iona died when she was nearly 3 weeks old. Silas was born in 1996 and we moved to Clifford when he was just 8 weeks old. This is when we started attending Clifford Methodist Church where Silas was eventually christened. We found Clifford Methodist Church to be so friendly and welcoming and down to earth, which was so important with such young children. This was 22 years ago and my mother moved to Boston Spa 17 years ago.

I still work for the NHS (42 years now and proud of that!) but I feel it's time for me to start winding down so I work fewer hours and have moved to Children's Clinics for more predictable hours and – big bonus – no more night shifts!

Jason and I have recently taken up caravanning (having been campers in the past) which we are thoroughly enjoying. The children have more or less flown the nest with Megan now teaching and living in Leeds and Silas nearing the end of university. It will be interesting to see how the next phase goes.



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“We all hear them in our own language.....”

A few weeks ago Carmen and I spent a short holiday in the beautiful port city of Bordeaux, on the River Garonne, near the Atlantic coast of south-west France. We have often visited France but had never been to Bordeaux before. In the 19th century it was the second city of France after Paris; the stately period architecture of its public buildings, boulevards and major squares reflects that. The old city is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Bordeaux is a city of contrasts, a most attractive blend of ancient and modern. Its handsome buildings, pedestrianised streets and waterfront gardens are served by ultra-modern high-speed streamlined trams. There are many people of African descent in cosmopolitan Bordeaux (France was once a major colonial power and slave-trade country) and many visitors, and one hears many different languages there.

We took a day trip to Saint Emilion, where we visited a couple of famous vineyards and then the village itself – another UNESCO World Heritage Site. Of the 20 or so of us on the coach there were many different nationalities – English, Scots, Irish, Mexican, Slovak, Swedish, Finns – as well as French. They all spoke English – why do we English expect the rest of the world to speak our own language?

It reminded us that in just a few weeks' time we shall celebrate Pentecost, Whit Sunday. Luke tells us in Acts 2 how the Holy Spirit came on all the believers, as Jesus had promised, so that they heard and understood and responded to the gospel in their own language. He still does.

God still calls us and speaks to us in language we can understand, whatever our nationality. Sometimes God speaks to us in words; but often it's non-verbal – the events and circumstances of our lives, our relationships, God speaks to us in church in the language of worship. He speaks to us in life, in the language of our needs and the needs of others, in the language of everyday happenings. Often our response, or part of our response, will be in words, but it should also always be in our loving and our living.

Dennis

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AN EVENING WITH GRAHAM KENDRICK

KEEP THE BANNER
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Friday 28th June 2019
at 7.30pm

Tickets - Main Sanctuary or Gallery Circle - £18.50
Rear Sanctuary or Gallery - £15.00

NB: non-specific seating within each price bracket

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An Evening with Graham Kendrick

Many of us are looking forward to the evening with Graham Kendrick on Friday 28th June. He has been at the forefront of modern contemporary worship music for many years and many of his hymns are in 'Singing the Faith' (19 in all). No doubt you will have your own favourite that you are looking forward to hearing him perform.

One of his most popular is of course is 'From heaven you came, helpless babe' better known as 'The Servant King' which was written as long ago as 1983. Another that has been very popular and probably his biggest 'hit' is 'Shine Jesus Shine' published in 1987. Although still sung in many services and gatherings around the country, I get the feeling that it is no longer everyone's favourite.

My own personal favourite, written in 1993, is 'Beauty for Brokenness' which is a brilliant prayerful response to God through intercession and petition. It also has a lovely refrain, 'God of the poor', ending with the words, 'Come change our love from a spark to a flame'.

We look forward in anticipation to what should be a great evening.

Please check with Steve Jakeman to see if there are still tickets available, they are selling out fast!

Jim Murison

*God of the poor,
friend of the weak,
give us compassion we pray:
melt our cold hearts,
let tears fall like rain;
come, change our love
from a spark to a flame.*

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Table Tennis Success

With the Harrogate League Season of matches coming to an end in April, the two teams have enjoyed mixed results over the past six months.

The A team finished 4th (out of 12) in Division 3 and narrowly missed out on promotion to the highly competitive Division 2. However within the division John Baker won the individual singles retaining his 2018 trophy after a very tough final played in Ripley. The Division 3 Best Pairs competition was won by John and his partner Ian Gomerson, finally beating two players from the Division 3 winning team Spa C in the final game.

The A team have a strong squad lead by Earl Williams with our most recent member Maurice Willis joining the team during the season. They are quite capable of achieving promotion next year.

Meanwhile the B team finished 7th (out of 12) in the Division 4. The B team is an ever changing collection of three players out of a squad of nine selected on availability, absence of injury, sickness or extensive holidays rather than ability! We enjoy the competition, often against players a fifth of our age.

Overall the Monday evening Table Tennis Group is thriving and establishing a reputation for BSMC in the Harrogate area.

David Hovell

Ping Pong

Well, we may not be as skilled as the Seniors, but fun is the aim. The group started just over two years ago with a view to offering a session for those who simply enjoy the game. Numbers are growing steadily, and it's open to all, not just church members.

So, even if you haven't played since your youth, why not come along? It's a great way to socialise and have fun, with the added bonus of getting a little exercise. Age need be no barrier either – indeed we have three players in their eighties! We meet from 3.15pm until 5pm in the Wesley Room every Monday.

Jo Vernon

More bloomers...

- Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
- Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'Hell' to someone who doesn't care much about you.
- Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.
- Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.



*John Baker (L) and Ian Gomerson
Photo: Earl Williams*



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