



CROSSGATES METHODIST CHURCH

March Newsletter

2020

MINISTER: Rev Helen White

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Giving up?

So often the game of I spy, or trying to guess what someone else wants us to know, ends with us saying, “Oh I give up.” We talk about giving up a job or an attempt to achieve something, maybe a diet or an exercise programme. It has negative connotations suggesting that we were too impatient to persevere or lacked the stamina to see the task through to the end. Criticising someone who stops before the end ignores the anguish involved in finally deciding not to finish the task we set ourselves or agreed to take on. I know when I climbed up Ben Nevis, I struggled to make the decision to turn round before I reached the top. I didn’t want to give up before getting to the summit, but in the end, with the strength of the winds and the depth of snow underfoot, turning round seemed the wiser option. I’d started to turn back a few times, then tried again, not wanting to be a ‘quitter’. Better to walk down under my own steam without reaching the top, than have to be rescued, I decided eventually.

Lent is also often associated with giving up – we decide to give up chocolate or biscuits or something similar as our Lenten discipline. Discipline is another word that can have negative connotations – we associate it with punishment or chastisement. We are disciplined if we step out of line. We talk about strict teachers who exercise firm discipline. It shares the same root as disciple. We are all called to be disciples of

Jesus and that involves discipline – keeping on trying even when the going gets tough. I hope Lent won't be too tough for any of us, but what are we going to do as disciples, being disciplined about our life of faith? Will you give something up, or take something up? Maybe aim to read a book that will enrich your faith, or a book of the Bible you've never got around to; try a different way of praying, or go to a Lent group or the One Voice Lent Lunches (see the dates and places below). Christian Aid produce a calendar to help you count your blessings (available to order, or use online <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/lent-easter-appeal/count-your-blessings-online>). There is also one produced by Action for Children – please ask if you want more information.

Whatever you choose to give up, or take up, or continue doing, may Lent be a time of growth for you this year.

Helen

One Voice Lent Lunches

12 noon, soup lunch, cost £1.50 to cover costs of food

4th March Christ Church - Speaker, Revd Geoff Ellis

11th March St Phillips Church - Speaker, Revd Richard Wiggins

18th March Christ Church - Speaker, Revd Bob Brookes

25th March Christ Church - Speaker, Revd Robert Creamer

1st April St Phillips Church - Speaker, Revd Mark Harwood

Joint Lent Course with Colton

Monday evenings at Colton and Tuesday afternoons at Cross Gates, a group will meet to explore the book Not a Tame Lion, which draws on the Bible and clips from the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe; and Shadowlands. A clip from each will be shown each week. The book provides background reading between sessions. Please see the poster (in coffee lounge/in corridor outside vestry) for more details, and sign up if you'd like to come along. The date for ordering copies of the book via Helen has now passed. As with the Old Testament study and last year's Lent course, the groups at both Churches will be covering the same

material each week, and you are free to swop between groups if you need to.

Services at Cross Gates at 10:30 in March

- 1st - Mr Michael Prince
- 8th - Rev'd Helen White
- 15th - Mr Grenville Jensen
- 22nd - Dr Richard Vautry
- 29th - Rev'd Helen White

Communion Services in March

- Sun 8th 10:30am Church
 - Tues 3rd 10:45am Tranquility Court – All welcome
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World Day of Prayer

This year's World Day of Prayer (which used to be called Women's World Day of Prayer) is to be held on Friday 6th March at Christ Church, Halton. The service starts at 2pm. This year it has been written by the women of Zimbabwe. Do try to come along, everyone is welcome.

Coffee Mornings in March – All welcome

Mon 2 nd	10am – 11.30am	Church Hall
Fri 6 th	9.45am – 11.15am	Tranquility Court, complex behind Church
Sat 7 th	9.30am - noon	Table Top sale with coffee in room behind Church Hall
Mon 9 th	10am – 11.30am	Church Hall
Mon 16 th	10am – 11.30am	Church Hall
Mon 23 rd	10am – 11.30am	Church Hall
Fri 27 th	10am – 11.30am	NSPCC, Church Hall
Mon 30 th	10am – 11.30am	Church Hall

Church Flowers

Many thanks to those people who donated money for church flowers in February:

- 2nd – Cynthia & John Best, celebrating the lives of wonderful parents.
- 16th – Beryl Gledhill, remembering Ruth, Eric and Lesley.
- 22nd – Carol Smith, in memory of Mum.

Thank you to Pauline Hudson, Elizabeth Bellhouse and Mary Teal for their beautiful arrangements. Many thanks to those who distribute the flowers to those who are ill or in need of our prayers at that time.

LEEDS SOUTH & EAST FOOD BANK - (Trussell Trust)

IN FEBRUARY OUR CHURCH GAVE A TOTAL OF 70Kg OF FOOD AND TOILETRIES TO THE HUNSLET DISTRIBUTION CENTRE.

A few details from the Food Bank February Newsletter;- From 1st to 29th January 2020 - Leeds South & East Food Banks **FED A TOTAL OF 398 PEOPLE**, 220 adults and 178 children. Various reasons caused these folk to need help from the Food Bank – benefit delays and changes accounted for 157, debt 38, low income 180, sickness 5, homelessness 5 and other reasons 13.

A box for your contributions of food/toiletries is in the Galilee. Wanted especially this month is Coffee, Tinned Potatoes, Tinned Fish, Long Life Milk, Squash, Juice.

Two new Food Banks are to open in our area – St Wilfred's (Halton) will open on Wednesday mornings and Neruka's Soup Kitchen (Gledhow Road) will open on Fridays 11am to 1pm

Thank you for your continued support.

The Hub – Cancer Support Group

Monday 2nd March 11:00am – 1:00pm. An open session followed by lunch outing

New visitors are always welcome.

Offertory Envelopes

Boxes of offertory envelopes to commence 1st March 2020 are available in the Wesley Room corridor. Please collect yours and any others you are able to deliver. *Please do not use old envelopes after Sunday 23rd February.* Thank you. Michael Teal

A singing workshop with the renowned **John Bell** is taking place at Christ Church Halton on 6th June, 2pm – 4.30pm (refreshments from 1.30pm). Tickets are £5 plus a tin of food for the food bank. The workshop is for those who want to sing – it is not for spectators!

East Leeds History and Archaeology Society - All Welcome

8:00pm at the Methodist Church Hall. Admission £2.00 incl refreshments.

Monday 30th March - Dr Patrick Bourne will deliver an illustrated talk:
"Getting around town - Transport in Leeds from 1800"

A prayer for communities affected by flooding

For people battered by forceful storms
For communities battling rising floods
For emergency services stretched to the limit
We pray

For farmers losing straw and crops
For shopkeepers losing high street trade
For repeat victims losing strength and hope
We pray

For resilience and resolve to change
For impatience with using flood plains
For commitment to protect riverbanks and coasts
We pray

In Jesus' name we pray

Amen

The Revd Barbara Glasson, President of the Methodist Conference

A big thank you to everyone who gave so generously over the Christmas season to the charities we support at this time of year.

St Gemma's Hospice Carol service: £287.50 (inc £27.50 gift aid)

Action for Children Carol singing on the Church steps: £182.25.

In lieu of Christmas cards: £26.03. Offertory on Christmas Day and retiring collection on 29th December: £178.58. The total amount came to £415.05 when £28.19 of gift aid was included.

Please see the back page for some words of thanks from the charities.

Saturday 25th April at 2.30pm

Concert & Afternoon Tea at Church.

Words and music with **Serendipity** (Margaret & Kath)

with the theme 'Our Favourite Things'.

Tickets are £8 with proceeds to Christian Aid. Order tickets by phone from
Kath Harwood 0113 260 3614

Table Top Sale

Saturday

7th March

9.30am until noon

**Please come along and pick up a
bargain while supporting Church
funds**

*Bric a Brac, Mens, womens, kids and baby
clothes. Toys, crafts and collectables. Books,
CDs and DVDs*

& much, much, more

Refreshments Available

Tea & Coffee

Breakfast Baps & Toast

Music and Lunch

Second Tuesday in the Month

Lunch @ 12:15

Music @ 13:15

10th March - The Dalehurst Trio

Tickets £7

Including lunch which must be booked in advance

Tickets for concert only £3

Order tickets by phone from Kath Harwood

0113 260 3614

Thank you for your support

*All proceeds are donated to music based charities
and Church funds*

Please email contributions for the Newsletter to Tracy Dick
tracydick@icloud.com Deadlines coming up: 22nd March, 19th April 2020.

Thank you letters have been received from those charities our Church supported over the Christmas period:

Leeds Riding for the Disabled – *A big thank you for your magnificent cheque of £357.94 which will be used to the best benefit of our riders and ponies.*

Action for Children – *we are so very grateful for the generous donation of £415.05. The money given will go a long way towards supporting the disadvantaged young people with whom we work. Your kind donation means that we will be able to help even more children and young people have a safe and happy childhood.*

St Gemma's Hospice – *thank you very much for your fantastic donation of £287.50. St Gemma's is not just a building – the majority of patients are supported in the place they want to stay – often their own homes. Your donation has contributed to making this possible.*

Thanks: Beryl Gledhill would like to express her sincere and grateful thanks for the Church flowers, cards, phone calls and care after breaking her hip.

Prayers: Please remember in your thoughts and prayers all those people in our prayer book and those we know who are unwell, in hospital, in Nursing Homes, going for tests at Hospital, recently bereaved and who find this time of year particularly difficult.

CROSS GATES METHODIST CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

We are a group of people who are seeking to celebrate and share God's love for all.

Through Worship, Witness and Service in the Community we aim to follow Christ's example of open arms, hearts, minds and doors

Cross Gates Methodist Church, Austhorpe Road, Cross Gates, Leeds, LS15 8QR
