



CROSSGATES METHODIST CHURCH Newsletter July 2022

MINISTER: Rev Helen White (on sabbatical until 25th July)
Tel: (0113) 260 5254

On the top of my wardrobe in my bedroom is a large cardboard box which is very special and precious to me – it contains my ‘memories’. It has in it all sorts of bits and bobs right from my baby days up to the present – photos, certificates, school reports even!



It has my old brownie badges, wedding photos and various certificates from my social work and counselling days. It has photos of the families I supported, and of course photos of my own babies . All precious memories which tell the story of my life and which have often been used to do just that as I have moved from place to place in my ministry in recent years.

I’m sure many of you will have something similar up in the loft, or perhaps have your memories on display all around you at home, souvenirs from holidays in exotic, or not so exotic places; photographs placed lovingly on shelves and tables to remind you of good times and significant events, friends and those you love. Sometimes it is good just to spend some time with our memories, to remember and reflect on all that has been good in our lives, and especially having lived through these past years of covid 19, to be thankful for the memories that have often kept us going.

Our Bible is full of memories too, written down with love and care to remind us of the story of God in the lives of so many through the age; Memories of encounters with God in the Old Testament, and with Jesus in the Gospels, memories of friends made as the new followers of ‘The Way of Jesus’ began to grow in number with the spread of the early Church. Memories of the difference encountering God had made to their

lives. St Paul, separated from the people of the newly planted Church in Philippi, spoke with deep affection in his letters to them:

'I thank my God every time I remember you.'

Philippians 1:3

Of course, the memories we have made during this last year may not all be good ones. We may have had more time on our hands than we were comfortable with and some have found life challenging and lonely with just their memories for company. Inevitably, there will be others known to us living in care settings with dementia who have lost precious time with loved ones and who have suffered irreversible memory loss over the course of the pandemic. Connections lost that can never be retrieved – and there is great sadness in that which should be acknowledged.

As we have gradually eased back into a life of connection again, as we remember– the first coffee with friends, the first barbeque with family, that first hug with grandchildren and those we missed so much, let's not forget to continue making fresh and lasting memories. Memories we can look back on in the future with great gladness and say with confidence 'I thank my God every time I remember you'.

Praying for a summer full of making good memories for you
God bless, Rev Tanya

July Services

3 July	Holy Communion	Revd Tanya Short
10 July	In Building & Zoom	Mr Paul Coleman
17 July		Prof Peter Howdle
24 July		Mr Grenville Jensen
31 July		Mr Michael Prince

Communion Stewards for July are Carol Smith and Georgina Cressey

A message from Revd Helen White

Dear Friends

As I'm coming to the end of my fourth year with you, this is the time when we would usually be having conversations about whether to extend my time here in the circuit. As I'm on sabbatical we can't have these conversations in person. I am enjoying my time in Leeds and Yorkshire, and valuing working with you all through some very challenging times but I will not be seeking an extension to my appointment in this circuit. Next year, when my current appointment comes to an end, I will be leaving to join my partner in Leicester. There's only so many times we can drive up and down the M1 and it's taking its toll. I am looking forward to working with you for another year, and seeing you all again when I return from my sabbatical. Blessings, Helen

Wednesday Group – 2.30pm Wesley Room

6 July	Blue Plaques in Leeds – John Best
13 July	John Blyth presents a Musical Extravaganza
20 July	Mary Patchett presents an update on Water Wells
27 July	Cricket organised by Alan Tate
3 August	A Musical Afternoon on the organ with Arran Fleet
10 August	Here we are again with Bill's Frag Bag
17 August	Caribbean Interlude part 2 – Roy Cressey
24 August	Beetle Drive
31 August	Bank Holiday – no meeting

All welcome

Ladies Friendship Group - Dates for your diary

Tuesday, 9th August, 1pm, Wesley Room - Fish & Chips and a Chat (please bring money to pay for them).

Tuesday, 13th September, 2:30pm Wesley Room - regular meetings restart.

Meetings will be held every second and fourth Tuesdays from September 2022 to May 2023.

Table Top Sales - 2nd July & 6th August

If you would like more information or to book a table at a cost of £5 for Church funds please contact Lynda Robinson at Church or phone 0779 9094472.

Something New – The Repair Café

The new Repair Café will be starting up on Saturday 13th August and will run monthly for an initial year. This project is being led by the Circuit Mission and Ministry Enabler, Paul Coleman. It is a Circuit project but is based at our Church. Paul would welcome help with the café so please contact him if you are interested and would like to find out more.

Leeds South & East Foodbank **helping local people in crisis**

In May we delivered 12 assorted baskets of food and toiletries to the Leeds South and East Distribution Centre, weighing 175kg. We also donated a cheque for £100 from the Devotional Class.

If you would like to contribute food/toiletries please contact John Best : email jvbest39@hotmail.com who will gladly collect.

Food Pantry for LS14/LS15

Would you like to be part of a **new Food Pantry** for East Leeds?

Connecting Crossgates has received funding to set up a Food pantry and they are looking for volunteers.

A food pantry is different to a food bank, as members BUY a set number of items of their CHOICE for an affordable sum (such as 10 for £3.50).

The Pantry is open to anybody, with food coming from organisations such as Fareshare and Rethink who distribute surplus food from supermarkets.

Volunteer roles will include ordering food, stocking shelves, serving and chatting to customers, signposting to other help, communication, book keeping and monitoring.

If you are interested please contact Andy@ConnectingCrossgates.com or 07840 033637

Summer Holiday Club for Local School Children

The popular Holiday club is running again over the summer for children aged 4-11 at St Richards, Seacroft, LS14 and St James, Manston, LS15. The club runs Monday to Thursday for 4 weeks with children taking part in a range of activities from baking and craft to outdoor games and singing. The goal is to ensure no child goes hungry in the holidays so every child gets a cooked lunch and families can also sign up for a food hamper if needed. A team of 20 people from across the churches and the wider community help make it happen. **Could you volunteer?** Roles include planning activities, set up /tidy up at the hall, preparing food hampers, serving lunch/refreshments, helping with a craft activity, leading a small group etc.

Dates - 25-28th July, 1st-4th August, 15-18th August, 22nd-25th August

For more information contact karen@connectingcrossgates.com

What Can I do to Save Energy?

As prices continue to increase it might be worth considering implementing a few simple cost saving measures:

- Taking 4 minute showers could save £70 a year
- Switching devices off standby could save £55 a year
- Running one load of washing less a week at 30 degrees could save £28 a year
- Air drying your clothes could save £60 a year
- Not over-filling the kettle could save £36 a year
- Turning off lights could save £20 a year
- Running one less dishwasher load per week could save £14 a year

It is also worth taking regular meter readings to make sure your bill is accurate.

Plus using less electricity is good for the planet as well as your finances!

Spotlight on..... Dorothy Weston

I think my two sisters, brother and I were lucky growing up on a farm with lots of space to roam around in, almost idyllic. Dad was a tenant farmer on the Swillington House Estate owned by Sir William Lowther. We went to the village Church and primary school, walking four miles a day – two there, lunch and then two back. We all had to earn our bikes by feeding hens, helping at haymaking time, harvest and later in the year potato picking. Pre machines we also helped milk the cows.

School summer holidays were the best time. Friends came down from the village and we played hide and seek, sardines, tennis and endless cricket - only going in at mealtimes and bedtime.

When I was nineteen I was sent to London by the bank I worked for because they were short staffed. A year or two later I returned home and went to live in Wighill, north of Tadcaster as Dad was retiring there. Then I was transferred to York which meant I had to travel to work via Lambretta as the buses were few and far between. This was lovely in the summer months but not so good in the winter!

At that time we all attended the village chapel which my uncle helped run as he was a Methodist local preacher. I was roped in to play the harmonium for services. Playing this instrument is like an all body work-out! If you didn't keep pedalling and moving the swells out sideways no sound came forth. I soon learnt I had to keep going!

Dorothy promises us her story will be continued!.....

If you would like to join in and offer a few words about your life to feature in future newsletters please send them to Tracy Dick (see the back page for contact details)

One of the questions in an R.E. exam at a Church of England High School was 'What does a Bishop do?' One child wrote: 'Move diagonally across the board'

History Corner

1907 – 1908

The Church was enlarged by the addition of transept, chancel, lecture hall, vestries etc with an institute beneath. Within the enlarged Church the pulpit was moved from the centre to the side and the choir stalls and organ were also repositioned. Total cost of the extension was £3,260: seating accommodation was now 652 – a magnificent and far-sighted scheme at a time when the membership was still only 64!

1909 – 1913

Years of change: Bleriot made the first aeroplane flight across the English Channel and the following year (May 1910) King Edward VII died. In Cross Gates the Recreation Hall was opened and foundation stones laid for two new Churches – Manston new Church, which opened in 1913, and the Baptist Church at Whitkirk. Roads were becoming busier and in 1911 the Whinmoor/Coal Road Toll Bar was freed. The village was rapidly becoming a thriving residential area with houses built in The Drive and Manton Gardens and the first two shops in Church Lane opened. In November 1912 Cross Gates became part of Leeds and by the end of 1913 a manse on Austhorpe Road had been bought by the Trustees.

1914 -1918

The work of the Church went on during the war years. In August 1915 the war was brought closer to the people of Cross Gates when Barnbow Shell Filling Factory was opened on the site of the Golf Course, employing about 16,000 workers. It was a dangerous place to work – tragedy struck on 5th December 1916 when there was an explosion in which 35 women were killed and many more injured. There were to be two more explosions, one in 1917 when two women were killed and 1918 when three men were killed.

The problem of food shortages also had to be faced. At the Leaders' meeting in 1917 it was decided that '*in view of the unprecedented conditions now prevailing, no tea be provided at the Quarterly meeting later in June.*' In 1917 the produce of the Harvest Festival was disposed of for the benefit of the wounded soldiers at Killingbeck Hospital. In

response to the King's appeal, the 6th January 1918 was observed as a day of intercession.

Extracted from the booklet 'Highlights & Milestones which was compiled by Jean English and Michael Teal in 1982.

Service Options: If there are any people or situations you would like included in the prayers in worship, please let Helen know by Saturday morning, (having got permission from the individual to be named in our prayers). Please do contact Barbara if you would like to receive details of worship via email or would like to have printed worship sheets delivered.

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.

Free phone service to hear prayers and news from the Methodist Church:

Listen to a prayer: 0808 281 2514. Listen to news: 0808 281 2478.

Pastoral message from the President & Vice-President: 0808 281 2695
Content is updated weekly on a Thursday evening.

Your Financial Contributions: Thank you to all those who have continued to contribute to the Church's running costs. If you do not attend Church, please continue sending them to Linda Booth, or to the Church's address. If you would like to change to contributing via **standing order** please get in touch with Amanda Brow. She can be contacted by email amandajbrow@gmail.com

Back Copies of this Newsletter: Just a reminder that copies of this Newsletter from Jan 2020 – June 2022 are displayed on the Cross Gates pages of the Leeds North & East Methodist Circuit Website, www.leedsnandemethodist.org.uk. On the website home page click on the Churches tab, this will display all the Churches in the Circuit, then click on the Cross Gates tab. Happy reading!

Newsletter: Please email contributions for the Newsletter to Tracy Dick tracylouisedick@gmail.com

THERE WILL BE NO NEWSLETTER IN AUGUST.

Deadlines coming up: Monday 22nd August, Monday 19th September.

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