



**CROSSGATES  
METHODIST CHURCH**

**Newsletter**

**June 2023**

MINISTER: Rev Helen White

**Barnabas**

Did you know that St Barnabas has his day in June? I have to confess I didn't until I looked in my diary just now, whilst wondering what was special about June. Some of you will tell me June is special because you have a birthday or anniversary. MHA Sunday falls this month, and June also contains Refugee Week (19th-25th).

But let's go back to Barnabas for a moment. The name means son of encouragement, and the Barnabas we read about in the Bible, in the book of Acts, was a great encourager. So are you a son or daughter of encouragement? I don't know about you, but I work much better, complete tasks I've agreed to do and take on new ones if I receive encouragement from other people. Just a word of thanks or appreciation makes a difference. My challenge to you is to find someone to encourage this month – a word of thanks goes a long way. It shouldn't be too hard to find someone – just think of all the people we thanked at our Annual Church Meeting at the end of April. So, thank you to all of you who contribute, whether in a named role, or quietly through your presence and prayers.

And as Refugee Week is part of June, can we aim to pray each day for those who are refugees and those who work with them, especially during Refugee Week.

## **A prayer from St Paul's Cathedral**

God, no one is stranger to you.

In your kindness look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger.

Watch over migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, those separated from their loved ones, those who are lost and those who have been exiled from their homes. Bring them safely to the place where they long to be, and help us always to show your kindness to strangers and those in need.

Bless the work of those seeking to bring them relief.

Awaken compassion and urgency in governments and all whose decision making can make a difference and guide the nations of the world towards that day

when all will rejoice in your Kingdom of justice and of peace;

We ask this through Christ our Lord,

who too was a refugee and migrant

who traveled to another land

searching for a home.

Amen

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## **June Services**

|                   |   |                      |
|-------------------|---|----------------------|
| 4 June – 10.30am  | Holy Communion                              | Revd Helen White     |
| 11 June – 10.30am |   | Mrs Catherine Frieze |
| 11 June – 4pm     | Circuit Service<br><i>(at Lidgett Park)</i> | Circuit Staff        |
| 18 June – 10.30am |   | Revd Helen White     |
| 24 June – 10.30am |   | Revd Norma Davey     |

Communion Stewards for May are Carol Smith & Georgina Cressey

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## **Monday Coffee Morning**

Please come and join us each Monday in the Church Hall between 10:00am and 11:30am if you would like someone to talk to while you enjoy a drink.

## **Church Flowers**

Flowers on the 7th of May were arranged by Georgina for Vera Johnson's funeral. Carol Smith has donated flowers for Sunday 21st May in memory of her Dad. Many people have said how nice it is to have fresh flowers in Church as in between requests we use silk ones. As prices for flowers have risen sharply donations for the flower fund would be greatly appreciated from anyone whether it's for someone special or not. They can then go into the kitty to be used as needed.

Contacts are: Barbara Leeming, Georgina Cressey.

## **Table Top Sales - 3rd June & 1st July 9.30am to 12noon**

Why not join us for a breakfast bap and then a stroll round the sale to pick up a bargain.

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

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## **Wednesday Group**

This takes place weekly in the Wesley Room at 2.30pm. All welcome.

7/6 – People & Places of Palestine with Revd Helen White.

14/6 – Pauline Timms asks you to bring a childhood photo of yourself in an envelope (no name).

21/6 – Turn back the times with John Blyth to 1960s music and a quiz.

28/6 – Bob and Jackie Lawrence present Montagu Burton – Tailor of Taste.

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## **Leeds South and East Foodbank (Trussell Trust)**

### **Helping local people in crisis**

Unfortunately, hardly a day goes by without somebody on television speaking of the **ever- growing need for Food Banks**. People struggling in our country to feed themselves or their children on basic food.

In April we delivered 12 baskets of food and toiletry essentials (weighing 169KG) to the Trussell Trust South- East Leeds Distribution Centre.

**If you would like to contribute food/toiletries there is a basket in the Galilee or you can contact John Best, email**

**[jvbest39@hotmail.com](mailto:jvbest39@hotmail.com) who will gladly collect.**

## Coronation Celebration

Some of us can remember the Coronation Parties of 1953, but many people were too young for this.

It was a lovely idea by 'the Church' to invite us all to a Coronation Party. We arrived in the Hall to find somebody had been very busy with the decorations and bunting, the tables laid out and soon every seat was taken. Sitting at the tables we were encouraged to do a couple of quizzes - an easy one testing our memory about nursery rhymes, and one a little harder covering the Royal Family, coronations and history. We then had a delightful lunch (prepared by Elizabeth, Graham and their team) plentiful such that one or two had second helpings! Richard and Christine then took over with a series of party games that we could participate in and enjoy. This was followed of course by traditional party dances and a singalong to old songs culminating with the National Anthem. Thanks again to all who planned, organised and helped at this memorable event.



## **Ukrainian Hosts Support Project** **Leeds Asylum Seeker's Support Network**

Are you hosting a Ukrainian Refugee or do you know somebody who is? Hosting a refugee is a big undertaking, supporting someone who is adjusting to a new country and building a new life often results in guidance being sought from their host on issues such as employment, education, re-housing and moving on.

LASSN knows that sharing your home with a stranger can be a pleasure but along the way there may be some tricky conversations. It is important that hosts have someone who is there for them to support them in a variety of ways.

The Ukrainian Hosts Support Project has been running now for 6 months. Group support both online and offline, one to one telephone support, regular updates on what is happening in the city specifically for Ukrainian Refugees can be shared.

Please get in touch with Anna the Hosting Development Worker to find out more on 07462 808 789 [ukraine@lassn.org.uk](mailto:ukraine@lassn.org.uk)

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### **Church AGM**

Thank you to everyone who attended the Church AGM after the service on 30<sup>th</sup> April. The following people were appointed and elected to the Church Council:

*Minister in Pastoral Charge* – Rev Helen White (until July) and then Rev Becki Stennett

*The Church Stewards* – Barbara Lloyd (also Safeguarding Officer), Cedric Robinson, John Blyth

*The Church Council Secretary* – Tracy Dick

*The Church Treasurer* – Alison Lambert

*Secretary of the Pastoral Committee* – Cynthia Best

The AGM elected: Georgina Cressey, Roy Cressey, Denise Durkin, Graeme Bentley, Keith Westbrooke, John Best, Hazel Watson, Michael Teal, Alan Tate, Neil Smith, June Holliday

People appointed to ensure that all areas of the Church's life are adequately represented: Carol Smith (*Communion Steward*), Amanda Brow (*Stewardship Recorder*), Richard Holdstock (*Health &*

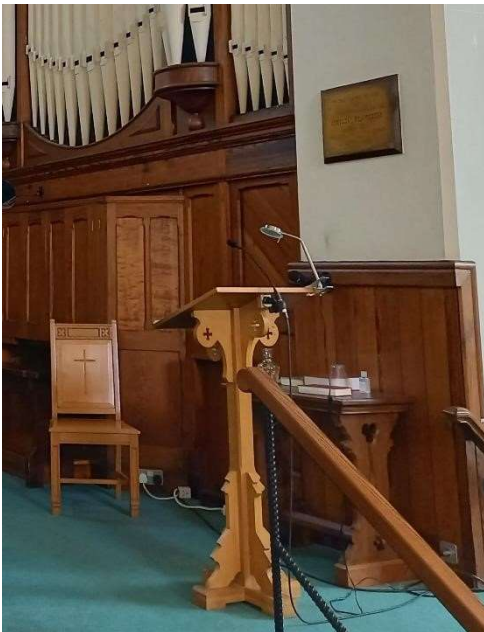
*Safety Officer*), Linda Booth (*Property Finance Officer*), Bill Ineson (*Property Rep*), Lynda Robinson (*Community Outreach*), Pam Wilcox (*Pastoral Committee Rep*), Deborah Carter (*Gift Aid*), Christine Holdstock (*Circuit Rep & Worship Leader*).

In addition, Andy Birkett attends as Circuit Steward.

## **Philip Flowith**

Have you ever noticed a brass plaque on the wall next to the lectern?

It is pictured below. I had wondered who Philip Flowith was and what happened to him – the mystery was solved when Philip Smith (who I wrote about in the last newsletter) contacted the Church.



Philip Smith was named after his mother's brother Philip Flowith. The Flowith family attended Cross Gates Methodist Church and lived at 18 Austhorpe Road from 1913 to 1934. Philip was employed as a clerk by Holt & Co who had a wholesale drapers' warehouse in Leeds. He sang in the choir and played the organ here, which is why the plaque is situated on the wall next to the organ.

Philip was staying with the church choirmaster and organ player, Harry Wardell, and his wife, who were on holiday at Reighton Gap, East Yorkshire.



A boy and girl got into difficulties and were drifting out into the North Sea on a raft they had been playing with. Philip swam out to the raft and got it back to where a chain of helpers had formed in the sea but in the strong undercurrent he slipped away and his body was never recovered.



The church and others raised funds for the erection of a Rescue Station at Reighton Gap to avoid a repetition of this tragedy and it was opened on 16<sup>th</sup> September 1934. The drowning and the opening of the rescue hut were reported in the local press and Philip's courageous act was recognised by the award of a Carnegie Memorial Certificate and

£70, and an award from the Royal Humane Society.



This photograph shows the opening of the rescue station at Reighton Gap. The bald-headed man, third from the left is Philip's father, Arthur Flowith, and the man on the far left of the picture is the minister from Cross Gates Church.

uncle.

*Thank you to Philip Smith who provided all this information about his*

*Christine Holdstock*

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### **Barnbow Memorial Garden – Manston Park**

Each year local schoolchildren are invited to come up with a floral design for the garden area that surrounds the Barnbow memorial in Manston Park. The memorial commemorates the 35 women who lost their lives in a blast at the Barnbow factory in 1916 and the annual competition hopes to keep the memory of this important part of our local history alive. The presentation to the winner of this year's competition will take place at 1.30pm on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June at the memorial. All are welcome to attend and support the children.

**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.

**Service Options:** If there are any people or situations you would like included in the prayers in worship, please let Barbara Lloyd 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.



## **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 continue 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.

**Newsletter:** I am always looking for ideas of what to feature in the newsletter. If there is anything you would like to see included please contact me. Also please email any contributions of your own to Tracy Dick [tracylouisedick@gmail.com](mailto:tracylouisedick@gmail.com) Deadlines coming up: **18<sup>th</sup> June** (for July & August editions), **20<sup>th</sup> August** (for September edition)

### **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*