

SUMMERBRIDGE

METHODIST CHURCH

**'Bringing people and God together
through the love of Jesus Christ'**

**Newsletter for
March to May 2020**

Why Keep Lent? Lent thoughts from Canon J John

Lent, the forty days before Easter (not counting Sundays), is a somewhat curious period in the Church's calendar. Most things in the Church's year are festivals and we happily talk about celebrating them. Lent is very different: it is a minor-key period which is never 'celebrated' but only 'kept'. Some churches and Christians treat Lent very seriously, while others ignore it entirely.

Even among those who keep Lent, there is no agreement on how it should be kept. Many Christians try to give up something: for instance, chocolate, social media or television. It's even become a period for us to try to break bad habits, almost as if Lent gives us another opportunity to retake those New Year's resolutions!

Now what exactly is Lent about? Lent is 'preparation'. Lent is about three preparations.

Lent is a preparation for Easter. Easter, with its message of Christ destroying sin and death through his death and resurrection, is the most exciting moment in the Church's year. Yet we can undercut this note of victory by being so occupied that, amid the frantic busyness of our lives, we carelessly stumble upon Easter. Lent provides us with forty days' build-up to Good Friday and Easter Sunday that forces us to prayerfully ponder the death and resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. As the best way to appreciate a sunrise is to be there in the darkness before dawn, so the only way to appreciate Easter is to have come to it through Lent. We as Christians are, of course, an Easter people living in a Good Friday world.



WELCOME

Please join us for refreshments after our service. Children and young people usually stay in the service for the first 15 minutes after which they go into Young Church. There is no Young Church when there is an All Age service.

PRAYER

Prayer is available after every Sunday Morning service just behind the pulpit if you would like prayer, or just to talk. If you need a private space just let the prayer team know.

Secondly, Lent is a preparation for Existence. A fatal flaw in our culture today is that people do not know how to say 'no' to bad things. It is now almost a virtue to give in to every desire that comes upon us. Yet a great element in Christian morality is to be able to say no to wrong desires. Paul, in Titus chapter 2 verses 11 and 12, says this: *'For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives.'* Lent gives us the opportunity to practice resisting harmful and hurtful desires that will continue for life. Trivial as it may appear, a battle won over chocolate, coffee or cake at Lent may help us win a battle over lust, lying or laziness shortly afterwards.

Finally, Lent is a preparation for Eternity. If you take Lent seriously, then these forty days can seem to be a long and often wearying season in which we never get our own way. Here, for a time, pleasures are put to one side and joys are postponed. But Lent doesn't last. The darkness is broken by the joyful light of the glorious triumph of Easter Day. Here there is a splendid parallel with our lives. For many of us, much of our life seems to take place in what we might call 'Lent mode': things do not go as we hope, we do not get what we want and our joys are absent or at best short-lived. Yet, for the Christian, there is that wonderful and certain hope that however deep and hard the darkness is in our lives, it will ultimately be lifted and replaced by an indestructible joy. For those who love Christ, life's long Lent will end, one day, in an eternal Easter in which death and sin are destroyed for ever.

Whether or not you keep Lent, starting on Wednesday 26th February – and in what way you keep it – is your choice. But to keep Lent, thoughtfully and prayerfully, is to come into a rich and lasting inheritance. Be blessed this Lent and bless others.

J. John

Rev'd Canon

**Please send items for the next issue to
Rose Gosling by 15th May.
Email them to rose.gosling@btinternet.com
or phone/text 01423 771996 / 07837776506**

**Look out for our environmental issues and news
pages, marked with a Green header.**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2020

Praying with Zimbabwe



FRIDAY 6TH MARCH



Glasshouses Methodist Church
Broadbelt Hall
Glasshouses

Friday 6th March
7.30pm

A service for everyone

Rise! Take Your Mat
and Walk

Methodist Insurance Volunteer Awards

As you may be aware, Rose Gosling was put forward by the Church Council for the annual Methodist Insurance Volunteer awards and we are pleased to announce that she is one of the finalists for the award and will be representing the Yorkshire Plus region at the final in London on 15th October.

As our church has reached this stage in the competition we will receive £1000 and an additional £250 to organise a celebration. At a later date there will be more information about the arrangements for voting for the finalists, should you wish to do so. The winning Church will receive a further £2000.

Community sponsorship for refugees

Conflicts across the Middle East and North African have left millions of people in need of protection. The UK has played an important role in supporting those in need: through the UK's humanitarian aid effort in Syria, our largest ever response to a single humanitarian crisis; and as one of the world's largest resettlement countries, helping to rehome the most vulnerable refugees. Local authorities and community groups across the UK are helping refugees to feel welcome and able to adjust to a new life. Community Sponsorship is a new way to welcome and resettle refugees in local communities, by providing emotional and practical support to empower resettled families to rebuild their lives and to become self-sufficient members of their new community. Being a sponsor benefits the local community, by enabling the generosity of locals, and creating bonds within the community.



The Nidderdale Refugee Resettlement Group is a team of locals, convinced we must do all we can to support those for whom life has become intolerable in their native country. The group will be involved in enabling a resettled family to become self-sufficient members of our community by:

- Meeting the family at the airport.
- Befriending the family and helping them to settle in the UK .
- Supporting the family to learn English, and providing interpreters as required.
- helping them to find work and access benefits.
- helping the family access medical and social services.
- assisting with school registrations.

Community sponsorship continued

Acting as a community sponsor to a resettled family is hugely rewarding, but it is also a large responsibility. We will need to create a clear plan for how we will resettle and integrate a family into our safe and supportive environment. This will involve:

- Showing we have experience of working with vulnerable people.
- Showing we can safeguard the family.
- Finding suitable housing.
- Getting permission of the Local Authority.
- Demonstrating we have funds available to respond to any needs not covered by the benefits the family will receive. In addition, we need to be partnered with a registered charity.

In February we were told by Catholic Care, who are experienced in running with Community Resettlement Groups that they are willing to be the lead sponsoring charity for us, which is a big hurdle cleared as it gives us access to a large number of training and official contacts.



Continued...

Community sponsorship continued

If you have particular experience in any of the following and would be interested in being involved, we'd love to hear from you:

- Interpreting and / or ESOL qualified.
- State Benefits applications.
- Safeguarding Policy development.

But we also welcome any with experience of working with refugees, and those who have a wish to help a family who, through no fault of their own, have had to flee for their, and their children's, lives and safety.

If you would like to be involved in the planning, application and welcome of a refugee family to Nidderdale, do let us know. We will be arranging more publicity and a public meeting in the near future, when we can present more details, and explain the way in which residents in the dale can get involved.

Through the sponsorship scheme communities across the UK are already seeing how welcoming a refugee family into their local area can transform lives, not just for the family but in the community as well. If you would like to see how the scheme worked for a community in Fishguard, there is a video at https://youtu.be/fNGm_tXf1M. Other local communities are running schemes, Settle have had a family in place for some 6 months now, and Pickering are a few months ahead of us in Nidderdale.

If you would like to join us on this journey to create a new, safe life for a family in desperate need, or would like to know more, contact me, Peter Wright via wrightpandh@gmail.com.

Peter





Ceilidh

with

The Village Hop Band

Saturday 14th March 2020 7.30-10.30 pm

Pateley Bridge Memorial Hall

Tickets from Pateley Bridge Pharmacy & all the Churches

Adults £12.00, children (accompanied) £3.00

Includes supper & refreshments (or bring a bottle)

Proceeds to



Ripon City of Sanctuary



Tickets for the Church in the Dale Ceilidh are available from **Janet Dinsdale** on **01423 780157** or **Denise Hyett** on **01423 780926**.

Giving a couple of hours a week or fortnight can make a real difference to someone's life

 **carers'**
resource
Carers' Time Off

Could you volunteer in the Pateley Bridge area to help carers take a break?

- Sit inside
- Go for a coffee
- Drive into the countryside



- Visit a garden centre
- Go for a walk
- Try something fun

The local Carer's Resource representative, **Julie Hallett**, is looking for local volunteers to support people in the area, to allow their carers to have some time off each month. She says...

I am a newly appointed coordinator for Carers Resource covering Ripon/ rural areas. I am currently looking for female volunteer to provide a befriending service for a local lady who would like company and perhaps to go out for a coffee occasionally to enable her husband to go out for 2-3 hours once a month.

I am also looking for volunteers in the area generally, so gentleman also welcome to apply for other positions. This is a very rewarding volunteer role which benefits both the carer and the cared for. We provide ongoing training and regular social events for volunteers and pay mileage/travel expenses.

*If you would be interested in finding out more about the service then please contact me on **01423 500555** - many thanks.*

Julie

Climate Change, hunger and poverty

In September I witnessed for Christian Aid the problems that the failure of the rainy season in Zambia was causing to food supplies across the country, and also in other parts of Central Africa. Today things are deteriorating, with famine beginning to take hold across the whole central belt.

The following is reprinted from One Voice, Tearfund's e-mail January newsletter...

"THE HUNGER CRISIS NO ONE IS TALKING ABOUT

Back in October, Tearfund and other agencies warned of a looming hunger crisis in southern Africa. The situation is getting worse, and an unprecedented number of people are now at risk.

What's going on? *Approximately 45 million people across 16 countries in southern Africa are facing severe food shortages. Some of the hardest-hit countries are Zimbabwe, Zambia, Mozambique and Malawi. In many areas more than half the population are surviving on one meal a day. Mass unemployment in cities and inflation are making the situation worse. Pregnant women, new mothers, children, the elderly and people with disabilities are especially vulnerable.*

Why has this happened? *The region has been hit by a devastating combination of extreme weather events and political and economic instability. Parts of the region are facing the worst drought in 35 years, while in other areas there is widespread flooding. People are still reeling from the devastation caused by cyclones Idai and Kenneth last year, which killed more than a thousand people and left hundreds of thousands homeless.*



Climate Change, hunger and poverty continued

Is climate change to blame? Almost certainly. While it is difficult to attribute particular extreme weather events to climate change, it definitely makes such events more likely. The region is seeing more frequent and longer lasting droughts, as well as stronger storms than it is used to.

'The situation is bad. I have lived here my whole life and things have never been this severe. It's heart breaking that such a large crisis isn't receiving more coverage in the media. Please continue to pray with us for the people who are having to live through this.'

Jonathan Simpson, Southern and East Africa Team, Zimbabwe.

The logo for Tearfund, featuring the word "tearfund" in white lowercase letters on a dark teal rectangular background.

Following Jesus where the need is greatest

PLEASE PRAY...

- *for people who are struggling because of this crisis. Ask God for comfort and provision for them. Pray that Tearfund and other aid organisations will be able to reach the most vulnerable.*
- *that this year's cyclone season will cause minimum disruption, and that areas affected by cyclones Idai and Kenneth will be able to continue to recover.*
- *for both economic and political stability. And pray that the church in southern Africa would highlight the urgency of the situation, exercising their God-given responsibility to hold those in authority to account."*

Remember, climate changes across the world are caused by our luxurious lifestyles in the richest countries', not the poorest but it is they who suffer the worst effects. We must be the solution - they can't cut emissions as they don't make any, but we can and must. There is no space for anyone to be lukewarm on climate change. Either you believe it's a problem created by us, or you don't. If you believe we are the cause, as 96% of climate scientists' claim, and most of the general public now recognise, then the onus is on us to do something about it.

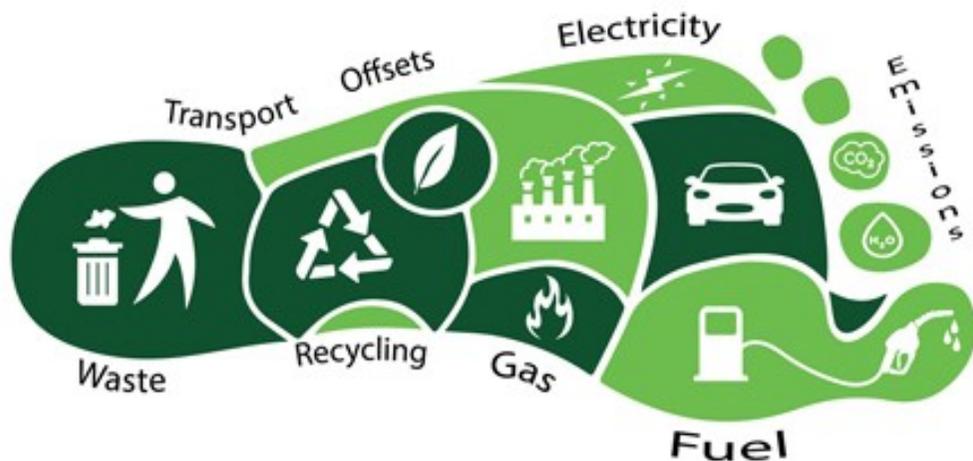
Climate Change, hunger and poverty continued

We don't have to stop enjoying life, but we do need to think before we do anything that will increase our carbon footprint. Today the average person in the UK is responsible for around 6 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions per year. We need to reduce that to 2 tonnes, and soon.

Have you done a carbon footprint for yourself and your family? Do make the effort to do one, you will be surprised just what your footprint looks like. A simple calculator is found at <https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/#/>. A more precise calculator can be found at <https://www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx>, and this will allow you to look at offsetting your footprint via various options.

We all need to think carefully about what sort of world we want our successors to inherit. We can't agree with the science but then do nothing to change the way we live any longer. We can't moan about the extreme weather events experienced from time to time, but continue to live as if nothing was wrong. The latest science predicts 10 years is the time we have to change our ways.

**It's time to make that change.
Peter Wright and Linsay Pooley.**





RECYCLING AREA

Summerbridge Methodist Church

We are collecting a number of difficult to recycle items and passing them on via local organisations so they can be made into new products. We would love it if you could support us. We need your...

Plastic pet food packets

Toothbrushes and toothpaste tubes

Disposable contact lenses and cases

Crisp packets

Pringle tins

Chocolate bar and sweet packaging

Pens, markers, highlighters, Tippex

Biscuit, cake and cracker wrappers

Beauty/personal care packaging

Black plastic packaging (Clean please!)

The Recycling Area is open whenever the Church is open, including Sunday and Wednesday mornings. Pop in and pick up a leaflet from the Church for more information about the items we can collect.

Supermarket Carrier Bag Recycling

Ever wondered exactly what you can put in the Supermarket recycling bins? The full list is below...

- All plastic bags, except biodegradable or compostable bags
- Bread bags
- Breakfast cereal liners
- Shrink wrap & ring joiners from multipacks of water, cans etc
- Frozen food bags, e.g. bags for frozen vegetables, chips, etc
- Dry cleaning bags/bags covering new clothing
- Magazine and newspaper wrappers
- Bags for loose fruit and vegetables
- Bubble wrap
- Low-density polyethylene (LDPE) - resin ID code 4





LADIES DINNER

**Saturday 28th March at 7pm at Knowle House.
Bring and share four course dinner with special guests
Sara and Sophie Swecker.
Book via Rose Gosling on 01423 771996.**

The Ladies Dinner includes a candlelit hour from 8.30pm-9.30pm in support of the Earth Hour...an hour without power to raise the profile of your support for our planet...more information is below.





Church Walk

Friday 20th March

10.30am

Meet at 10am at Swiss Cottage in Beverley (Julie Hickson's house) for coffee followed by a lovely spring walk and a lunch stop at the Craven Arms at Appletreewick. Join us for all or part of the trip. Please book via Julie on 01423 711319 or email wjcj.hickson@btinternet.com

Spring Harvest Harrogate



SPRING
HARVEST
2020

SPRING HARVEST

Harrogate

14-18 APRIL



To book and for further information visit
SPRINGHARVEST.ORG/HARROGATE





'Perk U Up' **Coffee Morning**

Saturday 28th March
Saturday 25th April
Saturday 30th May

10.30-12pm

**Join us for coffee, tea,
cakes and sausage rolls.**

**If you need a lift,
call Helen Gill on 780365
or Lindy Edwards on 712505.**



Fun and Friendship

Tuesday 10th March
Tuesday 14th April
Tuesday 12th May

11am-3pm

**Join us for coffee,
'thought for the day', light lunch
and games, in the annex at
Summerbridge Church**

**For more information, or to organise a
lift, phone Helen on 01423 780365**

**Christian Aid Week 2020
10th –16th May**

Christian Aid have more than seventy years experience of working in partnership to support communities to thrive. They tackle the root causes of poverty so that women, men and children the world over are strengthened against future knocks. If disasters happen they get people the help they need straight away.

The aim is to stand together; For Dignity; For Equality; For Justice. Together we have the power to transform lives. Christian Aid work in thirty-seven countries with people of all faiths or none. Our voices and actions are stronger together. With your help we can make an even bigger difference.

The Big Brekkie

As a precursor to Christian Aid Week, the Church in the Dale is holding a Big Brekkie. Please join us on Saturday 9th May - open to all – at Summerbridge Methodist Church at 8.30am-10am. No need to book – just turn up. All English or Continental options will be available.

Cost of the Brekkie is a suggested donation of £5.00 per head. Help us beat last year's collection and help those in desperate circumstances. For more details contact: Peter Wright by email at wrightpandh@gmail.com or phone 01423 755619.

Fundraising week

Christian Aid envelopes will be delivered to houses in the neighbourhood or be available in Churches throughout the district. They will also be some in the Nidderdale Plus Office, Pateley Bridge, where a box for the return of envelopes will be available. Please give generously! Last year we raised over £3,000 locally and hope to match it this year. If you are able to help with the distribution of envelopes please get in touch with Pat Jackson.

Coffee morning for Christian Aid

St Cuthbert's Church
Saturday 16th May
10am – midday



Please join us and return
your Christian Aid envelopes.

For more information contact Pat Jackson (phone 01423 712875 or email p.a.jackson501@outlook.com).



christians
against
poverty

CAP

Celia Fowler, the Harrogate Co-ordinator for the CAP Life Skills course says...

I am beginning to receive referrals for the up-coming CAP Life Skills course which is due to start on Wednesday 4th March, 12.30-2.30pm at Mowbray Community Church.

Please do let me know by email on celiafowler@caplifekills.org

if you are working with people who you feel may benefit from this course which looks at how to live well on a budget. As well as learning useful skills with money management and organisation, people also learn about eating well for good physical and mental wellbeing, and keeping our relationships healthy. Many course members report improved self esteem and having greater involvement in the community alongside the benefits of new practical skills.

The course is completely free and takes place over 8 consecutive weeks, 4th March to 22nd April.

I am happy to give a call to anyone you refer if they would like to have heard my voice and said 'hello' before we start, so please provide a contact number (with their permission) if this would be desirable. I look forward to hearing from you soon if appropriate.

Celia

Request from Joan...

Some years ago, Rev. Nigel Waterfield produced some monthly Bible notes for us. Does anyone still have any of the plastic wallets that these notes came in please? I am wanting to use them to make up some craft packs for the Shoebox appeal. Thank you.



Joan Wilkinson



Summerbridge Methodist Church
Easter Craft Workshop
Saturday 4th April

10.30am - 12.30pm

**Materials, coffee and cake
all provided FREE.**

**To book, text Jane Austick
on 07736369742.**

**Open to all (Under 13's
with an adult please).**

Join us at Summerbridge Methodist Church for

Easter

Friday 10th April
6.30pm Good Friday
contemplative
service

Sunday 12th April
9am Buffet Breakfast
(to support the
'All We Can' charity).

10am 'Messy Easter' -
Easter fun family service

Men's film and pizza nights
Knowle House, Birstwith

To book, call **Mark Gosling** on **01423 771996**
or email [**gosling1@btinternet.com**](mailto:gosling1@btinternet.com)

Limited seating at each event—so please book early.

Thursday 19th March 6.45pm
Peanut Butter Falcon (15)

The *Peanut Butter Falcon* is an adventure story set in the world of a modern Mark Twain that begins when Zak (22), a young man with Down syndrome, runs away from the nursing home where he lives to chase his dream of becoming a professional wrestler by attending the wrestling school *The Salt Water Redneck*.



Thursday 21st May 6.45pm
Le Mans '66 (15)

American car designer Carroll Shelby and driver Ken Miles battle corporate interference and the laws of physics to build a revolutionary race car for Ford in order to defeat Ferrari at the Le Mans 24 Hour race in 1966...



We are now collecting...

**your unwanted black plastic for recycling
via Hotel Chocolat.**

**Please leave items in the labelled recycling box at Church.
Thank you for diverting something else from landfill!**

Kieren Barnes is Derek and Denise Barnes' son and has been working as a Country Director for Tearfund for a number of years. Derek writes...

'He finished his contract with Tearfund on 31st July 2019 and took a break whilst searching for a new post. He had been approached by an American organisation called Mercy Corps, who had an opening as Country Director for Syria. Kieren submitted an application, had some online interviews and needed a visa for the USA to go to Oregon for the final 3 days senior management assessment. Obtaining a visa, when one has worked in Somaliland, Iraq, Afghanistan and Syria, would not be straight-forward. So, in September 2019, when I was asked to prepare a brief note for the Summerbridge Prayer day, I listed the following prayer points.

- *His application for an American Visa is successful. (At the time of writing there are no appointments available and no indication when some may come available).*
- *If it is within God's plan for his next role, that the Assessment will have a fruitful outcome for both the charity and Kieren.*
- *Whatever happens, he will have a new job as soon as possible in 2020*
- *That this period of rest and rehabilitation will fully prepare him for his next role.*
- *Kieren and his girlfriend Laura will have a safe holiday in Japan as they go to support England in the Rugby World Cup.*

God is good!! All prayers were answered. An appointment at the Embassy was obtained and whilst other friends of Kieren had interviews of 1½ hours, Kieren's was 10 minutes!! However, due to the delay in gaining an appointment at the Embassy, Mercy Corps decided to undertake the assessment at their London and Edinburgh offices. His interview process covered several days and whilst challenging was successful. He started his new role as Country Director in Syria for Mercy Corps on 8th January 2020. His break was beneficial as he said he was ready for work again by December. Finally, despite a typhoon and an earthquake, Kieren and Laura had a great time in Japan.

The new role

As it is very early days Kieren is still discovering the extent of the job. Mercy Corps is a bigger organisation than Tearfund, hence the job will be more demanding. One example being that his budget, in millions of US dollars, will be 5 times that which he had in his previous role.

The following extracts are from Mercy Corps' website and may give a feel for the ongoing work in Syria...

Syria

"Mercy Corps has been working in Syria since 2008 — delivering assistance and support both before and during the ongoing civil war. We are supporting those affected by the conflict in both Syria and neighbouring countries by providing emergency assistance to meet basic needs, creating safe spaces for youth, increasing economic opportunities and more. In 2018, we provided assistance to 1.5 million people all across Syria."

The context



With a population of 18.4 million people, an overwhelming majority of Syrians have been impacted by the conflict that started in 2011. Approximately seven out of every 10 people in Syria — 11.7 million in total — are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. 40 percent of them are children under 18.

What started in 2011 as peaceful anti-government protests has since turned into the most violent conflict since WWII, killing at least 220,000 civilians, and displacing nearly 12 million people.

The conflict has done severe damage to the Syrian economy. Over half of Syrians are unemployed and 69 percent of households are living in extreme poverty. 6.7 million people are facing acute food insecurity with a further 4.5 million people at risk of becoming food insecure. 90 percent of households reported spending half their income on food.

Over one third of school-age children in Syria are currently out of school, and have little access to safe spaces to get social support.

Since the conflict began, nearly 12 million people have been forced to flee their homes to escape the violence, with almost half seeking refuge in neighbouring countries, including Jordan and Lebanon. 6.2 million people are internally displaced.

The people of Syria are optimistic and hopeful that a brighter future and a stronger tomorrow are coming. Our work in Syria focuses on helping them get there by providing resources such as economic opportunities and access to lifesaving food and water assistance.

Our team



The Syria field team has 350 team members. The team aims to support

individuals and households to become more resilient so that community members — women, men, girls and boys — are able to thrive once again. We are providing emergency assistance to meet the basic needs (food, water, shelter, etc.) of conflict affected communities. We are also helping local economies by supporting small businesses with trainings and cash grants and working with farmers to increase their food production.

Our impact

Despite ongoing conflict, we have been able to provide assistance to millions of Syrians, ranging from delivering emergency kits to helping children heal from trauma. Our work has changed the lives of millions of Syrians. Here are a few of our results to date:

- *Our services reach over **42,000 Syrians** every month.*
- *We recently distributed clean water, food and other essentials to more than **70,000 people** in southwestern Syria.*
- *In 2017, we ensured **101,000 Syrians** had sustainable access to clean water.*
- *For more than three years we provided local bakeries with more than **150 million pounds** of free flour so families in need could afford to buy bread.”*

(Source Mercy Corps Website)

On 31st January 2020, Kieren moved into an apartment in Amman, Jordan and will work out of Mercy Corps’ office in Amman.



He is likely to be more office based than in his previous roles but will travel to Iraq, Lebanon and Syria as required. Now he is working to American holidays it is unlikely he will be home again until at least the end of this year.

Prayer points:

Please could you pray for the following...

- He is able to learn the processes of Mercy Corps quickly and soon begin to have an impact on current and new projects.
- That he can cope with the longer working hours and greater demands of the job.
- That he can develop a good working relationship with his colleagues and staff.
- That he settles into his new apartment and to life back in Amman, where he lived whilst working for Tearfund.



Thank you.

Derek

Mothering Sunday

**Summerbridge
Methodist Church
Café
Service**

**Sunday
22nd March
10.30am**

Happy
Mothering
Sunday!

Thy word is
a **lamp** unto my feet



*6:30 p.m.
every 1st &
3rd Sunday*

and a **light** unto my path

Psalm 119:105

“Exploring God’s Word together”

Join us on 1st and 15th March, 5th and 19th April and 3rd and 17th May as we learn more about the Bible and consider some of the more difficult passages.

#LIVE LENT

CARE for GOD'S CREATION

A 40-Day Challenge

Free Lent booklets for
adults and young people
available at Church.
Help yourself!



Men's Breakfast

Saturday 7th March

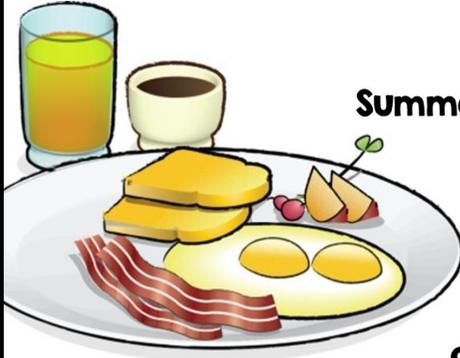
Saturday 4th April

Saturday 2nd May

Summerbridge Methodist Church

8.30am

**Hot or cold breakfast (£4)
including vegetarian
options, talk and discussion.**



the night shift

6.30pm

**worship
talk
prayer
cake!**

Sunday 22nd March

Sunday 26th April

Sunday 24th May

Message from the local organiser Sue Hanson...

First of all, thank you for another amazing effort in terms of the Christmas Shoebox Appeal for Operation Christmas Child. Thanks to your support many children know that they are loved and not forgotten. We hear many stories of children being thrilled with the contents of their boxes – and who have then used the boxes themselves to keep their own special things in.

Please pass on our thanks to everyone from your organisation who has been involved.

This year the boxes from our area have gone to the Ukraine. Our boxes were processed at Consett before leaving the UK and we were very impressed with the dedication of the team there who worked long hours over several weeks to ensure that all the boxes were processed in time. In terms of numbers of boxes – our area collection amounted to 2,510 this year – just a little up on last year and I think Consett were processing around 12,000 boxes. Well done to you all! **Sue**

Message from Mabel Ellison...

Christmas may seem a long way off, but to enable us to do even better than last year, I ask you to please start thinking about this appeal and perhaps when you are doing your weekly shop add a suitable item to your basket or trolley, e.g. toothbrush, face cloths, coloured crayons and pad, notebooks, colouring books, small toys or soft cuddly toys. A box will be available in the recycling corner in the vestibule at Summerbridge Methodist Church to place your contributions in.



We still require oddments of wool to knit hats, scarves and mittens. Please also remember to bring your unwanted clothes, bags, shoes and belts for the 'Cash for Clothes' as the revenue from these helps to cover the cost of transport for the shoeboxes. **Many thanks.**

Mabel.

Summerbridge Church vision, mission and values

For the past year or so, the leadership team has been prayerfully reviewing our vision, mission statement and values and they launched the new version at the last Church Council meeting. Mike Poole will also be launching the vision and mission to the congregation at the service on the 1st March. Our vision statement has not changed as it still captures our passion to reach out to the community and '*make disciples of all nations*' (Matthew 28v19) and it is...

Our Vision

Bringing people and God together through the love of Jesus Christ.

Our Mission

Drawing people into a welcoming church family, offering love, prayer, worship and service rooted in Biblical teaching.

Enabling everyone linked with the church to grow as disciples of Jesus, developing their service and giftings, giving them confidence in sharing their faith and encouraging them to help others to know Jesus.

Our Values

Biblical teaching
Unconditional love to all
Service
Sacrificial generosity
Celebratory worship

Our intention is to continue and progress all our existing areas of work – discipleship, fellowship, overseas mission, engaging with the community etc. In addition, we will develop strategies for further development of additional key areas over the next two years. These are:

- Evangelism
- Youth and children's work to engage children and families
- Creation care and social justice
- Worship

We are excited about our Church plans for the future and would ask you to pray that our vision, mission and values can be brought to life by God in our Church.

Leadership team—Mike, Mike, Rose, Julie, Steve, Mark

Eco Church Awards

In January 2019, the Church completed an Environmental Audit, which covered a variety of areas of our operations including land, buildings, worship etc. We assessed ourselves against each category, and were at a level of either black (Nowhere!), silver or bronze for the various categories. In response, Peter Wright prepared an action plan to guide us in taking action to improve our eco status, including property improvements, special services, young church sessions, newsletter articles and more! As a result, we are delighted to announce that we have been able to apply for an A Rocha Eco Church gold Award across all our areas of operation. This will be assessed by a visit over the next few months and if successful we will be given a plaque to display in the building. Well done everyone!



Getting in touch

Minister:	Rev Mike Poole	712332
Treasurer:	Mark Gosling	771996
Senior Steward:	Rose Gosling	771996
Stewards:	Steve Edwards	712505
	Rita Williamson	780577
	Jane Hinchliffe	07740373548
	Julie Hickson	711319

Premises bookings: Freda Ellison 780804

Our website: summerbridgechurch.org
Twitter: [@SummerbridgeMC](https://twitter.com/SummerbridgeMC)
Facebook page: facebook.com/summerbridgemethodistchurch/
Facebook group: facebook.com/groups/554348654721087/
Instagram: instagram.com/summerbridgechurch
Our address: Main Street
Summerbridge
North Yorkshire, HG3 4JH

Church Diary of regular activities

Sunday

9.45 am Prayer Meeting in Room 1 at the Church.
For information phone Roger Gill on 01423 780365.

10.30am The Sunday Service
With creche and young church.

6.30pm Into the Bible...
Talk and discussion on the 1st and 3rd Sunday each month

6.30pm The Night Shift
Contemplative evening service on the 4th Sunday each month.

Tuesday

11-3pm Monthly Friendship and Fun event (Usually the 2nd Tuesday)
Coffee, 'thought for the day', lunch and games. In the Annex at the Church. To organise a lift phone Helen Gill on 01423 780365.

Wednesday

9-11.30am The Hub Community Cafe

7.30pm Housegroup at Nidd View in Summerbridge.
For information phone Roger Gill on 01423 780365.

Thursday

10.30am Bright Sparks Toddler Group in the Church and Annex
Weekly **term time** group for preschool children and their parents/ carers. For information phone Mabel Ellison on 01765 603523.

7.30pm Fortnightly Housegroup in Pateley Bridge. For dates and venues, call Julie Hickson on 01423 711319 or Steve Edwards on 01423 712505.

Friday

6.30-8pm WHIZZ KIDS! Primary school club in the Church.
Weekly **term time** group for primary school children.
For information phone Sam O'Brien on 07591387157.

6.30-8pm Summerbridge Youth Club in the Church Hall and Room 1.
Weekly **term time** group for ages 11-18. For information phone Lindy Edwards on 01423 712505.

Saturday

8-8.30am Monthly Listening to God prayer in the Annex
On the 2nd Saturday of each month.
For information phone Joan Wilkinson on 01423 780377.

9-10am Prayer meeting in the Annex
For information phone Roger Gill on 01423 780365.

10.30-12pm Monthly Perk U Up Coffee Morning in the Church Hall.
On the last Saturday of each month. For information or to organise a lift phone Roger or Helen Gill on 780365 or Lindy Edwards on 01423 712505.

Everyone has heard of the terrible Titanic disaster, but are you familiar with the tragic story of how the RMS Empress of Ireland sank on 29th May 1914? The ship's passengers included 167 members of the Canadian Salvation Army band. Only eight of the band members survived. As these Christian men and women went in to the water with their life jackets, they swam through the cold waters, seeking out people who didn't have a life jacket and were struggling to survive. Each time they found someone, they asked: *'Do you know Jesus?'* If the person replied 'No', then in an act of unbelievable courage and sacrifice, the Salvation Army band member took off his or her own life jacket, and gave it to save the other person. They drowned so that others could live and have more time to discover Christ, safe in the knowledge that even in drowning they would be with God.

Why would anyone do such a thing? Because of what Jesus has done for them through His death and resurrection, and their passion for no-one to miss out on the true life that He alone offers. At Easter time, we remember afresh that Jesus' agonising death on the cross means that He paid the price for our sinfulness and selfishness and saved us for eternal life—all we need to do is accept and believe.

