

The Magazine for Fulneck and Gomersal Moravian Churches

February 2019



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Minister's Letter

The 14th of February is St. Valentine's Day. There were at least eleven martyrs named Valentine, but on the 14th of February there are two who are remembered—a priest named Valentine of Rome and a bishop named Valentine of Terni.

According to legend, Emperor Claudius II, who ruled the Roman Empire from 268 to 270 AD, passed a law ordering that young men remain single because married men did not make good soldiers. The priest Valentine, however, secretly performed marriage ceremonies. Valentine was found out, arrested and thrown in jail. A further embellishment to the legend says that, on the evening before Valentine was executed, he wrote a note addressed to the jailer's daughter whom he had befriended. The note read, "From your Valentine."

Whether any of the above is true is doubtful, but the fact that we have a day on which we celebrate love is a wonderful

thing. Love is something that all people relate to, either because they experience it or because they long for it. Of course, love is also at the centre of our faith and so is a good place to start when talking to those who don't go to Church. St Paul knew that love was at the heart of Christian discipleship and most famously wrote about it in 1 Corinthians 13. And when Jesus was invited to join a debate about which commandment is the first of all, he said that love of God and loving your neighbour were that upon which all the law and the prophets hang.

So, the celebration of St. Valentine's Day is a reminder of that without which, as Paul says, we are nothing and gain nothing. When we reach the celebrations of Easter Sunday, which is quite late this year, we will be reminded again of the perfect love that Jesus Christ has for us.

Br Michael Newman



In Essentials: Unity; In Non-Essentials: Liberty; In All Things: Love

Fulneck News and Notices

LENT SERVICES

This year we will be using material from Churches Together in Britain and Ireland. Over six weeks we will explore **'The Mystery of God'**, seeking to rediscover what it is that draws us so deeply in our search for God. The services will be on Wednesdays at 7.30pm.

6th March (Ash Wednesday) – The Mystery of Life and Death

13th March – The Mystery of Good and Evil

20th March – The Mystery of God's Glory

27th March – The Mystery of Sin, Suffering and Hope

3rd April – The Mystery of Relationship and Reconciliation

10th April – The Mystery of Love and Sacrifice

Lent Lunches

Our weekly Lent Lunches will begin on Friday 8th March, with food being served from noon until 1.30pm in the Boys' Brigade. If you would like to help, please put your name on the list in the Bellroom or speak to Sr Brenda Pearson. As well as people to prepare the food, we also need people to help with setting up and serving.

As in previous years, the money raised will be divided between church funds and the Ad Eblal charity. Over the years we have helped to provide the following in Ethiopia:

- Water connections to six villages and the local school;
- Electricity supply to 52 households;
- New flour mill and machinery;
- Refurbished classrooms, new toilet block and library for local school;
- New bridge providing access for over a thousand people;
- Equipment for a local hospital.

The charity is currently supporting students, widows and disabled children, giving them help needed to have a better chance in life.

Br Peter Kersting

Br Peter Kersting passed away on Sunday 20th January and his funeral service was in church on Thursday 31st. Our thoughts and prayers are with Sr Patricia Kersting.

Fulneck Junior Church
presents



LIVE MUSIC
MAKE AN INSTRUMENT
REFRESHMENTS

Saturday 2nd March
10.00–11.30am
in the Boys' Brigade

Bible Book Club

The next Bible Book Club is on Wednesday 13th February and we will again meet at 2pm at Number 54 Café. This time we will be discussing Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, and notes are available in the Bellroom. We hope that you will be able to join us, but even if you can't, you can still read the book and think about the questions on the back of the notes.

Fulneck Congregation Council Meeting

Monday 18th February, 7.30pm in the Boys' Brigade

Agenda

1. Opening Devotions
2. Election of Minute Secretary
3. Apologies for Absence
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Minutes of the last Council Meeting on 15th October 2018
6. Matters Arising
 - A. Property Update
 - B. Financial Update
7. Elections
 - A. Church Committee – two members for three years
 - B. Deputy and Alternate Deputy to YDC
 - C. Flower Committee
 - D. Joseph Lepton Charity Representatives
 - E. Event Co-ordinating Committee
 - F. Churches Together Representative
 - G. Messenger Correspondent
8. New Business
 - A. Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2018-19 congregation accounts
 - B. Burial Ground Tidy-up
 - C. Future Events for 2019
9. Any Other Business (notified in writing to Br Newman by Monday 11th February)
10. Closing Devotions

Carol Singing

Thanks to everyone who came carol singing on the 20th of December. We received a warm welcome on Oakdene Close, as we made our way through Fulneck, and at The Bankhouse. We also raised £257 for St George's Crypt.



History Society

The next meeting is at Sr Vi Hayton's house on Monday 4 March at 7.30pm. Br David Keighley will be sharing stories from his recent journey to Herrnhut.

Wellbeing Wednesdays

at Gomersal Moravian Church in 2019

Walking for Health

60 minute walk, dogs on lead welcome, followed by refreshments, starting at 10.30am

NOT JAN, 6th Feb, 6th Mar, 3rd Apr, 1st May, 5th Jun, 3rd Jul



Julian Meeting

30 minutes of silent contemplation, followed by refreshments, starting at 10.30am

9th Jan, 13th Feb, 13th Mar, NOT APR, 8th May, 12th Jun, 10th Jul



Walk and Yoga

30 minute walk, refreshments, and Dru Yoga for all abilities (charge of £4 per session), starting at 10.00am

16th Jan, NOT FEB, 20th Mar, 10th Apr, 15th May, 19th Jun, 17th Jul

Carpet Bowls

for all abilities, including refreshments (charge of £1 per session), starting at 10.30am

23rd Jan, 27th Feb, 27th Mar, 24th Apr, 22nd May, 26th Jun, 24th Jul

Lent Course

This year we will be following another York Course called '**The Psalms: Prayers for Today's Church**'. First, we listen to the participants on the CD – Fr Timothy Radcliffe OP, Revd Prebendary Rose Hudson-Wilkin, John Bell and Revd Dr Jane Leach. We then discuss some questions within the group. The dates of the sessions are 11th March, 18th March, 25th March, 1st April, 8th April, and we will meet at 1.30pm in Church.

Gomersal Congregation Council Meeting Monday 25th February, 7.30pm in Church

Agenda

1. Opening Devotions
2. Election of Minute Secretary
3. Apologies for Absence
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Minutes of last Council Meeting on 29th October 2018
6. Matters Arising
 - A. Guest Preachers for 2019
 - B. Finance Update
 - C. Property Update
 - D. Junior Church Update
 - E. June Lovefeast (Pentecost)
7. Elections
 - A. Church Committee – two members for three years
 - B. Deputy and Alternate Deputy to YDC
 - C. Churches Together Representatives
 - D. Bible Society Representatives
 - E. Messenger Agent
 - f. Messenger Correspondent
8. New Business
 - A. Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2018-19 congregation accounts
9. Any Other Business (notified in writing to Br Newman by Monday 18th February)
10. Closing Devotions

Social and Fundraising Events

Scattergories Quiz

and Pie and Pea Supper

Friday 22nd February at 7.00pm

£4 per person (children £2)



Coming soon:

Friday 15th March at 7.00pm—Horse Racing Night with hot dog supper

Friday 12th April at 7.00pm—Chicken Drive with plated supper

GENERAL NOTICES

Memorial Day Lovefeast and Communion Sunday 24th February, 3.00pm at Fulneck

Every year, on the Sunday before the 1st March, we have a district service to celebrate the Memorial Day for the founding of the Moravian Church in 1457.

This year Fulneck is hosting the service and the guest preacher will be Revd Dr Roger Walton, chair of the Methodist Church's Yorkshire West District and former president of the Methodist Conference.



Consecration

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On behalf of the Provincial Board, I am pleased to announce that Sr Jane Dixon's consecration as Presbyter will take place on Saturday 16th March at Lower Wyke at 3pm. I hope that many of you will be able to join us to be with Sr Dixon for this special occasion.

Yours in Christ's Service,
Sr Roberta Hoey

Property Available for Rent – 33 Fulneck

Stone built house with two double bedrooms and one large single bedroom. £800 per calendar month. Full details on church notice board. Viewing to be arranged with Br Trevor Kernohan. Applications forms available from Mr John Forrester, First Floor, 19/21 Chapel Brow, Leyland, Preston, PR25 3NH, Tel: 01772 421566, e-mail: info@johnforrester.co.uk. Closing date for applications is 5pm on Friday 15th February 2019.

Calendar

February

Sunday 3 rd	10.30am	Fulneck	All Age Worship led by Br I Haggas
	10.30am	Gomersal	Family Worship led by Br M Newman
	2.30pm	Fulneck	Lovefeast and Communion led by Br M Newman
Wednesday 6 th	10.30am	Gomersal	Walking for Health
	2.00pm	Fulneck	MWA
	8.00pm	Gomersal	Ladies' Fellowship
Thursday 7 th	9.45am	Fulneck	Morning Prayers
	2.00pm	Gomersal	Prayer Group at the home of Sr M Smith
	7.30pm	District	Moravian Singers in the BB
Sunday 10 th	10.30am	Fulneck	Family Worship led by Br M Newman
	10.30am	Gomersal	Family Worship led by Sr K Woolford
	3.00pm	Gomersal	Lovefeast and Communion led by Br M Newman
Monday 11 th	7.30pm	District	Outreach Meeting at Horton
Wednesday 13 th	10.30am	Gomersal	Julian Meeting
	2.00pm	Fulneck	Bible Book Club at Number 54
	7.15pm	Fulneck	Church Committee
Thursday 14 th	9.45am	Fulneck	Morning Prayers
	2.00pm	Gomersal	Prayer Group at the home of Sr M Smith
	7.30pm	District	Moravian Singers in the BB
Sunday 17 th	10.30am	Fulneck	Family Worship led by Sr H Smith
	10.30am	Gomersal	Family Worship led by Br M Newman
	7.30pm	Fulneck	Congregation Council Meeting in the BB
Monday 18 th	7.30pm	Fulneck	Congregation Council Meeting in the BB
Tuesday 19 th	8.00pm	Gomersal	Church Committee at the home of Sr A Rivers
Wednesday 20 th	10.00am	Gomersal	Wellbeing Wednesday
Thursday 21 st	9.45am	Fulneck	Morning Prayers
	2.00pm	Gomersal	Prayer Group at the home of Sr M Smith
	7.30pm	District	Moravian Singers in the BB
Friday 22 nd	7.00pm	Gomersal	Scattergories Quiz and Supper
Saturday 23 rd	9.00am	District	District Conference at Horton
Sunday 24 th	10.30am	Fulneck	Family Worship led by Br M Newman
	10.30am	Gomersal	Family Worship led by Br R Hopcroft
	3.00pm	District	Memorial Day Lovefeast and Communion at Fulneck
Monday 25 th	1.30pm	Gomersal	CTGB&EB Meeting at St Paul's Birkenshaw
	7.30pm	Gomersal	Congregation Council Meeting
	10.30am	Gomersal	Carpet Bowls
Wednesday 27 th	2.00pm	Fulneck	Bible Study at the home of Sr H Smith
	7.00pm	Fulneck	Chapel Servants' Meeting and Dinner at Number 54
	9.45am	Fulneck	Morning Prayers
Thursday 28 th	2.00pm	Gomersal	Prayer Group at the home of Sr M Smith
	7.30pm	District	Moravian Singers in the BB

March

Saturday 2 nd	10.00am	Fulneck	Junior Church Activity Morning in the BB
Sunday 3 rd	10.30am	Fulneck	All Age Worship led by Sr D Thornton
	10.30am	Gomersal	Family Worship led by Br M Newman
	2.30pm	Fulneck	Lovefeast and Communion led by Br M Newman

Please submit material for the next edition to Br Newman or myself by **Wednesday 20 February**.
Thanks, Mary.