

# The Magazine for Fulneck and Gomersal Moravian Churches



December 2019/ January 2020

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## Minister's Letter

The theme of this year's Christmas Tree Festival at Fulneck is Christmas Carols, as it was for the first Tree Festival six years ago. I think my favourite carol is 'In the bleak midwinter', which happens to be the theme for the MWA tree, although 'O little town of Bethlehem' and 'It came upon the midnight clear' run it close. Of course, we don't know what time of year it was when Jesus was born, and even if it was in the winter, the average December temperature in Bethlehem is about 15 degrees Celsius. There wouldn't have been any snow on snow.

Christmas has been celebrated on the 25<sup>th</sup> of December since the fourth century AD. This corresponds with the date of the winter solstice, which was celebrated by many different people across Europe including the Romans. Certain pagan traditions became part of our Christmas celebrations, such as giving presents, decorating trees, and the use of holly and ivy. In fact, in the seventeenth century, Puritans banned Christmas because of its pagan links.

The winter solstice was a celebration of the return of longer days and the victory of the sun over the darkness. Christianity took this celebration and gave it a new meaning, celebrating the birth of the Son who would conquer darkness of a different kind. I have always interpreted the opening verse of 'In the bleak midwinter' as a metaphor for the world of sin and suffering which Jesus came to save. In John's Gospel (8: 12), Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

So, Christmas is when we celebrate the light of Jesus coming into the world. It is also an opportunity for Christians to re-commit to sharing and spreading that light where it is needed, as another carol reminds us: 'Jesus bids us shine with a pure, clear light, like a little candle burning in the night. In this world is darkness; so let us shine, you in your small corner, and I in mine.' Happy shining!

Br Michael Newman



## Christmas services

### Fulneck

Nativity Play – Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am  
Lessons and Carols – Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7.00pm  
Christingle Service – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> at 6.00pm  
Christmas Family Worship – Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am

### Gomersal

Lessons and Carols – Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> 10.30am  
Nativity Play and Christingle Service –  
Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4.00pm  
Christmas Midnight Communion – Tuesday  
24<sup>th</sup> at 11.30pm

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

Fulneck Moravian Church

# Christmas Tree Festival

Displays

Gift Stall

Children's  
Treasure  
Hunt

Refreshments



Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December, 10am to 3pm  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December, 1pm to 4pm

Free Entry

Fulneck, Pudsey, LS28 6NT [www.fulneck.org.uk](http://www.fulneck.org.uk) Registered Charity No 251211

Fulneck Moravian Church  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm

St Peter's Singers of Leeds  
National Festival Orchestra  
Simon Lindley conductor

BACH

Cantata 30: Freue dich

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS  
Fantasia on Christmas Carols

HANDEL

Messiah

Part 1 and Hallelujah Chorus

Retiring Collection for Church Funds

The British Province of the Moravian Church, Registered Charity Number 251211

## Christmas Tree Festival.

If anyone can help putting up the trees, this will take place on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 10am.

Groups have been asked to decorate their trees prior to the Former Pupils' Christingle service on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> at 7.15pm.

There is a rota in the Bellroom for you to put your name down to help during the Festival itself.

We are also looking for help taking down the trees and decorations following the Lovefeast and Communion service on the afternoon of Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January.

## Women Together Christmas Party Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

Join us for a Faith Supper at the home of Sister Myra Dickinson. Please see list in the Bell Room.



Fulneck Moravian Church  
Fulneck Settlement, Pudsey  
Registered Charity Number 251211

## Nativity Play: The Mystery of the New Noisy Neighbour



Come  
dressed up  
and take  
part!

Wanted: Marys, Josephs, donkeys, shepherds, sheep,  
angels, stars, wise men and camels of all ages

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December  
at 10.30am

## Christmas Unwrapped—Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 2.45pm : Boys' Brigade

As we did last year, we are going to spend an afternoon with the Fulneck year 6 pupils. Christmas Unwrapped is a series of presentations and activities from Scripture Union, aimed at children of all faiths or none, explaining why Christmas is an important festival for Christians. If you can help with this, please speak to Br Newman. You will need to have a DBS disclosure.

## Christmas Party Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 7pm in the BB

Food and games for all ages. There is a list in the Bellroom.

The cost is £10 per person. Please bring your own drinks.



## Carol Singing Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December

Our Carol Singing evenings are always a good time of fellowship, and something that all ages and all singing abilities can enjoy. We will be collecting donations for St George's Crypt as in previous years.

On the **Tuesday** we will be starting at Oakdene Close at 7pm with singing followed by refreshments, and will move on to The Fleece at approximately 8.15pm for more singing. On the **Thursday** we will be starting at the Roker Lane end of the settlement at 7pm, working our way through the settlement, and ending at The Bankhouse at approximately 8.15pm for more singing and refreshments.

Please can you put your name down on the list in the Bellroom so that we have an idea of numbers.

## Men's Fellowship Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December and Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January at 2pm in the Boys' Brigade

Fellowship and games, including snooker, carpet bowls and dominoes.



## Bible Book Club Wednesday 15th January, 2pm at Number 54

This month we are discussing the letters of James and Jude. Notes are available in the Bellroom.

## Chapel Servants' AGM Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 7pm in the BB

Please see Br David Robbins for more details.

## Outreach Meeting Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February, 7.30pm in the BB

At our November meeting we discussed some new ideas, including things that we might be able to do next Christmas and a sensory garden. We also discussed how to better advertise the things that we already do and so we will be making use of flyers when we go carol singing and at the Christingle service. At our next meeting we will continue to discuss and develop these ideas, as well as any new ones.

Everyone is welcome.

**Moravian Museum Fulneck: Annual General Meeting.**

**Wed. 29 January 2020: 7pm: Boys' Brigade**

**AGENDA**

Welcome

Apologies

Minutes of last AGM

Review of 2019

Report by Chair of Museum Committee

Presentation of Accounts

Any Questions from floor

Election of Officers of Committee

Chair

Secretary

Treasurer

Election of Committee Members

Closing Prayer

**Tours of Fulneck Settlement**

In preparation for the 2020 tour season, Fulneck School have advised that all tour guides will need to have an enhanced DBS check, to meet their safeguarding regulations, in the school records.

We will need to meet Fulneck School's visitors Safeguarding procedures to enable us to continue to take groups in areas around the school, particularly along the Terrace.

It will also be necessary for us to advise the school when a tour is taking place, the name of the group and approx. numbers of visitors, all of whom the tour guides will be responsible for at all times whilst in the vicinity of the school.

Please contact me, if you are an existing tour guide or would be interested in becoming a tour guide and I will try to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you

Br David Keighley

**Gomersal News and Notices**

**POPPY DISPLAY**

Thanks to Joan for decorating the church again with her knitted poppies for Remembrance Sunday.





**Gomersal Moravian Church**  
 Quarry Road, Gomersal  
 Registered Charity Number 251211

# **Nativity Play: The Mystery of the New Noisy Neighbour**



**Come  
 dressed up  
 and take  
 part!**

**Wanted: Marys, Josephs, donkeys, shepherds, sheep,  
 angels, stars, wise men and camels of all ages**

**Sun. 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec. at 4pm  
 followed by Christingles**



**Rewind to Christmas  
 Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December,  
 1.00pm at St Mary's Church**

Churches Together in Gomersal, Birkenshaw and East Bierley have been running these activity afternoons for the primary schools at Christmas and Easter for many years.

We rely on a team of volunteers to make them happen.

If you can help, please speak to Br Michael Newman as soon as possible.

## **Chapel Servants and Welcomers Rota**

The rotas for 2020 are available at the back of church.

A big **thank you** to Sr Barbara Cooke for her many years serving the congregation as a Chapel Servant. We wish her well in her new role as one of our Welcomers.

## **Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy Sale Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January at 10am**

Our first fundraising event of the year.  
 Please come along to enjoy the drinks, cakes and fellowship.



## **Bible Society**

Sr Jean Dawson and Sr Barbara Cooke will be collecting donations for the Bible Society in January.

Working in over 200 countries, the Bible Society is a charity on a global mission to bring the Bible to life for every man, woman and child, believing that when people engage with the Bible, lives can change – for good.



Wellbeing Wednesdays  
Gomersal Moravian Church: 2019/ 2020



**Walking for Health:** 60 minute walk, dogs on leads welcome, followed by refreshments. Starts at 10.30. 4 December.



**Julian Meeting:** 30 minute silent contemplation, followed by refreshments. Starts 10.30.11 December.



**Walk and yoga:** 30 minute walk, refreshments and Dru Yoga for all abilities. Starts 10.00. Charge £4 per session. 18 December.



**Carpet bowls:** for all abilities. Refreshments. Charge £1 each. Starts 10.30. No December event. Next meeting is Wednesday 22 January.

**GENERAL NOTICES**



Yorkshire District of the Moravian Church

**Fellowship  
Morning**

**Sat 18<sup>th</sup> January at 10am  
Boys Brigade, Fulneck**

The morning will end with an opportunity to share fellowship over lunch. Please bring your own food.  
Drinks will be provided.

**District Choral Festival  
Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December  
6pm at Lower Wyke**

With the Moravian Singers.  
Everyone welcome.



# Calendar

## December

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Fulneck	Advent Worship & Communion led by Sr K Woolford
	10.30am	Gomersal	Advent All Age Worship led by Br M Newman
	3.00pm	Fulneck	CTP Carol Singing at Pudsey House
	6.00pm	District	Choral Festival at Lower Wyke
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00am	Fulneck	Putting Up Christmas Trees
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	7.00pm	Fulneck	Women Together Party at home of Sr M Dickinson
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Gomersal	Walking for Health
	1.00pm	Gomersal	Rewind to Christmas at St Mary's
	2.00pm	Fulneck	Men's Fellowship in the BB
	2.00pm	Fulneck	MWA
	7.00pm	Gomersal	Ladies' Fellowship Christmas Party
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	9.45am	Fulneck	Morning Prayers
	11.00am	Fulneck	Organ Recital
	2.00pm	Gomersal	Prayer Group at the home of Sr M Smith
	7.15pm	Fulneck	Former Pupils Association Christingle Service
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Fulneck	Christmas Tree Festival (until 3pm)
	7.00pm	Fulneck	St Peter's Singers Concert
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Fulneck	Family Worship led by Br M Newman
	10.30am	Gomersal	Family Worship led by Sr D Thornton
	1.00pm	Fulneck	Christmas Tree Festival (until 4pm)
	3.00pm	Gomersal	Lovefeast and Communion led by Br M Newman
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	2.45pm	Fulneck	Christmas Unwrapped in the BB
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Fulneck	Senior School Christingle Service
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Gomersal	Julian Meeting
	11.15am	Gomersal	Christmas Flyer Delivering
	2.00pm	Gomersal	MWA
	7.15pm	Fulneck	Church Committee
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	9.45am	Fulneck	Morning Prayers
	2.00pm	Gomersal	Prayer Group at the home of Sr M Smith
	2.30pm	Fulneck	Junior School Christingle Service
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Fulneck	Christmas Party in the BB
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Fulneck	Family Worship & Nativity Play led by Sr R France
	10.30am	Gomersal	Service of Lessons and Carols led by Br M Newman
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm	Fulneck	Fingers and Thumbs at the home of Sr C Singleton
	7.00pm	Fulneck	Carol Singing
	7.30pm	Gomersal	Church Committee
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Gomersal	Wellbeing Wednesday
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	9.45am	Fulneck	Morning Prayers
	2.00pm	Gomersal	Prayer Group at the home of Sr M Smith
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	7.00pm	Fulneck	Carol Singing
	10.30am	Fulneck	Family Worship led by Br M Newman
	10.30am	Gomersal	Family Worship led by Br R Hopcroft
	4.00pm	Gomersal	Nativity Play and Christingle led by Br M Newman
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	7.00pm	Fulneck	Service of Lessons and Carols led by Br M Newman
	10.00am	Fulneck	Christingle Making
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Fulneck	Christingle Service led by Br M Newman
	11.30pm	Gomersal	Christmas Communion Service led by Br M Newman
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Fulneck	Christmas Family Worship led by Br M Newman

## Calendar continued

Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Ful & Gom	Unit Family Worship at Gomersal led by Br R Hopcroft
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	11.30pm	Fulneck	Watchnight Service led by Br M Newman
<b>January</b>			
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	9.45am	Fulneck	Morning Prayers
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Fulneck	Family Worship led by Br P Greenhough
	10.30am	Gomersal	Family Worship led by Br M Newman
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	Fulneck	Lovefeast and Communion led by Br M Newman
	3.30pm	Fulneck	Taking Down Christmas Trees
	10.30am	Gomersal	Julian Meeting
	2.00pm	Fulneck	Men's Fellowship in the BB
	2.00pm	Fulneck	MWA
	2.00pm	Gomersal	MWA
	7.15pm	Fulneck	Church Committee
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Gomersal	Ladies' Fellowship
	9.45am	Fulneck	Morning Prayers
	11.00am	Fulneck	Organ Recital
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm	Gomersal	Prayer Group at the home of Sr M Smith
	10.30am	Fulneck	Family Worship led by Br M Newman
	10.30am	Gomersal	Family Worship led by Br R Hopcroft
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	3.00pm	Gomersal	Lovefeast and Communion led by Br M Newman
	7.30pm	Fulneck	CTP Meeting at Pudsey Baptist Church
	7.30pm	Gomersal	Events Planning Meeting at home of Br & Sr Machell
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Gomersal	Wellbeing Wednesday
	2.00pm	Fulneck	Bible Book Club at Number 54
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	9.45am	Fulneck	Morning Prayers
	2.00pm	Gomersal	Prayer Group at the home of Sr M Smith
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	District	District Fellowship Morning in the BB at Fulneck
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Fulneck	Family Worship led by preacher from St Andrew's
	10.30am	Gomersal	Family Worship led by Sr K Woolford
	3.00pm	Gomersal	CTGB&EB United Service at St Mary's
	6.30pm	Fulneck	CTP United Service at Pudsey Parish Church
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	District	Outreach Working Party at Horton
	7.30pm	Fulneck	History Society home of Sr V Hayton
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	7.30pm	Gomersal	Church Committee
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30am	Gomersal	Carpet Bowls
	2.00pm	Fulneck	Bible Study at the home of Sr H Smith
	8.00pm	Gomersal	Junior Church Meeting at the home of Sr A Rivers
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.45am	Fulneck	Morning Prayers
	2.00pm	Gomersal	Prayer Group at the home of Sr M Smith
	7.00pm	Fulneck	Chapel Servants' AGM in the BB
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Gomersal	Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy Sale
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Fulneck	Family Worship led by Sr D Thornton
	10.30am	Gomersal	Family Worship led by Br M Newman
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Fulneck	Museum AGM in the BB
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup>	9.45am	Fulneck	Morning Prayers
	2.00pm	Gomersal	Prayer Group at the home of Sr M Smith
<b>February</b>			
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30am	Fulneck	All Age Worship led by Br M Newman
	10.30am	Gomersal	Family Worship led by Br R Hopcroft
	2.30pm	Fulneck	Lovefeast and Communion led by Br M Newman