

The Magazine for Fulneck and Gomersal Moravian Churches



March 2020

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Minister's Letter—Lent

By the time you read this magazine, Lent will have started.

The season of Lent was introduced by Pope Felix III in the fourth century as a time of penitence in preparation for the jubilation of Easter. The 40 days of Lent are linked with the 40 days Jesus spent fasting and being tempted in the wilderness. In biblical literature, the number 40 is often used to represent 'a long period of time': the Flood lasted for 40 days and 40 nights, the Hebrew people spent 40 years wandering in the wilderness before reaching the Promised Land, Moses spent 40 days on Mount Sinai with God, before receiving the Ten Commandments.

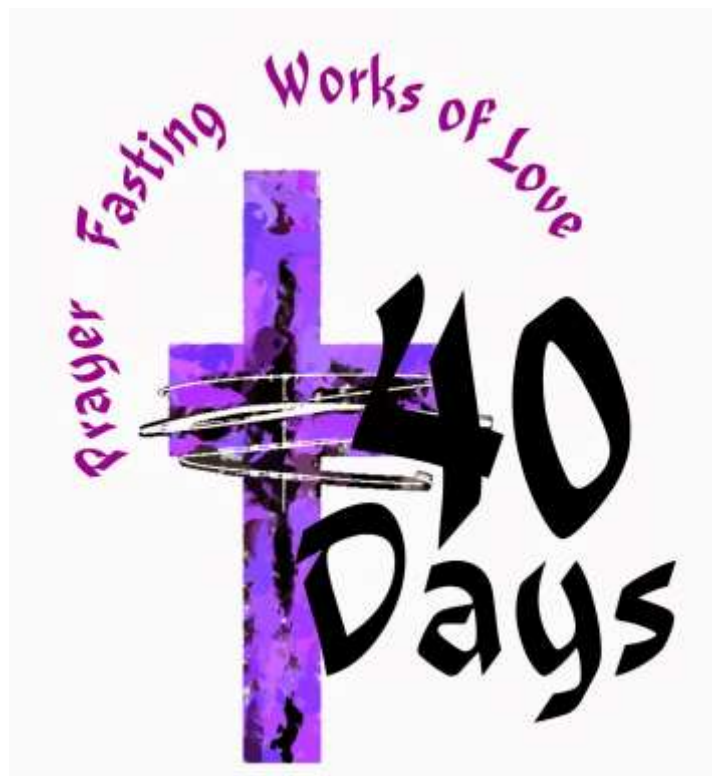
In western Christianity, Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. Traditionally ashes (often made by burning palm crosses from the previous Palm Sunday) were placed on the heads of believers as a sign of penitence, making the connection with Jesus' conscious decision to turn his face to Jerusalem and go to his death.

The English word 'Lent' is taken from lencten (lengthen), from the Old English word for spring (the time when the days lengthen). The Lenten semi-fast possibly emerged from practical necessity as the previous autumn's harvest began to run out. Since then, self-denial has traditionally been the name of the game in Lent. Many people will give something up, such as chocolate or alcohol, during Lent (and strictly speaking, Sundays don't count as they are not part of the 40 days).

Instead, or as well, sometimes people do something new, often more devotional or helping those in need. I would like to encourage you to attend the Lent Services on Wednesday evenings at Fulneck or the Lent Studies on Monday afternoons at Gomersal (details of both inside this magazine). You could also follow Christian Aid's 'Count Your Blessings' where you can put your faith into action through daily reflections and challenges (www.christianaid.org.uk/lent-easter-appeal/count-your-blessings-online). Other similar ideas are also available. And don't forget the Lent Lunches at Fulneck on Fridays.

So, what are you going to do this Lent?

Br Michael Newman



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

Fulneck News and Notices

Lent Services

Wednesdays at 7.30pm

'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us.' (Luke 24:32)

What are the parts of the Bible that set your heart on fire? What passages or stories in scripture make your heart burn within you?



This year's Churches Together in Britain and Ireland Lent Course asks these questions. Each week we will explore an Old Testament passage – for it was the interpretation of what we call Old Testament scripture that led to those burning hearts on the Emmaus road. This will be followed by drawing attention to passages from the New Testament which resonate with the theme for the week.

- 4th March The Fire and the Name – Exodus 3:1-15
11th March And all the earth shall cry glory – Genesis 1:1-2:4
18th March Face to face – Genesis 32:22-33:10
25th March Heart to heart: sorrow and joy – Various verses from Genesis and Psalm 22
1st April Bound together in love and sacrifice – Genesis 22:1-8

Lent Lunches

Fridays from
28th February to 10th April
Served from 12 'til 2pm



Two course lunch
Raising money for
the Adi Eblal charity
(helping villages in Ethiopia)
and church funds

Men's Fellowship

Wednesdays 5th February and 4th
March, 2pm in the Boys' Brigade

Fellowship and games, including snooker,
dominoes, Scrabble and a quiz.

Easter Cracked

Thursday 26th March, 2.00pm in the
Boys' Brigade

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

Fulneck Dramatic Society—The Fox on the Fairway

It's the annual golf tournament twixt 'Crouching Squirrel Country Club' and 'Quail Valley'. The latter haven't had a win in five years, but this time it's going to be different. 'Quail Valley' director, the notorious Mr Bingham ("he eats barbed wire for breakfast") has recruited top notch local golfer Steve Tramplemain to the 'Quail Valley' team. His confidence in victory is so certain he's even placed a \$100,000 bet on the result – and thrown in his wife's antique shop too. Of course, this being a farce, let's just say that the route to the final hole isn't a smooth one. From the pen of American comedy writer, Ken Ludwig, it's almost more fun than a round of golf. Assuming you like golf that is. Even if you don't, it's still a lot of fun.

The dates for your diary are from **Tuesday March 10th through to Saturday March 14th**, beginning at 7.30pm in the Comenius Arts' Centre apart from Wednesday March 11th when the show begins at 8pm. Ticket prices are £10 each, and concessions (children, seniors, students) £8. lease phone or email me for tickets, and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Sr Christine Robbins

Fulneck Moravian Church presents

Messy Palms!

Palm Leaves and Donkeys



Children's Activities and Refreshments

Saturday 21st March

10.30 am – 12 noon

in the Fulneck B.B. Building

Everyone welcome - Free entry

Burial Ground Tidy Up Saturday 4th April

Our annual tidy up morning will be, as usual, on the Saturday before Palm Sunday. This is an opportunity to get the burial ground looking at its best before Easter. Please come along if you can and bring any tools that might be useful. There will be refreshments provided. Thanks for your help.



Gomersal News and Notices

Rewind to Easter

Tuesday 24th March, 1pm at St Paul's Church, Birkenshaw

Wednesday 25th March, 1pm at St Mary's Church, Gomersal

Churches Together in Gomersal, Birkenshaw and East Bierley have been running these activity afternoons for the primary schools for many years, telling the children the true meaning of the season. We rely on a team of volunteers to make them happen. If you can help with either of this year's dates, please speak to Br Michael Newman as soon as possible.

Gomersal Moravian Church

Quarry Road, Gomersal

Registered Charity Number 251211

FAMILY FILM NIGHT



Friday 6th March at 6.30pm

Free entry

Refreshments available

New Members

At the March Lovefeast, Stephen and Joanne Brown will be received into the membership of the congregation.

Prayer Board

There is now a Prayer Board in the porch. Please use this to post any names or situations that you would like the congregation to pray for (please check first with the people concerned). Thanks.

Infant Baptism

On Sunday 5th April, Robert (Bobby) Dickinson will be baptised and welcomed into the church family.

Wellbeing Wednesdays

Gomersal Moravian Church: 2020

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

4 March. 1 April. 6 May. 3 June. 1 July.



Julian Meeting: 30 minute silent contemplation, followed by refreshments. Starts 10.30.

11 March. NOT April. 13 May. 10 June. 8 July.



Walk and yoga: 30 minute walk and Dru Yoga for all abilities. Refreshments. Starts 10.00. Charge £4 per session.

18 March. NOT April. 20 May. 17 June. 15 July.



Carpet bowls: for all abilities. Refreshments. Charge £1 each. Starts 10.30.

25 March. 22 April. 27 May. 24 June. 22 July.



Gomersal Moravian Church
Quarry Road, Gomersal

Lent Course on the **Lord's Prayer** A York Course

Mondays at 1.30pm in Church

2nd March 'Our Father'
9th March 'Thy will be done'
16th March 'Our daily bread'
23rd March 'As we forgive'
30th March 'In heaven'

All are welcome



Gomersal Moravian Church
Quarry Road, Gomersal
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CHICKEN DRIVE



AND SUPPER

Friday 3rd April
7.00pm in the Church
£4 per person (children £2)

GENERAL NOTICES



Summer Camp 2020

Where: Dovecote House, Ilam, Derbyshire

When: 1st-8th August

Who: Young people in the Moravian Church or connected to it over the age of 10 and under 18 on August 31st 2020.


Cost: £320 - A deposit of £50 is required at booking, the balance to be paid by 14th June - this can be paid in instalments. Payment can be made by direct bank transfer or cheque. If there is an issue with the fee please approach your Minister or Joy Rayner for support.

The programme will include a range of activities including worship, games, walks, outings etc.

NO TENTS REQUIRED


For more information and a form ask your minister or email youth@moravian.org.uk

EARLY BOOKING ADVISED



Yorkshire District of the Moravian Church

Palm Sunday



Hymns, music and readings
for Passion Week,
led by the Moravian Singers

**Sunday 5th April,
6pm at Wellhouse
Moravian Church**

2020 Assessment

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We want to wish you God's richest blessing in your work for 2020.

The PEC appreciates the efforts you make to send in your assessments, which enable us to continue the work of our church. The money your congregation is asked to contribute is used for part of the administration cost and to cover the cost of providing ministers and church workers.

With similar considerations to last year, when we absorbed £39 per member, your assessment this year comes with the PEC having absorbed £75 per member. This means we will have to look to cover part of the cost of ministry from other areas in the

budget. You can well appreciate that in the future we will have to limit the amount of the ministry cost we absorb. Therefore, we have calculated the assessment for 2020 at £410 per member.

We do recognise that some members will be able to give more for the year and we thank them for doing so because some people might not be able to give that much. Giving freely and more than that per capita amount means that your congregation will be better enabled to meet its financial obligations.

Thanks again and may the grace of the Lord be with us all as we work together in his vineyard!

Livingstone Thompson
Provincial Treasurer

Unity Prayer Day

The Unity Prayer Day Offering 2020 will go to support a project in Rwanda. The Moravian Church in Rwanda is about 20 years old, with about 8,000 members in 35 congregations. Due to government regulations, there is a need to build a new church and headquarters in the capital city of Kigali. The Danish Moravian Mission (BDM) has assisted financially to purchase land in a developing part of Kigali. The Unity Prayer Day Offering will go towards the cost of the new church building. This will ensure the continued existence of the Moravian Church in Rwanda. Please take one of the special envelopes and return it on Sunday 1st, 8th or 15th March.

Calendar

March

Sunday 1 st	10.30am	Fulneck	All Age Worship led by Br M Newman
	10.30am	Gomersal	Family Worship led by
	2.30pm	Fulneck	Lovefeast and Communion led by Br M Newman
Monday 2 nd	1.30pm	Gomersal	Lent Study
	7.30pm	Gomersal	Congregation Council Meeting
Wednesday 4 th	10.30am	Gomersal	Walking for Health
	2.00pm	Fulneck	MWA
	2.00pm	Fulneck	Men's Fellowship in the BB
	7.30pm	Fulneck	Lent Service led by Br M Newman
Thursday 5 th	8.00pm	Gomersal	Ladies' Fellowship
	9.45am	Fulneck	Morning Prayers
	11.00am	Fulneck	Organ Recital
	2.00pm	Gomersal	Prayer Group at the home of Sr M Smith
Friday 6 th	7.30pm	District	Moravian Singers in the BB at Fulneck
	12.00pm	Fulneck	Lent Lunch in the BB
	2.00pm	Fulneck	World Day of Prayer Service at Pudsey Parish Church
	2.30pm	Gomersal	World Day of Prayer Service at Heckmondwike URC
Sunday 8 th	6.30pm	Gomersal	Family Film Night
	10.30am	Fulneck	Family Worship led by Br I Haggas
	10.30am	Gomersal	Family Worship led by Br M Newman
Monday 9 th	3.00pm	Gomersal	Lovefeast and Communion led by Br M Newman
	1.30pm	Gomersal	Lent Study
Tuesday 10 th	2.00pm	Fulneck	Fingers and Thumbs at the home of Sr C Singleton
	7.15pm	Fulneck	Church Committee
	7.30pm	Fulneck	FDS Play in the Comenius Centre
Wednesday 11 th	10.30am	Gomersal	Julian Meeting
	7.30pm	Fulneck	Lent Service led by Br M Newman
	8.00pm	Fulneck	FDS Play in the Comenius Centre
Thursday 12 th	9.45am	Fulneck	Morning Prayers
	2.00pm	Gomersal	Prayer Group at the home of Sr M Smith
	7.30pm	Fulneck	FDS Play in the Comenius Centre
	7.30pm	District	Moravian Singers in the BB at Fulneck
Friday 13 th	12.00pm	Fulneck	Lent Lunch in the BB
	7.30pm	Fulneck	FDS Play in the Comenius Centre

Calendar (continued)

March (continued)

Saturday 14 th	7.30pm	Fulneck	FDS Play in the Comenius Centre
Sunday 15 th	10.30am	Fulneck	Family Worship led by Br M Newman
	10.30am	Gomersal	Family Worship led by Sr K Woolford
Monday 16 th	1.30pm	Gomersal	Lent Study
Tuesday 17 th	7.30pm	Gomersal	Church Committee
Wednesday 18 th	10.00am	Gomersal	Wellbeing Wednesday
	7.30pm	Fulneck	Lent Service led by Br M Newman
Thursday 19 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 at Fulneck
Friday 20 th	12.00pm	Fulneck	Lent Lunch in the BB
Saturday 21 st	10.30am	Fulneck	Junior Church Activity Morning in BB
Sunday 22 nd	10.30am	Fulneck	Mothering Sunday Worship led by Sr R France
	10.30am	Gomersal	Mothering Sunday Worship led by Br M Newman
Monday 23 rd	1.30pm	Gomersal	Lent Study
	7.30pm	Fulneck	CTP Meeting at Pudsey Baptist Church
Tuesday 24 th	1.00pm	Gomersal	Rewind to Easter at St Paul's Birkenshaw
Wednesday 25 th	10.30am	Gomersal	Carpet Bowls
	1.00pm	Gomersal	Rewind to Easter at St Mary's Gomersal
	7.30pm	Fulneck	Lent Service led by Br M Newman
Thursday 26 th	9.45am	Fulneck	Morning Prayers
	2.00pm	Gomersal	Prayer Group at the home of Sr M Smith
	2.00pm	Fulneck	School Easter Activities in the BB
	7.30pm	District	Moravian Singers in the BB at Fulneck
Friday 27 th	12.00pm	Fulneck	Lent Lunch in the BB
Sunday 29 th	10.30am	Fulneck	Family Worship led by Br M Newman
	10.30am	Gomersal	Family Worship led by Br G Mallinson
Monday 30 th	1.30pm	Gomersal	Lent Study
	7.30pm	Fulneck	History Meeting at the home of Sr V Hayton
	7.30pm	District	District Mission Working Party at Lower Wyke
April			
Wednesday 1 st	10.30am	Gomersal	Walking for Health
	7.30pm	Fulneck	Lent Service led by Br M Newman
Thursday 2 nd	9.45am	Fulneck	Morning Prayers
	11.00am	Fulneck	Organ Recital
	2.00pm	Gomersal	Prayer Group at the home of Sr M Smith
	7.30pm	District	Moravian Singers in the BB at Fulneck
Friday 3 rd	12.00pm	Fulneck	Lent Lunch in the BB
	7.00pm	Gomersal	Chicken Drive
Saturday 4 th	10.00am	Fulneck	Burial Ground Tidy Up
Sunday 5 th	10.30am	Fulneck	Palm Sunday Worship & Communion led by Sr Smith
	10.30am	Gomersal	Palm Sunday Worship & Baptism led by Br Newman
	6.00pm	District	District Palm Sunday Service at Wellhouse