

Fulneck and Gomersal
Moravian Church
Bi-Weekly Newsletter



Wednesday 10 June 2020

Dear friends,

Greetings from me as I prepare the fortnightly newsletter. We start with a letter from the Provincial Board.

Dear Brothers & Sisters

The PEC (Provincial Board), the Bishops and the Mission & Society Committee of the Moravian Church in the UK have issued the following statement on the death of George Floyd and racism:

Over the last two weeks, the death of George Floyd has highlighted the harsh realities of racism and the negative impact that it has had on the lives of countless black people.

We abhor his murder and we offer our sincere sympathy to his family. Racism exists in our society and it can often go unrecognised. We are committed to taking action to challenge all forms of racism. Everyone is equal and everyone is created in the image of God, but centuries of racism have led to the perception that some lives are valued more than others.

We call on all of our brothers and sisters to affirm and uphold one of the key tenets of the Moravian basis of faith that "We oppose any discrimination in our midst because of race or standing, and we regard it as a commandment of the Lord to bear public witness to this and to demonstrate by word and deed that we are brothers and sisters in Christ." (Ground of the Unity).

Yours in Christ's Service,
Roberta

Roberta Hoey: On Behalf of the Provincial Board of the Moravian Church

Many of you do not know me, but I hope that over the coming weeks you will start to feel that you do as I aim to create a style that can involve anyone who is happy to send me suggestions and photographs for Chat Corner.

Chat Corner: here are some ideas for this week.

Favourite things: we all have them – hymns, readings, books, films, a piece of music.

One of my favourite pieces of music is the Triumphal March from Aida. It played as John and I walked out of the vestry at Calverley Methodist church. I had said I DO.

Getting Together: here we can share memories from previous social events – come on Gomersal members, you have lots! – plus Zoom meetings like the quiz night.

Top tips: I am sure many of you are full of good ideas for our gardens, the kitchen and how to keep fit.

Picture that: photographs of events or of a drawing. Come on you young people, let's see some of your drawings – rainbows, waving hands ...



Here we have a picture drawn recently by Harrison of a treat made for him and his brother.

MYRA not Mc Ds responsible for this fine fare.

Pause for Thought: driving to work, I used to listen out for Thought for Today, so let's have our own Pause for Thought. Here is the close of a prayer used recently in a Provincial Sunday service.



Blessed are all during this time who have pure hearts; all who still hunger and thirst for justice;

all who work for peace and model mercy, may you know comfort, calm and the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all. Amen.

SUMMER CAMP 2020: 3 – 5 August
Stay at home & Zoom in. Tents optional!!

Lots of games, worship, Bible studies and craft; a minimum of 3 sessions a day.

As materials will be posted to you in advance pre-registration is essential. Please email Joy at youth@moravian.org.uk

To cover the cost of posting the materials there will be a charge of £15.

Join the team for Summer Camp with a difference.

Julian Meetings. You can Zoom in to the Gomersal Wellbeing Wednesday meetings. Wednesday 10 June and 24 June, 10.30. For the link, please email Victoria.wright@talktalk.net.

Let me end by saying that I am sure you all join me in wishing Br Michael the very best for his sabbatical.

Yours in Christ, Sr Mary Holmes (0113 2558547)

mary@woodhall28.co.uk

Worship Resources for Sunday 14 June

Call to Action

Readings

Exodus 19.2-8a; Romans 5.1-8; Matthew 9.35-10.8

Reflection

What do you think gives us, today, Jesus' authority to go out and make disciples? When do you most feel like you are doing Jesus' work (particularly as 'going away' is not an option at the moment)?

Hymn

**Go forth and tell! O Church of God awake!
God's saving news to all the nations take:
Proclaim Christ Jesus, Saviour, Lord and King,
That all the world his worthy praise may sing.**

**Go forth and tell! God's love embraces all;
He will in grace respond to all who call:
How shall they call if they have never heard
The gracious invitation of his word?**

**Go forth and tell! Men still in darkness lie;
In wealth or want, in sin they live and die:
Give us, O Lord, concern of heart and mind,
A love like your which cares for all mankind.**

**Go forth and tell! The doors are open wide:
Share God's good gifts – let no-one be denied;
Live out your life as Christ your Lord shall choose,
Your ransomed powers for his sole glory use.**

**Go forth and tell! O Church of God, arise!
Go in the strength which Christ your Lord supplies;
Go till all nations his great name adore
And serve him, Lord and King for evermore.**

(Mission Praise 178, Tune 'Woodlands')

Prayers for Others

Loving Lord, you call and equip us to serve you. Watch over those who risk their own safety by caring for others. Strengthen and protect all those who are persecuted for their faith in places where living a Christian life in peace is not allowed. Loving Lord, you empower us to live out our discipleship. Give wisdom, imagination and the strength to persevere to those who face apathy as they seek to live out their discipleship. Loving Lord, you understand what it means to suffer for what is right. Give comfort and courage to those who are treated unjustly because of their faith, and indeed to all who suffer, whatever the reason. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Personal Prayer

Lord, may I know your guidance as I seek to be a faithful disciple in the places to which you send me. Amen.

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Worship Resources for Sunday 21 June

When the going gets tough

Readings

Jeremiah 20.7-13; Romans 6.1b-11; Matthew 10.24-39

Reflection. How would you finish the sentence 'When the going gets tough...'? How can you support one another through the challenging realities of being a disciple of Jesus?

Hymn

**'Take up your cross!' the Saviour said,
'if you would my disciple be;
deny yourself, the world forsake
and humbly follow after me.'**

**Take up your cross—let not its weight
Fill your weak spirit with alarm:
his strength shall bear your spirit up,
and brace your heart, and nerve your arm.**

**Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,
nor let your foolish pride rebel:
your Lord for you the Cross endured,
to save thy soul from death and hell.**

**Take up your cross, then, in his strength,
and calmly every danger brave;
'twill guide you to a better home,
and lead to victory o'er the grave.**

**Take up your cross, and follow Christ,
nor think 'til death to lay it down;
for only he who bears the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.**

**To you, great Lord, the One-in-three,
all praise for evermore ascend:
O grant us in our home to see
the heavenly life that knows no end.**

(Mission Praise 935, Tune 'Breslau')

Prayers for Others

We pray for those whom you have called to service far from their homes – doctors, nurses, teachers, engineers, and many more... We pray for those who serve you by telling your story – those who teach, lead assemblies, speak at meetings, preach the gospel, and many more... We pray for our own discipleship, that we may face our challenges with courage and help to establish your promised kingdom. And we pray for all whose service, often at risk to themselves, is helping us, helping the whole world, in its battle against the spread and consequences of the corona virus pandemic. We pray, Lord, that you will protect and bless them all. Amen.

Personal Prayer

Praise God who made me. Praise Jesus who has called me. Praise the Spirit who empowers me. Amen.