

The Magazine for Fulneck and Gomersal Moravian Churches



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Minister's Letter

This is my final Minister's Letter for the Fulneck and Gomersal magazine. My last services are at Gomersal on Sunday 27th June, and at Fulneck on Sunday 4th July. So, I thought I would take the opportunity to share some highlights from the last ten years.

Let's start with Fulneck. It was back in February 2012 when the Lent Lunches started. Over the years these have raised lots of money for Adi Eblal in Ethiopia, as well as church funds, and I have enjoyed sitting with different people each week to share lunch. In November of that year, we had the first Handel's Messiah concert by St Peter's Singers, which became an annual event, and something I always looked forward to. The Heritage Open Days are a highlight every year, but perhaps the most memorable was in September 2013 when we marked the 260th anniversary of the school with a re-enactment of the first pupils arriving and everyone dressed up in period costume. In December of that year, we held our first Christmas Tree Festival, which has become a popular biennial event. The organ renovations took place in the autumn of 2016, and we held a rededication service in February 2017 with various choirs and a full church. Another special service was when Fulneck Museum celebrated its 50th anniversary in July 2019.



Now for Gomersal. It was in April 2012 that the first Wellbeing Wednesday took place. Over the years this developed from a once-a-month event into four different activities a month, with a Health Walk, Meditation, Yoga and Carpet Bowls. It has been great to see how

popular these have continued to be. In November 2013 we teamed up with the Little Gomersal Community Association for a Forties Night with food, music and dancing. In Aug 2014 we teamed up again to mark the centenary of the First World War, with an event in church and a display about the impact of the war on Gomersal and its residents. In September of that year, we held our first Heritage Open Day, with a vintage bus connecting us to Red House and Oakwell Hall, and a good number of visitors. There have been many excellent nativity plays, but the one I will never forget is in 2015 when I secretly dressed up as Darth Vader. When I took off the helmet the children got a big surprise! In May 2016 we celebrated the 200th anniversary of the Sunday School with a special service and lunch, with pupils and teachers from the last seventy years.



There have also been Yorkshire District highlights. For example, in May 2012 we held a sponsored walk to mark 270 years of Moravians in Yorkshire, starting at Smith House in Lightcliffe, the original headquarters, and walking to Fieldhead in Gomersal, where Ingham's societies had been handed over to the Moravians.

I hope that this has brought some fond memories to mind and encouraged you as both congregations think about returning to a more normal calendar of events in the autumn. It has been a great privilege to play a brief role in the life of Fulneck and Gomersal Moravian Churches, and I pray that many more things will be written in the future about your worship and witness.

Br Michael Newman

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

Fulneck News and Notices

Br Mervyn Frisby

We are sad to report that Br Mervyn passed away on 11th May. The funeral will take place in church on Tuesday 8th June at 12.30pm. Unfortunately, due to limits on numbers, only invited guests may attend the church service. As the end of the service will be during school lunch time, and to ensure social distancing, pupils leaving the dinner hall at that time will use the south terrace. Please keep Lynne, Caroline, Pamela and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Summer Health Walks. Starting on Monday 14th June at 7pm outside the Boys' Brigade.

This summer we will be having another series of Monday evening health walks, one every two weeks. Each walk will start outside the Boys' Brigade at 7pm, last for about an hour covering a mix of terrain, and will end back at the Boys' Brigade. Please wear appropriate footwear and clothing. Current government Covid guidance will be followed. The dates are: 14th June, 28th June, 12th July, 26th July, 9th August, 23rd August

Bible Book Club. Monday 21st June at 2pm in the Boys' Brigade.

In June we are looking at Job. Please contact Br Newman for the notes from the Bible Society. The Zoom link will be sent out a few days before.

Christmas Trees Wanted!

Planning is already underway for our 2021 Christmas Tree Festival. It's never too early to start! We will be holding it on 27th and 28th November, which is the beginning of Advent. Our theme this year is Family Christmas, and we want to do things a little differently. Many of us have artificial trees hiding in our loft or cupboard with favourite ornaments we use each year. Will you loan us your tree for the festival? We'd also love it if you'd decorate it just like you would at home so we can have many families represented over the weekend. We'll be sending more details later but please make a note of the date and consider sharing your decorated tree with us. The next planning meeting is on Wednesday 30 June, 2.00pm in the Boys' Brigade.
Sr Allison Turner



Heritage Board

Over recent months a small committee has been working on a project to install a Fulneck Settlement heritage board outside the Museum. The idea was conceived following a donation from Michael Harrison received on the 50th anniversary of the Museum, but we have also secured funding from a council grant which will cover most of the cost. The board will be officially unveiled on the afternoon of Saturday 3rd July at 2pm. The Museum will be open that afternoon with a limited number of visitors allowed at any one time.

Confirmation

We are delighted that Kwame Williams, having completed a course with Br Newman, will be confirmed and received into membership at the service on Sunday 20th June.

Contact Information Forms

Thanks to those who have already returned their forms. If you haven't done so yet, they only take a few minutes to complete. If you need a new copy of the form, please let Br Newman know.

Gomersal News and Notices

Litter Picking Walk. Monday 14th June at 10.30am outside Church

Part of the 'Great British Spring Clean' organised by Keep Britain Tidy. We will split up into small groups to do short local walks, picking up litter as we go. There will be a limited number of litter pickers available as well as bin bags. Please bring gardening gloves.



Quiz.

A massive thank you to Br Cyril and Sr Mary Smith for the latest congregation quiz which has raised a fantastic £130 for church funds.

The winners were as follows: 1st prize – Shirley and Rick, 2nd prize – Christine Butcher, 3rd prize – Les and Norma.

Wellbeing Wednesdays

Julian Meeting. Wednesday 9th June at 10.30am in Church.

We continue to meet every month for a time of quiet contemplation.

We hope to start our other regular Wellbeing Wednesday activities again in September.

New Members.

We are pleased to announce that Alan and Ann Hillary will be received into membership during the service on Sunday 6th June.

Contact Information Forms.

Thanks to those who have already returned their forms. If you haven't done so yet, they only take a few minutes to complete. If you need a new copy of the form, please let Br Newman know.

PROVINCIAL NOTICES

Provincial Synod. Thursday 10th to Sunday 13th June.

This is the Synod that should have taken place in July last year. It was postponed until early 2021, only to be postponed again, and is now being held online using Zoom. Please remember all the Synodals in your prayers as they meet to hear reports, elect office holders, and vote on proposals affecting the work of the British Province.

Unity Prayer Watch. Sunday 4th and Monday 5th July.

Lists are now up for you to put your name down to do an hour of the Unity Prayer Watch. Fulneck will be covering 8.30pm on 4th July to 2.30pm on 5th July, and Gomersal will be covering 2.30pm to 11.30pm on 5th July.

Calendar

In Step 3 of the government roadmap, indoor activities can be organised if they follow Covid-secure guidance, a risk assessment is completed (and approved by Church Committee), and those attending do not mix in groups of more than 6 people or 2 households indoors. We are still waiting to see what guidance will be in place in Step 4, which will begin on 21st June at the earliest. It is hoped that both congregations will be able to return to a more normal calendar of services and events from September.

June

Thursday 3 rd	9.45am	Fulneck	Morning Prayers in Church
Sunday 6 th	10.30am	Fulneck	Family Worship and Communion led by Sr K Woolford
	10.30am	Gomersal	Family Worship and Communion led by Br M Newman
Tuesday 8 th	12.30pm	Fulneck	Funeral of Br Mervyn Frisby (invited guests only in church)
	7.15pm	Fulneck	Church Committee in the Boys' Brigade
Wednesday 9 th	10.30am	Gomersal	Julian Meeting in Church
Thursday 10 th		Fulneck	NO MORNING PRAYERS
Thu 10 th to Sun 13 th		Provincial	Provincial Synod on Zoom
Sunday 13 th	10.30am	Fulneck	Family Worship led by Br T Kernohan
	10.30am	Gomersal	Ladies' Festival Worship led by Sr J Cooper
Monday 14 th	10.30am	Gomersal	Litter Picking Walk starting at Church
	7.00pm	Fulneck	Summer Health Walk starting at the Boys' Brigade
Tuesday 15 th	7.30pm	Gomersal	Church Committee in Church
Thursday 17 th	9.45am	Fulneck	Morning Prayers in Church
Sunday 20 th	10.30am	Fulneck	Family Worship & Confirmation led by Br M Newman
	10.30am	Gomersal	Family Worship led by Br R Hopcroft
Monday 21 st	2.00pm	Fulneck	Bible Book Club in the Boys' Brigade
Thursday 24 th	9.45am	Fulneck	Morning Prayers in Church
Sunday 27 th	10.30am	Fulneck	Family Worship led by Sr D Thornton
	10.30am	Gomersal	Family Worship led by Br M Newman
Monday 28 th	7.00pm	Fulneck	Summer Health Walk starting at the Boys' Brigade
Wednesday 30 th	2.00pm	Fulneck	Christmas Tree Festival Meeting in the Boys' Brigade

July

Thursday 1 st	9.45am	Fulneck	Morning Prayers in Church
Saturday 3 rd	2.00pm	Fulneck	Heritage Board Unveiling at the Museum
Sunday 4 th	10.30am	Fulneck	Family Worship and Communion led by Br M Newman
	10.30am	Gomersal	Family Worship led by Br K Evans

