

Fulneck Moravian Church Magazine

March 2024



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Minister's Letter

"If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant."

Anne Bradstreet

There's an old Idiom that says March goes in like a lion and out like a lamb because March heralds what is many people favourite season, Spring. The movement from Winter, a season of cold, of darkness and death of many plants and flowers, to Spring when things get warmer, lighter and nature wakes from its slumber is one of the great beauties of creation. For many people the coming of Spring brings about with it improved mood and health both mental and physical. It approaches like the finish line at the end of a marathon or the summit of a mountain we've been climbing. But like the summit, the view looks all the more spectacular because of the climb and as the above quote points out, Spring is made all the more glorious and special because of winter. All things that are good are made great when attained after hardship and struggle.

So it is with the Easter story. I really enjoy our tradition of gathering together to hear the story of Holy Week by reading our Passion Week and Eastertide readings every evening in the run up to Easter. It helps to get the context and understand something of the incredible rollercoaster that the disciples went through.

This is why when I get into watching a television programme or go to watch a film I'm excited for, I take great effort to avoid spoilers. I know it doesn't bother some people and there are those that actively seek out how the story is going to end but

for me that robs the enjoyment of any story. However uncomfortable, or frightened a story might make you, the best stories leave you feeling all the better when the twists and turns resolve and you get to the, hopefully, happy ending.

The story of Easter is the most wonderful and dramatic story in the history of the earth. It has everything. A dramatic colourful opening, moments to make you think, betrayal, death and despair, and a dramatic twist at the end that gives us the happiest of endings. But best of all, this is not a novel or a figment of someone's imagination, this is a true story. This all actually happened, and we are all now benefactors of the great gift of God that we celebrate at this festival and always and because of that we have a sure and certain hope that however hard things might be, there is the promise of the love of God and the knowledge that things can and will get better. For all of our winters, there is a spring thanks to the love and gifts of God.

I encourage you all to join us during Holy Week so that you can experience this journey with all its high and lows so that when we gather to celebrate the resurrection of Christ, we can be fully aware of the challenges and pain along the way that make the celebration of Easter even more powerful and wonderful.

May your own journeys be filled with hope and light and every winter be followed by Spring and every Good Friday be followed by an Easter.

"Unless there is a Good Friday in your life, there can be no Easter Sunday." Fulton Sheen

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

HOLY HABITS

Missional discipleship as a way of life.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and **had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.** Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and **ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God** and having the goodwill of all the people. **And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.** Acts 2: 42-47

In February we left you with some questions to think about related to fellowship. A concept we use freely in church but it's interesting when asked what it means. We used these, and some more questions, at the faith lunch. They were the start of some very interesting and positive discussions.

Starting with **what does fellowship mean to you?** Some sort of common bond/ideal and harmony. Caring for each other and mixing with people who have shared values. Friendship, co-operation, thinking of others and common goals not separated by differences.

There is definitely a common theme in these suggestions and they really do capture that there is a difference between fellowship and friendship.

Where have you experienced fellowship?

Church, School, working environment, sports teams, clubs celebrations, social events and Rotary.

Can you experience fellowship with people you don't know and if so where?

Public spaces where you speak to others. Celebrations e.g Summer Camp. Armed Forces.

I have recently been on a yoga weekend with 26 people I'd never met before. Through our love of yoga we certainly experienced fellowship throughout the weekend as we did the classes together and talked at meal times. Its not somethings I'd have thought about had we not been looking at fellowship at the moment. Maybe you could start identifying times when you're experiencing fellowship now?

Can you think of times at Fulneck when you have experienced fellowship?

Street Party, residents groups/neighbours, Heritage Day, Christingle Service. The big events in the church calendar. Social and fundraising events.

We seem to mostly experience fellowship away from the church service which leads into the last question we looked at.

Can you think of things we could do or offer at Fulneck to encourage fellowship?

More social events. Continue the practice of taking flowers to new residents. Invite new church goers to social events. Do more events with school. Monthly luncheon club, revival of Men's Fellowship and joint events with Soul Sisters.

There are some great ideas here, some new and some that we're already doing really well. Things will only happen if we make them so don't stand back and expect others to do things, we're all in this together and you'll find others will be there to help you! Next time we have our faith lunch why not make the effort to come along if you haven't before?

A prayer of blessing

May God the Father keep us in communion with him,
May God the Son lead us in his footsteps and
May God the Holy Spirit encourage us to embrace all,
Connecting with those we know, and those we don't,
In true communion love, and may we leave in peace and thankfulness.
Amen

Meet the Minister

Each Monday the church will be open from 9am-11:30am for you to have the opportunity to come and speak to Br James, who will be in the vestry or in church during those hours.

It is hoped that this will enable you all to have a time and place where you know you can have your thoughts, feelings and concerns heard in person with the minister present. In other words, it's an opportunity for a nice natter.



SOUL SISTERS EVENT “POTTERY & PROSECCO” THURSDAY 21 MARCH – 7PM AT “OH HELLO” IN FULNECK

IF YOU'VE EVER WANTED TO MAKE YOUR OWN INDIVIDUAL CERAMIC COASTER THIS IS THE EVENING FOR YOU.

ALL MATERIALS ARE PROVIDED BUT IF YOU WANT TO USE SMALL FLOWERS/GRASSES/LEAVES ETC TO IMPRINT INTO YOUR COASTER BRING THESE ALONG WITH YOU. EMILY WILL BE ON HAND TO GIVE ADVICE AND WILL ARRANGE TO HAVE THE COASTERS FIRED TO BE COLLECTED LATER.

THE COST OF THE EVENING IS £12.00 TO BE PAID IN ADVANCE TO ONE OF THE “SOUL SISTERS” ORGANISERS –
MYRA DICKINSON, ANNETTE WOOLFORD, RUTH DACRE,
GILLIAN BUTTERILL AND ANN KERNOHAN.

COME ALONG, WHAT HAVE YOU TO LOSE? YOU'LL HAVE A LOVELY EVENING OUT WITH FRIENDS AND A BEAUTIFUL COASTER TO USE FOR YEARS TO COME.





SOUL SISTERS EVENTS – 2024

WE HAVE A PROGRAMME OF EVENTS OVER THE COMING YEAR. KEEP A LOOK OUT FOR THE NOTICES IN THE NEWSLETTER WHICH WILL GIVE YOU DATES AND TIMES TO PUT IN YOUR DIARIES.

“POTTERY & PROSECCO” – 21 MARCH 2024

VISIT TO SALTAIRE – MAY

“BEACH PARTY” ON THE TERRACE – JULY OR AUGUST

VISIT TO FARSLEY SUNNY BANK MILLS – OCTOBER

“ROCK AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE” – DECEMBER

&

COMING UP IN 2025!

VALENTINE’S DAY EVENT – FRIDAY 14TH FEBRUARY 2025

THERE’S PLENTY TO LOOK FORWARD TO AND IF ANYONE HAS ANY IDEAS OF WHAT THEY WOULD LIKE US TO PLAN JUST LET THE “SOUL SISTERS” GROUP KNOW. THEY ARE MYRA DICKINSON, ANNETTE WOOLFORD, RUTH DACRE, GILLIAN BUTTERILL AND ANN KERNOHAN.



Tidy up time

Church upstairs room: please go along on Saturday 9 March if you can help to tidy up the top room and one of the school rooms. Allison will be in the church from 10.30.

Burial ground tidy up: as always, this will take place in preparation for Easter Week. Please go along to the Burial Ground on Saturday 23 March from 10.00.

For both tidy-ups, all are welcome.

Bingo

What an enjoyable evening of fun, fellowship & fundraising at the bingo night with £251 raised for church.

Everyone enjoyed the evening & we welcomed in quite a few people from outside of our church community who told us they had thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

It was definitely worthwhile doing & we will plan to do another one sometime in the summer.

Brother Alan Minshull & Sister Sue Minshull



It'll soon be carnival time again!

We're already applied to have a stall at this year's **Pudsey Carnival on Saturday 18 May**.

Following the success of the chocolate tombola at the autumn fayre we've decided that's what we'll be doing at the carnival. In case of hot weather, I've got lots of cool packs to put under the chocolate. Everyone who buys a ticket will be also given some information about Fulneck and the planned events this year.

In order to make this a success we're going to need some chocolate so there is a box in the Bell Room for you to leave your donation.

It would be great to also have some help on the day to share the load. The stall needs to be open from **10am until 4pm** even if we're lucky enough to finish the tombola before then. Nearer the time a list will be up so you can put down when you can help out.

Last year we were the only church that had a stall on the day and it is such an amazing opportunity for us to get Fulneck on the map.

Sr Allison



HANNAH HELPS OUT



Last year, Hannah Baines, great niece of the late Sister Molly Lythe, supported the museum as a volunteer on a number of occasions.

In a practical way she contributed various ideas to attract the interest of younger visitors. During the winter she has worked to create this attractive model illustrating a complete view of Fulneck lower south facing terrace. Each section is dated and will benefit visitors, enabling them to visualize this extensive facade, one of the longest in Europe.

Hannah is also keen to help out with the activities on Heritage Day this year. So thank you Hannah for all your help and we look forward to seeing you later in the year.

FULNECK SCHOOL MAGAZINE—THE COMENIUS

You may recall that last month I included an extract from The Comenius and asked if anyone could explain a couple of points. Thanks to Br John McOwat we now have answers.

I write as an old boy of Fulneck Boys' School, (Quite separate from the Fulneck Girls' School) having been at School for seven years in 1946. I am not sure if anyone will have told you about the "Barefoot Collops". This was the name we gave to the Roker Lane gang who did not always have shoes to wear especially when they were out looking for any Fulneck boys to fight, which was their frequent habit, wherever they met up with our lot ! Dyehouse Lane was the fighting ground mentioned in that Memorabilia.

The Gib Tunnel was the railway tunnel at the top end of the Valley which we dared to go through when feeling brave! Gib is the shortened form of Gibraltar which was the name for that part of the Valley. I think the railway line went from Bradford going round and up to Wibsey ,probably closed in the Beeching cuts, but that could be checked.

GENERAL NOTICE

Yorkshire District Moravian Singers.

Palm Sunday service. Sunday 24 March. 18.00. Lower Wyke.

A Palm Sunday service will be lead by the Moravian Singers. All are welcome.

Calendar

February

Wed 28 19.30 Lent Service. Br Trevor Auty
Thurs 29 09.45 Morning Prayers

March

Fri 1 World Day of Prayer.
Sunday 3 14.30 Lovefeast and Holy Communion. Br James Woolford.
Mon 4 14.00 Craft Group at Sr Vi's home.
Wed 6 19.30 Lent Service. Br James Woolford.
Thurs 7 09.45 Morning Prayers
Sat 9 10.30 Church Room tidy-up

Sunday 10 10.30 Mother's Day morning service. Br James Woolford.
Tues 12 19.15 Church committee
Wed 13 19.30 Lent Service. Br James Woolford.
Thurs 14 09.45 Morning Prayers

Sunday 17 10.30 Morning Service. Sr Gloria Hanley.
Mon 18 14.00 Craft Group at Sr Vi's home.
Wed 20 19.30 Lent Service. Br James Woolford.
Thurs 21 09.45 Morning Prayers
 19.00 Soul Sisters': pottery and prosecco
Sat 23 10.00 Burial Ground tidy-up

Sunday 24 10.30 Palm Sunday service. Br Trevor Auty.
 18.00 District Service by the Moravian Singers. Lower Wyke.
Mon 25 19.30 Holy week readings. Br Trevor Kernohan.
Tues 26 19.30 Holy week readings Br James Woolford.
Wed 27 19.30 Holy week readings. Br Trevor Auty.
Thurs 28 09.45 Morning Prayers.
 19.30 Maundy Thursday Holy Communion. Joint service with Baildon.
 Br James Woolford.
Fri 29 11.45 Churches Together Walk of Witness.
 19.30 Good Friday Liturgy service. Sr Hilary Smith.

Sunday 31 07.00 Easter Day service. Br James Woolford.
 08.00 Easter Day breakfast. BB Hall.
 10.30 Easter Day service. Br John McOwat.

April

Thurs 4 09.45 Morning Prayers.

Sunday 7 14.30 Lovefeast and Holy Communion. Br James Woolford.

Please submit material for the next edition to myself by **Thursday 21 March** . Thanks, Mary