



FULNECK CHURCH MAGAZINE October 2026

www.fulneck.org.uk

The British Province of the Unitas Fratrum
(Moravian Church),

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Minister's Letter

Coming from Manchester as I do, rain was never something I saw as a gift. Rain was something to be accepted and endured. Long periods of sunshine were something which felt quite rare and to be celebrated.

I vividly remember the very hot Summer of 1976. In my memory, it was a time of endless playing out on the waste grounds near my house, returning home for snatched meals and queuing at the ice cream van for lollies made from Vimto. I'm sure the endless sunshine and lack of rain caused adults trouble and worry but none of this was a shadow in my world. What did I care that everyone's flowers were wilting and lawns were brown!? Living in an urban area as I did, I was also blissfully unaware of the effect that the drought was having on farms – on their crops and on their ability to feed their animals and the impact this would have on food supplies and food prices.

As an adult, I can no longer live in blissful ignorance. This summer has been beautiful and I have enjoyed the good weather as much as anyone but I have not been able to ignore the brown fields, the near-empty reservoir that I see as I cross the Pennines on the M62 and of course the wildfires which have caused devastation in this country and in Europe. Even Manchester has been dry!

In some churches when Harvest Festival is celebrated, a glass of water is placed amongst the displays of fruit, vegetable and flowers to symbolise humanity's reliance on and thankfulness for God's good gift of water.

I have read that to replenish our reservoirs we need seven months of rain. That is not likely to happen and so next summer, we will start with less water than we had at the beginning of this year.

Most of us probably don't see water in the same way that people such as farmers see it – as a precious necessity; but I think going forward that is how we need to see it. Even those of us from the rainy city of Manchester!

Unity in essentials, freedom in non-essentials, love in all things.

At Fulneck's Harvest Festival we read from Psalm 65, a Psalm written for Harvest time which praises God for God's good gift of water:

⁹ *You show your care for the land by sending rain; you make it rich and fertile.*

You fill the streams with water; you provide the earth with crops.

This is how you do it: ¹⁰ you send abundant rain on the ploughed fields and soak them with water;

you soften the soil with showers and cause the young plants to grow.

¹¹ *What a rich harvest your goodness provides! Wherever you go there is plenty.*

¹² *The pastures are filled with flocks; the hillsides are full of joy.*

¹³ *The fields are covered with sheep; the valleys are full of wheat.*

Everything shouts and sings for joy.

It would be good for us to remember this Psalm next time we look out of the window and see rain.

It would be good to remember this Psalm when next we drink a glass of water.

It would be good for us to give thanks for the precious God-given gift of water on which our lives depend.

Yours in Christ

Sr Janet Cooper

Journeys of Moravian Women

Time for tea and a talk



You are warmly invited to come along to the BB Hall on **Wednesday 7 October 19.00** to share tea, cake and a talk.

Journeys of Moravian Women is a fascinating topic and I will be looking at women from the past and present. Here is just one example: in the 1700s Rosina Stach lived in a quiet rural village in central Europe, became a refugee, went as a missionary to Greenland and finally worked and died living in America. During the talk I will show slides of many of these places both then and now.

Donations are invited for church funds. I hope that this will be well supported so please invite your friends. Let us aim to have more events, preferably involving cake.

Photograph by M Holmes: the Catholic church in the village where Rosina Stach grew up.

Sr Mary Holmes

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BRETHREN'S FESTIVAL

BREAKFAST: Sunday 11 October: 9.00am. Boys' Brigade Hall

Please join us at this wonderful opportunity for Brothers to meet together and share breakfast before the service at 10.30 led by Br Peter Gubi.

The cost is £6 for orange juice, tea/coffee, cereal plus a sausage sandwich. If you would prefer a vegetarian sausage sandwich, please speak to Br Trevor Kernohan or Br John Holmes.

There is a form in the Bell Room so please sign up and come along.

Thank you.

Br John.

Exploring faith, fellowship and heritage in the Moravian Church

21 October: 19.30: BB Hall (red brick building).

This will be the first in a series of meetings to talk about all things Moravian in a relaxed environment. Please come along with no knowledge, some knowledge or just to ask that question you always wanted to ask.

Further meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of each month.

Black History month: Sunday 25 October

On this Sunday the service will be lead by Sr Gloria Hanley and she will focus on Black History month, plus it is Bible Sunday. Following the service there will be refreshments in the BB Hall, where Gloria is promising a taste of the Caribbean.

Pop-in coffee morning



Would anyone be interested in a monthly coffee morning? A relaxed opportunity to meet and chat over a cup of tea / coffee. Possibly a Tuesday morning each month.

To ensure that this would run smoothly volunteers are needed – please let me know if you are able to help.

Sr Janet Cooper

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ORGAN RECITAL: Thursday 1 October: 11.15 in Fulneck Church



Lee Ward and friends continue their programme of monthly organ recitals. Entrance is free and there will be a retiring collection for church funds. All are welcome to come along and enjoy the wonderful sounds that will fill the church.

Future dates are: 5 November and 3 December.

Handel's **MESSIAH**: 12 December: 16.00: Church.

The Leodis Consort singers, with Lee Ward on the organ, will be performing the Messiah.

Tickets are £10 and may be bought on their website (www.leodisconsort.co.uk) or at the door, either by cash or card.

New Church member

I am sure we are all delighted that in September Br Peter Gubi was welcomed as a member of our congregation. We look forward to his forthcoming services and to seeing him as a member of the congregation.

Celebrations galore



After Café Church in August Trevor had the pleasure of presenting Janet with flowers to mark her first year as our minister.

At the same time, Trevor and Ann treated us all to a delightful buffet as part of their Golden Wedding celebrations.

Congratulations to all three.

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence

Every year, people from around the world unite to take action against one of the most urgent and widespread human rights violations — gender-based violence.

At the recent Synod our British Province became committed to challenging all forms of gender based violence.

Each year UN Women organise 16 days of activism between 25 November and 10 December. This year the theme is ‘ensure justice, protect survivors.’

I would encourage us each to learn more about this. I will be sharing more material regularly on the MWA Facebook page, so please pop along there and take a look. Before I start with that I will be sharing information about Black History Month.

Sr Mary

Property matters

Blooming Fulneck!

In Pudsey there is a great gardening group-Pudsey in Bloom- that does an incredible job making the centre of Pudsey very colourful all year round. We are looking to set up our own gardening group to help us have an equally lovely display round the Boys’ Brigade and on the slope towards no 38. Don’t worry if you don’t have green fingers, enthusiasm is the most important requirement! All suggestions for a better name than Blooming Fulneck will be gratefully received!

Speak to Allison, or any member of Church Committee if you’re interested.

Rubbish

I hope you’ll agree that Sarah, our cleaner, does a really good job keeping our premises so clean. Unfortunately she is often having to take rubbish away with her, which is not her responsibility. Please can someone take responsibility when using church or the Boys’ Brigade to check all bins before they leave and make sure we have no rubbish left on the premises.

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CALENDAR

October 2026

- Thurs 1 09.45 Morning Prayers.
 11.15 Organ recital.
- Sat 3 10.00 Yorkshire District Conference: Lower Wyke.
- Sun 4** 14.30 Lovefeast and Holy Communion.
 Sr Janet Cooper and Br Peter Gubi .
- Wed 7 19.00 Tea and talk: Journeys of Moravian Women. BB Hall.
- Thurs 8 09.45 Morning Prayers.
- Sun 11** 9.00 Brethren's Breakfast: BB Hall
 10.30 Brethren's Service. Br Peter Gubi.
- Wed 14 19.15 Church Committee. BB Hall.
- Thurs 15 09.45 Morning Prayers.
- Sun 18** 10.30 Morning service. Sr Janet Cooper.
 This service will be followed immediately by the Congregation
 Council meeting.
- Wed 21 19.30 Exploring our faith. BB Hall.
- Thurs 22 09.45 Morning Prayers.
- Sun 25** 10.30 Bible Sunday - morning service. Sr Gloria Hanley.
 Refreshments after church in BB Hall.
- Thurs 29 09.45 Morning Prayers.

November

- Sun 1** 14.30 Lovefeast and Holy Communion. Br Peter Gubi .

Next magazine. Please send me any material for the November magazine by Friday 23 October. Email me at mary@woodhall28.co.uk Thanks, Mary

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