



FULNECK CHURCH MAGAZINE November November 2026

www.fulneck.org.uk

The British Province of the Unitas Fratrum (Moravian Church),
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Minister's Letter

Dear Brothers, Sisters and friends of Fulneck,

I once heard a story (I don't know whether or not it is true) that a little girl was once asked: 'What is a saint?' She responded that 'a saint was someone that the light shines through!' It is likely that she was referring to the saints she saw as pictures in the stained-glass windows in church. I'm sure many of you have been into churches and cathedrals filled with stained glass windows (we have a few of our own at Fulneck). When it is dark outside, it is difficult, if not impossible to see the pictures in the windows properly but it is a very different matter when it is daylight or even better when the sun is shining. Then the windows come to life, the images are very clear and are often full of beautiful, vivid colours. The pictures in stained glass windows are often of Biblical characters and scenes are of Christian believers throughout the ages who have been designated as saints.

Giving someone the title of saint is not usually something that non-conformist churches, including our own Moravian church, tend to go in for and therefore we don't tend to celebrate saint's days.

The first of November is designated in many churches as 'All Saints' Day.' A day to remember all the saints – which if we listen to Paul in the Bible includes all of those who declare themselves to have a Christian faith. So, unlikely as it may seem, those of us who say we are Christians are saints!

In the New Testament part of the Bible, you will find a lot of letters to many different Christian congregations of the early church, written by Paul.

Here are a few of his opening sentences in those letters:

Romans 1:7 – “To all who are in Rome, loved by God and called to be **saints**”

Philippians 1:1 – “To all the **saints** in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi”

Colossians 1:2 – *“To the **saints** and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae”*

These verses demonstrate that Paul applied the word “saint” to all believers, not just a particularly holy, select group as we tend to think of saints. And if you read on in these letters from Paul you will see that the people in the churches at Rome, Phillipi and Colossae were very far from being perfect – they were in fact very much like us!

What makes a saint to Paul is simply having belief, having faith in Christ. So, we don’t have to have done something absolutely extraordinary to be a saint and we don’t need to have ended up being represented in a stained-glass window in a church or cathedral.

Let’s return for a moment to the comment of the little girl in the story I told at the beginning of this letter, because I do believe that her comment does have something important to say to all of us ordinary saints.

She said that ‘a saint was someone that the light shone through.’ And I think that is true. If we believe in Jesus Christ, who described himself as ‘the Light of the World’ (John 8:12), surely some of that light should shine through us. Jesus himself expected this of us: ‘You are the light of the world’ he said and then continued: ‘A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.’ (Matthew 5;14). Here, Jesus is urging those who follow him to reflect his light in their lives so that they (we) will be beacons to the world of hope and truth.

So, dear saints of Fulneck – remember that a saint is someone that the light shines through – and shine.

Yours in Christ

Sr Janet Cooper

New member

On Sunday 4 October we had the pleasure of welcoming back Simon Dunn in to membership of the church. I am sure we are all pleased to see him around and to hear him playing the organ.

Church Committee membership

At the recent Church Council meeting we were pleased to welcome Simon Dunn as a member of the Church Committee and to welcome Ruth Dacre upon her return to the committee. I am sure they will both serve us well.

Christmas comes to Fulneck

A weekend of events- Saturday 12 December and Sunday 13 December

All are welcome

Saturday 12th December – **Coffee, Cake, Mince Pies and Christmas Music**



10.30am -12 noon in the BB (redbrick building)

Admission free – donations very welcome

Saturday 12th December – **Handel's Messiah**

4pm in Church

Tickets - £10 on door (card or cash) or from: www.leodisconsort.co.uk

Come and listen to a performance of an iconic Christmas favourite



Sunday 13th December – **Toy Service**

10.30am in Church

Donations of toys (for St George's Crypt) gratefully received

Sunday 13th December – **Nine Lessons and Carols**

7pm in Church

A Service of Readings and Carols which unfold the meaning of Christmas



Choral festival

Sunday 29 November: 18.00: Horton Moravian Church

A joyful District event providing a great opportunity to meet friends from the Yorkshire churches and to hear beautiful Christmas music, thanks to the Yorkshire District Moravian choir.

Keep the lights burning

As the war continues and the people of Ukraine face a harsh winter there is one practical thing we can do. Donate used candles: these are then made usable for homes and on the front. This is done by a Ukraine family known to Horton Moravian Church.

If you have any used candles please let me have them and I will deliver them. Thanks.

Sr Mary

Memorial Day

Throughout the year we have six Memorial Days, each marking some important event in our history. November 13 marks the announcement of Christ and the Chief Elder in 1741.

This grew out of problems with leadership in the early Renewed church. At a meeting of Elders of the Church in September 1741 the leaders formally elected Jesus Christ as their Chief Elder. This was then made public in Moravian congregations in November 13 1741.

The above fact about our Church is explained in the book 'Our Moravian Treasures'. Sr Janet is using this book as the basis for monthly sessions exploring what it means to be a Moravian. The next will be on Wednesday 18 November, 19.30, BB hall. All are welcome and it provides a good opportunity to meet folk, chat and ask those questions you have often wondered about.

Calendar

October 2026

Sun 25 10.30 Bible Sunday – morning service. Sr Gloria Hanley.
Refreshments with a Caribbean theme to follow the service in the BB Hall.

November 2026

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

Thurs 5 09.45 Morning Prayers.
11.15 Organ recital.

Sun 8 10.30 Remembrance Sunday service. Sr Ruth France.

Thurs 12 09.45 Morning Prayers.

Sun 15 10.30. Morning service. Sr Janet Cooper.

Mon 16 19.15 Church Committee meeting.

Thurs 19 09.45 Morning Prayers.

Sun 22 10.30 Morning Service. Sr Janet Cooper.

18.00 Reflection and Remembrance. Sr Janet Cooper.

Thurs 26 09.45 Morning Prayers.

Sun 29 10.30 Advent Sunday. Sr Janet Cooper.

Refreshments after the service in BB Hall.

December 2026

Thurs 03 9.45 Morning prayers.

Sun 6 14.30 Lovefeast and Holy Communion. Sr Janet Cooper & Br Peter Gubi.

Thurs 10 09.45 Morning prayers.

Sat 12/ Sun 13 **Christmas Comes to Fulneck.** Page 3 has all the details.

Next magazine: please send me all material for the December/ January magazine by Saturday 21 November. Thank you. Mary