



The
United
Reformed
Church



Halifax Group Magazine

Heath New Hope New Providence



Two brief descriptions of the Ascension of Jesus,
Luke 24 : 50-53 Mark 16 : 19.

May 2017

Our vision is to know, love, live and
share Jesus, for a better world.

Dear friends,

I've just had a wonderfully refreshing study week away at Spring Harvest. For those who have not heard of it before, Spring Harvest is a Christian festival attended by thousands of Christians over 4 sittings, in 2 locations. It is ecumenical, from Catholics to new Churches, so it is quite broad in nature.

Every year follows a different theme, with Bible Studies, talks, and all sorts of workshops and seminars. This year's theme was 'One for all', based on us all being one in Christ Jesus, from whatever background, whatever nationality, and whether we are able-bodied or suffering from dementia.

The Bible studies explored the theme from Jesus' prayer in John 17. I briefly mentioned one aspect of the prayer in October's magazine last year, where Jesus prays for us, those who believe because of the witness of the disciples who were with Him. Jesus prays we will be one in purpose and witness. That aspect was spoken about at the Bible Studies, and lots of other aspects from the passage as well.

The speaker honed in on the idea of unity as Christians and what that means. Jesus talks about the Father and Him being one. That oneness is of essence. It is complete unity. God the Father, Son and Spirit cannot be separated.

Letter From the Manse

As we are just past Easter, we think of Jesus being separated from the Father because of the sin He bore, but if we think about this essence, we realise the Father was on the cross with Jesus. They are one, inseparable.

It is that sort of unity that Jesus prays for us, for the Church. The speaker was not for making one big denomination throughout the whole world, but to hold each other in our hearts, as all of us are in Christ. We are all brothers and sisters in Christ. We are inseparable.

That has implications. We might be a warring family in many ways, but deep down, just as the Father and Son are one, so are we, and Jesus prays that it will be so. It matters how we respond to each other in the local Church, between Churches, ecumenically (with other denominations), and world-wide. It means those suffering for their faith should matter to us, because they are family. It means those who are hungry should matter to us, because they are family. It means those who worship differently to us, or have different things they believe over the core of the faith we all share, should matter to us, because they are family.

So often Churches, our own included, are not one with each other. So often we are looking only to our own Church needs, drawn away from our oneness because of busyness or tiredness, or past hurts, or other things. So often we don't even have other Churches in view in our thinking: we come to our own Church, and do what we can in and through it. Most of us do not need to add another layer to our lives, but we need to be open to each other, to have each other in mind, to hold each other in our hearts, and in prayer.

Jesus gave that new commandment to,
,"Love one another. As I have loved you, so you
must love one another." (John 13.34) As we are brothers
and sisters in Christ, so we are to love one another in all
our responses. That is in our own Churches, between our
Churches, and to other Churches across the board.

It's a challenge. We are all different, and we are only
human. Good Friday and Easter have reminded us we
are forgiven through the cross, and have new life and
renewal of hope. We can start again, forgive and be
forgiven. And John's gospel is full of teaching about the
Holy Spirit. It is the Spirit who unites us in Christ, who
renews us, and so who will help us in all things.

We are one in Christ. We have the same Holy Spirit living
in us, and share the same heavenly Father.

Read John 17 before you read the rest of this magazine.
It's a wonderful prayer!

Every blessing,
Clare <><

Love Calderdale

Unfortunately, due to lack of funds, rising costs and no-
one to organize it, this year Love Calderdale will not take
place, but it is hoped it will in 2018, in the Piece Hall.

Group Elders – *hot off the press at magazine deadline!*

The date has just been finalized for a Family Worker,
Laura Tunnacliffe, currently working in Bradford North
Methodist Circuit, to come to talk to us about her work

and answer our questions. This will be Thursday 18th May, 7.30pm at New Providence.

Don't Quit

When things go wrong as they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all uphill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high,
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
 When care is pressing you down a bit---
 Rest if you must, but don't you quit.

 Success is failure turned inside out,
 The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,
And you never can tell how close you are,
 It may be near when it seems afar.

So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit
It's when things go wrong that you mustn't quit.

Author Unknown

Pulpit list

Heath URC, Free School Lane. 10.30am

May 2017

- 7 Rev Daphne Hull
- 14 Rev Clare Davison
- 21 Rev John Jenkinson - Communion
- 28 Mrs Juliet Foster – Fair Trade Stall

Activities in May

Tuesday 2 May – 11.00am – Stroke Club Trustees Meeting

Tuesday 9 May - 12 noon- Stroke Club Luncheon Club-
ring 330320 to book

Thursday 11 May – 8.00pm – Thursday Club –
Daphne Hull - The Dorset Poet

Sunday 14 May – 4.00pm – Messy Church

Tuesday 16 May - 10.30am – Community Coffee club

Saturday 20 May – 10.00am – 12noon- Christian Aid –
Bacon Butties Bakes and Books

Tuesday 23 May - 12 noon – Stroke Club Luncheon Club

Wednesday 24 May – 7.45pm – Group Elders Meeting at
New Hope

Thursday 25 May – 2.00pm – Elders Meeting at Rufford
Villas

Sunday 4 June – Church Meeting after morning worship

Weekly Events

Monday

9.30am Toddlers

2.00pm Sing for Fun – Singing Group

5.45pm Beaver Scouts 5-8yrs

6.30pm Cub Scouts 8-10yrs

Friday

7.00pm Scouts 10-14yrs

7.30pm Explorer Scouts

Monday Tuesday, Thursday Friday - Heath Stroke Club

Thank you

The Spring Fair made £920

What a fantastic result. The Fair Trade Stall also made over £100 and Roshan was very happy with what she took for helping to feed refugees in France. A very big thank you to everyone who helped on the day and those who provided the delicious food for the lunch. Also, of course, those who supported us by spending their money! It was a very successful and happy day. Liz

We would like to say thank you to everyone for your prayers, flowers and cards we received following John's stay in hospital. John is making good progress and hopes to be back in Church very soon. With sincere thanks, John & Marilyn

Flowers in Church – We all enjoy seeing flowers in Church every Sunday and I would like to thank Muriel Eileen, Margaret, Liz, Dorothy and Lesley for their donations in the last year. If anyone else would like to donate towards this or help with arranging them please mention it to me. Thank you, Jean Bull

Heath Stroke Club Report on the tenth anniversary of the club around 1980

It is now ten years since we first opened our doors to members and we are pleased to say our club is growing steadily week by week. When I sat down to write this

report for the magazine, I realised what lot has happened since Steve and I first met one Monday morning to make plans and agree on our aims and objectives. One thing was a must. The club had to be happy with a homely atmosphere where friends would regain confidence and help whenever or however the help was needed.

Our next step was to make contact with people who would be able to refer men and women of any age who would benefit from our help. Hospitals, general practitioners, health visitors, community nurses, social services. Rev Jenkinson was asked to contact all churches. Soon we were meeting people and visiting them in their homes explaining what we hoped to do. It was obvious everyone needed different things eg help with walking, standing, help with speech problems, to regain confidence within themselves, confidence to mix with others, to name but a few. Something else Steve and I realised was the fact that relatives needed backing too.

At the end of the first week our jigsaw was falling into place. The rooms we were to use, the toilet facilities and kitchen were so nice. All we needed were staff. I was allowed to have a say in this and I felt strongly that a staff who wanted to help people, who could give a different input into the Stroke Club and of different ages would be an asset. The staff now consist of eleven. Myself and Steve, Nora the cook, Angela and Ian, full time care assistants, Maureen and Eileen, who work 32 hours, Jean and Susan who work 16 hours and Lena and Mildred, two domestics who work 20 hours. We have members in every Monday Wednesday and Friday;

HEATH

Tuesday we use for staff meetings, where we can discuss problems, talk over ideas, sort out any worries etc. These have proved to be very useful. I also give lectures on various aspects of caring for people who have suffered a stroke and pass on ideas for helping our members in different ways. We also use Tuesday for visiting new members, shopping for weekly groceries and tidying our shelves and cupboards. I am pleased to report that our members grow weekly. At the last count we had reached 70. This provides some problems especially the transport, but this I feel will soon be resolved.

We have received donations from various organisations for which we are grateful. They will be put to good use. One thing that is obvious now is the way our members are getting more relaxed and happy and all getting to know each other much better; the way they give help and encouragement and the happiness shared when someone achieves a new goal. Jack who can now get his arm above his head, Lillian who can now put words together, Reg who is walking better, Walter eager to help everyone, the list is never ending, everyone so pleased and proud. We are also getting more visitors popping in. It helps our members regain confidence by meeting people.

Betty Honour.

Although we are sad to have to close the Stroke Club this report from around 30 years ago shows just how much good has been done and the aims have continued and the staff have certainly remained caring and cheerful right to the end. As trustees it has been a privilege to work with so many dedicated people and I am sure they will move on and continue to provide care in the future.

**Saturday May 20th 10-12am
Bacon Butties, books and bakes
@ Heath**

Come and join us for an extremely good Bacon Butty (bacon from Todd's of Skircoat Green) or a veggie alternative . How about taking home a few books, along with some cake to enjoy whilst you read?

Donations of books (in good condition) and bakes will be gratefully received. Please contact Gill 01422 344458.

Help us to help Christian Aid alleviate suffering and starvation, particularly in this time of great need in parts of Africa.

May 2017

Pulpit Supply

- May. 7th Rev. Clare Davison
May. 14th Mr. John Mc Dermott
May. 21st Rev. Clare Davison
May. 28th Mrs. Kathleen Melling

Friendship Hour

We meet at 2.30pm on the second and fourth Wednesdays most months to enjoy each others company. Why not come along earlier at 2.15pm for a cup of tea or coffee and meet new friends.

The meeting on Wednesday May10th will be “Tha’s got to laugh’ by Ben Richardson, on Wenesday May 24th David Glover will be speaking about ‘Old Halifax Heritage’.

Fellowship Hour

On the first and third Wednesdays most months at 2.30pm we meet for prayer and discussion.

New Hope Diary May 2017

- | | | | |
|-----------|------------------|---------|------------------|
| Sunday | 7 th | 11.30am | Church Meeting |
| Wednesday | 10 th | 2.30pm | Friendship Hour. |
| Wednesday | 24 th | 2.30pm | Friendship Hour |

NEW HOPE

BACCHUS

I had reason to catch the 10.30pm train from Leeds to Halifax on a Saturday night not long ago. What an eye opener. Most of the passengers were what one could class as revellers in a state of diminished responsibility, I don't think they would be too concerned about getting up for Church the following morning. This is just one example of why we have a dearth of younger people attending Church.

Another reason is that both parents have to work now to pay the mortgage or rent so the only quality time they have with their children is at the weekend. They don't want to loose their kids for 25% of the quality time they have together.

The Church is also suffering a bad press just now which makes parents wary of trusting their offspring to strangers.

The Churches decline seems inevitable as offertory declines and capital is used up. Can it be right to heat up a massive space for 28 people for an hour when we could all be snug in one of the smaller rooms? Again tradition is killing the Church.

Mike Riley

"Saturday 13th May - 7.30. at New Hope Church - Quiz Evening. £5.00 including a pie and pea supper.

To be run by Thea Farman, who is fundraising for her Nepal Aid Programme 2017. Where she will be working with a team from Calder High School this summer in Nepal. Everyone welcome."

Pulpit Supply

MAY

7th – Mrs. Juliet Foster

14th – Rev'd John Jenkinson

21st – Linda Smith (Parade)

28th – Rev'd Clare Davison

New Providence Diary

MAY

Friday's – 6.30pm Brownies at New Providence

Friday's – 6.45pm Boys Brigade & Girls Association at the Carlton Centre

Tuesday's – 5.00pm Garden Gang (weather permitting)

Thursday 4th – 7.30pm Elders Meeting

Sunday 7th – 12.45pm Church Meeting

Wednesday 10th – 7.30pm Elders Vacancy Visit

Monday 22nd – 7.30pm New Provi Circle

Wednesday 24th – 7.30pm Group Elders Meeting(New Hope)

What to do when someone goes into hospital.....

If a relative goes into hospital, then going to visit them is a must. Diaries are scanned and adjustments made. But what of the hours when it is not possible to be sitting at the bedside giving comfort? (!)

What happens when we hear that a friend has been admitted to hospital? The name can be put on the church's prayer line, but what about visiting them? This can be daunting having regard to the positions of the hospitals and the bus routes and lack of parking.

There is a solution: at both Calderdale Royal Hospital and Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, there is a chaplaincy service which can be contacted on 01422 224220 [CRH] and 01484 342092 [HRI]. You can leave a message giving the person's name and, if possible, the ward number, their home address and approximate age. You can also email the chaplains : George.Spencer@cht.nhs.uk or Thomas.McKinlay@cht.nhs.uk .

This will result in someone going to visit your relative or friend. The visitor may be one of the chaplains or it may be a chaplaincy ward visitor. I have done this and know how much these visits are appreciated. It just needs US to take the initiative and alert the chaplaincy for the need for a visit. There are members of our congregations who can tell you the comfort that this brings!

Juliet Foster

Halifax Christian Aid group
quiz night

Friday 5 May at 7.15 pm for a
quiz night at St Andrew's
Methodist Church, Huddersfield
Road, Halifax, HX3 0AT.
All welcome.

NORMA'S WORDSEARCH

M B M O T K N A B G N I R P S
Y R A O A P O S T L E S L L A
R W R A S C E N T I O N A Y T
R L Y D E A T H H E W S S T O
H N A V E A N S D B E H S A M
T R A N S F I G U R A T I O N
Y C A E G Y Z G E N T D S T M
S A T V B U A O N O D P P E A
E M M A U S A D N I I A Y C Y
O N U R D R D G I C C O Y A P
U B O G S T U I E L N N G E O
B E L T I E E S V E O I A P L
N J E S S E M A L F U H S D E

Ascention
Apostles
Language
Emmaus
Cave
Grave
Peace
Tomb

Spring Bank
Buds
Blossom
May
Maypole
Dancing
Mary
Spices
Holidays

Transfiguration
Stone
Flames
Tongues
Whit
Sunday
Death
Myrrh

When you have found all the above words work out the message with the left over letters:-

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

CAN YOU SPOT AT LEAST 15 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO PICTURES OF KING SAUL



BIBLE CROSSWORD CLUES

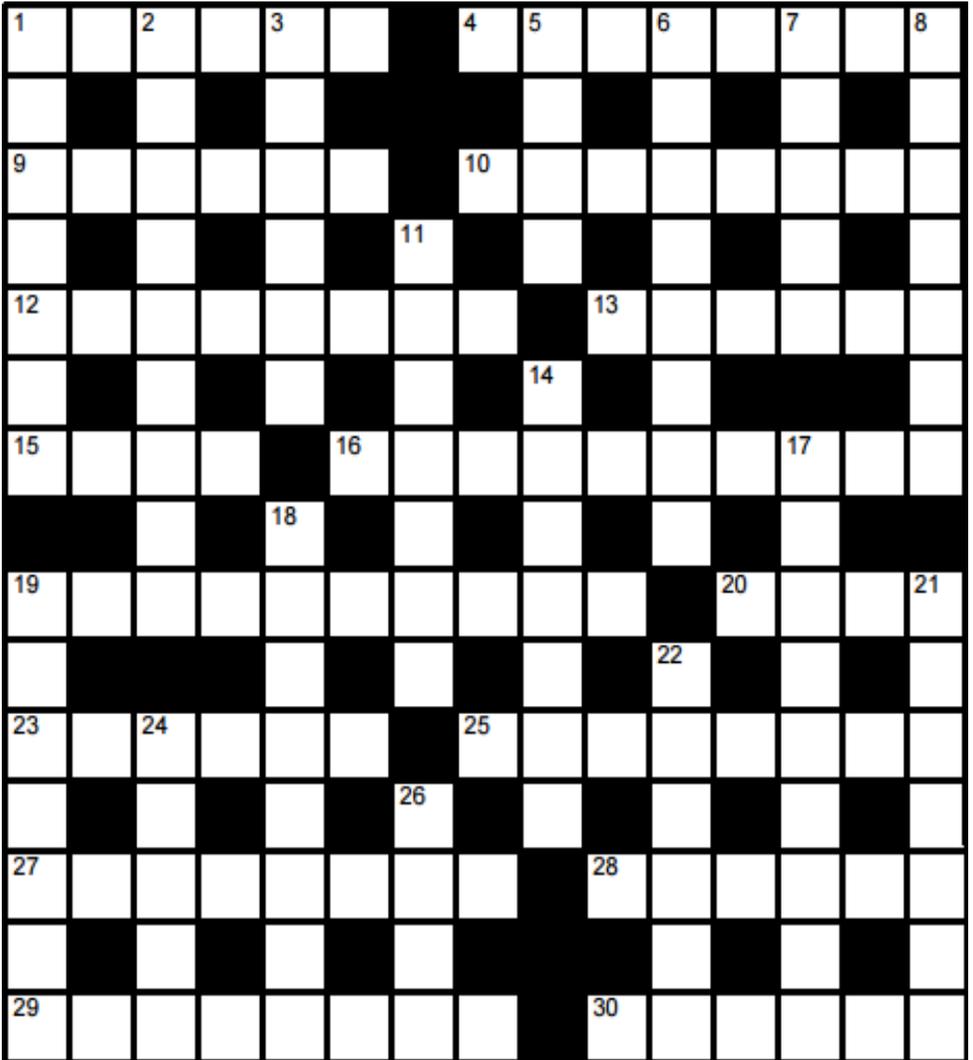
Across

- 1 Express sorrow (6)
- 4 Anticipated (8)
- 9 God with judge people with this (6)
- 10 Sore ants (anag); In the White House? (8)
- 12 Kept confined (8)
- 13 Times Peter denied Christ (6)
- 15 Noah became this by faith (4)
- 16 Last book of the Bible (10)
- 19 God's angels (10)
- 20 Mix up (4)
- 23 Thin length of material (6)
- 25 It never comes (8)
- 27 Soothed (8)
- 28 Money lender (6)
- 29 Counted (8)
- 30 Rigid sheets of metal (6)

Down

- 1 A dimension of God's love (7)
- 2 Himalayas, for example (9)
- 3 Gain, reach or arrive at (6)
- 5 Sesame worked! (4)
- 6 A faithful minister of Christ (8)
- 7 Mother in law of Ruth (5)
- 8 Sun sets in this sky (7)
- 11 Retaliation (7)
- 14 Scripture is profitable for this (7)
- 17 Magicians couldn't do this for Pharaoh's dreams (9)
- 18 Jerusalem - how her house is left (8)
- 19 Disease of cattle (7)
- 21 When Jesus comes these will be with Him (7)
- 22 Fragment of food (6)
- 24 Booms (anag) (5)
- 26 Not there! (4)

BIBLE CROSSWORD



TWO LITTLE BOYS

A couple had two little boys, ages 8 and 10, who were excessively mischievous. The two were always Getting into trouble and their parents could be assured that if any mischief occurred in their town the two young sons were in some way involved.

The parents were at their wits end as to what to do about their sons' behaviour. The mother had heard that a clergyman in town had been successful in disciplining children in the past, so she asked her husband if he thought they should send the boys to speak with the clergyman.

The husband said, we might as well, we need to do something before I really lose my temper!

The clergyman agreed to speak with the boys, but asked to see them individually. The 8-year-old went to meet with him first. The clergyman sat the boy down and asked him sternly, "where is God?"

The boy made no response, so the clergyman repeated the question in an even sterner tone, "where is God?" Again, the boy made no attempt to answer. So, the clergyman raised his voice even more and shook his finger in the boy's face, "WHERE IS GOD?"

At that the boy bolted from the room and ran directly home, slamming himself in the closet. His older brother followed him into the closet and asked what happened. The younger brother replied, "We are in big trouble this time. God is missing and they think we did it".

Answers

Norma's Wordsearch

Hidden message:

Roll away the stone and be amazed.
Stop doubting believe in Jesus

May 2017

Solution

B	E	M	O	A	N		F	O	R	E	K	N	E	W
R		O		T				P		P		A		E
E	Q	U	I	T	Y		S	E	N	A	T	O	R	S
A		N		A		R		N		P		M		T
D	E	T	A	I	N	E	D		T	H	R	I	C	E
T		A		N		V		R		R		I		R
H	E	I	R		R	E	V	E	L	A	T	I	O	N
		N		D		N		P		S		N		
M	E	S	S	E	N	G	E	R	S		S	T	I	R
U				S		E		O		M		E		E
R	I	B	B	O	N		T	O	M	O	R	R	O	W
R		O		L		H		F		R		P		A
A	S	S	U	A	G	E	D			U	S	U	R	E
I		O		T		R				E				D
N	U	M	B	E	R	E	D			P	L	A	T	E

Across: 1 Bemoan, 4 Foreknew, 9 Equity,
10 Senators, 12 Detained, 13 Thrice,
15 Heir, 16 Revelation, 19 Messengers,
20 Stir, 23 Ribbon, 25 Tomorrow,
27 Assuaged, 28 Usurer, 29 Numbered,
30 Plates.

Down: 1 Breadth, 2 Mountains, 3 Attain,
5 Open, 6 Epaphras, 7 Naomi, 8 Western,
11 Revenge, 14 Reproof, 17 Interpret,
18 Desolate, 19 Murrain, 21 Rewards,
22 Morsel, 24 Bosom, 26 Here.

GROUP CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>What's on</u>
Tue. May 2 nd	11.00am	Heath	Stroke Club Trustees Meeting .
Thu. May 4 th	7.30pm	New Providence	Elders Meeting
Sun. May 7 th	11.30am	New Hope	Church Meeting
Sun. May 7 th	12.45pm	New Providence	Church Meeting
Tue. May. 9 th	12 noon	Heath	Stroke Club Luncheon Club
Wed. May 10 th	2.30pm	New Hope	Friendship Hour
Wed. May 10 th	7.30pm	New Providence	Elders Vacancy Visit
Thu. May 11 th	8.00pm	Heath	Thursday Club
Sat. May 13 th	7.00pm	New Hope	Quiz Evening
Sun. May 14 th	4.00pm	Heath	Messy Church
Tue. May 16 th	10.30am	Heath	Community coffee club
Sat. May 20 th	10.00am	Heath	Christian Aid
Mon. May 22 nd	7.30pm	New Providence	New Provi Circle
Tue. May 23 rd	12 noon	Heath	Stroke Club Luncheon Club
Wed. May 24 th	2.30pm	New Hope	Friendship Hour
Wed. May 24 th	7.45pm	New Hope	Group Elders Meeting
Thu. May 25 th	2.00pm	Heath	Elders Meeting (Rufford Villas)

PREACHER PLAN

HEATH URC, MANOR DRIVE, 10.30 AM

May. 7 th	Rev. Daphne Hull
May. 14 th	Rev. Clare Davison
May. 21 st	Rev. John Jenkinson
May. 28 th	Mrs Juliet Foster

NEW HOPE URC, WARLEY ROAD 10.30 AM

May. 7 th	Rev. Clare Davison
May. 14 th	Mr John Mc Dermott
May. 21 st	Rev. Clare Davison
May. 28 th	Mrs Kathleen Melling

NEW PROVIDENCE URC, KEIGHLEY ROAD 11.00 AM

May. 7 th	Mrs Juliet Foster
May. 14 th	Rev. John Jenkinson
May. 21 st	Mrs Linda Smith
May. 28 th	Rev. Clare Davison





Just a laugh from the Church Mouse

Useful Numbers

Rev. Clare Davison 342678 Mobile 07585557034
Mrs J Simmons (Heath) 365355
Mr D Truswell (New Hope) 883908
Mrs S Wolfenden (New Providence) 244402
Heath Stroke Club 330320
Heath URC. www.heathchurchhalifax.org.uk
Providence URC. www.providencechurchovenden.org.uk
URC web site: www.urc.org.uk
Yorkshire Synod www.urcyorkshire.org.uk
Robert Brook (editor) robertbrook@sky.com 07811 535832



June Deadline



All contribution need to be in by **Friday 12th May** please. These can be either handed in to your church reps or stop press direct to the editor at: **robertbrook@sky.com**

Late submissions may not be inserted.

Thank you.