

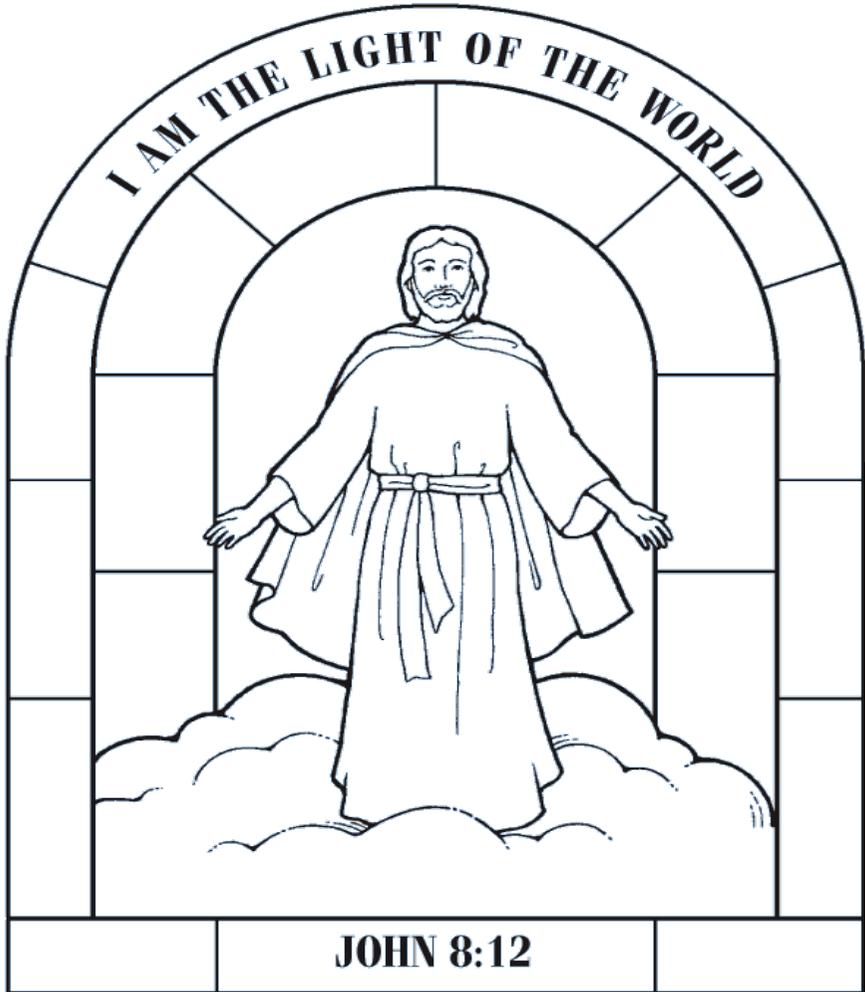


The
United
Reformed
Church



Halifax Group Magazine

Heath New Hope New Providence



July 2018

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

Letter from the Manse

Somehow, I signed up to emails from Geoff Knott who edits 'Word on the Streets' a blog of blogs, passing on information they hope is useful to Christians. A recent link took me to an excerpt from a free eBook from the American 'Send Institute'. I find myself being rather wary of American Christian writing but think that the excerpt that follows gives an interesting and challenging perspective to our constant concern at the decline of our churches.

Remember the famous line from the 1939 film Wizard of Oz, when Dorothy first arrives in Oz and realizes she is now in a world that is strangely different. "Toto," she says to her little dog, "I've a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore." Dorothy's surroundings were now unfamiliar. The people and places she was used to seeing no longer existed. She had no idea where she was, but one thing was certain — everything around her had drastically changed. The church today also finds itself in a place that is strangely different. The world has seemingly changed so quickly and radically that many churches feel like exiles in a foreign land. Like Dorothy, many churches no longer recognize their surroundings. They don't completely understand the changes that have taken place; they only know that things are not like they used to be. Numerous factors have influenced the change we see today in Western culture. Issues such as globalization, urbanization, post-modernism, and the rise of the Information Age have all had significant influence on the church. However, nothing has shaken the foundations of the church over the centuries as much as the rise and fall of Christendom.

Letter from the Manse

In 313 A.D., the Roman Emperor Constantine adopted the Christian faith as his own and decided to replace paganism with Christianity as the official imperial religion. He brought the church in from the margins of society, where it had been operating for the previous three centuries, and united it with the empire. Giving great resources and favours to the church, Constantine set in motion a process that would eventually bring all of Europe into a church-state relationship known as “Christendom.” It is difficult to overstate the impact Constantine’s decision had on the Christian faith. The net effect of Christendom over the centuries was that Christianity moved from being a dynamic, revolutionary social and spiritual movement to being a static religious institution with its corresponding structures, priesthood, and rituals. The Christian faith moved from being an integrated way of life that was lived out seven days a week to being an obligation that was fulfilled by attending a service at a set time.

By the middle of the 20th century, however, it was becoming clear in Europe that Christendom was in serious decline. People began to use the term “post-Christendom” to describe the church’s loss of social privilege. Others used it to refer to Western civilizations that no longer considered themselves to be Christian. In this era of post-Christendom, the church once again returned to the margins of society. It had lost its position of prominence and control. While once the majority, in post-Christendom the church was in the minority. Before Constantine, the

Letter from the Manse

dominant influence in society was the Roman Empire, and the church was a marginalized sect, located on the outskirts. However, while the church operated on the margins, we know from Paul's epistles and from early church history that it was making serious in-roads into the Roman empire. In the time of Christendom, the church became the dominant seat of culture, albeit corrupted with political and military power. Today, the picture is of a church that has been relegated back to the margins.

Here is the important point in this whole discussion: The difficulty the church is experiencing today in relating to the current culture is in large part due to our Christendom heritage. Many in the church today still believe Christianity is in a place of influence and significance. Many still operate under the false assumption that Christendom is alive and well. While there may be some parts of the country that still cling to Christian values, the vast majority of the population is rapidly moving away from the things associated with the church. In the eyes of many outside the church, the church has become completely irrelevant. The decline of Christian influence can be seen in multiple ways. The most prominent is the continual drop in church attendance, but it doesn't end with attendance. In fact, many indicators that can be used to measure church health are headed in the wrong direction. Look at it any way you like: conversions, baptisms, membership, retention, participation, giving, religious literacy, effects on the culture. They all are in decline.

Letter from the Manse

This creates the setting for an enormous problem. At the same time, the church is less and less effective at reaching a changing world, many in the church continue to believe the church maintains a central role in the life of culture. So instead of leaning toward the missionary vision of the church, we default to church as a “place where certain things happen,” and we wrongly assume that those outside the church will be interested. But as we can see from all of the statistics, that simply isn’t the case. The sooner we can come to grips with that reality, the sooner we can return to the revolutionary, missional movement that is exemplified for us in the early church. We must see that it really is 30 A.D. all over again!

I think that we would all agree that the URCs. in Halifax, and Christians in general in Halifax, are returning to the missional approach. But we can’t be complacent. We must continue to ask ourselves what changes our churches may need to make to connect with those who are no longer interested in things of the church.



Pulpit list

Heath URC, Free School Lane. 10.30am

July 2018

- 1 Rev John Jenkinson - Parade followed by Summer Lunch
- 8 Rev Daphne Hull
- 15 Mrs Juliet Foster – Communion
- 22 Mrs Dawn Walker
- 29 Group Service at Heath- Fair Trade Stall

The Group Service on the 29th is to be a Commissioning Service for Heath's Parish Nurse along with a recognition of the work being done through the Transition (refugee) and Debt Counselling projects. Please note that there will be a Fairtrade Stall both before and after the service, so come prepared. Kevin Watson, Claire and Heather are expected to attend.

Activities in July

1st July after morning worship – Summer Lunch

Tuesday 17 July - 10.30am - Community Coffee Morning

Weekly Events

Monday

9.15am to 11.15am Toddlers (during term time)

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

**Parish Nurse
Dawn Weald
RGN, RSCN, PN,
Healthcare
Chaplain**



HEATH

What nursing care am I offering to provide?

I am available to offer support with your health needs. This may be to talk through your health and wellbeing. It may be to support you in seeking the most appropriate care for your needs.

I am also able to offer the opportunity to explore the spiritual aspects of your health care, if you wish me to.

I cannot offer any clinical treatments such as dressings or injections, but can support you in getting the care you need.

Telephone Number: 07803 295002

Please leave a message and I will call you

About me

I am a Parish Nurse at Heath United Reformed Church, Free School Lane, Halifax.

My nursing qualifications are: Registered General Nurse, Registered Sick Children's Nurse, Post Graduate Certificate in Healthcare Chaplaincy and Parish Nurse.

My nursing experience includes a range of theatre, acute and chronic nursing of adults and children. I also have worked in child and family psychiatry and in research in dermatology, both of which have involved working in the community. My most recent experience has been Healthcare Chaplaincy (which included providing a listening, support and signposting service for patients and families) and working with a Practice Nurse in a GP surgery.

I trained as a Parish Nurse in November 2016. I am registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Council and am a member of the RCN. I have a current Disclosure and Barring Service Check (DBS).

What is Parish Nursing?

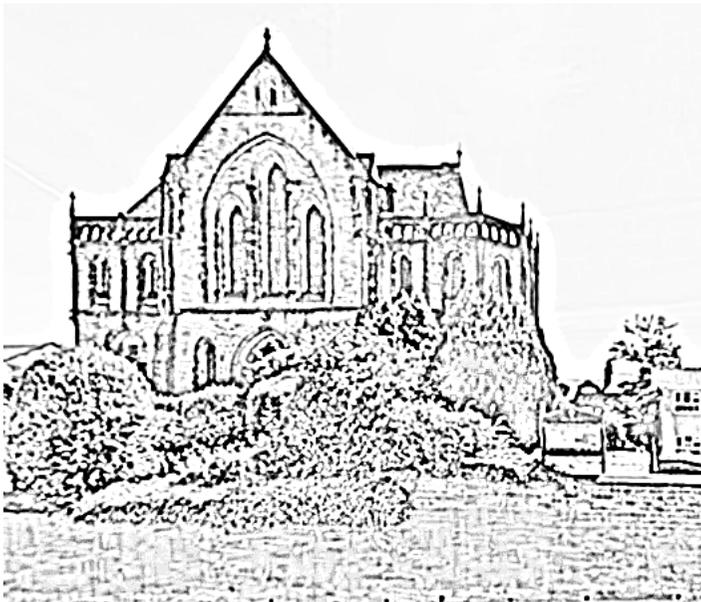
Parish Nursing seeks to provide whole person healthcare through a local church community.

Based on Christ's teaching and ministry, Parish Nurses provide support for the physical, mental, social and spiritual health of individuals and aim to improve the lives of people in the UK by ministering health and wholeness.

Registered nurses work from their churches offering individuals and communities personal health advice, advocacy support, health education, offer support groups, and helping people integrate their faith and their health.

The Parish Nursing Service is available to people of all faiths and none.

The Parish Nursing Service at Heath focusses particularly on older people.



Pulpit Supply

JULY 2018

- July. 1st Mrs. Juliet Foster
July. 8th Mr. Alan Jowett
July. 15th Mr. Andrew Mitchell
July. 22nd Mr. Peter Oates
July. 29th Mr. Peter Fleming

Friendship Hour at 2.30pm

We meet 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 coffee and biscuits and meet new friends. The meeting on July 11th will be "Where did that come from" with Cynthia Feather, on July 25th it will be "Growing up in Sowerby" with Jean Illingworth.

Tuesday mornings most weeks three of us go walking around the area (3 – 4 miles max, and weather permitting). We would be pleased if anyone else would like to join us. Please ask either of the Cynthia's or Ann for more details.

NEW HOPE

ART GROUP

On a Monday afternoon, 1.30 to 3.30, we now have an Art Group at New Hope. Anyone over 50 is able to join in. The cost is £3 per week. If you enjoy drawing, painting etc why not come and have a relaxing afternoon in good company.

Norma Riley

On Saturday July 14th it will be the Fun Day 12 - 4 pm in West View Park. Please come along and support this event. The West Halifax Churches together will be keeping the children entertained with open book stories about Daniel in the Lions Den, face painting, balloons etc. St. Hilda's Choir will be singing at 1.00pm and again at 3.00pm.

The next Elders meeting will be on Wednesday 4th July at 10.00am.

The next Church meeting will be on Sunday 8th July after Morning Service.



BIBLE SOCIETY LENT PROJECT

Thank you to all who supported the Bible Society Lent Project by sponsoring yourself to read a whole book of the Bible. I am sure that you found this very worthwhile and at the same time helped to provide a very precious gift of a Bible to someone else. A total of £365 was received during April after Lent.

AUTUMN EVENT - SATURDAY 15th SEPTEMBER

Our Autumn event is to be held at St. Johns Church, Warley on Saturday 15 September from 10am to 1pm. This will incorporate a Quiz, Video, input from a Bible Society speaker and much more. A light lunch of soup, sandwiches and cakes will be served at 12 noon.

BIBLE A MONTH CLUB - needs your support

Please consider joining the Bible a Month Club. For £5 a month you can provide a Bible for someone, somewhere in the world, God's Word for them to read in their own language. Contact us for details.

BIBLE SUNDAY IS 28th OCTOBER 2018



EXPECTATIONS

Our age group expects the economy to grow forever, but whenever something grows something else declines. An Amaryllis flower grows but the bulb declines. Fishing catches grow but the stocks decline, oil consumption goes up and up but now it is in decline,

Church income went up and up but now it is in decline. The modus operandi of Churches of all types is still based on the concept of continual growth, because it is run by people whose ideas were formed in a period of unending growth. The only way this can continue is for the people in control to exploit the people not in control.

It is time to re-programme our minds away from the constant growth scenario and think of using a bit less of everything. If we don't, the price hikes due to scarcity of raw materials, caused by countries such as Africa, India, Mexico and Indonesia are adopting our constant growth mentality. Why not? It was right for us, don't you think they deserve a chance now? In most cases Church income arises from people's pensions, which are essentially static and in many cases not enough to be comfortable or even afford to visit Church. It looks like the growth slope is changing direction.

Mike Riley

Pulpit Supply

JULY

1st.....Mr. Kenneth Lees-Wolfenden
8th.....Mrs. Juliet Foster
15th.....Mrs. Dawn Walker (Parade)
22nd....T.B.A
29th.....Group Service at Heath

New Providence

Diary

JULY

Tuesday's – 5.00pm Garden Gang
Friday's – 6.30pm Brownies at New Providence
Friday's – 6.45pm Boys Brigade & Girls Association at the Carlton Centre
Wednesday 4th – 7.30pm Secretaries / Treasurer's Meeting at New Hope
Thursday 5th – 7.30pm Worship Group Meeting at Heath
Monday 23rd - 7.30pm New Provi Circle



Leviticus (poem number 3)

Meat Ration

Moses said, "I know you are hungry
And now could do with a square meal.
The fact that you've lost weight my statement proves.
The rule on eating simply grants
You can eat only ruminants,
That's creatures that chew cud and have cleft hooves.

At times it may be difficult
To know which is correct.
Pigs have cleft hooves under layers of mud.
From now on, through the land,
Bacon sandwiches are banned,
And pork chops too, for pigs don't chew the cud.

A camel is a sulky beast
And could yield some hefty joints,
But you must not use it, that is that.
They are, of course, cud chewers.
Don't put their flesh on your skewers
Because their feet aren't cloven, they're flat.

Now when it comes to eating birds,
Do not eat those which scavenge;
And never use a bird that lives on meat.
You may eat quails or fowls,
But not chew crows or owls,
Although you could have a sparrow for a treat.

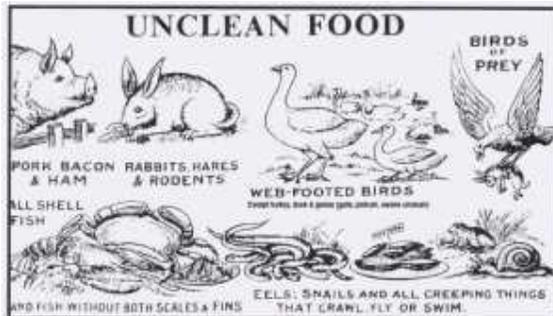
Apart from wild sheep and deer,

No others may you touch.
To do so would be breaking all the rules,
Which means rabbits, hares and bats,
Lizards, badgers, coneys, rats.
If you should eat them, then you would be fools.

If you are where there is water
And you think it contains some food,
It could be river, stream, or even sea,
Only fish with fins and scales,
Not porpoises or whales,
Upon your plate are these allowed to be.

At times when you are cooking
And a gusty wind is blowing,
If something that's unclean should touch the pot,
Then throw away the cooking
For someone may be looking
This means you have to sacrifice the lot.

When you are on a journey
And you find a creature dead,
If it's one your rules say you can eat
Yourself you must deprive...
You did not see it alive
So give it to an alien to eat.



A Different Poem! (Sauce unknown! — but
sent to the editor with tung in cheek!)

Eye halve a spelling chequer
It came with my pea sea
It plainly marques four my revue
Miss steaks eye kin knot sea.
Eye strike a quay and type a word
And weight four it two say
Weather eye am wrong oar write
It shows me strait a weigh.
As soon as a mist ache is maid
It nose bee four two long
And eye can put the error rite
Its rare lea ever wrong.
Eye have run this poem threw it
I am shore your pleased two no
Its letter perfect awl the weigh
My chequer tolled me sew.

WAINHOUSE TOWER HALIFAX

Measuring 253 feet (84m) in height, the Wainhouse Tower, in Halifax is the tallest folly in the world.

Constructed between 1871 and 1875 the structure was owned by landowner John Edward Wainhouse.

The folly is octagonal in shape, and contains 403 steps which lead to the first of two viewing galleries. It is estimated that more than 9,000 tonnes of materials were used in its construction at a cost of £15,000 - the equivalent of almost £1.6 million in modern terms.

Originally designed by Isaac Booth as a chimney to serve the Washer Lane dyeworks, the height was to push smoke away from the town, which was badly affected by smog at the time, and satisfy the Smoke Abatement Act of 1870. In fact, a far simpler design would have been fine, but Wainhouse wanted it to look good.

Local legend has it the folly's construction is partly the result of a neighbourhood feud. Sir Henry Edwards had boasted his was the most private estate in Halifax. Edward Wainhouse decided, therefore, to build the lofty tower in adjoining land which he owned, to thwart that claim.

The tower was never used as a chimney. The dyeworks was sold before its completion and the tower was not included in the sale. It was seen as something of a liability. In the early twentieth century the tower housed a radio station known by the call-sign 2KD.

Safety fears led to the folly being closed in 2006. A large scale restoration took place in 2008 at a cost of £400,000. During the works, part of the top section was rebuilt and other sections were repointed. The tower was reopened to the public in May 2009. The Daily Telegraph listed the Wainhouse Tower in its top fifteen of "Britain's Best Architectural Follies"



Spice It Up!

Can you unscramble the names of all these spices and seasonings?

1. EGGNIR _____
2. NONACNIM _____
3. HEMTY _____
4. VEC SOL _____
5. SPRYALE _____
6. MUGENT _____
7. RSYMOREA _____
8. SLAIB _____
9. ROONAGE _____
10. MUINC _____
11. MARDMOCA _____
12. PLEACLIS _____
13. MICERRUT _____
14. RIPPAAK _____
15. RYCRU _____
16. JAMRORAM _____
17. NYACEEN _____
18. GRANTOAR _____
19. AFLYABE * _____
20. DROPWHICLIE* _____

*Answers are spelled with two words.

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

Wimbelton
 Cream
 Sandles
 Summer
 Beach
 Rain
 Gala
 Flies

Holiday Time
 Sandcastle
 Seaside
 Fun
 Games
 Sunshine
 Sunny

Strawberry
 Haytime
 Paddling
 Play
 Sunhat
 Barbeque
 Days

KEEP SMILING

Three lads wearing hoodies stood outside the pearly gates. They stood there for a while then one, obviously the leader gave a very hard knock.

St. Peter ran to the gates, looked through the peep hole and saw them standing there. Through his intercom he politely asked their names and told them to wait.

Then off he ran to God' chamber and gently knocked on his door.

"Come in,"said God his face with its usual loving smile.

"We've got three lads wanting to come in,"St. Peter said.

"Well, what' stopping you? let them in,"God looked a little perturbed.

"But they look sort of difficult, and I can' see their faces, they're all wearing hoodies."Peter replied.

"Nonsense,"said God. "Its' just the fashion, all the lads' are wearing them these days.." God gave that warming smile again.

So off Peter went back to let them in. A few moments later he was back and totally alone.

"Too late, they've gone,"he said.

"What, the lads?"

"No, the gates. The lads have all got new hoodies!"

'The best things in life are the people we love, the places we've been and the memories we've made along the way'

During a visit to my doctor, I asked him, "How do you determine whether or not an older person should be put in an old age home?"

"Well," he said, "we fill up a bathtub, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the person to empty the bathtub."

"Oh, I understand," I said. "A normal person would use the bucket because it is bigger than the spoon or the teacup."

"No" he said. "A normal person would pull the plug."

"Do you want a bed near the window?"

One Sunday morning, the Vicar noticed little Johnnie was staring up at the large memorial plaque that hung just inside the large wooden doors of the church. It was covered with names, and regimental flags were mounted on either side of it.

As he'd had been staring at the plaque for some time, the vicar walked up, put his hand on his shoulder, and said quietly, "Good morning Johnnie."

"Good morning father," Johnnie said, not taking his eyes off the plaque. "What is this?" he asked.

"Well, Johnnie, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service."

Solemnly, they stood together and stared at the large plaque. Little Johnnie's voice was barely audible when he asked, "Which one, father? The morning or evening service?"

Crossword Clues

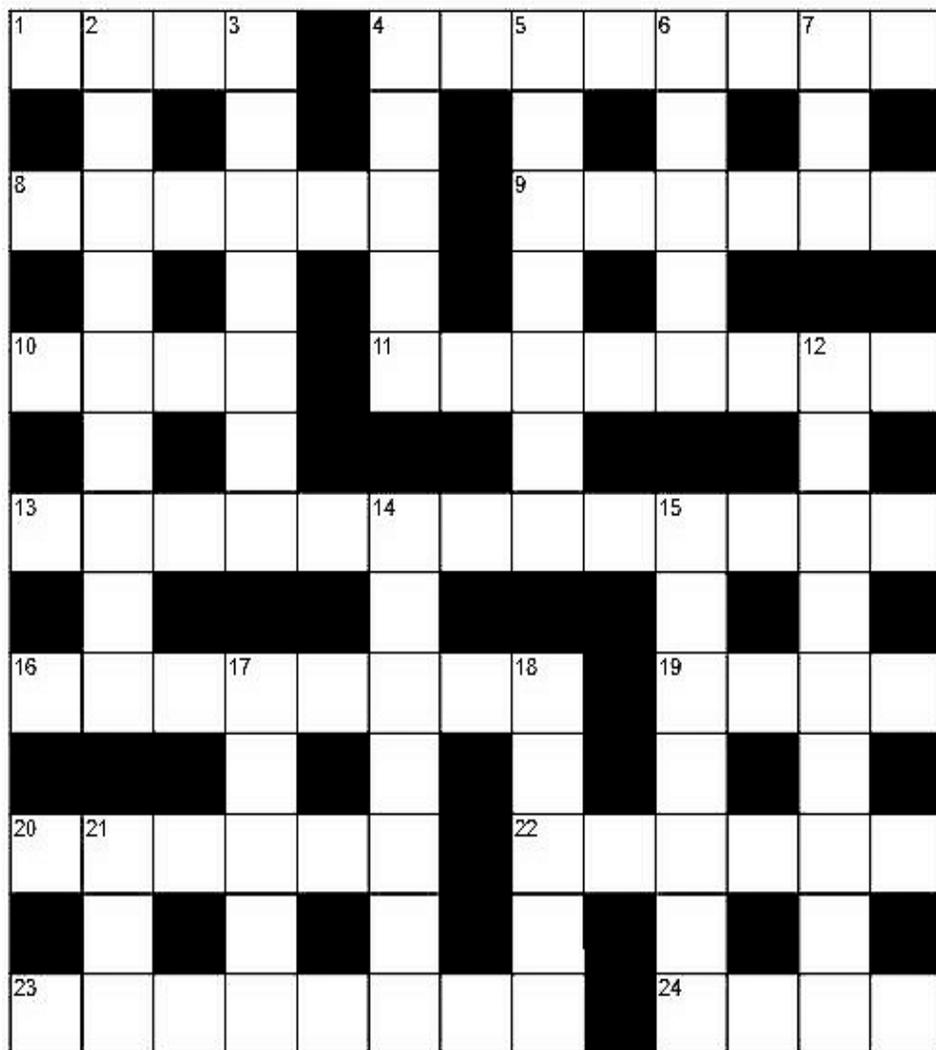
Across

1. A semi precious stone, birthstone for October. (4)
4. "---- ---- merrily on high" (4,4)
8. "...from the hewer of thy wood unto the ----- of thy water" Deuteronomy 29. (7)
9. To set on fire. (6)
10. Crusader city of Northern Israel. (4)
11. A treble rather than a soprano. (8)
13. Wedding guests "...gathered here together in the sight of God" (6,7)
16. "Creeps in this petty pace from day to day, to the last syllable of ----- time" Macbeth. (8)
19. "Rise up, my love, my ---- one, and come away." Song of Solomon (4)
20. Birthplace of the patron saint of Italy. (6)
22. Creed universally adopted in the 4th century. (6)
23. Term coined for the Geneva Bible of 1560 because of a specific translation of the word for Adam and Eve's clothing.(8)
24. "A bruised --- shall he not break" Isaiah (4)

Down

2. Term used for the Holy Spirit derived from the Greek word for comforter. (9)
3. Appropriate dress for the first Sunday after Easter, on a steep hill perhaps ? (3,4)
4. One of the Greek orders of architecture. (5)
5. "Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the ----- pestilence" Psalms (7)
6. A giver. (5)
7. Almonds and pistachios are the only types mentioned in the Bible. (3)
12. One of the three vows of a Benedictine. (9)
14. High German language, spoken throughout the world and written with the Hebrew alphabet. (7)
15. "...and Zabud the son of Nathan was principal -----, and the king's friend" Kings (7)
17. Olea Europaea (5)
18. Patron saint of France. (5)
21. "The woman saith unto him, ---, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep" John (3)

CROSSWORD



CAN YOU FIND THE 15 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN
THE 2 PICTURES



Answers

Crossword

Across 1. Opal 4. Ding dong 8. Drawer 9. Ignite 10. Acre 11. Choir-boy 13. Dearly beloved 16. Recorded 19. Fair 20. Assisi 22. Nicene 23. Breeches 24. Reed
Down 2. Paraclete 3. Low gear 4. Doric 5. Noisome 6. Donor 7. Nut 12. Obedience 14. Yiddish 15. Officer 17. Olive 18. Denys 21. Sir

Norma's Wordsearch

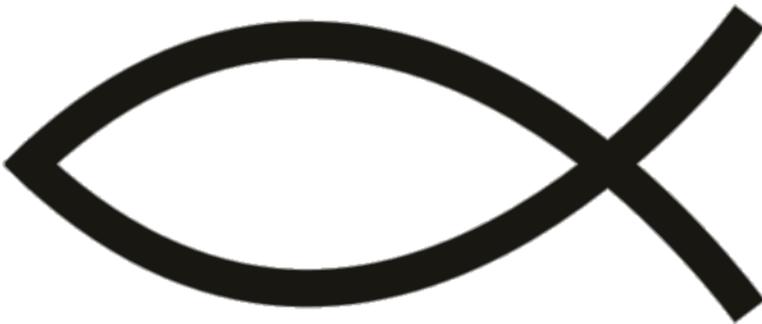
Hope you enjoy your holiday

Spice it up Answers

1. ginger
2. cinnamon
3. thyme
4. cloves
5. parsley
6. nutmeg
7. rosemary
8. basil
9. oregano
10. cumin
11. cardamom
12. allspice
13. turmeric
14. paprika
15. curry
16. marjoram
17. cayenne
18. tarragon
19. bay leaf
20. chili powder

GROUP CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>What's on</u>
Sun. July 1 st	after morning worship	Heath	Summer lunch
Wed. July 4 th	10.00am	New Hope	Elders Meeting
Wed. July 4 th	7.30pm	New Hope	Secretaries/Treasurer's Meeting
Sun. July 8 th	after morning worship	New Hope	Church Meeting
Wed. July 11 th	2.30pm	New Hope	Friendship Hour
Tue. July 17 th	10.30am	Heath	Community coffee morning
Mon. July 23 rd	7.30pm	New Providence	New Provi Circle
Wed. July 25 th	2.30pm	New Hope	Friendship Hour



PREACHER PLAN

HEATH URC, MANOR DRIVE, 10.30 AM

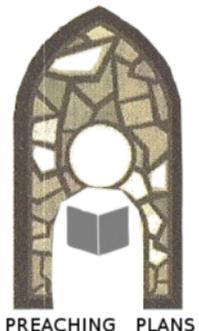
- July. 1st Rev John Jenkinson
July. 8th Rev Daphne Hull
July 15th Mrs. Juliet Foster
July. 22nd Mrs. Dawn Walker
July. 29th Group Service at Heath

NEW HOPE URC, WARLEY ROAD 10.30 AM

- July. 1st Mrs. Juliet Foster
July. 8th Mr. Alan Jowett
July. 15th Mr. Andrew Mitchell
July. 22nd Mr. Peter Oates
July. 29th Mr Peter Fleming

NEW PROVIDENCE URC, KEIGHLEY ROAD 11.00 AM

- July. 1st Mr. Kenneth Lees-Wolfenden
July. 8th Mrs. Juliet Foster
July. 15th Mrs. Dawn Walker
July. 22nd T.B.A.
July. 29th Group Service at Heath





The flower ladies pulled out all the stops.



I wonder if I could have a Quick word
With the flower arrangers after the service.

Useful Numbers

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Mrs J Simmons (Heath) | 365355 |
| Mr D Truswell (New Hope) | 883908 |
| Mrs S Wolfenden (New Providence) | 244402 |
| 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 07811535832 |

■■■■■■■■■■ August Deadline ■■■■■■■■■■

All contribution need to be in by **FRIDAY JULY 13th** 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.