

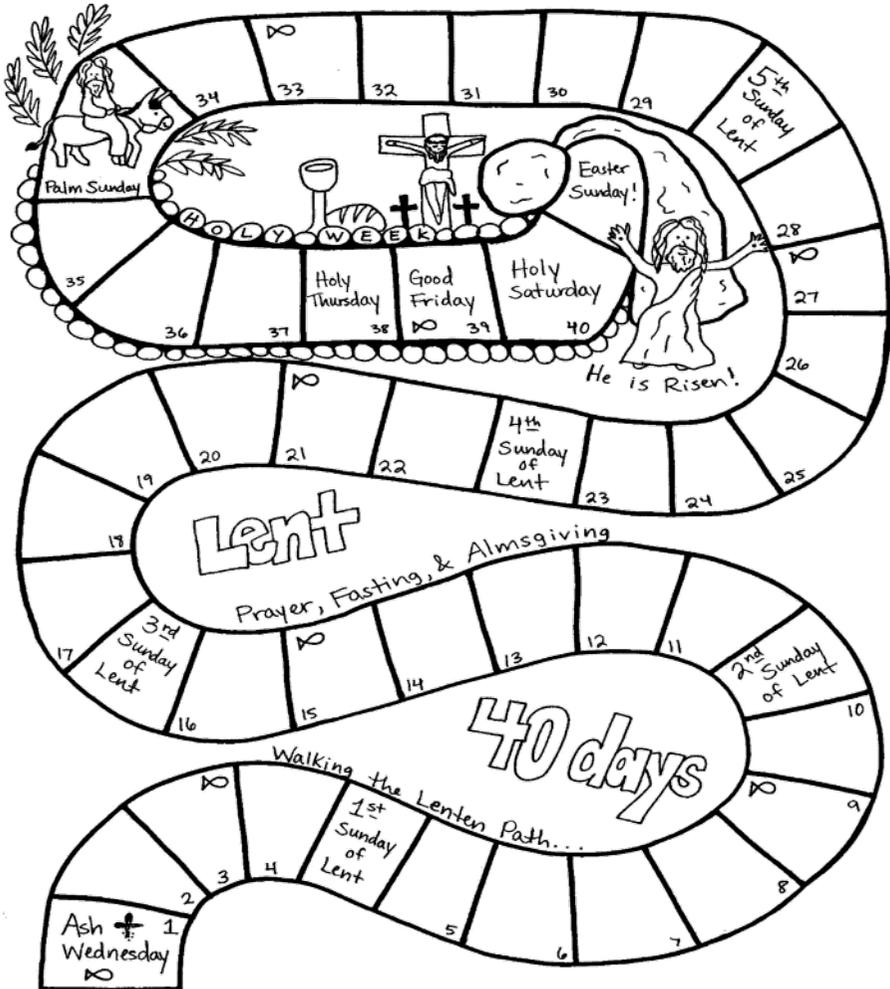


The United Reformed Church



Halifax Group Magazine

Heath New Hope New Providence



March 2019

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

Letter from the New Manse

Many years ago we were house hunting and went to view a property. From the outside the house looked bright and tidy, but when we walked into the living room it was so dark! Being north-facing it was never going to be a very light room, but I didn't need a TV "Changing rooms" expert to tell me that the net curtains, dark wall paper, heavily patterned curtains, mahogany furniture and heavy-framed pictures were making it darker than it might have been, and that even a few changes would make a difference.

Which brings me to Lent, which starts on Ash Wednesday (6th March this year). Lent is an opportune time to take stock of our lives and see what changes need to be made in preparation for celebrating Easter. We might begin by asking myself how "bright" we are inside. Do we have heavy "curtains" that stop the light coming in: is there anything blocking the light of God's word? Is there a lot of clutter: sin, unforgiveness, unhelpful attitudes etc? Objectivity can be difficult, because if we're honest we probably quite like some of the things that have accumulated, so we need to ask the Holy Spirit to help with this assessment.

However, just knowing what the problem is doesn't solve it, so we need to move into a process of de-cluttering and re-ordering, getting rid of the rubbish and sorting out priorities. This can be rather like moving heavy furniture and the reality is that our own abilities and strength won't be enough to shift some of it. As Lent draws to a close our focus will be on Jesus' death on the cross, which took away the heavy burden of our sin, but thankfully we don't need to wait until then to ask him to help. Furthermore, although we may have an idea of how we would like our lives to be re-ordered, we share the house with someone else who must have a say in the new design. So, again, we need to ask the Holy Spirit to help us to work that out.

Letter from the New Manse

Hopefully by the time we celebrate Easter the rooms of our lives will be much lighter. However, Lent isn't just about our internal lives: it's also about other people and the world, which can be a difficult and fearful place. It's all too easy to feel we're powerless to make a difference, but the truth is that, with God's help, we can change the world for good a little bit every day by the little things we might choose to do.

So here are a few little things to try this Lent; none of them are too demanding, but all will make a difference:

- Think of 3 different blessings every day and be thankful: *this will help with the others*
- Say something kind about someone behind their back – or even to their face!
- Give your place in a queue to someone else
- Buy a coffee and give it to someone else
- Wave / smile / talk to someone you don't know
- Choose special offers when shopping and use the money saved to buy items for the Food Bank.
- Have coffee or lunch with someone you don't know very well
- Buy something from a charity shop and reverse haggle
- Have the occasional frugal meal and give the money saved to charity
- Contact a family member or friend you haven't seen for a while
- Pick up some litter

May we all experience God's work in our lives this Lent, and may he help us to be ready to celebrate Easter.

God bless

Heather

Pulpit list

Heath URC, Free School Lane. 10.30am

March

- 3 Mr Jim Walker
- 10 Rev Daphne Hull
- 17 Rev Justine Wyatt – Communion
- 24 Rev Heather Pollard
- 31 Group Service at Heath led by Rev Heather Pollard
This is a Parade and Mothering Sunday Service.
There will also be a Fair Trade Stall at this service

Activities in March

- Friday 1 March – 2.00pm – World Day of Prayer at the Minster
- Sunday 10 March – 4.00pm – Messy Church
- Thursday 14 March – 10am – 1.00pm – Task Day
- Thursday 14 March – 7.30pm Thursday Club – Cromwell Bottom Wildlife
- Tuesday 19 March - 10.30am - Community Coffee Morning
- Thursday 21 March – 2.00pm – Elders' Meeting at the Manse

Joan Brearley

It was with great sadness that I learnt of Joan Brearley's death shortly before Christmas. Joan became a member of Heath, together with her husband Leslie, in 1964. At that time their two sons Peter and Andrew were members of our uniformed organisations. Joan became an active member of Ladies Circle taking part in concerts and

working on one of the teams serving lunches to the elderly and lonely in our community.

Joan regularly attended our services until ill health meant she became housebound but she always enjoyed my visits and was keen to hear news about Heath and our members and activities.

Rosemary Pickles

Weekly Events

Monday

9.15am	Toddlers (term time only)
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

Baptism at Messy Church!

Sunday March 10th

India and Hollie have decided that they would like to be baptised.

We really hope as many of the Heath congregation as possible will be there to welcome them into our church family.

You are invited to Messy Church from 4-6 pm. There will be a story followed by some craft (not too messy!) then the baptism service at 5, and then a meal.

We hope to see you at this very special Messy Church.

Fairtrade stall

Clive & Kay would like to thank all those at Heath URC who supported the Fairtrade stall last year. This enabled us to pass on to Traidcraft Exchange £180.00. This will be used to help those in developing countries to work their way out of poverty. In addition to this amount, all certified Fairtrade products also have a premium, which is distributed to each producer group to decide what community facilities are most urgent: clean drinking water, sanitation, medical facilities, schools etc.

Traidcraft Exchange explains its mission:-

In its simplest form trade should be beneficial for everyone involved. Goods and money are exchanged, and everyone is better off. But global trade doesn't work this way - instead it feeds the rich and exploits the poor. It traps people in poverty. It's our mission to challenge the way global trade works - to use the power of trade to create lasting solutions to poverty.

With your support, we can work towards a future where everyone gets a fair income for their work, no matter what country they live in.

Thank you.

Churches Together in South Halifax

Lent courses 2019

You are invited to attend the course
either at St Jude's on Sunday evenings
and/or at St Mark's on Monday evenings



Holy Trinity and St Jude's Church Hall

Come along and watch the hugely popular film

The Greatest Showman

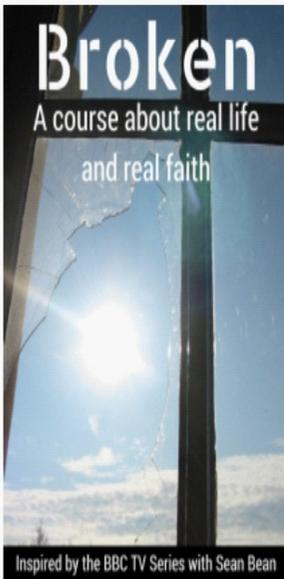
on Sunday 3rd March. Refreshments from 7.15pm.

Film begins at 7.30pm, including popcorn.

Lent course sessions based on the film

Sunday 10th March, Sunday 24th March, Sunday 31st March, Sunday 7th April, Sunday 14th April, 7.15pm.

You are also welcome to join us beforehand for Evening Prayer/ Evensong in the church at 6.30pm on each of these dates.



You are invited to join us at St Marks Vicarage each Monday during lent at 7.45pm for our Lenten Bible study we will be using a lent course designed by Paula Gooder around themes covered in the BBC series Broken earlier this year. It will be a challenging to our thinking and I am sure we will have some deep and profound conversations

All are welcome - Tea, Coffee and Cake will be provided.

Introduction to the sessions

11th March Beauty in the ordinary

18th March Loving the unlovable

25th March Guilt and shame

1st April Impossible Situations

8th April The power of Holy Communion

15th April Is the church still relevant and needed today?

Pulpit Supply

March 2019

Mar. 3rd Rev Heather Pollard

Mar. 10th Rev John Jenkinson

Mar. 17th Mr. Alan Jowett

Mar. 24th Mr. David Truswell

Mar. 31st Mr. Peter Fleming

Friendship Hour at 2.15pm

We meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays most months to enjoy each others company, have a cup of tea, coffee and biscuits and meet new friends. The meeting on March 13th will be 'The Power of Poetry' with Margaret Usher.

The meeting on March 27th will be 'The Lost Garden of Helegon' with Don Metcalf.

Ladies Excercise Class: Wednesdays at 7.30pm

Boys' Brigade: Mondays from 6.30pm

The members of New Hope are joining with the West Halifax Churches Together for a Lent Course. This to be on Monday evenings, starting 11th March at St. Hilda's 7 p.m. for 7-30 p.m. The first session of the course, which is entitled "The Gift of the Gospel" will be 'We have a Gospel to proclaim,' the second session is 'The Gospel is Peace', the third session is 'the Gospel is Joy', the fourth session is 'the Gospel is love', and the fifth session is 'the Gospel is Hope'. The first and last sessions will be led by Aidan Greenwood (husband of Revd. Caroline Greenwood), and the other sessions will be led by Rev. T. Keen (Methodist), Father Michael McQuin (Catholic) and our own minister, Heather. We hope people are able to join with us on this Lent Course. It is good to meet with people from other denominations.

We are invited to join with others at the following services.

Ash Wednesday (6th March) Christ Church 11-30 a.m. St. Hilda's 7-30 p.m.

March is a busy month in many ways. We witness the coming of Spring with the vernal equinox. There is also "Mothering Sunday" (31st March) and because we do recognise their importance I think it is appropriate that I place before you the first verse of a poem that I learnt many years ago. It was written by Edgar A. Guest, an American who was known as the people's poet.

Let every day be Mother's Day,
Make roses grow along her way
And beauty everywhere.

Oh, never let her eyes be wet
With tears of sorrow or regret,

And never cease to care!
Come, grown up children, and rejoice
That you can hear your mother's voice.

In March we remember two of our Saints, 1st March St. David and 17th March St. Patrick. Mentioning St. Patrick reminds me of the time, a few years ago now, when we went to Northern Ireland and whilst there we looked up a distant cousin of mine whom we hadn't seen for many years. Her husband was the pastor of a protestant evangelic church. The church had been in a very dilapidated building and they had taken a step forward in faith. Had a purposeful new building built and now they're reaping their rewards. The church has seating for 800 people, a stage for the musicians and other acts brought into the church in the worship of God, really bringing it into the present century and on the Easter Sunday prior to our going they had to relay the service outside because there wasn't enough room in the church for all who wanted to attend, Even the protestant churches, like this one, are reaching out to the people proclaiming the message of the Gospel of Christ and isn't that what we could learn to do if we spent time on our Lent Course? The opportunity is there for us, let us take it and move forward in faith. Working together, pooling ideas and resources and realising that we all have a part to play in the proclaiming of the Gospel of Christ.

FEELINGS OF POWERLESSNESS

As the years roll on we find that our lives are being dictated by the younger generation. We are tempted by all manner of desirable things, designed to relieve us of our pension pound. Many of these activities bear no heed to climate change and the use of fossil fuels to enable some of the irristable activities to be followed.

As we enjoy amazing luxury, floating about or lounging by the pool, other human beings are risking life and limb, crossing stretches of dangerous water in an attempt to escape hardship, starvation and life threatening regimes. Our pension pound doesn't really help these people but just worsens the conditions these transient people are trying to escape.

We can put other people secondary to our personal short term enjoyment and the profits of the tourist industry, but, should we ignore the long term consequences of our activities on the conditions future generations will have to endure.

For all the worlds population to enjoy our standard of decadence (western world) we would need the produce of two and a half earths. The writer won't be here when the pendulum swings the other way, so, it doesn't matter!!

Mike Riley

NEW PROVIDENCE

Pulpit Supply

March

3rd.....Worship Group
10th.....Rev. Heather Pollard (Communion)
17th.....TBA(Parade Service)
24th.... Mrs. Juliet Foster
31st.... Group Service at Heath

New Providence Diary

March

Friday's – 6.30pm Brownies at New Providence
Friday's – 6.45pm Boy's Brigade / Girl's Association at
Carlton Centre
Wednesday 13th – 7.30pm Mission & Care Meeting
Monday 25th – New Provi Circle Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 27th – 7.30pm Group Annual General Meeting
at Heath



Calderdale Women's Interfaith Group

Thursday 14th March, 10.30 - 12 noon, at St Paul's Church of England Parish Room - Rev Madeleine Russell will introduce us to Taize.

Taize is a Christian community in France. It was founded in 1940. The community has become one of the world's most important sites of Christian pilgrimage, with a focus on youth. Over 100,000 young people from around the world make pilgrimages to Taizé each year. It has developed widely recognised songs and chants. Madeleine will tell us a lot more!

St Paul's is on Queens Road, near King Cross shopping street.

The Power of Prayer for Families from a blog by the Institute for Family Studies

We tend to think of prayer, and rightly so, as communion with God, with the spiritual connection and benefits it entails. But when we pray with other people—especially with our spouse, parents, or children—it can also be a special form of communion with one another. While it's difficult, if not impossible, to measure the spiritual effects of prayer, research continues to reveal the powerful benefits for individuals, couples, and even entire families.

A large body of research shows that prayer and religious service attendance are linked to stronger marriages. One 2012 study found an association between shared prayer and greater levels of relationship trust among married couples. Furthermore, other IFS research concluded that *“shared prayer is the most powerful predictor of*

relationship quality among black, Latino, and white couples, more powerful than denomination, religious attendance, or shared religious friendships.”

Prayer helps couples deal with stress, enables them to focus on shared beliefs and hopes for the future, and allows them to deal constructively with challenges and problems in their relationship and in their lives.

New research measuring the effects of faith traditions on family life indicates that shared prayer may also benefit families in some of the same ways that it benefits couples. The recent study from researchers at Brigham Young University (BYU) was published in the *Journal of Family Psychology* and included a sample of 198 religiously-diverse families from Jewish, Christian, and Muslim faiths in 17 states.

The researchers asked both parents and children a number of questions about their faith traditions and how these traditions impacted their family life, including: *“How does your family overcome major stresses and problems?”* and *“How do you share your faith with your children?”* In an effort to avoid bias, the word, “prayer” was not used in the interview questions; however, prayer was referenced by family members in 96% of their responses.

Although the families prayed in different ways because of their diverse religious beliefs, there were similarities, including the timing of the prayers during specific family rituals or traditions, the priority families gave to prayer, and the relational processes the families shared. *“For the 198*

diverse families in our national study,” the BYU researchers wrote, “we found that ‘the family that prays together’ seems to benefit in more ways than just ‘staying together.’”

The study identified several common themes related to prayer and family relationships, including:

- Families used prayer time as a way to transmit religious traditions to younger generations.
- Prayer enabled family members to address problems or stresses they were facing, as well as reduced tensions in their relationships.
- Prayer helped family members bond with one another and created a sense of family unity.

When parents pray with their children, they are not only teaching them how to pray but also modeling and emphasizing the importance of prayer in the hopes that their children will begin a practice of private prayer that they will carry with them into adulthood. And according to new research from the Harvard, the practice of prayer during childhood is linked to better physical, mental, and emotional well-being among young adults. The new study "found profound effects of child and adolescent prayer on the big three dangers of adolescence—depression, substance abuse, and risky behaviors—as well as positive effects on happiness, volunteering, having a sense of mission, and forgiveness."

Young adults in the study who prayed or meditated at least daily as children or adolescents were *“16% more likely to report higher happiness as young adults, 30% less likely to*

have started having sex at a young age, and 40% less likely to have a sexually transmitted infection compared to those who never prayed or meditated.”

In most religions, the act of prayer is principally an intimate form of worship and communication with God. But it's also an important tradition that families use to help transmit core religious values to the next generation - a practice that research continues to confirm is beneficial to individual and family well-being. With the potential to strengthen marriages, unite family members, and boost adolescent decision-making and health, prayer is one of the keys to a flourishing family.



Will Making Month 2019

Making a will is the best way to ensure your wishes are carried out after your death.

Make your will this March and help Age UK Calderdale and Kirklees help older people to make the most of later life!

Local solicitors are generously donating their time and expertise to write wills for Age UK C&K supporters and without them, this initiative would not be possible.

This offer is open to anyone aged 50+. All you have to do is contact a solicitor from the list below and make an appointment between 1st and 31st March. Book early to avoid disappointment!

Just say you are calling about Age UK Calderdale and Kirklees 'Make a Will' month.

Age UK ask that you make a donation of £75 per person or £120 per couple. You might also want to consider leaving the charity a legacy in your will.

This offer does not include home visits and only covers straight forward wills. More complicated wills may incur extra charge. Please check with the solicitor.

Participating solicitors in Calderdale:

Chadwick Lawrence Solicitors

Angela Thorpe

01422 330 601

Office in Halifax

Ramsdens Solicitors

Laura Whiteley
01422 410 365
Offices in Elland and Halifax

Wilkinson Woodward Solicitors

Lauren Allette and Rachel Hunt 01422 339 600
Offices in Brighouse, Halifax, Huddersfield

.....

Each year, **ASH WEDNESDAY** marks the beginning of Lent and is always 46 days before Easter Sunday. Lent is a 40-day season (not counting Sundays) marked by repentance, fasting, reflection, and ultimately celebration. The 40-day period represents Christ’s time of temptation in the wilderness, where he fasted and where Satan tempted him. Lent asks believers to set aside a time each year for similar fasting, marking an intentional season of focus on Christ’s life, ministry, sacrifice, and resurrection.

What Are You Not Allowed to Eat on Ash Wednesday?

As far as the exact rules and practices of Lent, those have changed over the years. “In the early centuries fasting rules were strict, as they still are in Eastern churches.” “One meal a day was allowed in the evening, and meat, fish, eggs, and butter were forbidden. The Eastern church also restricts the use of wine, oil, and dairy products. In the West, these fasting rules have gradually been relaxed. The strict law of fasting among Roman Catholics was dispensed with during World War II, and only Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are now kept as Lenten fast days.”

The History of Pancake Day

Pancake Day, or Shrove Tuesday, is the traditional feast day before the start of Lent on Ash Wednesday. Lent – the 40 days leading up to Easter – was traditionally a time of fasting and on Shrove Tuesday, Anglo-Saxon Christians went to confession and were “shriven” (absolved from their sins). A bell would be rung to call people to confession. This came to be called the “Pancake Bell” and is still rung today.

Shrove Tuesday always falls 47 days before Easter Sunday, so the date varies from year to year and falls between February 3 and March 9. In 2019 Shrove Tuesday will fall on the 5th March.

Shrove Tuesday was the last opportunity to use up eggs and fats before embarking on the Lenten fast and pancakes are the perfect way of using up these ingredients.

A pancake is a thin, flat cake, made of batter and fried in a frying pan. A traditional English pancake is very thin and is served immediately. Golden syrup or lemon juice and caster sugar are the usual toppings for pancakes.

The pancake has a very long history and featured in cookery books as far back as 1439. The tradition of tossing or flipping them is almost as old: “And every man and maide doe take their turne, And tosse their Pancakes up for feare they burne.” (Pasquil’s Palin, 1619).

The ingredients for pancakes can be seen to symbolise four points of significance at this time of year:

Eggs ~ Creation

Flour ~ The staff of life

Salt ~ Wholesomeness

Milk ~ Purity

Naughty Man Poem number 10

King David sat by a window,
His vision as keen as a hawk,
When something caught his attention
And each stood out on a stalk.

He saw in a neighbour's garden
In a pool built close to the path,
A beautiful naked woman
In the process of taking a bath.

As he gazed in fascination
His mind became filled with great lust,
To share a bed with this woman
For him became really a must.

He found that the woman's husband
Was a soldier by name Uriah,
So summoned his army captain
Saying, "Put this man under fire"

Sent to the scene of the battle,
A lethal position he filled.
Wherever the foe hurled the spears from.
Uriah was bound to be killed.

To do this thing to a soldier
Was tantamount to a crime,
A sort of suicide bomber
Milleniums ahead of his time.

When news was received by David
To say Uriah had died,
Bathsheba, the soldier's widow,
Became King David's next bride.

The Lord sent the prophet Nathan,
Who then went and knocked on David's door.
When he answered, Nathan told him
About two men, one rich and one poor.

Great flocks of sheep had the rich man,
The poor man had only one lamb,
And this the rich man took from him
Without even caring a damn.

These words made David angry.
He said, "Such a man ought to die!"
Then as his anger was cooling,
The prophet gave him this reply.

You are the man in the story
For you have got more than one wife.
Yet this poor man had only one
And to get her you took his life.

AN INSPIRATIONAL SHORT STORY FOR MOTHER'S DAY

A school master stopped at a flower shop to order some flowers to be sent to his mother who lived two hundred miles away.

As he got out of his car he noticed a young girl pupil sitting on the curb sobbing.

He asked her what was wrong and she replied, "I wanted to buy a red rose for my mother.

But I only have seventy-five pence, and a rose costs two pounds."

The teacher smiled and said, "Come on in with me. I'll buy you a rose."

He bought the little girl her rose and ordered his own mother's flowers.

As they were leaving he offered the girl a ride home.

She said, "Yes, please! You can take me to my mother."

She directed him to a cemetery, where she placed the rose on a freshly dug grave.

The teacher returned to the flower shop, cancelled the order, picked up a bouquet and drove the two hundred miles to his mother's house.

WORD SEARCH

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

HELMET
WAIST
FULL
GOSPEL
STAND

ARMOR
SALVATION
GOD
BREASTPLATE
FAITH

SPIRIT
BELT
EVIL
SHIELD
PEACE

SWORD
FEET
FLAMING
BUCKLED
ARROWS

Crossword Clues

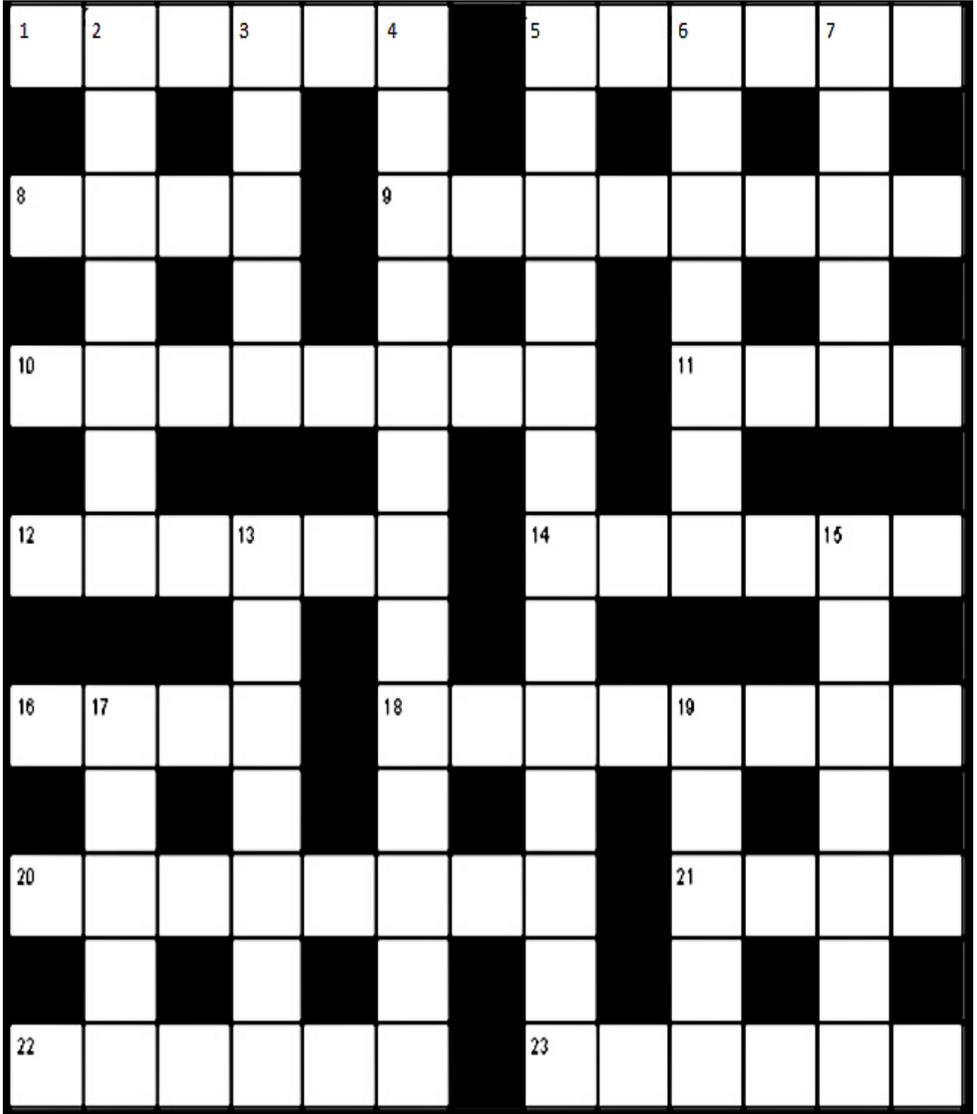
Across

1. "Purge me with -----, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow." (6)
5. An elevated platform, as for an orchestra conductor or public speaker. (6)
8. Of Hebrew origin, meaning "so be it". (4)
9. A term commonly used to refer to the region of Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. (4,4)
10. The opposite of acidic. (8)
11. "What ---- it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? Can faith save him?" King James Bible (4)
12. In government they can be 'white' or green'. (6)
14. Relating to the receptacle for baptism. (6)
16. The father of Ham, Shem, and Japheth. (4)
18. An idea that dominates the mind especially for a prolonged period. (e.g. the motif in Berlioz's Symphonie Fantastique.) (4,4)
20. Site in Japan of the second atom bomb in 1945. (8)
21. An image, such as the golden calf fashioned by Aaron and worshiped by the Israelites. (4)
22. '----- l'oeil'; a French term meaning 'trick the eye'. where an artist gives the appearance of three-dimensions in a flat painting or mural. (6)
23. "I loved the ----- day, and, spite of fears, Pride ruled my will. Remember not past years!" Hymn (6)

Down

2. A Jewish skull cap. (aka amyl anagram). (7)
3. Plant whose leaves and pods are used as a laxative. (5)
4. Roman governor of Judaea from 26 to 36 AD. (7,6)
5. Something given to an adversary in the hope of reconciliation, traditionally an olive branch (5,8)
6. Coventry was blitzed in retaliation for the bombing of this German city. (7)
7. Apple-carts are frequently thus, to cause trouble ! (5)
13. "Gilead is mine; Manasseh is mine; ----- also is the strength of mine head; Judah is my lawgiver ." Psalms (7)
15. Uneasy, apprehensive, worried. (7)
17. Very happy, elated; broadcasting live. (2,3)
- 19 Tuck or Laurence perhaps? (5)

CROSSWORD



CAN YOU FIND AT LEAST 15 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE 2 PICTURES



Pearls of Wisdom

If you're too open minded, your brains will fall out.

Age is a high price for maturity.

Artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.

If you must choose between two evils, pick the one you have never tried before.

My idea of housework is to sweep the room with a glance.

Not one shred of evidence supports the notion that life is serious.

It is easier to get forgiveness than permission.

For every action, there is an equal and opposite government programme.

If you look like your passport picture, you probably need the trip.

Bills travel through the post at twice the speed of cheques.

A conscience is what hurts when all your other parts feel so good.

Eat well, stay fit, die anyway.

Men are from Earth. Women are from Earth. Deal with it.

No husband has ever been shot while doing the dishes.

A balanced diet is a biscuit in each hand.

Opportunities always look bigger going than coming.

Middle age is when broadness of mind and narrowness of the waist change places.

Junk is something you've kept for years and throw away three weeks before you need it.

There is always one more imbecile than you counted on.

Experience is a wonderful thing. It enables you to recognise a mistake when you make it again.

By the time you can make ends meet, they move the ends.

Thou shalt not weigh more than thy refrigerator.

Someone who thinks logically provides a nice contrast to the real world.

Blessed are they who can laugh at themselves for they shall never cease to be amused.

SAINT DAVID

St. David was born into an aristocratic family. According to the legend, an angel foretold the birth of David to St Patrick 30 years before it happened.

David was born to St Non at what is now Capel Non's, to the south of the city that bears his name. It is thought that Non was a victim of violation by Sandde after she resisted his initial advances. Non became a nun and was later canonised.

His mother is said to have given birth on a cliff top in the middle of a violent storm. The birthing process was said to have been so intense and fraught that her fingers left marks as she grasped a rock. As David was born a bolt of lightning from heaven is said to have struck the rock, splitting it in two.

Brought up by his mother in Henfeynyw near Aberaeron, David is said to have been baptised at nearby Porthclais by St Elvis of Munster. It is said that a blind monk, Movi, was cured after drops of water splashed into his eyes as he held David.

David was educated at a monastery, usually taken to be Whitland in Carmarthenshire, under St Paulinus of Wales. He is said to have cured his tutor of blindness by making the sign of the cross. Realising that David was blessed, Paulinus sent him off as a missionary to convert the pagan people of Britain.

Answers

Crossword

Across 1. Hyssop 5. Podium 8. Amen 9. Near East
10. Alkaline 11. Doth 12. Papers 14. Fontal 16. Noah
18. Idee Fixe 20. Nagasaki 21. Idol 22. Trompe 23. Garish
Down 2. Yamalka 3. Senna 4. Pontius Pilate 5. Peace
Offering 6. Dresden 7. Upset 13. Ephraim 15. Anxious
17. On Air 19. Friar

SAINT PATRICK

St. Patrick was patron saint and national apostle of Ireland who is credited with successfully bringing Christianity to Ireland.

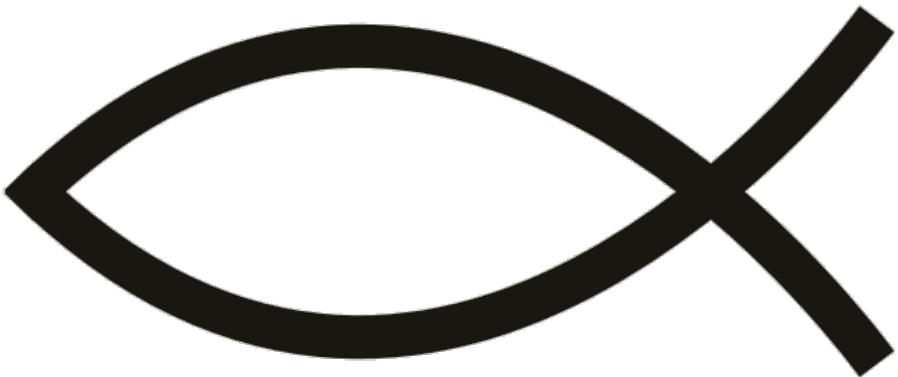
March 17 is widely accepted as the date of St. Patrick's death in A.D. 461.

Was there really a St. Patrick? Definitely. Did he really drive the snakes out of Ireland? Probably not, since snakes weren't native to Ireland.

St. Patrick was born in Britain as Maewyn Succat. At age 16 (around A.D. 400), he was kidnapped from his home on the west coast and carried off to Ireland to become a slave who worked as a shepherd. After six years, he escaped; upon returning home, he received his call (in a dream) to preach the Gospel. He spent the next 15 or so years in a monastery, preparing for his missionary work. When he became a priest, his name was changed to Patricius, and eventually, Patrick. Although some Christians lived in Ireland at the time, it was Patrick who spread Christianity throughout the land and brought an organized church into existence.

GROUP CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>What's on</u>
<u>March.</u>			
Sun. 10 th	4.00pm	Heath	Messy Church
Wed 13 th	2.15pm	New Hope	Friendship Hour
Wed 13 th	7.30pm	New Providence	Mission & Care Mtg.
Thu. 14 th	10am - 1pm	Heath	Task Day
Thu. 14 th	7.30pm	Heath	Thursday Club
Tue. 19 th	10.30am	Heath	Community Coffee Morn.
Thu. 21 st	2.00pm	Heath	Elders Meeting at the Manse
Mon 25 th	7.30pm	New Providence	New Provi Circle
Wed 27 th	2.15pm	New Hope	Friendship Hour
Wed 27 th	7.30pm	Heath	Group AGM



PREACHER PLAN

HEATH URC, MANOR DRIVE, 10.30 AM

- Mar. 3rd Mr. Jim Walker
Mar. 10th Rev Daphne Hull
Mar. 17th Rev Justine Wyatt
Mar. 24th Rev Heather Pollard
Mar. 31st Rev Heather Pollard (Group Service)

NEW HOPE URC, WARLEY ROAD 10.30 AM

- Mar. 3rd Rev Heather Pollard
Mar. 10th Rev John Jenkinson
Mar. 17th Mr. Alan Jowett
Mar. 24th Mr. David Truswell
Mar. 31st Mr. Peter Fleming

NEW PROVIDENCE URC, KEIGHLEY ROAD 11.00 AM

- Mar. 3rd Worship Group
Mar. 10th Rev Heather Pollard
Mar. 17th TBA
Mar. 24th Mrs. Juliet Foster
Mar. 31st Group Service at Heath





“I’m giving up Google for Lent.”



“To date, our building fund has received one donation: a Lego set from our Sunday School”

Useful Numbers

Rev Heather Pollard ministerhalifaxgroup@gmail.com 248957

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.unc.org.uk

Yorkshire Synod www.uncyorkshire.org.uk

Robert Brook (editor) robertbrook@sky.com 07811535832



April Deadline



All contribution need to be in by **FRIDAY MARCH 8th** 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.