



UPPER EDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

Newsletter

Dewsbury Rd, Rastrick, HD6 3QD

www.uebc.org.uk



MAY & JUNE 2022

You can find us on most Social Media



We pray for lives lost,
families torn apart,
lost and lonely,
homeless,
hungry,
afraid.

We pray for factories
destroyed in an instant,
for machinery
shattered,
livelihoods
ruined.

We pray for rescuers
finding survivors
alongside bodies,
courageous,
undaunted,
hopeful.

We pray for recovery
in the years to come,
for restoration,
generosity,
healing,
closure.

@John Birch



A hearing loop
is installed in
church.





Upper Edge Baptist Church
126 Dewsbury Rd
Rastrick
Brighouse
HD6 3QD

Dear All,

Conservation: A faith journey

From a young age I have experienced the wonder of our world. From my teenage years, walking, rock-climbing, mountaineering and caving, gave me an awareness of how beautiful and awesome our world is. Since becoming a Christian, in 1980, I have become aware that our world is not only beautiful, it is also fragile.

We are living in a time when climate change is beginning to have a detrimental effect on communities around the world. As well as having to face the challenges brought by climate change, we are also living in a time when many species of birds, mammals, insects, amphibians and reptiles are under threat of extinction. This is something that is happening now and it's happening in the United Kingdom as well as far-away places. There have been some notable successes in recent times. Red Kites and White Tailed Eagles have made a comeback, thanks to the dedication of organisations like the RSPB. But, many others species continue to decline. Hedgehogs are becoming locally extinct in some places and there are more tigers than there are pure Scottish Wildcats. Numbers of Turtle Doves, once common in the UK, have plummeted.

As a Christian, I believe that the world we live on is given in stewardship. We have a responsibility to ensure that all of creation flourishes. This was the reason I became involved in conservation. As someone who wants to make a difference, I became one of the founder members of Cromwell Bottom Wildlife Group over 12 years ago. We are a charity who work in partnership with CMBC in the management of Cromwell Bottom Local Nature Reserve. Our aim, from

the beginning, was to bring people and nature together. As a conservation group we have sought to inform and educate people of all ages regarding the benefits of the natural world.

As well as serving for many years as a Trustee, I have worked as a volunteer. With others, I have been involved in feeding and monitoring the bird population on the reserve. Watching birds close up from the bird viewing areas we have established is a delight. We have established new ponds in which frogs and newts can breed and dragonflies and damselflies can lay their eggs. Old paths have been improved and new paths established. Over the years, many nest boxes have been built and placed on the reserve. One of the great delights I have was being involved in establishing Cromwell Bottom Nature Reserve as a place where Barn Owls now breed. Watching a female Barn Owl fly overhead with a vole in its talons to feed its growing young is a special memory that I treasure.

As a volunteer, I spent many years serving teas, coffee and cake to the many visitors who came on Sunday afternoons. The cabin, where we serve refreshments (Open Tues, Thurs and Sundays) is a community hub. It's a special place where people meet in an environment that has great mental health benefits.

For me, planting trees, creating a habitat for insects and wild flowers to flourish, putting up nest boxes and creating paths is part of the faith I profess. Maintaining the delicate balance in which nature can thrive and which people can enjoy is worth striving for. Why? Because I believe it is the will of the creator God who delights in creation. Therefore, my faith in God is expressed not only from the pulpit on a Sunday but also when I don my wellies and gloves on Thursdays to do whatever needs doing to bring nature and people together.

Every Blessing

Allan



MAY

Sunday 1st

10.30am

Morning Worship led by Mr Daryll Hackett

Wednesday 3rd

10.00am

Time To Reflect

Thursday 4th

7.30pm

Beer and Banter @ The Red Lion, Rastrick
An Evening with Mark Cheetham

Sunday 8th

10.30am

Morning Worship including Communion led by Rev
Allan Wolfenden
Church AGM

11.45am

Tuesday 10th

2.30pm

Graham Ensor to meet with the deacons
at 2 Hions Close



Wednesday 11th

10.00am

Time To Reflect
Lunch

12.15 for 12.30pm

Sunday 15th

10.30am

Morning Worship led by Rev Louise Armitage to
include Dedication of Laura Thompson's son Luke
Robinson

Wednesday 18th

10.00am

Time To Reflect

Saturday 21st

8.30am

Men's Breakfast @ Toby Carvery Ainley Top

Sunday 22nd

10.30am

Morning Worship led by Mr Philip Ainley

Thursday 26th

ASCENSION DAY

Sunday 29th

10.30am

Morning Worship led by Mr Julian Dowson

JUNE

Wednesday 1st

10.00am

Time To Reflect

Thursday 2nd

Friday 3rd

Extra Bank Holiday
Spring Bank Holiday



Sunday 5th

10.30am

PENTECOST – WHIT SUNDAY

Morning Worship led by Mr Daryll Hackett

Names for lunch on the 8th – TODAY please

Monday 6th

8.00pm

Beer and Banter for men @ The Four Sons 'Painting
Pictures with Matthew Evans

Tuesday 7th

2.30pm

Deacons' Meeting at Church

Wednesday 8th

10.00am

Time To Reflect

12.15 for 12.30pm

Lunch

Sunday 12th

10.30am

Morning Worship including Communion by Mr Julian
Dowson

Wednesday 15th

10.00am

Time To Reflect

Saturday 21st

8.30am

Men's Breakfast @ Toby Carvery Ainley Top

Sunday 19th

10.30am

Morning Worship led by Rev Ernie Whalley

Wednesday 22nd

10.00am

Time To Reflect

Sunday 26th

10.30am

Morning Worship led by Lorraine and Young Church

Wednesday 29th

10.00am

Time To Reflect

JULY

Sunday 3rd

10.30am

Morning Worship led by Mr Philip Ainley

To All in The Community - That means YOU

Wednesday 12th May

Church Lunch @ 12.15 for 12.30pm

2 course meal with coffee and chocolates. and a
few jokes.

Please book your place NOW. **Donations welcome**

Contact Lorraine on 01422 823013

We cater for many diets eg vegetarians, vegans, coeliacs - you must let us
know though in advance when you sign the notice in the Church Hall or
alternatively ring to book your place. Do come along to this informal meal
for a chat, good food and generally a laugh or two and a few jokes.



News of and from the Fellowship

Please remember in your prayers those who mourn the loss of family members and friends. Help us to be there for them and often just to wait in silence and listen when they speak.

Don't forget to let someone know if you would like us to pray for them.

Father in heaven, may we share the light and life of Jesus with others today, and always.



Line Dancing Class

Friday 10.30am - 11.30am

Why not come along and give it a try?

Come along and join us. You will be assured of a warm friendly welcome and a lot of encouragement. It is better to come at **10.15am** before the class starts and find out what happens. We finish with a cup of tea or coffee and a good chat! It is good exercise and we have fun.

Just give it a try. Donations welcome - suggest £5. No special clothing required!!!



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS in

MAY

JUNE



Beryl Oddy	1st
Joan Hampson	6th
Anne Hainsworth	10th
Jan Morris	26th
Helen Kitching	28th

Christine Sunderland	2nd
Heather Callander	5th
Muriel Pratley	19th
Letisha Lyonga	19th



Parallels?

In a sermon, the head of Ukraine's Orthodox Church, Metropolitan Epiphany Dumenko, said this: 'Although a heavy cross has fallen upon us we must bear it with dignity, following Christ.....By the power of God's truth and mercy, by the power of our people's love, sacrifice and faith, Ukraine, still wounded, tortured and crucified by its enemies, will be resurrected.'

How can we respond to these anguished words? The Easter story points to some answers.

As our Lord Jesus, innocent, betrayed by Judas, deserted, denied by his closest friends, falsely judged and rejected by his own nation, was condemned to a terrible death by mighty Rome, a foreign civilisation, so Ukraine has been stripped of its independence, even its right to exist. Its closest neighbour lies about 'rescue' when it means death and destruction, pulverised cities, homes blown up, places of work devastated and what remains strewn with deadly explosives.

As a prisoner Jesus Christ was stripped, beaten, spat on, blind-folded and reviled. 'Guess who struck you!' He was dressed up in a royal robe, a crown of thorns forced into his bleeding brow. Nothing He could do or say would change the attitude of his tormentors.

For Ukrainians it seems that nothing they can offer in any negotiation will satisfy the vengefulness of Russia or their determination to destroy them.

Lies were told about what Christ had done or said and we know that a false narrative about a 'special operation' to rescue the Ukrainian people from 'Nazism and drug addicts' was broadcast in Russia.

So Ukraine carries its cross along the steep Calvary road. Onlookers weep and a few step in to help carry the load, threatened with dire consequences and the fury of the great empire if they do too much. And still the nails are pounded into frail flesh, there is blood and death, mourning and fleeing.

Mariupol the City of Mary, bereft, flattened, distraught, as Mary

was.

And yet from the Cross Jesus offers forgiveness and understanding: *'Father, forgive them, they don't know what they are doing'* and the thief who knew Jesus had done no wrong and who hung dying alongside him was promised a place in the Garden of Paradise with the Lord. Jesus committed himself into the hands of His Father, and surrendered His spirit to death.

Jesus's followers were without hope or expectation in the face of this upper catastrophe.

But on the third day He arose from the dead. Against all the odds, Life overcame death.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu believed that

'Good is stronger than evil, Love is stronger than hate, Life is stronger than death.'

Victory is ours, victory is ours through Him who loves us.

May the people of Ukraine and their valiant President Zelensky, survive to know that victory.

Louise Armitage

•••••

The **Baptist Church in Ukraine** one of the oldest and most widespread. Protestant Christian denominations in the country. Before the fall of the Soviet Union, over half the 1.5 million acknowledged Baptists and Pentecostals in the USSR lived in Soviet Ukraine. Prior to its independence in 1991, Ukraine was home to the second largest Baptist community in the world, after the United States, and was called the "Bible Belt" of the Soviet Union. Today Ukrainian Baptists continue to be among the largest Protestant denominations in Ukraine and the country has the second highest number of Baptist churches in the world.

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May we support the people of Ukraine in whatever way we are able and remember them daily in our prayers.



Denim - "Humanity's Uniform"

Denim was designed to be a durable and affordable fabric for workers in industry to wear. It was invented in the city of Nimes, in France, hence the name, "de Nimes" (Denim) meaning from Nimes.

It became the work wear of choice in the US in the mid 19th Century because of its hard wearing and versatile properties. Levi Strauss Ltd saw an opportunity and started to mass produce it in San Francisco in 1890's.

Denim trousers are today called Jeans because the denim was shipped from the port of Genoa in Italy which, in French, is called Genes. Today it is worn by people from all walks of life and in all parts of the world. However, the manufacture of Denim has a damaging effect upon the environment and upon the people involved.

Denim is made from cotton which needs an enormous amount of water (remember the Aral Sea?) and a disproportionate amount of pesticides and insecticides to help it to grow. Water is needed in the manufacturing process too, to wash and dye the fabric. In all it takes 2900 gallons to make one pair of Jeans. The use of chemical dyes in the production of denim is intensive. The fabric is subjected to several chemical washes. The chemicals cause health problems to the workers and are washed into the rivers turning them blue (e.g. the pearl River in China) and killing all the plant and animal life.

The method used to 'distress' denim to make it look like it has been worn and washed many times is the most harmful and life threatening technique of all. Sand particles are blasted into the fabric by workers who are, usually unprotected. The fine particles of silica, (which are invisible to the naked eye) are inhaled, impairing lung capacity, causing shortness of breath and strain on the heart. This is a deadly disease called Silicosis. Sandblasting was banned in the EEC in 1966 but is still used in other countries.

However, organic cotton doesn't need pesticides and insecticides and needs only rainwater, to help it to grow. New technologies are being developed in the manufacturing process, that are not so damaging to the environment and the health of the workers. Advanced Denim by Archroma, for example, can produce a pair of jeans using 92% less water and 30% less energy than conventional methods as well as creating less waste. Computer driven laser technology can make the fabric look distressed without the use of lots of water and chemicals and sandblasting. Ozone technology is a way of naturally bleaching the denim which reduces the damaging effects on the environment.



New fibres are being used instead of cotton, too. For example, Coreva – a new natural rubber fibre patented by an Italian mill. There is a blend of recycled cotton and Tencel called Tencel Refibra. A lot of denim mills are using hemp as it produces twice as much fibre per land area compared to cotton.

What can we do? - here's some ideas

Buy second hand from charity shops, dress agencies, vintage shops or online second hand clothes sites

Mend your old jeans with patches and embellish with embroidery

Upcycle your old denim making it into shorts, skirts, bags or polishing cloths, for example.

Buy new Jeans from Ethical companies, like Nudie Jeans, Monkee Jeans, People Tree, Lucy and Yak, to name but a few.

Check out the brand before you buy by visiting www.goodonyou.eco.
Reference: Loved Clothes Last by Orsola de Castro (2021) How Denim manufacture impacts on the environment by Moni Omotoso (2018)

Liz and Sergio Vilela

It's all about relationships

April 2022 www.bmsworldmission.org/lsvilela

Dear friends,

We are thankful for the relationship we have with you to be able to share our news and prayers. Whether it's with friends, colleagues, family, neighbours, church members, other students, missionaries, etc. - we need relationships. God made us to have a relationship with Him and with those around us. In this prayer letter, we will share with you some relationships of brothers and sisters in Christ!

Liz: It was early on Thursday morning, and as a group of five women, we were ready to head out and visit some women from the church. First we went to visit Maria*. Some of the women had been to visit her a few weeks earlier to pray for her as she had not been well. Maria is the mum of one of the young deacons of our church. She would sometimes come to the church but not regularly. We arrived at the house and waited for her to let us in to the living room. It's a well structured house, compared to a lot of houses here, with the essential furniture of tables and chairs. We began our visit with prayer and a few songs. I then gave a short devotion and we began to hear from Maria. She told us how she had been very unwell, couldn't even stand up and was unsure she would ever leave the bedroom again, let alone come to church again. She had family stop studying to come and help to look after her. She had felt ready to give up..... however this day she gave the testimony that she is now feeling much better. She still sometimes feels a little dizzy but she is able to go to the market, visit church and do all the things that she needs to do. We gave thanks to God for His goodness to her and answer to prayer and, even though people don't show their emotions freely here, Maria wept in gratitude for her healing. God is good and it is so good to be encouraged by what God is doing through these visits.

This is just one testimony of a number from the visits we have been doing over the past few months. Visits are a great way to reach out to people and we are seeing a rise in the number of women coming to the church. This year, I (Liz) was nominated as 'mother visitor' for the womens' group at church. This normally entails organising visits to homes when someone has died or someone is unwell. Over the years I have visited women from the



church by myself and found it was a great way for me to get to know the women more personally and pray for them. However, here everything is done in groups, in community. So I decided to introduce weekly visits as a group for those who were available to join us.

We now have a constant group of about five women who carry out the visits. Through these visits, we have been able to witness to and pray for a husband who has a problem with alcohol, a few women who were ill, a woman whose husband does not give her any freedom, a woman who is told that her dead husband's spirit is in her and that's why her husband can't get a job, as well as others.

Through these visits, people are being encouraged and we are seeing more people coming to church including one of the women's dads and a number of husbands, and more are attending the Saturday afternoon group and Sunday services.

The 4th April is Mozambican Womens Day and on Saturday a Mozambican friend and church leader asked to use our outside space for an event with the single young ladies/older teens from her church. Each person bought a plate to share for lunch and the plan was to eat, play games and then talk about dating. I was asked to prepare some team games and I knew that they would get very animated. The games included: Pictionary, build a nest for an egg, eat cake without using hands, and a game like Mr and Mrs, where they had to guess what someone else would choose. It was a great time of fun, fellowship, and food.

Please give thanks to God for how he is working in the lives of those in and around our church, and for the relationships that we continue to build on.

Please could you also pray for:

- the women of our church who have daily struggles of poverty, oppression, illness
- young Mozambican Christian women - that they might have wisdom and be guided by the Holy Spirit in the choices they make
- positive relationships within our friendships and with all those we connect with here

We hope you are encouraged by our news, as we also are. As the body of Christ, wherever we are and in whatever we do, may we..... 'therefore encourage one another and build one another up' (1 Thes 5:11)

God bless, Liz, Sergio, Chloe, Joshua

Pentecost Acts 2: 1 - 21

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

DISCIPLES
 DREAMS
 PETER
 AMAZED
 WIND

SIGNS
 VISIONS
 WINE
 JERUSALEM
 PENTECOST

WONDERS
 PROPHECY
 FIRE
 TONGUES
 HOLY SPIRIT

POUR OUT
 ELEVEN
 GALILEANS
 HEAVEN

DOCTOR, DOCTOR

A Scarborough man makes his latest visit to the doctor and reels off the long list of illnesses he insists he's suffering from.

"The trouble with you," says the doctor, "is that you're a hypochondriac."

"Oh no, doc," says the patient. "Don't tell me I've got that as well!"

Chocolate cake recipe

6oz Self raising flour
6oz Butter
6oz Sugar
3 Eggs
4oz flake chocolate



Method Cream butter and sugar together till pale. Beat in eggs one at a time. Gently stir in sifted flour. Then add the flakes. Crumbling them into the mixture. Put mixture into cake tin lined with greaseproof paper on the bottom. Bake @150°C. For about 1 - 1.25 hours. Melt Cadburys Dairy Milk Chocolate & spread on top. Decorate with chocolate buttons.

Question: Which 2 ingredients would you find mentioned in the Bible?

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DUST IF YOU MUST

Dust if you must, but wouldn't it be better
To paint a picture or write a letter,
Bake a cake or plant a seed,
Ponder the difference between want and need?

Dust if you must, but there's not much time,
With rivers to swim and mountains to climb,
Music to hear and books to read,
Friends to cherish and life to lead.

Dust if you must, but the world's out there,
With the sun in your eyes, the wind in your hair,
A flutter of snow, a shower of rain.
This day will not come round again.

Dust if you must, but bear in mind,
Old age will come and it's not kind.
And when you go - and go you must -
You, yourself, will make more dust.

So go on and
use the recipe to
make a
chocolate cake
to share with a
friend or
neighbour!

• • • • •

Bible reference :
Eggs. Luke 11: Verse 12. Butter. Proverbs 30: Verse. 33

British Evening in Celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee



When? Saturday 11th June 2022 6:30pm

Where? At Upper Edge Baptist Church

What? International Dining Event



Following on from the highly successful French and Italian evenings we are pleased to announce a British evening to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

British menu: 3 courses including a free glass of wine plus cheese and biscuits

Adult £15 Child £7

Why not book in friends and family to come along too?

These are very popular events – please book numbers early by contacting Lorraine (01422 823013 or tathamalan@gmail.com)

UPPER EDGE BAPTIST CHURCH Dewsbury Road, Rastrick, HD6 3QD

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I HOPE THERE IS SOMETHING INSIDE THIS EDITION
FOR EACH ONE OF YOU.