



KAY STREET NEWS

The monthly newsletter of
The Baptist Church,
Rawtenstall

September 2018

No.800

Charity No.1129330

Kay Street Baptist Church

Saturday, September. 8th at 2:00pm

Induction Service for Rev Jonny Hirst

**Leader: Rev Tim Presswood
Regional Minister, NWBA**

**Speaker: Pete Dawson
Leader, Ivy Fuse, Partington**

We will be having a call to prayer for Jonny and Joy on 7 September 2018 at the church at 7.45pm. This is a critical time in our journey and we want to start it with prayer.

Look out for details about tea arrangements

An Intriguing Anagram

When I was a young teacher I remember being challenged by one piece of advice. "In your lessons," said the red faced Ofsted Inspector with a freckled face and bright ginger hair, "try to talk less and listen more. And don't be afraid of the silences because this is when thinking and learning is often taking place." This pearl of wisdom passed into my teaching career and I always tried to speak less and listen more in my lessons.

In Proverbs 23:19 we find the words: "Listen, my son, and be wise, and set your heart on the right path" and I was then directed to this poem based on that verse:

A wise "old owl sat in an oak,
The more he saw, the less he spoke.
The less he spoke, the more he heard,
Let's try to be more like that bird."

Although Jesus was undoubtedly the greatest teacher of all time and we marvel at His words in the Sermon on the Mount and lots of other occasions, He was also a great listener. When Jesus met the woman at the well (John 4: 1-26) He used careful listening and questioning to understand the complex mess her life was in before introducing her to a new life. Again, on the Road to Emmaus (Luke 24: 13-35), Jesus could have quickly taken the lead to explain everything that had happened around the crucifixion and resurrection, but instead he listened carefully to the thoughts of the two travellers before explaining the meaning of it all to them. In order to become more like Jesus we need to allow our listening to inform our speaking.

Not only do we need to develop our empathetic listening skills in relation to one another but also in relation to God. In an interview with Timothy Jones, author of *The Art of Prayer*, he says, "It takes patience and practice to hear God. As we grow in familiarity and intimacy with Him, we will be better able

to hear. God communicates with us all the time—through the beauty of creation, the love of friends and family, and especially through Jesus Christ. Jesus was the Word of God made flesh.”

My encouragement to you for September is to speak less and listen more, both in our relationship to God and to one another. It is so easy to drown out what God is trying to say to us with our business, our music, our chatter and general preoccupation with ourselves. **We need to remember that “Listen” is an anagram of “Silent”** and allow ourselves to hear that still small voice which is heard not in mighty winds, great fires and earthquakes but speaks into our silence.

Trevor Elkington

on behalf of Matt, Jess and the Deacons

Dates to note in October and November

October 7 – Harvest Thanksgiving Service when we hope to support the BMS appeal **‘Life’s First Cry’ to help mothers and babies in Afghanistan’**

More details in the coming weeks.

Also date of Big Church Lunch – see page 9

**October 13 Antioch Christian Bookroom
FAIR TRADE for CHRISTMAS Coffee Morning.**

November 17 Tearfund Big Quiz

November 30 singer song writer **Stuart Townend**

Mongolia



For the past 10 months I have been working among students in Mongolia; a country which has had the Bible in its native language for less than 15 years! Where the Church is so young there may be a great curiosity and questioning of what it means to follow Jesus, yet few resources, mature Christians and mission workers to help disciple young believers in the Church. As such I worked at a university founded by Korean missionaries with the hope to bring more of the gospel to the young people in Mongolia, and sought to bless students through discipleship and mentoring, as I too had been blessed.

The Mongolian society is a fascinating mix of young people dreaming of moving or studying overseas where there are far more opportunities for them, older people who reminisce the days pre-1991 of communism and a stronger national identity, and whole families transitioning from the traditional nomadic countryside lifestyle to find work and home in the big city. Yet amongst all these groups of people the same gospel is needed that their hearts may be drawn back to harmony with God.

Even the small Christian population (perhaps <1% but growing!) often struggle to apprehend what it really means to be a Christian however. The outworkings of scripture and the personal relationship with Jesus are radically different to what they may have previously experienced before in their Buddhist and shamanist beliefs. Paul states that the highest priority in his life is "*the surpassing worth of knowing Jesus Christ as my Lord*" (Philippians 3:8). If this is Paul's priority, as one who knew Jesus so well he could author a majority of the New Testament, then how much more should it be our own!

And how much more should we pray for spiritual maturity and discipleship among the Christians where the Church is still young and workers are few (Colossians 1:28, Matthew 9:37-38).

Scripture reminds us, that in the changing seas of this world, knowing Jesus is to be "*the anchor to our souls*" (Hebrews 6:19). Without the ballast of discipleship in the church, where the mature Christians help point the younger ones to Jesus and model a wholehearted walk with Christ, the younger believers find other things to serve as their "*anchor*". For many young Christians in Mongolia it is their feelings which underpin their faith; perhaps feeling God is closer to them after a night of sung worship, or exciting short-term missions trip to the countryside, and at other times being on the point of total despair ("*has Jesus left me...?*") when depression comes, financial issues arise or their father enters hospital with liver failure (alcoholism still being a huge problem within every family in Mongolia).

The ballast of the gospel is needed to be modelled among the young people that when such storms come, they can hold fast to the anchor of their faith, being "*sorrowful yet always rejoicing*" as Paul would describe the Christian life (1 Corinthians 6:10). Jesus is the supreme example we look to, but Paul always made sure to leave discipleship workers in the young Churches he planted (Timothy, Titus) to be a closer-to-hand illustration of a Christ-shaped life; one which gives all of our anxieties and worries back to God "*because he cares for us*" (1 Peter 5:7).

Other young Mongolian believers may still struggle with guilt about their sins ("*How can God really forgive me..?*"), reconciliation with their family ("*To be Mongolian is to be Buddhist!*") or with placing their hope and identity entirely in the

chance to leave the cold, polluted, mismanaged Mongolian city. Yet still we pray God can use his people to show in discipleship that:

- By his death Jesus died to make his bride beautiful and sinless (Titus 2:14),
- That we are part of a greater family through God's gospel community (1 Peter 2:9),
- And that "*Here we have no lasting city, but seek the city that is to come.*" (Hebrews 13:14).

We are all called to be discipled and disciple-makers, helping other believers to grow to treasure Christ more. And He is coming again. He alone is our true king and example. All our frail, weak, and imperfect disciples point to Him.



Footnote

I'll be a ministry trainee at City Church Manchester for the year ahead - so doing bible study and discipleship with students, undertaking the North West Partnership Gospel Ministry training course, and generally helping with the Church and International outreach there.



Operation Christmas Child

It is time to consider gathering items for a shoebox, to be sent to a needy child in another part of the world for Christmas.

Leaflets and flat pack shoeboxes will be available in September.

Now is a good time to be looking for bargains in stationery items as the new school term begins.

Details will follow in October about bringing boxes for collection. Please leave them at home until we can give you dates for collection

Thank you.

Enjoy taking part in the shoebox appeal!!

Big Church Lunch

Sunday October 7th

In an attempt to get everyone eating with someone else from the fellowship on the same day, the pastoral team are organising a 'Big Church Lunch'.

This will take place after the service on October 7th. We would like people to sign up to be either hosts or guests.

Hosts are people in the fellowship who would like to invite others into their homes and provide lunch.

Guests are people who would like to be invited into someone's home to enjoy lunch.

As **hosts** we ask you to tell us how many people you can cater for and if you are able to cater for children.

As **guests** we ask you to say if you have any dietary requirements.

Once we have the two lists, the pastoral team will match guests to hosts and on the 30th September we will let hosts know who they need to invite to their house.

NB This is **not** a catering competition. Sandwiches or a roast dinner it does not matter, the aim is for people to enjoy fellowship together

Prayer Points - September

Jonny, Joy and Jemima Hirst

From Joy:

Please pray that our present house would sell and that a suitable house close to church would become available.

Please also pray for the church we are leaving (Dukinfield Baptist Church) - as they face pastoral vacancy, that they would continue to seek God's vision and heart for the future.

Lastly, that Jonny would settle in to his new roles in Kay Street & the NWBA.

(Please pray also that Joy and Jemima will settle too!)

Matt, Ali and Olivia Hirst.

Give thanks that Olivia has come to join the Hirst family

Please continue to pray for Matt, Ali and Olivia:

- That God will guide them as they adjust to being a family.
- That Olivia will become securely attached and feel safe in her new home.
- That nothing negative from her past will be carried into her new life.
- That Matt and Ali will have wisdom as they parent. (Please pray this for all parents, new or otherwise!).
- That Olivia will grow into a woman of God (again, please pray this for all parents, however 'young' the children concerned are!).
- For sleep!
- For Matt as he learns to balance work and parenting.

Church families

Please pray also for the other families, of all shapes and ages, in the church. We are all children of somebody, many of us are siblings, spouses, parents.

- Pray for healthy relationships within families.
- For family members to come to know God and grow in faith.

- Pray for healing of relationships where these are an issue
- For those who are lonely, that God's people will be a true family to them.

The global church

From Keswick ministries

- This is a day of unprecedented harvest in the global church. Give thanks to God for this. He is fulfilling His promise of Genesis 12:3 to bless all peoples.
- Pray that this unprecedented number coming to faith might be disciplined and drawn into living, faithful, reproducing churches. This is regarded by many Christian leaders as the greatest challenge facing the church today.
- Pray for leadership development, particularly in these areas where many are coming to faith.
- This rapid growth of the church is seen mainly in Africa, Asia and Latin America. By contrast, the church grows very slowly or even declines in the rest of the world. Pray for a movement of God's Spirit in Europe and North America.
- In the Middle East, more Muslims are coming to faith than we could have dreamed of 20 years ago, but the numbers are still relatively small in proportion to the total population. Pray that the stream will become a river then burst into a flood.
- Pray for the remaining unreached people groups in our world.

Praying for persecuted believers

From Keswick ministries.

You may like to have the book of Ephesians open when you pray.

Pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters:

- That they would know the hope which God gives (Eph1:18)
- That the Holy Spirit would strengthen them (Ephesians 3:16)
- That they would know how much God loves them (Eph3:17)
- That they would fearlessly tell others about Jesus (Eph6:20)

Please pray also for practical issues:

- That believers will have access to a Bible
- That, where appropriate, they will have courage to remain in their homeland
- For those rejected by family and friends, that God will provide a new Christian family.

ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES IN ROSSENDALE

You may remember that a few years ago Rawtenstall Church Links Group offered to assist in the settlement of asylum seekers and refugees when they came into the Valley. Five years later a small group of volunteers under the banner of Christian Charity Caritas are involved in supporting a number of asylum seekers comprising of single individuals and families from a variety of countries in Eastern Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

We meet them through a drop in-centre based at Haslingden Community Link each Tuesday 12-30pm to 2pm. The volunteers seek to befriend and assist asylum seekers as they go through the process of applying to remain in the UK. This includes contacting the Home Office, solicitors, English language courses, schools, NHS and the Council as well as providing a place for them to get together. Once they have been granted a right to remain they can seek employment and need to find their own accommodation.

More recently as part of a Government scheme to offer places to Syrian refugees from camps in Jordan the first group of families have arrived in Rossendale. These refugees have already been processed by the UN in the camps and have already been granted a permanent right to settle in the UK and are provided with housing, interpreters and can seek employment.

A formal welcome event was held recently in Haslingden with the Mayor and local councillors and officers as well as volunteers and asylum seekers. The refugees have been invited to attend the drop in sessions.

These two groups arrive in the Valley with very few possessions, little or no English and from situations where they have lost almost everything and cannot return home because their homes have gone or they would be at risk of persecution or arrest.

There is always room for more volunteers even if you can only come one week a month. Another way to help would be to check if these families would be able to make use of any household items that are still in good working order that you no longer need. One phone call may find a use for your unwanted items although we have nowhere for storage.

If you want to know more about this project contact Brian Williams

Timothy at Camp

On Saturday July 21 I went camping with Goodshaw Baptist church in the Ripon Valley and stayed until Friday. On Sunday I went to the farmers' church in Harrogate, where we sang songs and there was cake, then we went to the park where there was a paddling pool. On Monday and Thursday, I went swimming at Harrogate Hydro and I jumped off the 3-meter diving board! On Tuesday I went to Lightwater Valley theme park and bought a badge as well as having lots and lots of fun. On Wednesday we did activity day where there was a 250-metre long inflatable and archery. On Friday I came home. In the evenings we had meetings where we talked about what God has given us and played games.

I would recommend camp for everyone because you will have lots of fun.
By Timothy Wilding

Church Family News

On July 15 **Norma Williams** wrote :- Dear all at Kay Street, This will be my last day at church as I am moving house. I just want to say thank you for making me so welcome. I have really enjoyed being here, even though I am quiet. I am moving to Blackburn. If anybody would like to visit they are most welcome.

Another change of address – **Janet Curtis** has moved.

New Babies – Trevor & Anne Elkington became grandparents as **Rob & Holly** welcomed daughter **Poppy Ada** (N.Irish pronunciation Adda) on August 7.

A belated welcome to **Evie Joy**, a fourth daughter for **Daniel & Naomi** and another grandchild for **Gill Bower**.

And welcome to **Olivia Grace** as she joins **Matt & Ali's** family.

Roland Morriss would like to thank all those who prayed for him while he was in hospital. He says “I thank God that I am slowly recovering, but I have some way to go before I am back to full strength.”

Congratulations to **Geoff & Heather Skilling** who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on July 22. They wish to thank everyone for their good wishes, cards and prayers received on this special occasion.

Amanda Crossey after being in hospital in Accrington is back in Blackburn in Ward C3 and being assessed for possibly going .home.

Enid Holland has been in hospital but is now home we understand.

Our sympathy has gone to **Chrissie Morriss & family** on the death of her mother in late July.

Coffee Morning 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

September 28

**Come and enjoy coffee and cake,
helping Macmillan Cancer Support**

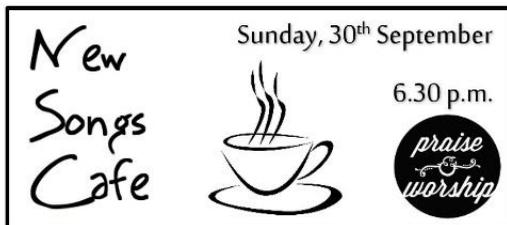
Sunday Worship - September

- Sept 2 AM** All Age Service **Promotion Service**
Coordinator – David Griffith and team
- PM** Communion and Prayer led by David Isherwood
- Sept 9 AM** Preacher Rev M Hirst, Coordinator Allyson Jump
(*I am the Resurrection and the Life John 11:28*)
- PM** **Baptismal Service led by St.Mary's for
2 of their fellowship**
- Sept 16 AM** Preacher Rev J Hirst, Coordinator Ian Pickup
Communion (*I am the Way the Truth and the Life John 14:6*)
- PM** Preacher Rev M Hirst
- Sept 23 AM** Preacher Rev M Hirst (*I am the true Vine John 15:1*)
Coordinator Trevor Elkington
- PM** Café Church, Coordinator Heather Skilling
- Sept 30 AM** Preacher Andy Kind
Coordinator Rev M Hirst
- PM** Coordinator David Griffith

**Do you enjoy sung praise
and worship ?**

**Would you like to learn
some new worship
songs? Then why not
come along to the Café
Church on Sunday, 30th
September ?**

**We'll be spending time worshipping God together through
song and learning a new song or two ! All that, and
refreshments too !! There's not a better way to spend a
Sunday evening !**



Diary for September

- Sat Sept 1 Asda Prayer Meeting 8am.
Sat Sept 1 Torch Fellowship 2pm.
Mon Sept 3 Deacons' Meeting
Fri Sept 7 **Prayer Meeting 7.45pm.** (see page 2)
- Sat Sept 8 Induction of Rev J Hirst**
- Sun Sept 9 Visit to Holme Manor
- Mon Sept 10 RENEW for Women**
St.Mary's Church 7.15 refreshments 7.45start
Jessica Kell - "Shelter in God's Heart"
- Sat Sept 15 Prayer Walk 4 pm
Mon Sept 17 Church Members' Meeting
Mon Sept 24 Church Prayer Meeting
Fri Sept 28 Coffee Morning – see page 15
- Sat Sept 29 **Striders' Monthly Walk**
Summit to Cranberry Dam approx 5½miles
- Sun Sept 29 Visit to Cherry Tree Lodge

Globetrotters

It's a year since the **Gulu Globetrotters' School** began and in that time it has grown from 7 children from 4 families to 19 children from 9 nations (including **Connie and Reuben Ovenden**).

In January 2019 they hope to have a specialist in early years coming to help with the little ones.

They are also looking for someone to join the staff longer term to teach the older ones (key stage 2).

Lois asks 'Is God calling you or someone you know. If so contact **BMS** they are truly brilliant.

Looking Back to September 1993 and the newsletter of that month

On Saturday July 3 the Ordination Service for Roger Foster was held at Kay Street. Roger was a former deacon and taught at Bury grammar School before going to Bristol Baptist College. 'It was a great privilege to hear his testimony as he committed himself to the full time ministry at Castleton Baptist Church, South Wales. Several members from Castleton came to the service and a number from our fellowship hoped to travel to Roger's Induction Service there on September 18.

One of our young people, Andrea Dootson left for Brazil on August 15 to spend a month working in an orphanage and school and helping the street children there.

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Rotas for September



STEWARDS *Coordinator Alan Morton*

	Porch	Upper Right	Upper Left
Sept 2	Stuart Brown Robin Coulston	Joan Crook	Pat Coulston
Sept 9	Carol & RJ Hargreaves	Natasha Richardson	Bob Crowther
Sept 16	Alan Morton Tom Pickup	Amy Lord	Margaret Morton
Sept 23	David Piling Mike Wells	Peter Leonard	Andy Moss
Sept 30	David Isherwood Paul Webb-Sear	Jilly Horton	Anne Webb- Sear

COFFEE *Coordinator Sandy Rushton*

Sept 2	Peter Leonard, Gill Wills, Janet Curtis
Sept 9	Jenny Brunskill, Pauline Stephenson, Pat Coulston
Sept 16	Stuart Brown, Pat & Robin Coulston
Sept 23	Janet Curtis, Jenny Brunskill, Pauline Stephenson
Sept 30	Peter Leonard, Mike Wells, June Worsley



FLOWERS *Coordinator Carol Hargreaves*

Sept 2	Celia Bury
Sept 9	Vacant
Sept 16	Lynne Lund
Sept 23	Joyce Mulvee
Sept 30	Christine Coates



Please note that items for the October newsletter should reach the editor Joyce Barnes, joyce.barnes563@btinternet.com, by September 20 for publication on September 30.

