



Kay Street News
The Monthly Newsletter of
Kay Street Baptist Church, Rawtenstall

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“The times they are a-changin’....”

Some of you may recall Bob Dylan’s song from 1964. If these words were true then, they certainly are today. In the last year or so there has been massive and significant change. This country has voted to leave the EU – and by the time you read this, Article 50 will have been activated. The USA has elected a new highly controversial President to arguably the most powerful position in the world. There continues to be a huge population shift as millions flee from the war-torn Middle East. I think that when future generations look back they will consider the present decade a very significant one in world history.

Spiritually too things are changing. Apart from the increasing and very real threat that Islam presents through its extremists in its bid to become the sole world religion, we are faced possibly with a greater challenge posed by the atheists, agnostics and nominal Christians, who surround us in this country. As those in authority seek to promote a multicultural and tolerant image, we Christians find our freedoms gradually eroding. The Christian Church, particularly in this country, finds itself struggling against the many compromises that the World seeks to force upon it.

Tony Pullin, in his book *“Making Disciples – How did Jesus do it?”*, upon which Matt’s series on Discipleship is based, writes:-
“The challenge for our generation rests with us.... For all of us, the call of Jesus to radical discipleship rings clear and true.”

This then, I believe, for us at Kay Street is also a time of considerable change. It could be said that we are at a crossroads. Within a period of just eight months we lost three very key members of the Fellowship. Our loss has been Heaven’s gain! Others among us are having, for reasons of age and/or failing health, to consider stepping down soon from positions of responsibility. We are contemplating new staff appointments and

even the possibility of substantial building-work. Kay Street may well look quite different in a couple of years time.

It may not be surprising then that the Lord put the whole matter of discipleship on Matt's heart as he considered how to spend his Sabbatical. We need to get to grips with "*living the life the Jesus way*" if we are going to have any value or effectiveness in the days ahead.

The "Great Commission" (Matthew 28: 16 to 20) is a **command to all of us**. Jesus requires us to "***go and make disciples of all nations...***" Jesus did not say "go and make converts"! That means we are **ALL required** ourselves in the first place **to be disciples** and then with the authority of God and in the power of the Holy Spirit **to make disciples (not converts) of others**.

The current edition of the "*Every day with Jesus*" Bible Notes is entitled "*The Call*" and coincidentally focuses upon this very subject. Or is it actually a coincidence? As Matt mentioned at the Annual Review Meeting, the first day's notes are headed "Fan or Follower?" Selwyn Hughes writes "*The theme for this issue has been prompted by the concern that many Christians can settle for having their sin's forgiven and the assurance of heaven when they die, rather than responding to Jesus' call to be a disciple – a **people who follow in the steps of their Master, learn His ways and live His lifestyle....***".

Put another way "*Jesus is not looking for admirers but adherents – not sympathisers, but men and women committed to His direction and calling.*" It has been said that Christ does not ask everyone to give up everything for Him but He does expect them to be willing to give up everything.

Matt's series, which has given us much to think about individually and in the Housegroups, finishes at the end of March but it is intended only to be a springboard for further study and action. We shall each one be provided with the opportunity and practical means of considering carefully what gifts we possess ourselves and how

best these can be used in the life of the Fellowship - to assess how far we have progressed upon the learning pathway, how best we

can grow closer to God and be better equipped as disciples to do His bidding.

It has been wonderful over the past few weeks to witness how the Church Family has come together so willingly and responded wholeheartedly to supporting Bob's family in their time of great need. But let's not let this response to God's call simply end there. Let's not kid ourselves either that we can do any of this fully in our own strength. However willing we are, what God requires of us can never be fully accomplished without the inspiration and empowering of the Holy Spirit. It is He who changes us and develops within us the gifts and characteristics that enables us.

Tony Pullin writes: *"The Master still calls and His grace is outrageous"*.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer concluded: *"Only Jesus Christ, who bids us follow Him, knows the journeys end. But we do know that it will be a road of boundless mercy. Discipleship means joy."*

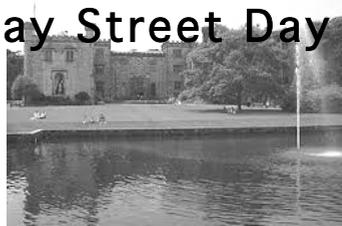
Let's make sure that we travel this road together and see where it takes us – what God can accomplish through even us.

Ian Pickup, on behalf of Matt and the Deacons

*******Kay Street Day**

Out

Towneley Park, Burnley



We will meet at **11:30am** by the pond and have a picnic lunch.

After lunch there is an option to have a guided tour of the hall, at a cost of £6 per person. Please see Geoff. Skilling or Jo Emberton for tickets. Lifts can be arranged.

The road to Ulanbator

A church which preaches the Bible is a wonderful thing and I took that for granted growing up. I am blessed with a similar Bible preaching church here in Hampshire as I do my year in industry/masters in Chemistry, but Kay Street remains in my prayers..



I am currently working in industry (a nano technology lab) until July when I graduate with my degree. When I left Uni last summer to move away I was conscious of 3 elements that I'd want to perhaps be using in a future career.

The first was chemistry, the subject I studied and loved and had been told I had a gift for by my tutors. After 4 years of doing this I'd enjoy staying in this field and feel that it was somehow meaningful. I certainly enjoyed presenting more than in the labs though - where I was very clumsy!

Secondly at University I really gained a heart for working with international students and reading the Bible one to one with them. Few greater joys I've felt than seeing a student from a completely different culture come to know why Jesus was sent and had to die for them! How wonderful to have seen the gospel overcome barriers of culture, language, subject and family. And international student ministry gave me a wonderful peace in God in a sense that the work itself was almost entirely unseen by the world and unglamorous in

its nature. But how excellent it is to simply make new friends and to preach to my soul the treasures of Isaiah 64:4
"No eye has seen a God besides thee who works for those who wait for Him".

George Platt

.....and the third? (see next month's issue)

Football News

KSB have had a great start to 2017. In the league they have won 3 out of 4 and are still within touching distance of the promotion places. They face St. Philip's Trinity in the Quarter-Finals of the League Cup in March, and travel down south to Wymondley in the National Christian Trophy Quarter-Final.

However, the team scored their biggest prize in their 8-year existence in February by winning the Charity Cup! A thrilling match was seen by nearly 100 people, including a huge turnout from the Kay Street congregation. What looked to be a likely defeat against pre-match favourites Central, ended up with an astonishing comeback. The Streeters were 3-1 down going into the last 10 minutes when they managed to grab two late goals to take it to extra time. Although they then took the lead in extra time a last second equaliser took the final to penalties. A tense crowd saw all KSB's penalties converted before **Harry Lord** became a hero and saved the final spot kick. Thanks to everyone who supported the lads at the match and from afar!

KSB United have had a raft of postponements which has made life frustrating for the players. They began the year with an emphatic 6-0 win at Central North SA but have gone on a bit of a bad run since. By the time you read this they will hope to have more points on the board to finish in the top half of the table.

Off the field, we enjoyed another Curry Night at North Street restaurant, which saw lots of the new signings get a chance to feel welcome and gain new friendships. The boys will also be enjoying

the delights of Watford when they travel down south in the National Christian Trophy in March.

Players continue to recover from **injury**, including Chris Pickles and Neil Horne, so thanks for your prayers. The following are on the sick list so please remember them in prayer:- Matt Ashworth, Danny Holloway, Josh Kapp and Lee Malins.

April fixtures (subject to change)

(all matches kick off at 10.30am except where stated; all home games played at Fearn's)

1st April

KSB United v South Manchester United - league match

8th April

KSB United v !Audacious - league match

15th April - league matches

Ditton Athletic Academy v **KSB**

!Audacious v **KSB United**

29th April

KSB v Westwood Blue - league match



Big Church Day Out

This year this event is taking place in the North (at **Capesthorpe Hall near Macclesfield in Cheshire**) as well as in the South. A number of folk from the Church have already booked. It's on Friday, the 2nd and Saturday, the 3rd June 2017. There will be loads going on for all ages on stage and in the grounds of the Hall. Several well-known Christian singers are performing.

Prices depend upon the age of those attending, whether you are going as an individual or as a family, for one day or two days, whether you want to camp there and also upon numbers booked together. There is an **“early bird discount” if you book by the 31st March 2017**. If you are interested it would be worthwhile being part of a group booking. In that case please contact Matt Hirst or Ian Pickup who are compiling a list of attendees.

For further or full information visit the website <https://bigdayout.com/north>



Prayer Points for April

Leadership

Please pray for:

- the diaconate in the decisions they have to take
- the new diaconate to work well together and to be able to discern the mind of Christ
- the process of assessing the applicant for the Family and Children's worker
- wisdom in discussions regarding the building and possible alterations.

Discipleship

As the series draws to a close, **please pray** that

- we may all continue to grow closer to God
- we may all continue to step out for God
- we may all continue to declare who Christ is in our daily lives
- we may all be open to giving others second chances.

Lent project

Please pray for the work of the cake school project in Thailand.

- Pray for the project to reach the right women
- Pray for them to be able to earn an income from their work
- Pray for them to hear and receive the love of Christ.

South Sudan

BMS have asked for prayer for South Sudan:

- all those displaced in South Sudan who are struggling to survive
- healing for survivors of gender-based violence during the conflict
- international efforts to bring an end to the fighting
- guidance as BMS explores ways we can best help the people of South Sudan further through the local church
- Please pray also for the hope in which South Sudan was founded to be realised
- Pray for those in other countries in East Africa and beyond at risk of famine at this time, and for those attempting to serve them.

Dignity for Women

CARE have asked for prayer for issues and organisations concerning dignity for women. **Please pray for:**

- changes in attitude regarding female mutilation in those cultures where it is deemed acceptable
- favour on organisations and individuals working to end this practice
- women in prison to receive the help they need, both inside and on release
- those working in prisons to bring hope in Jesus name.

- God's protection and wisdom on those who are at risk of acting unwisely on social media
- projects which help women in low income countries to support themselves

The Good News is Spread with the Help of Modern Technology

Last month's news letter contained a report of how children can hear Bible stories from small inexpensive solar powered digital players. Cheap smart phones are becoming remarkably widespread in most developing countries. And so providing phone-friendly Scripture has proved an extremely effective strategy when it comes to spreading the gospel. For mobile-friendly Bible passages can be easily shared from phone to phone in a village setting without use of the Internet.

In Papua New Guinea a man called Toli cried tears of frustration when he was given a copy of the Bible in his own language – he wanted to engage with God's Word but he could not read. Later he received a MegaVoice audio player which he spent hours and hours listening to. The result? Toli says "Now the message is clear." The people group Toli belongs to – the Pinai-Hagahai tribe – have a history of being a lawless community who were especially hostile to outsiders. But the launch of the audio Bible in 2008 led to a complete change in their society. When they heard the Bible in a language they could fully understand, their behaviour towards each other completely changed, and this brought transformation in the whole community.

(This is another extract from the article "New formats for old cultures" in the January edition of the Christian Newspaper "Evangelicals Now", and is reprinted here with permission)

contributed by Roland Morriss

Antioch Christian Bookroom

The staff would like to thank all who supported our **BIG BREW**. Please note that the Bookroom will be closed on Saturday April 16.

Swimming for the Roof!

Although European, the Basque population of northern Spain and south-eastern France is an unreached people group. For a number of years I was WEC's Prayer Mobiliser for the Basques. During that time I met Joseba, a young graphic designer who is half Basque. Believing it to be God's will, he and his wife Joanna moved from England to Spain. Recently they took a huge step of faith by buying a very dilapidated farmhouse with the vision of converting it into a place to 'rest, pray, recharge, fellowship, learn...'. Their project is close to my heart and I would like to raise money towards the cost of replacing the almost non-existent roof.

I had planned to do the Great Manchester Swim to get sponsorship, but unfortunately it is not taking place this year. Instead I hope to take part in the Swimathon on Saturday 8 April. This year Swimathon's chosen charity is Marie Curie cancer care, so I need to get sponsorship for that at the same time.

I am now 70 and it is five years since I last swam five kilometres, so I have some doubts about my ability to complete the distance in the time allowed. The event will run from 1.00 to 4.00pm at Daisyfield Pool, Blackburn, BB1 5HB. If you happen to be in the vicinity on the day it would be lovely to have your support, especially from 3.00pm when 'the water turns to treacle'.

Thank you for your support.

Jean Goodenough



Church Family News

Bob White – It is with sadness that we report that Bob did not recover from the transplant for which he had waited so long. He went to be with the Lord late on March 7 in which we can rejoice. Coming to the valley with his family in the 80's, he and Janet joined the church and served Jesus faithfully in our midst in various capacities; with the young people; as a deacon and latterly and most outstandingly as leader with Janet of the two Alpha+ groups which were formed after our first Alpha course. He earned a reputation with his jokes at the beginning of each week's session, but it was as leader of the groups set up after that first course, initially for those not ready to join a housegroup, that he will be most remembered. In this capacity Bob influenced many enquirers and new Christians and it is no exaggeration to say that they loved him. We shall all miss him.

We have already assured Janet, Lara, Fran and the family of our love and sympathy. Bob's funeral will be at 11am. on Tuesday March 28.

Care Home Services. These services are normally held on the 2nd Sunday of the month at Holme Manor and on the last Sunday at Cherry Tree Lodge, except Christmas and Easter when we hold a service at each home on the same Sunday. This time the **Easter services will be 2pm at Holme Manor then 3pm at**

Cherry Tree on April 9. We hope to take some children and young people along just as we did at Christmas. Please come along and join in the singing, find the right page in the hymn book for the residents and chat to the residents after the service. If you feel you could contribute to these services by reading the Bible, saying a prayer or giving a message of no more than 5 mins, please see Margaret Morton or Roland Morriss.

Margaret



Church Family News continued.....

I would like to give my sincere and heartfelt thanks for all the calls, letters, cards, flowers, gifts and the tidal wave of prayer for me and my family during my recent spell in the hands of the NHS .

Doris Paul

Joan Crook would like to convey her thanks for all the concern shown to her, in so many ways, since her recent fall. She still has various tests etc. to undergo. So continue to remember her in prayer.

Amendment to Prayer List – **Pauline Stephenson** has a new address and phone number – 209 Ilex Mill, Bacup Road BB4 7NQ
Phone – 470935

Annual Church Review held on March 20

There were presentations made to **John & Jean Prior** on completion of 50 years church membership (and much more). John received a NLT Bible and Jean audio discs of David Suchet reading the Gospels and Psalms and a floral bouquet. They responded suitably and to much applause.

The secretary's report, as ever, was entertaining, informative and comprehensive and illustrated too.

The deacons' election resulted in the re-election of **Kathryn Dungworth, David Griffith and Michael Wilding** – the latter after a brief gap. Thanks were expressed to the retiring deacons **Peter Leonard and Matthew Pickup**.

The evening concluded with communion and an encouraging word from Matt.

Sunday and Easter Worship

Sunday April 2 AM Preacher - Mr I Pickup
Coordinator - David Griffith – '*Secrets of the Spirit*' – *John 16:5-15*
PM Communion and Prayer led by Rev M Hirst

PALM SUNDAY April 9 AM
Preacher – Rev M Hirst
Coordinator – Allyson Jump
PM DVD Led by Di Isherwood



GOOD FRIDAY April 14
Preacher – Rev M Hirst 10.30 am.



EASTER SUNDAY April 16
AM All Age Service led by Rev M Hirst
PM Preacher – Mr D Isherwood

Sunday April 23 AM Preacher – Mr J Barrie
Coordinator Trevor Elkington
'Peace in a time of trouble' *John 16:16-33*
PM Café Church led by Janet Barrie

Sunday April 30 AM Preacher – Rev M Hirst
Coordinator – Heather Skilling - '*Jesus prays for us*' *John 17*
PM Healing Service led by Rev M Hirst

Fun, Food + Friends

Monday April 3 10.30am – 12.30pm

Crafts & Activities

Crèche for babies & toddlers

Celebration Bible story & songs FOOD

(All children must be accompanied by an adult)



Diary for April

Sat April 1 Asda Prayer Breakfast 8 am
Sat April 1 Torch Fellowship 2 pm
Mon April Deacons' Meeting
Mon April 3 **Fun, Food & Friends** see previous page
Sun April 9 Visits to Holme Manor and Cherry Tree Lodge

See page 12

Sat April 15 Prayer morning
Mon April 24 Church Members' Meeting
Sat April 29 Striders' monthly walk

LOOKing Back

to the issue of April 1992

As an experiment the evening services leading up to Easter were to be held in the downstairs area of the church. Easter Sunday evening was to be a Baptismal service.

Stuart & Lorna Falconer were appointed as joint Prayer secretaries for the September Saltmine Mission.

Bill Poucher who had edited the monthly newsletter for 33 years was to retire from the post.

A full account of the children's Alive and Active Tearfund Experience on the afternoon of March was given in which 55 children and 20 staff took part in finding out what we can do to make a difference to people like the cocoa farmers in Honduras. It was 'good, great, brill' and enjoyed by all.

Rotas for April

<u>STEWARDS</u>	<i>*David Pilling</i>		
	<i>Porch</i>	<i>Upstairs left</i>	<i>Upstairs right</i>
April 2	Anne & Paul Webb-Sear	Stuart Brown	David Pilling
April 9	Alan & Margaret Morton	Mike Wells	Tom Pickup
April 16		Alpha Group	
April 23	Suzanne Craven Mike Wells	June Worsley	Peter Leonard
April 30	Carol & RJ Hargreaves	Margaret Robinson	Joan Crook
<u>COFFEE</u>	<i>Sandy Rushton*</i>		
April 2	Jenny Brunskill, Janet Curtis, Pauline Stephenson		
April 9	Jim Barrie, Pat & Robin Coulston		
April 16	Peter Leonard, June Worsley, Gill Willis		
April 23	Anne Fielder, Fred & Sheila Wild		
April 30	Roz Coleman, Jenny Brunskill, Mike Wells		
<u>CRECHE</u>	<i>Gwen Haworth*</i>	<i>Creche Builders</i>	
April 2	All age service no creche		
April 9	Ruth Boaden, Gwen Haworth	David Isherwood	
April 16	Carol Hargreaves, Helen Thornton	Andrew Holland	
April 23	Rosie Palmer, George Kirk	Gwen Haworth	
April 30	Jennifer Wilding, Anne Webb-Sear	David Isherwood	

FLOWERS

April 2 *Carol Hargreaves**
April 9 Thelma Hitch
April 16 Christine Coates
April 23 Pauline Stephenson
April 30 Connie Mitchell
 Alan & Margaret
 Morton

COMMUNION *Kath Williams**

AM Please see Kath
PM ditto

**coordinators*

Please note that items for the May Newsletter should reach the editor, joyce.barnes563@btinternet.com by April 20 for publication on April 30