



**Kay Street  
Baptist Church  
Rawtenstall**

**Monthly  
Newsletter**

**March  
2018  
No.796**

**Charity No.1129330**

**This month:-**

- **Ian writes about  
'Change'**
- **Lent Self  
DenialProject**

## Ian writes about 'Change'

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As most of you will know Judith and I have been moving house over the past few weeks and it has been quite an ordeal in many ways. Moving from a large property to one much smaller obviously creates the need for a lot of decision-making and problem-solving. Our new home contains very little storage space. So we've had to decide what to do with much of our furniture and belongings. It has not been easy. Perhaps we had become too fond of our material possessions. In the end we have had to get rid of many precious things.

But it's not only the contents that we are having to deal with. Having lived at Baldingstone House for over seventeen years we found ourselves not only moving and disposing of furniture but also to some extent "*breaking up*" what has been a very happy family home. We were still storing much of our sons' belongings – things dating back in some cases to early childhood - which are having to be disposed of one way or another. We certainly were very blessed and fortunate to be able to have lived where we did. We leave behind many happy memories. The temptation is to keep looking back. We are having to "*start over again*" in a completely new place. Life will be different.

Change is never easy. Moving from one life situation to another requires "*working at*". In many ways what we have been experiencing is like when someone first becomes a Christian. To accept Jesus as our Saviour involves a complete change of direction. We are saying goodbye to the old life and hello to the new. From then on Jesus is Lord – not me. The way the *Alpha* material puts it – we are moving from one kingdom to another - from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of light. Like a footballer who is transferred from one club to another, who has a completely

new manager to be answerable to. It matters not how "good" the old life seems to have been. The new life, if grasped fully, will be infinitely better.

For a new Christian this change of direction is called "repentance". Jesus talks much of repentance, of it being a pre-requisite to salvation. We might think that we aren't that bad as we are and have no need to make any major changes.

The Bible tells us that "*all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God*" (Romans 3:23)

Isaiah 64:6 says this:-

*"All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away."*

At Pentecost Peter's call to the crowds there was "*Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*" (Acts 2: 38). Time and time again Jesus and the apostles called those they were dealing with to repent. It's about being sorry not just for particular things we have done. It involves taking on a completely different attitude and way of thinking.

Today we don't talk much about repentance. It's not a popular concept. Most of us prefer to hang on to some of our old life. For some "Christians" life has hardly changed at all. It is so easy for all of us to live two lives. We need to ask ourselves – are we really changed? What are my priorities now? Have those who know me best noticed anything different about me?

For the Early Church becoming a Christian brought about a complete transformation of their lives. It involved persecution and having to scatter and travel far away from all they knew without any "homely comforts". We were reminded – if we needed reminding - on Persecution

Sunday by Ben Huxtable from "*Release International*" that that even today billions of people worldwide are persecuted. Many are tortured; many killed. In many countries being a Christian is a matter of life and death! And yet those Christians are more serious about keeping the faith than us. As a result they experience God doing amazing things.

On the contrary for us there are so many distractions that divert our attention and take up our time. Most of these are not in themselves bad things but because of them our walk with God may be hardly noticeable. As born-again believers we have the privilege of being adopted sons and daughters of God, of the creator of the Universe. Furthermore, as such, we have a job to do, a part to play in God's plans for the world.

As I have said before, I truly believe that as a church we are at a crossroads. We have a great opportunity to really move forward now and "*step out of the boat*". We have spent much of last year thinking about discipleship. Now is the time to put what we have learned in theory into practice.

How fantastic is the story so far of the ministry of CAP in Rossendale. Jess is creating numerous opportunities to reach out to families and children. Both need our help on a regular basis. Other existing ministries like Food for Thought, Hands On and the visits to the Care Homes have been reaching older folk in the community for several years. And God will no doubt provide other new opportunities to share the Gospel and provide real practical help to the local community. None of this can continue or go ahead without the support of us all.

It's about physical help – "numbers on the ground". But it's also about where each one of us is spiritually. Are we interested in furthering the Kingdom of God in this place?

The Holy Spirit will equip us if we are in the right place in our relationship with Him and seek Him with all our heart.

All of this will inevitably require us to be open to change and that may not be easy to deal with. But let us be brave. Let us not hold on to things of the present for the sake of it or just to be safe. Let us not look back to the ways God has worked among us in the past. Let us look forward to what God undoubtedly has in store for Kay Street. As long as we know the things we are doing are of God, what do we have to fear?

**Ian Pickup**  
**on behalf of Matt, Jess and the Deacons**

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**FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT - February 26 to March 10**

This is the time to remind all our wonderful caterers and everyone using the kitchen that we are registered as a Fairtrade Church. Please, whenever possible use FT products (these do not have to come from Antioch).

**ANTIOCH CHRISTIAN BOOKROOM** during Fairtrade Fortnight issues a special invitation to pay them a visit for:-  
Easter and Mothering Sunday cards

Lent and Easter books

The Real Easter Egg – fairly traded dark or milk chocolate, plus the Real Story of Easter.

New Tradecraft catalogues

Samples of fairly traded nibbles

and also an opportunity to contribute to Traidcraft Exchanges' 'Hidden Entrepreneur' (details in the bookroom). Our gifts will be doubled by the UK government if made before April

### **Mentoring Course**

On Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 34 members of the fellowship attended a Mentoring Course, led by Paul Wilcox, a speaker and writer on mentoring. This was the first step in a process that is intended to develop gradually over the next year or two with the intention of having people who are available to assist those who want some help on their Christian journey and /or increase their understanding of our faith. Watch this space!

### **Safeguarding**

Approximately 40 members of the fellowship attended either Safeguarding Level 2 or Level 3 or both training events on Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> (7 hours training if you attended both! Phew!). The event covered safeguarding, not only for children (under 18) which most of us associate with the topic, but 'adults at risk' who are equally important. Following the day, a small group has been formed to ensure that all our policies, covering a range of topics from recruitment to social media, are totally up to date. No doubt you will be hearing more as revised policies are published!

### **Mothers' Day Brunch – Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March 10.30am**

**Kay Street Baptist Ladies only** – but not necessarily mums! Come and enjoy a delicious brunch – bring a friend, meet other local mums and relax. Leave the children at home ...crèche and children's activities provided if you can't! Free entry – donations welcome. Please sign up if you're coming so we know how much yummy food to make!



As we study the life of Jesus, we'll be thinking about what Jesus teaches us about Himself. Hidden in the wordsearch below are some of the names of Jesus. Can you find them all?

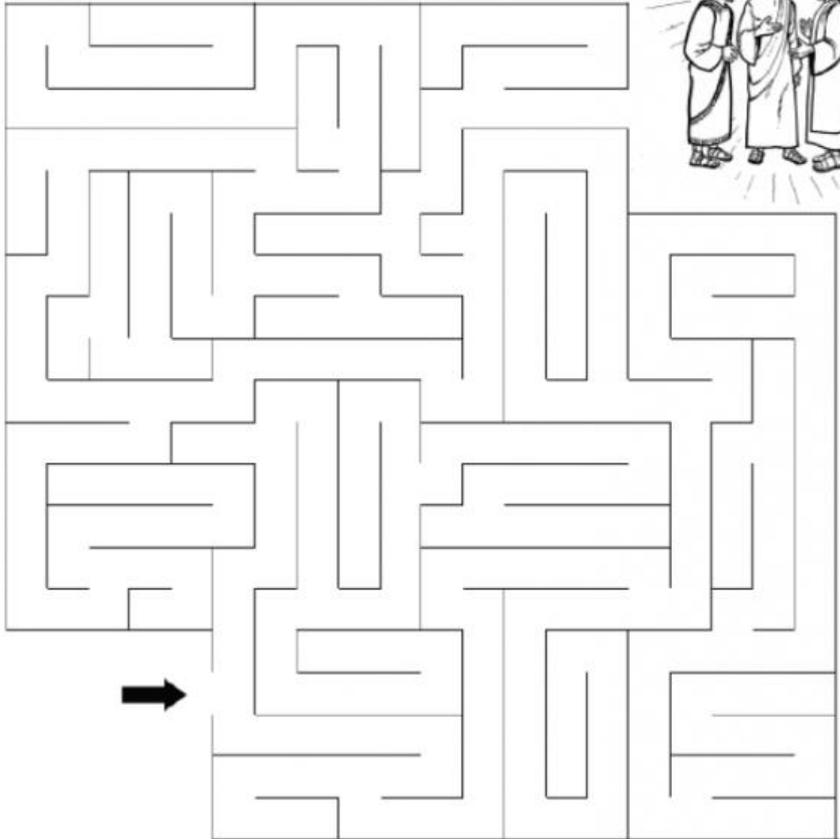
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A	O	K	I	E	L	E	U	N	A	M	M	E	R
T	I	N	A	M	R	O	C	K	O	M	E	G	A
Y	C	O	R	E	R	M	M	E	K	Y	A	W	I
E	I	C	O	U	N	S	E	L	O	R	S	M	H

- PRINCE
- MESSIAH
- MEDIATOR
- ALPHA
- TRUTH
- TEACHER
- EMMANUEL
- OMEGA
- LIFE
- WAY
- TRINITY
- I AM
- COUNSELOR
- POTTER
- ROCK
- LAMB
- CHRIST
- SAVIOR
- KING

# Jesus Transfigured!

Jesus took Peter, James and John with him up a mountainside to pray quietly. As time went by, and the day grew hotter, the apostles nodded off to sleep. But suddenly, something woke them up. Peter, James and John rubbed their eyes to make sure they were not dreaming.

There, in front of them was Jesus talking with two men, one on either side. But Jesus looked different. His face and clothes were gleaming with a dazzling brightness, like that of lightning when it flashes across the sky. A great radiance also shone from the two men, whom the disciples recognized as Moses and Elijah.





On Palm Sunday we remember Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem, when people waved palm branches to welcome him and shouted 'Hosanna!'

Colour in this picture then bring it to church to show us!

**Note for Grown ups...**

This month, Junior Church will continue to explore the life of Jesus with these themes-

11<sup>th</sup> March- Jesus' teaching on Himself

18<sup>th</sup> March- Transfiguration

25<sup>th</sup> March- Palm Sunday



# Prayer points for March

## Mission and relief work

In the light of the recent news surrounding voluntary aid and relief workers overseas, please pray for:

- good governance of the various organisations working with vulnerable people
- high standards of integrity and conduct amongst workers, many of whom work in difficult or stressful conditions
- the reputation of organisations and individuals who have not been involved in inappropriate behaviour to remain intact and their work to be valued
- work amongst the vulnerable to continue despite any impact on funding
- God's name to be honoured and remain honoured in ministries which work in his name and in the areas in which they minister
- healing for any who have suffered due to the actions of aid workers.
- those who would seek this as an excuse to reduce appropriate aid to be thwarted.
- those charged with allocating aid, for fair decisions based on effectiveness and without favour or corruption
- any who have done wrong to receive fair justice

## **Persecution and freedom**

Please pray for:

- Christians suffering for their faith, that they may know the presence and love of God
- God to help them be steadfast and courageous
- Governments and world leaders to use their influence to oppose violence and discrimination against Christians and those of other faiths.
- God to soften the hearts and change the attitudes of those who persecute or who condone persecution
- Christians who are persecuted in refugee camps run by those of other faiths. Pray for this to stop, and for Christians to find refuge and hope.
- Pray for organisations supporting the persecuted church. Pray for resources, and wisdom in how these are used.
- Protection and growth for the many who are turning to Christ as refugees and asylum seekers. Pray for their faith to be strong and for wisdom for those who disciple them.

## **Fairtrade fortnight: February 26-March 11**

Please pray for:

- Those who conduct their business with integrity to prosper
- Those who are dishonest or exploit others to be found out, brought to justice and make amends.
- Fairtrade fortnight to inspire people to consider the things they buy and the conditions under which they are made
- Those who are labouring under unfair conditions. Pray that employers will be forced to treat them fairly.
- For produce which is labelled 'fairly traded' to be truly fair.

Please also pray for the governments and people of **Zimbabwe** adjusting to life after the leadership of Mugabwe, and **South Africa** which may be entering a period of transition.

## **Good News for Africa - The Great Green Wall.**

There are 20 African countries working together to create The Great Green Wall of trees and plants to combat creeping desertification. This natural wonder of the world stretching 8,000km across the entire width of Africa aims to provide food, jobs and a future for the millions of people who live in a region on the frontline of climate change. Once completed, The Great Green Wall will be the largest living structure on Earth.

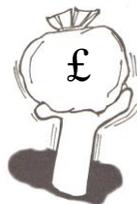
(taken from Clare's prayer diary)

# Lent - Self-Denial Project 2018

## Easter Experiment

An invitation to "get out of the boat" and experiment with God over the 40 days of Lent.

1. Pray asking God
  - What can I do?
  - What can I give?
2. Listen for God's answer.
3. Also Take a free copy of "World Watch List", and sign up to pray each day of Lent for one of the 50 countries where being a Christian is really hard.
4. At the end of Lent, bring your gifts for the work of Relea\$e International.
5. Finally at the end of Lent ask yourself; "What did I discover?"
  - ....about God?
  - .....about myself?



From Di Isherwood



## **Church Family News**

### **Message from Sheila Wild –**

'I would like to say a big thankyou to everyone for your good wishes, cards and gifts which I received for my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. Thank you also for your prayers, support and friendship that you have shown to us as a family especially during the last twelve months. Wishing you all God's blessing. With love and thanks, Sheila.

**Message from Lily Travis** – 'A very warm and sincere thank you for all gifts, cards and kind wishes given to me on the occasion of my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.  
Love to all – Lily Travis.



## **Sunday Worship in March**

**Mar 04 am** All Age service – George Kirk and team  
Communion  
**pm** Communion & Prayer led by Rev M Hirst

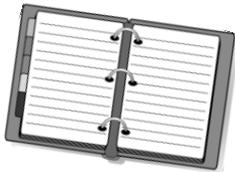
**Mar 11am** Preacher Rev M Hirst Coordinator Allyson Jump  
Mothering Sunday  
**pm** DVD – led by Di Isherwood

**Mar 18 am** Preacher Rev Matt Hirst  
Coordinator David Griffith  
**pm** Preacher Jim Barrie

**Mar 25 am** Preacher Trevor Elkington  
Coordinator Heather Skilling  
**pm** Café Church led by Rev Matt Hirst

**Mar 30 am** Good Friday Communion 10.30am  
Rev M Hirst

Following the Good Friday morning worship at Kay Street there will be a gathering for worship on the town square at 12.30pm for the churches in Rawtenstall, Constablee, Crawshawbooth and Goodshaw. We hope you will be able to join us.



## Diary for March

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- Sat 3 Mar Asda Prayer Breakfast 8am  
Mon 5 Mar Deacons' Meeting 7.30pm  
Sat 10 Mar Mothers' Day Brunch 10.30am (see page 7)  
Sun 11 Mar Visit to Holme Manor - afternoon  
Sat 17 Mar Prayer Walk 4pm  
Sun 18 Mar Sandwich Sunday – bring your lunch!  
Mon 19 Mar Church members' meeting 7.30pm  
Sun 25 Mar Visit to Cherry tree – afternoon  
Mon 26 Mar Church prayer meeting 7.45pm  
Fri 30 Mar Good Friday Communion Service 10.30am  
Sat 31 Mar Striders monthly walk

## Looking Back 25 Years

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More from the archives next month!

# Rotas for March

**Stewards** Coordinator Alan Morton

	<b>Porch</b>	<b>Upstairs left</b>	<b>Upstairs right</b>
04 Mar	Alan Morton Tom Pickup	Amy Lord	Margaret Morton
11 Mar	David Isherwood Pauline Stephenson	Celia Waring	June Worsley
18 Mar	Bill Boaden Ruth Boaden	David Kay	Jilly Horton
25 Mar	Peter Leonard Robin Coulston	Pat Coulston	Margaret Robinson

**Coffee** Coordinator Sandy Rushton

- 04 Mar Mike & Julia Wells, Gill Wills
- 11 Mar Robin & Pat Coulston, Stuart Brown
- 18 Mar Jenny Brunskill, Peter Leonard, June Worsley
- 25 Mar Fred & Sheila Wild, Janet Curtis

**Flowers** Coordinator Carol Hargreaves

- 04 Mar Vacant
- 11 Mar Vacant
- 18 Mar Christine Coates
- 25 Mar Vacant



Please note that items for the April newsletter should reach the Editor, Joyce Barnes, [joyce.barnes563@btinternet.com](mailto:joyce.barnes563@btinternet.com) by Mar 15 for publication on April 1.