



'BEING CHURCH'

TADCASTER METHODIST CIRCUIT

Sunday 22nd November 2020

"I told you I was ill" (Spike Milligan's epitaph)



Dear friends, I hope you're ready to do some work, because I'm going to set you a challenge. It's based on one that Heather, Eileen and I were set on a Local Pastors training course, the first we've ever had – yes, up until now we've been making it up as we went along – oh, you'd guessed that, had you?

Anyway, on to the challenge - you'll need a pen and two small pieces of paper. So here's the first part of the challenge? Write down, in a maximum of eight words, an epitaph for yourself, which might be honest, but isn't necessarily kind. To give you an idea of what I mean, mine might be

"Tried hard but failed. Dodgy sense of humour".

You don't have to follow that style – it might be just one feature of you or up to eight single words describing different facets of your character. Be honest about what you say, and you can be as critical as you like, because nobody else is going to see it.

OK, on to the second part. Write down, again in a maximum of eight words, an epitaph for yourself that you wouldn't mind actually seeing on your headstone. Yes, I know, you won't be around to actually see it, but you know what I mean. It still has to be honest, you can't big yourself up to something that isn't true, but get rid of any negativity. Again, to give you an idea of what I mean, mine might be ***"He loved his family and shared God's love"***. I'd be happy if that were my actual epitaph – but you need to work out your own, in your own style, in your own words. Take a minute to think about it and write it down before you read any further.

OK, if you're ready, take the first piece of paper – and tear it up into a thousand pieces, burn it, throw it in the bin, feed it to next door's cat. Do whatever you need to do to get rid of it, expunge it, consign it to the dustbin of history. Why? Because that is not who you are! In Robert Burns' poem "To a mouse", are the words (anglicised for you) ***"Oh would the Lord, the power he give us, to see ourselves as others see us"***.

Now take the second piece of paper – this is the one you'd actually be comfortable having on your headstone (though not yet, please God, not yet). Stick it on your fridge, or your Noticeboard, or wherever you'll see it frequently, as a reminder that this is how God sees you. He sees the best of you, the potential of you, the person you can be, with his help.

***For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works,
which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*** (Ephesians 2 v 10)

God bless, **Donald**



Revd Steve Jakeman

Phone: 01937 842156

Email: stephen.jakeman@methodist.org.uk

Local Pastor: Donald Milne

Phone: 01937 584037

Email: donaldmilne53@gmail.com

Revd Ann Fox

Phone: 01937 582854

Email: ann.fox@methodist.org.uk

www.tadcastercircuit.org.uk

Advent Bible Study

We are running a Circuit Bible study, over four Tuesdays in Advent, based on Tom Wright's book, "*Advent for everyone - a journey with the Apostles*".



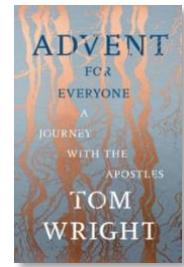
Each session, via Zoom, will run from 7.30pm – 9.00pm.

Week 1 (01/12) - '**Thankfulness**' led by Rev Steve

Week 2 (08/12) - '**Patience**' led by Eileen (Donald to Zoom host)

Week 3 (15/12) - '**Humility**' led by Donald

Week 4 (22/12) - '**Joy**' led by Rev Ann



If you would like to join us please contact the session leader for Zoom details.

A call to pray through November for our nation.

Every Thursday, at 6pm, our District Chair, Revd Leslie Newton, will lead us in 15 minutes of prayer.



This will be live on the District FaceBook page which can be found via this link.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/YorkshireNorthandEastMethodists/permalink/2788921361378258/?comment_id=2792334751036919



YEAR OF PRAYER Wetherby, and Tadcaster Churches are hosting weekly Prayer Meetings to which we all are invited to join in with. They are taking place, on Zoom, as follows:

Wetherby: Every Wednesday, 7pm – 7.20pm

Please contact Revd Ann for the Zoom log on details for the week.

Tadcaster: Every Tuesday, 9.30am – 10am (join from 9.15am)

Please contact Eileen Clarkson for the Zoom log on details.

Worshipping together - Online:

This week we have a Circuit Service for 'Women Against Violence Sunday' brought to us by Lydia Harrison



from the York Circuit. Lydia is a Local Preacher who, like our Joseph, is candidating for Ministry; for which she is required to put together an assessed service in a different Circuit to her own.

This will be available from 7am Sunday morning, on [Boston Spa MC](#), and [Tadcaster Circuit](#) websites, as well as all of our Facebook pages.

Worshipping together – Offline Service sheet attached.

Please join us, to feel part of something larger – physically apart, but spiritually together!



On BBC:

Radio 4 Sunday at 8:10 am, Sunday Worship '[Liberation in Lockdown](#)'



A live service from Holy Trinity, Platt in Manchester exploring the experiences of the nearby student community during lock down. Led by the Revd Dr Paul Mathole and Sarah Bradley.

1:15 pm, on **BBC1**, Songs of Praise '[Young Chorister of the Year - Girls' Semi-Final](#)'

Katherine Jenkins hosts the girls' semi-final of the BBC Young Chorister of the Year competition, with judges John Rutter, Laura Wright and Carl Jackson.

