



'BEING CHURCH' in BOSTON SPA

Sunday 11th July 2021



A prayer for this week

Heavenly Father, we thank you for never giving up on us, even when we let you down. Thank you for your faithfulness and love. Thank you that your actions are always noble and selfless, drawing us in to sit beside you. Thank you that you used John the Baptist to bring many people to you – help us to do the same. Lift us with your Holy Spirit, so that what we say and do builds up your Kingdom. When we falter, grow tired and disheartened and our faith grows weak, uphold us with your steadfast love and let us find again, our strength is you.

We continue to pray for all who are unwell at this time, thinking especially of Ann Fox, following her recent diagnosis. Lord, be with her and her family at this time. In Jesus name, we ask it.

[adapted from 'Roots on the web' material]

This week's lectionary readings:

Amos 7.7—15; Psalm 85. 8—13; Ephesians 1.3—14; Mark 6.14—29

This **Sunday, 11th July** as part of the **Boston Spa Festival Weekend**, we are holding a '*Sing a Song of Praise*' service at 10.30am. We also look forward to welcoming our friends from East Keswick Methodist Church.

Note: it is necessary to book to attend this service by contacting Val Woodhams
Tel: 01937 541497 or email: val1.woodhams@btinternet.com



Sunday 18th July 10.30am: Morning Worship will be led by David Mountain

The Welcome team will be: Vestry Steward—Val Woodhams
with Barbara Hudson & Ursula Turner

Note: it will **not** be necessary to book to attend this service

Church Family News

We were sorry to hear the news of Ann Fox illness and pray for her as she prepares for surgery at the end of July. [Her letter to Circuit churches is on page 2]

We are please to hear that Uell Kennedy's wife, Jeanie is now out of hospital. Uell says, '*I was surprised but pleased. She is very weak but positive.*'

MISSION & GROWTH TEAM—REPORT TO CHURCH COUNCIL



A few months ago the church had been asked by the Tadcaster Circuit to form a team seeking to explore Mission & Growth. I offered to join the group and we are still in the early stages of considering how we approach this. The team needs your support and prayer and this 'Leading your church into growth' prayer is to help us, as we start each session or meeting:

God of mission, who alone brings growth to your church, send your holy spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom to our actions, joy to our worship and power to our witness. Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

We have excellent resources that we can offer the community of Boston Spa and hopefully when we return to some sort of normality we will be able to arrange concerts, pop-up cinema, social events with refreshments, etc. Then we will have opportunities for mission and growth. My vision is to see the church premises used every day of the week, as a real community hub.

Communications are vital in the context of our mission to the community. We have to tell those not engaging with church, that this is a good place to be, and show what we are about. We no longer have a monthly publication, so we need others ways to tell our story.

I also believe that our mission team should work together with our Methodist neighbours in Clifford and we can also share ideas with the King's Church. This is something that I have discussed with Donald, who also represents Clifford on the team. However, we need to be realistic about what we can achieve, but everyone has a part to play. Let me know if you would like to be help. If nothing else, pray for us!!

I end with appropriate words from the hymn 'Colours of Day':

***Go down in the city, into the street, and let's give the message to the people we meet
Take seeds of his Spirit, let the fruit grow, tell the people of Jesus, let his love show.***

Jim Murison

Message from Circuit Superintendent, Revd Ann Fox

Dear Friends

Just as our churches are about to fully reopen and the Circuit about to recommence its outreach activities etc., it is therefore with some disappointment that I let you know that I will be unable to join you for a while.

I have recently been diagnosed with bowel cancer and although this has come as a shock, I am pleased to say that it is manageable and treatable. I will be having an operation at the end of the month, and will then have up to 12 weeks recovery time, which means that I will be 'out of action' until around November. It may be that I will be back in office before then, we will have to see.

I anticipate that I will be able to continue with my Plan appointments up until and including 18 July. We are making enquiries to see if there are preachers available for my August appointments, but as this is the holiday season, would stewards and worship leaders please be prepared to lead services - this is where an 'emergency service' on standby would be helpful.

I know that the Circuit will continue admirably in its mission planning and will enjoy worship more fully once the social distancing rules have been relaxed - I am just sorry that I will miss out on the first time in church when we can sing again!! I thank you for your continued support, and I know that I can leave you all in the safe hands of our Circuit staff team and that they will be able to answer any queries that you may have.

Kind regards,

Rev Ann

FRIDAY LUNCHTIME CONCERTS RESUME WITH 'SERENDIPITY'

It was good that the church was able to hold its first lunchtime concert since the pandemic hit us and **Wendy Wade** reports on 'The Joy of Music' held on 25th June:

It was with great pleasure that we all took our seats for the latest performance in our Church by Margaret Jowett and Kathy White – 'Serendipity'. For a number of years we have enjoyed an annual visit from this talented duo, to be entertained in words and songs, aided by certain props including costumes, Elizabethan men's garters and even a monocle.

The organisers of the event had entertained doubts about attendance numbers. When advertising for the concert they had urged everyone to book tickets in advance and had reminded them that Covid prevented the serving of our delicious lunches – a great additional attraction for our concert fans. There were about 40 attendees in all; a mixture of those who had booked and those who had just turned up at the door. They were not disappointed. Margaret and Kathy had put together an excellent programme entitled 'The Joy of Music' which also contained a variety of poems and excerpts from appropriate prose.

The songs in which the audience were invited to take part, behind their masks, took many of us back to the times our mothers used to sing them as they went about their housework. Few mothers went out to work then and there was more singing in the home. They were songs from the first world war, so full of hope and longing, which our grandmothers had sung to them in their turn. They cheered up the prospect of tidying up and cleaning their temporarily vacant homes, yet again. A happy trip down memory lane.

With the departure of Judith England from Boston Spa this year to live near her family in Portsmouth, Margaret Jowett has kindly stepped in to take her place in organising future programmes. We are very pleased to welcome her.



Margaret & Kathy

LOOKING AHEAD... FRIDAY 23RD JULY - LUNCHTIME CONCERT FEATURING TWO EXCITING EXPERIENCED MUSICIANS



Amy Butler

**at
1.00pm**



Chris Hill

Profiles of both performers are featured on page 4.

We are grateful that Margaret Jowett is able to attract such talented musicians to play for us in Boston Spa.

Note: no bookings required—cost is £5 per head, payable on entrance.

PROFILE OF THE PERFORMERS BOOKED FOR FRIDAY 23RD JULY 2021



Chris Hill, 21, is a multi-award winning flautist. Graduated in 2019 with BA in music from the University of Oxford, He currently studies with internationally renowned flautist Paul Edmund-Davies.

Chris has played in some of the finest venues in the UK and abroad both as a soloist and as a member of an ensemble. He has performed recitals at venues including the Royal Concert Hall, in Nottingham, the Royal Albert Hall, Southwell Minster, St John's and St. James', London and the House of Lords. He has played in numerous venues across Europe, including The Netherlands, Switzerland and Italy.

Chris has won numerous regional and national competitions, and has been a woodwind category audition finalist 3 times in the **BBC Young Musician of the Year**. For his services to music, and supporting the cause of other young musicians in 2019 he was awarded the **Princess Diana Award**.



Amy Butler is from Howden, East Yorkshire - at the age of 15 she achieved the highest mark nationally in her Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music Grade 8 piano exam. Amy then went on to gain the ABRSM Music Performance Diploma. She currently studies with international concert pianist Martin Roscoe.

Amy then went on to study for four years at Oxford University, where she won a choral scholarship and performed in many university recitals. She graduated with a first class degree. Amy now performs across the country as a soloist, accompanist and ensemble pianist.

Chris and Amy will be performing an exciting varied programme of virtuoso flute repertoire.

THE BOSTON SPA DISNEY & SUPER HERO SCARECROW TRAIL

In the village over 60 scarecrows are featured plus 4 in Thorp Arch and 13 in Clifford. The whole Festival Weekend as planned is an excellent Community effort by the Parish Council with particular thanks to David Watts, for all his efforts.



Our Methodist Church and St Mary's have participated and are pictured here. For those who haven't been down to the church this week, this is our contribution to the trail. Thanks to Steve for setting it up.

The picture on the right is the Disney character on the wall of St Mary's Church.

Note: In addition to the Songs of Praise service at 10.30am on Sunday, (streamed live) there is also a service in St Mary's Church at 6.00pm

