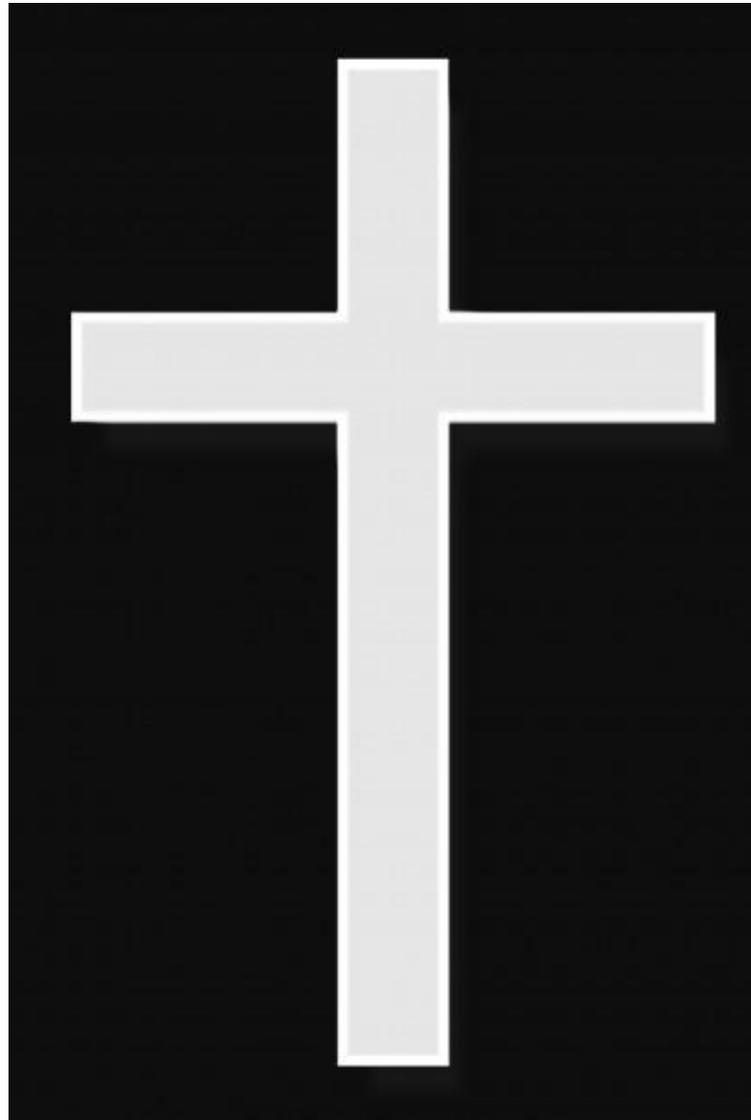




ALLERTON
CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH



June 2015 Newsletter

Dear Friends

Most of you will know that we've recently returned from holiday (what another holiday I hear you say!!). We drove over 300 miles from Shelf to Brixham and we were glad when we got there. Five or six hours on the motorway even with a stop or two is a long trip. The following Saturday we drove all the way back again and the same principles applied. Although we could and have in the past driven further 300 miles seemed like a long way. We weren't looking to do more miles than we had to and we were glad when we were home.

In the fifth chapter of Matthew's gospel as part of the Sermon on the Mount there are a series of teachings by Jesus on a variety of different subjects. It's here in verse 38-42 that we find amongst other things that difficult teaching about not taking revenge on someone who has wronged us. Jesus says we should not be seeking an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth but instead offering the other cheek. If we read on we find Jesus saying that if a soldier orders you to carry his pack one mile you should offer to carry it two.

It's unlikely that we would ever encounter a soldier giving such orders but in the time of Jesus a Roman Soldier could quite legitimately order a subject to carry his pack for a mile and Jesus is saying do more, add value, carry it two.

Although this particular illustration may not apply to us today the teaching certainly does. Jesus is saying go the extra mile don't just do what's expected of you, whenever you have the chance, look to do more, put yourself out for the good of others.

It's not easy advice in a world which too often encourages us to only look after number one. Jesus is teaching us to reach out, to serve others and then not to simply do the basic minimum but to do more, to add value and give extra in our Christian discipleship. If we think this is a challenge then remember Jesus is talking about doing these things to those who have wronged us, not to take revenge but to reach out, this is real tough discipleship.

Our next holiday, (what another holiday I hear you say!!!) is to Norfolk in July. Another long trip, we won't be looking to do more mileage than we have to but it might just remind us that Jesus encourages us in our Christian discipleship to go that extra mile and to add that extra value to all our good deeds.

With Love & Prayers

Trevor

Pulpit

June 7 th	Trevor Kershaw	Communion
June 14 th	David Kenyon	
June 21 st	Trevor Kershaw	
June 28 th	Trevor Hippey	

Flowers

We are very grateful to the following friends who have kindly promised to provide flowers for the month of June.

June 7 th	Mrs Compton & Mr Roberts
June 14 th	In Memory of Rene Tomlinson
June 21 st	Miss N Abbott
June 28 th	Mr Hepworth

Mrs Henderson will be responsible for arranging and distributing the flowers throughout this month.

Collections

May 3rd
May 10th
May 17th
May 24th

Ladies Circle

The meeting on Wednesday 3rd June welcomes our friend, Trevor Kershaw, back to talk to us again. The meeting starts at 7.30pm and everyone is welcome.

Annual General Meeting

This years AGM was held on 13th May where there were approx 30 members present.

There were some changes to those standing for Office, they are now as follows:

- Church Secretary – Janet Muschamp
- Church Treasurer – Philip Barfield
- Church Auditor – Trevor Milner
- Newsletter Editor – Faye Hardy
- Financial Secretary – Chris Ing
- Christmas Fair Secretaries – Mr & Mrs Ing and Mr & Mrs Lee

Sue and Chris Thorp stood down as church secretaries having served the church for the past 16 years. They were presented with theatre vouchers, flowers for Sue and chocolate muffins for Chris. They have been thanked on numerous occasions but one more won't go amiss. Thank you to you both for so many years of devoted service to our church. Sue and Chris have been replaced as Secretary by Janet Muschamp, ably assisted by David, we welcome Janet into the role and look forward to working with her. We were also pleased to have Philip Barfield back in the post of Treasurer with thanks going to Chris Ing, Chris Thorp and Donald Roberts for their help during the time Philip was out of action. Carol Brook has joined the diaconate and we welcome her into this new role, Carol also looks after the web site for us and keeps it updated.

Dora Charlesworth and Joan Dibb retired from the Finance Committee at the AGM and we thank them for their service to that committee over the years. If you would like to join the finance committee we have vacancies please see Trevor or Chris Ing. Trevor Kershaw also gave thanks to all those who help out in non-elected roles such as Flowers, running of the website and playing of the organ etc.

Also standing down are Irene Relton, Jean Holdsworth and Margaret Jones who have been 'The ladies of the Christmas card stall' for many years and have over that time raised considerable sums of money for the church. Once again we thank them for their service which was recognised with the presentation of gift vouchers at our AGM. Jane Ing has inherited the stock of cards and will hopefully continue to raise funds in the future.

Other matters to mention include this years Harvest Supper will take the form of a Faith Supper to be held on Saturday 26th September 2015 and to be organised by Joan Dibb. It was proposed to rewrite the Church Constitution and this will be taken on by Trevor Kershaw, Chris & Sue Thorp and Janet Muschamp. The updated version will be brought to the next meeting in September.

The following charities have been nominated to receive donations from the proceeds of our 200th Anniversary events. It was agreed to give each charity £250.

- British Heart Foundation
- Multiple Sclerosis Society
- HFT Trust Bradford
- Reading Matters
- Bradford & Airedale Out On A Limb Society
- Carers Resource
- Zephaniah Trust

There will be a Presentation service on 16th August when the cheques will be handed over to the charities representatives.

It was also noted that we raised £120 to send to Nepal after the recent earthquake tragedy.

Coffee Morning

Thanks to everyone who supported our Coffee Morning, when a total of £248 was raised for Christian Aid. This amount also includes contributions from the Walk of Witness and Easter Breakfast.

Open House

Trevor and Ruth invite you to their open house on Saturday 13th June between 3pm and 5pm, all welcome, lifts can be arranged on request. Donations to their chosen charity will be gratefully received on the day.

Condolences

It is with great sadness that I write of the sudden passing of Doreen Lee who died on May 7th. Our thoughts and prayers are with her husband Ronnie Lee and family at this difficult time. Doreen will be remembered for all she did at our church from being in the choir, organising the March Martinee Concerts and helping with the Harvest Supper preparation amongst many, many other activities that are too long to list.

Her funeral was held at our church led by Trevor Kershaw on Thursday 28th May followed by Nab Wood Crematorium.

Update

As many of you will know Jack Hastings was taken into hospital at the end of last month for a hip replacement. I am pleased to say he is recovering nicely though slower than Jack would like at ****. We wish him all the best and look forward to seeing him soon in the near future.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Elizabeth Headley on becoming a grandmother for the first time to Samuel Colin Headley born 6th May 2015 to Richard and his wife ***. Our warmest wishes go to the whole family. Congratulations also go to Pauline & Philip Barfield for their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on Sunday 7th June.

Flower Festival

After the success of last year's Flower Festival it has been decided to have another go this year and a Flower Festival/Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday 4th July where the theme will be 'Hymns'. If you wish to take part, please add your name and hymn choice to the list on the notice board in the church hall.

Every Sunday

Family Service 10.30am