

# Bamford Chapel and Norden URC



As a deer longs for flowing streams  
so my soul longs for you, O God.



July and August  
2015

# **BAMFORD CHAPEL & NORDEN URC**

## **MISSION/VISION STATEMENT**



### **Worship**

In our devotion we will come together to express our joy, love and thanks through worship.

We shall share our praise and dedicate it to God.

### **Ministry**

Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit we will show compassion and love by understanding, supporting and meeting the spiritual, the physical and the emotional needs of others.

### **Evangelism**

We are called as Christians to share the good news; living as examples of Christ in our everyday lives we can spread the word and love of Jesus.

### **Discipleship**

We as a church have a responsibility as Christians to encourage people to know God and to enable them to develop their relationship with Him through prayer, discussion, study and learning.

### **Fellowship**

We welcome to our church family those who want to belong. We show our love for others by sharing acts of fellowship in God's name.



## July and August 2015

Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	7.30 pm	Elders' Meeting
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	10.30 am	<b>Family Worship with Holy Communion</b> Led by Revd Richard Bradley
	6.00 pm	<b>Evening Worship</b> Led by David Watson
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	7.30 pm	<b>Christian Aid Evening at Bamford Chapel &amp; Norden URC.</b> Bex Turner speaking about the Work of Christian Aid. Please try to support this event.
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	10.30 am	<b>Family Worship (All Age Parade)</b> Led by Andy Platt
	6.00 pm	<b>Evening Worship</b> Led by Revd Richard Bradley
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	8.00 pm	Finance Meeting
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	10.30 am	<b>Family Worship</b> Led by Revd Richard Bradley
	12 noon	<b>Church Meeting</b> Please do your best to attend
	6.00 pm	<b>Evening Worship with Holy Communion</b> Led by Revd Richard Bradley
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	1.15 pm	<b>Monthly Midweek Communion Service</b> In the Lounge
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> July	10.30 am	<b>Family Worship</b> Led by Revd Ruth Watson (Richard is at Ruth's Church)
	6.00 pm	<b>Evening Worship</b> Led by Ken Greer

<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Family Worship with Holy Communion</b> Led by Revd Richard Bradley
	<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>Evening Worship</b> Led by Anne Fitton
<b>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>Elders' Meeting</b>
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Family Worship</b> Led by Revd Richard Bradley
	<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>Evening Worship</b> Led by Revd Richard Bradley
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Family Worship</b> Led by Joanne Ackroyd
	<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>Evening Worship with Holy Communion</b> Led by Walter Brisk
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Family Worship</b> Led by Margaret Ogden
	<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>Evening Worship</b> Led by Andy Platt
<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Family Worship</b> Led by Ken Greer
		<b>Bank Holiday - NO EVENING WORSHIP</b>

### SEPTEMBER MAGAZINE

**The September edition of the magazine will be produced by Louise Aspinall (for this one month only)**

**All items should be e-mailed to her at**

**[l.aspinall@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:l.aspinall@yahoo.co.uk)**

**by Sunday 17th August**

**or placed in the folder in the coffee area.**

**Weekday Groups for Adults, Children & Young People (opportunities for Learning and Sharing Fellowship)**

You are welcome to join any of the appropriate groups

Further details of all Services and Groups may be found on the Sunday Notice Sheet and at:- [www.bamfordchapel.co.uk](http://www.bamfordchapel.co.uk)

Monday	Weekly	8.00 pm	Focus on Prayer In the Crèche
Monday	Weekly	8.00 pm	<b>Home Group</b> - at the home of Addie & Barbara Redmond
Monday Monthly	27 <sup>th</sup> July August to be advised	7.30 pm	<b>Joy Group</b> at 17 Bamford Mews Optional meal at Dolce Vita at 6.30 pm
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month	7 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup> July 4 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup> August	2.15 pm	<b>Stillness and Sharing</b> In the Lounge
Tuesday	Weekly	From 6.00 pm	<b>Rainbows, Brownies and Guides</b>
Tuesday	Weekly	7.00 pm	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b> In Chapel
Tuesday Fortnightly	14 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup> July (none in August)	8.00 pm	<b>Home Group – Discipleship Explored</b> In the Manse
Wednesday	Weekly	From 6.45 pm	<b>Boys' Brigade</b>
Wednesday	Weekly	7.30.pm	<b>Exploring the Bible</b> – at the home of Ray Atkins, 8 Greenwich Close
Thursday	Weekly	From 10.00 am	<b>Community 'drop-in' Coffee Morning</b>
Thursday	Monthly 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday	7.45 pm	<b>Ladies' Fellowship</b> – Open to all Ladies, £3 subs. (See Page 13)
Sunday Youth Groups	Weekly	6 - 7 pm 7.30 to 8.30 pm	<b>Koinonia God Squad</b>

## Message from the Manse



As I write this article I do so some 6 hours or so after the special church meeting on the church modification works. I want to start by thanking Stuart Dean and Steven Brandon for their hard work to this point. The presentation given by Stuart today reflected their hard work and planning. I also want to thank everyone who contributed to the discussions in the meeting. I know for some the decision taken today to modify the sanctuary is a difficult one and for your honesty and openness I thank you.

There are still many discussions to be had with regards to where we will worship whilst the church modification works are done. The Elders will have further discussions on this at their July meeting. There will need to be a small group tasked with choosing the colour of floorcovering as well as the colour of chairs.

This is an exciting time in the life of Bamford Chapel and Norden URC. A comment was made by a church member in the meeting today suggesting that the changes being made to the fabric of the building won't automatically bring people into Church; a statement I agree with. That is why at every point we cannot lose sight of the reason why we are here. I think it is a good time to remind people of the Vision we adopted as a church: "Loving God, Serving Others, Building Community."

Even though in the coming months a lot of time, focus and energy will be used on buildings related matters, I do not want us to lose sight of other discussions that need to be had relating to the mission and outreach of the church. In about a month's time we will have our Garden Party and I am thankful that at least one Core Group is looking at ways of "advertising" the church to the potential hundreds that could come to the Garden Party. It is not just an opportunity for raising funds (as



important as that could be) it is also an important opportunity to reach out to the people who come to the Garden Party in advertising who we are and what we stand for.

So I want to challenge us all collectively not to lose sight of the vision and mission of the church. We do have a God-given challenge to fulfil Matthew 28:16-20:-

***“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very ends of the earth.”***

I want to encourage people to pray about this passage of scripture. I want to ask you to pray about how we can best fulfil that mission as handed to the first disciples; a mission that is still as relevant today as it was 2000+ years ago.

***Thanks and God Bless***

***Richard***



## ***“Worship”***

What is important for you in an act of worship? For some the music group approach may be one that is not “your cup of tea”. For others they may prefer the music group to the organ being played. For others they “prefer” modern songs, still others prefer traditional hymns. But fundamentally what is worship about? Is it about what we “like” or “dislike” or is it about what God thinks of worship? He, after all, is the focus of our worship. As the minister and the one who leads worship the most, the question “what is worship” is often at the forefront of my mind. When I spend so much time in planning and preparing worship I often feel as though I am trying to “please” a



spectrum of opinion and preference. Questions spin in my mind:

- \*Have I got too many modern hymns this week?
- \*Is it time I had a drama included in worship?
- \*Is it time I had a dance included in worship?
- \*Is it time we had the drums again as some people enjoy them?



As I look at those questions I think what a wealth of talent we have at Bamford Chapel and Norden URC and I try and use it all to glorify God. Because as I sit and plan worship my primary focus should be “what best honours God in this act of worship.” So often, however, questions and comments people make affect the acts of worship that I put together.

I want to ask you to prayerfully consider the challenge of worship. I love my role as preacher and service leader. There are times when it is really tough and I ask for your prayers: (a) as I balance discussions on the two service debate: (b) as I balance the rota of musicians to give each of our main musicians an equal share of services. I want us to move forward as a church as one people, serving the one God.



I want us to have a discussion on worship in the coming months. Not just a discussion on what we “like” or “don’t like”, but a discussion on “What is worship?” And rather than discussions on what we like or what we dislike I want us to focus on what helps us best express our worship of God, because I am confident God likes the organ and I am equally sure God likes guitars and drums too!

In closing I ask you to please pray for the worship core group as in the coming weeks we continue to have discussions on the worship life of the church.

*Thanks and God Bless*

*Richard*

## Church in the World Group

## Toilet Twinning

Bamford Chapel and Norden UCR Church have now raised sufficient monies to twin two of our toilets, a Ladies and a Gents! We are waiting to hear where our toilet twins are - watch out for the pictures going up in our loos and remember how lucky you are to have access to so many toilets!



If you want to twin your own toilet please see the link below or ask Barbara and Addie Redmond or Gill James who will provide the relevant information. [toilettwinning.org](http://toilettwinning.org)

## Project 2015

The Group are still considering two options for our 2015 Project, we will have a final recommendation for the July Church Meeting. The Project will be launched on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2015 during Sunday Morning Worship and run until Christmas Day.

## Project 2008

Thanks to Carol Hartley who provided an update regarding our 2008 Project following a recent visit to Belarus. The money raised helped set up flats to assist young people with learning disabilities and sensory loss to become more independent. Carol reports amazing outcomes from the project.

*Carole Greaves on behalf of the Church in the World Group*

*Congratulations to our eldest daughter Jenny Brandon (nee Platt). She has been promoted to Sister on the paediatric oncology clinic in Leeds. Julie & Andy Platt*



## News of the Family

Concerns are expressed for those in our church family and community who are suffering illness or bereavement at this time. We also remember those who suffer, privately or openly, and who carry burdens that may seem too great. We think of those in pain, both physical and emotional, and of those facing financial hardship.



“Lord, give us compassion and awareness when we meet those who are lonely and let us be a witness to you, by involving all who we can in what our church can offer, irrespective of faith, creed, colour, politics and background”.

Turning to family news, after the summer holidays Megan Davies will be increasing her hours at JD Warehouse to full time. This is so she can start saving up for a holiday to America next year with her mum and dad, Laura and Paul. Well done Megan!

Our church is testament to what can result when enough people give their time voluntarily to serve others. You will know how successful and well attended our Mums and Toddlers group is, managed and organised with military precision by Gillian Galloway and her team of helpers (Gloria Norbury, Margaret Watson, Margaret Ogden, Jean Fitton, Kirsty Baker and Mags Tattersall). Finlay also regularly attends at "tidy up time". Week in week out on Tuesdays between 9am and



11am our church doors are opened to welcome all our local parents, grandparents and child minders with their pre-school age children. Gillian is also very accommodating of school age children who are also allowed to attend in the school holidays. The group meets all year round save for Holy Week and Christmas and is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship.

All of this is by way of a preamble to welcome to the group of leaders another willing helper. Many of you will know Rebecca Gooding, sister to Emma and daughter to Clair and Steven. Rebecca has now finished her GCSEs and will start at Rochdale Sixth Form College in

September, but for the remainder of the summer (and perhaps for even longer depending on her timetable commitments at college!) she will be helping out at the Mums and Toddlers group. May the experience she gains at this group stand her in good stead when she makes career choices once her full time education is complete.

I promised you updates on progress made by Sarah Fitton as she embarks on her journey to becoming a minister. Sarah's next milestone of note is that she will be conducting a service of her own one evening in July. We wish Sarah well as she prepares for occasions such as this, and as she gains more experience of leading worship at our church, and we give thanks that we as a congregation can support her in this.

As our next magazine will not be produced until September it is right to mention here those of our older children who will receive exam results over summer. We think of the children themselves and the parents of these children as they share in any concerns their children may be feeling and we pray for expectations to be met.

And finally, we share in the joy of parents welcoming their children back from university for the summer. Please make our young adults feel welcome if they attend our services.



## *Sarah Finnigan*

Heywood Local Committee for Cancer Research  
Coffee Morning  
at Heywood Civic Centre  
on Friday 10th July from 10am to 1pm  
Admission £3  
*Jonathan Swift (singer) will be entertaining*  
Tombola and raffle  
Ring 01706 638005 for tickets

A decorative border for the advertisement, consisting of a repeating pattern of small, stylized human figures arranged in a grid-like border around the text.



## Meerkat Moses

*(not the Meerkat Manor Family)*

### Mystery Messenger from the GIAM

Things you've forgotten  
**IT'S ALL SO SIMPLES!!**

Apparently some people are confused about me, my job and my helpers. It's probably because I only chat to you once a month and you're never likely to see me! I'm Meerkat Moses and I'm the look-out at chapel. My mates are the chair mice Romi, Cori, Gali, Ephi and Phili and the flower stand mice Coli and Thessi. The person you call **GOD**, calls Himself **YHWH** (and that means **I am Who I am**) and I call Him the **Great I Am** or **GIAM** for short. Well, He says there are important messages that you've all forgotten. So He's going to give me one each month to pass on. We've had four so far:

1. **Love the GIAM, Love everyone and love yourself!**
2. **Do not go compare – be what GIAM has created you to be!**
3. **Encourage one another!**
4. **Fear not!**

### **SIMPLES, SIMPLES, SIMPLES!**

The **FEAR NOT** reminder seemed to work well. The meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> June decided the changes will go ahead and we'll trust that **GIAM**'s picked the guys he wants to do the job. He's also primed a few sceptics to ask the right questions & keep everyone on track! We were pleased to hear people laughing at the end of the meeting and I think **GIAM** was too.

The flower stand mice Coli & Thessi had a quarrel this week! You see there was this magnificent, magnificent flower display on 14<sup>th</sup> June. But there was only ONE!! Coli thought she should have it because she was on the tallest stand but Thessi said her stand was the prettiest and an almighty row broke out. Thessi got the flowers. They argued and argued all night and said all sorts of bad things to each other.

I knew it had to be sorted before the Sunday morning so I decided there must be something in the **BOOK** and then I remembered the prayer that you all say to **GIAM** more often than any other. I think it's the one Jesus taught his mates & Matthew wrote it down in chapter 6: 9-13. Yippee – I found the word I needed: **FORGIVE!** It's a bit scary really because it said if we want GIAM to forgive us when we do anything wrong, then we've got to forgive anyone who does wrong to us. And in verse 15 it says "if you do not forgive men their sins, your father will not forgive you your sins!"

So I explained all this to Coli and Thessi and it scared them a bit. So they both said 'sorry' to each other and forgave each other. Thessi promised Coli that the next time there was only one amazing set of flowers, then she could have it.

#### **SO - FORGOTTEN MESSAGE NUMBER 5 FROM GIAM:**

#### **FORGIVE AND YOU WILL BE FORGIVEN!**

A bit challenging! Jesus' mate Peter thought so too! He asked Jesus how many times he's supposed to forgive if someone keeps wronging (or dissing) him. Would 7 times be enough? He didn't expect the answer he got! 70 X 7 said Jesus, that's 490 times!!

Mind you this Jesus did practice what he preached. When he was dying on the cross he said to the soldiers and all who were mocking him "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." Quite a man, just like GIAM in fact!

Coli had to have the final say when she looked in chapter 3 of 'her' book Colossians and found verse 13. "Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

Remember: **Message 5: Forgive one another! SIMPLES!!** (but not easy)

*Love from Meerkat Moses (and the furniture mice)*

## Auction of Promises - Watch This Space



The Fellowship Group recently put to Elders their suggestion for an 'Auction of Promises' as an opportunity for fellowship and to raise money for the chairs that will have to be purchased for church once the pews have been removed. This event has now received approval from the Elders.

This is advance notice of that event which will take part in mid to late October this year.

What will it involve? The event will see people offering the use of their talents for a price, with what they are offering being auctioned. Some of the bidding will be capped to ensure all, regardless of their means, may make a contribution if they wish to do so.

Further details will follow in September's magazine and in the notice sheets. In the meantime put your thinking caps on. What can you offer? Can you run someone to the airport? Mow a lawn? Make a birthday cake? Offer a lesson in basic computing or use of the Internet? Draft a legal document?

Everyone has something to give and no matter how small you feel your contribution is every penny counts.

As it says above, Watch This Space!

*Sarah Finnigan,  
on behalf of the Fellowship Core Group*

### Bamford Post Office

In view of the proposal to move the Bamford Post Office operation from its present site to a position within the Bamford Premier Store, you are encouraged to express your views individually both for and against the proposal. Details of how to respond, either on line or in writing can be obtained from the Post Office. Closing date for your views is 10<sup>th</sup> July 2015".



## Ladies Fellowship : Summer Evening Outing

It could not have been a more perfect summer's evening on 11th June when thirty one ladies arrived at The Marina Bar and Grill, Lake Bank, Hollingworth Lake for the annual evening outing. The restaurant describes itself as serving "real food with Italian passion." Choices from the main course menu included salmon steak, chicken breast, sirloin steak and salmon tagliatelle whilst desserts included cheesecake, ice cream [Italian is the best don't you think?] and profiteroles.

The upstairs dining room was very spacious, decorated with tasteful lighting [and it had its own bar!!]. Overlooking the lake, anyone with a good imagination could easily believe they were on the shore of some grand Italian lake.

Many thanks are due to Angela Smith and Linda Kerford for their excellent planning of another very successful meeting of ladies from the fellowship. We were very disappointed our Chairperson, Joyce Cooper was unable to be with us at this event.

## September

The first meeting of the new season is on Thursday, 10th September when Ray Ashton will talk to us about "Women in War Time" Ray has over 100 pictures illustrating the role women played in war history. On Thursday 24th September our regular Macmillan Coffee Morning will be held as part of the weekly Community Coffee Morning. More details will be given on the 10th September.

*Lesley Sutton*

## Ministry Core Group Update



The Ministry Core Group is currently working on the following:

**Welcome to your New Home leaflets** are now complete for Norden and Bamford Areas and available under the clock. Please deliver to any newly occupied homes in your locality as a 'Welcome' and to provide valuable local information.

**Welcome to Church leaflets** will be complete and ready to distribute at the Garden Party in July; this will provide general Church information.

**Information Leaflet** is being developed, to outline all aspects of worship and groups/activities going on in church. This will include a slip which visitors to Church can complete to provide their contact details.

Following on from the Dementia Friends Session to raise our awareness of how we can help people with dementia to live well, we are now planning a short Mental Health and Well-being session, so that again we can be more aware as individuals and a congregation of the needs of others, as we go about our ministry. Watch out for a date.

Members of the Group are continuing the links we have made with Oakland and Half Acre Residential Care Homes. We hope to extend the short services offered so far i.e. Christmas and Easter, to include a Harvest Service. Barbara and Addie Redmond are currently planning an "animal" themed presentation to take to both homes. Anyone who would like to support these ventures will be welcomed with open arms; visits to both these homes have been rewarding in so many ways. To find out more contact Sid Hazlehurst, Margaret Ogden or Carole Greaves.

The Group continues to meet regularly and the minutes are held in the folder in the coffee area. We are blessed to have Linda Kerford on the group who has done a brilliant job of taking the minutes, designing the leaflets, as well as contributing.

*Carole Greaves on behalf of the Ministry Core Group*

## WELCOME TEAM



This initiative had a trial run in February with thirteen volunteers involved greeting friends at the Chapel gate, in the sanctuary and at the rear entrance.

In September there will be a month of volunteers providing the same service. Whether it continues beyond depends on the timing of alterations to the structure of the building. For the person standing at the gate, I am hoping to provide a "special" umbrella! Once the work in Chapel is complete, I will prepare future rotas.

Here are the names of those already on the rota. If you feel you would like to be part of this, please contact me either by telephone or e-mail. I will be pleased to outline what is required.

**Linda Kerford, Clive Glover, Anna James, Maisie Abbott, Julie Platt, Beryl Thomas, Jean Fitton, Rebecca Gooding, Joan Warner, Angela Smith, Lesley Sutton, Ian Sturrock, Samantha Divers, Pamela Harrington** *They will each receive a telephone call from me before I prepare September's rota to ensure you still wish to continue on this worthwhile mission.*

Each "greeter" will be wearing a WELCOME BADGE to identify their role so please welcome them too and offer encouragement as they seek to make every person who enters the building feel comfortable.

*Lesley Sutton*

## Family Fun day

Many of you will know that the Fellowship Group (Finlay Galloway, Elizabeth Greer, Elizabeth Hazlehurst, Sue Travis, Ian Hampson and Sarah Finnigan) organised and ran the Family Fun Day, which took place on the back field at church on Sunday 10th May. This event stems from the repeated views expressed in the questionnaires (completed by church members) that more family events would be beneficial and that we should use as much as possible the extensive grounds that church offers.

The Fun Day combined these two elements and being an outreach into our community the event also fitted nicely into our vision of Loving God, Serving Others, Building Community.

Adults and children with pre-school children on the smaller top back games taking place on invites for the event at the children in our Mums and Toddler our uniformed course their families.



were split into 6 teams taking part in activities field, with the main the main field. The were targeted primarily junior church, the group and attendees of organisations, and of

The event was also

highlighted in the notice sheet in the run up to the event and in the church magazine.

The event was very well attended and saw parents getting their track suits and trainers on to get stuck in. No margin for error was left in the games, which were brilliantly organised by Elizabeth Greer who was helped on the day with the running of the games by Sue Hampson. Sarah Finnigan led the games for the younger children ably assisted by Sue and David Travis. Paul Hazlehurst used his connections at Rochdale football club to arrange for lines to be painted on the field and we have Rob and Drew, the groundsmen, to thank for this. Steven Gooding provided music for the period once the games were over, when attendees shared in their picnics and we are indebted to Claire Gooding and Carolyn Divers for the loan of equipment from their school supplies.

The Fellowship Group has a list of helpers who were invited to attend on the day and for fear of missing out a name we extend our thanks to all who played their part in running this event. We have received very positive feedback from many who took part and this is a credit to all who contributed to the organising that was required.

It will be repeated next year with a suggested date of Sunday 19th June 2016 and we hope to attract greater numbers then with more focused advertising and by extending the number of invites distributed. If you attended and have observations or constructive criticism to add then please speak to any member of the Fellowship Core Group. If you did not attend and wish you had, then put the above date for next year's event in your diary now!

*Sarah Finnigan  
on behalf of the Fellowship Core Group*

### Church Flowers



Donations for flowers in July & August  
have been received from:  
Beryl Thomas in memory of her Mum  
Molly Brierley  
Eric Lumb in memory of Jean  
Pamela Harrington in memory of her Mum  
Dot Craig in memory of her Wedding Anniversary  
Sarah Ryan in memory of Gladys, John & Luke Wheeldon  
Lesley Sutton  
Audrey Telford in memory of John  
Pat Gate in memory of Bob  
Brenda Griffiths in memory of her Wedding Anniversary

## JUNIOR CHURCH DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAY



A great opportunity to get to know our young people better by leading or helping with a Junior Church lesson is available over the school Summer holidays.

There is lots of help, advice and guidance available.

A list is under the clock — please sign up for one or more sessions.

For more information please speak to any of the Junior Church leaders or contact

Louise Aspinall  
on 01706 719449 or  
Gillian James  
on 01706 868885  
as soon as possible.

Thank you



## What's Your Next Step?

Does this month spell the end of school, college, or even a job, for you? Then congratulations are in order: you have completed a significant step!

Now it is time to consider your next step. The dictionary defines 'step' as a physical movement that advances you in a desired direction. You take a 'step' forward in order to get somewhere specific, not just to stop yourself falling flat on your face. Each 'step', however small, can take you towards a specific goal.

The Bible reflects this. It is filled with the metaphors of stepping, walking, running and goals, pilgrimages, journeys, all to describe the years of our lives.

When we were babies, we clung to our parents' hands as we learned how to take our first steps. They stayed right by us, to keep us from falling, and to steer us in the right direction. As adults, the Bible tells us that a successful journey through all of life is based on how near we walk to God – and let him guide us in the steps we should take.

Choosing your next step in life this year is important. The good news is that you need not do it on your own. The Bible makes clear that in God, you have a divine 'life coach'. He knows you perfectly – and he has a plan for your life. Most of all this involves a personal relationship with him.

We've all seen toddlers staggering towards danger, ignoring their parents' cries of warning. We've all seen adults making a mess of their lives. They are ignoring their personal divine Shepherd, Guide, Teacher and Helper.

A baby learns to walk safely by listening to its parents. We learn what God's will is for us through daily reading of his word, in the Bible, and in obeying what we read.

For when God guides us, he does not hand down a divine map of our lives. His guidance is more like that of a torch – light for our daily path.

God's final 'step' for you is that you should know, enjoy and glorify Him forever. Throughout our lives, we are to be taking small daily steps towards the Eternal City and He will see that we reach our final goal.

Meanwhile, the Lord wants you to succeed in the earthly goals that He has for you! Ask God to be your guide and helper as you take your next step.



## Chapel Grounds

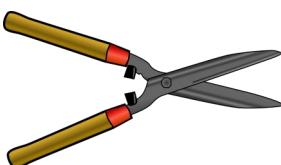
I would like to appeal for help from those who may be able to provide assistance to those, now few in number, who try valiantly to maintain the Chapel grounds. There are no hard and fast job descriptions.



In the summer months the grass needs cutting and that is everything from the graveyard, the areas around the car park, the front of Chapel and all areas at the rear. In the bottom garage Chapel owns a number of pieces of equipment to assist with this work, namely a tractor mower, a 2 stroke hover for use on the bankings in the car park, various mowers and a wheeled petrol strimmer which is useful in the graveyard. These machines cannot be used until branches, which have fallen, have been picked up. This is a manual operation and branches go into brown wheelie bins or are burnt at the rear of the tennis courts.

Prior to weddings the front of Chapel needs to be tidied and I use the petrol blower to help with this work; that aspect is also carried out on a weekly basis. This morning (6th June) I turned up to blow the front of Chapel because we had a wedding at 1 p.m. I found that a large branch had fallen and was lying to the right of the entrance of the car park and so a 30 minute job lasted all morning. I removed and burnt smaller branches and arranged for a friend who uses a wood burning stove to come along, cut up the remains, and take it away; all gone before the wedding guests started to arrive!

Last week I spent most of Wednesday cutting the lawned areas with the tractor mower. The previous Monday morning, and then again later that week, I continued to trim the laurel surrounding the blue notice board at the front gate; it had really gone wild! Speaking of laurel, Ernie was the last person to trim the laurel which screens the garage at the top of the car park. Ernie has been a great help from a practical point of view during the time he has lived in the cottage.



There are leaves to be removed and that aspect is ongoing; there are lots from last autumn which are untouched and it's now June! Ernie

and I have sprayed moss killer at the front of Chapel and also on the tennis courts, and weed killer all over the place. A power washer was purchased to help with the moss control but Ernie has not been well and so reluctantly the tennis courts have been closed and the power washer remains unused. From time to time holes are dug in the Garden of Remembrance and that area kept tidy.

These tasks do not have to be carried out on a Monday morning, but it was a time of good fellowship when we had a greater number of helpers who came along. I go when I can and when the weather is kind; others carry on indoors with various aspects of necessary maintenance.

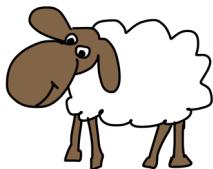
Please offer to help if you can, it will be appreciated and whatever I do, I only do it to the glory of God.

*Thank you, in anticipation, Ian Sturrock*

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* Ray and I would like to  
\* thank all the people from  
\* Bamford Chapel and  
\* Norden U.R.C. for the  
\* lovely flowers that Jean  
\* and Audrey brought to  
\* us recently.  
\*  
\* Having survived the move, we have settled  
\* well in our new home. But will we survive the  
\* builders when the alterations start?? Lesley  
\* and Jack Hynes have warned us that the way  
\* to get through it is to keep a sense of humour!!  
\* We shall see!  
\*  
\* Thank you once again Sheila and Ray Varley  
\*\*\*\*\*



## A Shepherd, waiting (Mk6:34, Heb13:8)



Sheep without a shepherd –  
wandering this way and that,  
not knowing the way  
or whose voice to listen to;  
uncertain, uncared for,  
anxious, lost and in danger.

Here we are  
in our post-modern, sophisticated culture,  
still sheep without a shepherd.

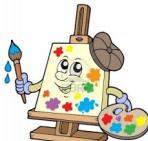
But Jesus has compassion  
today, yesterday and forever  
for those who run to Him.

He loves.  
He provides.  
He alone satisfies  
and makes sense of the  
wanderings.  
Nothing is wasted.

There is a Shepherd, waiting...



*By Daphne Kitching*



## *New Painting Club*

As notified in a previous magazine, a new Painting Club will be starting in September. (Church renovations permitting!) Although there will be no specific teacher, there will be DVD's available which show tips and ideas on how to develop your skills. We hope to share our experiences and both beginners, experienced and artistic people are most welcome.

If you would like to join you will need to provide your own equipment. This should include: paper/canvas; paints, brushes and mixing palette. We shall be using mainly water colour paints but if you wish to use another medium such as acrylic paints, oils or pastels, that is ok too. The choice is yours. .

*This is not just for members of Bamford Chapel but for the community at large, so feel free to spread the word. If you are interested or would like to know more please don't hesitate to contact me.*

## Smile Lines

- Sentences that actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services:
- The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.'
- The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus'.
- At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.
- Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

# **GARDEN PARTY**

**SATURDAY 11th JULY**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

**A list of the usual stalls we run will be under the clock in the coffee area. Please put your name against the stall you wish to organise.**

**Also the list of items for the Hamper.**

**New ideas are needed; if you can arrange something different please add to the list or see Lyn Jefferies. It could be a stall or a game to entertain the children; we need new ideas and lots of people to help.**

**Julie Platt needs lots of help with catering.**

**The following donations are required:-**

**HOMEMADE CAKES & BUNS**

**ADULT & CHILDRENS BOOKS    TOMBOLA PRIZES**

**GOOD QUALITY TOYS AND GAMES**

**BOTTLES - FROM POP TO CHAMPAGNE**

**LUXURY ITEMS FOR HAMPER**

## Do you have a To-Do list a mile long?

Are you overwhelmed with the things you need to do? Emails flooding in, phone-calls to make, jobs to do at work, at home, for the family... if so, you are not alone: over-flowing to-do lists are beginning to overwhelm too many of us.



Now Shaa Wasmund, an entrepreneur and business author, has come up with her solution: focus only on the really important, and outsource or simply ditch the rest. She recently told the BBC: "As a society we need to know how to say NO to things, so that we have the opportunity to say yes to what really matters. One thing at a time – I think that makes the biggest difference to all of us. It brings back our sanity."

And so she suggests that we look really hard at that long To-Do list. She encourages people to do only what they are really good at. "We have this constant overwhelm. We have to start filtering what we say yes to."

### *A Special Thank You*

*\* Grateful thanks to everyone at Bamford Chapel for their generous support given to us both during our recent stays in hospital.*

*\* To all who sent cards, flowers, prayers, transport to and from hospital and those delicious and much needed meals.*

*\* We cannot thank you enough.*

*\* God Bless everyone*

*\* Angela and John Hall*



Facebook -  
get involved.



Bamford Chapel and Norden URC now have a facebook page. In the last 5 days posts on the site have been viewed by 194 people. 2 of whom live in Spain.

This is proving a great way for us to keep up to date with what is happening.

### **'Share' our page**

We now need to 'share' the page to encourage others to get involved.

### **Be the first to post to the page**

No-one but the administrators have posted anything to the page yet. Why don't you be the first? Use the link on the left hand side of our facebook page.

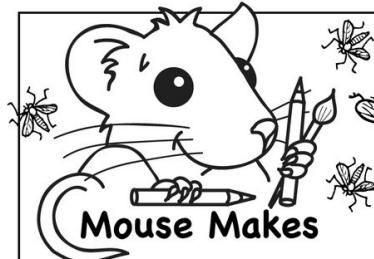
### **'Like' our page**

Since the site first went live on 20th May the page has had 58 'likes'. If you haven't 'liked' us yet click the 'Liked' button at the top of the page on the photograph of Chapel.

Your administrators are still learning how to use this new tool effectively.

If you have suggestions, please let Louise Aspinall or Rev Richard Bradley know.

# For our Children and Young People



## The Ten Plagues

**Mouse Makes**

Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said "The Lord, the God of Israel says, 'Let my people go into the desert so they can have a festival to honour me.'" But Pharaoh said, "Who is the Lord? Why should I obey him? Why should I let Israel go? I not know who the Lord is so I refuse to let Israel go." Pharaoh punished the Israelites but Moses prayed to the Lord and the Lord said, "I will use my great power against Pharaoh, and he will let my people go." So the Lord turned the river Nile into blood, then he covered the land with frogs, sent a plague of gnats, then a swarm of flies, then disease on all the animals, then a skin disease, then a great storm of hail, then a plague of locusts, then darkness that covered the land... Each time Pharaoh would not let the people go until Lord killed every first born man and animal in Egypt and Pharaoh's own son died. Then Pharaoh made the people leave Egypt with all their sheep and cattle. "Go", he said "And say a blessing for me too."

Can you find these words from the story in the grid above?

LORD • GOD • MOSES • AARON  
ISRAEL • PRAY • HONOUR  
FESTIVAL • PHARAOH • EGYPT  
RIVER NILE • WATER • BLOOD • FROGS  
DUST • GNATS • SWARM • FLIES • GO  
DISEASE • CATTLE • SHEEP • SORES  
STORM • HAIL • LOCUSTS • LAND  
DARKNESS • THREE DAYS • DEATH  
FIRST BORN • PASSOVER

READ the full story in Exodus chapters 5 to 12



## TAKING & GIVING

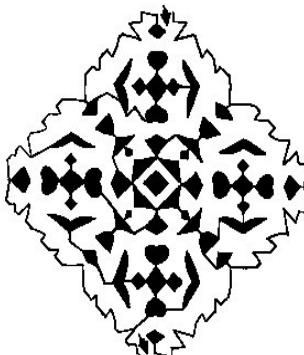
If you look at a map of Israel you will see that there are two small inland seas. And if you look closely you will see that these two seas are linked by the River Jordan. The river starts in the northern hills and goes through the Sea of Galilee, then through the Jordan valley, and ends up in the Dead Sea. But even though the water is all from the same river, the two seas are completely different.

All around the Sea of Galilee are towns and villages, trees and farms. The Dead Sea has no trees or farms, it is dead. What makes the difference? The Sea of Galilee is alive because it has an outlet. It passes the water on as quickly as it flows in. The Dead Sea is dead because it passes no water on.

In St Luke's Gospel we read what Jesus said about giving – 'Give to others, and God will give to you' (chapter 6, verses 27-28). Unlike the two seas we can choose how we want to be: to give and take and be alive. Or just to take - and become sad and lifeless.

## IN & OUT

Can you find your way through this lacy maze?



**Did you hear about the slimy monster who was famous for his farmyard impressions?**

He couldn't do the noises but he could do the smells.



**And what about the monster who went shop-lifting?**

He was crushed under Tesco's.



## **BAMFORD CHAPEL & NORDEN URC MAGAZINE**

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### **DATES FOR THE SEPTEMBER MAGAZINE**

**Articles for September only to [l.aspinall@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:l.aspinall@yahoo.co.uk)**

Articles to be handed in by: Sunday 16th August

Magazine to be completed by: Thursday 27th August

Magazine distributed: Sunday 30th August

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**United Reformed Church**

Charity - Reg'd No 1128387

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**Times of Services:**

**Family Worship : 10.30 am : Holy Communion 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in month**

**Evening Worship : 6.00 pm : Holy Communion 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in month**