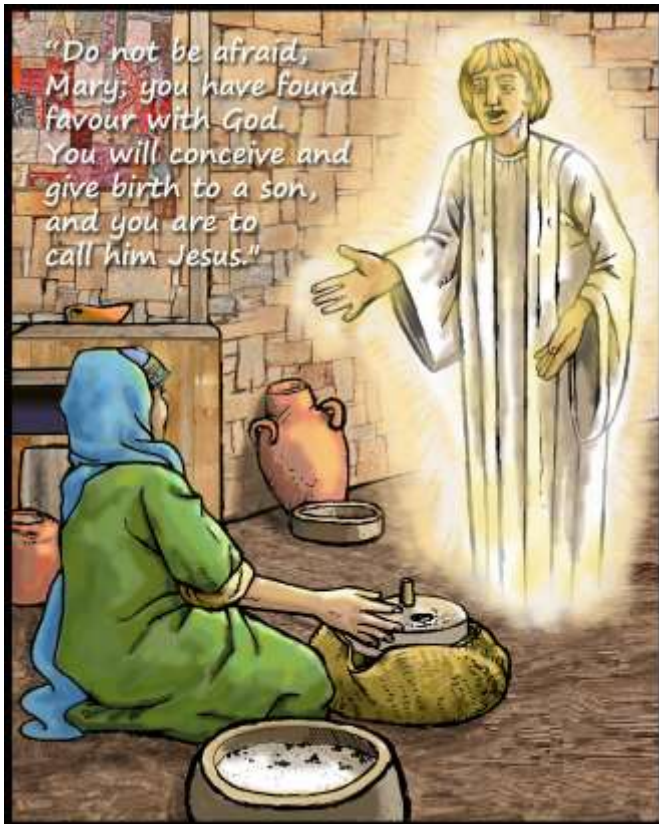




The
United
Reformed
Church

Bamford Chapel & Norden URC



March 2025

BAMFORD CHAPEL & NORDEN URC MISSION/VISION STATEMENT



Loving God, Serving Others,
Building Community

OUR JESUS-SHAPED CHURCH IS...

Welcoming!

Jesus welcomed **all** who came to Him without judgment, and we aim to be an inclusive church, welcoming to all.

Developing Faith!

Jesus' ministry was all about sharing the Gospel with others. As a church, we need to make sure we are deepening faith and making disciples, supporting individuals on their own faith journeys, and taking the Gospel and sharing our faith beyond the walls of our church.

Reaching Out!

Jesus reached out to everyone, and we must too: within our own church community, within our local community and beyond. We will serve God by serving others.

Caring!

Jesus said: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." It is essential that all that we do is done in love and that caring for others/serving others is at the heart of our church.

Prayerful!

As it did for Jesus, we will make sure that prayer underpins all that we do as a church, that we might serve the mission of God as He wills.

March 2025

Every Monday	7.30 - 8.30 pm	Prayer Group in the Lounge (all welcome)
Sunday 2 March	10.30 am 6.30 pm	Family Worship & Communion (Andy Platt) Missional Partnership Café Church (page 5)
Tuesday 4 March	7.00 pm	Tuesday Home Group (see page 6)
Friday 7 March	1.30 - 3.30 pm	Dementia Friendly Café
Saturday 8 March	10.00 am - 12 noon	Big Breakfast (see page 11) In aid of Transform Trade
Sunday 9 March	10.30 am	Family Worship Led by Linda Rayner
Wednesday 12 March	7.00 pm	Midweek Worship Led by Andy Platt (see page 4)
Thursday 13 March	1.30 - 3.30 pm	Friendship Group (see page 25) Speaker Jane Baines - School & Street Pastors
Saturday 15 March	6.30 for 7.00 pm	Community Film Club "The Blind Side" (see page 26)
Sunday 16 March	10.30 am	Family Worship Led by David Watson
Tuesday 18 March	7.00 pm	Tuesday Home Group (see page 6)
Sunday 23 March	10.30 am	Family Worship Led by Cameron Baines
Sunday 30 March	10.30 am	Mothering Sunday Family Worship Led by Margaret Bywater Easter Trail 30 March - 21 April (see page 27)

For those who are unable to attend Sunday morning worship, services are live-streamed on YouTube (Bamford Chapel and Norden United Reformed Church) and available on the church website (www.bcnchurch.org.uk)

There is also Midweek Worship at 7pm on the 2nd Wednesday of every month and a Sunday evening Café Church at 6.30pm every 2 months.

Student Minister's Letter



Different circles

I recently got back from a visit to three of my best friends, one of whom I stayed with over the weekend. Naturally we have a lot in common, we love music, films, a nice beer or two and just generally chatting about life. There are times however when I am with them and I think, how did I end up here? This is because we move in very different circles, they are, how can I put this, loveable rogues. People who have been through a lot, tough upbringings, their fair share of fights and they walk around with a bit of a confident swagger, while I sit quietly in the corner.

What I have also learnt in my time knowing them is not to mention the Church. It did come up in conversation and I was met with three pairs of rolled eyes. "Ed" they said, "The Church is one of the most corrupt institutions on Earth, they have so much money and keep it all for themselves and it's all lies." The rant continued and my favourite quote was probably this one, "Is Songs of Praise still on? That's what your licence fee is going on *beep* like that, this world is going to the dogs" etc etc. I admit I had a laugh at that one. Thankfully the conversation turned back to more amiable topics, and I was able to relax and join in.

When I arrived home, I was greeted by my flatmate who had led worship

that day and we chatted about how it went, exploring the beatitudes and the different meanings contained within them. I admit that part of me was glad to be out of my other friends' circle, happily back in my own Songs of Praise world. But my mind kept going back to my three friends and I reflected, on why they disliked Songs of Praise so much.

I began to realise that it presented a world that was very different to their own, a world of large buildings and people in posh clothes singing together and then listening to someone at the front talk about some God. For all the virtues of Songs of Praise it can present a very idealised version of The Church, one in which my friends clearly felt unwelcome. You might ask, if this is true, then how can you be friends?

I ask myself that question sometimes, but that is where true friendship takes form. They know that I'm training to be a Minister, but they also know ME and all the conversations, debates, laughter and heart to hearts we have had over the years. We have a mutual respect, kindness and love towards each other.

One of the most wonderful things about Jesus for me was how easy it was for him to walk in different circles. From eating with tax collectors to sitting by a pool with a crippled man, he was able to see the person behind their situation, their needs and how they can be helped.

It can be very hard for us to enter circles different from our own, and even to areas within our circles. But if such an encounter occurs in your life, then my only advice would be that there is no substitute for genuine human interaction. Like Jesus himself, you may get questioned, mocked or even thrown out. But if you approach with love and openness in your heart then you will leave an impact.

And if you're lucky, you might make some friends who are very different from you, but whom you have created a bond with that will last forever.

Ed Lyne

Front Cover artwork by Paul Judson (Parish Pump)

Midweek Worship 2025

BAMFORD
CHAPEL &
NORDEN URC
INVITE YOU
TO....

Join us for
worship at
7pm on the
second
Wednesday
of every
month



MIDWEEK WORSHIP

08/01/25
12/02/25
12/03/25
09/04/25
14/05/25
11/06/25
09/07/25
13/08/25
10/09/25
08/10/25
12/11/25
10/12/25

pray



2025 Missional Partnership Café Church



**Rochdale, Bury and North
Manchester**

**Missional Partnership
Café Church 2025 – 6.30pm**

2nd February

2nd March

4th May

6th July

7th September

2nd November

All services, unless stated otherwise, will be at
Bamford Chapel and Norden URC
Norden Road, Bamford, OL11 5PQ

For further information contact: Revd Richard Bradley, 07483 155807 or
richardbradley@nwsynod.org.uk

Church Flowers



Donations for flowers in church
in February were received from:

Pat & David Stephenson
in memory of David's Mother

Dot Craig in memory of Peter

Pamela Harrington
in memory of Father's birthday

Anita Teuton in memory of Alex

Tuesday Home Group 2025



Tuesday Homegroup on Zoom

All are welcome to join us fortnightly on zoom
Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm—9pm.

From September we will be discussing some of
the women we meet in the Old Testament

The dates of the meetings are:

7th January	Abigail: 1 Samuel 25:2-44
21st January	The Shunammite Woman: 2 Kings 4:8-37
4th February	Esther: Esther 2-4
18th February	Esther: Esther 5:1-8; 7-8
4th March	Theme tbc
18th March	Theme tbc
1st April	Theme tbc
15th April	Theme tbc

Zoom details are: Meeting ID: 847 9885 2008
Passcode: 51 7449

If you want to find out more please contact Richard on
richard.bradley@nwsynod.org.uk
07483 155807

Pop in for Prayer

Look out for the “Pop in for Prayer” sign
in front of the Chapel gates.

It means the Sanctuary is open
for prayer.

Why not come along and
“Pop in for Peace”.

Monday 10 - 11 am
Tuesday 2 - 4 pm



Prayer for March



Dear Lord,

In this month when Lent begins, we remember the difficult journey Jesus made to the cross, to take upon Himself our sins and the sins of the whole world, to bring us the hope of eternal life by His resurrection.

Lord, we bring to You our own journeys through our daily lives.

We bring our disappointments, our bewilderment, our pain, as well as our happy times. We thank You that You are with us in and through all of it.

We thank you that the message of Christmas is the message of Lent and the message of every day – You, our God, are with us always, giving us hope and life, because of Jesus.

Thank You that He made that journey for us, and all we have to do is trust in Him. Help us to do that and to share His good news with others, especially those in distress.

We pray in His name. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching



Notice of Linking Churches to Ministers

Background:

The reason for this notice being read out (or the reason for this video) is to explain to Churches the proposal that Richard and Dan brought to the Missional Partnership Steering Group on the 15th January 2025. A proposal that the Steering Group agreed to use as we will set out.

Dan and Richard have felt for some time that they have been involved in specific projects/meetings in churches for very short periods of time and then move on to other churches and do the same. We have felt that it hasn't worked for us as we have not been able to getting more involved in the life of the churches to get to know people better and to work with you in being the people God has called us to be. We have tended to lead worship 4 times per year in each church and then not return to lead worship, in some cases, for 9 months.

The idea we proposed and was adopted is one way of working which the Steering Group agreed to try. We set a time to review it but if issues arise we can review it before the set date.

So.... what is this proposal that the Missional Partnership Steering Group agreed?

Way of working agreed by the Steering Group on Wednesday 15th January 2025

The proposal Dan and I brought has been discussed between the two of us for about 12 months. The suggestion is that Dan and I become the linked ministers to specific churches in the Partnership. This will allow us to:

- * offer more time to a smaller number of churches
- * lead services more regularly and consistently in those churches
- * attend more Elders and where possible church meetings
- * work alongside those churches and get to know them better
- * help and support the ongoing mission and worship in those churches

At the time of writing/recording we will work with the following churches:

Dan	Richard
Alkington and Providence URC	St Andrew's URC/Methodist Church
Dundee URC	Littleborough URC
Greenmount URC	Radcliffe and Stand URC
Hallfold URC	Bamford Chapel and Norden URC
Bury URC	

The timescale for this process is:

From February 2025 we will begin working more closely with these churches on midweek activities/meetings etc.

We will continue on the current preaching rota until the end of June 2025.

From the start of July 2025, we will begin a new preaching rota already sent to churches. That preaching rota from July 2025 links Dan and Richard to the churches already listed.

This working arrangement will continue until the end of 2026, with a review period in June 2026. The review will determine how we continue beyond the end of 2026. We are not going to pre-empt that review, and we don't yet know how it will take place.

We stress strongly that we are *both* still the ministers across all nine churches of the Missional Partnership and can be called upon by any of those nine churches if the skills/experience of the other minister are required. An example might be that if someone in one of the churches Richard is linked with wants Dan to do their wedding, then Dan can be asked to do that. The same goes for pastoral visits, funerals, baptisms, etc. There may be occasions, as happen now, when Dan and I will both attend a meeting/event in church because of the need at that time.

This way of working is happening in at least 4 other Partnerships in the Synod and from what Dan and Richard can ascertain is working well in those Partnerships.

If any individual, Elders' meeting or Church meeting has questions about this please direct those to Richard and Dan who will be happy to arrange to speak to or meet and discuss this further.

Please continue to pray for each other and Dan and Richard as we seek to serve you and God in our roles as Ministers within this Missional Partnership.

My Faith Journey

A Testimony by Philip Madden

My faith story starts when I was on holiday in Mallorca in 2005. Whilst I was there, I couldn't swallow anything at all. On returning home I went to the doctors and after examining me he sent me straight to the hospital. After lots of investigations, they told me I had cancer of the oesophagus.



Following six months of chemotherapy, I eventually had to have an 8-hour operation to remove the tumour - having been told there was only a slim chance of survival for this operation. As I was being wheeled down to theatre, even though I had no belief at that time, I said "If there is a God please look after me and please help me."

During the time I was recovering from the operation, about a week later, I became aware of somebody at the end of my bed; I asked the nurse who it was, but she said there was no-one there, but I was talking to him. I thought he must have been an angel. This was the start of me believing in God.

Following this I had an unexpected visit from Rev. Malcolm Sharrock from Brimrod Methodist Church, who my mum had told that I was ill. So, after leaving hospital I started attending Brimrod, and became an active part of the church and took the step of committing myself to God when I took on membership in 2010.

Sadly, when Brimrod had to close in September 2021, I needed to find another church. I tried various churches but couldn't find one that felt right. Then I thought about trying Bamford Chapel and Norden URC. In the past, my Mum and I had driven past the church many times when we visited my sister who lives in Norden. Mum used to notice and comment on the inspirational Christian posters displayed outside the church. I went along

and told my friends from Brimrod, Linda and Duncan, all about it and the three of us started attending regularly. In April 2022 I became a member.

Since I first asked God to be with me and help me, I have felt His presence in my life. In times of trouble and stress He has taken the yoke from me in so many different ways. I always feel so much better when I give my worries to God, He lifts them from me.

AMEN!

Big Breakfast

Bamford Chapel
& Norden United Reformed Church


Looking God, Serving Others,
Building Community

Fancy a bacon butty?



endless drinks
and toast

vegetarian
alternative

*Saturday
8 March
10.00 – 12.00*

In aid of

**Transform
Trade** _____
So everybody benefits.

£5.00

Bamford Chapel and Norden URC, Norden Road, OL11 5PQ

“Threads Through the Bible”



What a most wonderful experience I had at Liverpool Anglican Cathedral!

Our Prayer Corner has examples of the amazing tapestry panels that filled the marvellous ground floor. This exhibition has appeared in 30 cathedrals over the past 10 years. There could be thousands of people who have had the amazing experience of standing before these 44 panels in awe and wonder.

Threads through the Bible is a culmination of ten years' work, combining three astonishing exhibitions: **'Threads through Creation'**, **'Threads through the Cross'** and **'Threads through Revelation'**. In total there are 38 silk panels, stretching 80 metres in length with more than 25 million stitches! The artist is **Jacqui Parkinson**. At age 14, at a church weekend, she decided to follow Jesus. The speaker encouraged her to tell her father. His reaction? "Well, never mind love, it won't last long!" FAMOUS LAST WORDS!!

When she was 20, she married Rob Frost, a Methodist minister and they lived in a South Yorkshire mining town. Rob became national evangelist for the Methodist Church. They had two boys, Andy and Chris. Jacqui did a degree in Drama and Art as a mature student before teaching drama for five years.

On the 1st January 2003 Rob challenged Jacqui. She did a textile course and was hooked!! In 2006 she received from the charity DEO GLORIA TRUST to create a small exhibition to tour cathedrals. Her husband Rob died suddenly in 2007. Jacqui used stitching to help her overcome her grief. She created a series of poignant stitched handkerchiefs, created a book from them, called "Good Grief". The original textiles form part of one the Deo Gloria Trust Exhibitions. She moved to Devon and married her second husband Andrew.

Two experiences inspired her to “work big”. First was a trip to see the paintings of Marc Chagall. Second was the Festival of Quilts in Birmingham in 2013. Then all it needed was 25 years dedicated work and the resulting masterpiece is in Liverpool’s Anglican Cathedral for us to visit it, wonder at it and be forty-four times blest.

The exhibition finished at Liverpool on 2nd March, but will continue at other venues throughout 2025 and 2026. Please look at the souvenirs in the Prayer Corner.

2025 Exhibition Dates

Threads through the Bible | Creation + Cross + Revelation

16th January – 2nd March – LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL

6th March – 5th May – SOUTHWELL MINISTER

9th May – 29th June – ELY CATHEDRAL

Threads through the Cross

3rd July – 4th August – RIPON CATHEDRAL

7th August – 22nd September – SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL

25th September – 3rd November – GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL

2026 Exhibition Dates

Threads through the Bible | Creation + Cross + Revelation

28th January – 1st March – BATH ABBEY + ST MICHAELS + ST SWITHENS

8th May – 28th June – CHESTER CATHEDRAL

2nd July – 31st August – LINCOLN CATHEDRAL



Church in the World Update

The Church in World Group met early in February to review Project 2024 and to plan our continuing mission work. The group have recently welcomed Angela Bromiley and Pat Stephenson to support the ongoing work. Fresh faces and ideas are always welcome. **The next group meeting is on 26th March 7.30pm at Chapel.**

Project 2024:



Last year the church project was to raise money for the children living in the Cheshire Home, Katima in Namibia. The money was primarily raised to purchase specialist walking frames for children with physical disabilities who currently have to share frames or rely on being carried by parents / carers or using a wheelchair.

Money was raised by personal giving, and some additional fundraising events / donations; Big Breakfast, Greenmount URC, Dundee URC, sponsored walk, Shaw Players theatre production of Allo, Allo, Phoenix Masonic Lodge,

Blackburn Children with Disabilities Occupational Therapy Team. Apologies if I have missed anyone or any events. The total raised including predicted Gift Aid is £7,500 approx. Currently the exchange rate is very good so the money will go far in Namibia.



We recently met online with staff from Cheshire Home. We are hoping to provide eight walkers and organise transportation. ETAC the company who are providing the walkers at around half price are looking into transportation, and we are also obtaining quotes. Cheshire Home have also written to the British High Commission in Namibia and other links they have. Hopefully we will have transported the walkers in the next few months. Cheshire Home staff will look at priorities for expenditure once the walker monies are spent as there is likely to be around 50% of the money remaining. Cheshire Home are overwhelmed by the amount

which has been raised and send their heartfelt thanks. A video made by the Cheshire Home Matron was shown in church; if you missed it, please ask and we can send it to you.

Thank you to everyone for supporting the children attending and living at Cheshire Home.

Project 2025:

No sooner than one project has finished than we are on the search for the next. The group are looking for nominations, please come along to our next meeting if you have a potential project in mind.

Big Breakfasts:

The group coordinate the Big Breakfasts, and provide help where required. So far this year there have been two very well attended breakfasts; the most recent, raising over £600 for Rochdale and Heywood Food Banks.

Please see the following schedule until December 2025.

Second Saturday of each month, 10.30am	Charity (Charities may be subject to change)
8 th March	Transform Trade
12 th April	Maggies Cancer Centre
10 th May	Christian Aid
14 th June	Gardening Gang
12 th July	Neuro Sciences
9 th August	Persecuted Christians
13 th September	Show Box Appeal
11 th October	Project 25
8 th November	CR UK
13 th December	Christie's

Christian Aid:

Breakfast dated 10th May and Service dated 18th May. Zoe Abernathy, North West Fund Manager will be presenting the work of Christian Aid.

Shoe Box Appeal:

Carol Hartley collected a whopping total of 3600 shoe boxes in the Autumn period which were transported to children and families in Eastern Europe via TEAMS4U Charity.

Carole Greaves

150 years ago, on 7th March 1875 the French composer Maurice Ravel was born. Best known for *Bolero*.

175 years ago, on 5th March 1850 the Britannia Bridge linking Anglesey and mainland Wales across the Menai Strait was officially opened. Designed and built by railway engineer Robert Stephenson, it had to be replaced after a disastrous fire in 1970.

Joan Barnes - 100th Birthday



On Wednesday 5th February we celebrated the 100th birthday of our dear friend Joan, one of our long-standing members of the luncheon club. Twenty-six members and ten of our volunteers attended, and enjoyed a lovely beef dinner, ginger pudding, followed by birthday cake. Joan, very generously paid for everyone's meal on the day, and it was a very happy, noisy time.

Our luncheon club members, who are older people living alone in our community, enjoy a home cooked meal each Wednesday, cooked and served by our hardworking volunteers.

Pat Stephenson - Luncheon Club Coordinator



Bamford Chapel & Norden URC Eco Church



Building

One of our Eco Church members has calculated the eco footprint of our Church using the annual gas and electricity consumption (Gas - 114,162 kWh, Elec - 3272kWh), food consumption, financial expenditure and weekly average carbon emission from travel to Church by members, and waste production. This will hopefully lead in the future to offsetting our carbon emissions through financing global carbon saving initiatives.

Our boilers have recently been replaced with efficient boilers. We have done a big piece of work setting the timers on the boiler to heat just the rooms we need, based on our weekly schedule of activities. This will help to reduce our annual gas consumption and we will be able to quantify this when we look at next years gas bill compared with last year's consumption of 114,162 kWh.

Main Church and Church Hall

The main Church was renovated a number of years ago to make the room open plan and more functional. The old pews were recycled during the renovation to create the wooden banisters, and tech box within the main Church.



The main Church, along with the Church Hall, is predominantly a Grade 2 listed building, so we are limited to the adaptations we can make. The Main Church and Church Hall have solid stone walls and the original windows are stained glass in the Main Hall and are therefore not double glazed. However, we have done what we can in order to make the buildings more energy efficient; the loft in the roof has been recently insulated and the false ceiling in the Main Church also has insulation. The lights in the Main Church and Church Hall are a combination of LED and low energy lightbulbs. There are still some non-energy efficient lights in the Church Hall but these are being phased out as they run out. We have also put up signs in the Main Church to limit the use of all the lights during services to reduce electricity consumption.



Church Offices

Our Church offices and lounge for junior Church is an extension to the main Church building, and is therefore fully insulated, has double glazed windows and some low energy bulbs.

Manse

The Manse is attached to the main Church and is also Grade 2 listed, therefore also has solid stone walls, but this building also has loft insulation, double glazing and LEDs throughout.

Other

Door brushes have been installed on the front and back door for draught proofing, radiator foils have been fitted behind radiators on outside walls to reflect heat in and prevent heat loss. We have introduced our first small water butt, in the hope of getting larger ones in the future. All the ladies' toilets are dual flush and we refill the soap dispensers to reduce our plastic consumption.



Our church has been recycling for years, with different labelled bins. We have been using compostable cups for years in replacement of the plastic cups for coffee and juices, which we now dispose of in our outdoor compost bins.



Plastic bottle tops shouldn't go in the recycling bins, as these affect the refuse factory's ability to recycle the glass, as the bottle tops end up contaminating the glass. Therefore, we went through a long phase of recycling plastic bottle tops, which we collected at Church from members and sent off dozens of bin bags to Lush to be recycled. However we were forced to suspend this when Lush announced they were no longer collecting bottle tops and we were unable to find an alternative. We also collected a dozen or so bin liners of blister packs to the Rotary Club and then to Superdrug to recycle. This unfortunately we have also had to suspend due to the organisations not taking any more. Our services and weekly activities rely heavily on our tech desk in Church so we recycle the used batteries.



We now buy recycled paper for general printing use, however there were some issues over the brightness of the paper for printing the monthly magazine so we use a combination.

Editor: the above article is the second part of Rebecca Abbott's report which supported our application for the Eco Church Silver Award. The report is in 5 sections (Worship & Teaching, Building, Land, Community & Global Engagement and Lifestyle) and will be serialised over the next few months.

Many Thanks



This is just a quick note to say thank you very much for all the prayers, messages and cards which I have received over the last few months. It means so much to be part of such a loving community. I have now completed my course of chemotherapy and am about to receive some radiotherapy. Hopefully I will be back with you all very soon.

I would like to say a special thank you to the tech team for providing the YouTube link every Sunday morning. I have been able to sit down with my tea and toast at 10.30 every Sunday and still feel involved in the worship. I suppose that's one good thing which came out of the Covid pandemic.

Thank you again. Gillian James

Lent - A Journey of Reflection

By Debbie Wood



Lent begins on Wednesday March 5th this year, Ash Wednesday. Lent is the time in our Christian calendar when we journey to the cross with Jesus. It is a period of forty days (not including the Sundays during Lent) that commemorates Jesus' time in the wilderness before he began His public ministry and during which of course He was tempted by Satan.

For us, Lent is a time to think deeply about our own faith as we journey towards celebrating Easter. Perhaps you will give up something you enjoy in recognition of the time of fasting that Jesus endured whilst He was in the wilderness. Maybe chocolate? How much better those Easter eggs will taste!

For me Lent is a time when I seem to reboot or really focus on my faith, in that I make sure I'm spending more time focused on God, reading my Bible or Christian books, using Lent resources to further develop my faith, spending more time in prayer and more time listening to Christian music. I find it a very spiritual time probably *because* I am making more time for God each day. I guess I am giving something up for Lent though; I'm giving up some of the busyness and distractions of daily life that usually mean I don't put spending time with God as my main priority as much as I should.

Whatever your own journey through Lent looks like please keep an eye out for resources provided at church to support you and our children during Lent. There will also be an Easter trail in our grounds from March 30th. Keep an eye out for details that will follow for Holy Week, including the special services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, as well as the Good Friday drama by Food for Thought, before we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour on Easter Sunday! However each of us journeys through Lent, may God bless us all at this special time.

Safeguarding Update

“Love one another as I have loved you” John 13, V 34 -35

I am writing to update safeguarding, following on from the safeguarding article in December 2024, when I outlined what our church is doing to ensure we are all kept safe. We acknowledge the need to ensure children and adults at risk are protected as well as all our volunteers.

The group met again in February to monitor the progress towards full compliance with URC Safeguarding Procedures.

Recent Achievements:

1. We now have four verifiers to help us keep up to date with DBS checks.
2. Increase in numbers of DBS completed so that people can undertake volunteer roles.
3. Safer Recruitment process for Junior Church Volunteers has been introduced and completed for a new leader.
4. Training records updated and we are now able to identify additional training needs.

Our Synod Safeguarding Officer is available and has been consulted on issues where clarification is required.

Plans:

1. A small group will be set up for online URC Foundation Training. This will be run at church in March or April 25 so that those who would like to do the training but can't access it can do so with support. (please let Carole Greaves know if interested).
2. DBS to be completed for new volunteers and renewals. Ongoing.
3. All volunteers will be advised regarding their specific training requirements for their roles.

Please remember safeguarding is everyone's responsibility not just the ministers, church secretary, elders and safeguarding coordinator. Any

questions please don't hesitate to ask and if you think your DBS or training is out of date or not up to the correct level please let us know.

Please be aware that a DBS completed by another organisation is not sufficient and you will need to have another carried out to be URC compliant. URC-specific training must be completed as it relates to the URC Policy and the procedure for reporting concerns within our church. (see Safeguarding noticeboard for full information).

Carole Greaves (Elder and Deputy Safeguarding Coordinator)



**Everyone
deserves to
be safe**
We are here to listen and support

 The United Reformed Church
www.urch.org.uk


SPEAK OUT
if you or someone you know:

- has difficulties with drugs or alcohol.
- feels unsafe in a relationship.
- feels depressed, anxious or suicidal.
- feels unsafe in any way.

To get the support you need contact your church safeguarding coordinator:
Julie Platt Tel: 07732 074 028
Carole Greaves Tel: 0791 346 4005 / Carolyn Divers 07834 989251 (Deputy Coordinators)

The Freephone 24-hour National Domestic Abuse Helpline
0808 2000 247

The Frank Drugs Helpline
0300 123 6600

Mind Helpline
0300 123 3393

Appearances can be Deceptive!

As a person born and brought up in Huddersfield, the recent death of Dennis Law stirred up memories. It is said that when Law arrived at Huddersfield station to play for Huddersfield Town, straight from school, management were horrified to see a small, weedy, bespectacled young lad and wondered what they had bought.

Law soon proved that he was well worth the money, and sadly for Town he attracted the attention of bigger clubs and only played there as a regular team member for three seasons. He was eventually sold to Manchester City in 1960, for a record £55,000. Apparently, Law`s transfer fee paid for floodlights to be installed at Leeds Road, the then Town ground. After a short spell at City, Law moved to Turin for a season and was then bought by United, where his fame grew, as an individual and as part of the triumvirate alongside Best and Charlton.



The weedy young lad, who arrived in Huddersfield all those years ago, became known as “The King,” one of the greatest and most loved footballers of all time. Thank goodness the Huddersfield management were able to look beyond their first impressions.

Angela Smith

Law`s recent death put me in mind of a poem I once found in a school poetry book, which I think is worth sharing, if only for the nostalgia it evokes.

I live at 14, Stanhope Street,
Me mum, me dad and me,
And three of us have made a gang,
John Stokes and Trev and me.

Our favourite day is Saturday
We go Old Trafford Way
And wear red colours on our coats
To watch United play.

We always stand behind the goal
In the middle of the roar.
The others come to see the game -
I come for Denis Law.

His red sleeves flap around his wrists,
He`s built all thin and raw,
But the toughest backs don`t stand a
chance
When the ball`s near Denis Law.

He`s a whiplash when he`s in
control,
He can swivel like an eel,
And twist and sprint in such a way
It makes defences reel.

And when he`s hurtling for the goal
I know he`s got to score.
Defences may stop normal men -
They can`t stop Denis Law.

We all race home when full time
blows
To kick a tennis ball.

And Trafford Park is our back yard,
And the stand is next door`s wall.

Old Stokesesey shouts "I`m Jimmy
Greaves,"

And scores against the door,
Trev shouts "I`ll be Charlton," -
But I am Denis Law.

Friendship Group

Thursday 13 March

1.30 - 3.30 pm

Speaker Jane Baines

School & Street Pastors

All welcome

March Film Club

The Ian Newman Community
Film Club
Seven Years

**CINEMA
FOR ALL**

Saturday 15th March 2025

6.30pm refreshments : 7.00pm film

Admission £4.00

“THE BLIND SIDE” 2009 12



Supported by Rochdale Township

Easter Trail

30 Mar – 21 Apr

In the grounds of
Bamford Chapel & Norden URC



All ages welcome

Easter Trail

Lots of fun and thought-
provoking activities for
all the family



Pop in any time
and discover the
Easter Story

School groups will be welcome. Contact by email to bcandnchurch@gmail.com so that a member of our team can be there to support you.

Midweek Opportunities for Learning & Sharing Fellowship

- Monday:** 9.00 am **Monday Gang / Garden Gang**
(who do work in or around the building)
10.15 am **Pastoral Group Meeting**
1.30 pm **Bridge Club**
7.30 - 8.30 pm **Monday Prayer Group** (in Lounge)
8.00 pm **Monday Night Home Group** (at Redmond's)
- Tuesday:** 9.00 – 11.00 am **Toddlers' Group**
1.30 – 4.00 pm **Indoor Bowls** (Upstairs Hall)
From 6.00 pm **Rainbows**
- Wednesday:** 12 noon **Luncheon Club**
Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association
6.00 pm **Anchor Boys (age 5–8)**
6.45 pm **Juniors & Company Section**
- Thursday:** 10.30 am - 12 noon **Community Coffee Morning**
- Friday:** 6.00 pm onwards **Beavers, Cubs and Scouts**
- Sunday:** 7.30 pm **God Squad** (for Teenagers)

Fortnightly & Monthly Opportunities

- Tuesday:** **Home Group** 4th & 18th March
7.30 - 9.00 pm On Zoom (see page 6)
- Thursday:** **Friendship Group** 2nd Thursday in the month
1.30 - 3.30 pm 13th March (see page 25)
Heritage Group 3rd Thursday in the month
7.30 pm 20th March
- Friday** **Dementia Friendly Café** 1st Friday in the month
1.30 - 3.30 pm 7th March
- Saturday:** **Ian Newman** 3rd Saturday in the month
Community Film Club 15th March
6.30 pm for 7.00 pm film - (see page 26)

For further information please see website www.bcnchurch.org.uk
contact Anne Fitton or speak to an Elder.

BAMFORD CHAPEL & NORDEN URC MAGAZINE



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DATES FOR APRIL MAGAZINE

Articles to be handed in by: Sunday 16th March
Magazine to be completed by: Thursday 27th March
Magazine distributed: Sunday 30th March

BAMFORD CHAPEL & NORDEN

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Charity - Regd No 1128387

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