

FOCUS



February 2019

FREE: Please take a copy

**The monthly magazine of the Emmanuel
Benefice of Newsome and Armitage
Bridge and South Crosland, Huddersfield**

 **THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND**
Diocese of Leeds



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FEBRUARY SERVICES

Sunday 3 February Presentation of Christ at the Temple

9.15am : Holy Communion @ Armitage Bridge

9.15am : Morning worship with baptism @ South Crosland

11.00am : Holy Communion @ Newsome

Wednesday 6 February

10.00am:Holy Communion @ 11 Sherwood Drive,Netherton

Sunday 10 February 4 Before Lent

9.15am:Morning Worship @ Armitage Bridge

9.15am: Holy Communion @ South Crosland

11.00am: Holy Communion @ Newsome

Wednesday 13 February

10.00am:Holy Communion @ 43 Delph Lane, Netherton

11.30am:Holy Communion @ Garden Court

Sunday 17 February 3 Before Lent

10.00am: Team Service @ South Crosland

Wednesday 20 February

10.00am:Holy Communion @14 Sherwood Drive, Netherton

Sunday 24 February 2 Before Lent

9.15am:Holy Communion @ Armitage Bridge

9.15am:Holy Communion @ South Crosland

11.00am:The Gathering with baptism @ Newsome

Wednesday 27 February

10.00am: Holy Communion @ 11 Sherwood Drive, Netherton

Café Church

16 FEBRUARY.

Ask the Revs at St Pauls, Armitage Bridge.

4.00pm until 5.30 pm



Meditation at St Paul's

Christian meditation is a simple way of finding inner stillness and peace. Come and find out more – everybody is welcome to the group. Every Thursday, gather to start at 5.30, silent meditation for 30 minutes, and departure at about 6.15 after sharing news. St Paul's Church, Armitage Bridge.

Newsome and South Crosland Coffee Mornings

Coffee mornings are an important part of our community outreach and ours at Newsome and Netherton are no exception.

South Crosland Junior School will be on 9 February starting at 10.00 to 11.30.

Newsome Church Hall on 16 February starting at 10.15 to 11.45.

South Crosland Women's Society

Next meeting 19 February . at 2.30.

Life in Drama & Costumes (part 2) with Maureen Speight followed by ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.



Joan Sierant.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Mon 4 Feb: Armitage Bridge and Newsome PCC at Newsome, 7.00pm
- Wed 13 Feb: Messy Church at Netherton Methodist, 4.00pm
- Sun 17 Feb: Deadline for News and Notices for the February Focus
- Sat 23 Feb: Armitage Bridge. The Way Forward for South Huddersfield Churches together and the LEP. 10.00am until 1.00pm.
- Sat 23 Feb: Fed Up in February Party, Armitage Bridge at 6.30pm

FED UP IN FEBRUARY PARTY

Saturday 23 February

Please join us for a social ballroom dance party and quiz at Armitage Bridge Church, 6:30pm to 9:30pm. Tickets £4 each to include refreshments, (bring your own drinks).

We'll have some disco/party dancing as well as ballroom.

Learn the dances at our weekly dance class on Tuesdays in Netherton Community Centre, 6:30 to 7:15 or join us at our new class starting Wednesday 13th February, Newsome Church, 2:00pm to 3:15pm.

For more details telephone Martyn & Julie on 666325

Please come join us for fellowship, fundraising, fun and fitness.

Crafty Kids Club - Saturday 2nd Feb 10.00
- 11.30am



Holy Trinity Church South Crosland

The January meet was a celebration of Epiphany and a New Year's party!

At the well-attended session, the youngsters made Epiphany party crowns and played pass the parcel. Fortunately Rev Julie had popped in at that stage and was on hand to encourage the answers to the "forfeit" Biblical questions!

Parents and carers then joined in for enthusiastically played party games including a snowman drive and the memory game. The session finished with party style refreshments which of course included Stella's delicious baking!

A great time was had by all and on leaving parents remarked what a lovely session it had been.

The group next meets Saturday February 2nd 10.00 – 11.30am. The main activity will be another favourite – model making. Through this we will depict a popular story of Jesus' healing and the times of Jesus. It is likely that other ideas from the youngsters and models will follow, and of course there will be refreshments.

The group initially intended for 3 -11 year old, now is attended by 0-12 years, and a couple of 15 year olds! Parents/carers are invited to stay, or may leave their child for the session if they so wish. All are welcome!

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Have you ever wondered – what is *Christian* meditation... is it prayer...or a mindfulness practice...where does it come from...
how to do it...?



Six Consecutive Mondays at
7.00pm starting on March 4th 2019

St Paul's Church
Armitage Road
Armitage
Huddersfield
HD4 7PD

How to Book

Email: carol.stenner@leeds.anglican.org

Phone: 0113 353 0281

<https://learning.leeds.anglican.org/course/christian-meditation-huddersfield/>

For more information about the course

Email: sue.clarke@btinternet.com

Phone: 01484 681828

£5 per session (or £25 full course)

Meditation is an ancient form of prayer. Its aim is to bring the distracted mind to silence and stillness, and rest in the presence of God. Even in our modern busy lives, this is possible.

We invite you to come along and try this form of prayer which is simple and peaceful.

The introductory course provides an opportunity to experience the practice of Christian Meditation, to learn about its origins, and to discover its relevance as a form of prayer for the contemporary world.

People from any tradition or none are all welcome.

LENT STUDY

It is hard to believe that we are already thinking about Lent but Ash Wednesday is 6th March so it is not long now. I wanted to give you all the chance to think about getting involved in a group during Lent – to study the bible and talk about your journey with Christ and help you to grow closer to God.

I believe that bible study is an essential part of our Christian journey as it helps us to see other points of view when it comes to well loved and well known passages in the bible. It brings us together as brothers and sisters and centres us on God.

We are joining with our Methodist brothers and sisters and will be running 5 groups across the villages at different times and venues so you should be able to join us at one of them. All the groups will be doing the same material so if you can't make it to your group one week you may be able to go to one of the others.

The groups will start week beginning Monday 11th March and run for 5 weeks. The material is called Walking toward Glory and we will explore what it means to follow Jesus.

Please do consider joining one of the groups as it is good to talk together about our faith, about the world and about what our part is in bringing the Kingdom to earth.

Jesus said "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28: 19-20)

We can only do it with his help and we can better understand what we are to do if we share together.

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The groups will be held on:-

Monday evenings

Tuesday mornings

Tuesday afternoons

Wednesday afternoons

Thursday evening

Please keep an eye out for the sign up sheets in each church.

God Bless

Julie

Prayer guide for the care of creation

For Information

CPRE's annual State of the Green Belt report finds that 400,000 houses are planned for building on Green Belt land, but that 72% of the houses already built on Green Belt land were unaffordable by the Government's own definition. There is currently enough brownfield land to accommodate more than a million homes, while local authorities with Green Belt land have enough brownfield sites for over 720,000 homes.

For Action

A report from WWF suggests that a target for a zero-emission Britain by 2045 is possible, provided changes in industry, energy and lifestyle are rolled out nationwide. "A change in diet, away from red meat and towards more plant-based eating, would be necessary to meet the

2045 deadline. Halving UK meat consumption could save roughly 10 megatonnes of CO₂ equivalent a year, so reducing the burden of emission cuts on farmers.”

[Not necessarily a call to be a vegetarian, but perhaps a FLEXitarian ?]

For Prayer

Lord Jesus, the carpenter, help us not to be afraid to get our hands dirty as we work in your Name. Challenge us every day to care for your world, and always to work gently for it.

If you would like to receive the prayer diary each month by email, please email: prayer-guide@greenchristian.org.uk

CLERGY LETTER

Last month, we took part in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, shared in the beautiful Covenant Service, introduced by John Wesley, which has been a precious service to Methodists and is now in our Anglican service books. It is only about a century since Christians began working together effectively. It somewhat shocks me to think that even when I was a child people did not go into the church buildings of a different denomination. I grew up in a family who didn't go to church but my parents felt Church of England. So much so that when I began "going out" with Jeremy and joined his church, Dorking Methodist Church, they disapproved. When I announced that we wanted to get married in that church, they refused me permission. We were students at Oxford and resolved the problem by having a civil marriage and a lovely wedding blessing in Brasenose College chapel, jointly led by the college chaplain (Anglican) and the Methodist chaplain to the University. It was a joyful occasion and the sermon was about Anglican - Methodist Unity! My parents were delighted with everything. That was in 1970.

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It is 2019 and we haven't made an enormous amount of progress in Anglican - Methodist Unity. And both of our denominations have shrunk in size in that half-century. But there are many signs of friendship between local congregations, collaborations on projects, shared worship and study and partnerships, like the LEP (Local Ecumenical Partnership) which comprises St Paul's Church Armitage Bridge, Berry Brow Church and Community Centre and St John's Newsome.

Since the LEP was established, much has changed in this area. Primrose Hill Baptist closed. South Crosland and Rashcliffe joined Armitage Bridge and Newsome to form the Emmanuel Team. Rashcliffe closed and we are now the Emmanuel Benefice. Netherton Methodist became one of the other churches led by Berry Brow's minister. The Net became established. And other churches have sprung up like the Ark Church in the North Light Cafe.

The LEP has done sterling work over the years and the Together Shop is our flagship, although all retail struggles in the present climate. The LEP Council has agreed to have a good look at what we do, what our vision for the future might be and how we might move forward. To help us, we have begun working with the Rev. Glenn Coggins, our Church of England Ecumenical Officer. He has met some of us, he spoke at Cafe Church in January and he will be sharing some thoughts with us and guiding us in discussing and planning from 10am - 1pm on Saturday morning, February 23rd, at Armitage Bridge Church. All of you are very welcome to join us for that morning and all of our Berry Brow Methodist friends are too.

I look forward to more good Christian fellowship with our Methodist friends and to Glenn's help in getting our LEP healthy and focussed for today's task of witness and service to our local communities.

Debby Plummer



Bible Readings in February

3 February Presentation of Christ at the Temple

Hebrews 2: 14-end

Luke 2: 22-40

10 February 4 Before Lent

1 Corinthians 15: 1-11

Luke 5:1-11

17 February 3 Before Lent

1 Corinthians 15: 12-20

Luke 6:17-26

24 February 2 Before Lent

Revelation 4

Luke 8:22-25

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CONTACTS

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This magazine may be read in full colour on our webpage!

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THE EMMANUEL BENEFICE HUDDERSFIELD

“Offering love and service to our communities in Christ’s name.”