

FOCUS



September 2024

FREE: Please take me home.

**The monthly magazine of the Emmanuel
Benefice, Berry Brow Methodist Church,
and Netherton Methodist Church.**

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Leeds



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September Church Services

1 September 10.00am Morning Worship South Crosland Church
10.00am Holy Communion at Netherton Methodist Church
10.30am Morning Worship at Berry Brow Methodist Church

8 September 10.00am Morning Worship at Armitage Bridge Church
10.00am Morning Worship at Netherton Methodist Church
10.30am Holy Communion at Berry Brow Methodist Church
2.00pm Final Service at Holy Trinity South Crosland Church

15 September 10.00am Holy Communion at Armitage Bridge Church
10.00am Holy Communion at Netherton Methodist Church
10.30am Holy Communion at Berry Brow Methodist Church

22 September 10.00am Holy Communion at Armitage Bridge Church
10.00am Holy Communion at Netherton Methodist Church
10.30am Holy Communion at Berry Brow Methodist Church

Every Wednesday at St Paul's.

9.15 Morning Worship, 30 minutes of worship and prayer. All welcome.

Every Thursday at St Paul's

5.20 Christian Meditation. 30 minutes of Quiet Contemplation. All welcome.

September Mid-week Services

Please contact Stella or Barbara for details

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Dear Friends

The month of September is that time when for some there is a lot of change. Our schools return after a summer break, teenagers set off for new jobs or college, and in Methodism it can be a time of welcoming new ministers at the start of our connexional year.

Change can be viewed in a number of ways. For some it is an exciting time, a time to begin new adventures. When I was in teaching, I always looked forward to meeting my new class and arranging the classroom with new displays to welcome them. Although I must admit when I was a child of primary school age going back to school was not high on my wish list.

Change can also be a time of great worry. As teenagers leave home for the first time the anxiety of parents so often comes to the fore. As a daughter or son applies for or begins a new job parents are on tenterhooks awaiting to see how things went.

For others change brings mixed feelings. This can especially be the case when we have to leave someone or something behind. When this happens, we can respond in two main ways. We can lament our loss and get stuck in living in the past. We liked things the way they were and so refuse to accept any change, even opposing it. Or we can lament our loss and then look to the future, look to the opportunities that can arise out of the change even if it has been forced upon us.

T.S Elliot wrote:

"to make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from..."

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If we can adopt this attitude when it comes to change, then we might be surprised by what we discover. It is an attitude that sees what has come to an end as part of what is to be. Change does not necessarily mean forgetting all that has gone before but building on it. In fact, remembering and respecting what has gone before can so often help us avoid mistakes in the future.

Change can bring excitement and uncertainty, anxiety and enthusiasm. In it all let us remember that God is with us. As the prophet once said:

“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.”
(Jeremiah 29:11 NRSV)

Every Blessing

Tim

Rev Tim Francis



September always is a turning-point in the year - the end of the summer holidays and the beginning of a new school year. The start of meteorological autumn but also the month when many churches hold harvest thanksgiving services.

Worldwide, and ecumenically, September 1 - October 4 (St Francis of Assisi's Day) is called the **Season of Creation** - the month when we remember all that God has created, animals, plants, fungi, microorganisms and the planet which is our home, and we pledge

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ourselves to treasure it and to play whatever part we can in reversing the global warming, loss of biodiversity and habitat destruction which face our world and have been caused by humans. St Francis is the patron saint of ecology and of peace-making, both of which are crucial for this task.

I hope we can all join in **World Clean Up** day on Friday September 20th, by litter-picking around the streets where we live, not just around the church. If you fill a bin-liner, please take a selfie of you with the sack and send it to us! I will sort out some litter-picker "tongs "for those who haven't got any and use good strong gloves too.

Our special **Harvest of Creation** service will be at St Paul's Church at 10am on September 29th, led by both the lay worship teams, from South Crosland and Armitage Bridge, and me and Chris and the Eco-Church group too.

September this year is about other things too. A joyful celebration of the life and ministry of **Holy Trinity Church South Crosland** takes place at 10am on September 1st, followed by a faith lunch. The sadness of the final service in the church building will be a week later on September 8th at 2pm. And the **vacancy continues** as we move towards the appointment of a new priest to our benefice. It is profoundly true that we are the sacred stones that make up the body of Christ, the church. But buildings are sacred space and precious to us - places where really important moments in our lives have happened.

I am going to end with lines for September from St Paul's beautiful letter to the Colossians.... Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, for in him all things in heaven and on earth

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were created through him and for him. He himself is before all things and in him all things hold together. As God 's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience. Bear with one another ... you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. (From Chapters 1 & 3)

So, welcome to the Season of Creation - and the New Creation which God is always making from us and with us. God bless you / us all.

Peace and all good

Debby

Community Coffee Morning

We will hold a community coffee morning on the second Saturday of each month at South Crosland Junior School, Moor Lane, Netherton. We will raise funds for a chosen charity each month. The nominated charity for September is Debra.

Future dates for coffee morning are:

14 September 24

12 October 24

9 November 24

14 December 24

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**Final Communion Service at Holy Trinity
At 10.00am
Sunday 1 September 2024.**

Please join us for our joyful celebration of the life and ministry

Of Holy Trinity

The service will be followed by a faith lunch. Please bring a plate of food.

Final Service at Holy Trinity

At 2.00pm on

Sunday 8 September 2024



40th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood

The 30th September is the 40th anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood.

In order to mark the occasion we shall be having a special service on the 13th October at St Paul's, Armitage Bridge which will be followed by a 'Faith Lunch'.

Please put the date in your diary and come along and help me celebrate my anniversary.

Please bring some food to share with others and if you can bake a cake or make a dessert that would be most welcome.

Hope to see you there

With every blessing

David

Announcement from the Community Shop in Newsome

Put these dates in your diary!

The next two pop-up shops at Newsome scout hut will be on

28th September and 9th November, both on Saturday 10am-1pm .

There will be bargains galore, an opportunity to reuse and recycle, and a chance to catch up with friends old and new over refreshments provided by the scouts. The September pop-up shop will be the usual mix of clothing, bedding, curtains, housewares, shoes and boots, books, DVDs and bric-a-brac. The November event will be another Christmas pop-up shop where you can buy your decorations, lights, party clothes, novelty jumpers and gifts in plenty of time for the big day! Tell all your friends about it and we look forward to seeing you there.

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Film Café 2024

At Berry Brow Church
HD4 7LP

Future dates

September 21st

October 19th

November 23rd

Start: 2 p.m.

Come along for feelgood funfilms,
With an interval & light
refreshments for all ages.

Free admission
Donations welcome

Contact 07740425093



The Magic of Faith

An afternoon with

Rod Williams

Rod is a professional contemporary magician who has been creating 'moments of wonder and astonishment' through his skill as a magician for over 20 years. For almost a decade Rod has had the opportunity, through a national organisation he works for as an events speaker, to travel all over the UK (and abroad) entertaining guests at private and corporate functions performing both close up and stage magic.

St Paul's Armitage Bridge

October 6th

From 2 pm

Programme: 2 pm Hearts and Hands Gospel Choir

2.30 Magic

3.00 Refreshments

3.30 Witness

No charge but donations to Rod's chosen charity

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A Warm Welcome

South Huddersfield Churches Together
extend



A WARM WELCOME TO ALL
at



**Berry Brow Church and
Community Centre
Birch Road, HD4 7LP**

Last summer dates

September 17th

October 15th

Weekly welcomes return in November.

Monthly from 12.30

Want to know more? Contact Carol on 07740425093 or Pam
Kent 07949810088

Lifts available—give us a call.

No Charge! (but donations welcome if you are able)

Armitage Bridge Ringers

We ourselves are mainly involved in the ringing of church bells but, we should not be deaf or unaware of the many different forms bells take and play in our culture. School bells, bicycle bells, clocks, fire bells, telephone bells, tubular bells, ships bells, tower bells, handbells and sacred bells are but a few on a very long list.

Bells are found in various cultures including Christianity, their sound being the “voice” of God, and likewise the “voice” of Buddha in Buddhism. Bells were often worn by soldiers who imagined they would protect them in battle. Sailors thought a ships bell would keep them safe at sea and early monks carried them to ward off evil spirits. In one way or another bells share a very uneasy history with war. Most tower bells are made from an alloy of copper (80%) and tin (20%), both of these metals being significant elements in the manufacture of weapons. Ancient cannons to modern armaments have all been manufactured by many countries melting down to recycle bell metal.

As sad as this association to war is at the end of the conflict bells of war are often turned into bells of peace and remembrance. We ourselves ring our bells “half muffled” on remembrance Sunday, reading out the names on our war memorial while our tenor bell tolls out. Other nations have their own traditions. The bell of remembrance at Rovereto in Italy was cast in 1924 by using bronze from guns engaged in WW1, it is rung every evening to remember Italian soldiers killed in the war. The Peace Tower in Ottawa has a carillon of 53 bells (cast in London) for Canadian lives lost in WW1. There are many examples of peace bells around the world from a Shinto Shrine in New York to Cowra in Australia.

In 1982 the World Peace Bell Association was founded in Tokyo and was supported by 120 countries, whose job it is to promote world peace. Duplicates of the UN peace bell were cast and distributed throughout the world to ring out each year on September 21st – International Day for Peace.

There are many famous bells, our own “Big Ben” being at the top of most folks list. Weighing in at 13.70 tonnes and tuned to E, it is surrounded by 4 smaller bells that chime the quarters. Known as “Westminster Chimes”, Huddersfield Parish church has the same chime albeit on somewhat lighter bells.

The largest bell ever manufactured, or cast is the “Tsar Kolokol” which stands in the Kremlin in Moscow. The bell cracked during a fire while it was cooling down in the mould after casting. It remained below ground level in its pit for 100 years before being lifted out and placed on a large plinth in Red Square. The bell was never rung and has its broken section leaning up against it. The calculated total weight is around 200 tons, the broken piece is about 11 tons.

Most bells of a significant weight are named, to give you a few examples

“Great Paul” (no guesses to its location) weighs in at 16 tons 14 cwt 2 qtrs 19 lb

“Great George” in Liverpool Cathedral is 14 tons 15 cwt 2 qtrs and 2 lb

“Big Ben”, at Westminster comes at 13 tons 10 cwt 2 qtrs 15 lb

“Great Peter”, in York Minster 10 tons 16 cwt 2 qtrs and 22 lb

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The largest bell in a ringing peal is Liverpool Cathedral tenor “Emmanuel”, cast by the Whitechapel Foundry, London in 1938 it’s a hefty 4 tons 2 cwt 0 qtrs and 11 lb. Being the heaviest and highest ring in the world they are hung in a unique reinforced concrete frame. Our two latest recruits recently paid a visit and described the experience as “awesome”.



Lorraine and Alan

September 2024 Readings.

Sunday 1st September – Trinity 14 – James 1: 17-end and Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23. Prayer for the Day (Collect)

Merciful God, your Son came to save us and bore our sins on the cross: may we trust in your mercy and know your love, rejoicing in the righteousness that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday 8th September – Trinity 15 – James 2: 1-10, 14-17 and Mark 7: 24-end. Prayer for the Day (Collect)

Lord God, defend your Church from all false teaching and give to your people knowledge of your truth, that we may enjoy eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday 15th September – Trinity 16 – James 3: 1-12 and Mark 8: 27-end. Prayer for the Day (Collect)

Lord of creation, whose glory is around and within us: open our eyes to your wonders, that we may serve you with reverence and know your peace at our lives' end, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday 22nd September – Trinity 17 – James 3: 13- 4:3, 7-8a and Mark 9: 30-37. Prayer for the Day (Collect)

Gracious God, you call us to fullness of life: deliver us from unbelief and banish our anxieties with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday 29th September – Trinity 18 – James 5: 13- end and Mark 9: 38-end. Prayer for the Day (Collect)

God, our judge and saviour, teach us to be open to your truth and to trust in your love, that we may live each day with confidence in the salvation which is given through Jesus Christ our Lord.

CONTACTS

Webpage: www.theemmanuelteam.org.uk

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

Ministers

Assistant Clergy:	Revd David Kent	324049
	Revd Canon Debby Plummer	07762236986
	Revd Canon Angela Dick	982057
Methodist Minister:	Revd Tim Francis	703955
	tim.francis@methodist.org.uk	07443338697

Churchwardens

Armitage Bridge:	Pamela Thomas	359270
	Tony Crawshaw	07738068557
South Crosland:	Allan Greaves	662659
	Paul Coldwell	340180

THE EMMANUEL BENEFICE HUDDERSFIELD

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