

intouch



**As the World Triathlon
races past the church,
meet South Parade's
very own Triathlete!**

Interview with Will Evans page 26

We launched the Step of Faith column in this magazine a few years ago as a way of telling stories of how Jesus is at work in the lives of church members. We've read tales of how God has led people to faith, encouraged them at times of difficulty, and how the Lord has proved faithful in their lives. This month Geoff and Margaret Greer share a specific story about their search for God's guidance as they come to a crossroads in their lives and think about leaving Leeds next year. If you have a testimony to share with the whole church about how you have come to know Jesus, or about how you have been assured of his goodness and love for you, email the magazine at the address below and we'd love to print it in the Step of Faith page in future editions to inspire and encourage us all.

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Matthew Newman Editor

Informed, Involved, Inspired... Intouch!

Contributions to: magazine@spbc.org.uk or to the church office

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From the Ministry Team

River Dance

Well as I sit at my desk and think about the weekend I have just been part of I am totally blown away by the kids and leaders on our team.

I am recovering from our 14th Redmire weekend away (17th weekend away in total). These are for the children and young people in church, who also have the opportunity to bring along their friends. The children who come are from Headingley, Connect and Outburst Sunday at Northside. This year there were 55 of us. Of the 38 kids there were 9

junior leaders: these are kids that have grown up in the church and are ready to step up and take some responsibility to help out on the weekend.



There were 17 adult leaders who volunteered to spend the weekend giving their all, getting very little sleep, getting wet, getting messy and sharing their faith. That also includes Clare and Geoff King who do all the catering: the Redmire Chicken is out of this world! They are great with the kids and a great support to the leaders. It is a privilege to work alongside these amazing people.



At the Prayer Space some of the children experience God in a very special way. It is a real privilege to be able to pray with them.

There is a real freedom at Redmire, which is very refreshing. The

children and young people are open to God and what He has to say to them. We have a prayer space on the Saturday evening which is a time when some of the children really experience God in a very special way. It is again a real privilege to be able to pray with and alongside these children and young people.

The weekend gives us the opportunity to introduce God to the kids that have never heard of Him before and to encourage the kids that know all about God to go deeper. We sing songs, play games and build relationships. The theme was a festive Redmire (Christmas!); we wanted to show the real meaning of Christmas without all the trimmings, that God sent Jesus that first Christmas so that we could be restored to God.

The song of the weekend for me has definitely got to be *Deep Cries Out*. We sung of stirring deep wells of living water that renew us and never run dry. My job is very diverse from working in the church with children and young people, to working in schools and with families that are outside the church community, and is quite challenging sometimes.

Iwent into this weekend knowing that I was relying on God for His strength and wisdom. Leading the weekend has reminded me again that we need to rely on God more and also evaluate where we are with God. Are we ready to go deeper with God? Are we ready to jump and dance in that deep river that flows from the throne of God?

Heather



Everyone at Redmire 2016

Around the Church

Youth Work Gathering

At the beginning of April, we had the third gathering of youth work volunteers from across South Parade. The get togethers provide an opportunity for our volunteers to stop, collaborate and listen to God and one another. We ate pizza, played Pucket and shared the following stories of hope with one another:

- *A while back, we were discussing “Is there a God?” I was struck by the young people’s confidence in their own beliefs. For some it was less clear, however they were still willing to say so. I was impressed by their honesty and willingness to get involved in the conversation!* Paul @ Headingley
- *It has been fantastic to have so many children at Outburst and to see them singing songs like Our God Is A Great Big God! Even children who you might not think would be up for it are singing their hearts out!* Ruth @ Connect
- *We’ve decided to pause our midweek Cell so that we can take*

time to hear from God and to find out what he wants for us next. It may seem scary not knowing what God has planned but it's exciting!
Nathan @ Cragg

Just because the impact of what we’re doing isn’t immediately obvious doesn’t mean that the young people aren’t listening and pondering

- *A few years ago, Amy’s parents gave us a copy of The Poverty And Justice Bible. Furbs was using this Bible at Cell and at the end of the session she asked if she could borrow it. Nathan @ Headingley*
- *One of the families who attends Outburst Sunday has shared that they feel closer to God when they meet with us. What an amazing encouragement!* Heather @ Northside
- *Recently, the teenage groups joined together and it was really*

nice to see the young people interacting. We finished with an open prayer exercise, where they could write down questions or say thank you to God. It was just encouraging to see some of them engage in prayer. Ruth @ Headingley

- *While planning for the Family Fun Day, we remembered that last year there was a group of boys whose behaviour was pretty challenging. One of the lads was Jack, who since then has become a committed member of Connect. What a transformation! Lawrence @ Connect*
- *I am encouraged that sometimes the impact of what we're doing isn't immediately obvious but that doesn't mean that the young people aren't listening and pondering. Neil @ Headingley*

Please don't hesitate to ask if you would like more information about our gatherings.

Nathan Shipley

Associate Pastor, Youth and Young Adults
nathan@spsc.org.uk

Update from Sent

Building on the Sent weekend away in February, we've recently finished a series on a Sunday evening exploring Godly relationships. It's been both encouraging and challenging to look at themes

including mentoring and sharing our faith with others and to think about how to put these things into practice in daily life.

Join us to celebrate all that God is doing across the mission communities at South Parade Together on 19 June

One of the things that gets me excited is to hear people share good news stories of God at work in their lives. Recently at Sent we have heard from members serving God in their workplace, working with students, the Chinese church, Christians in Science as well as mission taking place around the world. God is at work - keep praying! If you love hearing and sharing good news stories why not join us for South Parade Together to celebrate all that God is doing across the mission communities (next on 19 June)!

Please pray for us as individuals and as a mission community as we continue to discover what it means to live out the gospel in our daily lives. Please also pray and join us in our upcoming Sent Lounge events, aimed to be relaxed opportunities to invite friends and build relationships. In June we'll be

learning how to cook some traditional Chinese food and in July we'll be heading to Becketts Park to hear a brass band play!

Ruth Hughes

Sent Elder



We are excited to let you know that 137 children have come to our Outburst events since last June, many of whom have been to several sessions, and we hope to see lots of these children and their families at the Fun Day.

A Fantastic Day

Saturday 2 July

Connect is gearing up for our annual event: the Free Family Fun Day held on the playing field of Hollybush School, Bramley, (the school where we gather (nearly) every Sunday).

We hope to see lots of children and their families at the Fun Day

Many of the families we meet struggle to make ends meet so this is an opportunity for them to entertain their children without worrying about the money. There will be a barbecue at one end of the field and a shady place for small children and their carers at the other end and in between a falconry display, face painting, a prayer tent and a bouncy castle - among many other activities.



Last year we were so encouraged to see a battalion of South Paraders turn up on the day to swell our ranks. If you can spare even one hour, especially at the 10am set up or clear away at 5pm (when our legs are tired!) that would be lovely. Please let Sian Wrangles, Connect's Leader, know by 26 June via the church office. Thank you.

Gemma Eastwood

Connect Mission Community

Headingley

24 April was the date of the "bring and share" lunch, although the "bringing" was not a pre-requisite of the "sharing". Soup was provided in a variety of flavours and I think it's safe to say that warm fellowship was enjoyed by all who came.

Look out for more food and fellowship opportunities in the near future – a barbecue and picnic are both being

planned.

Urban Saints came to South Parade on 19 May to talk about church being an inclusive place for all, especially children / young people with additional needs and their families.



Headingley Bring & Share Lunch

The event was attended by people from other churches across Yorkshire as well as some from South Parade. It was good to share experiences from different situations and to be challenged and inspired to make a positive difference to people's lives through church activities.

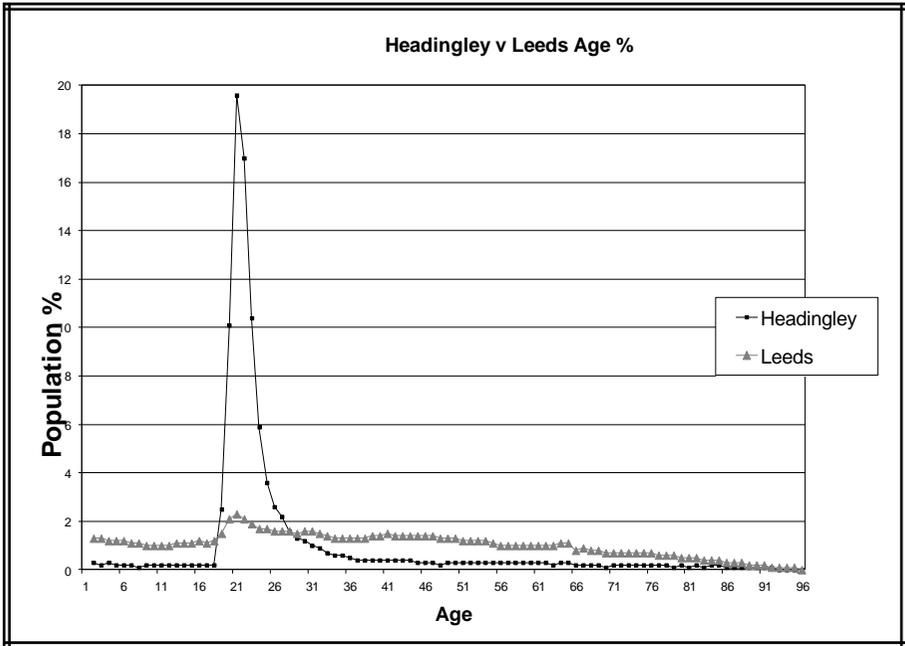
Have you recently checked the soles of your shoes when coming into or out of South Parade's main entrance? We've reduced our carbon footprint by changing the traditional bulbs and transformers

for the lights in the foyer and corridor around the back of the sanctuary to the toilets. The areas are now lit by LED bulbs that work straight from the 240v mains system and use only 5 watts of electricity each instead of the 50 watts each used by the old bulbs. 69 bulbs have been replaced, which equated to a total of almost 3,500 watts and now only 345 watts are used, even though the new lights are brighter than they used to be.

Look out for more food and fellowship opportunities in the near future

In spite of the muted response (of one) to the quiz and survey in the last issue of *Intouch*, here is some





information that the questions were inspired by. If Mission is taking the good news of Christ to people who don't yet know much about it, we must consider what this means for our local student population. The chart above shows the difference in ages between the Headingley population and the general Leeds population. Almost 20% of the 19–22 year-olds who live in Leeds live here in Headingley and the number of Headingley residents who call themselves Christians has fallen from 48% to 38% between 2001 and 2011.

Next meetings: Headingley Mission Community Meeting Thursday 21 July and Headingley Mission

Community Leadership Team Meeting Monday 4 July.

Richard Sykes

Headingley Morning Mission Community Leadership Team

Pizza and Pudding

Saturday 14 May

The upper hall at South Parade was decorated in red, green and white, the colours of the Italian flag, to welcome our visiting BMS partners David and Ann MacFarlane.

About 50 of us gathered to eat pizza and share puddings and cakes, and a special rhubarb crumble and custard was made for David.



After the meal we participated in a quiz set by David which included questions on their family and work in Italy. David and Ann are the longest serving missionaries with BMS and have pastored many churches in Italy. The quiz covered all the aspects of their service over the 23 years in Italy. In the end three tables shared the chocolates prizes.



Pizza and Pud with the MacFarlanes

Ann had been at the Baptist Assembly in Oxford and arrived back in time to start the talk. The PowerPoint covered all aspects of their work in Reggio Calabria especially the work amongst the migrants and the food bank runs. Ann shared very frankly about the

needs of many of the migrants landing at the port. She works long hours in a team of volunteers translating for the doctors. Many are traumatised and ill from their long and dangerous journey. Ann reminded us that these are people like us, they have a heart and soul and have had to leave everything behind and flee for their lives. And

Ann reminded us that the migrants are people like us, and have had to leave everything behind and flee for their lives

sadly many lost their lives in trying to reach the West. She said that we in the West are not aware of the real story and therefore have failed to act.

I was able to pass on to David and Ann the sum of £427.13 towards this work which will help supply flip-flops, provisions, baby items and toiletries to these dear people and help buy provisions for the twice weekly food bank in the town.

If you feel moved to give a financial donation please see me and I will pass it on to them.

This will be David and Ann's last year before retiring; please continue to pray for them as they seek the Lord for a new pastor to take over the work in what is known as the International Baptist Church of Reggio Calabria. We hope we will see them again next May.

Pat Dalglish

SPBC Link Worker for the MacFarlanes ("the Macpac")

Churches Together in Headingley

Christians from different churches in Headingley gathered together for a short service on the afternoon of Pentecost Sunday in the Rose Garden on North Lane. The service was organised by Headingley Churches Together, and marked the start of Christian Aid Week. We sang Pentecost hymns and prayed that God would "Pour out your Spirit as you promised.. and let all your children eat their fill and praise your name for the wonders you have done".

Ann Parker from Christian Aid spoke about our responsibilities as global neighbours to stand alongside and support those in need. She spoke about her own visit to Bangladesh and a direct and moving encounter with those suffering from the effects of climate change who accused her and all of us



Pentecost Service with Headingley Churches Together

in the rich West of apathy and selfishness and being responsible for their dire situation. We prayed for forgiveness for our actions and for justice for every neighbour.

The words of our closing song inspired us to go out, filled with the Holy Spirit, renewed and inspired to “make God’s colours sing” in the world around us: “Come Spirit, weave a web of peace, that prejudice and violence cease; reveal God’s purpose here”. Amen!

Matthew Newman

Headingley Morning Mission Community

What a Celebration

When I arrived at Tile Lane, Heather and Nathan were already setting up the PowerPoint. The chairs and tables were set up with interesting “Table Talk” questions and puzzles and pictures to colour in.

The piano was out for Janet to play, Jonathan had arrived with his guitar and I was here with my voice and tambourine. We were going to sing “Great is the Darkness”. Rosemary arrived with two large cakes: lemon drizzle and a chocolate one.

People began to arrive, but no projector had arrived. We waited... and waited. We phoned people but no-one

knew where it was. Rising to the challenge, Heather had spotted that I had brought a Mission Praise hymn book. She grabbed it and disappeared into the nether regions of the school, popping up again ten minutes later with copies of the hymn to give out. Meanwhile Jonathan’s guitar threw itself off the chair and Janet still hadn’t arrived to play. Nathan and Heather did a quick change of the other two songs to ones the congregation would know quite well. Methinks we were being tested.

However when the service started the congregation stood up and sang with strong cheerful voices and some modest dancing.

Nathan began with the “Table Talk” questions: What was the best



Northside Pentecost Cake

present you have ever received? A bike. A book. A baby brother! What was the best present ever given to the peoples of the earth? Jesus Christ.



We played a pass the parcel game and every time the music stopped someone stripped off a layer of the parcel. If there was a sweet and a “forfeit” you had to answer: my favourite bible verse, hymn, place to visit....

Heather read the story of Pentecost from the Storyteller Bible, about when the Great Helper Arrived

We then had a quiz about the most expensive and unusual gifts that celebrities had bought for their partners and friends. Ask Nathan and Heather for the questions. Some of them were really crazy.

We sang more songs and Heather read from the Storyteller Bible. The story of Pentecost when the Great

Helper Arrived. How the Holy Spirit came upon the people like a rushing wind and tongues of flame came to rest on their heads. They began to speak in many different languages so that many people from foreign lands could understand them. Peter told them of the prophecy made long ago that God would enable this would happen through the death of His son Jesus. All the apostles would then take God’s word to all nations.

After the story we were given candles. We took them to the cakes and lit them and placed them in the cakes. Someone put one in upside down! Oooops!

A small bible verse was given to each one of us and today it was John 14.16: “I will ask the Father and he will give you another Helper to be with you forever”. Nathan closed in prayer. We then had tea and coffee and a piece of delicious cake. It was a great celebration.

Sam MacCunn
Northside Leadership Team

...informed...

Share news from Around the Church by sending reports, photos and updates from your Mission Community, home group, cell group or meeting to magazine@spbc.org.uk



Developing Dementia Friendly Churches

“Shall Thy wonders be known in the dark? and Thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?”
Psalm 88.12 (KJV)

Saturday morning on 19 March saw the Green House filled with people eager to hear our own Gaynor Hammond lead a Workshop on “Developing Dementia Friendly Churches” organised by Wellspring, the Christian counselling and training charity in Harrogate. We were overwhelmed by the response – with participants travelling up to two hours to attend.

Gaynor described for us the stages of dementia and how this affects

Gaynor offered practical ways in which the church can include and lovingly support those with dementia and their families

individuals, their families and friends. She offered simple and practical ways in which the Church environment and services can be made more accessible, together with lots of suggestions as to how Church members can reach out to, include, and lovingly support those with dementia and their families.



Gaynor Hammond

Warm, engaging, and a natural storyteller, Gaynor related many interesting anecdotes with gentle humour and grace – the mood was positive and hopeful. Listeners responded with enthusiasm, sharing experiences, ideas and concerns. Several

commented how much they appreciated the opportunity not only to learn from Gaynor but also to meet and hear from other participants.

The workshop generated unanimously outstanding feedback: “encouraging”, “inspirational”, and “faith-filled” were typical comments, and Gaynor has now agreed to do two further workshops for

Wellspring this year. The good news for anyone who missed the last is that Gaynor is repeating it in York on 25 June – but please book quickly as places are filling fast. The second, “Developing Dementia Friendly Worship”, will be in the

Green House on 24 September and is specifically on developing themes and tools for worship around major events in the Church calendar.

Helen Vipan

Training Services Manager, Wellspring

...informed...

For more information please speak to Helen Vipan or Gaynor Hammond; or contact Wellspring on 01423 881881 or office@wellspringtherapy.co.uk.

See also the poster on the Church Noticeboard on page 39.



Wellspring Therapy and Training

Towards Wholeness ~ Professional, Affordable Therapy & Training

New BMS Strategy to Transform One Million Lives

BMS World Mission has launched a new strategy to transform one million lives in the next five years. BMS aims, with God’s help, to transform one million lives by 2020. The new BMS strategy was officially launched at the Baptist Assembly in Oxford in May.



With your support, we are intentionally going where others can’t. We’re aiming to bring God’s transforming love to the world’s most marginalised people and least evangelised communities. We are going to do this through church, development, education, health, justice, leadership and relief ministries.

We have targets – numbers of people we want to see touched and changed by our work. And these are bold, faith-stretching and measurable. But this is not a numbers game. If it were, we’d do the easy thing. Focus on the easy places. Do the easy work. With integrity, excellence and love guiding us, we’re aiming for lasting transformation, not box-ticking or headline-grabbing. In this, we have faith that God will honour our work in ways we have not even imagined.

Ministry, Mission and Money

Finance Update from the Deacons

In services and the notice sheet over the last few months you will have been aware of a focus on the theme of mission and money. If you have missed some of the church financial news so far this year, deacon Claire Hall presents this summary.

Thank you very much to everyone who has already increased their giving, of money or time (or both!). As we go to press the overall increase in financial giving is 4.5%; there are 15 new regular givers and 32 existing givers have raised their regular commitment. If you are still thinking about setting up or increasing a standing order then be encouraged that it will be gratefully received, and used for God's glory.

In January the church meeting was presented with a budget which did not balance, expected income being significantly less than planned expenditure (result misery, to paraphrase Mr Micawber).

The meeting agreed to provisionally approve the draft budget, and also

that "ministry and mission opportunities and their costs would be explored widely within the fellowship" with the aim of:

EITHER "allowing members and attenders to respond with giving to support the 2016 budget and thereby endorse use of the legacy (about £125,000 from a former member's will, which we are expecting to receive this year) for specific mission initiatives"

OR "Agree to use the legacy to fill the gap between income and spending over the next couple of years and to start to explore ways of reducing costs".

Everyone was encouraged to suggest new mission opportunities

Individuals, small groups, mission communities, and the whole church were invited to prayerfully consider what it might actually mean to:

- increase income
 - reduce costs
-
-

- use (some or all of) the legacy as an interim measure “soft landing”.

At the same time everyone was encouraged to think about what we should do with the legacy money if it was fully available and suggest new or improved mission opportunities.



Information and encouragement was given in a variety of ways, including study material for small groups, with the Bible passages to study being Mark 12.41–44 and Luke 8.1–3.

Feedback was invited, and this is a (random) sample of quotes from the feedback received :

- *Couldn't we just put more in the collection?*
- *A legacy is a gift, not just to be used for running costs.*
- *We could advertise the facilities available for hire more widely.*
- *I've never given regularly before, but while we've been talking I've set up a standing order... it's really quick with internet banking.*
- *We could have ... A community cafe in the Green House.*
- *... Involvement in sporting events at the stadium - outreach to cricket and rugby events and build on the success of JJB event for*

further mission activities.

- *... a permanent base for Connect that could be used for outreach/mission during the week as well as on Sundays.*

By the time of the March church meeting, there had been a modest increase in regular giving of about 2%, compared to the 12% which was required (at the start of the year – as we go through the year without the necessary increase, then the percentage needed to balance the books at the end of the year goes up) to cover the proposed spending.

So because the conditions for the EITHER option above have not been met we have to pursue the OR option, and use the legacy to fill the gap between income and spending over the next couple of years and start to explore ways of reducing costs.

As we continue to review income and spending we know, individually and as a church, that God is good and: *“... is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”* 2 Corinthians 9.8.

Claire Hall

Deacon

Step of Faith

Hearing From God

For many years Geoff and Margaret Greer have held leadership roles within South Parade. Here they share some thoughts on how God guides and leads us all, and explain how they came to a decision about their future life and ministry together.

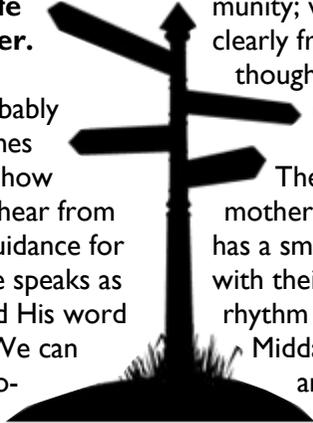
We have probably all sometimes wondered how can we make space to hear from God and receive His guidance for our lives. We know He speaks as we pray and as we read His word and hear it preached. We can point to several key moments in the past when God either spoke positively or shut doors to us!

One key moment for us was over thirty years ago when Geoff's employers were relocating to Reading and we faced the choice of moving there or him being made redundant. God spoke to us very strongly to "stay in the city" (Luke 24.49). Even though that might be a little out of context we interpreted that as re-

ferring to Leeds for us and so we stayed, as you will all know! Fast-forwarding to 2016 we had been wondering if our lives were to enter a different new phase. In April we therefore went on a three-day retreat at the Northumbria Community; we heard wonderfully clearly from God whilst there, although the message was rather different.

The Northumbria Community mother house at Nether Springs has a small resident team who share with their guests in the monastic rhythm of the day: Morning Prayer, Midday Prayer, Evening Prayer and Compline. These each comprise prayer, readings and meditations and incorporate their Celtic-inspired liturgy that is sometimes used within South Parade. It is a rather different spirituality from what we are used to, but it is very biblical and essentially evangelical.

We quickly embraced the quietness of the meetings and indeed of the whole place, situated as it is looking over fields to the sea. The liturgy



seemed very God-focussed as well as being very reassuring to believers.

Each day between Morning Prayer and Midday Prayer we met separately with our “spiritual guides” Catherine and Giles. On the first morning Giles reminded Geoff that, although he was feeling uncertain of God’s guidance now, we had enjoyed long periods of being sure of His calling. Catherine and Margaret talked about discerning being about separating the threads; Margaret was given a box of tangled wool which she proceeded to unravel and then construct a diagram of our life and relationships.

We were also given two pictures to consider. Firstly, was God loosening the soil around our deep roots in Leeds/South Parade given our changed circumstances, such as retirement from work, standing down from roles at SPBC, the children being all married (as of February



next year!), etc? Secondly, where should we place the first tent-peg of our next phase of life and what should it be (eg near family, near a new church/ministry, near hills)?

The Lord reminded Geoff of His wonderful promises. We were entering into a sense of peace that He had good new plans for us.

That afternoon we went for a walk beside the sea and reflected on whether God saying our time in Leeds was coming to an end. The next morning the Lord reminded Geoff of the wonderful promises in Jeremiah 29.11-14 (“I know the plans I have for you...”) We were both entering into a sense of peace that He had good new plans for us. At our individually guided sessions it was suggested to both of us that we do the “prayer labyrinth” that afternoon. (More of this later because we deferred that activity as someone else was doing it then).

We ended up going on a walk through the woods down to the river instead. It was a lovely sunny day; the birds were singing and the trees were in full blossom. God reminded Geoff of Song of Solomon 2.12 (“...the winter is past; the time

of the singing of birds has come...”). This had been a significant verse for him forty years ago when we were first moving into renewal; God seemed to be encouraging us again to embrace new things.

The last morning we did the labyrinth before our final sessions. This ancient practice is nothing to do with mazes where there can be blind routes and confusion. It involves walking towards the centre (God?) along a twisting path (cut in the grass) and then back out again to our future life. You can pray in various ways or merely wait on God as you go. Margaret started first and felt she had to wait for Geoff to finish so we could step out at the end (over a twig lying across the entrance) together. (The Song of Solomon passage begins and ends with the writer and their beloved going away together!) We both sensed that all around us were the signs and sounds of Spring; the fig tree was indeed budding once again!



Margaret and Geoff

Catherine suggested that even now a church may be praying for a mature Christian couple to come and join them in their mission. We ended as a 2 on 2 group. The three-fold cord

Margaret had made from the wool (representing the two of us and God - Ecclesiastes 4.12) was anointed and we all prayed for each other.

We left thrilled that we had heard so clearly from God and knowing that He will lead us through the next stages as we share what we have heard and prepare to

move. The actual move will probably not be for another year and certainly not before Joanna's wedding next February. In the meantime we value your prayers for us as a family; you can be assured of our continuing prayers for the future life of South Parade.

Geoff & Margaret Greer

...inspired...

If you want to share part of your spiritual journey for the "Step of Faith" column to inspire and encourage others, email magazine@spbc.org.uk

Prayer Diary



June & July 2016

JUNE

Sun	12	The café event at Headingley for the Triathlon.
Mon	13	Your Mission Community Leaders
Tue	14	Rooted
Wed	15	The Joanna Project
Thu	16	Leeds Faith in Schools
Fri	17	Geoff King
Sat	18	The ongoing search for a new Senior Minister
Sun	19	Northside Mission Community
Mon	20	Under 5s work
Tue	21	The Alpha Course
Wed	22	Pray for the UK as it votes in the referendum tomorrow
Thu	23	The church meeting tonight
Fri	24	The Elders, Deacons, Ministry Team & M C Leadership teams
Sat	25	Kate Burkett
Sun	26	Cragg Mission Community

Pull out and use!

Mon	27	Our friend in North Africa, now home on leave
Tue	28	Chris Gnanakan
Wed	29	Andrew Bedingham and the work of the CAP centre
Thu	30	Charles Fletcher, church secretary
JULY		
Fri	1	The Deacons
Sat	2	The Connect Fun Day event today
Sun	3	Lawrence Cockrill
Mon	4	The Arabic Christian Fellowship
Tue	5	Your neighbours
Wed	6	The church office
Thu	7	Those preparing for holiday camps this summer
Fri	8	The Elders
Sat	9	The Ministry Team
Sun	10	Churches Together groups in Headingley and Horsforth
Mon	11	Headingley Morning Mission Community
Tue	12	Sam and Katie _____
Wed	13	Steve Cooper and Kate Churchill
Thu	14	Members and friends who are sick, or in hospital
Fri	15	The Youth Band
Sat	16	ABC Coffee Shop
Sun	17	Heather McLeen
Mon	18	Church @ Little London
Tue	19	Nathan Shipley
Wed	20	Teddy Praise and Play
Thu	21	Hazel Randall and the TLG mentors working with children in schools

Fri	22	St George's Crypt
Sat	23	Work with children and young people across the church
Sun	24	Paul Rockley
Mon	25	Connect Mission Community
Tue	26	Young People meeting in Cell Groups
Wed	27	Levi Booth in Japan
Thu	28	John Lockwood and Christians in Science
Fri	29	Sent Mission Community
Sat	30	Brian and Elsie Nicholls
Sun	31	Preachers at services this week
AUGUST		
Mon	1	People who can't get to church any more
Tue	2	Someone you know who doesn't know Jesus
Wed	3	Your Home Group leader
Thu	4	Adrian Howe, church treasurer
Fri	5	The Barnabas Bunch
Sat	6	Jane Waites in Albania
Sun	7	Pray for another local church

A Prayer for the Refugee Crisis

*Heavenly Father,
you are the source of all goodness, generosity and love.
We thank you for opening the hearts of many
to those who are fleeing for their lives.
Help us now to open our arms in welcome,
and reach out our hands in support.
That the desperate may find new hope,
and lives torn apart be restored.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ Your Son, Our Lord,
who fled persecution at His birth
and at His last triumphed over death. Amen*

Pentecost Prayer

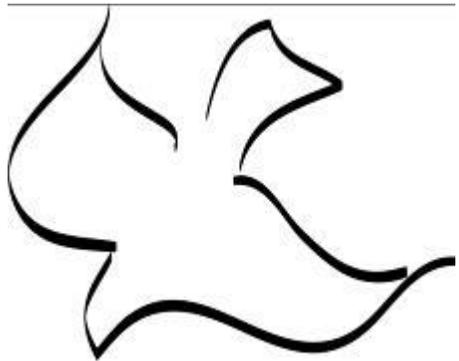
*Holy Spirit,
in our encounter with the world:
clear the way for peace clear the way for justice.
Work with us
to uproot what threatens life;
to make fertile the ground we share.*

*Holy Spirit,
in our encounter with others:
clear the way for love
clear the way for understanding.
Work with us to disentangle broken relationships;
to encourage new life.*

*Holy Spirit,
in our encounter with ourselves:
clear the way for painful truth
clear the way for growth.
Work with us,
act through us,
pray in us
and give us hope.*

**Kate McIlhagga for
Christian Aid**

Used in the Headingley Churches
Together Pentecost Sunday
service (see page 11)



Come Prepared

Preaching Themes and Readings for Morning Services

Date	Theme	Readings
12 June	Spirit-filled life 2	Romans 8.5-8
19 June	Spirit-filled life 3	Romans 8.9-11
26 June	Spirit-filled life 4	Romans 8.12-17
3 July	Foundations 1: God in Three persons	Mark 1.9-11; 1 Peter 1.2 2 Corinthians 13.14
10 July	Foundations 2: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ	2 Corinthians 13.14 John 8.1-11
17 July	Foundations 3: The love of God	2 Corinthians 13.14 1 John 4.7-21
24 July	Foundations 4: The fellowship of the Holy Spirit	2 Corinthians 13.14 Galatians 5.13-26
31 July	Prayer & Praise	
7 August	Finding Home: Life on the Outside	Ruth 1

*May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.*

2 Corinthians 13.14 (NIV)

Will to Win

Interview with Will Evans, Triathlete

The World Triathlon event comes to Leeds this month, and the route takes cyclists right past South Parade as they come through Headingley. South Parade member Will Evans explains what the event is, why he's taking part, and how God has led him to this point in his life.

So why did you enter the Leeds Triathlon?

When they announced that the World Triathlon would be coming to Leeds, and there would be an opportunity for lesser mortals to compete as well I was hooked. The World Triathlon series normally takes place in arguably more glamorous and certainly warmer locations around the world, but with Leeds being the unofficial world capital of triathlon, largely due to the Brownlee brothers, this year it has been lured to sunny Yorkshire.

For those who don't know what a triathlon is, can you fill them in?

Yes, a triathlon involves 3 events, Swim, Bike and Run. The distances can vary, from sprint to an Ironman. But on June 12th, I will be competing in the Olympic distance event, a

1500m swim, 40km cycle and 10km run.



Is this your first triathlon?

No, although I have only done one and that was some time ago. I did an Olympic distance triathlon in 2009 and thoroughly enjoyed it and promised myself I would do more, but somehow 7 years have gone by!

Will in action

But why do you do it?

I have always done some form of competitive sport. Team sports are harder to keep up with as all of life's other commitments progress, so I started running and cycling

both to keep fit and as a way to relax.

In 2009 when I did my first triathlon I also ran the London Marathon. That year was a really difficult time for us, Sam was a small baby and after several months of hospital attendances we learnt he had a life limiting disease with lots of uncertainty about what the future would hold. Miriam and I had so many questions and emotions, anger, upset and joy all rolled together. My faith was both tested and strengthened during that time.



Training for the marathon gave me an enforced time to reflect, pray and be still, whilst running!

God had placed several things and people in our lives in the year or two leading up to then, so clearly all in preparation to ensure that we would be the best parents we could be for Sam. Most powerfully the presence of God during my Mum's final illness, and then moving back to Leeds, attending South Parade, the Alpha course, "Beta" with Colin and Jill and our home group our extended family in Leeds.

When Sam was very small I started training for the marathon and although at times it seemed like an unnecessary and an almost self-indulgent distraction, it was such a huge, huge help. By simply slipping on my trainers and heading out the front door, I was distracted from what was going on and it gave me an enforced time to reflect, pray and be still, whilst running! I remember returning tired but also in a much better frame of mind to approach all that was going on.

Still now when I am looking a bit miserable, tired or short tempered I get ordered to head out for a run!

Are you competing alone?

No, along with the thousands of others, there is a small group of three old friends competing. Unfortunately, my church home group brothers, normally the first to sign up for such antics, Scott and Colin won't be joining me - maybe next year?

So if you see me on June the 12th give me a cheer! (PS I may be towards the back.)

Will Evans

Headingley Morning Mission Community

The S Word

At the weekend, while reading the paper, I came across a word which I found so offensive that I have struggled to shake it off.

Janet Street-Porter was writing about The Labour Party's decision to ban MacDonald's from their annual conference and she used a word which is still ringing in my ears.

Slacktivists. There. I said it!

Slacktivist has not yet made it in to the Oxford English Dictionary (I checked!) however it is entering the public consciousness. Street-Porter drew our attention to a couple of startling statistics from some new research:

- Only 1 in 10 people who took part in the Ice Bucket Challenge actually gave any money to charity.
- Only 10% of charitable donations in the UK are raised online, in spite of all the pledges.¹

Why did I find the word so difficult to deal with? As is often the case, it is because it hit too close to home.

I have been part of the Rhythms community for over four years. During that time I have completed 20 actions, read 111 articles, shared 39 pieces and obtained 27 badges. Thankfully, the Rhythms website does not keep track of the times I have failed to live different in light of the material I have engaged with. If it did, I don't think I would sign in so regularly.

I am not writing this article to induce guilt or to discourage you from participating in this exciting community but to encourage you to stop and think.

- Stop and think when was the last time you signed a petition without reading the detail and fully understanding the cause.
- Stop and think when was the last time you joined a campaign but failed to make changes to the way you live in response.
- Stop and think when was the last time you held yourself ac-

countable to the requests you're making to your MP.

Just because something can be done with ease does not make it easy! Each time we attempt to make a difference we should count the cost.

We live in a time when it has never been easier to start a petition, join a campaign and contact our MP. Just because something can be done with ease does not make it easy! Each time we attempt to make a difference we should count the cost. I remember badgering the Prime Minister to twin a toilet at 10 Downing Street. As I personalised the message, I realised that if I was to petition with integrity I had to twin my toilet too.

In that instance there was a financial cost. At other times the cost will be physical, relational and/or societal. Hard choices will have to be made which will not lead to an easy life. Sound familiar?

"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters - yes, even his own life - he cannot be my disciple. And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple." Luke 14.26-27

As those who follow Jesus, we are called to carry our cross. Thankfully, even when we forget to count the cost, make mistakes and are slactivists there is grace calling us back.

Nathan Shipley

Associate Pastor
Youth and Young Adults

¹ <http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/i-ve-never-spent-a-penny-of-my-money-in-mcdonald-s-labour-is-right-to-take-a-principled-stand-a6996441.html>

...inspired...

Rhythms is a community of people hosted by Tearfund, passionate about living out justice through our everyday actions, determined to make a difference in the world. We are taking small, everyday steps that change the way we live and having conversations that help us shape our understanding of what we can do to tackle the problems of poverty and injustice. We believe that together, we can discover what it means to #LiveDifferent. Find out more at rhythms.org



Challenge, Reward, Best Job...

Could you Foster a Teenager?

Leeds City Council is on the lookout for people who have the right skills, time and space, to make a real difference to children and young people in Leeds.

We're looking to recruit a variety of foster carers, specifically for young people aged 11 and over, large sibling groups, and children with complex needs.

Fostering a teenager can be a challenging but extremely rewarding thing to do. Many people can make successful foster carers for teenagers, including single people, couples, and gay and lesbian carers. What is important is that they share a genuine enjoyment in working with teenagers and a commitment to promoting their welfare and helping them become independent adults.

Our children need love, safety, security and stable homes

We are the second largest local authority in England, we arrange care and support for around 1,250 children and young people who have been separated from their birth families. Some of our children and young people will have experienced significant neglect or abuse. They need love, safety, security and stable homes where they can stay for a few days, weeks, months, years or longer as part of a family.



We don't have enough local authority foster carers to meet the needs of all these children, so we really need to hear from you if you might be able to provide a home or a place to stay for a child, whether that be through short or long-term fostering.

carers will help ensure all the available funding for fostering goes towards children and young people and that Leeds children are fostered in their home city, which at times can help them remain in their local school and community.

By working for Leeds City Council,

Emma Simmonds

Communications Officer, Leeds City Council

...informed...

If you would you like to know more contact Leeds Fostering Department on:



- Phone: 0113 247 7443
- Email: ss.fostering.and.adoption@leeds.gov.uk (please include your phone number)
- Website: www.foster4leeds.co.uk

The next time you feel like God can't use you, just remember:

Noah got drunk,
 Abraham was too old,
 Isaac was a daydreamer,
 Jacob was a liar,
 Leah was ugly,
 Joseph was abused,
 Moses had a stuttering problem,
 Gideon was afraid,
 Samson had long hair and was a womanizer,
 Rahab was a prostitute,
 Jeremiah and Timothy were too young,
 David had an affair and was a murderer,
 Elijah was suicidal,



Isaiah preached naked,
 Jonah ran from God,
 Naomi was a widow,
 Job went bankrupt,
 John the Baptist ate bugs,
 Peter denied Christ,
 The disciples fell asleep while praying,
 Martha worried about everything,
 The Samaritan woman was divorced, more than once,
 Zaccheus was too small,
 Paul was too religious,
 Timothy had an ulcer,
 AND Lazarus was dead!

Author unknown, quoted by Peter Morden in the morning service on 8 May at Headingley

Christian Fellowship: Secrets Of Success

John Holmes contributed much to South Parade and wrote regularly for *Intouch* before his death in 2008. Hazel Holmes found these handwritten words of wisdom and Bible references by John recently when leafing through his Bible. She thought them a good reminder of what as **The Body Christ** we are called to be and achieve.

Accept one another

Romans 15 verse 7

So, warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you: then God will be glorified.

Bear one another's **burdens**

Galatians 6 verse 2

Share each other's burdens and problems, and so obey the Lord's commands.

Be **concerned** for one another

Hebrews 10 verse 24

In response to all he has done for us be helpful and kind to each other

in doing good.

Confess your sins to one another
James 5 verse 16

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other that you may be healed.

Encourage one another

Hebrews 10 verse 25

Let us not neglect our church meetings, as some people do, but encourage and warn each other, especially now that the day of his coming back again is drawing near.

Forgive one another

Ephesians 4 verse 32

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another just as God has forgiven you because you belong to Christ.

Have fellowship with one another

1 John 1 verse 17

If we are living in the light of God's presence, just as Christ does, then we have wonderful fellowship and joy with each other.

Honour one another

Romans 12 verse 10

Love each other with brotherly affection and take delight in honouring each other.

Live in harmony with one another

Romans 15 v 5-6

May God give you patience and encouragement to help you live in complete harmony with each other, each with the attitude of Christ towards the other. Then all of us can praise the Lord together with

one voice, giving glory to God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Offer hospitality to one another

1 Peter 4 verse 9

Cheerfully share your home with those who need a meal or a place to stay for the night.

Pray for one another

James 5 verse 16

Admit your faults to one another and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous man has greater power and wonderful results.

Serve one another

Galatians 5 verse 13

For, dear brothers, you have been given freedom: not freedom to do wrong but to love and serve each other.

Stir up one another to love and good works

Hebrews 10 verse 24

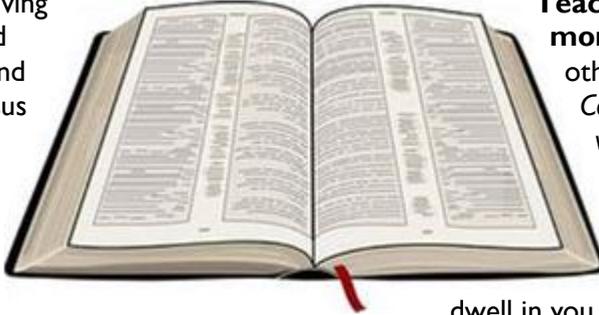
In response to all he has done for us, let us outdo each other in being helpful and kind to each other and in doing good.

Teach and admonish one another

Colossians 3 verse 16 and 17

Let the word of Christ

dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your heart to God. Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.



John Holmes

Ford's Focus

Methuselah

What do we know about Methuselah? The Bible tells us that he is the oldest record human that ever lived. In Genesis 5.21-27 we can read about this man.

Just to say a few things about this man and the family that he was born into. According to the Bible we know that Methuselah was the son of a man called Enoch. Enoch was a Godly man, a man who “walked habitually” with God. We know this because in Genesis 5.22 we read that Enoch “walked with God, and he was not; for God took him.”

Here was a man so taken up with God that his life is described as one



with God. This life is the kind of life that propels the being we know as God into the lives of those around us. This was certainly true of Enoch. We read that Enoch fathered Methuselah when he was 65 years old and gave him a name with meaning, it was a kind of prophetic name that means “in the year that he dies it will happen”. Methuselah fathered Lamech which means “powerful” and the bible says that Lamech fathered a son and named him Noah, which means comfort or rest, because “this one will comfort us concerning our work and toil of our hands because of the ground which the Lord has cursed.”

There appears to be some kind of repentance and awakening in these four generations of Godly men, men who had found God and who were

Four generations were prepared to walk with God at all costs with little regard for their standing in society

pained to be concerned for the souls of men and women who were lost and without hope. They were men who recognised that without God intervening in the world that they inhabited it was headed for destruction and the lives of future generations were in danger of being left without hope.

We find in this short account four generations that were prepared to walk with, and listen to God at all costs with little or no regard for their own status or standing in society. This is certainly true of Noah who “found Grace” because he was a “just” and “perfect” man, a man who had proved God in a fallen world. We can read how bad the world was in Genesis 6. This man Noah whose name means rest or comfort, built an ark upon the instruction of God. This is a story in itself and I may get to write that one day, but for now I want to concentrate on Noah’s grandfather and set you a little puzzle.

Methuselah means “in the year that he dies it will happen”. Can you tell me what happened in the year that Methuselah dies?

The answer is as follows: Methuselah was 187 when Lamech was born. Lamech was 182 when Noah was born so Methuselah was 369 (187 + 182). When Noah was 600 years old the flood started so Methuselah was 369 + 600 = 969, the age that the bible records that Methuselah was when he died (Genesis 5.27).

It is as if God was extending Grace for as long as possible in order for mankind to repent and renew a right relationship with God and His creation, a relationship which He had purposed at the outset of the world, one where mankind could walk with God and not be ashamed.

Steve Ford

More like this can be found at blog.steveford.me.uk



*God, it seems you've been our home forever; long before the mountains were born, long before you brought earth itself to birth, from "once upon a time" to "kingdom come" - **you are God.***

Psalms 90.1-2

Christians in Science

Biology and Belief

John Lockwood invites small groups to take up the Bible Study Course in the Test of Faith series, earlier copies of which are available in the church library, and to hear the author at a Christians in Science event in the autumn.

***Wonders of the Living World: Biology and Belief* ed. Ruth Bancewicz**

This course was originally a weekend course at the Faraday Institute, Cambridge University, and now forms a six-week course for the ordinary church member. The level is meant to be such that little or no knowledge of science is required. Topics covered are:

- How we are made: Embryos, Biology and Belief

- The Genetic Code
- Ordered disorder in Biology
- Biology and Natural Theology
- Ecology: living Communities
- The Bible and Biology

As is normal with Test of Faith, the studies come with both Study Guides and interviews on DVDs. As with earlier courses, the course is edited by Ruth Bancewicz. Ruth is visiting Christians in Science at South Parade, Leeds on Tuesday 27 September, when she will introduce the new course. Watch church

notices for further details. Ruth is a great speaker and well worth the effort of coming to SP.



Ruth Bancewicz

Ruth Bancewicz is a Senior Research Associate at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion, Cambridge University, where she works on the positive interac-

tion, Cambridge University, where she works on the positive interac-

tion between science and faith. After studying Genetics at Aberdeen University, she completed a PhD at Edinburgh University, based at the MRC Human Genetics Unit.



in Science. Ruth then moved to The Faraday Institute to develop the Test of Faith resources, the first of which were launched in 2009. Ruth is a trustee of Christians in Science and on the advisory council of

BioLogos.

She spent two years as a part-time postdoctoral researcher at the Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell Biology at Edinburgh University, while also working as the Development Officer for Christians

John Lockwood

Local Organiser, Leeds CiS Local Group
Cragg/Sent Mission Communities

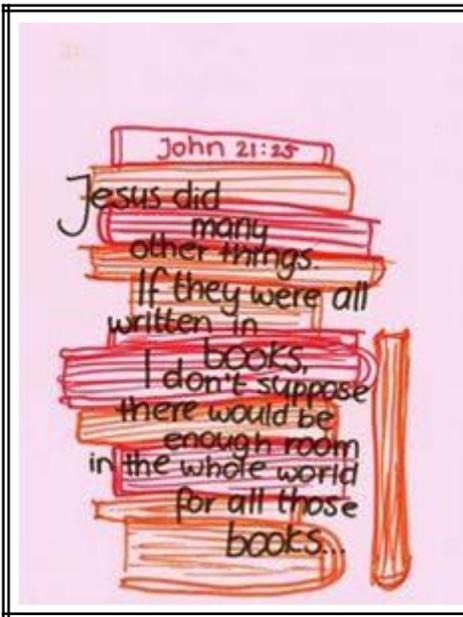
...informed...

Ruth Bancewicz will be speaking at the next Christians in Science

meeting at South Parade, Headingley at 7.30pm on Tuesday 27 September.



CHRISTIANS IN SCIENCE



Spotted on the church
Facebook site at
[www.facebook.com/
SPBaptistChurch](http://www.facebook.com/SPBaptistChurch)

Church Noticeboard

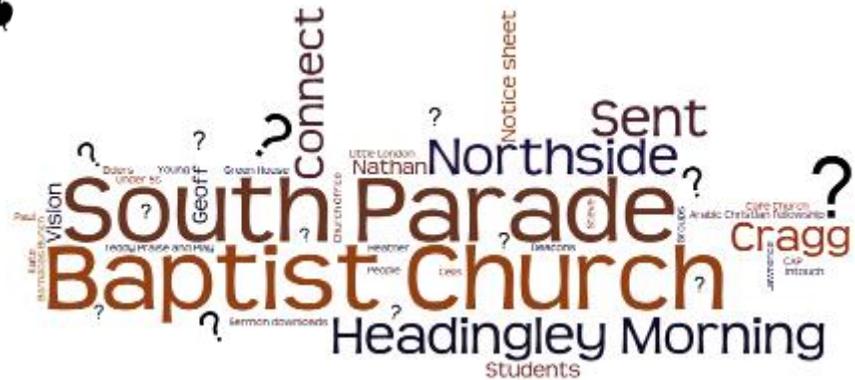
Rev **Peter Morden** is currently Vice-Principal at Spurgeon's College in London. You can hear both his sermons from his visit to South Parade on 8 May by visiting the SPBC website: www.spbc.org.uk (click on "resources").



FUN DAY

Connect Family Fun Day

Saturday 2 July
Hollybush School
Bramley



Confused? For service times, locations, Mission Communities, children's work, the weekly notice sheet, sermon downloads and back copies of this magazine and much more go to the church website:

www.spbc.org.uk

Growing Dementia Friendly Churches

Finding God in the land of forgetfulness

Workshop with Rev Gaynor Hammond on the Spiritual and Pastoral Care of People with Dementia



Date: 25 June 2016

Time: 10 am – 1 pm

Venue: Quaker Meeting Hall,
White Rose Ave, New
Earswick, York, YO32 4AD

Cost: £12 if you book by 21
June - £15 on the door

Developing Dementia Friendly Worship

A practical workshop involving group work & planning an Easter/Christmas/Remembrance or Harvest service

Workshop with Rev Gaynor Hammond on developing worship services with people who have dementia

Date: 24 September 2016

Time: 10 am – 1 pm

Venue: SPBC, The Green
House, Headingley

Cost: £10 if you book by 1
Aug, £12 if you book by 20
Sept, £15 on the door

Complimentary places available to participants in the early stages of dementia and to anyone caring for someone with dementia.

To book a place please contact:



Wellspring Therapy and Training
Towards Wholeness - Professional, Affordable Therapy & Training

2 Prospect Road, Starbeck, HG2 7PB
01423 881 881

office@wellspringtherapy.co.uk
www.wellspringtherapy.co.uk



PLEASE SUPPORT

THE VISIT OF BAQOUN
A FOLK DANCE TROUPE OF YOUNG

PALESTINIAN
CHRISTIANS
FROM BETHLEHEM

Performing in Leeds on **Tuesday 21 June**

- 2.30pm at St Chad's, Headingley
- 7.00pm at St George's, city centre

A vibrant and enriching taste of life,
faith, fun and food in Palestine

Tickets £10, to support their whole trip

See Pam Roe if you would like a ticket

Arranged by the Diocese of West Yorkshire & the Dales

An Evening With Irene

Irene is back visiting the UK this month and visiting South Parade. She works with palliative care training in North Africa. Irene's supporters and friends are invited to An Evening With Irene at the **Green House** at Headingley on **Monday 27 June 7.30-9.30pm** to meet and catch up with her and hear her latest news. Everyone welcome!



The 4th Leeds Sacred Harp Singing

Fa ▽ Sol ● La ■ Fa ▽ Sol ● La ■ Mi ◆ Fa ▽

Saturday 18 June 2016
10.30am–4pm
South Parade Baptist Church
Kirkstall Lane, Headingley, Leeds, LS6 3LF

*Come, enjoy singing and hearing
the thrilling harmonies*

- No experience necessary
- All are welcome
- Books will be available for loan or purchase
- Please bring a ready prepared dish to share for Dinner on the Grounds
- Admission Free
- A voluntary collection will be taken to cover expenses

For further information please contact:
Arja and John Copperwheat



**Whole
Church
Meeting
Thursday
23 June**

**South Parade
Together**
6.30pm
Sunday 19 June
Headingley

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

PROJECTS THAT PROVED, IN HINDSIGHT, TO BE RATHER OVERAMBITIOUS
GIVEN THE HOUR-LONG DURATION OF THE MORNING SERVICE



A LIFESIZE RECONSTRUCTION
OF NOAH'S ARK



ACTING OUT THE BOOK
OF REVELATION



LEARNING PSALM 119
OFF BY HEART



PERFECTING TALLIS'S
'SPEM IN ALIUM'

CartoonChurch.com

This CartoonChurch.com cartoon by Dave Walker is used with permission.

CHRISTIANITY EXPLODED

#1

Times when
there's a great
opportunity to
speak about
Jesus

Times when I
recognise the
opportunity to
speak about
Jesus

Times when
I'm brave
enough to
speak about
Jesus

*Where the
Holy Spirit
wants me to be*



South Parade meets as five distinctive Mission Communities across Leeds: in **Headingley** and **Cragg** on a Sunday Morning, and as **Sent** at Headingley on Sunday evenings. **Connect** meets in the community in Bramley. **Northside** meets in Adel and at the ABC Coffee Shop in Holt Park. We're involved with Church@Little London, run a CAP Debt Centre and have a partnership with the Arabic Christian Fellowship. To find out more, visit the website or contact the church office.

Together, we have a shared vision to **build community in Christ**. We hope that all who meet us will be helped to **belong** to Christ and his people, will discover what it means to **believe** in him, and will **become** all that he invites them to be in character, lifestyle, witness and service.

Minister

Paul Rockley

Associate Pastor for
Youth and Young Adults
Children's Worker
Associate Pastor
Church Administrators
Associate Pastor
Under 5s Co-ordinator

Nathan Shipley
Heather McLeen
Geoff King
Kate Churchill/Steve Cooper
Lawrence Cockrill
Kate Burkett

Elders

Andrew Bedingham, Steve Burras,
Neil Cowling, Charles Fletcher
(Church Secretary), Adrian Howe
(Church Treasurer), Ruth Hughes,
John Pelham, Sue Ricketts

South Parade Baptist Church
Kirkstall Lane, Headingley
LEEDS LS6 3LF

0113 275 4989
www.spbc.org.uk
info@spbc.org.uk



“

*I have fought the good fight,
I have finished the race,
I have kept the faith.*

”

2 Timothy 4.7 (NIV)

intouch

 **SOUTH PARADE
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Building Community in Christ