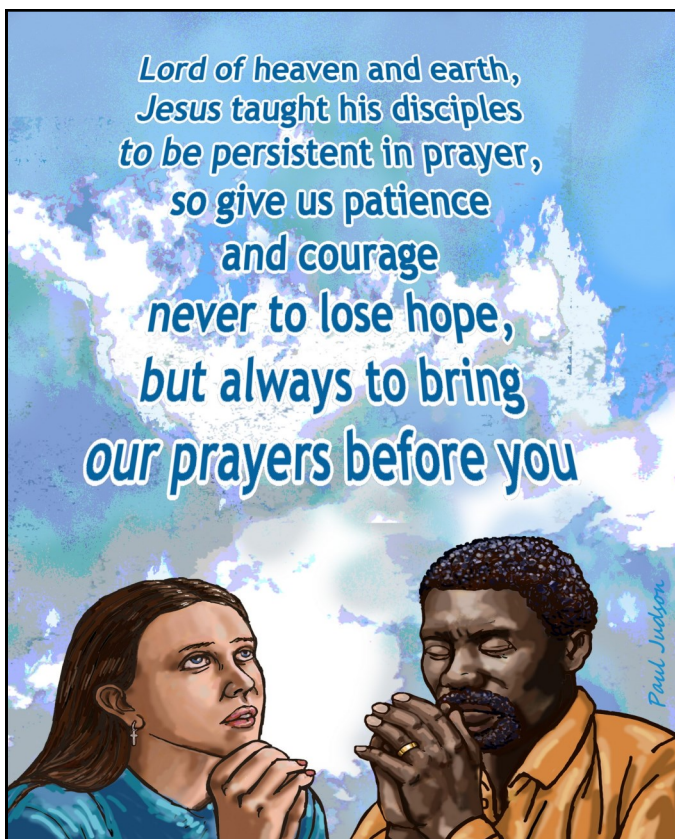


August - September 2025

Number 708

# The Messenger

The magazine of the Bridge Church, Otley



## The Bridge Church

THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH IN OTLEY

The official Magazine of the  
Bridge United Reformed Church, Otley  
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## **Messenger letter**

Dear Friends,

I am a great fan of Radio Four's 'Any Questions' which is broadcast on a Friday evening. The programme is an hour of lively topical debate with a panel of politicians and leading figures in our public life responding to questions from the public. What is perhaps of more interest is 'Any Answers' which is broadcast after the repeat of 'Any Questions' on a Saturday afternoon. This is an opportunity for the public to ring up and share their thoughts on the topical issues of the day. I find this a fascinating programme as I hear not only views that I agree with but also views that I do not agree with, and the latter challenges me significantly!

We can rejoice that we live in a society where this sort of discourse is possible. We live in a Parliamentary democracy with an adversarial House of Commons at its heart, a space where opposing views literally come face to face! We are also members of a Christian denomination which puts the voice of her members at its heart. The Church Meeting is an opportunity for Church members to express their views about the life of the faith community to which they belong. Of course, we do not gather to seek a democratic outcome but a theocratic one, we gather to discern the will of God! It is not only the responsibility of Elders to lay matters before the Church Meeting for its consideration, but members are also encouraged to do so as well! That is why Church membership matters! We are, sadly, better at the first one than the latter.

As I write this letter I am wondering if this magazine could be a space where the views of our Church fellowship are also

shared. This is the 708<sup>th</sup> edition of The Messenger and it stretches back longer than I know, although Andrew Howard will know! I imagine if we looked through the previous 707 editions, we would discover much discussion about how the Church should serve, worship, witness, and survive! In the United Reformed Church, we have thirteen synods, and it is often said that those thirteen synods produce fourteen different ways of doing things! Could this magazine be a place where different thoughts, views and understandings of faith are shared? If you think that you could write this opening letter I would be delighted to hear from you. We all have views about how faith shapes our lives, and how our lives shape the world, why not share them with your fellow members as I do in every edition? We are a community of believers and your opinions and thoughts about faith and its implications are as important as mine!

At the Church Meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, we will discuss the future of The Messenger. What should it look like, what do you want to see included in it? Who contributes to it . . . could it be you? Perhaps this magazine could be a place where our understandings of faith, and its implications for our lives, are shared by many so that this space becomes a reflection of our fellowship's rich diversity. Please give it some prayerful thought and I look forward to hearing from you!

With love,

Jason



*The*  
**United  
Reformed  
Church**



**PREACHING PLAN**  
**17<sup>th</sup> August – 26<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

The Reverend Michael Mewis

Jason is leading worship outside of the Yorkshire Synod

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost  
Sacrament of Baptism**

The Reverend Jason McCullagh

Colossians 3. 1-11

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August – Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

The Reverend Jason McCullagh

Songs of Praise Service

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September – Thirteenth Sunday after  
Pentecost - Sacrament of Holy Communion**

The Reverend Jason McCullagh

St. Paul's Letter to Philemon

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September – Fourteenth Sunday after  
Pentecost**

To be advised

Jason is leading Junior Church

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September – Fifteenth Sunday after  
Pentecost**

Mrs Sheila Telfer

Jason is leading the Church Family Weekend at Swanwick

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September – Sixteenth Sunday after  
Pentecost**

**Harvest Festival Parade Service**

The Reverend Jason McCullagh

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October – Seventeenth Sunday after  
Pentecost**

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**

The Reverend Jason McCullagh

2 Timothy 1.1-14

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October – Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

The Reverend Jason McCullagh  
2 Timothy 2.8-5

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October – Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Morning Service

Jason is leading Junior Church

The Service will be conducted by Mr John Eveleigh

Evening Communion

The Reverend Jason McCullagh  
2 Timothy 3.14 – 4.5

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October – Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Taste and See Service**

The Reverend Jason McCullagh  
2 Timothy 4.6-8, 16-18

**MINISTER'S REGISTER**

**9<sup>th</sup> June - 31<sup>st</sup> July 2025**

**BAPTISMS**

27<sup>th</sup> July                      Delilah Mae Green

**FUNERALS**

17<sup>th</sup> July                      Mrs Betty Young                      Lawnswood Crematorium

# News of the Family

## **Births**

Congratulations go to Sue King who has got her first Grandson. Alfie James Fleming was born at LGI on the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2025, weighing 8lb 4oz, and is the baby brother of Grace. Also, to Liz Wilkinson who has got her third Great Grandson. Ronnie Kilmartin was born at Harrogate Hospital on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025, weighing 6lb 5oz.

## **Baptism**

On Sunday the 27<sup>th</sup> July 2025 Delilah Mae Green was baptised. Delilah is the daughter of Hannah Watson and Jake Green, and it was good to welcome you, your families and friends. We hope you all enjoyed your time with us and will remember Delilah's special day with love and thanksgiving.

## **Marriages**

Congratulations go to Abigail Finlay and Lawrence Pender who were married on the 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at the Guildhall in Bath, followed by a reception at the Royal Crescent Hotel in Bath. The wedding took place on a lovely summer's day, and the Rhodes and Finlay families were able to spend a few days together down in Bath. Everyone enjoyed the happy time, and apparently little Jasper Pender had been intent on joining in the ceremony too!

## **Education**

Our thoughts will also be with all our young people when they return to the start of a new school year, particularly Isabel Hutchinson, Noah McLernon and Ava Richardson who are all moving up to secondary school. Isabel is starting at Guiseley School, whilst Noah and Ava are both starting at Prince Henry's Grammar School. We wish you all well and hope you soon settle into your new schools.

Do please pass on any good news you would like to share to one of the Pastoral Elders.

**Margaret Armitage.**



Dear Friends

I would like to place on record my thanks for not one gift of flowers but two!

Firstly, thank you for the welcome and flowers as I recommitted myself to membership of the United Reformed Church. I promise to serve faithfully.

Secondly, you made another gift of flowers following the death of my brother Michael Bolton on 11<sup>th</sup> July. They were very much appreciated.

I include Michael's full name as many of you might know him from out and about in Otley. Having recently turned 83 he enjoyed the title of oldest Learning Disabled adult in Leeds! He lived with family all his life until he moved into supported living in Headingley and latterly into Halcyon Court residential care home in Woodhouse. He had a full and productive working life and in his retirement enjoyed collecting at the Carnival, supporting Otley Brass Band as chief bucket rattler as well as dog walking for Dogs' Trust and helping at Wheatfield's Hospice in Headingley. A gentle soul now gracing heaven with his antics!!!

Thank You

Margaret Thompson



# The Bridge Church

The United Reformed Church (URC) in Otley



## **Faith in the City a challenge to the Church**

On a December Sunday in 1985, I was walking to church in East Greenwich and stopped off to purchase a news paper, the headline on the Sunday Times was **Church Report Marxist**. This was a shock to me, I had read the report prior to publication which was due on the following Tuesday. The report *Faith in the City*, was addressed to the Church of England and had been commissioned by the Archbishop of Canterbury. In the light of this factor the headline was something of a shock.

Its content was a critical analysis of the social problems of urban communities across the country. It was the work of a Commission of leading Anglicans, including the Bishop of Liverpool David Sheppard, it was chaired by a retired civil servant, Sir. Richard O' Brien and had both theological and academic advisors.

Many things the report might be, Marxist was not one of them. It contained a critical analysis of the social problems of cities and inner urban areas, these included endemic poverty, poor housing conditions and numerous other social problems. All of which the Old Testament prophets would have spoken against. Indeed the teaching of Jesus in Luke 4 and Matthew 25 to identify only two examples are indicative of the importance of the voice of prophecy even in 1985 and 2025.

The report was substantial with 38 recommendations to the Church and 23 to the Government. The headline in the Sunday Times as might be expected created a furore, which in many ways gave the findings greater traction than would have been the case. The report is of course dated and today's society, whilst having similar social problems, requires analysis that is appropriate for our time.

To celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its publication, I with my friend Dr Joe Forde are publishing in July '*Celebrating 40 years of Faith in the City*'. (Sacristy Press). A collection of essays that both look back to 1985 along side essays that describe the ministry of churches that meet and challenge today's social problems. The Church that is all Churches are called to be active in working for the Common Good, in so doing following the prophets and the teaching of Jesus.

*Faith in the City* addressed issues of the mid 80's, we all need to be interested and committed to working to create a just society in 2025.

**Rev. Terry Drummond** (Terry regularly attends our Midweek Communion service)



## SUPPER CLUB

Supper Club, which is open to all (not just men!!!), will recommence on 19<sup>th</sup> September. Meetings are monthly from September through to June and normally take place on the third Thursday of the month commencing at 7:30pm with a light supper followed by a talk. However this may vary depending upon the occasion.



A full and varied programme has been arranged for the 2025 -26 season commencing with a presentation from Andrew Howard about Otley (north of the river). This is followed in October by Iain Paterson talking about a canoe journey and in November by Michelle Howard giving us some insights into Bermuda. The Christmas Dinner is in December and in January there is a Quiz with quizmaster Jason. February we welcome the Mobile Police Museum and in March our speaker is Alun Pugh with his talk "Dei goes to war". Our AGM is in April, bowls in Wharfemeadow Park in May and finishing with our Summer Dinner in June.

We hope you can join us for some or all of the events. Sign up sheets – for catering purposes – will be available a couple of weeks before each event. For further information please contact Gordon Justham (Secretary & Treasurer) via email at [gordonjustham@talktalk.net](mailto:gordonjustham@talktalk.net)



Gordon Justham





Our group seems to grow bigger every month and I would like to thank everyone who supports us. Including those who attend every month most especially the helpers in the kitchen who produce delicious meals and those who

help to serve them not forgetting Judy who plays piano and Jason of course. Our recent speakers have offered some most interesting subjects always giving us plenty of food for thought.

Our speaker at the June Meeting was Carrie Lisk from the Hollybush Project. This was especially interesting for us as this project is our current Church Charity and it explained what Hollybush is all about, namely helping people with extra needs to learn crafts, gardening and numerous other things. Most interesting to us as it really explained what happens to the money raised and how it really helps, both members and volunteers.



July brought us a performance from the Prince Henry's Senior school choir. This was a spectacular performance so much enjoyed by us all. I don't know what we actually expected but this was fabulous and way beyond what we anticipated. I feel that the opportunity for we seniors to see and hear such young students produce such a professional performance was very special. We hope to hear from them again in the future.

The next meetings will be –  
September 3rd a Ukelele Group

October 1st David Alred –  
Washburn Valley Landscapes

November 5th – Sarah Ward – Family Languages Abroad

December 3rd - TBA



**Enid Taylor**

# Young Peoples Pages

## Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Ruth chapters 3 and 4.

Naomi and Ruth had returned to Bethlehem as widows. Ruth had worked during the harvest in the fields of Boaz, a near relative.

Naomi told her daughter-in-law Ruth

You need someone to marry and look after you. I have a plan

I will do all you ask of me.

So Ruth went to where the grain was threshed. Boaz was on guard that night...

but she stayed out of his sight until he was asleep.

Then she uncovered his feet and lay down by them.

At midnight, Boaz woke, and was shocked to find her there.

As my relative who must look after me, will you marry me?

You have a closer relative; I will ask him tomorrow. If he will not marry you, I will do so gladly. Lie down now, and sleep.

Just before dawn, Ruth returned to Naomi.

All we can do now is wait.

Boaz went to the meeting place, and waited for the relative to pass.

Naomi wants to sell the land she inherited from her husband, and as nearest relative, you get first refusal.

I want to buy the land.

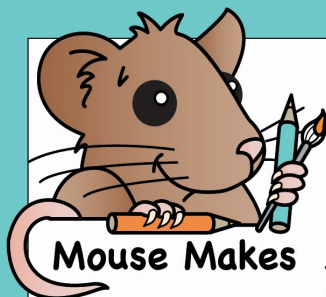
Then you must marry Ruth as the land must be inherited by her son

In that case, I don't want to buy it.

Then I will buy the land and marry Ruth.

So Boaz married Ruth and they had a son.

My life is no longer bitter! and he was an ancestor of King David!



"Just as a **body**, though **one**, has **many** parts, but all its many **parts** form one body, so it is with **Christ**. For we were all baptised by one **Spirit** so as to form one body... Even so, the body is not made up of one part but of many..."

...Now you are the body of Christ, and **each** one of you is part of it."

from 1 Corinthians 12:12-27



Just as the different parts of our body need each other to make a **whole**, living person so Christians need each other to make a whole living church!



K N E E S  
J O W H O L E  
T E E T H H Q J V  
E A F H E A D O E  
Y C F M A N Y I R  
H E B O D Y N Y  
C E Y E S D E F  
H T K C P M D I  
R U Q U I O I N  
I N F T R U F G  
S I M O I T F E  
T O G E T H E R  
O N O S E A R S  
N G D B Q I E N  
G I W O U A N F  
V U F A P A R T S M  
K E T L R L M V Y D  
B W S L E G S Q E B

Look in the Bible verses for the words written in **bold** then look for these words too!

GOD • TOGETHER • EQUAL • ALL • EVERY  
HEAD • EYES • EARS • MOUTH • TONGUE  
TEETH • NOSE • ARMS • HANDS • FINGERS  
LEGS • KNEES • FEET • TOES • GIFTS



"Though we are many, we are one body in **union** with Christ, and we are **joined** to each other as **different** parts of one body."

from Romans 12:1-7

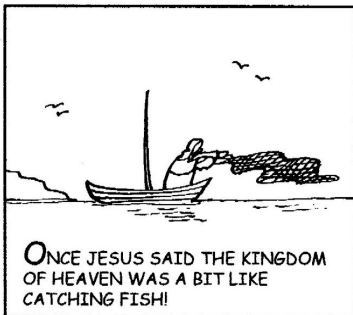


# The parable of the Fish and the Nets

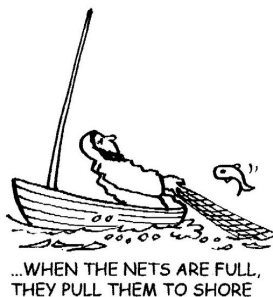
JESUS OFTEN TOLD  
STORIES WITH  
HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONCE JESUS SAID THE KINGDOM  
OF HEAVEN WAS A BIT LIKE  
CATCHING FISH!

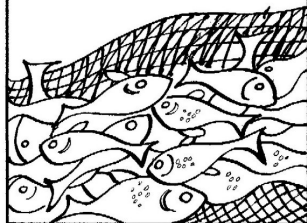


WHEN PEOPLE GO FISHING  
THEY THROW THEIR NETS  
INTO THE LAKE...

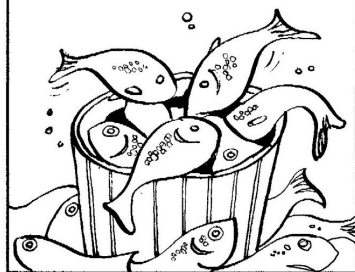


...WHEN THE NETS ARE FULL,  
THEY PULL THEM TO SHORE

ONCE ON SHORE THE FISH  
HAVE TO BE SORTED OUT.

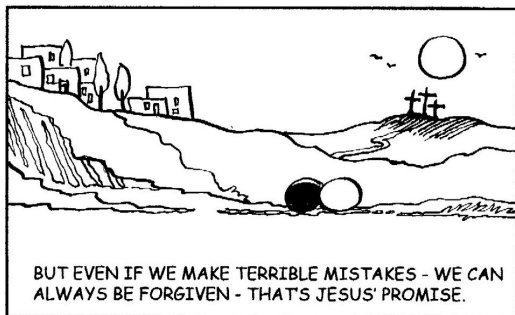


THE GOOD FISH GO INTO BUCKETS



THE BAD FISH GET THROWN AWAY!

JESUS EXPLAINED THAT WE TOO WILL  
BE SORTED LIKE THE FISH. WE CAN  
CHOOSE TO DO GOOD OR BAD THINGS  
WITH OUR LIVES.



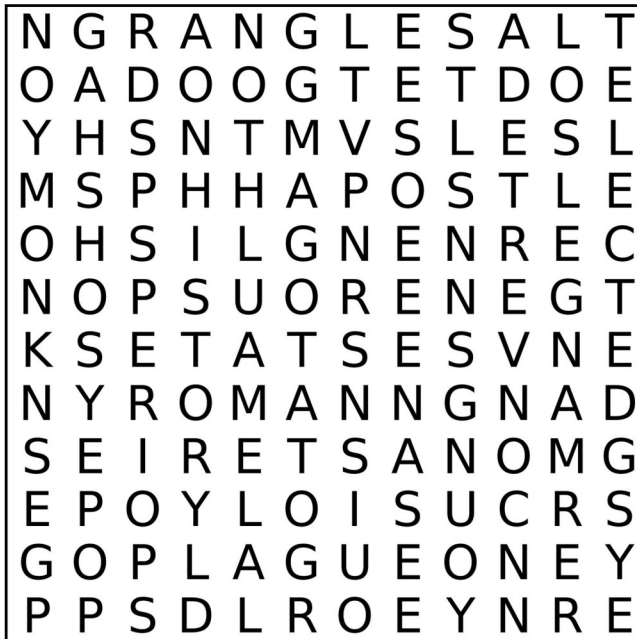
BUT EVEN IF WE MAKE TERRIBLE MISTAKES - WE CAN  
ALWAYS BE FORGIVEN - THAT'S JESUS' PROMISE.



## WORDSEARCH

On 3<sup>rd</sup> September, the Church remembers St Gregory the Great (540 – 604AD), one of the most important popes and influential writers of the Middle Ages. He is well worth remembering, because he also changed the course of history in the British Isles. The son of a very rich Roman senator, Gregory converted as a young man, and then sold his vast estates to found six monasteries in Sicily and a seventh in Rome. He gave generously to the poor and became a monk.

Christians in England owe him a great deal. When Gregory came across some English slaves for sale in Rome, he asked who they were, and was told, "They are Angles." Moved with compassion for these despised men, he replied, "They are not Angles, but angels!" He planned to go to England to evangelize the Angles, but plague broke out in Italy about 590, and during this time he was elected Pope. But Gregory did not forget the Angles. In 596 He sent Augustine to England, and so indirectly became the apostle of the English.



Gregory  
History  
Son  
Roman  
Senator

Converted  
Young  
Estates  
Monasteries  
Generous

Poor  
Monk  
English  
Slaves  
Angles

Angles  
Plague  
Pope  
Apostle  
elected

## **NEW RECYCLING OPPORTUNITY IN OTLEY**



### ***A message from the Bridge Church Environment Officers***

For most of us taking medicines, either prescribed or over the counter, is part of everyday life and many of them come in blister pack packaging.

This packaging is made of plastic and foil and cannot typically be recycled through household or kerbside collections. However, Boots have now introduced a scheme whereby it can be taken into their stores to be recycled.

After blister packs have been deposited at Boots stores, they are sent to MYGroup who separate the plastic and foil. The recycled foil can be immediately re-used and the plastic is turned into a material called MYBoard TM which has a wide range of uses such as playground equipment and construction materials.

Boots in Otley is one of the participating stores and if you have an Advantage Card you can track your recycling.

**Hilary Eveleigh and Geoff Swift**

#### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

11th October - Harvest Supper and Quiz

21st October - Bible Study 2.30 and 7.30 pm.

Please keep you eye on the weekly notices for further information.

# Moving Stories

## Commitment for Life

Committed to supporting our global partners **ZIMBABWE**

### Action for Fairer Tea – Brew it Fair

Do you enjoy a cuppa? How do you like it – with sugar? Strong? With milk?

Apart from water, tea is the world's most popular drink. However, it is more than a drink, it's a daily ritual, a comfort, enjoyed during a break or while catching up with loved ones. In Britain we drink over 100 million cups of tea every day!

However, behind every cuppa lies an untold story – the people who carefully pick the tea leaves and carry up to 30 kilograms on their backs at a time. They face poverty, unsafe working conditions and climate change, leaving them unable to plan for their future.



**FAIRTRADE**  
FOUNDATION

Fairtrade

**Do it Fair:** Campaigning for Change in the Tea Industry are asking the UK government to Brew it Fair. Act by signing their petition [Sign | Fairtrade Foundation](#) and calling on the government to take stronger action in the tea industry. In addition, why not purchase Fairtrade Tea?

**W**hen the family farm began struggling, Blessings' husband moved to the city to find work.

"Things were hard," remembers Blessings. "We were living hand-to-mouth and had to wait for provisions to be sent from my husband. I found life really tough – doing everything on my own, trying to get something out of the land in drought. When I managed to harvest something, I couldn't get decent prices."

Blessings tells how things changed for herself and the wider community with the coming of BRACT, a *Commitment for Life* sponsored project in Zimbabwe. "The project taught us about disaster risk management, and this helped us plan what we need to do in case of droughts and even price fluctuations. The 'climate smart' agriculture training made us realise we can use less fertilisers, farm without cattle



Photo credit: © Christian Aid

to help us plough and still get a harvest even when the rainfall is low. We can also grow feed for our livestock in our fields and make hay for the cattle and goats. This was all completely new to us."

Thank you to you for your wonderful support for BRACT through *Commitment for Life*. People all across Zimbabwe, like Blessings and her family, have had their lives transformed.





## **THE BRIDGE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH – HERITAGE OPEN DAY**

**SATURDAY 13<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 10.00am to 4 pm**

**SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 12.00 pm to 4 pm**

The Bridge Church will again be open for Heritage Open Day, and will be reflecting on this year's theme of 'Architecture'. Our Grade 2 Listed building, including the hall & rooms to the rear, is one of the most significant in the town and much admired both in Otley and beyond. There will be displays about the building through the years, including historic photographs in addition to examining some of the architectural features. The display will also reflect the previous Salem Congregational Chapel – a very different building - which the present place of worship replaced.

Free refreshments will be available.

### **NEW MEMBER**

On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> of June we were delighted to welcome into membership Margaret Thompson. She is pictured below with Jason, Tina (her elder) and John and Alison (Church Officers)



### **OUR SUMMER VISITORS ARE BACK!**



# Women's Meeting

On Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June we had Philip Harvey, also known as 'Barnacle Phil' to entertain us with sea shanties and we were encouraged to join in the choruses. He also told us stories of his life at sea, including some very scary ones where he feared for his life!

He worked for an American company SEDCO, and certainly had amazing experiences. It was an interesting afternoon with the 'sea' being the theme with our hymn and prayer. As usual we concluded with tea and biscuits

## **Pam Bradley**

At our concluding meeting of the season on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June, Jason reminded us of all the speakers and guests that we had enjoyed over the previous ten months. We were then entertained by our own 'Singing for Fun' Group. This was a very enjoyable afternoon with songs ranging from the Beatles (a medley containing 13 songs) to Les Miserables to Matchstalk Men and Matchstalk Cats and Dogs.

We all enjoyed Strawberries and Cream cake with the usual cup of tea!

Our first meeting of the new season will be on 8<sup>th</sup> September and we look forward to having many more guest speakers and singers/entertainers again.

## **Carol Smith**



### **SUNFLOWERS IN THE GARDENS**

Has anyone spotted the Sunflowers in the Church Gardens?

If you wander beyond the scarecrows you may spot them!

But please watch out for builders during the week!

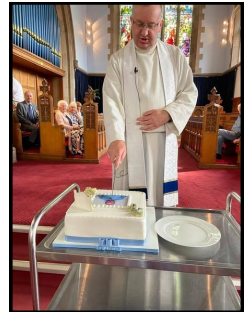
## JASON CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF MINISTRY

On 15th July 2000 our Minister Jason was ordained as a Minister within the United Reformed Church; this means he has recently celebrated 25 years of Ministry.

We celebrated this milestone at our service on Sunday 27th July with a cake (what else!) and all enjoyed a slice of it with our coffee after the morning service.

Before coming to the Bridge and Salem URC Burley in Wharfedale he served at Churches in Morecambe and Scarborough.

Congratulations Jason!



## INDUCTION AND ORDINATION OF ELDERS

On Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July we ordained Maureen Stringer and re-inducted Alison Anslow, Gill Chapman, Isobel Evans, Tina Johnson, Gordon Justham and Malcolm Wainwright to the eldership of the Bridge Church.

The Bridge Church is delighted that Maureen Stringer responded to the call of eldership and is now ordained and we are grateful to the other six for their continued service to the Bridge Church.

Maureen even had the privilege of receiving a video message on Facebook from the outgoing Moderator of the URC General Assembly, Rev. Tim Meadows who said 'Congratulations on being inducted and ordained as an elder at Otley. Our blessings are with you, or prayers are with you every benefit in serving the Lord, in love, peace and grace.'



## **GETTING TO KNOW .....**

We have a slight change in focus this month in that we are including not one person, but actually a married couple! So lets get to know:

### **Susan and Kevin Wright**

#### ***What brought you to Otley?***

We both retired in April 2023 and decided to relocate to the UK. More importantly, Kevin wanted to return to Otley after being away 40+ years to help care for his mum. She lives right around the corner from us in the Cambridge Estate.



#### ***What first brought you to the Bridge Church?***

The welcoming atmosphere and charismatic preacher.

#### ***Please share a favourite memory of the Bridge Church?***

Kevin – seeing Jason nick all the biscuits after service.

Susan – being involved with the Shroud of Turin exhibition and meeting many people who came from all over to see the mystical images of the linen cloth which had wrapped Jesus' crucified body.

#### ***What is your favourite hymn and why?***

We both love Christmas hymns because they welcome the birth of baby Jesus.

#### ***How would you like to see the Bridge Church develop?***

We would like to see the congregation expand, identify opportunities for church-wide outreach projects, and participate in hands-on mission work.

### ***What can you tell us about your working career?***

*Kevin was a flooring contractor and Susan was a banker.*

### ***What hobbies do you have?***

Kevin – football and surfing (used to back in the day)

Susan – exercising at gym, walking, gardening, reading/audiobooks

### ***Where is your favourite place in this country?***

We love visiting castles and abbeys (English Heritage!)

### ***Where in the world would you like to visit?***

We have a long bucket list: Morocco, Chile/Patagonia, Eastern Europe, Vietnam and Australia. Since retiring, we have been to Belgium, Germany, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Poland, and Czech Republic. We are going to Sweden next Saturday. (Editorial comment: Not a lot then!)

### ***If you could invite 3 people to dinner (dead or alive) who would they be and why?***

Winston Churchill – he led a very interesting life, and the world owes him a debt of gratitude in helping defeat Nazism.

Alfred Hitchcock – his filmmaking ideas were ahead of his time, and his famous profile and introductions.

Michelle Obama – one of the most humble first ladies of the United States. Her admirable work ethic allowed her to earn degrees at Princeton and Harvard. She continues to encourage young girls and women of all ages to be fearless and fight for justice.

#### **MANOR ROOM**

Over the summer we are upgrading the Manor Room and we expect the work to be completed early/mid September. We believe that we are on course to achieve that. We have included a photograph to give you a flavour of what the roof trusses look like now they have been exposed.



## **CHURCH DIARY - FEBRUARY - MARCH 2023**

### **Weekly events**

***The Bridge Cafe - Every Thursday at 2p.m.***

***Parents & Toddlers - Every Thursday and Friday at 9.30 a.m.***

***Quiet Communion - Every Wednesday at 10 a.m.***

### **Regular Events**

#### ***Women's Meeting***

September 8<sup>th</sup> - Opening meeting - Rev. Jason McCullagh.

September 27<sup>th</sup> - Captive on the Carousel of Time (Music from the 1970's- Malcolm Johnson.

October 6<sup>th</sup> - Where Oceans Meet - Leslie Newnham.

October 20<sup>th</sup> - Music on the move, in the Army- Jane McKeon.

***Food and Friends 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at 10.30 a.m.***

September 3<sup>rd</sup> - Ukelele Group.

October 1<sup>st</sup> - Washburn Valley Landscapes - David Alred.

***Supper Club - 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7.30 p.m.***

September 19<sup>th</sup> - Otley - North of the River - Andrew Howard.

October 16<sup>th</sup> - Canoeing in Scotland - Iain Paterson.

***Faith, Alive and Active - Thursdays (quarterly) -7pm***

9th October - The NHS - Fran Kissack

***Singing for Fun - alternate Mondays at 7.30 p.m.***

22nd September, 6th October, 20th October.

***Messy Church - 13<sup>th</sup> September.***



**NIDD, OUSE & WHARFE (NOW)  
MISSION & CAREGROUP  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**SATURDAY 4<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2025  
10AM – 4PM**

**'LET'S EXPLORE....  
LIFE IN ABUNDANCE'**

**Reverend Jenny Mills,  
Deputy General  
Secretary of the  
United Reformed Church  
(Discipleship)**



**Lunch and other refreshments will be provided  
throughout the day, there will be a plate for  
donations to cover the cost of the catering.**

**PLEASE BOOK YOUR PLACE THROUGH YOUR CHURCH SECRETARY  
AND LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE ANY DIETARY REQUIREMENTS**

**at  
The Bridge United Reformed Church  
Bridge Street  
Otley  
West Yorks, LS21 1RW**



**NEXT MESSENGER**

Material for the next edition of the Messenger should be in the hands of the Editor by Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> October and should be available for collection on Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2025; this is a week later due to holidays.

If possible, please send by e-mail to:

**[messenger@otleybridgechurch.org.uk](mailto:messenger@otleybridgechurch.org.uk)**

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Comments and statements printed in the Messenger  
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