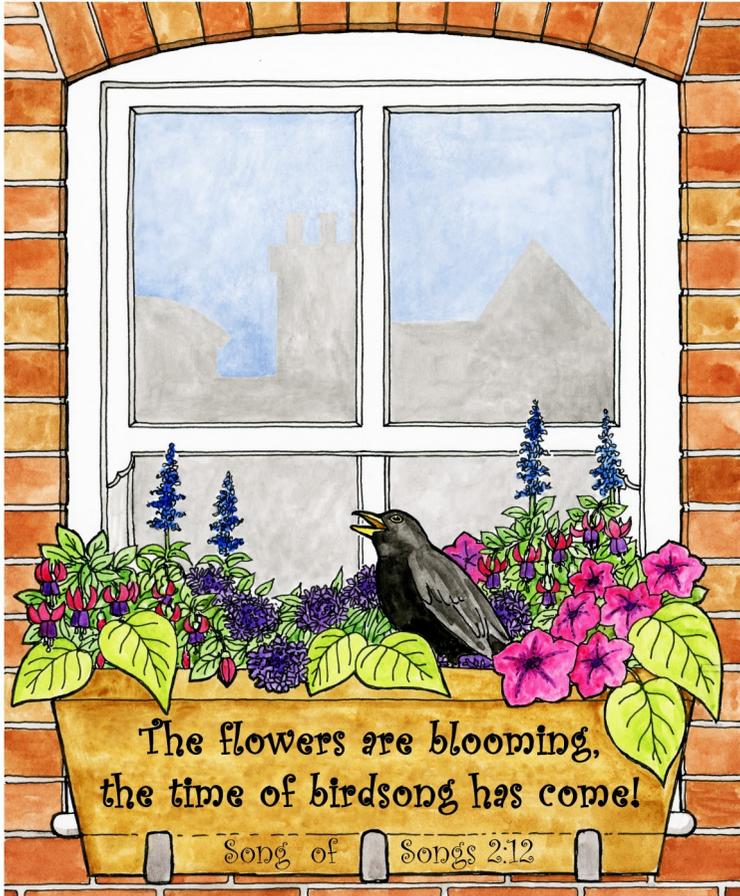




The
United
Reformed
Church

Bamford Chapel & Norden URC



June 2019

BAMFORD CHAPEL & NORDEN URC

MISSION/VISION STATEMENT



**Loving God, Serving Others,
Building Community**

Worship

In our devotion we will come together to express our joy, love and thanks through worship.

We shall share our praise and dedicate it to God.

Ministry

Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit we will show compassion and love by understanding, supporting and meeting the spiritual, the physical and the emotional needs of others.

Evangelism

We are called as Christians to share the good news; living as examples of Christ in our everyday lives we can spread the word and love of Jesus.

Discipleship

We as a church have a responsibility as Christians to encourage people to know God and to enable them to develop their relationship with Him through prayer, discussion, study and learning.

Fellowship

We welcome to our church family those who want to belong. We show our love for others by sharing acts of fellowship in God's name.



June 2019

Sunday 2nd June	10.30 am	Family Worship with Communion Led by Walter Brisk
	6.30 pm	Evening Worship Led by David Watson
Monday 3 rd June	7.00 pm	"Thy Kingdom Come" Prayer Evening (7.00 pm - 9.00 pm)
Tuesday 4 th June	8.00 pm	Tuesday Home Group (at the Manse)
Thursday 6 th June	10.00 am	"Thy Kingdom Come" Prayer Evening (10.00 am to 12 noon)
	7.30 pm	Elder's Meeting (please pray as the Elders meet)
Friday 7 th June	1.30 pm	Bamford and Norden Dementia Friendly Café
Saturday 8 th June	2.00 pm	"Thy Kingdom Come" Prayer Afternoon (2.00 pm - 4.00 pm)
Sunday 9th June Pentecost Sunday	10.30 am	Family Worship Led by Revd Richard Bradley (Cath Atkinson's last day with us)
	12 noon	Bring & Share Lunch (to mark Cath's last service with us)
	6.30 pm	Evening Worship Led by Lifeline
Monday 10 th June	7.30 pm	Focus on Prayer Meeting (God Squad Room)
Sunday 16th June	10.30 am	Family Worship Led by Revd Richard Bradley
	6.30 pm	Evening Worship with Communion Led by Ken Greer

Monday 17 th June	7.30 pm	Focus on Prayer Meeting (God Squad Room)
	7.30 pm	Missional Partnership Steering Group Meeting
Tuesday 18 th June	8.00 pm	Tuesday Home Group (venue to be confirmed)
Sunday 23 rd June	10.30 am	Family Worship Led by Revd Richard Bradley
	12.30 pm	Elders' Vision Afternoon (please pray as the Elders meet)
	6.30 pm	Evening Worship Led by Revd Richard Bradley
Monday 24 th June	7.30 pm	Prayer Walk (God Squad Room)
Sunday 30 th June	10.30 am	Family Worship Led by Wednesday Homegroup
	6.30 pm	Evening Worship Led by Dot Craig



Church Flowers

*Donations for flowers placed in church
in May were received from:*

Christine & Andrew Friend in memory of
Kath Friend
Jenny MacKimm in loving memory of Philip
Pat Gate in memory of Bob
Anita and Alex Teuton
Jean Foster in memory of Mum & Dad Cummings
Joyce Harding in memory of Harry

Weekday Opportunities for Learning & Sharing Fellowship

- Monday:** 9.00 am Monday Maintenance Gang
(who do work in or around the building)
10.00 am Pastoral Meeting
1.30 pm Bridge Club
7.30 pm Focus on Prayer (God Squad Room)
8.00 pm Monday Night Home Group
- Tuesday:** 9.00 – 11.00 am Toddlers' Group
1.30 – 4.00 pm Indoor Bowls (Upstairs Hall)
From 6.00 pm Rainbows, Brownies, Guides
- Wednesday:** 12 noon Luncheon Club
6.30 pm Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association
7.30 pm Home Group 'Exploring the Bible'
- Thursday:** 10.00 am Community Coffee Morning
- Friday:** 6.00 pm onwards Beavers, Cubs and Scouts
- Sunday:** 7.30 pm God Squad (for Teenagers)

Fortnightly & Monthly Opportunities

- Tuesday:** **Stillness & Sharing** 4th & 18th June
2.15 pm in the Lounge
Home Group 4th June at the Manse
8.00 pm 18th June (venue to be decided)
- Thursday:** **Ladies Fellowship** 13th June
7.45 pm (Summer Meal - see page 9)
Heritage Group 20th June
7.00 pm (3rd Thursday in the month)
- Saturday:** **Ian Newman Community Film Club**
6.30 pm refreshments 15th June (see page 24)
7.00 pm film Admission £3.00

Further information on the **weekly notice sheet** or visit the website at
www.bcnchurch.org.uk or speak to an Elder.

Message from the Manse

“Giving thanks for Cath Atkinson’s time with us”



For the last 2 academic years we have been blessed to have had Cath Atkinson with us. A student from Northern College, she has done her major placement with us here at Bamford Chapel & Norden URC. It has been a privilege to have Cath work alongside me as minister here. As I have said in the annual end of year review at the college, I have so often treated Cath as a colleague not as a student. I have done that because Cath has brought with her great experience and gifts.

I hope she has found the placement to be beneficial to her training because I have learnt so much from her. Many a time I have gone to her with a nugget of an idea and she has come back with several suggestions as to how I/we can build on that, and for that I have been enormously thankful.

I was not at all surprised when Cath told me she was looking at a profile and eventually that the pastorate in St Helen’s had called her to be their minister. They will be getting a gifted minister and I pray they accept her ministry and learn from her as she will from them.

I know I speak for the whole church in thanking Cath for her time with us and wishing her well in this next chapter of her life and ministry. On Sunday 9th June we will pray for and with Cath in the morning service and assure her that she will always be a part of the Bamford Chapel and Norden URC church family. I plan to invite her back in due course to preach here at BCN as the Revd Cath Atkinson! However, I plan to let her settle in at her new pastorate first.

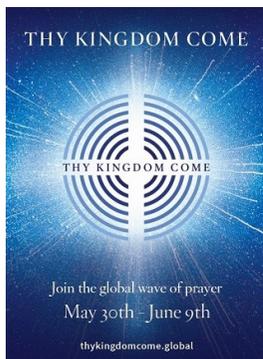
I hope as many of us as possible will come along to the service on Pentecost Sunday, 9th June and, following the service, join together in fellowship for the “Bring and Share Lunch” to celebrate Cath’s time with us - a sign-up sheet is under the clock!

However, the work of the Church continues and there is much we have learnt from Cath that it is right to build on. Messy Church is more regular and the Dementia Friendly Café, something that we have wanted to do for some time, took off and is flying well with Cath’s support and assistance in working with others to begin this very worthwhile ministry.

We give thanks to God for her time with us and pray for God to be with her as she moves to pastures new. God bless you

Cath and thank you.

Your Servant in Christ, Richard



“Thy Kingdom Come” Prayer Movement

“Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray for more people to come to know Jesus. What started in 2016 as an invitation from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer.”

(from:

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/about-us>)

Not that our prayers for people to come to faith in Jesus Christ have only to be offered eleven days a year – but it does mean we can focus together on praying for people to come to faith. The dates are:

Monday 3rd June 7pm – 9pm
Thursday 6th June 10am – 12pm
Saturday 8th June 2pm – 4pm

Please come along and enjoy a time of prayer with others from our church and hopefully other churches too. Each session will be the same, so come along to any number of them.

If you want to read more about the “Thy Kingdom Come” prayer movement then the website for this prayer movement is <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/> There are lots of things on the website and I would encourage you to take a look.

As I have said, we are in a year of prayer for our Church and this is part of that prayer. **God Bless, Richard**



Prayer Meetings, Prayer Walk Update and Updated Schedule

In this year of prayer, alongside the daily prayer papers that I produce, there is our weekly 'Focus on Prayer' group. This is sometimes a stand alone time of prayer where the group gather to pray for the church, the world and ourselves. On other occasions this meeting does the above but a small group (sometimes 1 or 2 of us) go out and deliver prayer cards and pray for each road where we deliver cards. Please note the dates and all are most welcome to come along. No one is expected to pray out loud but all are welcome.

Date and time	Type of	Room to meet in
Monday 3rd June 7.30pm - 9.30pm	"Thy Kingdom Come" Prayer	In Church
Monday 10th June 7.30pm—8.30pm	Prayer Walk	God Squad Room
Monday 17th June 7.30pm—8.30pm	Prayer Meeting	God Squad Room
Monday 24th June 7.30pm—8.30pm	Prayer Walk	God Squad Room
Monday 1st July 7.30pm—8.30pm	Prayer Meeting	God Squad Room
Monday 8th July 7.30pm—8.30pm	Prayer Meeting	God Squad Room
Monday 15th July 7.30pm—8.30pm	Prayer Walk	God Squad Room
Monday 22nd July 7.30pm—8.30pm	Prayer Meeting	God Squad Room
Monday 29th July 7.30pm—8.30pm	Prayer Walk	God Squad Room
<i>No meetings during August</i>		
Monday 2nd September 7.30pm—8.30pm	Prayer Meeting	God Squad Room
Monday 9th September 7.30pm—8.30pm	Prayer Walk	God Squad Room
Monday 16th September 7.30pm—8.30pm	Prayer Meeting	God Squad Room
Monday 23rd September 7.30pm—8.30pm	Prayer Walk	God Squad Room
Monday 30th September 7.30pm—8.30pm	Prayer Meeting	God Squad Room

Pulpit Supply Secretary

As a church we are in need of a Pulpit Supply Secretary. Unfortunately, no one has come forward to date. If we don't have someone to do it we will go without a preacher on some Sundays.

The role entails seeking preachers to fill our weekly services. It may be that in the Missional Partnership we will have joint meetings of Pulpit Supply Secretaries and fill preaching rotas that way. At present I am working on the January to June 2020 preaching rota, so the job will not be onerous as I am trying to get ahead.



We will need to compile a list of preachers and contact numbers, but I can assist the person with this. We are very blessed to have several willing preachers here at Bamford Chapel and Norden URC.

Please, would someone consider taking this role on?

God Bless, Richard



Garden Party

Saturday 13th July at 2pm

**Rochdale Music Service Band
and Pop Choir**

**Tombola, Cream Teas, Bottle
Stall, Ice Creams and much more**

Thanks to main sponsor - Reside Estate Agents

**Please speak to Julie Platt
if you can provide items or offer to help**

AGM – Pot Luck Supper



Thirty enthusiastic ladies attended the AGM on Thursday, 9th May bringing with them an amazing selection of sweet and savoury food. Two new ladies called Pat and Rose were welcomed to the group.

Margaret Frain [Chair] opened the meeting, followed by Pat Stephenson leading the group in prayer. Linda Kerford (Treasurer and Co-ordinator) gave a resume of the meetings since the last AGM. Linda also thanked everyone for their support during the past difficult twelve months.

June 2018: Summer meal at Owens, Ramsbottom
August: Day out to Owd Barn Country Store/Rufford Old Hall
September: No meeting
October: Board games night
November: Christmas Belarus boxes
December: Christmas meal at Church Inn
January 2019: Desert Island Discs with Walter Brisk
February: Queen's Park – Cameron Baines [this was an open meeting with over 40 attending including men!]
March: Identifying childhood photos
April: No meeting

The balance sheet was then presented to the members by Linda without any comment being made. An amount of £200 would be handed over to BCNUFC on Gift Day, leaving an amount in hand to pay for speakers next year.

The main agenda item for the meeting was the continuation of the Fellowship. A co-ordinator was desperately needed; someone who would organise speakers for meetings and help plan the summer meal and day out in August. This person would also arrange four committee meetings a year. After much discussion Linda Peacock volunteered. I suggested we cover this role together – this was agreed. Two new committee members had come forward too.

The committee is now:- Margaret Frain (Chair), Linda Kerford (Treasurer), Linda Peacock/Lesley Sutton (Co-ordinators), Carol Hartley, Lesley Hynes, Sue Graham, Angela Hall, Joan Lucas. A committee meeting would soon be arranged to discuss plans from September.

Macmillan Coffee Morning already arranged for Thursday 26th September.



The summer meal had been arranged at **Marina Bar and Grill, Hollingworth Lake on Thursday 13th June – 6.30 for 7.00pm. Only 30 places were available at the restaurant.** Menus were handed out. Day out on 8th August had yet to be arranged.

Ladies – don't forget the cake stall at the Garden Party on 13th July.

The business side of the meeting was then concluded. Whilst supper was finally organised, a short game of Bingo took place. Brenda Norledge won a small prize for filling her card in record time. Thank you to Pat Stephenson for being the caller."



Lesley Sutton

In last month's magazine the question was posed – "do you know who started The Ladies Fellowship?" (page 11)

ANSWER – Lena Vause (Margaret Ogden's mother)



NOTICE

VACANCIES

Co-Ordinator

Committee Members

Are you able to help with the running of Ladies Fellowship?

The Ladies Fellowship Group urgently need people to help organise the monthly events. We need someone to Co-ordinate the events as well as people to come up with ideas. Each committee member serves for a maximum of 3 years (but longer if they wish!) There are only 4 committee meetings in the year which are productive but also very sociable.

CAN YOU HELP?

Without urgent help The Ladies Fellowship may have to cease meeting.

We have been 'limping along' for the past two years and have reached the point that no more meetings will take place after August 2019.

The future of this long-established group may be in your hands

If you feel you are able to help please talk to Linda Kerford or Margaret Frain and they will provide more information.

***Your Ladies Fellowship needs YOU...
THINK ABOUT IT..... & PRAY FOR A POSITIVE
OUTCOME.....PLEASE***



the **GIFT**

Run by Churches
Together in NW Rochdale

a life in the Spirit course

Experience God's Love!

St Vincent's Parish Centre: 7:00 – 9:15pm
Thursdays May 16th to June 27th (Excluding May 30th)
Booking Essential (contact Mike Davis - 01706 648309)
All welcome!

The Gift – a life in the Spirit Course....

...is a course being run by Churches Together in North West Rochdale on Thursday evenings: 16th May, 23rd May, (no meeting on the 30th May) 7th June, 13th June, 20th June and 27th June.

The course consists of food, fellowship, a video and faith discussion.

Anyone is welcome but it would help, for catering purposes, if you can let Richard know if you will be coming. You

don't have to commit to any number of evenings just as and when you can come.

By the time you read this article we will have had 2 of the evenings but that doesn't stop anyone else from coming to the course. For more details please speak to me as I am taking part in leading the course.

Many thanks, Richard

Right Wright

A student called 'Wright', so they say
Wrote 'right' in a wrong kind of way
His teacher, inflamed
Then loudly exclaimed
"Right Wright, write 'right' right, right away!"
By Nigel Beeton



Cookery Demonstration



We had a very successful evening at the home of Diane Healey. A big thank you to Diane for her hospitality and to Lesley for compiling the recipe sheet.

I was nervous at first, until I settled into the demonstration. The guests were attentive (I was trying not to be in teacher mode!) and we chatted as I cooked.

We enjoyed the tasting of the results and a glass of wine.

I am planning to organise another evening, probably on a fish theme, so if you are interested please speak to me.

As before, numbers will be limited and there will be a nominal charge for food and wine.

Pamela Harrington

Holiday Club



In 2018 we had a hugely successful holiday club for young children. We plan to do another one from **Monday 5th to Friday 9th August 2019**. Times will be confirmed but probably 10am – 12pm. If you would like to help with it please speak to Richard or come along to the **next meeting on Sunday 28th**

April after the service at 12 noon. You don't have to commit to every day.

Thanks and God Bless, Richard

The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong. (Mahatma Gandhi)

During Holy Week we set up 3 prayer stations reminding us of The Journey, The Sacrifice and The Triumph of Jesus. At the Journey station - we were encouraged to make footprints from clay and put them on the road. We took the 'Prayer Exercises' below home with us. Gillian Galloway had found the piece a few years ago.



Prayer Walking Exercise

STOP - LOOK - LISTEN - WALK

Walk through your home or church
in the company of Jesus
Pray for each room and what happens there.
STOP - LOOK - LISTEN - WALK

Spend time walking through your place of work
Pray for your colleagues, the customers
and all who may pass through the building
STOP - LOOK - LISTEN - WALK

Visit a park, walk through it in the company of Jesus
Look at all the activities, pray for all you see
The people the gardens, plants and seeds
STOP - LOOK - LISTEN - WALK

When you are on holiday or just out for a stroll
Allow God to call you into prayer
Let your interaction with the created world
lead you into prayer
STOP - LOOK - LISTEN - WALK

The Power of Words

Heather Smith, author of *The Carer's Prayer*, shares her experience of caring and the value of exploring our thoughts and feelings through creative writing.

When I first became a carer I had no idea I was one. I was a wife with a husband who had suffered a massive, life-changing stroke and I was suddenly juggling hospital visits, a full-time job and trying not to scream.

I remember feeling that I had lost all control over my life: that stroke had happened not just to Peter, but to both of us. After four years of severe disability, my husband died and as well as the terrible sense of loss I was conscious of a disturbing feeling of relief – because I had been hanging on by my fingernails. I didn't realise how stressed and exhausted I had been until it was over.



Years later, I
mother. My
poetry and in her
would read her many of her favourite poems.

cared for my
mother loved
final days I

I have always written – mainly poetry – because of the overwhelming urge to get my thoughts and feelings down on paper. There is a kind of empowerment that writing brings; it is a way of confronting your hopes and fears and of imposing some sort of order on a confusing jumble of emotions. I find it helps enormously to write things down, because it seems to bring a sort of peace, a sense of healing.

Rarely have I felt that I have captured exactly what I wanted to say, but that doesn't really matter. The release of stress and worry has come with taking the time to think about what I'm feeling – whether it is frustration, anger, weariness, guilt or the desperate love and compassion that carers feel for those they look after.

Submitted by Pat Stephenson

The Carer's Prayer

Let me be kind when tiredness
overwhelms my weary brain and
turns my legs to lead;
let me be brave when truths must
be conveyed, confronting the past
and all things left unsaid;
let me fight on for you when various
rules make nonsense of your rights
and reinforces your fears;
grant me the stamina to speak and
treat with fools,
remaining calm when biting back the tears.
Help me to know somehow that life goes on
beyond this time of stress and sleepless nights;
help me to smile and love you in the midst
of endless pointless and exhausting fights.
And when the caring ends, help me to be
kind, in my guilt and weariness, to me.



Heather Smith



Pat Stephenson has taken over from Muriel Sturrock as the co-ordinator for the Luncheon Club. Thank you to Muriel for all she has done over the years, and to all the cooks, hostesses and drivers for their continued help in this valued service to the community.

Bury, Rochdale and North Manchester Missional Partnership

I am pleased to be writing an article for the magazine to update you regarding the business discussed at the first meeting of the Partnership Steering Group on Wednesday 1st May held at Bury URC. I attended feeling a bit apprehensive and wondering if I would have what it takes! It was a great privilege to represent such an active church and be part of what seems to be a very committed and enthusiastic group of people, who want to drive the partnership forward by working with one another using the gifts and tools we have and of course taking time to listen, pray and be guided by God. There is no doubt that this will be a challenging process into the unknown, but I feel that we must be positive as well as share concerns and ideas, so that Richard will in turn feel supported.

There was representation from nearly all of the fourteen churches in our partnership, including the two ecumenical churches in the partnership, St. Andrew's URC/Methodist in Rochdale and Trinity Cheetham Hill URC/C of E in North Manchester. The meeting was convened by Darren Holland, Missional Discipleship Mentor for this area, and we were supported by Richard our minister, Nigel Adkinson from Radcliffe, Stand and Farnworth URC and Sarah Fletcher Vicar from Trinity Church.

This meeting was very much a getting to know each other's churches and setting the scene for the work we have ahead of us. We all shared one current "Good News Story"; these varied from a small congregation welcoming a new family, a bible study group using Lawrence Moore's version of Mark's Gospel to Community Cafe Projects. It was fantastic to hear about new initiatives the wealth of ideas, experience and skills we have been gifted with to share.

We discussed the Terms of Reference for the group which hopefully helped us all begin the process of having a common aim. An official commissioning of the partnership will take place in the near future; I hope that you will all help to bring this about by being involved, including praying for the way forward. All churches were reminded of the need to prepare a profile; these will be shared in the next few months across the partnership. We also spent time sharing our thoughts on what would make a good missional partnership work and discussed how the process of calling a minister to the partnership may work.

JESUS
BELIEF
CARING
SHARING
FAIR PREACHING TRUST
TOGETHER REFLECTION EFFORT
GOD COMMITMENT ENJOYABLE
STORIES EXPECTATIONS MISSION
VISION COMMUNICATION
REACHING
LISTENING
TEACHING
PURPOSE
HONESTY
RESPECT
TALENTS
EMPATHY
PRAYER
CHANGE
BIBLE

Considering how daunting this journey feels I think the group has a positive feel and I look forward to the second meeting of the steering group, which will be held on Monday 17th June at Besses o' th' Barn. Watch this space for developments in the partnership and more discussion around mission and the vision of how we move forward. If anyone wants to ask any questions or share ideas please feel free to email Richard or me. In addition the following documents are available; please ask Richard or me if you would like them:

1. Bury, Rochdale and North Manchester Steering Group Meeting Notes 01.05.19
2. Missional Partnership Steering Group Terms of Reference
3. Missional Partnership Governance and decision making when calling a stipendiary minister

Carole Greaves, Missional Partnership Elder Representative



JOIN THE FUN

On Sunday

30 June 2019

2 – 4 pm

**@ Bamford Chapel
and Norden URC**



Cook on an open fire

children please bring an adult with you

Tony Horsfall considers the fire at Notre Dame

God Among the Ruins



The tragic fire at Note Dame Cathedral shocked the whole world. Seeing such a magnificent building engulfed in flames saddened all who saw the devastation unfold. It was a monumental blow to the nation of France. It will take years to rebuild this famous place of worship.

One striking image from the fire showed the interior of the church scorched and ruined, its art treasures lost, its contents still smouldering. But high up in the background, unbowed by the flames, stands a golden cross, brightly shining in the darkness of the surrounding debris.

Since the fire took place at Easter, it is hard not to see this picture as a parable. One Anglican vicar made this comment: *'Notice what is left inside, untouched, after the destruction of all sorts of 'priceless' works of arts at Norte Dame Cathedral? The Cross. What an image for Holy Week and what a picture to describe secular Western Europe.'*

As I pondered the picture it spoke to me of the abiding value of the Cross. The words of a hymn came to mind:

***In the cross of Christ I glory,
Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.***

The place of worship may be destroyed, but not the God we worship. The message of the Cross, at the centre of our faith, remains a timeless, undamaged truth.

The hymn continues:

***When the woes of life o'ertake me,
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me,
Lo! It glows with peace and joy.***

Even among the ruins of our own lives the Cross stands tall, reminding us of the presence of God and His grip on our lives.

Eco Church

We are facing a climate crisis. Remember the flooding caused by the hurricane in Mozambique, the plastic swamping the oceans and the fires on Marsden Moor to name but a few.

We all have to take responsibility for reducing our carbon footprint. You probably do a lot of the following but there may be more things you can do.

Do you do the following?

- ◆ recycle as much as you can
- ◆ use LED bulbs
- ◆ take own bags to supermarket
- ◆ buy loose vegetable where you can
- ◆ eat less beef and dairy – eat vegetarian once a week
- ◆ collect rain water
- ◆ use your car less – share cars, use public transport, walk more
- ◆ avoid products with palm oil – see Rhianna about this
- ◆ Use a Green Energy Supplier
- ◆ buy an electric car
- ◆ use direct flights and pay for carbon off setting
- ◆ grow your own food
- ◆ draft proof your home
- ◆ sign up for “Plastic Free July”



It is also our responsibility as a church to reduce our carbon footprint

We can get help to do this by signing up to Eco Church which the church meeting has approved.



This involves us in looking are in 5 aspects of our

how green we church

Worship and Teaching

We already

- ◆ pray for environmental issues
- ◆ support Christian Aid and Traidcraft
- ◆ teach in Junior Church
- ◆ discuss in Homegroup
- ◆ write articles for the church magazine



but we can

- ◆ publicise issues in the Magazine, on the service sheet and on Facebook

Buildings

We already

- ◆ use bins for recycling
- ◆ use LED lights
- ◆ have insulation
- ◆ use compostable cups
- ◆ use environmentally friendly hand soap
- ◆ use double sided printing



but we can

- ◆ use a Green energy
- ◆ get a water meter
- ◆ collect rainwater
- ◆ if we get new toilets get ones with a dual flush
- ◆ use recycled printer paper & toilet paper
- ◆ make sure people use bins appropriately



Land

We already

- ◆ are planning to get a compost bin
- ◆ are growing vegetables (scouts)
- ◆ use the field for recreation by church members and community
- ◆ are holding our first Muddy Church on 30 June

but we can

- ◆ get bird feeders/bug hotels/hedgehog piles
- ◆ carry out wildlife surveys



Community and Global

We already

- ◆ have a weekly Traidcraft stall, have Fairtrade events and use Fairtrade products for refreshments
- ◆ use our premises for Greenbelt protest
- ◆ hold outdoor events –Good Friday ramble, garden party
- ◆ donate to developing world projects
- ◆ have twinned our toilets
- ◆ use food composting



but we can

- ◆ join Addie and Barbara in going to the Climate Crisis rally in London "The Time is Now" on 26 June
- ◆ contact our MP about environment issues
- ◆ invite speakers to talk about environmental issues



- ◆ encourage saving energy e.g. turn lights off
- ◆ spread info about eco church among Missional partners
- ◆ place compostable cups in our own compost bin

Life style

We already

- ◆ recycle bottle tops
- ◆ book swap
- ◆ have a communal Christmas card
- ◆ encourage use of Fairtrade products



What we can do

- ◆ Set up a group to champion environmental issues
- ◆ encourage church members to change their lifestyles
- ◆ use ethical bank accounts

If you are interested in joining a group to work towards achieving an eco church award and to reduce the church's carbon footprint please speak to Barbara Redmond, Addie Redmond or Rebecca Abbott

RADAR

Rochdale Action with Destitute Asylum Seekers and Refugees

This is a new ecumenical group which has been formed in Rochdale to help asylum seekers and refugees, of which there are 9 who are known to be homeless in Rochdale.

St John's Presbytery is being developed to accommodate 4 of these and the group is looking for people who would be prepared to host refugees or asylum seekers in their homes for a few months.

Radar events

Celebration service 16 June at 3pm at St Chad's when you will be able to hear stories from 3 refugees

REFUTEA (fundraising event) will take place at St John's at 3pm on Sunday, 23 June at 3pm.

Listening to Refugees event on Saturday 26 October 2019 at St Chad's

For more information about the group see Barbara Redmond



Hello everyone,

As my time with Bamford and Norden is coming to an end I just wanted to say an enormous thank you for the way you welcomed me in and made me one of your own.

Thank You!

I feel I have been so blessed to have landed at your door! I've gained such a lot by being given the freedom to have a go and in working with individuals and groups here. From spending time with God-squad, leading worship, working together for the Summer holiday club, visiting, pastoral, working together on the dementia café, messy church and sharing at Monday homegroup - I've had a Fab time and have grown some skills that will stand me in good stead for the future. I don't feel like this is goodbye - only adieu - as I am sure I will visit from time to time and share worship with you all.

Most especially I have to say a big thank you to Richard. It can be twice as hard to do things when you have a student in tow, but Richard never made it feel difficult, just an easy way to work together. Whilst at college I have had the luxury of time to plan things and be creative and it has only made me appreciate Richard's ministry all the more, as he balances lots of other things yet still displays a ministry that I hope I can emulate. If I'm half as good, I will be well pleased!



*So, my last Sunday at church will be Pentecost Sunday and if you're free, it would be great to see you at a bring and share lunch afterwards. If not, then every blessing to each one of you - the body of Christ in this place - go well. **Cath***

**CINEMA
FOR ALL**



THE IAN NEWMAN COMMUNITY FILM CLUB
at Bamford Chapel & Norden URC,
Norden Road, ROCHDALE. OL11 5PQ

(Every 3rd Saturday in the Month)
£3 admission (including refreshments)
Refreshments at 6.30pm
Film starts at 7.00pm

Saturday 15th June

"Mamma Mia, Here We Go Again"

**Supported by Rochdale
Township**





Fundraiser for “Myaware - Fighting Myasthenia Together”

Since my recent diagnosis of Myasthenia Gravis, I have asked Michael, my son, to take part in this year’s IRONMAN Bolton on July 14th to raise money for “Myaware - Fighting Myasthenia Together.”

Michael will complete the IRONMAN by swimming 2.4 miles (3.86km) a 112-mile (180.25km) bicycle ride followed by a marathon 26.22 miles (42.20km) run, completed in that order, without a break. He's doing this because I cant do it!

People with Myasthenia have characteristically fatigable muscles due to depletion of necessary nerve to muscle chemicals. The harder folks with Myasthenia try to work muscles, the weaker they become, so I am daily running my own marathon.

Please see below for how to donate.

Thank you - Gillian Galloway

You can help me raise money for this great cause by donating directly to my fundraising page -

<https://www.justgiving.com/Mike-Galloway1>

JustGiving sends your donation straight to Myaware - Fighting Myasthenia Together and automatically reclaims Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer, so your donation is worth even more.

Thank you for your support! Mike



Twenty Years Ago

Each month from twenty years ago I will extract an article from a magazine. Here is something from the July edition. There were six articles by Andy Platt!!!

Lesley Sutton

July 1999 Magazine

THE SCREW TAPE LETTERS by C.S. Lewis

It was first published in 1942 during the Second World War. I first came across it in 1979 but it took me nearly twenty years to get round to reading it. It is written as a collection of letters from one devil "Screwtape" to his nephew another devil "Wormwood." Their work is to lead humans astray and prevent them finding Jesus as Lord. Their method is to prevent individuals looking at themselves honestly and encourage smug self-satisfaction whilst simultaneously producing a critical attitude to others.

It is a fascinating insight into human nature and I'm sure everyone who reads it sees themselves somewhere in its pages. Some of it is describing the obvious flaws in mankind but this is its beauty; it points out to us everyday behaviours and attitudes that are so obvious that we don't see them in ourselves. In other parts it gives a sharp focus to human behaviour that leaves us unaware of our own failings.

It is humorous and not heavy reading as it is split into bite-size pieces. This makes a potentially weighty subject matter very manageable. It left me very thankful that we are made acceptable to God through grace and not by trying to be good enough.

Greatly to be recommended.

Tricia Adshead

(I know many of you at Bamford Chapel and Norden URC are avid readers (buying books from the well stocked book stall). How about recommending one you have read? The Summer season encourages us to read more so help someone else to have a good read! Lesley)

Church Meetings

At the Elders' Meeting in April the Elders discussed the low numbers attending the Church Meetings. As I have stressed before Church Meetings are important in the governance of the URC. The Church Meeting is the body which has the final say on most decisions. The dates of meetings are publicised well in advance.

On Church Meeting Sundays the plan is:-

- To finish the service around 11.15am (ish)
- To serve coffee/tea etc. in Church
- To start the meeting at 11.45am
- To end the meeting no later than 1pm (whether all agenda items are covered or not.)



We will try this format for the rest of 2019 and the Elders will review it and if needs be make necessary changes.

The dates of the **Church meetings** for the rest of 2019 are: **21st July; 22nd September and 17th November.** Unless any issues arise and we need an extra meeting(s). Please put the dates in your diary.

Thanks and God Bless, Richard (on behalf of the Elders)



*Congratulations and love to
Christian & Poppy Wiseman
on the birth of their son,
Louis Sebastian
on 30th April in Melbourne, Australia.
Grandson for Margaret & David,
Nephew for Rebecca and Ruth*



Midday Concerts 2019/20 at Bamford Chapel & Norden URC

We are delighted to say that the artistes for next season are now in place. Here they are.

October 8th Roger Browne, jazz pianist

Roger is a performer of outstanding merit. He will play a very wide range of jazz, talking briefly between pieces about different jazz artistes. He has performed with many outstanding jazz and swing bands.

November 12th Charlotte Hoather, soprano and her accompanist George Todica

New to Bamford, Charlotte has already acquired an impressive CV. She approached us via the Church web site and clearly looks forward to meeting us.

December 10th Greta Gasser, pianoforte

Again new to us, Greta is well known in the North West and, like Charlotte, came to us asking if we would engage her. She too has a CV of distinction. She tells us that she would as happily play on a good upright piano as on some of the "grands" she has met on her travels!



January 14th A4 brass quartet

We have been able to book a return visit of this really outstanding group, who are achieving ever-increasing success both in the UK and abroad.

February 11th Irwell Baroque

Anna Rosa Mari brought to us last season a delightful duo of flute and harp. A most capable and talented flautist, she has formed a quartet presenting baroque music on period instruments and asked if she might bring them here.

March 10th Chetham's School of Music

We will not know for a few weeks what their programme will be, but we can be assured of music of a very high standard from highly talented students.



**Concerts are from 1.00 pm—2.00 pm
Individually priced lunch items are available
from 12.15 pm.**

It is our practice to pay our artistes their asking fees, and as their careers depend on income from concerts like ours we gladly do so. We propose to keep our admission price at £4 at least for one more year. We are greatly helped by the income from refreshments, and have made generous donations to the Chapel Gift Day over many years. In 2019, this will be £750.

We do need your support, though, on a regular basis, firstly to provide good-sized audiences for the very talented artistes we engage, and secondly to enable the catering team to assess the amount of food needed for lunches. Please support us with your presence and make us known to friends who may have not so far heard about us. We are an integral part of the life of Bamford Chapel and Norden URC, and hope that we are offering a service to many folk from within the church and without.

We would appreciate help from friends in two matters. Because the Mums and Toddlers meet on Tuesday mornings, we have to put up and lay tables between 11.15 and 12, and to dismantle tables after the concert finishes. If anyone feels able to assist with either of these tasks, could you please let Mike Lucas or me know.

Walter Brisk

Pause for Thought

Prayer is important when things get hard and you find it difficult to keep going. It's worth remembering it's often the last key in the bunch that opens the lock.

People to be Contacted for Church Organisations

(More groups will be added once contacts have been secured)

Minister: Revd Richard Bradley

Secretary: Anne Fitton

Treasurer: Steven Gooding

Group	Contact
Beavers/Cubs/Scouts	Simon Wareing
Bible Readers	Joan Warner
Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association	Emma Hynes
Bridge Club	Pamela and Peter Harrington Angela and Ken Smith
Church Flowers	Elizabeth Hazlehurst
Coffee Morning	Pat Gate
Dementia Café	Lyn Jefferies
Door Stewards	Lyn Jefferies
Focus on Prayer	David and Margaret Watson
Food for Thought	Addie Redmond
Garden Party	Julie Platt
God Squad	Andy and Julie Platt
Guides	Irene Dikes
Heritage	Louise Aspinall
Home Group - Exploring the Bible	Anne Fitton/David and Margaret Watson
Ian Newman Community Film Club	Joan Warner/Lesley Sutton
Indoor Bowls	Lesley Hynes
Junior Church	Julie Platt
Lettings Manager	Nicki Houghton/Linda Lees
Lifeline	Steven Gooding

Luncheon Club	Pat Stephenson
Lunchtime Concerts	Walter Brisk
Magazine	Linda Peacock/Lesley Sutton
Messy Church	Barbara Redmond
Minute Secretary for Elders/Church Meeting	Barbara Redmond
Monday Evening Home Group	Barbara and Addie Redmond
Monday Maintenance Gang	David Watson/Finlay Galloway
Music Group	Cameron Baines
Pastoral Care	Joan Warner/Margaret Watson
Rainbows	Zoe Davies
Service Sheet	Joan Warner
Stillness and Sharing	Joan Warner
Sunday Morning Coffee Rota	Diane Healey
Sunday Morning Transport	Lyn Jefferies
Traidcraft	Barbara Redmond/Lesley Sutton
Tuesday Evening Home Group	Richard Bradley (for now)
Wedding Secretary	John Lapworth

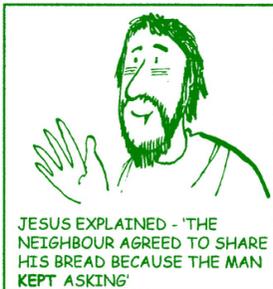
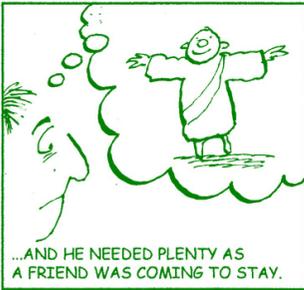
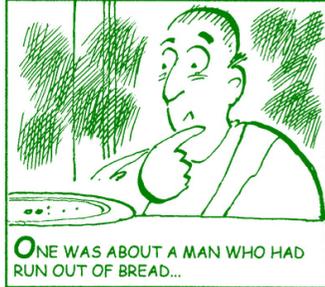
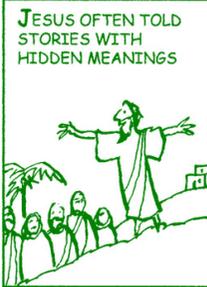
Observations on Life

Some people spend their time either re-living the past or worrying about the future and forgetting about the important bit in between.

*Conscience (as defined by a small boy):
"Something that makes me tell my mother before my sister does."*

Children's Page

The Tale of
The Friend
at
Midnight



BAMFORD CHAPEL & NORDEN

United Reformed Church

Charity - Reg'd No 1128387

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Email: **annefitton@btinternet.com**

Wedding Secretary: **John Lapworth**
Telephone: **01706 341458**
Email: **johnlapworth37@gmail.com**

Lettings Manager: **Nicki Houghton**
Telephone: **01706 750376**
Email: **nahoughton@sky.com**

Times of Services:

Family Worship : 10.30 am : Holy Communion 1st Sunday in month

Evening Worship : 6.30 pm : Holy Communion 3rd Sunday in month