



**Bamford Chapel  
& Norden URC**



**February 2019**

# **BAMFORD CHAPEL & NORDEN URC**

## **MISSION/VISION STATEMENT**



### **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.



# February 2019

Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	1.30 pm	Bamford & Norden Dementia-friendly Café
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	7.30 pm	Rotary Fund-Raising Concert (Folk Duo "Fools Gold" & vocalist Anne Valery)
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	10.30 am	<b>Family Worship with Communion</b> Led by Revd Richard Bradley
	2.00 pm	<b>Messy Church</b> (see page 2)
	6.30 pm	<b>Evening Worship</b> Led by David Watson
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	8.00 pm	Tuesday Home Group Venue to be confirmed (see Richard)
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	10.00 am	Prayer Walk
	7.30 pm	Elders' Meeting
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	10.30 am	<b>Family Worship</b> Led by Cath Atkinson
	6.30 pm	<b>Evening Worship</b> Led by Revd Richard Bradley
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	7.30 pm	Focus on Prayer Meeting
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	1.00 pm	Lunchtime Concert (12.15 for Lunch) (See page 19)
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	10.30 am	<b>Family Worship (including Baptism)</b> Led by Revd Richard Bradley
	6.30 pm	<b>Evening Worship with Communion</b> Led by Ken Greer

Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> February	7.30 pm	Focus on Prayer Meeting
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	7.30 pm	Finance Meeting
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	10.30 am	<b>Family Worship</b> Led by the Elders
	6.30 pm	<b>Evening Worship</b> Led by Cath Atkinson
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	8.00 pm	Tuesday Home Group Venue to be confirmed (see Richard)
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	10.00 am	Prayer Walk
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	1.30 pm - 3.30 pm	Bamford & Norden Dementia Friendly Café

*Come and join us at the following events*



**ALL ARE WELCOME**



On Sunday  
3 February 2 – 4 pm  
@ Bamford Chapel and Norden URC

Come to  
**Professor Potty's Lab**



Menu  
hot dogs

Bamford Chapel & Norden URC

**FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT**  
25 FEBRUARY – 10 MARCH





Sunday 3 March

Thursday 28 February  
10 - 12  
Including cake stall

**COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING**



Bacon butty breakfast  
Saturday 9 March  
10.00 – 12.00

Sunday 3 March  
Look out for Fabulously  
Fantastic Fair Trade Fred  
aka Banana Man



## 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** 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> February  
2.15 pm in the Lounge  
**Home Group** 5<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> February  
8.00 pm (Venue tbc—see Richard)
- Thursday:** **Ladies Fellowship** 14<sup>th</sup> February Open Evening  
7.45 pm for Men & Women see page 23  
**Heritage Group** 21<sup>st</sup> February  
7.00 pm (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in the month)
- Saturday:** **Ian Newman Community Film Club**  
6.30 pm refreshments 16<sup>th</sup> February (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](http://www.bcnchurch.org.uk) or speak to an Elder.

## Message from the Manse



As part of my opening devotions at the Elders' Meeting in January I asked the elders what their hopes were for the year, but more widely, for their two-year term of office. One of the points made was about seeking people's gifts and utilising them. As I write this article, I have been looking at the Lectionary Readings for the coming Sunday. One of the readings is from 1 Corinthians 12 (verse 1-12). We read in those verses about Paul teaching the Corinthian believers about spiritual gifts.

After listing the gifts, Paul writes:

**"All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines."** (1 Corinthians 12:12)

Paul doesn't say, "to the select few" he says, "to each one".

Sometime this year we will probably be commissioning the Missional Partnerships within the North Western Synod of the URC. It will be a defining moment in the life of the Synod as it will feel distinctly different. What is important is that the work of the church continues and that the proclamation of the gospel, which is a task for us all, continues. To do that it means that we each need to use the gifts the Lord Jesus has given us.

In this process we need to pray that God will show us what **His** priorities are, not ours. And that we move forward as one body, the body of Christ, here in this place, but also within the Missional Partnership as well.

We need to pray that God will draw people into our churches. But that doesn't mean that we simply sit back and wait for people to come in. We need to actively reach out and share the good news we profess. We need to share our story. Our stories are unique. Whether we have come to faith slowly and gradually over many months or



years, or whether we have had a Damascus Road type of encounter with Jesus, our story is not less or more powerful than the person who we sit next to in church.

We need to be confident in sharing our faith story. We need to rely on the power of the Holy Spirit and pray that the Holy Spirit will lead us, equip us and give us the words to say.

Let us commit to praying the words Jesus taught his disciples, then and now, **“Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done.”** (Jesus).

*God Bless, Richard*

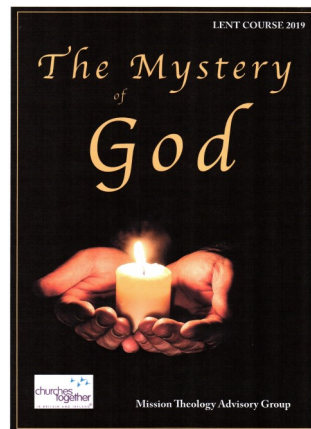
## Lent 2019 – Help needed

This year for the Churches Together in North-West Rochdale Lent Course we are doing things slightly differently again. We are going back to an afternoon meeting as the course last year was moved to an evening to allow those working or busy during the day to attend. Unfortunately numbers were very low so we have decided to return to a daytime meeting.

You will see the dates contained on the poster on page 14. What I am looking for is someone to make drinks and provide biscuits at the start of the meetings. The meetings will run from 1pm to about 2.15pm each Thursday in Lent. The dates are below. If you are able to help on any of the listed dates please let me know. The dates I need help for are in the table here:

Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March 1pm
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March 1pm
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March 1pm
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 1pm
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> April 1pm
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> April 1pm

*Thank you, Richard*



## Meeting Dates



Just a reminder of Elders’ and Church meeting dates for 2019. Please see the table below. I want to encourage you to put the Church meeting dates in your diary. Some time ago I was concerned about the low number of people attending church meetings. I therefore set the dates in advance and published them. Unfortunately, the numbers haven’t increased greatly.

However, the meetings are important as decisions are taken about our Church. As we move towards another HLF Grant Application it is important that we all understand what the church is committing to financially.

Importantly discussions can be had and decisions made about the mission of the Church too. All of which are vital for us to be present. I realise people are busy but with the dates being published well in advance I would hope that people would put them in their diaries.

The dates for the Elders’ meetings are also listed below so that you can:

- 1) Pray for the Elders as they meet and
- 2) If you have any items to raise these can be brought via your Elders or if you let Richard know. The dates for agenda items for Elders’ meetings are listed below too.

Dates of Elders’ Meetings 2019	Dates for Elders agenda items to be with Richard	Dates of Church Meetings 2019
10 <sup>th</sup> January (2 <sup>nd</sup> week not 1 <sup>st</sup> )	Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> January
7 <sup>th</sup> February	Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	
7 <sup>th</sup> March	Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> March
4 <sup>th</sup> April	Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	
2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> May
6 <sup>th</sup> June	Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	
4 <sup>th</sup> July	Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> July
1 <sup>st</sup> August	Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> July	
5 <sup>th</sup> September	Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> September
3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	
7 <sup>th</sup> November	Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> November
5 <sup>th</sup> December	Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	



## 100 days HOPE prayer project

I was lucky enough to attend one of the prayer sessions in the final week of the 100 days HOPE prayer project. I would like to thank Richard for the wonderful opportunity it gave us and hope that there will be more opportunities for Church to be open for us to just take ourselves there to pray in the quiet and be moved by the wonder of prayer as the Holy Spirit touches our hearts; following Jesus' example of communicating with our Father. ***I was moved to write this short poem about what praying that day meant to me.***



Peace and stillness are bound in prayer

Release from self and the trials of life leaves us refreshed

Answers come when we turn to You, trust in You – knowing You will show us the way

You soothe our troubled hearts and comfort us, ready to forgive – unconditional love!

Everyone can have hope through belief in prayer – that You will listen and respond

Remember that prayer makes a difference, lets God in and gives us strength to do His will.

God Bless - **Debbie Wood**



### Lifeboats

*Thank you to everyone who saved their stamps for me. I have received a card from my contact and last year she was able to send £500 to RNLI from the sale of stamps SO..... Please keep saving them!!*

***Pamela Harrington***



## Church Flowers

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

*Hazel & Bob Gordon in memory  
of Bob's sister Tricia*

*Lyn Jefferies in memory of her Mother Sheila Thomas  
In memory of Hilda Howard*

*Elizabeth Hazlehurst in memory of Dad Terry Brierley*



## CHRISTMAS MEAL

*It was a lovely, cosy atmosphere at The Church  
Inn, Birtle for the Annual Christmas meal on 13<sup>th</sup>  
December.*

*Excellent service with tasty food served and even  
Christmas Crackers at each setting. It was very gratifying that thirty-  
five ladies came along to share in this pre-Christmas gathering. A few  
were visitors who didn't regularly attend the Fellowship.*

*It is obvious that Ladies  
Fellowship needs to continue.  
More help is needed to run it  
so if you feel you could assist,  
please see Linda Kerford.  
Keep praying for the  
continuation of this much  
needed group.*



*Grateful thanks are due to Lesley Hynes for visiting The Church Inn a  
few times on her own to organise this successful event.*

***Lesley Sutton***

## General Data Protection Regulation Update

Thank you to all those who have filled in the consent forms. I have now begun to transfer all the details on to a spreadsheet which will then be encrypted and kept on Ann Fitton's church laptop. So far we have had about a 65% return but new elders are still chasing the unreturned sheets – most of these are from people who do not attend church regularly.



The suggestion is that the elders review this list once every 12 months in order to add or take away anyone who has left or who has requested to be removed.

In order to keep it updated, the suggestion is that a consent form is given out at the same time as the card which is given to new people, once they have been coming for some weeks. Their details can then be added to the spreadsheet by Anne Fitton.



All future documents which require people to fill in details will include a paragraph which references the church GDPR procedures – this includes forms for groups such as Luncheon Club and Toddlers. We keep all data for legitimate purposes and comply with

the General Data Protection Regulations.

At a previous church meeting I was asked whether we were allowed to include children's names on the church directory if parents hadn't been asked for consent. Following consultation with my GDPR officer through work, we have been reassured that as we are processing the data through 'legitimate interests', we do not need further consent, but parents may object if they wish. **Please let me or Richard know if you wish your children's name to be kept out of the church directory.**

*Carolyn Divers*



## *Remembering Hilda Howard*

*It was with great sadness that we heard of the death of Hilda Howard early in the New Year. Her funeral which was well attended was held on 20<sup>th</sup> January and was conducted jointly by our minister Richard and Margaret Ogden.*

*Hilda had been an active member of our church since 1984 following the death of her husband Jack. The minister then was Ivor Rees and, having conducted Jack's funeral, he suggested to Shirley Sharp that she visit Hilda and so began a friendship that would last until Hilda died.*

*Gradually she became more and more involved with the weekly activities here and gathered an ever-increasing circle of friends, all of them widows like herself... Shirley, Beryl Read, Audrey Telford, Mildred Ingham, Margaret Entwistle and later Jean Fitton, to name but some. Every week this group would meet on a Sunday evening to play cards. They would go out for lunch most Sundays and she and Shirley used to do a lot of walking together.*

*Hilda attended services week by week, became a member of the Ladies Guild and after a while, took on the responsibility of booking speakers for their meetings. Then, when the Guild started to meet at the home of Rose Birtwell on Bagslate Moor Rd, she took it upon herself to act as chauffeur for the other 9 ladies involved, bringing them to the meetings and then taking them all back home again.*

*She was a driver for the Luncheon Club, long before she thought herself old enough to sit down and be waited on, and she attended a Bible Study group, anxious to develop her knowledge and faith.*

*Sadly, some years ago her eyesight began to deteriorate as Macular Degeneration was diagnosed. She could no longer enjoy her hobbies... gardening, reading, knitting, bowls or even playing her favourite game of Rummikub but, worse*

still, driving became impossible. She had driven for 57 years but now her independence was gone and she had to depend more and more on friends and family.

Because of her failing eyesight, falling became a problem and one fall resulted in a broken hip, which meant she had to be admitted to Tudor Court to recuperate. She celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday whilst there. Her niece Liz, backed up by her friends, persuaded her that living alone in Unsworth Court was no longer an option and so in 2017 she moved into the Millfield Care Home where she remained until she died.



Hilda was a highly respected, pleasant and generous lady, who was always appreciative of the things that were done for her. She will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved her.

*Margaret Ogden*



## World Day of Prayer 2019



**“Come - everything is ready!”**  
(Service prepared by the Women of Slovenia)

Service to be held  
**on Friday 1st March**  
**2.30 pm**  
At St Vincent's RC Church Norden  
All Welcome

## Christmas Hampers 2018



Thank you so much for your kind donations to the Christmas Hampers for two families from Rochdale Young Carers and The Rochdale Acute Needs Trust. They were gratefully received.

Rochdale Young Carers offers a comprehensive service of support to children and young people who have a caring role in their family.

The Rochdale Acute Needs Service is a multi-agency support to families who have children with complex needs.

We helped two families who come under this umbrella with both complex needs and a young carer. We provided two hampers of food and gifts plus cash for the fresh goods required for their Christmas meal.

**Love and best wishes**

**Linda Lees and Brenda Griffiths**

*Dear Pastoral Committee*

*I just wanted to say thank you very much for the beautiful roses that Dot brought round to my house one afternoon in January. It is so thoughtful and kind. Think I am more or less back to myself now with just the remains of a cough. Hope all the other sufferers are on the mend now too.*



*With lots of love to everyone*

*Lesley Ashworth xx*

## Toddlers



First I'd like to thank you for the love and prayers shown to me over the past few months. My health has caused Finlay and I anxious times and has also started us on a learning curve. We are getting there together and have more learning to do.

For that reason I would like to relinquish my role as lead of our Toddler Group. I would like to remain as a helper on rotation but the day to day running I offer to a new fresh Lead.

I took on the role at Toddlers twelve years ago, reorganised it to add a series of activities to encourage adults and their toddlers to play together in a safe environment. We were all very happy a few years ago when we won a Gold Award from Netmums. This doesn't mean things can't be improved yet again.

So if you are interested in running Toddlers I invite you to come and visit us on any Tuesday morning 9am to 11am and see whether you would like to offer 2 hours a week running this group. Please let myself or any helper volunteer know your decision.

***Please pray about this opening and be guided.***

***Gillian (Galloway)***

***Most of us would get along well if we used the advice we give to others. Anon***

***The Bible is meant to be bread for our daily use, not just cake for special occasions. Anon***

***The conduct of our lives is the only proof of the sincerity of our hearts. Robert Wilson***

LENT COURSE 2019

# The Mystery of God



Mission Theology Advisory Group



# Churches Together in North West Rochdale Lent Course 2019

**The course will take place at  
Bamford Chapel & Norden URC**

**(The Course will be led by different people)**

<b>Thursday 7th March</b>	<b>1pm—2.15pm</b>
<b>Thursday 14th March</b>	<b>1pm—2.15pm</b>
<b>Thursday 21st March</b>	<b>1pm—2.15pm</b>
<b>Thursday 28th March</b>	<b>1pm—2.15pm</b>
<b>Thursday 4th April</b>	<b>1pm—2.15pm</b>
<b>Thursday 11th April</b>	<b>1pm—2.15pm</b>

**Tea, coffee & biscuits at 1pm**

**For more details please contact  
Revd Richard Bradley on 01706 369622 or  
[Richardbradley@cantab.net](mailto:Richardbradley@cantab.net)**

## Drumbeat Children's Foundation

Drumbeat goes from strength to strength with more people coming on board to sponsor vulnerable children's education and to date we have 78 children who are in school and receiving the education that they deserve but couldn't afford.

We were able to send John in Uganda the vast sum of £11,864 before Christmas and this was made up of sponsor money, money from our sponsors to buy our children a gift for Christmas and extra funds that we had raised.

These funds enabled John to organise a Christmas party at his grannies house for the children and their guardians. Father Christmas in the sun!



## The Agricultural Project

John has found a suitable plot of land in Kyalusowe village which is not far from grannies house and close to the school that we used for the summer camp. As you can see it is not much to look at, at the moment, but it is ideal for the project that John wants to set up. Just to remind you – the land would be used to keep livestock like chickens and goats and to grow crops. It will be tended by the families of our children and will be a source of food when needed. I'm sure you remember that we have said that eating each day for many of our children is not guaranteed and often depends on what

the children and their guardians can earn each day to buy food. This project will provide stability for many of our families.



So, to everyone at Bamford Chapel the biggest **thank you** for all you have done to make this project a reality in Kyalusowe village.

**Peter Williams - Drumbeat Children's Foundation**

## Valentine's Day



As we celebrate St Valentine's Day this month, how can we conduct this debate in a loving way? The Apostle Peter reminds us: ***'Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honour the emperor.'*** (1 Peter 2:17).

**Respect everyone:** However much we may disagree with another people's perspective, we should respect them. This applies even if they don't respect our views!

**Love the church:** Among the family of believers there should be an even greater respect for each other! The way we treat each other not only reveals the depth of our love; it will also cause people to glorify God and want to be part of the family.

**Fear God:** We must demonstrate our allegiance to God by putting Him first and following His leading. Of course, this doesn't stop Christians from having different opinions to each other.

**Honour those in authority:** We are called to honour those who are in authority over us *'for the Lord's sake'* (13). Even when we disagree with their decisions and actions, we should keep our respect and not speak ill of them.

Peter is calling us to live with the freedom to make up our own mind on Europe, while listening to what others say (16). ***'A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none. A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all.'*** (Martin Luther)

## Midday Concerts 2019

Following the Christmas/New Year break, and in the depth of winter, we are always a little apprehensive about the January audience size. This year we were very pleased to welcome 50 patrons for what was another exceptionally good concert by two first-class artistes. Anna Rosa Mari brought with her two flutes, one the usual concert-sized version and the other an alto flute which she played for just one piece, where its warm tone was particularly appropriate. Her colleague was Eira Lynn Jones, a superb harpist who, as well as performing on stage is Head of Harp at the RNCM.



The harp was itself a thing of real beauty and craftsmanship, and is currently valued at £68000. We were told that insurance alone for this magnificent instrument is £10 per day!

Anna and Eira had prepared an excellent and varied programme, featuring music by, among others, Mozart, Debussy, Schubert and Vaughan Williams, whose “Greensleeves” sounded truly captivating on harp and flute. Eira took time to demonstrate the structure of the harp and at the end of the recital invited members of the audience to take a guided tour! Two or three men ventured to pluck strings for themselves and were manifestly impressed.

Our next concert is on **12<sup>th</sup> February** and features the **Tee Trio**, named after its pianist. The trio **comprises Clarissa Lim (violin), Laura Jane Armstrong (cello) and Weng Soon Tee (piano)**. Laura approached us because she had read about our concerts on the Chapel web page. The CV of the group impressed me, and these young professional musicians are coming from London to be with us – we are paying them a little more than usual to help with their travel costs, but despite the distance they are really keen to come. Once again I invite our readers to support us: we do not settle for anything but the best talent available. In our turn, we want to put those who

come to entertain us in front of a substantial audience. We have been fortunate in gathering new supporters from the wider area, but we still like to think of these concerts as an essential part of our lives here at Bamford Chapel and Norden URC.

At our concluding concert of the season on **12<sup>th</sup> March**, we will once again welcome young musicians of great talent and promise from **Chetham's School of Music**.

*Walter Brisk*

**Bamford Chapel & Norden URC**  
Presents  
 **Music at Lunchtime**   
**1.00 - 2.00 pm**  
**12<sup>th</sup> February**  
**The Tee Trio**  
**(Clarissa Lim - Violin)**  
**(Laura Jane Armstrong - Cello)**  
**(Weng Soon Tee - Piano)**  
**Concert Admission £4.00**  
**Lunch items priced individually**  
**are available from 12.15 pm**



## GIVING THANKS FOR OUR DEMENTIA- FRIENDLY CAFÉ

We hoped our Dementia-friendly Café would be a place of love and laughter and so it has turned out to be. Our 30 willing volunteers have ensured that!

At the first meeting almost 90 people attended including 9 councillors with the mayor and dementia professionals.

In January there were a total of 53 people and 2 doggy visitors, Doug and Teddy!!



It has been most rewarding to see our guests content, relaxed and at ease. We have welcomed several residents from Care Homes who have greatly enjoyed their outings. We are building relationships with the carers and the 'cared for' through our volunteer 'befrienders'.



Our 'guest artists' have been greatly appreciated. In December the choir from St Michael's Primary School entertained and included us in the singing and instrument playing! In January, Brian Flood took us back to the '50s & '60s and we sang along heartily with some brave souls even prepared to dance!!

The feedback has been very encouraging: both in praising what we are offering and giving excellent suggestions:

*"Very enjoyable afternoon"*

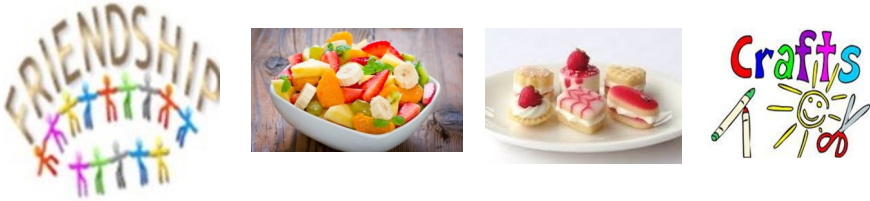
*"Another lovely, friendly afternoon. You are all very kind & friendly. I think you have got everything right"*

*"A very good welcome to a new group"*

*"Very nice chat & get-together"*


**Next session is Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February.** We look forward to greeting old friends & welcoming new people. We promise to maintain the love & laughter and the amazing home-made refreshments. May the loving friendships grow!!

**We owe special thanks to Samantha Divers for designing our heart-shaped forget-me-not logo, which now appears on all our publicity documents. Watch out for the banner near our Church Gates.**



**Please continue to pray for this venture. Please invite friends or neighbours who you feel would benefit from the friendship & stimulation from this afternoon.**

*Joan Warner (for the DF-Café planning group)*



## COOKING FOR FUN ???

Do you love BAKING or is it all a nightmare??

Seriously though, I am planning to hold a cookery demonstration evening at the home of Diane Healey in March or April. Numbers will be limited as there is restricted space. There will be a nominal charge of £5.00 which includes a glass of wine or soft drink. Proceeds will be divided between BCNURC and Springhill Hospice.

If you are interested, please see Diane Healey or myself.

***Pamela Harrington***  
***Tel: 01706 365059***

## Desert Island Discs at Ladies Fellowship

What a delightful evening as Walter Brisk shared his life of music with us! A dismal January evening was transformed into a balmy exotic day in the tropics, by the sound of the intro song 'Sleepy Lagoon). Thanks to our Rev Richard for downloading it.



Walter's musical choices reflected his life experience, beginning with his introduction to live classical music through **Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4. In 1943.**

This new-found delight was nurtured with the opportunity as a schoolboy to attend an evening concert where the Liverpool Philharmonic performed the **Grieg Piano Concert.**

As his teaching career began in Liverpool, he formed his first choir at **Olive Mount Secondary School.** Thanks to modern technology (and Brian Scott) the original recording of this choir had become a CD and we were able to hear Walter's Choral Director Debut.

Walter's love, respect and admiration for his students was clear each time he recalled introducing them to new musical experiences or challenging performances; the school in Thatcham and **Benjamin Britten's Ceremony of Carols**; the trip to the ballet in Bristol (**La Fille mal Gardee**) and the reaction of 'cool' teenage boys, (who'd only gone because of the girls) to the experience "When can we go again, sir?"

His other love (organ music) amazingly links St Paul's Cathedral with Bamford Chapel! At St Paul's he heard a piece called **Sortie by Lefebure Wely** and that very same piece was later played by **Ronald Frost** when the new organ at Bamford Chapel was consecrated.



Walter conducted the Saddleworth Male Voice Choir for 25 years and his memory track was "**And the Glory, the Glory of the Lord**" from **The Messiah**, when SMVC was joined each year by ladies from the area.



Another link with fame was his relationship with Howard Goodall, who had written early in his career, some pieces for the SMVC. They were very difficult and some had inappropriate words. In conversation, Howard apologised!! However the memory track was Howard's well known setting of **Psalm 23 for the Vicar of Dibley**.

We heard Russian voices singing **Red Army Favourites** and Trinity College, Cambridge performing '**Allegrì's Miserere**'.

His final choice reminded him of the Midday Concerts which he has been involved in organising from **1992** to the present day. It was a track from '**Mist of the Mountains**' played by the **A4 BRASS QUARTET**.

Finally our very own Sue Lawley or Kirsty Young (aka Lesley Sutton) asked the inevitable famous questions;

**Q. What book would you take?**      **A. Alan Bennett's "Keeping on, keeping on"**

**Q. If only one record – which one?**      **A. Allegrì's Miserere**

Many thanks to Walter (ever the perfectionist) for the hours of preparation time he had spent to share such a fascinating 'life of music' journey. And grateful thanks, I'm sure, from all who have enjoyed singing with him and learning so much from him over the years.

Pat Anderson gave the vote of thanks and shared that she had been 'one of the ladies of the area' who augmented the SMVC in the Christmas performances of 'The Messiah'.



Our speaker on **February 14<sup>th</sup>** is another member of our church: **Cameron Baines**. He will be talking about the **renovation of Queen's Park** in which he was involved. This is an **open evening (for men and ladies)** and will be held in Church; all are invited.

Hope to see you there unless you have exciting Valentine's Day plans.

**Joan Warner**





## THE IAN NEWMAN COMMUNITY FILM CLUB

at Bamford Chapel and Norden URC,  
Norden Road, Rochdale. OL11 5PQ

6.30pm refreshments : 7.00pm film  
every third Saturday in the month  
£3 admission [refreshments included]

~~~~~

**Saturday 16th February**

**“DARKEST HOUR” PG**

**CINEMA  
FOR ALL**



Supported by Rochdale Township

# Shine, Jesus, Shine

(by Lester Amman)

At the flick of a switch or a press of a button we can illuminate our homes with all kinds of gadgets. City life has street lights everywhere and if we need a light for dark places we can use a torch.



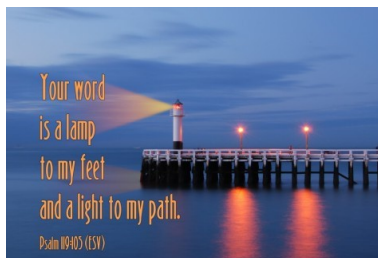
Life for people in Bible days must have been so different. The darkness was something to be feared. Anyone in the open at night was vulnerable to attack, not only by robbers and thieves but also by animals.

The Bible often mentions darkness to be a symbol for evil, whether real or imaginary. The Old Testament records watchmen on the walls of a city or large town who were employed to protect the inhabitants. Watchmen were impatient for the sunrise and a psalmist thinks of his soul waiting on God to deliver him, like the watchman waiting for the dawn. (Psalm 130:6)

The Bible often associates darkness for inappropriate behaviour, problems, difficulties, wrong-doing and malevolence. Darkness can also mean a wrong course of action, wilfulness and stupidity. When the Scriptures speak of *light* this shows up what is amiss with our lives. Light can reveal a problem and show the way to avoid or overcome it.

The prophet Isaiah wrote about people walking in darkness and seeing a great light. This in turn would change their lives for the better. He was describing the coming of Jesus who would be a light for us. He would come to reveal everything that is wrong with us, and to be the means to bring us a new life, a new purpose and a new future. He would break the power of sin and death and make it possible for everyone to be reconciled to God.

In a world that needs to see the healing and saving light of Jesus, we are called to be lights of hope, peace and love. What we do and what we say matters. Our actions and words should point people to our heavenly Father. Sometimes this is difficult and sometimes we fail. But we still should try to be like the psalmist who, while thinking about God, said



***Your word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path. (Psalm 119:105)***

This was in one of the tabloid newspapers before Christmas and also in one of the Christmas cards produced by Cancer Research UK.

## THE SON OF GOD *by Jeffrey Archer*



*He was born in a barn, His father a carpenter and his mother a decent woman but they were of no significance and certainly couldn't have afforded to give the boy a private education. And yet, as a teenager he was arguing the toss with his elders and betters in the council chambers.*

*He never got a proper job, just roamed around the countryside, unshaven and living off bread and water and the occasional fish, while offering his opinions to those who cared to listen.*

*He became the manager of a football team known as The Disciples, not one of them a star; in fact, the twelfth man rather let the side down by accepting a transfer fee of thirty pieces of silver to play for the opposition.*

*The authorities eventually arrested him as a rabble-rouser but couldn't decide what to charge him with, other than the fact he claimed he was the Son of God.*

*They strung him up with a couple of criminals and when he finally gave up the ghost, rather assumed that would be the last they'd hear of him.*



*The Disciples were relegated at the end of the season. In fact the captain claimed on more than one occasion that he'd never been a member of His team.*

*When He died at the age of thirty-three there were no obituaries in the local press reporting his achievements, no glossy supplements highlighting his colourful career, no radio programmes to discuss his legacy and no box sets recording any of his miracles.*

*But then, He'd never relied on focus groups to advise him on current trends, or advertising gurus to spend millions promoting his brand, or spin doctors to sharpen his image and he didn't require social media to keep his followers up to date, so you could be forgiven for assuming he'd be forgotten in a few days.*

**So how can one explain that over two thousand years later, JESUS CHRIST, is still the best known celebrity on earth.**

**COULD IT JUST BE THAT HE WAS THE SON OF GOD?**

*Dear Church Family*

*How can I begin to thank you all for the love, support & prayers that Ian and I have had over the last 12 weeks. We have been overwhelmed by your kindness to us; for lifts to the hospital & visits to me also at home; to Richard & Cath for taking time out of their busy schedule to visit us both.*

*Too many of you to mention by name, but we have been so uplifted & comforted knowing that we were being cared for by you all.*

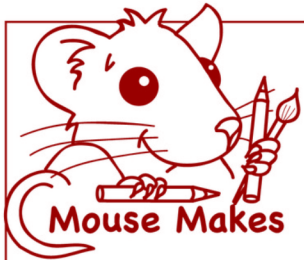


*Ian had his operation & spent 5 days on intensive care at Manchester Royal Infirmary. At the time of writing he is back at home and beginning his recovery which will take many weeks, but we give thanks to God for the skill of the surgeon & all the staff at Manchester & Fairfield hospitals who have looked after him.*

*How lucky are we to belong to such a loving, caring church family. Thank you seems so inadequate but we do thank all of you very much.*

*With love Muriel Sturrock*

# Children's Page



## WHAT IS LOVE?

Cross out every other letter to find the Bible verse, then look it up.

OHNKEWJLOSHCNP  
CGHUADPBTFEKRA  
FJOMUORD  
VWEURDSKEV  
TOEGNP

## God's love is...

Change each letter to the letter before it in the alphabet.

"Hpe mpwfe uif xpsme tp nvd  
uibu if hbwf ijt pomz tpo tp  
uibu fwfszpod xip cfmjfwft  
jo ijn nbz opu ejf cvu  
ibwf fufsobm mjgf."  
Kpio 3:16

## How does God show he loves us?

Look at this in a mirror!

su ɹoɹ ɐvol ɐiH ɐɐwoɹɔ ɐoɹ  
God showed His love for us  
otni noɹ ɥlno ɐiɹ ɹniɹɹɐɹ ɥɹ  
ɐw tsɹɹ ɔɹ ,ɐɹow ɐɹɹ  
ɐɹiɹ ɐvɐɹ ɹɹɹim  
miH ɹɹɹoɹɹɹɹ  
ɐ:ɹ ɹɹoɹ ɹ

## HOW LONG IS GOD'S LOVE?

Cross out all the xxx to find out!

xxGxixvxexxtxhxaxnxkxsxxtxoxxtxhx  
exxLxoxrxdx,xfxoxrxxHxexxiixsxg  
xoxxoxdx,xxHxixsxsxxtxeaxxdx  
fxaxsxtxllxoxvxeexnxdxu  
rxxexsxfxoxrxxexvxxexr.  
xpxsxaxxlmxx  
1x3x6:1

"The steadfast **love** of  
the Lord *never* ceases"  
Lamentations 3:22

Feb 19 © Deborah mobile • at parishpump.co.uk

## **BAMFORD CHAPEL & NORDEN URC MAGAZINE**

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## **DATES FOR THE MARCH MAGAZINE**

**Articles to be handed in by:**      Sunday 10th February  
**(1 week earlier than usual)**

**Magazine to be completed by:**      Thursday 28th February

**Magazine distributed:**              Sunday 3rd March

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### **Times of Services:**

Family Worship : 10.30 am : Holy Communion 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in month  
Evening Worship : 6.30 pm : Holy Communion 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in month