

# THE MAGAZINE

Nº 314



TINSHILL FREE CHURCH

JUNE / JULY 2016

## Pastoral Letter—June-July 2016

### Keep on Serving

The last week is one I will not forget for a long time. It is not every week that you retire from work, particularly when your job has been your vocation for all your working life. I have finally come to the end of my planning career with Leeds City Council after 36½ years in the Planning Department serving the people and city of Leeds. It has been a very fulfilling and challenging job — particularly the last 7 years as Head of Service but I can testify that God has kept me and it is clear from the many kind tributes of colleagues and members that I will be missed (we shall see!). The time has come for others to take up the mantle and carry on the work. I will need to come to terms with my new situation as I adjust to “retirement” but I have no doubt that there will be new avenues of service for the King of Kings which will come my way.

At this time we are remembering as a nation the tremendous service of our monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, as she marks her 90th birthday — her actual birthday was on 21st April and her official birthday will be celebrated over the weekend of 9th to 12th June. Many of you will have seen or received a copy of the lovely tribute to Her Majesty produced by The Bible Society entitled “The Servant Queen and the King she serves”. In the foreword, written by the Queen, she states

*“In my first Christmas broadcast in 1952, I asked the people of the Commonwealth and Empire to pray for me as I prepared to dedicate myself to their service at my coronation. I have been — and remain very grateful to you for your prayers and to God for His steadfast love. I have indeed seen His faithfulness”.*

It seems incredible to me that the Queen is still serving her country and people so faithfully and well as she has through my entire life. Truly we can sing “Long to reign over us, God Save the Queen!” as 88,000 did at Wembley Stadium last Saturday at the FA Cup Final. Her commitment and dedication have been total for her life and we are so thankful for that in a changing world.

Her Majesty, however, would point us — as she has done in so many Christmas broadcasts, to the One who alone defines faithfulness, dedication, commitment and service of His people and is our shining example. He is the Servant King — our great God and Saviour. He never fails. His commitment and dedication is shown and defined at the cross of Calvary where He held nothing back. His service for His people is shown by His continuing role in Glory where He prepares a place for us, represents us as our Mediator and Advocate and pleads our cause and cleanses us by the continuing application of His precious blood on our behalf to cover our sins and wrongdoing. He will never stop serving us and reigning over His kingdom and He will bring us to Himself forever.

*“For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be destroyed is death”* 1 Corinthians 15:25-26.

#### **How should we respond to this?**

We must keep serving Him, loving Him, following Him as long as God gives us breath. We must press on. When the major changes and milestones come in our life we must be single minded, as God’s special people, to continue to press toward the goal and to lay hold of that for which the Lord Jesus has laid hold of us (Philippians 3:12-16). This must be our collective and individual mind set. There is no such thing as retirement for the Christian — we just press on towards Glory and serve our King/Master and Saviour with the wholehearted devotion and commitment which He continues to give consistently and abundantly to us.

Have a great summer and keep on serving!

*Martin Sellens  
(Elder)*

**“there they crucified Him”**

**Luke 23:33**

The Spirit of God often sets forth the most profound truths in the fewest words. I cannot think of four words that are more descriptive of the pivotal point of history, of the highest pinnacle of redemptive love, or of the

purposes of God to deal with the sin of fallen man.

1. **It tells us the place.** “There” at Calvary Christ’s precious blood was shed as an atoning sacrifice for human sin. This is the most sacred spot on earth to the redeemed soul.
2. **It describes who crucified God’s dear Son – “they”.** Peter addressed “Rulers and elders” of the Jews, Acts 4:8, and said “*Jesus Christ whom you crucified*”, but do we not all stand condemned as utterly guilty for my sin, your sin, nailed our dear Saviour to the tree.
3. **It shows the manner of His “crucified” death.** Excruciating, agonising, shameful, and humiliating. Yet the cross for us is the symbol of salvation, triumph and final victory. With Paul we can glory in the cross.
4. **It reveals a suffering Saviour – “Him”.** They crucified the Lord of glory. Human wickedness has never sunk to such depths. Every person of our race is associated with the putting to death of the spotless, holy, Son of God. The man who God created rejected and condemned the King of heaven. “This is the heir, come let us kill him” but the message of Easter morning is that God has the final word “you crucified” – God raised Him from the dead.

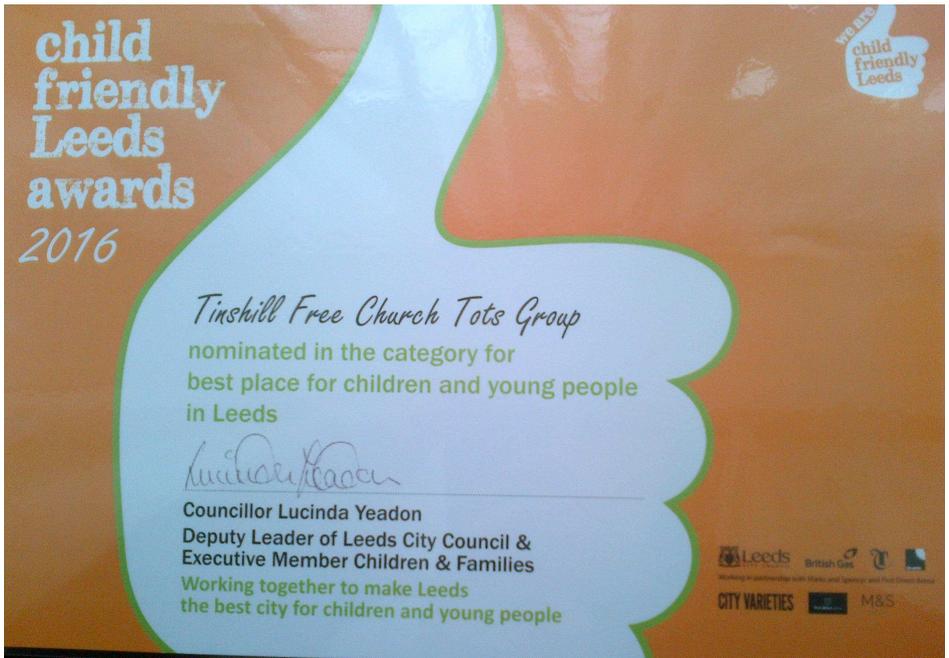
Hallelujah what a Saviour!

*John Lewin*

## **An encouragement**

I nearly called this article “An encouragement for Tots Club”, but changed it just to the above as it really is a lovely encouragement to the whole church. After church one Sunday morning Martin opened the mail box outside the church and found posted within it a package for Tots Club. It contained information about how Tinshill Tots Club had been nominated by two of the carers who attend with children for a “Child Friendly Leeds” award. A certificate stating the same was in the envelope too even though we did not win the city wide award. The Lord brought this to us quite out of the blue as a great encouragement, especially for the dedicated and hard

working team who ‘make it happen’ each Wednesday afternoon during term time. They certainly did not know about the nomination which had been submitted by two thankful and appreciative carers.



Tots Club is more than a selection of different toys for children whilst mums chat. The whole programme is greatly thought out and prayed over with the children and their future in mind, and much work to prepare it, equip it with a rotation of varied toys and maintain caring contact with those who come goes on through the week behind the scenes. Care is taken to maintain safety, cleanliness and Christ centred care to all carers and tots. Over the year, the unfolding Bible account of the coming of the Lord Jesus is presented in the singing time which also gives the opportunity to sing an assortment of general children’s songs and choruses, as well as helping train the children to settle and engage with other children, listen and respond — all this in preparation for what is expected of them at pre-school/nursery school. Our Tots group is well recommended by health workers in the area and recent comments have included — from a dad — “one of the things I like about this Tots group is it is so safe”, and from a mum — “today’s

singing time was brilliant with so much in it". The annual presentation of a lovely money gift from those who come speaks for itself of their appreciation.

There is a good, large contact base forged at Tots and we also pray that the happy experience of coming will pave the way for parents/carers to happily let their children come to Good News Club and other things as they grow older, as well as remembering and pondering the truths they hear for themselves.

The certificate and accompanying letter are available for anyone to see. We thank the Lord for the caring work of the team and are so glad that their service well recommends the Saviour.

*Margaret Williams*

## **Planting your Spring Garden**

For the garden of your daily living —

Plant three rows of Peas — Peace of mind, Peace of heart, Peace of Soul.

Plant four rows of Squash — Squash gossip, Squash indifference, Squash grumbling, Squash selfishness.

Plant five rows of Lettuce — Lettuce be faithful, Lettuce be kind, Lettuce be patient, Lettuce really love one another, Lettuce pray.

No garden is complete without Turnips — Turnip for meetings, Turnip for service, Turnip to help one another.

To conclude our garden we must have Thyme — Thyme for each other, Thyme for family, Thyme for friends.

Water freely with patience and cultivate with love. There is much fruit in your garden because you reap what you sow.

Pass it on!!!

*Supplied by Petra Robertson of OAM  
(Taken from the magazine of Lincoln Evangelical Church.  
submitted by John Lewin)*

# The Children's A to Z of Prayer

Once a month the children in Key Club stay together as one group rather than splitting into their age appropriate groups. This has 2 benefits; the children from the oldest to the youngest enjoy being together and the leaders can have a break from preparing and teaching as only one lesson is needed rather than three.

In one of our recent open weeks I challenged the children to think of things we can pray to God about from A to Z. We began by splitting into pairs and looking at stories in the Bible where prayer was central. For example, when Jesus gave thanks for 5 loaves and 2 small fishes before sharing between the 5000 people present. After a few minutes looking at the Bible passages and discussing what was prayed about we came back together to begin compiling an A to Z.

A is for asking — we can ask God about anything, nothing is off limits

B is for baby — Hannah asked God for a baby and He heard her prayer and she had a boy whom she called Samuel.

C is for confessing or saying sorry to God

D is for devil — God can protect us from the devil's traps, D is also for doing the right thing

E is for everything that God made

F is for forgiveness, only God can give complete forgiveness so we can be His Friend

G is for giving, God has given us life

H is for heaven, where God has promised us a home when we trust in Him

I is for "I will try to be good even though it isn't always easy!"

J is for joy, a happiness that we can only know when we have Jesus in our lives.

K is for kindness, God has shown us kindness and He wants us to be kind

to other people.

L is for love, given to us even though we don't deserve it.

M is for mum and dad who look after us and love us

N is for never trust in the devil and never leave us

O is for obeying parents, teachers and God. O is also for omnipotent which Rachel thought of and explained to the smaller ones.

P is for peace in our world and peace in our hearts that God gives

Q is for questions, if there is anything we are unsure of God can help

R is for resurrection, Jesus came back to life and now he reigns in heaven.

S is for saying sorry, not always very easy to do and being strong so we can say NO when our friends want us to do the wrong thing

T is for thank you. We have hundreds of reasons to say thank you.

U is for help me to understand the Bible and what you want me to do.

V is for the victory that God won over the devil

W is for wisdom, help us to make the right choices.

X is for exciting things that we can do

Y is for yourself, asking God for things that you would like

Z is for zealous, explained by Hannah to the little ones as being enthusiastic about God

We also agreed that P is for Playstation, X is for X-Box and S is for sweets — but God might not always say Yes to those requests!

It is a privilege each week to hear the children pray, confident in the knowledge that God is always listening to them and that He loves them. It is the greatest prayer of all the leaders in Key Club that God would save each and every one of the children that He has entrusted to us. We would love for you all to join us in that prayer.

*Carol Getzels*

# A Man may go to heaven

Without Health

Without Wealth

Without Fame

Without a Great Name

Without Learning

Without Big Earning

Without Culture

Without Beauty

Without Friends

Without Ten Thousand Other Things

**But he can never go to heaven without Christ**

*“I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life; no one comes to the Father, except through Me.”* John 14:6

## What we need to do

**Repent (turn from your sins)**

*God commands all men everywhere to repent.* Acts 17:30,31

**Believe**

*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved.* Acts 16:31

**Call on the Lord**

*For whosoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.* Romans 1:13

**Confess Jesus Publicly**

*If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God has raised him from the dead, you will be saved.* Romans 10:9 RV

*International Gospel Outreach  
(submitted by John Lewin)*

## MAF News to Share

# God is in the pain

MAF personnel often have difficult, challenging, and sometimes dangerous jobs. But for MAF Pilot Daniel Loewen-Rudgers and his wife Damaris, life's trials are particularly painful.

In Kenya, six-year-old Samara Loewen-Rudgers finally manages to push off the last leg of her trousers as she sits on the floor with her physical therapist. She then raises her hands for the triumphant hand grab and cheer she receives each time she accomplishes a task.



Her mother Damaris watches and exclaims, 'Did you see that? She put her hands up first!' It's a tiny step, something they haven't seen before. Even the smallest improvements are worth celebrating.

Shortly after Samara was born, weighing only 1.2kg, her parents Daniel and Damaris were told she had rubella. It was only two months later that they began to understand the gravity of her condition. 'Every time the doctors did another test, the news got worse and worse,' recalls Damaris.

### **Struggling to pray**

While Daniel continued to pilot MAF aircraft into war-torn South Sudan, the couple sought ongoing treatment for Samara's health problems. During the first 15 months of Samara's life, this included four eye operations, open-heart surgery, ear surgery, a cochlear implant, and the insertion of a heart catheter and feeding tube.

Damaris and Daniel say 'one of the biggest struggles at that time was prayer, because you always pray that God will make it easier for you. And you pray for your child to not have so much to struggle with. You're

praying and praying and not actually seeing things get better. That was really, really difficult!

‘But at some point we stopped praying for God to make things easy, and prayed for Him to help us get through it. We realise that God is sovereign and knows what He is doing. Yes, He wants us to ask for things, but if we don’t get them, He’s still the boss.’

‘And it was really hard,’ continues Damaris. ‘We have a very different way of dealing with pain and disappointment, but God brought us through it stronger as a couple. So I can see that God was there. Sometimes I’m still angry about things, but it’s not making me turn my back on God.’

### **A heavenly ‘normal’**

Last year was the first with no emergencies for little Samara — a heavenly ‘normal’. Daniel and Damaris have learned to take life one day at a time, and have gained a new perspective on what it means to wait on the Lord.

For MAF’s overseas staff, making personal sacrifices to serve remote and isolated people is all part of the job. So, despite concerns for their precious child, Daniel and Damaris remain faithful to that calling while relying on God’s provision for Samara and the rest of their young family.

Although missionary families like the Loewen-Rudgers don’t see themselves as heroes, we do!

*Supplied by MAF*

## **At the Name of Jesus...**

“I often wonder, especially with older hymns what the author was like” said our Pastor, Joe Cresswell, at a recent Bible Study. We had just sung the well known hymn “At the Name of Jesus every knee shall bow.” Afterwards Joe commented how amazing is the number of lives that have been changed by our Lord Jesus Christ over the centuries. Here was one life, the author of that hymn; Caroline Maria Noel, and all we know of her are the dates she was alive (1817 to 1877). “Look her up on the internet” came a voice—I did. Here is what I found about this dear child of God:

Caroline Maria Noel was born in Teston, Kent on 10th April 1817, the daughter of an Anglican clergyman and hymn writer. She wrote her first hymn at the age of 17 and over the next three years wrote about another dozen. From the age of 20 to 40 she wrote nothing, but from the age of 40 she returned to hymn writing and continued until her death. The first edition of her compositions was published in 1861 as “The Name of Jesus and Other Verses for the Sick and Lonely”. This was enlarged in 1870, and its title changed by the publishers to “The Name of Jesus and Other Poems”. The final edition was published posthumously in 1878 and contained 78 hymns and poems.

The original title of her collected works gives some clue as to her life. Most of her life was a life of illness and suffering and in many ways loneliness (she never married). Eventually she became an invalid. Many of her hymns and poems were the outcome of her days of pain, suffering and loneliness spent in hospitals and infirmaries (nothing like the infirmaries of today) and were written for private meditation to encourage both herself and others who were ill or incapacitated rather than for public use.

The hymn “At the Name of Jesus” was included in the 1870 edition and is based on the confession of faith that Paul quotes in Philippians 2:6 to 11, which may well have been an early Christian hymn. The first verse of the hymn announces the triumph of the ascended Christ to whom “*every knee should bow*” (Philippians 2:10). The hymn’s original second verse is missing from our hymn book but speaks of how all things “*sprang at once to sight*” (John 1:1-5):

At His voice creation  
Sprang at once to sight:  
All the angel faces,  
All the hosts of light,  
Thrones and dominations,  
Stars upon their way,  
All the heavenly orders  
In their great array.

Verses two and three (as we have them in our hymn book, verses three and

four originally) look back to Christ's humiliation, death, resurrection, and ascension (Philippians. 2:6-9). Verse four is an encouragement for submission to Christ, for us to have the "mind of Christ," and verse five looks forward to Christ's return as "King of glory." The text is not only concerned with the name "Jesus", whose saving work it confesses, but also with the glory and majesty that attends "the Name of Jesus".

Of all her works "At the Name of Jesus" is the only one still found in modern hymn books.

Miss Caroline Maria Noel went to be with our Lord on 7th December 1877 where she now sings a new song.

*Richard D Brown*

## **Nigeria, here I come again!**

Yes, I am on my travels again! It is almost two years since I was last in Nigeria and I was not sure if I would return. Thankfully, I can. I will be flying out on Thursday the 7th of July by Lufthansa Airlines to Abuja via Frankfurt. My first flight leaves at 6.15 am. I will have to get to Manchester the previous evening by train. I will arrive in Abuja at 4.15pm (local time which I think will be the same as UK time at this time of the year).

Probably a quick road trip to Kaduna will follow and I will stay in that city until Sunday afternoon. Hopefully, I might be preaching Sunday morning. Then I will travel to the ECWA Theological Seminary at Kagoro and get ready to deliver 26 two hour lectures, 2 revision lectures, 2 days of Sunday School Teacher Training, and 9 Chapel Sermons over the next 3 weeks. After that, a few days of marking and grading, then back to Kaduna to spend a day or two with my friends. Then back to Abuja on the 6th August to catch the late night plane to Frankfurt and the early morning plane to UK on the 7th.

A detailed copy of my itinerary is on the missionary notice board at Tinshill Free Church.

### **POINTS FOR PRAYER**

1. Safety in travel to, from, and in the country.

2. That the lecturing on (1) Homiletics (Preaching) and (2) Expository Preaching will go well and prove to be beneficial to my students who will be a mixture of novices and experienced preachers if my last visit is anything to go by.
3. That the 2 Saturdays devoted to Sunday School Teacher Training will also be beneficial to any Pastors, Elders, Deacons, and Members who will attend.
4. That the taste of Expository Preaching Sermons on Jude will arouse the interest of the staff and students at the Seminary.
5. That any other preaching and lecturing opportunities will be available.
6. A visit to the The ECWA Widows' Training School will be possible.
7. That I and my friends might have some good times of fellowship and friendship. Some renewed friendships and, no doubt, some new ones, as well.
8. That Christine will be safe and well in my absence.
9. That all our children will be kept safe and well, too.
10. That our new grandchild will bring joy to us all and Christine will be able to visit the new addition regularly in my absence.

*Paul Crossley*

## **Bible Exhibition 2016**

This year's Bible Exhibition is "The Amazing Journey". Do pray for the week and for the children who are booked to come on Monday 13th am/pm, and the mornings of Tuesday-Friday inclusive. Particularly pray for the large group coming from Cookridge on Thursday morning as it is the biggest group we have dealt with in a single session. Douglas Young from The Open Air Mission will be with us for the week and will be our narrator. Pray for him and for those in the church who are playing the 7 characters in the exhibition (4 men, 3 women). Pray the children and their teachers/assistants will learn much and that the weather will be kind for the walk to and from the church for each school group.

## PREACHING PLAN

		<b>Morning</b>	<b>Evening</b>
June	5	Joe Cresswell	Joe Cresswell
	12	Martin Sellens	Joe Cresswell
	19	Joe Cresswell	Roger Barden
	26	Joe Cresswell	Joe Cresswell
July	3	Martin Sellens	Glyn Williams
	10	Alan Brearley	Stephen Emmott
	17	Joe Cresswell	Joe Cresswell
	24	Joe Cresswell	Joe Cresswell
	31	Graham Heaps	Graham Heaps

## OUTSIDE APPOINTMENTS

Do pray for our men as they minister outside the fellowship in the coming months as follows:-

### **Pastor Joe Cresswell**

Sunday 19th June pm Grace Baptist, Halifax

### **Glyn Williams**

Sunday 17th July pm Grace Baptist, Halifax

Sunday 31st July am/pm Kingston Evangelical, Hull

### **Martin Sellens**

Sunday 24th July am Bethel, New Wortley

Sunday 31st July am Thorpe Edge, Bradford

### **Paul Crossley**

Sunday 26th June am Pentecost Baptist

Sunday 3rd July am Pentecost Baptist

July 7th — August 7th Nigeria

## DIARY

### **June**

Wed 1 7.45pm Bible Study & Prayer Meeting Speaker: Paul Crossley  
Subject: Prayer

- Mon 6 7.45pm Annual General Meeting at church (all welcome)
- Wed 8 7.45pm Bible Study & Prayer Meeting  
Speaker: Glyn Williams
- Thu 9 2pm Thursday at Two. Speaker: Grahame Wray
- Sun 12 2.30pm Cookridge Court Service
- Mon 13 — am/pm Bible Exhibition for local schools  
Fri 17 with Open Air Mission
- Mon 13 7.45pm Elders/Deacons Meeting at 175 Tinshill Lane
- Wed 15 7.45pm Deputation Meeting  
Douglas Young, Open Air Mission
- Fri 17 7.45pm Missionary Prayer Group at 1 Tinshill Mount
- Sat 18 12 noon Marriage of Elisabeth Barker to Matthew Hibbard at  
Charsfield Baptist Chapel, Suffolk
- Tue 21 7.45pm Men's Fellowship
- Thu 23 am/pm Church open as Polling Station for EU referendum  
2pm Thursday at Two. Speaker: Tim Mills
- Sat 25 3pm Church Barbecue (all welcome)
- Tue 28 7.30pm Making & Thinking for Ladies. Thinking — Miriam
- Wed 29 7.45pm Bible Study & Prayer Meeting.  
Speaker: Richard Brown

There will not be a Tots Club meeting on Wednesday 1st June due to Half Term and on Wednesday 15th June due to the Bible Exhibition. There will be no Good News Club on Friday 3rd June due to Half Term.

## July

- Sat 2 10.30am Joint Churches Family Day at Prince Henry  
Grammar School, Otley. Organised by FIEC
- Wed 6 7.45pm Bible Study & Prayer Meeting  
Speaker: Martin Sellens
- Thu 7 2pm Thursday at Two. Speaker: Barry Hall
- Sun 10 2.30pm Cookridge Court Service

- Wed 13 1.30pm Last Tots Club before Summer holidays — Fruit picnic & Bible presentations.  
 7.45pm Deputation Meeting — Christian Institute
- Fri 15 6pm Last Good News Club before Summer holidays  
 7.45pm Missionary Prayer group
- Tue 19 7.45pm Men's Fellowship
- Thu 21 1pm Thursday at Two Special. Speaker: Martin Sellens
- Mon 25 7.45pm Evangelism Group

The next Second Tuesday meeting will be on 13th September.

The deadline for contributions to the August/September edition of the magazine will be Sunday 17th July — all items to Martin Sellens please.

## ROTAS

Week ending		Cleaning		
June	4	Natalie Sellens	Kathryn Hibbard	Deborah Williams
	11	Jenny Leng	Eva Ng	Anne Sellens
	18	Ruth Holder	Rosemary Hilton	Carole Brearley
	25	Mavis Mathers	Angela Mathers	Christine Crossley
July	2	Gill Almond	Colette Hickman	Ann Mountain
	9	Natalie Sellens	Kathryn Hibbard	Deborah Williams
	16	Jenny Leng	Eva Ng	Anne Sellens
	23	Ruth Holder	Rosemary Hilton	Carole Brearley
	30	Mavis Mathers	Angela Mathers	Christine Crossley
August	6	Gill Almond	Colette Hickman	Ann Mountain

For Sunday		Flowers	
June	5	Christine Blayney	12 Eva Ng
	19	Carole Brearley	26 Angela Mathers
July	3	Colette Hickman	10 Kathryn Hibbard
	17	Anne Sellens	24 Rosemary Hilton
	31	Christine Crossley	August 7 Ann Mountain

# Diary of Services and Activities

Sunday	Prayer Meeting	8.00am
	Morning Worship*	10.30am
	Key Club (Children aged 4-11)	10.30am
	Evening Worship	6.30pm
<p>Holy Communion follows the first morning and the third evening service each month</p> <p>*A fully supervised crèche for young children is run in the church side room during the sermon.</p>		
Tuesday	Second Tuesday (monthly)	10.15am
	Making and Thinking (for ladies — monthly) venue as announced	7.30pm
	Men's Fellowship (3rd Tuesday monthly)	7.45pm
Wednesday	Tots' Club (term-time)	1.30 - 3.00pm
	Prayer Meeting and Bible Study	7.45pm
Thursday	Thursday at Two (senior citizens — fortnightly)	2.00pm
	Followers' Prayer Group (as announced) at 68 Moseley Wood Walk	7.30pm
Friday	Good News Club (Children aged 5-11)	6.00pm
	Missionary Prayer Group (monthly) at 1 Tinshill Mount	7.45pm

## TINSHILL FREE CHURCH

HOLLY AVENUE, LEEDS LS16 6PL

Registered Charity No. 511933

[www.tinshillfreechurch.org.uk](http://www.tinshillfreechurch.org.uk)

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