

THE MAGAZINE

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TINSHILL FREE CHURCH

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Pastoral Letter — December 2017

Christmas in a few words

I was reflecting recently about how a great moment in history is often summed up so well in just a few words.

We all know Neil Armstrong's famous line after he took his first step on the moon: "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." (He'd intended to say "a man", apparently: but still, we understand the enormity of what he said.)

Julius Caesar's concise summary of his swift victory over the kingdom of Pontus in 47BC also comes to mind: "I came, I saw, I conquered."

Surely Winston Churchill summed up the national mood in August 1940 as he acknowledged the heroic efforts of the British Airmen fighting in the ongoing Battle of Britain: "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few."

The apostle John, writing under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, gives us an even more profound thought and one which reflects a far greater moment in history:

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

It's a sentence which in some ways is so simple to say, and yet at the same time is absolutely bursting with such marvellous good news! It captures a fact so amazing that the words can barely contain truths of such magnitude!

In the opening words of his gospel up to this point John has been introducing us to the "Word": the Son of God who was there "in the beginning" of all things, and through whom "all things were made", Who was God, and has always been with God, (the Father).

Then we are told of the entry of Christ into the world in these wonderful words: *“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us”*. The fact is, that this is the act that will change everything for human beings, forever. This was when God became man: the Son of God *“became flesh”*. As Charles Wesley says in his hymn: “Our God contracted to a span, incomprehensibly made man.” He was no less divine than the instant before He confined himself to human flesh: but now He was also one of us!

He was one of us — made like us in every way: a true human being. And He *“dwelt among us”*, and not far away. Among us as “God with us”, in order that we too might be with God one day.

But He was also not like us in one important respect: He never sinned, He never did any wrong, as we all do. Therefore He was able to help us — and is able to help us as we trust in him — because He would be able to take the punishment for all the wrong we had done. He would be able to pay our debts on the cross, because He had none of his own.

“Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.” (Hebrews 2:14-15).

So here we see the wonder of Christmas: that Christ, the Son of God, became flesh in order to die for us! When you consider the baby in the manger, (which is where some would like to keep Him), remember also that Christ the Lord was born specifically so that He could die for us, and thereby free us from the power of death. He also rose again from the grave in victory, and now lives forever as a real man: the man who is also God.

I pray that you would reflect on these amazing truths this Christmas, summed up in just a few words, and remember what a great turning point in the history of the world it represents, when *“the Word became flesh and dwelt among us”*.

May you have a blessed Christmas and New Year!

Joseph Cresswell.

Remembering Rose

“Hello darling, Oh, I’m so pleased to see you”. That was the warm, affectionate greeting from Rose when you called in for a while. She was a delight to visit, cheerful, uncomplaining and a lovely testimony to the keeping power of the Saviour, especially through her latest, most serious illness of bowel cancer. When she was given a few months to live which took her just into the new year of 2017 her great phrase which she repeated frequently was “I’m not in a rush to go, but I’m ready”. She had 3 goals to aim at if the Lord allowed — to see Easter when we remember the death of the Saviour; her birthday, 2nd July and her little great-grandson, Logan, going to big school in September. By God’s grace she saw them all.

Rose who lived on the Tinshill estate for many years lost her husband some years ago and went through a period of loneliness during which she regularly went up to the charity shop on the Tinshill parade for company. It was there she met up with Ann Mountain with whom she formed a good friendship and Ann spent time chatting with her and giving support and understanding during a very difficult time. Ann invited Rose to Thursday at Two and when she had settled in there Ann invited her to church. Rose, having trusted the Lord as her Saviour in earlier life and drifted somewhat, responded and was soon coming every week. She said she was ‘reawakened spiritually’ during that period and drew much closer to the Lord. She was baptised by immersion at Tinshill on the same evening as Chen Wei in September 2010 (see photo) and although there were many years between them in age, there was great joy in sharing their baptismal service. She also came into the membership of the church.



Rose was described at her thanksgiving service as “loving, funny, confident — Feisty—with a well thought out opinion on just about everything”. She greatly loved her family and greatly loved the church family. Her individual contribution is much missed.

All of us at Tinshill who visited her, or gave lifts to church (for as long as she was able to come) felt it was a happy privilege to do so — she was always so cheerful and positive, so thankful, and glad to talk about the Lord Jesus. I have a lasting memory which I'm thankful for which came towards the end of her life. She couldn't walk far but could get from home to car on a good day. In early autumn this year we had a ride out in sunshine around the Otley/Yeadon area and up over the Chevin and we stopped off road in a space overlooking the airport. She got out, walked a few paces and then stood silently looking, face slightly upturned to the sun with the wind lifting her hair. "Oooo, isn't this peaceful and lovely" she said. We prayed in the car before going back home. We had another trip planned, also with Carole Brearley, but Rose didn't make that one — she had another far more important appointment to keep. She went home to be with the Lord and she was indeed "ready".

Her thanksgiving service at Tinshill was taken by Glyn (leading) and Joe (preaching) on Monday 13th November when there were many members of her family and friends present, as well as many of her church family. She had left full instructions including "I'd like the singing to be fast and joyful". It was. What joy there is when you know for sure that a loved one trusted the Lord Jesus Christ for forgiveness and salvation and is 'with the Lord which is far better'.

Margaret Williams

A Photographer's Prayer

I know that there are some people in Tinshill Free Church who take photography seriously. It is an enjoyable hobby and also a useful record of our lives and our loved ones. I picked up a prayer book last Easter which, to my surprise had a photography-related prayer. Although the book is for men, many of the prayers are relevant for men, women and children. This one certainly is:

The Picture Jesus Sees

"Just as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love." Eph 1:4

“Dear Lord, with an auto-everything camera, even I can take pictures. But I have found that snapping the shutter does not guarantee a good photo. I’ve learned to aim the camera to cut out distracting elements such as road signs, to avoid trees growing out of heads, and to keep power lines from cutting across a scenic view. Sometimes I have to use a flash to illuminate a dark subject.

Jesus, in your honoured position of viewing earth from heaven, what kind of image of my life do You see? Remove all distracting elements from my Christian character. Illuminate me with Your love, and frame me with Your Word. I pray You will compose my life so it presents a pleasing picture to others—and to You.”

(From “Prayers and Promises for Men” published by Barbour Publishing. Used by permission.)

Submitted by Paul Crossley.

A Whyte Christmas

I read recently in the Evangelical Times that Charlotte Chapel in Edinburgh had outgrown their premises and, needing more room, were relocating to St Georges West at the end of Princes Street. This was the church of the renowned Dr Alexander Whyte of whom it has been said “There has been no preacher in living memory of greater personality, preaching power and abiding influence than Dr Whyte.”

One of the first purchases I made when I began to preach was the two volume set of Dr Whyte’s Old and New Testament Bible Characters. Because of this when Joy and I were on holiday in Edinburgh in 1960 I so wanted to worship at St Georges West. An abiding memory is of the dignified and reverent way in which the pulpit Bible was carried in by the Elder and opened at the scripture for that service.

Alexander Whyte was born on 13th January 1836 in Southmuir, Angus and died in London on 6th January 1921. One said of his preaching style “He was always like a fire on a cold day”. Sometimes he was like a thunderstorm in his denunciation of sin, then in the gentlest of tones he

would welcome folk to the loving embrace of the Heavenly Father. Often he would conclude his message with the verse of a hymn: “Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream, all the fitness He requireth is to feel your need of Him”.

His pulpit was his throne. His preparation convened at 8am until 2pm in the afternoon. All his messages were lit by shafts of humour. He always placed great emphasis on sin and it was his deep sense of sin that gave to his preaching of the grace of God a power and passion it might not otherwise have had.

Joseph and Mary were two of his New Testament characters. I quote “On one of those Sabbaths which the exiled virgin was spending at Hebron, Joseph went up to the sanctuary in Nazareth seeking to hide his great grief with God. And this I feel sure was the scripture read that day *“Ask a sign for yourself from the Lord your God;... the Lord Himself shall give you a sign.” Behold a virgin shall conceive and have a son, and shall call His name Immanuel* (Isaiah 7v10-14). Joseph’s heart was overwhelmed within him as he listened to that astounding scripture. Never had ear or heart of man heard those amazing words as Joseph heard them that day. And then when he had laid himself to sleep that night the thought came that he had cast out another and she perhaps — how shall he whisper it even to himself at midnight — the virgin mother of Immanuel! A better mother He could not have. So speaking to himself, weary with another week’s lonely labour, Joseph fell asleep. Then a silence and he heard a voice saying to him *“Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.”* Gabriel was sent to reassure Joseph’s despairing heart and to announce the incarnation of the Son of God.”

I would say to all my brethren who preach, if you ever find Alexander Whyte in print in a second hand bookshop, buy it and be spiritually enriched as I have been. We must praise God for such men who are mighty in the scriptures. If you do you will have a Whyte Christmas in the deepest spiritual sense!

John Lewin

Cradled in a manger, meanly
Laid the Son of Man His head;
Sleeping His first earthly slumber
Where the oxen had been fed,
Happy were those shepherds listening
To the holy angel's word;
Happy they within that stable,
Worshipping their infant Lord.

Happy all who hear the message
Of His coming from above;
Happier still who hail His coming,
And with praises greet His love.
Blessed Saviour, Christ most holy,
In a manger Thou didst rest;
Canst Thou stoop again, yet lower,
And abide within my breast?

Evil things are there before Thee;
In the heart, where they have fed,
Wilt Thou pitifully enter,
Son of Man, and lay Thy head?
Enter, then, O Christ most holy;
Make a Christmas in my heart;
Make a heaven of my manger:
It is heaven where Thou art.

And to those who never listened
To the message of Thy birth,
Who have winter, but no Christmas
Bringing them Thy peace on earth,
Send to these the joyful tidings;
By all people, in each home,
Be there heard the Christmas anthem:
Praise to God, the Christ has come!

George Stringer Rower, 1830-1913
(submitted by John Lewin)

Leeds City Mission

A Potted History

David Nasmith (1799-1839) was a remarkable Christian Scotsman. He was converted to Christ early in life. He died when he was only 40 years old. He started work life as an apprentice in manufacturing. However as a young man he had a burning vision to bring Christians together to address some of the pressing needs of the day. He originated the YMCA in Glasgow and there followed a vast number of interdenominational societies founded by himself in the UK and overseas. One of his early projects was the founding of 'The Young Men's Society for Religious Improvement' (1824). However, of all the societies he founded, he is remembered most for the City Mission Movement in the UK, the US and in Europe.

In January 1826 David Nasmith founded the Glasgow City Mission. It was an interdenominational agency working alongside churches and other Christian organisations to provide for the spiritual and material welfare of those in need. It was the first of many. In 1837 he visited Leeds and the result was the establishment of the Leeds Town (later City) Mission.

Leeds City Mission is part of a worldwide movement. City Missions have a dual purpose of providing spiritual ministry and meeting human need to the most disadvantaged in whatever form necessary in the local community.

This includes the poor, hungry, unemployed, sick, homeless, abused, socially disadvantaged, psychologically disturbed, intellectually impaired, drug and alcohol addicted people, in prison, aged, underprivileged, uneducated and minorities. The projects & programmes provided range from spiritual food, clothing, accommodation, education at all levels, living skills, spiritual counsel, agriculture, sustainable living, self-help programmes, welfare/human services programmes, health care, drug and alcohol programmes, rehabilitation of offenders. There are many other areas in which missions work to make a difference in the lives of people worldwide. The services are provided with compassion and without discrimination.

John Jowett was a prominent Leeds citizen who responded to the challenge of David Nasmith. He was moved by the plight of the city's poor. Funds were raised, support from churches elicited, missionaries were employed and a work began which has continued for the last 180 years. The range of work has been enormous. In earlier years one of its greatest ministries was the vital link the City Missioner brought between those in Seacroft Fever Hospital and the outside world bringing comfort to families unable to visit relatives due to fear of infection. Prison cells were visited and often City Missioners were asked by the court bench to supervise the rehabilitation of young offenders. This often happened throughout the UK with City Missions and few people realise that it was out of this service that the modern day Probation Service originated. In our modern secular society we forget that virtually all the services now provided by the state originated from church outreach activity — schools, hospitals, jobcentres, and the probation service are just a few examples.

Over the years the Leeds City Mission has been involved in a vast range of activities seeking to offer practical help and gospel hope. Chaplaincies to hospitals, prisons, courts, market traders, street vendors, care homes, railways & transport have been provided. Practical and spiritual help has been offered through work with the homeless, drug addicts, prostitutes and those affected by the times of trade depression. Leeds City Mission has run children's camps catering for youngsters from poorer backgrounds who may not otherwise have had the opportunity to go on holiday.

Leeds City Mission has also been involved in church planting — long before the term became popular! In the late 1950s City Missioner David Coombs was asked to commence a Sunday School on the Cottingley estate. This estate consisted of prefabricated houses hastily erected as an answer to the post-war housing crisis. Many young families were living there and the estate had no spiritual provision. He commenced the Sunday School. Soon adults were showing an interest and a number of them were converted. Out of this work the Cottingley Free Church was established — quickly becoming self governing and independent. When the prefabs were scheduled for demolition in the mid-1960s and with the congregation being dispersed to various parts of the city — the church moved into rented

premises in Leeds City Centre renaming itself the 'City Evangelical Church'. In the mid-1970s the church moved again due to the impact of redevelopment proposals and bought the old Beeston Baptist Church but retaining the name of City Evangelical Church. Thus it was due to the direct efforts of the Leeds City Mission that a prominent evangelical church in Leeds was brought to birth.

Leeds City Mission has always worked closely with local churches — often supplying preachers for Sunday services and midweek meetings. This practice continues today.

Many prominent Leeds citizens have been involved with the Leeds City Mission. In the 1960s-70s prominent Leeds chest specialist Dr Charley was its chairman. He was a member of Blenheim Baptist Church. Mr Rollinson of Bridge Street Pentecostal Church was chairman until the 1980s and was succeeded by Jack Robottom, Pastor of the Railway Mission, Armley. Some supporters will remember long serving Missioner Rev James Bundock and many others such as Superintendent Mr Page, Wally Bamford etc who have served faithfully over the years.

Today the Leeds City Mission seeks to fulfil its historic role in much changed social circumstances. It is currently involved in chaplaincy work in Armley Prison. Chaplaincy is provided to Elderly Care Homes and Leeds Railway Station. Small churches who are struggling in difficult times are visited, supported and encouraged. Open air meetings are held in the City Shopping Centres. The LCM Re:Store Charity Shop in Armley Town Street seeks to provide low cost quality second hand clothing in one of Leeds' poorest communities as well as raising funds for wider LCM work. Three or four times every year a Praise Rally is held. This serves as a focus for people from different churches to get together, enjoy fellowship and hear reports from LCM work and hear an inspiring message. People from very small churches find this a helpful experience as they often work unaided in difficult situations.

Supplied by Leeds City Mission

Thank you Aunty Ruth Holder.

During our last session of Tots Club before half term, on Wednesday 18th October, we celebrated our harvest thank you. The carers and tots had contributed generously to this by giving apples, oranges, plums and bananas which were put into a large box. This was by way of being thankful to God for our food. We particularly remembered this during our singing time. Our Tots Club characters, Brownie Bear and Eric put in a piece of fruit and said an 'imaginational' "Thank you God for my food." The carers and tots joined in happily by singing our 'sing back' song to the tune of frère Jacques: Thank you God x2, For my food x2, oranges and apples x2, to enjoy x2.

Our box was later taken, by kindness of John Almond, to CFL as a gift from our Tots Club.

As we progressed through our singing time it naturally flowed to the time when a special thank you could be said to Aunty Ruth who retired from Tots Club on that day. I shared with everybody how Ruth had been there from the start of Tots Club (formerly Mums and Tots) on March 2nd 1988 to the present day. She had been a faithful and supportive member of the team and had willingly and bravely taken on the running of Tots Club when I was out of action, due to surgery, until I was able to return.

Ruth has also been a great friend and support generally to all and also a special Aunty to countless children over those many years. Aunty Ruth will be greatly missed by the team, tots and carers alike as was expressed so openly and warmly in the cards she received.

Ruth also mentioned privately that she now has 5 hours spare during the week but I reassured her that she would definitely find ways of using them.

Finally, together we all gave three cheers for Aunty Ruth and Eva Ng presented her with a



beautiful bouquet on behalf of us all. I gave her a card which had been signed by all the team and carers. As a memento from the tots, Colette Hickman prepared a picture of a tree with the fingerprints of the tots representing blossom, which was framed and presented by Colette. It was a lovely and meaningful occasion and came as a happy surprise to Ruth.

We praise the Lord for being able to mark these 2 memorable times, our thanks to God for all our food, as He is the creator and sustains all things, and for being thankful for one another in our team, especially after such an example of service and love for the work of the gospel in Tinshill.

We commend, lovingly, our dear Aunty Ruth to God during the coming days.

*Carole Brearley
on behalf of Tots Club*

Second Tuesday — Angels

Notes from the Second Tuesday seminar given by Martin Sellens on 10th October.

3 basic questions on the subject of angels — (1) Are they real? (2) Who are they and what are they like? and (3) What do they do?

(1) Angels are very real

There are lots of books on the supernatural and occult and few about angels! Whilst rarely seen it does not mean they are not there. There are plenty of accounts of people who consider they have met with angels. (See Billy Graham — “Angels secret angels” (1975) and “When angels appear” by Hope MacDonald (1982). There are 300 references to angels in the Bible in both the Old Testament and New right from Eden in Genesis 3v24 to the last chapter in Revelation (Rev.22v8).

Consider for a moment the presence and role of angels in the life of the Lord Jesus Christ:-

- The angel Gabriel tells of His coming to Mary & Joseph in Luke 1
- Multitudes at His birth in Luke 2

- Jesus strengthened by angels after temptation in Matthew 4
- Strengthened by angels in Garden of Gethsemane in Luke 22v43
- Jesus' claim in Matthew 26v53 He could call down more than 12 legions of angels if He wanted to (legion = 6,000 soldiers so more than 70,000)
- At the resurrection "*He is not here, but is risen!*"
- At the ascension — Acts 1v10
- At the Second Coming — Matthew 25v31 and 24v31
- Around the throne in heaven 10,000 x 10,000 = 100 million!

Great angelic activity at the key moments in the life and ministry of Jesus. The Christian belief is angels are incorporated into the Nicene creed in AD325 — early in the history of the church.

(2) Angels are very powerful

"Angelos" means messenger. Angels are God's messengers who carry out His bidding and obey His commands in total devotion. Psalm 103v20/21 — they excel in strength who do His word and pleasure. There are archangels, prominent angels like Gabriel, Cherubim & Seraphim (winged angelic beings — Exodus 25v18-22 & Isaiah 6). They are numerous in number, mighty in power and holy in behaviour. They form an innumerable company (Hebrews 12v22).

They are *spirits* as God is Spirit. When they do God's business on earth they often appear as men and can also disappear. They are higher beings than human beings but lower than God. Christ was made a little lower than the angels when He came as a man (Hebrew 2v7). Whilst angels are special and powerful they are not to be worshipped (see Revelation 22v9).

They are *created beings* as we are and beautiful (Matthew 28v3). See Romans 8v38 and Colossians 1v16 for confirmation that angels are created — through Him and for Him. So angels can only be in one place at one time (unlike God). As they are spirits in Glory they do not decay or die. They have feelings and emotions (see Luke 15v10 — there is joy in heaven in the presence of angels over a repentant sinner). They are not sexual

beings and not given in marriage (see Jesus' words in Matthew 22v30). The numbers are therefore constant.

God has made provision for fallen man and his/her sin in Christ but not for fallen angels. They cannot experience salvation although it is something they desire to look into (Hebrews 2v16).

When they appear on the earth they can certainly speak & eat as we do (see Genesis 18 and 1 Corinthians 13v1). They can appear in human form but also with glory (e.g. Elisha and his servant in 2 Kings 6v15-17). *The unseen world is glorious and real.*

(3) Angels are created for a purpose.

The Bible tells us that angels:

- Certainly worship God and the Lamb (Revelation 5 v11-12)
- Minister to God's people. (Hebrews 1v14). Christians have the Spirit of God living within as a spiritual help/guide and seal but angels minister to them in a number of ways:
 - (a) Protection — Psalm 91v11-12. Daniel knew this in his life when the angel shut the lions' mouths as recorded in Daniel 6v22.
 - (b) Deliverance — e.g. Peter from prison, in Acts 12. Thought it was a vision until he found himself outside the prison. Lots of instructions given and light in the prison.
 - (c) Specific instructions e.g. Angel to Philip in Acts 8, and to Cornelius in Acts 10. Very specific instructions given — not woolly and general.
 - (d) Provision — e.g. Elijah when drought came in 1 Kings 19v5-9
 - (e) God's Reapers — Matthew 24v31 & 13v39-41. In the day of judgment the angels have a particular role to play.
 - (f) God's carriers to glory — see Luke 16v22 for Lazarus. Elijah in 2Kings 2 is carried up in a whirlwind to heaven by a chariot of fire. The angels bring God's people to Glory — not left to chance on this last important journey.

Angels are God's agents. We may not see them but they are active under God's sovereign authority. Our trust is in God alone — we look to HIM — He and the angels are watching.

A pair of miracles



9-day-old conjoined twins (left). MAF Pilot Brett Reierson and patients (right)

One morning in early September, Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) Pilot Brett Reierson and his wife Jaelyn were humbled to help a remarkable couple in their earliest days as a family of four

As the hot sun rises over MAF's base in Kinshasa in the DRC (Democratic Republic of Congo), pilot's wife Jaelyn Reierson steps onto a Cessna 206 aircraft for the very first time.

Having lived in the DRC with her husband Brett and their three children for over a year, she is thrilled to finally experience first-hand the life-saving work MAF carries out in one of Africa's poorest nations. But little could have prepared her for the incredible story that was about to unfold.

Landing in Vanga, a 90-minute flight east of Kinshasa, Jaelyn disembarks to witness a large throng of locals, surging around a doctor from the local hospital. The medic attempts to lead a woman and her husband towards the MAF plane as the crowd call, touch and stare at the patient, who carries a small bundle in her arms.

Finally whisked onto the plane, Jaelyn helps Brett secure the passengers safely into their seats, and takes a closer look at the bundle in the woman's arms.

It is a beautiful ball of coloured blankets, tiny fingers and miniature toes — a pair of conjoined twin girls. Delivered naturally in a very remote village, these sleeping babies have survived an epic 155-mile journey on the back of a motorbike to reach Vanga Evangelical Hospital. Their nine-day life has been nothing short of a miracle.

The twins are joined at the navel, but surgery to separate them is too complex to be done here at the only hospital serving the acute needs of thousands of patients in this remote area.

The doctor is clearly amazed at such a rare and astonishing case. ‘Born conjoined, and naturally, at 37 weeks – it’s unheard of!’ he exclaims. ‘We’ve contacted a team of volunteer surgeons in Kinshasa who operate on children born with malformations, free of charge. They will assess these babies and can hopefully separate them.’

‘We began preparations for another long and difficult journey through the jungle, but were concerned for the safety of these fragile newborns. When I was told that MAF would help, it was great news!’

Finally ready for take-off, hundreds of locals line up to wave farewell to the plane.

Hazy skies and the drone of the engine create a sense of solitude on the flight back to Kinshasa, and Jaelyn enjoys the chance to ponder the events of the day.

‘The shared looks between the two parents tell me they are enjoying these quiet moments to be together as a family before re-entering the world of doctors, hospitals and curious crowds,’ she reflects.

Landing in Kinshasa, the twins are collected by a medic who takes them for life-saving surgery. All Jaelyn can do is wait, pray and trust that the God who began this astonishing story, will bring it to a miraculous conclusion.

Two weeks later, she receives a short text from the doctor in Vanga. ‘I just got a call! The twins have been separated. And now, it’s time for recovery...’

Supplied by MAF

PREACHING PLAN

		Morning	Evening
December	3	Alan Brearley	Joe Cresswell
	10	Daniel Grimwade	Glyn Williams
	17	Joe Cresswell	Matthew Seymour
	24	Joe Cresswell	Joe Cresswell
	31	Joe Cresswell	Joe Cresswell
January	7	Alan Brearley	Joe Cresswell
	14	Joe Cresswell	Martin Sellens
	21	Jonathan Chell	Joe Cresswell
	28	Steve Bowers	Joe Cresswell
February	4	Dan Peters	Dan Peters

Outside Appointments

Do pray for our men as they preach and minister outside the church in the coming months:-

Joe Cresswell

attending the Carey Conference 2-4th January

Glyn Williams

Sun Dec.24th am Mirfield

Sun Jan.7th am Bethel, Ripon

Sun Jan.14th pm Garforth

Paul Crossley

Sun Dec.10th noon Pentecost Baptist
pm Garforth

Sun Dec.17th am Garforth

Alan Brearley

Sun Dec 31st am Bethel, Armley

Sun Jan 14th am Garforth

Sun Jan 28th am Garforth

DIARY

December

- Fri 1 9.30am “What is Christmas all about” for local schools
- Mon 4 7.30pm Girls Group
- Tue 5 8pm Carols by Candlelight Speaker: Alan Brearley
- Thu 7 2pm Thursday at Two Speaker: Graham Heaps
- Fri 8 6pm Good News Nativity – last meeting before Christmas
- Sun 10 12-2pm Fellowship lunch (all welcome to stay after service)
2.30pm Cookridge Court Christmas Service
- Tue 12 7.45pm Elders/Deacons meeting at 87 Tinshill Road
- Wed 13 1.30pm Tots Christmas Party – last meeting before Christmas
7.45pm Prayer Meeting and Bible Study
Speaker: Martin Sellens
- Fri 15 7.45pm Missionary Prayer Group at 1 Tinshill Mount
- Sun 17 3pm Bedford Court Christmas Service
6.30pm Church Carol Service
- Mon 18 7.30pm Girls Group Christmas Special at 383 Otley Old Road
- Tue 19 7.45pm Men’s Christmas Fellowship
- Wed 20 7.15pm Carol singing in the district (meet at church)
- Thu 21 1pm Thursday at Two Christmas Special
Speaker: Bill Scully
- Sun 24 5pm Christmas Eve evening service (note earlier time)
- Mon 25 10.30am Christmas Morning Service Speaker: Martin Sellens
- Wed 27 7.45pm Prayer Meeting and Bible Study
Speaker: Richard Brown
- Sun 31 6.30pm New Year’s Eve Evening service and Communion

January

- Wed 3 7.45pm Prayer Meeting and Bible Study
Speaker: Glyn Williams

Thu 4 2pm Thursday at Two Speaker: Martin Sellens
 Mon 8 7.30pm Girls Group at 87 Tinshill Road
 Tue 9 10.15am Second Tuesday Seminar
 Wed 10 1.30pm Tots Club restarts after Christmas break
 Fri 12 6pm Good News Club restarts after Christmas break
 Sun 14 2.30pm Cookridge Court Service
 Tue 16 7.45pm Men's Fellowship
 Wed 17 7.45pm Prayer Meeting and Bible Study
 Speaker: John Almond
 Thu 18 2pm Thursday at Two Speaker: Glyn Williams
 Fri 19 7.45pm Missionary Prayer Group
 Sat 20 9am Annual Trustees' Meeting at 87 Tinshill Road
 Mon 22 7.30pm Girls group
 Tue 23 7.30pm Making & Thinking for Ladies
 Sun 28 Fellowship lunch after morning service followed by
 EMF presentation by Steve Bowers

February

Thu 1 2pm Thursday at Two Speaker: Alan Brearley
 Mon 5 7.30pm Girls Group
 7.45pm Evangelism Group at 175 Tinshill Lane

The next edition of the Magazine will be a combined February/March edition due out on Sunday February 4th. All items and contributions to Martin Sellens by Wednesday 24th January please.

Ken Greenwood

As we were preparing The Magazine, news came through that Ken Greenwood has passed into the presence of His Lord. A Thanksgiving Service for his long life will be held at Tinshill on Tuesday 12th December at 12.15pm and afterwards at Cottingley at 2pm. We send our heartfelt love and sympathy to Jenny and Graham and the wider family.

Rotas

Week ending

December 2	Mavis Mathers	Angela Mathers	Christine Crossley
9	Margaret Williams	Colette Hickman	Ann Mountain
16	Natalie Sellens	Kathryn Hibbard	Deborah Williams
23	Jenny Leng	Eva Ng	Anne Sellens
30	Ruth Holder	Rosemary Hilton	Carole Brearley
Jan '18 6	Mavis Mathers	Angela Mathers	Christine Crossley
13	Margaret Williams	Colette Hickman	Ann Mountain
20	Natalie Sellens	Kathryn Hibbard	Deborah Williams
27	Jenny Leng	Eva Ng	Anne Sellens
February 3	Ruth Holder	Rosemary Hilton	Carole Brearley

Cleaning

For Sunday

December 3	Angela Mathers	10	Colette Hickman
17	Kathryn Hibbard	24	Anne Sellens
Jan '18 31	Rosemary Hilton	7	Christine Crossley
14	Ann Mountain	21	Deborah Williams
28	Jenny Leng	February 4	Ruth Holder

Flowers

Thought for Christmas

“The glory of the incarnation is that it presents to our adoring gaze not a humanised God or a deified man, but a true God-man — the one who is all that God is and at the same time all that man is: one on whose almighty arm we can rest, and to whose human sympathy we can appeal”

Benjamin B. Warfield

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
	Holy Communion follows the first morning and the third evening service each month	
	*A fully supervised crèche for young children is run in the church side room during the sermon.	
Monday	Girls Group (aged 14-18 – fortnightly)	7.30pm
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
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

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