

THE MAGAZINE

Nº 334



TINSHILL FREE CHURCH

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2019

Pastoral Letter — October / November 2019

Harvest Thoughts

As I sit down to write this letter there is a one day climate summit due to take place today at UN Headquarters in New York. It comes amidst growing global concern about the impact of climate change on our world. A recent report from the World Meteorological Organisation says the data shows that the five year period 2014 to 2019 has been the warmest on record and sea-level rises have accelerated significantly over the same period as CO₂ emissions have hit new highs. There are widespread calls for urgent action by national governments as particularly vulnerable populations in low lying areas and islands risk being inundated by the sea in years to come. Last week saw millions take part in marches and protests around the world with many being schoolchildren. The spark for the environmental strike by schoolchildren was provided by Greta Thunberg, aged 16, the Swedish environmental activist. She will address the UN meeting today. There is not universal agreement on the issue, however, amongst world leaders and Japan, Australia, the US, Brazil and Saudi Arabia will not be taking part. At a local level Leeds City Council have declared a climate emergency and are seeking to take action to become carbon neutral although they have been challenged about their desire to expand the airport for economic reasons.

We should take our responsibilities as human beings seriously as the earth has been placed into our care by God *“to tend and keep it”* (Genesis 2:15). Like many things it is not ours but God’s. He made it and like our body we have a responsibility to look after it. We all have a part to play, however small, in our care for our planet in how we live and the choices that we make. It is good to see a growing awareness of the seriousness of the issue and the fragility of life.

Today, according to my diary, is the first day of autumn. Next weekend we celebrate the ingathering of another Harvest with our Supper on Saturday evening and our Services on Sunday. It is a constant reminder to us, each year, that God is keeping His covenant promise with mankind after the worldwide flood:

“While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease” (Genesis 8:22).

Whilst we have responsibilities to care for the world in which we live, it is God who continues to provide for us year in, year out. God is the One who gives the increase and supplies what we need to live and survive.

It is amazing that God made the covenant in the full knowledge of our wayward behaviour and wicked ways. Genesis 8:21 tells us *“I will never again curse the ground for man’s sake although the imagination (intent) of man’s heart is evil from his youth”*. He has also acted to change our hearts by sending His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, into our world. Christ died in our place taking the punishment for our sins upon Himself so that we, through Him, might be forgiven and reconciled to a holy God. It is only through God’s work that we can be forgiven as we personally express deep and heartfelt sorrow for our own sin and receive Christ into our lives, through faith in Him, to be our Saviour, King and God. That does produce a real inward change in us as God’s Spirit enters our heart to live there permanently, preparing us for Heaven with the risen and exalted Christ.

God will also act, at the appointed time which only He knows, when the Lord Jesus will return in glory to this earth and this world, as we know it, will end. At that time there will be the final Judgement when all will stand before Christ and the division between sheep and goats (those who are Christ’s and those who are not) will take place. Then God will burn up this earth and create new heavens and a new earth for the rest of eternity in which righteousness rather than sin will dwell (2 Peter 3:7,10 and 13). In the meantime the Bible is clear that the present heavens and earth are preserved by God, reserved for the day of Judgement. God created our world, He preserves it and He alone will end it.

How we need to pray and beseech God that people’s present concern for our planet may be extended to real concern about their own souls. Surely we desire that God would pour out His Spirit in our day so that many in the world and our own country and area would turn back and recognise their need of forgiveness and come to Christ in true repentance and faith. Only then as people become Christians and enter into Christ’s kingdom

can they know something which is both imperishable and eternal. There lies our real hope for the future.

May we reflect on the greatness, power and faithfulness of God at this time of Harvest and live our lives so they are faithful and fruitful to God.

Martin Sellens (Elder)

Useful and Challenging Quotes

You never know what you are going to find in a second-hand book! I am not writing about its written contents or illustrations either! I have often found bookmarks, newspaper cuttings, etc. Recently, Christine and I had one of our too-rare days out together, so, went to Skipton. One of the attractions of Skipton for us is that there is an even rarer Christian Bookshop! Upstairs there are several shelves of second-hand Christian books, many by evangelical authors and some of which I have purchased for my Nigerian students. I came away with two “Life Application Study Bibles” and a copy of C.H. Spurgeon’s “All Round Ministry” for the total princely sum of six pounds and seventy five pence! Amazing!

Even more amazing I found a sheet of paper in one of the Bibles inside its cover with the following quotes. I have no idea about the original sources or who typed them out and put them inside the Bible cover—see what you think of them.

- Be a fisher of men — you catch them and He’ll clean them.
- God doesn’t call the qualified, He qualifies the called.
- Give Satan an inch and he’ll become a ruler.
- He who angers you controls you.
- Worry is the darkroom in which negatives develop.
- Nothing else ruins the truth like stretching it.
- Plan ahead — it wasn’t raining when Noah built the Ark.
- WARNING: Exposure to the Son may prevent burning.
- A lot of kneeling will keep you in good standing.
- He who kneels before God can stand before anyone.

My first reaction was to smile at some of them but then I started going

through them one by one. Properly understood they do make you think about and evaluate your own Christian Life! You never know what you will find in a second-hand Christian Book!

Paul Crossley

The Power of the Blood of Jesus

At a recent Communion service I partook of the bread and the drink in the usual manner, the bread symbolising the body of Jesus, and the drink His blood. The drink proved to be less diluted than it often is, and as I swallowed it I thought, “Gosh, that’s strong, that’s a bit powerful”. Then the thought hit me — the blood of Jesus IS powerful! That made me start to think about the blood of Jesus and the power that it has and why it is so important.

Looking into this in my Bible showed me that:

- Jesus’ blood is the basis for a binding agreement (covenant) between God and man. God will never renege on His side of the agreement.
- Jesus’ blood grants forgiveness for sin. More than that, it washes the believer absolutely clean from sin and gets rid of the sin altogether. (This is in stark contrast to the way we view our own blood, which is considered a dirty stain to be washed off the body and out of clothing.)
- Jesus’ blood grants eternal life to the believer.
- Jesus’ blood is the price that was paid for the redemption of God’s people. Gold and silver were nowhere near valuable enough to pay for this, only the blood of God’s son had enough intrinsic value in it.
- Jesus’ blood appeases the anger of God at sin. More than that, it makes the believer just and righteous in God’s sight and puts us at peace with Him.
- Jesus’ blood grants us access into the very presence of God; we may come boldly and with confidence.
- Jesus’ blood gives victory over Satan. Although Satan is powerful, Jesus is much more so, and when Jesus shed His blood on the cross, that sounded Satan’s death knell.

Jesus is depicted in the book of Revelation as leading His armies out to

victory over Satan. It is noteworthy that the armies of people are clothed in linen that is white and clean, but Jesus Himself wears a robe that is dipped in blood. Surely, for the believers who are with Jesus, that robe will be a continual reminder of the immense cost of their salvation and the preciousness of their Saviour's blood. That blood will never lose its power or effectiveness, and will give us cause to praise and worship Jesus throughout eternity.

Rosemary Hilton

Standing Out

Whilst we were putting our shopping into the car at the supermarket, a vehicle drew up beside us and an elderly lady got out. What attracted our attention was the colour of the car: lime green but so bright we felt we needed sunglasses.

Pat commented on the colour and the lady had an interesting response. 'I got tired of parking my car in supermarket car parks and then not being able to find it, so I thought I would buy a car I could not avoid seeing.' I would consider it 'mission accomplished'.

The Lord was with Joseph and he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master [...] his master saw that the LORD was with him. Genesis 39: 2-3

And all who were sitting in the Sanhedrin looked intently at Stephen, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel. Acts 6: 15

"You are the light of the world." Matthew 5: 14

"Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." Matthew 5: 16

...that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe. Philippians 2: 15

As believers, do we stand out from those who have no Christian profession? Stand out, not because we are awkward and difficult but rather because

something of Christ is to be seen in us? Joseph shone in the house of Potiphar, Daniel in the court of King Nebuchadnezzar, Stephen before the Jewish Sanhedrin. They were dark places but they stood out as men of true faith. That is still the challenge and calling that comes to believers today.

One of the very first songs I sang in Sunday School might sound simplistic to some but it is true whatever our age.

Jesus bids us shine with a pure clear light
Like a little candle burning in the night
In this world of darkness, so we must shine
You in your small corner and I in mine.

Susan B. Warner (1819-1885)

John Mollitt

NOTE: The above article is a chapter from John's latest book "*More Truth in a nutshell*" which has been recently published. On a variety of topics John gives small bites of Bible wisdom for daily nourishment. John has kindly offered to supply anyone in the fellowship who wants a copy free of charge provided that they use and read the book and make a donation to "Armenian Ministries".

Wonderful!

The time for shoe boxes is here again. For many children and adults this will be the only Christmas gift they will receive. What joy they bring. Blythswood Care has been working for more than 50 years, so imagine the many, many adults and children who have been blessed by being given a shoe box. Wonderful! is a book written to celebrate those 50 years. Lord Mackay of Clashfern, patron of Blythswood Care writes, "... It is now fifty years since Blythswood started and it is fitting to recognise how God has provided for it over that time... May these personal stories of faith encourage us to thank God for His provision for Blythswood over the past fifty years, {and} to pray for its continued success into the future."

In this book thirteen individuals who work with or for Blythswood share how they came to believe in Jesus Christ and how they put their faith into

practice in their own communities. Each testimony traces God's presence in everyday events, and helps to explain how He grew a mission from a handful of individuals, passing out tracts in Blythswood Square in Glasgow, to an organisation that is changing lives in Europe, Africa and Asia.

Two other books I have read recently are *Singing in the fire by Faith Cook* and *There were giants in the earth by John Erswell*. Singing in the fire includes 14 biographies of Christians in adversity. Overcoming faith is the subject of this book, the golden thread that runs through all these records of Christians facing adversity. This book enables us to read of the gracious works and ways of the living God among men and women, young and old, and His dealings with poor sinners, consoling and sustaining them in all their trials.

There were giants in the earth gives potted histories of six men of God — John Wesley, Charles Haddon Spurgeon, James Hudson Taylor, George Whitfield, William Booth and D.L.Moody. These short biographies show us that God can take anybody and make them a useful instrument in His hands. History is His story and the lives of these six men are His story told through their lives.

If you would like to read any of these books, or any other books I have reviewed, please ask.

Christine Crossley

PREACHING PLAN

		Morning	Evening
October	6	Glyn Williams	Graham Heaps
	13	Martin Sellens	Alan Brearley
	20	Stephen Emmott	Richard Brown
	27	John Harris	Glyn Williams
November	3	John Mollitt	John Mollitt
	10	Gordon Frame	Martin Sellens
	17	Alan Brearley	Bill Dyer
	24	Glyn Williams	John Harris
December	1	Gordon Frame	John Mollitt

You're Invited to a
Mens Breakfast

9am Saturday November 2nd

Tinshill Free Church

Free Breakfast

Mark Troughton

*(From york evangelical church and son of
Patrick Troughton, the 2nd doctor who.)*

*Will talk about growing up with Dr Who
and faith in Christ.*

www.tinshillfreechurch.org.uk

OUTSIDE APPOINTMENTS

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

Glyn Williams

Sun Oct 13 am Birstall

Martin Sellens

Sun Nov 24 am Bethel, Ripon

Alan Brearley

Sun Oct 27 am Bethel, New Wortley

Sun Nov 24 am Christ Church, Crossgates

Wed Nov 27 pm Bible Study — Bethel, New Wortley

Paul Crossley

Sun Oct 6 am Hebron, Altofts

Sun Oct 20 am Bethany, Swinton

Sun Oct 27 Noon Pentecost Baptist

Sun Nov 3 pm Hebron, Altofts

Sun Nov 10 am Christchurch, Crossgates

Sun Nov 17 am Christchurch, Crossgates

Sun Nov 24 Noon Pentecost Baptist

Sun Dec 1 am Christchurch, Crossgates

pm Hebron, Altofts

John Mollitt

Sun Oct 6 2pm & 6.30pm Garsdale Methodist

Sun Oct 20 am/pm Bethel, Ripon

Sun Nov 10 am/pm Westcliffe, Shipley

Sun Nov 17 am/pm Bethel, Ripon

Sun Nov 24 am/pm Parbold

BIBLE STUDIES

Wednesdays at 7.45pm at the church

Date	Passage	Speaker
October	2 1 Samuel 4	Alan Brearley
	9 1 Samuel 5,6, & 7:1	John Mollitt
	16 1 Samuel 7: 2-17	Martin Sellens
	23 1 Samuel 8	Glyn Williams
	30 1 Samuel 9 & 10: 1-16	Alan Brearley
November	6 Christian Institute Regional Meeting at Tinshill	
	13 1 Samuel 10: 17-11: 11	John Mollitt
	20 1 Samuel 12	Richard Brown
	27 Prayer for Christmas Events	Glyn Williams to lead

DIARY

October

Sat	5	10am-12	Prayer for the outpouring of God's Spirit, at church
Mon	7	7.30pm	Girls Group at 87 Tinshill Road
Tue	8	7pm	Elders Meeting at 68 Moseley Wood Walk
Thu	10	1pm	Thursday at Two Harvest Special Speaker: Glyn Williams
Sat	12	9.30am	Gardening workparty at church
Sun	13	2.30pm	Bedford Court Service
Fri	18	7.45pm	Missionary Prayer Meeting at 1 Tinshill Mount
Mon	21	7.30pm	Girls Group at 383 Otley Old Road
Tue	22	7.30pm	Making & Thinking for Ladies
Thu	24	2pm	Thursday at Two Speaker: Graham Heaps
Tue	29	7.45pm	Monitoring Meeting for Members

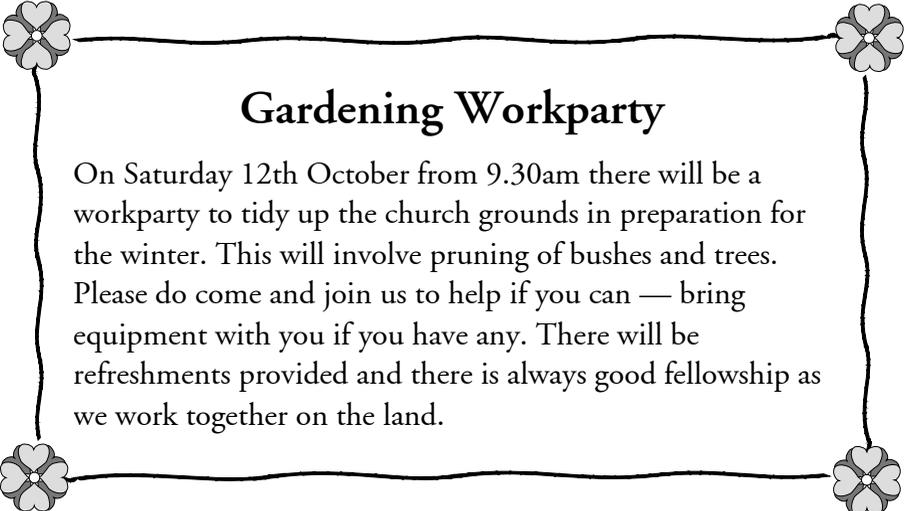
November

Sat	2	9am	Men's Breakfast Speaker: Mark Troughton
Mon	4	7.45pm	Elders/Deacons Meeting at 68 Moseley Wood Walk

- Wed 6 7.45pm Christian Institute Regional Update meeting at church
- Thu 7 2pm Thursday at Two Speaker: Stephen Emmott
- Sat 9 10am-12 Book event at church with Christian books, calendars, cards, gifts and refreshments
(in conjunction with Christian bookshop at Ossett)
- Sun 10 2.30pm Cookridge Court Service
- Mon 11 7.30pm Girls Group
- Tue 12 10.15am Second Tuesday
7.15pm Leeds Elders Annual Meeting at Bethel, New Wortley
- Fri 15 7.45pm Missionary Prayer Meeting
- Tue 19 7.30pm Crafts for Christmas for Ladies at church
- Thu 21 1pm Thursday at Two Anniversary Soup and Sweet Special
Speaker: Bill Scully
- Mon 25 7.30pm Girls Group at 383 Otley Old Road

The deadline for items/contributions to the December/January edition of The Magazine will be Wednesday November 20th with The Magazine to be produced D.V. for Sunday December 1st.

Advance Notice: Carols by Candlelight will be on Tuesday December 3rd at 8pm at the church



Gardening Workparty

On Saturday 12th October from 9.30am there will be a workparty to tidy up the church grounds in preparation for the winter. This will involve pruning of bushes and trees. Please do come and join us to help if you can — bring equipment with you if you have any. There will be refreshments provided and there is always good fellowship as we work together on the land.

ROTAS

Week Ending

Cleaning

October	05	Margaret Williams	Colette Hickman	Ann Mountain
	12	Natalie Sellens	Kathryn Hibbard	Deborah Williams
	19	Jenny Leng	Eva Ng	Anne Sellens
	26	Ruth Holder	Rosemary Hilton	Carole Brearley
Nov	02	Mavis Mathers	Angela Mathers	Christine Crossley
	09	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
Dec	07	Mavis Mathers	Angela Mathers	Christine Crossley

For Sunday

Flowers

October	06	Colette Hickman	13	Kathryn Hibbard
	20	Anne Sellens	27	Rosemary Hilton
Nov	03	Christine Crossley	10	Ann Mountain
	17	Deborah Williams	24	Jenny Leng
	01	Ruth Holder	Dec 08	Mavis Mathers

Book Event

on November 9th

We are running a new event on Saturday November 9th from 10am until noon at the church in conjunction with the Christian bookshop in Ossett. It will be a good opportunity to buy Christian books, cards, gifts, calendars and diaries either for yourself or others as Christmas presents.

Refreshments will also be available through the morning. We are making the event known to other churches in the area.

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 (bi-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)	1.15 - 2.45pm
	Prayer Meeting and Bible Study	7.45pm
Thursday	Thursday at Two (senior citizens — fortnightly)	2.00pm
Friday	Ketchup (Children aged 5-11)	6.00pm
	Missionary Prayer Group (monthly) at 1 Tinshill Mount	7.45pm

TINSHILL FREE CHURCH

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Registered Charity No. 511933

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