



Rose Hill United Reformed Church, Bradford Road, Bolton.
A member of the Vision Pastorate, together with Tonge Moor URC
and St Andrew & St George URC



Reecorder



APRIL / MAY 2013

Minister: Rev Mark Bates

Tel: 01204 653477

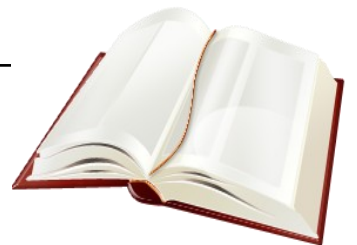
Church Elders

Anne Fitton (Secretary)..... 01204 401273
John Waith (Treasurer) 01204 391894
Rita Dunn..... 01204 305339
Philip Garsden 07854 614245
Sylvia Hodgkiss 01204 363263
Anne Taberner 01204 793341
Janet Waith..... 01204 391894

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Book of Prayer

If you would like a church member or friend to be remembered in the morning prayers, please write their name in the Book of Prayer located in the porch, prior to the start of the service. Doing this will also serve to keep Elders and members informed of any pastoral concerns



Please hand in items for the next issue of Rose Hill Recorder to Rita Dunn on or before Sunday 19th May

Minister's Letter.

Dear friends

Happy Easter. Christ is Risen! Christ is alive! Good News for anyone who cares to listen to the message. The newness of life that accompanies Spring we accept, often without thought. The story of Easter and the resurrection we know - not always remembering that our lives would have been very different without it. Ever since 325 AD, we celebrate Easter on the first Sunday that occurs after the first full moon following the vernal equinox (March 21st.) That's why the date of Easter changes from year to year. Easter will always be celebrated between March 22nd and April 25th and only between these dates.

How devastated the disciples must have been on hearing that Jesus' body had disappeared from the tomb. Then we hear of the encounter on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13 -35). An encounter with a stranger that only becomes clear as Jesus breaks the bread. This is when the story comes to life. This is the good news that Jesus lives. That he journeys with us and so we can encounter him in the most unlikely places. The two unknown disciples would never have dreamed of an encounter with Jesus on a dusty road. Yet that is where Jesus shows himself to us; in the ordinary, in the challenging.

The challenge in the coming weeks as we go about our ordinary lives is to be open to the possibility of meeting Jesus anew in the unexpected places; through unexpected encounters. Having our eyes opened just as the disciples eyes were opened.

Mark

Pastoral News

BAPTISMS

10th March 2013 - Gracie Rose Ozard, Born 28th October 2012

February 10th was Men's Sunday. The speaker was Brian Evitts and the men of the church formed a choir. Their rendition of two hymns was enjoyed by the congregation. Thanks to them, Fred Tatlock (the choir master) and Alan Rimmer the organist.

It was the turn of the Ladies Circle this year to arrange the Mothers' Day Service on the 10th March. We were pleased that Gill Bates, our ministers wife, agreed to lead our worship. She gave a talk about what we can learn from Mary, the mother of Jesus, and was assisted by some of the older Sunday School children who performed a drama entitled '*My Father's House*' and read prayers and poems. Eighteen Ladies Circle members formed the choir who sang '*Let there be love shared among us*', and '*God is our strength and refuge*'. Other Circle members read from the Bible and collected the offertory. Thanks to everyone who took part in a very enjoyable service as we remembered mothers everywhere.

At the end of January we were very sorry to hear that one of our Sunday School children, James Garsden, aged 6, was in hospital suffering from pneumonia. Our thoughts were with his parents, Tracy and Mark, and we are pleased that James is now recovering well.

It is good to see that Colin Gibbon is now well enough to attend church services following his illness and operation in January.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Stella Moss who has broken her shoulder after falling. We hope she will be well again soon and Stella Walker whose daughter is seriously ill in hospital again.

Congratulations to Saul Slater aged 12 (Pat Howard's grandson)

whose team of four won the National Championship for Trampolining . Well Done!

Thank you to Freda Hargreaves for giving up her time to knit chickens containing small Easter eggs for sale after the church service. The proceeds will go to church funds.

The Sunday school held an Easter egg raffle on the 24th March. Thank you to all who donated Easter eggs.

The Annual General Church Meeting will be held on Monday 29th April at 7.30pm in the Minor Hall. All members and friends are invited to attend.

Marjorie Plant

Our thoughts are with Marjorie Plant who has suffered a heart attack. She is now home from hospital and recovering well.

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"Wireless communication is nothing new.
I've been talking to God for 75 years!"

Whilst viewing many Easter eggs my grandchild turned to me
"Nana, can I have a treat?" she asked so innocently.
"We have been to Father Christmas who makes us lots of toys
But where is the father who makes these eggs for all the girls
and boys?
If there's a Father Easter, I've never seen his place.
I've never sat upon his knee and chatted face to face.
I'd love to see his grotto, and his Easter bunnies too.
He'd give me an Easter egg which I would share with you."
I placed her hands together, the way they are in prayer,
And said "My darling little one, the Father lives in there.
You can chat to him often, reaching through your heart
Returning all the love Jesus placed there from the start.
His house you can visit, when to church you start to go,
And will learn of his teachings, as older you will grow.
Easter eggs are a reminder of the grotto of the past,
from which he rose to heaven so his love for us would last."
How could I relate to her the cruel and sad description
Of how his teachings went unheard that led to crucifixion.
But I pray for her generation that his teachings will be learned,
Then hate and violence and conflict will be well and truly
spurned.

Verse by Eunice Jones (sister of Colin Gibbon)

Submitted by Sylvia Gibbon

Ladies Circle Programme

- Apr 3 NO MEETING
10 Speaker, Dilys Taylor - 'My Dear Elizabeth'
17 Bulls Eye
24 News at Eight
- May 1 Speaker, Elaine Hardy - 'Patchwork and Quilting'
8 Lunch at Tavern on the Hill
15 Quiz (From the pink book again)
22 Speaker, Les Hardy - 'The History of Tea'
29 Silent Auction

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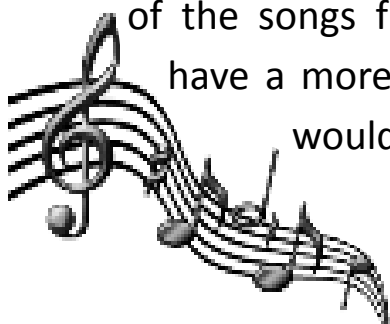
Come and Sing

Please feel free to come and join us on

Friday 12th April at Tonge Moor URC: 7.15pm – 8.15pm

Friday 3rd May at Rose Hill URC: 7.15pm – 8.15pm

when we will continue to explore hymns and songs which could be used in Worship on a Sunday morning. Songs by Christian song writers like Graham Kendrick, Chris Bowater and Stuart Townend. To explore some of the songs from Iona and the Northumbria Community which have a more Celtic feel. If anybody has any songs/hymns they would like to try – please let me know .



Tea and biscuits at the interval!!

Gill Bates



Emmaus Communities enable people to move on from homelessness, providing work and a home in a supportive, family environment. Companions (as those who live and work in Emmaus Communities are called) work full time collecting, renovating and reselling donated furniture. This work supports the Community financially and enables residents to develop skills, rebuild their self-respect and help others in greater need.

Companions receive accommodation, food, clothing and a small weekly allowance, but for many, the greatest benefit is a fresh start. To join a Community, they sign off unemployment benefits and agree to participate in the life and work of the Community and abide by its rules, for example not bringing drugs or alcohol into the Community.

Emmaus is a secular movement, spanning 36 countries, with 24 Communities in the UK. They rely on donations of good quality furniture and household goods from the public, which are sold in Emmaus shops. Each Community aims to become self-supporting, with any surplus donated to others in need.

There's an Emmaus shop in Bolton located at Derby Barracks, Fletcher Street and now also at 61 Knowsley Street. At the shops, you'll find a wide range of furniture including sofas, chairs, dining tables, wardrobes, chests of drawers and electrical goods such as stereos, TVs, kitchen utensils, and lamps. The shops also sell larger kitchen appliances and white goods: fridges, freezers, cookers etc. If it's smaller items you're looking for, you'll find a huge selection of bric-a-brac, crockery, glassware, collectables, records, pictures, books and much more.

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Family Fun Night

Thanks to everyone who helped to organise the Family Fun Night on Friday 15th February. It was great fun as our observational skills were put to the test. We also had plenty of exercise as we ran round the Minor Hall and church looking for 'Stations'.

After a very enjoyable supper we were given thirty disguised top brands to identify. Having just about managed to work out ten of them Rita shouted "Stop. You should have finished by now!" Needless to say, no prizes for guessing who won the booby.

It was a most enjoyable night and all for £1.50 - much better than any 'buy one - get one free'.

Pat Longworth



Bite Back at Hunger

Christian Aid Week

12-18 May 2013

"It's very rewarding to know that Christians of different traditions are working together for one common aim during Christian Aid Week." - *Christian Aid Week volunteer*

Thousands of churches will stand together this Christian Aid Week to speak out for change. Some 100,000 committed volunteers will go out and put their faith into action, raising funds to help some of the world's poorest and most vulnerable people.

This includes Britain's largest house-to-house collection, an extraordinary act of witness – demonstrating to our communities that we care about ending poverty and injustice.

There is enough food for everyone in the world, but one in eight people will go to bed hungry tonight.

This year's Christian Aid Week tells the story of how Christian Aid is helping communities to bite back at hunger through the lens of land rights in Bolivia, new technology in Kenya and innovative agriculture in Zimbabwe.

You can support Christian Aid Week by looking out for local events, and discover how you can be involved by contacting your local Christian Aid Week representative or by visiting www.caweek.org/article

Called to be an elder - is this for you?

- What does it take to be an Elder ?
- What responsibilities will I have as an Elder ?

There are lots of questions we may have that we need answers to.

If you are a serving Elder, a non-serving Elder, thinking of becoming an Elder, or just want to know more about the role, then this could be for you.

Saturday 11th May 2013, 10am - 1pm

This is a Pastorate event where we can share practices from the other churches whilst exploring what the role means. The morning will be led by Linda Rayner our lay training officer from Synod.

If anyone would like more information about the day please speak to Mark

Rev. Mark Bates

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Mob: 07712440362

Email: rev.markbates@hotmail.co.uk

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Sunday School.

As I write this the snow has covered the ground and it feels like the Antarctic! What a strange Easter time it is. Sunday School would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Happy Easter and, fingers crossed, Spring will get a wriggle on then we can see the daffodils in their full glory and you never know, a bit of sunshine too!

Sunday School have as usual been busy with activities. Last time we wrote the children were off to enjoy their trip to the Chill Factor, where we were joined by our minister Mark and a few of the Elders. John certainly made an impression on the children, getting stuck in and launching himself down the snow slope! Fun was had by everyone, and thanks to all who came and helped out.

The Sunday School combined with Mark and Gill to organize a Family Fun Night that took place over the February half term. We had a few quizzes and some games that got us moving around the minor hall and church, and we shared a supper of pasties and peas. This event was well attended and everyone we spoke to seemed to have a good time - we are hoping to organize another one soon. Again this was another event where everyone pulled together to make it a success, so thanks to all those who helped out in some way.

We then began our journey through lent. We had a little bit of the history of Lent and what traditions people have and we read about Jesus being tempted by the Devil in the wilderness. We all then made a list (leaders included) of what we would



give up for lent. Everything from chocolate to television was on it and I think it's safe to say, some did better than others! We made a lenten calendar to help us count the days of Lent and put on it the

names of people to pray about as we went through the time of Lent.

Our older children stayed in for the Mothers' Day service. The children read out prayers and poems and Lucy and Charlotte played out a sketch. We also made cards and some chocolate boxes for our mums. The younger class decorated photo frames with a picture of themselves and talked about why mums were special. They shared what they had made with the congregation at the end of the service.

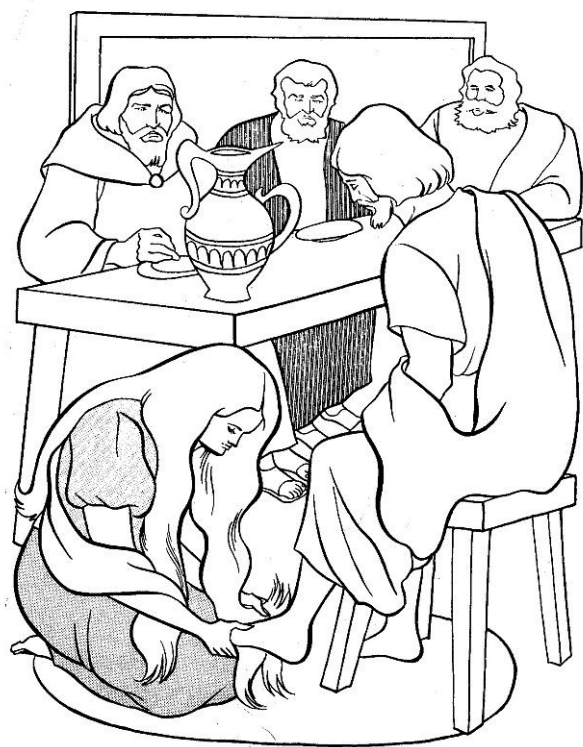
The older children will be staying in for more services throughout the year and the next one will be Easter Day.

With that in mind we wanted to explain and teach the children about communion.

Our minister Mark organized a social event at church on a Saturday evening where the older children shared a meal

of pizza and lots of cake before having an informal talk from him about communion. The children asked lots of questions and then at the end had an opportunity to share in holy communion. Some did and some didn't, but it was lovely to be able to share that moment with the children. It was a positive experience, and thanks to Mark for organizing and delivering it so well.





Our Sunday school lessons then began to focus on Easter. We talked about the meal Jesus shared with Mary, Martha, Lazarus and Judas and how Mary used her hair to wash Jesus' feet with a very expensive perfume. We spoke about worth and what it really means and how the things we see as being worth a lot actually aren't the

most important. Leading on from that, both classes listened to the story of Palm Sunday and the events of Holy Week. The younger class shared in a last supper together and the older class had to walk a mile in Jesus' shoes during Holy Week.

Sermons will be our next big event and we are due to start practising the songs for May time. We also intend to do a cake stall after the Sermons service, but more info will follow. A few of our older children have had word back from the council regarding secondary schools and everyone of them has been accepted where they want to go.

As always, thank you to everyone for the support you give to Sunday School, from words of encouragement to helping out. It's all appreciated by all the leaders. Please keep the children in your thoughts and prayers

Sunday School Leaders

Services

Apr 7th		Alan Nuttall
14th		Rev. Mark Bates
21st		Keith Baggott
28th	COMMUNION	Exchange Sunday
May 5th		Brenda Hill
12th		Neil Carter
19th	SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY	Rev. Mark Bates
26th	COMMUNION	Dot Craig

Rotas

	FLOWERS	COFFEE
Apr 7th	Ted and Betty Holden	Janet Waith and Anne Fitton
14th	Marian and Alan Rimmer & family	Sunday School
21st	Barbara Rushton & family	Freda Lee and Tracy Garsden
28th	Hazel Henry	Joy Gibbon and Dave Redwood
May 5th	Jean Isherwood & family	Pat Longworth and Heather Smith
12th	Pat Howard & family	Pat Howard and Judith Fraser
19th		Stella Moss and Barbara Rushton
26th	Derek Brookes & family	Barbara Howard and Hazel Henry



The flowers in church are very gratefully received, and give much comfort to the sick and troubled members of our congregation and families.

