

# GROVE VINE

*OnLine Edition*

*The Magazine of Grove Methodist Church*  
**Horsforth, Leeds**

**June 2020**



**The Grove Methodist Church is called to respond to the  
Gospel of love in Jesus Christ and to live out its discipleship in  
worship, service and mission**

**Minister** – Rev. Mark Godfrey

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## **Minister's letter**

Dear Friends

On September 26 1944, Ray Hamley, an RAF flying officer, and his crew flying an American-built B-25 bomber, dropped bombs on the town of Kleve just inside Germany's border with Holland. Ray was 21 years old, and his bombs that day hit the railway station, a number of Nazi factories, and the town church. He had an inkling that day that one of his bombs hit the church, but war was war. From the town of Kleve, 647 civilians and 879 military personnel would die before the Second World War was over.

After the war Ray Hamley settled down in England, married his childhood sweetheart, and became the head of a primary school. But then in 1983, someone handed Ray a newspaper cutting that showed how the people of a small town in Germany named Kleve were rebuilding the Church of St. Mary that had been bombed during the war. Something was triggered in Ray's memory. He found his old logbook in the attic, and suddenly realized that it had been his bomb that had destroyed the church back in 1944.

An impulse was born in his heart as he thought about that small town, and how loss of their church must have touched those people. He says he thought to himself, "Come on, Ray, after all, the Nazis bombed innocent children in London and Warsaw, it was wartime; it was years ago; forget it, Ray, and get on with your life; it's not your concern." But thank God, Ray Hamley did not let those second thoughts win out. He wrote to the Mayor of Kleve, asking for the forgiveness of the townspeople, and requesting that his letter be read by the priest at the dedication of the new church building. In 1984, Ray got a reply from the people of Kleve, requesting that he and his family come and see the new church building. But again, those second thoughts attacked Ray, and he could not even answer the letter.

Once more the parish priest in Kleve wrote to Ray, this time with a letter signed by 500 parishioners offering their forgiveness in the name of Jesus Christ!

I find that an inspiring story of forgiveness and reconciliation. The horror of the wartime destruction was real and could never be forgotten. It may have taken 40 years but it is wonderful to see how violence and destruction were turned in God's name into restoration and reconciliation.

It isn't easy to forgive in any circumstances whether as individuals or as communities. But the story of Kleve reminds us that with the help of God even communities that have suffered greatly can move forward in love and forgiveness.

Best wishes

*Mark*

### **Thought for the month**

Covid-19 may be getting the headlines right now, but that does not mean it is the main story. The main story, for the Christian, is the continuing life of Christ through those who trust in him and follow him.

*Jarrett Wilson-Gray.*

### **Church Family News.....**

**Please remember in your prayers** all those known to us who face a variety of difficulties; bereavement; health problems; anxiety about loved ones and loneliness.

Funeral: 19th May 2020 Alan Beck

### **Life at Victoria Court during lock down**



My name is Veronica Bishop and I am a chaplain at Victoria Court, an MHA independent living Home on Kirkstall Rd. It is made up of 50 flats which are part of a lovely building with communal facilities and a garden. Some of you may remember the old Victoria Home which was demolished and replaced by the present Victoria Court.

I have been asked to give a brief update on how we are getting on during the pandemic. To sum up I would say that everyone is thankfully coping extremely well. Residents are self isolating and the dining room is closed. Instead meals are taken to each flat. Sadly we are not able to have services or communal activities at this time but I am able to deliver a written service to all those who want it and several residents are accessing services on line or on TV. At present I am working mainly from home doing telephone calls or sometimes Face time. This has proved to be a real gift as I have managed to spend a lot of time with people on a one to one basis which may not always be so possible in normal circumstances. Residents are of course greatly missing visits from family members but family can come and chat to them through a downstairs window.

The community and churches around have been really supportive sending cards, doing shopping and offering phone calls. Recently a resident's daughter gave us a lot of beautifully knitted hearts for residents to give to their loved ones when they visit.

We have been really blessed by the weather and I think this has contributed greatly to people's wellbeing. Many residents walk or sit in the garden and are able to chat to one another keeping socially distanced. As we are without a maintenance man for a short period the garden was looking a bit unloved. A group of residents therefore decided to take things in hand and have worked tirelessly to make it look good again. This has been a great therapy for them and a joy to other residents.

Lastly I would like to pay tribute to our Manager and staff who have worked tirelessly with great team spirit to keep everyone safe and well.

## **How is MHA in the Present Corona virus Pandemic?**

My last appointment as a Methodist minister before retirement was as pastoral director and senior chaplain of MHA Care Group, perhaps better known to us as Methodist Homes for the Aged. As such I share the concern that is being expressed about the crisis that is faced in all care homes where residents inevitably live in close proximity to each other and to staff.

MHA is now a very large charitable organisation, founded in 1943, catering for:

- 4,400 persons living in its care homes including those offering dementia and nursing care.

- 3,000 people in retirement living communities as independently as they wish but with flexible care when required.

- 11,100 who have the support of Live at Home groups through befriending and activity groups.

Leeds is very well served by MHA, the nearest facilities being the Horsforth Live at Home scheme based at Central Methodist Church, and Victoria Court in Headingley where our own Betty and Ken France now live and where Kath Taylor was a long-term resident. Please read chaplain Veronica Bishop's encouraging account of how they are coping there.

As we know, Covid-19 is no respecter of persons and elderly people are most vulnerable. Like almost all care providers MHA has been affected in over half its homes, sadly experiencing loss of life amongst over 300 residents plus three staff members. As I write, Live at Home Schemes are no longer able to meet although staff and volunteers are keeping in touch with all members.

Many Methodists have now signed an MHA petition to the government to ensure adequate and consistent supplies of PPE (personal protection equipment) and ample testing for residents and staff and for families saying farewell to their loved ones when the end of their life is near. More volunteers will be very welcome in MHA's homes and Live at Home Schemes to counter the loneliness and isolation that the lockdown has brought. Donations will be very welcome, especially as we have not been able to plan for the special service in June at which collection envelopes would have been made available. For more details do look at the MHA website if you can or have a word with me (tel. 0113-2789438). *Albert Jewell*

## **A prayer for MHA**

God of mercy

At this time of anxiety and fear

We thank you for the dedicated work of MHA.

We pray your blessing on all who wash feet,

Who bring healing,

Who sit with the dying

Who bring comfort in confusion

Who bring peace to the afraid

In this we see the love of Jesus

Who is our strength and hope,  
In whose name we pray  
Amen

The Revd Barbara Glasson, President of the Methodist Conference and Touchstone in  
Bradford

## 9<sup>th</sup> Airedale Scouts in Lockdown

It feels a very long time since the Scouts and Guides at The Grove were planning to stage the Gang Show and draw the raffle on 21st March. Although we postponed the Gang Show, we decided to continue with the Raffle Draw. Sue Arnold (Division Commissioner Aire Valley) and Louise Harding (9<sup>th</sup> Airedale Group Scout Leader) drew the raffle (which we filmed) and distributed the prizes to the lucky winners.



Thank you to everyone who contributed to the prizes, bought tickets and well done to all the prize winners. We raised a total of £430.

Since lockdown we have obviously not been able to hold our regular meetings and we are uncertain when we will be able to start meeting face to face. Scouting has still continued, and leaders have been keeping in touch with our young people virtually. Some sections have continued to work towards badges, posting photos and videos and we've had some virtual meetings through Zoom as well.

Nationally, scouting has been "hiking to the moon" encouraging members to record their miles and make a donation towards The Big Night In Appeal. At the time of writing at the start of May, Scouting was only 6000 miles away from completing the 477,710 mile journey to the moon and back!



**L**onging to hug our love ones again  
**O**beying the rules getting harder  
**C**are Home death numbers are so very sad  
**K**nowledge of a cure and a vaccine so badly needed  
**D**ilemma about children returning to school  
**O**rdeal of Covid-19 will have far reaching effects  
**W**orries for many about loss of jobs and the economy  
**N**ormality will eventually return and we shall praise God and be so thankful

*Caroline Turner*

If church activities commence before the deadline of 26th July paper copies of the order forms will be found in the document stand in the Narthex and at the top of the link stairs.

Order forms are also available by either downloading from the Scout Group website: ([9thairedale.btck.co.uk](http://9thairedale.btck.co.uk)) or if not, by emailing Graham Hoyle at: [gdh@ntlworld.com](mailto:gdh@ntlworld.com) to receive a copy by email.

The closing date for receipt of orders is Sunday 26th July and cannot be extended beyond this date, so please act promptly to avoid disappointment. The high quality bulbs produce some spectacular flowers and will give a welcome splash of colour to complement and enhance any garden.

With grateful thanks

*Graham Hoyle Exec Chair*



## **Home: my base camp?**

Everest Base Camp can be one of two things:

The end point of a multi- week trekking holiday offering a couple of days under the shadow of the world's highest mountain. A 'once in a lifetime' adventure holiday with porters to carry your kit, cooks to provide meals and a helicopter ride back to Kathmandu.

A relatively luxurious camp of rest, relaxation and acclimatisation before the dangerous and challenging route up and down Everest. A busy place full of excitement (a successful summit bid) sometimes tinged with sorrow (on the loss of a fellow climber)

So is your home:

The luxurious centre of financial and personal planning for yourself or your family? Your biggest financial commitment over the (long) years of your mortgage. Your base, your refuge with its central heating, double glazing, fridge/freezer, TV and wi-fi etc.etc. A personal status symbol. Or

A comfortable base from which to strike out ( onward and upward) for the Kingdom. A place of welcome for wider family, neighbours and friends from work or church.

The weekly 'Carers Clap' plus VE day afternoon tea has brought more contact with near neighbours in 8 weeks than the previous 20 years. We have all stepped out from behind our curtains, blinds and double glazing.

Lockdown has meant spending more time in my garden (previously not high on my list!) with the resulting opportunity to chat to passers by.

The past two months have given me time to look closely at my house and garden. It contains many, many items to help us have a very comfortable life. It is a constant base for the family (in the last 18 months my son, grandson and sister lived with us....crowded when they all coincided..close fellowship indeed)

In the last year we have watched whilst 5 new houses were built behind our house. It was fascinating to watch foundations to brickwork, to roof and windows, to laying out of a garden.

The builders built the houses, the new families are making a home (and we met them on VE day).

In **John's gospel chapter 14 v23** Jesus (in a section comforting his disciples) says "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My father will love him, and we will come to him and **MAKE OUR HOME WITH HIM**". God comes to live within us as we love and obey.

When Jesus healed the demon possessed man (**Luke 8 v 28+**) he wanted to follow Jesus from then on. In verse 39 Jesus says "Return home and tell how much God had done for you". So the man went away and told all over the town how much Jesus had done for him.

So for the believer, God makes his home within us (John 14) and we are tasked with working for the Kingdom daily. This will involve telling others (Luke 8).We operate from the safety and security of our own homes; places of unconditional love, acceptance and forgiveness for our families. May they be open and welcoming to others.. our 'base camp' from which to aim onward and upward.

*Philip Maud*



## Do you Zoom?

Over this lockdown many of us have found that keeping in touch can be difficult. Grandparents are not seeing their grandchildren or their own children, or seeing neighbours and friends.

A popular solution is to Zoom. Video calling has grown in popularity because of the Covid Lockdown, not just a business tool. Other options Skype, Teams, Messenger are available.

To get started you need either a computer, laptop or tablet with speaker and video camera. A smart mobile phone can also be used. A reliable internet connection and you're on your way. Zoom is a free download App. Join the Grove Church services and coffee mornings, you will be made most welcome, get together with friends etc.

*Ed.*

## HERE IS THE CHURCH?

The rooms are empty, cold and still,  
Was it all for nothing that death on the hill?  
The pulpit is vacant, the choir all gone,  
No prayers, no hugs, not even a song.  
Where is the church? Has it all gone wrong?

The doors have been locked now for weeks and weeks,  
No alpha, no life group, its future looks bleak.  
Newsletter left on an empty chair  
The bustling coffee shop now stands bare.  
Where is the church? Does anyone care?

The toys in the nursery look all forlorn,  
Has the church gone and died with no one to mourn?  
Sunday School sits like the Mary Celeste  
The youth clubs no different, it's still in a mess.

Where is the church? Does no one care less?  
If the church is no more and gone is its wealth,  
Why are more bibles flying off the shelf?  
If the church has been buried by humanist tanks  
How are the poor being fed by food banks.

Where is the church? Coming up through the ranks.  
Where is the church? It's here at your chair,  
It's here by your side when you reach out in prayer,

Where is the church? It's alive in your street,  
Bringing hope, bringing joy to all that they meet.  
Where is the Church? It is out in the world,  
Not sitting in pews all quiet and neat.



Come join the church, it's alive and on Zoom,  
God isn't dead he's right here in this room,  
There are choirs, there's music and preachers galore  
There is all that you need, and so so much more.  
Where is the church? It's right at your door.

Where is the church? It's jumped out of the box,  
It's left the four walls with the keys for the locks,  
To bring hope to the hopeless and sight to the blind,  
To bring peace to the battles that rage in the mind.  
Look deep in your heart and the church you will find.

Sue Eldridge 2020 submitted with permission by *Beryl Thompson*

## Puzzle Page (Solutions in the next Vine)

### May Solutions

**Mystery Crossword** Across: Jaguar, street, spinets, sabbath, peals, hears, etude, quest, ewers, affirms, leisure, ruelle, vestry.  
Down: Joseph, quaker, guidance, fate, amens, eternal, assiduously, tribune, exile, Ezra, aqueduct, tithes, ashery.

**Missing vowels:** 1. I need thee every hour; 2. God moves in a mysterious way; 3. Meet and right it is to sing; 4. All creatures of our God and King; 5. Eternal Father, strong to save; 6. Come, let us sing of a wonderful love.

### Countdown numbers

Target	Two possible methods for each (there may be more):
660	$(75 - 7 - 2)10$ ; $75(10 - 2) + 6 \times 10$
161	$7 \times 25 - 10 - 4$ ; $(7 - 4)50 + 10 + 1$
173	$75 \times 2 + 10 + 9 + 4$ ; $2 \times 50 + 75 - 10 / (9 - 4)$
550	$(8 + 8 + 6)100 / 4$ ; $100(9 + 8 - 6)4 / 8$

### Puzzle. Bible Names Wordsearch (J)

O	R	H	T	E	J	O	N	A	T	H	A	N
K	E	N	H	O	J	O	A	N	N	A	S	J
C	D	A	E	M	A	O	B	O	R	E	J	U
A	U	L	J	E	P	H	T	H	A	H	I	L
J	J	E	H	O	S	H	A	P	H	A	T	I
O	A	B	O	C	A	J	A	I	R	U	S	U
L	P	S	E	P	A	E	O	U	I	J	A	S
E	H	J	P	M	M	S	U	S	H	O	D	H
B	E	E	E	E	A	U	B	H	H	E	U	P
E	T	S	S	C	R	S	T	A	A	U	J	E
Z	H	S	O	J	U	D	A	H	O	N	A	S
E	E	J	E	R	E	M	I	A	H	J	O	O
J	E	Z	R	E	E	L	H	A	I	S	O	J

Twenty-five names from the Bible, all beginning with the letter J are within the grid. How many can you find? And what did they all do?

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## Florence Nightingale (1820 - 1910)

Florence was named after the city in which she was born. Her parents returned from their three year honeymoon, spent touring Europe, with two daughters, Florence being the younger. They were a wealthy family, and the children were educated at home. It seems Florence was a very clever girl.



The daughters of wealthy families were not expected to work - a suitable marriage was the intended path. Florence thought marriage would prevent her from doing her Christian duty, believing that nursing was her calling, even her divine purpose.

From an early age she was ministering to the poor and sick in her locality. Her parents tried to forbid her from pursuing what they thought was an unsuitable career, but typically she rebelled and in 1844 enrolled as a nursing student at a Lutheran hospital in Germany. Needless to say, she was an excellent linguist by then.

On her return to England, she took a nursing job in a Middlesex hospital, where she was promoted to superintendent within a year. There, she had to eradicate a cholera outbreak, and this she soon achieved by first eliminating the unhygienic conditions and practices. By this time she had already built up a considerable reputation.

In 1854, she was asked by the Secretary of War to organise a contingent of nurses to tend the sick and injured soldiers in The Crimea. Again, the local conditions were apparently horrific. The soldiers were dying not so much from their wounds as from typhoid, cholera and dysentery. There are varying reports on the degree of her success with this huge responsibility, but she did what she could, including having a prefabricated hospital designed by Brunel sent out to help improve conditions. She returned home in 1856 to a hero's welcome as 'the Lady with the Lamp', but she hated the fame and adulation. She was simply doing the work she was called to do.

With the support of Queen Victoria, she then pressed for a Royal Commission into the health of the army. It shocked everyone to find that of 18,000 deaths, 16,000 were not from battle, but were from preventable diseases. At this time her mathematical ability came to the fore. She was able to invent new ways of presenting the data, and new forms of graphs and diagrams which turned out to be remarkably persuasive.

Finance poured in to support her work, and soon St Thomas' Hospital and

the Nightingale Training School for nurses were set up. In the U.S. Civil War she was a consultant on how to manage field hospitals, her statistical analyses on data from India led to vast improvements to the health of the British army there, and she argued for compulsory sanitation in private homes. There was much more too, including several hundred books and pamphlets. And all of this was achieved despite recurring serious ill health, thought to be a bad case of brucellosis, contracted during her time in The Crimea.

In recent months, as I have sat watching the daily pandemic reports on TV, studying all the data, the graphs and the pictures, I couldn't help thinking about Florence and her pioneering work in the use of statistics. There have been plenty of recent reminders of her work in reforming and improving the status of nursing, in hospital design, and in public health, but her competence as a statistician is sometimes overlooked, yet that is what gave her the evidence she needed to press for change. And as well as providing new insights into how to show others what the data proved, she was a huge inspiration in the development of the subject of statistics. Such was her contribution to knowledge that she was elected the first female member of the Royal Statistical Society and an honorary member of the American Statistical Association. And nowadays her name is often found on lists of famous mathematicians of the past. On her death, she typically refused to be buried in Westminster Abbey. Her grave, labelled 'FN', lies in a Hampshire churchyard *Tony Orton*





Life at Caring For Life has changed so much, with the closure of the farm projects and visits not happening at this time. We are so thankful that the Lord is helping us to find ways to provide what is needed for vulnerable and 'at risk' people, in this new situation. Do go to [www.caringforlife.co.uk](http://www.caringforlife.co.uk) for all the latest news, film clips and prayer requests. Our new package of care for this period means that we are in regular contact on the phone, with beneficiaries, through a frontline team of key workers. They are, between them, seeking to keep in touch with all the men and women in CFL's care. They are also providing food parcel drop-offs wherever needed. In addition, many are needing help to deal with issues such as how to put electricity on their meter when they cannot get out to top up a payment card, or how to cope in lockdown in the same house as someone who is abusive, or how to avoid predatory neighbours.

The phone calls are really helping and everything is discussed and chatted about – from serious medical and benefits issues...right through to silly discussion about what they have seen on their phones on "TickTok" or funny little YouTube clips they have watched. This has been an increasingly important part of the phone calls and we have been able to post colouring sheets and other things to them as well, to help take their minds off the isolation they feel. Most wonderfully, conversations are being had about the Lord and beneficiaries are turning their eyes to Him.

We just wanted to share some stories with you, to encourage you that the Lord is at work in the midst of things:

As well as Bible study notes being posted out to 50 people, small-group Bible studies are now being undertaken online. Groups have met on Zoom a couple of times now and people are absolutely loving chatting and doing a study together!

One lady who is often extremely anxious, faced a crisis recently when a relative was taken very poorly. But she described knowing a special peace and said she knew God was holding on to her.

We are so grateful to the many people who are faithfully praying for CFL at this time, and also to those who are finding clever ways to fundraise for us! The support we have received over this difficult period has been amazing and we thank the Lord for every individual and church who has been praying and giving.

If you would like to still sponsor the Charity or want to know more go to [www.caringforlife.co.uk](http://www.caringforlife.co.uk).

*Article by Pam Parkinson*

# Come Down, O Love Divine

*There are many hymns appropriate to the season of Pentecost, but this one is well known and well liked. Not everyone has a hymn book at home, so this copy will allow you to read it, think about it, pray with it, and even perhaps to sing it.*

- 1 Come down, O Love divine,  
seek thou this soul of mine,  
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;  
O Comforter, draw near,  
within my heart appear,  
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.
- 2 O let it freely burn,  
till earthly passions turn  
to dust and ashes, in its heat consuming;  
and let thy glorious light  
shine ever on my sight,  
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.
- 3 Let holy charity  
mine outward vesture be,  
and lowliness become mine inner clothing;  
true lowliness of heart,  
which takes the humbler part,  
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.
- 4 And so the yearning strong,  
with which the soul will long,  
shall far outpass the power of human telling;  
for none can guess its grace,  
till he become the place  
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

*The hymn is very old, and is therefore in the public domain, so there are no copyright restrictions. It is attributed to Bianco da Siena (d. 1434), and was translated from the Italian by Richard Frederick Littledale (1833–1890). The usual tune is by Ralph Vaughan Williams, and it must have been special to him because he named it after the village of his birth - DOWN AMPNEY in Gloucestershire.*

## From the Editorial Group

**Note that the Editorial Teams alternate..... n.b. the July/August issue will be prepared by Gordon and Mary Mellor and you should send items to them - no later than 5pm on Wednesday 24th June. Please include events and details up to 6th September.**

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***Email (or copy as an attachment) would be appreciated!***

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