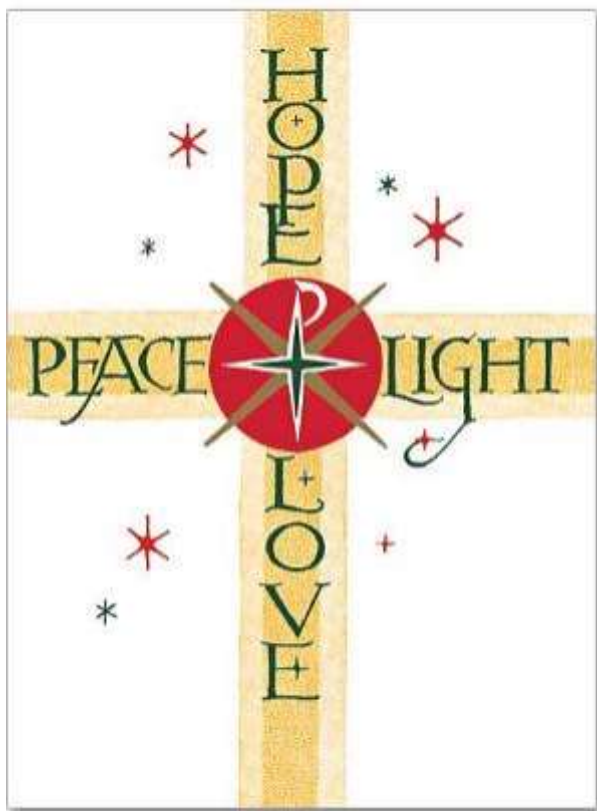


# United Churches Healing Ministry

## Healing Leaves

**The Newsletter of the United Churches Healing Ministry**  
***Registered Charity No 1097753***



**December 2018**  
**January, February 2019**

Dear Friends

The Christmas lights are on with snowmen, candles and reindeers, we are updated on the TV how many shopping days it is till Christmas, and after looking through the Aldi Food catalogue – it's not only the geese that will be getting fat this month There has been serious talk of changing the name from Christmas to Winter Holiday. ! Is this really where we are as a country?

We have absolutely no certainty of the date of Jesus' birth, or even the year – although many speculate with differing theories. But does that really matter? The reality of Christmas is ageless and eternal.

The truth is that we were a people who did not know God. The real meaning of 'gentile' is pagan. We knew nothing of God's grace and glory which has been manifest in His relationship with Israel over 4000 years. (A little comment that puts this into focus comes from a conversation between the future President of the re-established State of Israel, Chaim Weizmann and ex-PM Lord Balfour. Balfour had suggested that land was given to the Jews to make a state in Uganda. Weizmann replied 'Mr Balfour, supposing I were to offer you Paris instead of London, would you take it?' 'But, Dr Weizmann, we have London,' said Balfour. 'True, but we had Jerusalem', replied Weizmann, 'when London was a marsh.')

The reality is that two thousand years ago in the very heart of Israel, on the hills of Judea south of Jerusalem, a child was born who was destined from before time began to be the Saviour of the world.

The birth of this baby Yeshua, who we acknowledge as Jesus, and own as our Lord and King, was born in a humble Bethlehem home built around a cave, with the animals nearby. All the spare rooms in the village were already filled with other families coming back to their home roots to register for the census. There is so much we can meditate on in the obedience and trust of Mary and Joseph.

Then, out in the fields, shepherds were broken off from guarding their sheep by the appearance of an angel radiating the glory of God. He told them not to fear, he told them of good tidings of great joy for ALL people, a Saviour has been born – and they can go to see him back in Bethlehem. Then came the wonderful angelic chorus singing “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will towards men”. I wonder what those indescribable harmonies sounded like. One day we trust we will hear them for ourselves.

I have often wondered about how this experienced ended for the shepherds. Lk 2:17-18 says “ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.” Can you imagine them going through the village and possibly further afield saying “Have you heard the news, the Saviour, the Messiah has been born, God cares, He’s been born as a little baby. The angel told us and we have been to see Him, and it’s true”. So what about you and me? Are we sharing this news this Christmas?

The angels still give this invitation  
Come now to Bethlehem and see the child  
The Son of God’s been born as a baby  
Revealing God’s heart of Love for mankind  
So let’s draw close and kneel at the manger  
And gaze upon this Holy infant king  
As our hearts sense again the awe and the wonder  
Let’s join with the host of heaven and sing  
Glory, Glory to God in the highest  
Peace on earth and good will towards all men

**May you have a truly blessed Christmas**  
**Liz**

## **UCHM's Annual Commissioning, Thanksgiving and Student Graduation Service**

What a wonderful evening! Thank you to all who came to join us in our praise, worship and thanksgiving to God for His love, support, guidance, wisdom and financial help over the past year, and re dedicating UCHM to the next year of service in our Lords precious name.

This was also a precious time when UCHM past and present workers, counsellors, admin staff and students came to thank Helga for all her wonderful, dedicated time and work that she has given UCHM, and to wish her a wonderful retirement. One of the gifts UCHM presented Helga with was a beautiful memory book containing letters from individuals who wanted to say a personal thank you to Helga. Other gifts presented to Helga were for her meditation garden.



## **UCHM's Annual Commissioning, Thanksgiving and Student Graduation Service**

### **Level 4 Diploma Students**



# **Foundation Christian Counselling Level 2**

**A distinctive Christian Counsellor Training Programme  
integrating the Christian Faith with person centred  
counselling skills**

Awaiting Accreditation by CPCAB  
(Counselling and Psychotherapy Central Awarding Body)

Affiliated to the Association of Christian Counsellors (AT 065)  
Organisational Member BACP 102806

## **COURSE WEEKEND DATES:**

January 25th & 26th 2019  
February 15th & 16th 2019  
March 22nd & 23rd 2019  
April 12th & 13th 2019

**Friday evening 6.00—9.00**  
**Saturday 9.30—4.30**

**Email: [training@uchm.org](mailto:training@uchm.org)**  
**Tel: 01484 461098**

Man says... Show me  
and I'll trust you.


God says... Trust me  
and I'll show you.

Psalm 126:6

## **Wanted**

### **Electrical Goods**

We are always needing small electrical items to sell in the shop - if you have any you no longer need then please donate them for us to sell on. These are then PAT tested and then put out for sale.



Lawrence Batley Theatre  
Box Office: 01484 430 528

Aladdin  
Fri 7 Dec - Sun 6 Jan

Twas The Night Before Christmas  
Sat 22 Dec - Mon 24 Dec  
Age recommendations 3-7 years

Cinderella  
Sat 12 Jan - Sat 19 Jan  
Huddersfield Light Opera Company

Huddersfield Light Opera Company are back to put an end to the post-Christmas blues with their usual fun-packed traditional family pantomime.

**UCHM Magazine/Newsletter Articles**

**UCHM would welcome contributions by individuals for our magazine/newsletter. If you would like to contribute to the magazine with an article, testimony or poem, please email [uchm@uchm.org](mailto:uchm@uchm.org)**

**Please also let us know if you would like to remain Anonymous with the word NEWSLETTER in the subject box**



**Christmas Brass Band Spectacular**  
Monday 10 December 2018

**Huddersfield Choral Society Messiah Concert**  
**2018**

Huddersfield Town Hall  
Tuesday 18th December - 7.15pm

**It's Beginning To Look Like Christmas 2018**  
Cleckheaton Town Hall  
20 & 21 December 2018 - 18.45

**Kirklees Town Halls Box Office**  
**Phone: 01484 225755**

Next Time It Will Be Different

The First Time Jesus Came  
He came veiled in the form of a child.

A star marked His arrival.

Wise men brought Him gifts.

There was no room for Him.

Only a few attended His arrival.

The Next Time Jesus Comes

He will be recognized by all.

Heaven will be lit by His glory.

He will bring rewards for His own.

**The world won't be able to contain His glory.**

Every eye shall see Him.

He will come as Sovereign King and Lord of all.

– John F. MacArthur Jr.

# Prayer Diary

## DECEMBER

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| 4th     | UCHM Monthly Worship                             |
| 7 & 8th | Egan Weekend (Level 3)                           |
| 10th    | Intermediate Certificate in Counselling Level 3  |
| 11th    | Advanced Diploma in Counselling (Level 4 year 2) |
|         | Group Supervision                                |
| 12th    | Finance Meeting                                  |
| 12th    | Managers Meeting                                 |
| 21st    | Centre closed for Christmas Holiday              |

## JANUARY

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 2nd  | Centre Re-Opens                                 |
| 3rd  | Trustees Meeting                                |
| 7th  | Intermediate Certificate in Counselling Level 3 |
| 8th  | UCHM Monthly Worship                            |
| 8th  | Advanced Diploma in Counselling Level 4 Year 2  |
| 15th | Advanced Diploma in Counselling Level 4 Year 2  |
| 21st | Intermediate Certificate in Counselling Level 3 |
| 29th | Advanced Diploma in Counselling Level 4 Year 2  |
|      | Group Supervision                               |

## FEBRUARY

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 4th  | Intermediate Certificate in Counselling Level 3 |
| 5th  | UCHM Monthly Worship                            |
| 18th | Intermediate Certificate in Counselling Level 3 |
| 12th | Advanced Diploma in Counselling Level 4 Year 2  |
| 19th | Advanced Diploma in Counselling Level 4 Year 2  |
|      | Group Supervision                               |



CHRISTMAS IS THE CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS, THE SAVIOUR OF MANKIND



Isaiah 9:6

6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

## What reminds you of Christmas?

A holly wreath hung on the door,  
Or presents strewn across the floor,  
Tall Christmas tree with baubles bright,  
Which fills our hearts with such delight.

Carols sung out in the snow,  
A Snowman built with eyes aglow,  
Crackers pulled, a song to sing,  
Candles lit, and bells that ring.

Roasted turkey, which tastes divine,  
Rich, fruit cake, with an iced design,  
No, the most important reminder of all,  
Is the birth of a babe in an Ox's stall.

© Ernestine Northover



# WHY WASPS?

All things have a purpose  
What on earth can wasps be for?  
Pam Ayres



This question was posed by my neighbour who saw me tending my beans which were growing in front of a wasp's nest housed in an air brick.

Throwing up his hands in horror, he pointed out that I had two wasps' nests (I actually had three), saying kill them before they sting you. However, after I'd said that the wasps were welcome to stay, that they would not harm me as long as I did not threaten them, his rejoinder was to ask "Why are they here, what good are they?, they're no good for anything and they do nothing but sting". Well they do quite a lot actually. They may pollinate flowers, and may be pest and biological controllers.

Do you like figs? I do, but without a certain species of wasp specifically adapted to pollinate fig flowers, and no other insect is adapted to do this, the fig tree could not complete its life cycle therefore we would not have figs.

Social wasps are predators; some species prey upon other insects thus helping keep down the pest population by eating the larvae and adult insects of harmful pests. Some farmers have been known to introduce wasps deliberately to control insects injurious to their crops, in much the same way as gardeners use nematodes( parasitic worms) to control slugs, weevils sawflies etc.

Pam Ayres, like my neighbour, asks what on earth can wasps be for, but my question is what can we be for, or why are we here? The answer may be found in the following phrases taken from *Creation Jazz* written by Pat Rooke.

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

"Let there be land. Let there be seas.

Let there be grasses and we must have some trees.

Let there be herbs- - - Let there be riches contained in the seas- - -"

- - - But nowhere in that painted world was a living creature seen.

Gonna tell you how the great Lord God made the fish, the beasts and the birds

He told the salmon to 'leap' the crab to creep, --- the howling dog and the snake that sleeps ----

Birds and beasts of every kind were part of God's great plan One thing still was missing - And that was man.

Nobody there to dig the land - - - No-one to plough ---.

God said "I've given birth to ev'rything upon this earth Now I must make a man of worth"...

In this world of chaos, flood, drought, famine and war perhaps if we all, like Adam took up gardening, the people of this world could look after the environment and live in harmony with each other. Just a thought, no one can presume to know the will of God, but maybe this was His intention all along.



# UCHM's 2019 Pilgrimage to Israel


## "In the footsteps of the Messiah"

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019



**Flying Manchester to Tel Aviv**

**Staying Knights Palace in Old City, Jerusalem & Ma'agan on the shores of Galilee**



**Optional week in Eilat on the Coral Reserve £355**

**The price is £2220 + £175 silent guide fee and includes flights, half board accommodation, coaches, all entrances and all gratuities**



**For a brochure and a booking form please contact UCHM on 01484 461098 or email [uchm@uchm.org](mailto:uchm@uchm.org)**

# Shopping!

Do you shop online?

Raise money with those last minute Christmas gifts and anything else

**Amazon** have a scheme to donate to charities. To help us go to <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1097753-0> to select UCHM as the organisation you want to support, then shop through there to donate a percentage of your Amazon order total to us.



**Easyfundraising** is a shopping directory that features some of your favourite online stores, including NEXT, Debenhams, John Lewis, Thomas Cook, and over 3,200 others. All you have to do is go through their site whenever you shop online and, at no extra cost to you, we'll receive a donation from every purchase you make.

It's completely FREE to register and use and you still shop with each retailer in exactly the same way. If you shop online anyway then raise valuable funds for us at the same time! Just go to

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/uchm/](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/uchm/)



and register, and select UCHM as the organisation you wish to support, then go via their site when you shop online to contribute to our charity.

We have so far raised over £400 through Easyfundraising, so thank you to everyone who has supported us.



## A Christmas Without God

God had a plan for Christmas  
A plan that could not fail  
Rather than indulgences  
He went straight into retail  
Positioned presents as a blessing  
And to keep the whole thing green  
Decided that we all should have  
Those jolly Christmas trees  
When he phoned Sears and K Mart  
On his celestial phone  
The response was overwhelming  
And they changed their budgets when  
He had explained the concept  
To these quite commercial men  
Lord Jesus said the salesmen  
Who then took back their words  
This concept is amazing  
How do we start  
And when?  
Ahah said God quite gently  
Its not that easy mate  
The condition of your entry  
Is that you should celebrate  
The goodness that's amongst us  
And not just profits seek  
For while valued is the businessman  
The world belongs unto the meek  
At this point there was silence  
I think a pin was dropped  
So the businessmen decided  
On a Christmas without God.

David Keig

## **Charity Begins at Christmas**

After the Advent church service, eight year old Lee said to the preacher: 'When I grow up, I'm going to give you some money.'

'Well, thank you, 'the preacher replied, 'but why?'

'Because my father says that you're one of the poorest preachers we've ever had.'

## **Christmas Evangelist**

A man says to evangelist lady who is preaching in the street just before Christmas:

"I know what YOU are! You're a 'happy clapper'".

"Oh no I'm not!" she said. "I'm a Walkie Talkie!"

## **Benjamin, Says 'Grace' Before Christmas Lunch**

The whole family bowed their heads in preparation. He began his prayer, thanking God for all his friends, naming them one by one.

Then he thanked God for Mummy, Daddy, brother, sister, Grannie, Grampy, and all his aunts and uncles. Benjamin then began to thank God for the food.

He gave thanks for the turkey, the chipolatas, the cranberry sauce, the bread sauce, the Christmas pudding, the Yule log, the roast potatoes and even the brandy butter. Benjamin paused, and everyone waited .....and waited.

After a long silence, he looked up at his mother and asked, 'If I thank God for the Brussels sprouts, won't he know that I'm lying?'



## **GREAT NEWS!**

### **UCHM COUNSELLOR TRAINING COURSES**

UCHM are delighted to share the good news that the Level 3 Intermediate Certificate in Counselling has now been approved and accredited by CPCAB (Counselling and Psychotherapy Central Awarding Body). We are awaiting approval for the Level 2 and Level 4. Please pray for UCHM at this time of change and need of more workers and finance.



### **OTHER UCHM NEWS**

We say a sad goodbye to Jo Buglass and Jo Hamer who are finishing as counsellors at UCHM.

We welcome Jenny Ashmore, Vivienne Rawnsley, Clair Pritchard, Tracey Burns, Claire Moreton, Laura Alsop, Amanda Allan, Shannon Kelly and Leanne Barrow who have joined us as Placement Counsellors. We also welcome Maysen Welford who has joined as a volunteer receptionist

Sandra McSweeney is retiring from paid work but has kindly offered to stay on as a volunteer for 2 days a week.

## Recognizing Jesus

One of my favourite Christmas stories is about the old shoe cobbler who dreamed one Christmas Eve that Jesus would come to visit him the next day. The dream was so real that he was convinced it would come true.

So the next morning he got up and went out and cut green boughs and decorated his little cobbler shop and got all ready for Jesus to come and visit. He was so sure that Jesus was going to come that he just sat down and waited for Him.

The hours passed and Jesus didn't come. But an old man came. He came inside for a moment to get warm out of the winter cold. As the cobbler talked with him he noticed the holes in the old man's shoes, so he reached up on the shelf and got him a new pair of shoes. He made sure they fit and that his socks were dry and sent him on his way.

Still he waited. But Jesus didn't come. An old woman came. A woman who hadn't had a decent meal in two days. They sat and visited for a while, and then he prepared some food for her to eat. He gave her a nourishing meal and sent her on her way.

Then he sat down again to wait for Jesus. But Jesus still didn't come.

Then he heard a little boy crying out in front of his shop. He went out and talked with the boy, and discovered that the boy had been separated from his parents and didn't know how to get home. So he put on his coat, took the boy by the hand and led him home.

When he came back to his little shoe shop it was almost dark and the streets were emptied of people. And then in a moment of despair he lifted his voice to heaven and said, "Oh Lord Jesus, why didn't you come?"

And then in a moment of silence he seemed to hear a voice saying, "Oh shoe cobbler, lift up your heart. I kept my word. Three times I knocked at your friendly door. Three times my shadow fell across your floor. I was the man with the bruised feet. I was the woman you gave to eat. I was the boy on the homeless street."

Jesus had come. The cobbler just didn't realize it.

– by *Melvin Newland*



# Volunteers

## URGENTLY

## NEEDED!

### Can you help?

#### Receptionists:

To do a minimum of half a day or an evening in the office.  
Duties would include answering the telephone and  
greeting visitors.

#### Charity Shop Volunteers:

If you are able to offer half a day or more to work in our  
charity shop. Duties would include sorting stock, and  
dealing with customers.

If you are interested in volunteering for any of these or  
would like to see if we have other vacancies then please  
contact the centre on 01484 461098 or email  
[uchm@uchm.org](mailto:uchm@uchm.org)

***United Churches Healing Ministry 2018***

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