

United Churches Healing Ministry

Healing Leaves

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

Give me a candle of the Spirit, O God, as I go down into the deeps of my being. Show me the hidden things, the creatures of my dreams, the storehouse of forgotten memories and hurts. Take me down to the spring of my life, and tell me my nature and my name. Give me freedom to grow, so that I may become that self, the seed of which You planted in me at my making.

Out of the depths I cry to You...

George Appleton

March, April and May 2019

Dear Friends

How have you fared over this winter? I write this mid-February and although the temperature is rising, we can never know whether a really cold snap is just around the corner and may still catch us out. So, we wait. There feels to be a lot of waiting as we move towards the 'official' end of winter

How do we deal with waiting in our relationship with God? Sometimes we can seem to be waiting for ages for any kind of response or answer to our prayers, or for those precious moments when we feel the Lord's fellowship so closely. Sometimes we can feel like we are stuck in 'winter' spiritually. Are our prayers even getting through the ceiling? Where is the warmth and love we previously have known in our relationship with God? Sometimes we just have to hang on in faith, not rely on feelings we may have experienced at different times. The Word of God doesn't change

But behind the leaf-less trees and (generally) flower-less gardens and all the stillness of winter, something is happening. God gives this season for nature to rest and prepare. And if we look, the bulbs are poking through, birds are dashing about with a bit more energy; buds are more visible on the trees and shrubs -it's still winter but spring is coming. In fact, it's just around the corner. The other night I went out at 11pm, armed with my torch. One section of our pond is covered in duck weed this year, but as I shone my torch there were lots of frogs' heads poking through. They don't always do too well at waiting. One year a large proportion of the frogspawn was frozen and died!

After the flood in Genesis 8, God promises never to do this to the earth again, "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease". Throughout the Bible, God promises that only if the seasons and the rhythm of nature cease, that night and day lose their appointed times, will his covenant with his people be broken. God's covenant is an everlasting covenant. And we are so blessed to be adopted into the family as children of Abraham, we are grafted in to the vine of God's covenant people. (Rom 11.17ff)

Lent will begin soon, and as we walk with our Lord Jesus as He makes His final earthly journey to Jerusalem, may we be encouraged and strengthened by His faith, His grace, His love and His obedience.

Golcar used to have an open service of witness on Good Friday. One year the Methodist minister took the theme of 'it's Friday but Sunday's coming'.

Liz

Also.....

May I introduce you all to our new training logo

We have done this to bring clarity to the different parts of UCHM. For some years all the room hire and sports hall booking has come under "The Elms", UCHM Counselling Service is well established under that name

We have had feedback that the training courses under the full name of United Churches Healing Ministry caused questions regarding the content of the training. The Trustees were unanimous in their backing of changing the name to: **Trinity Training**



The logo with the Christian Celtic Knot depicts the Trinity.

There is ABSOLUTELY NO CHANGE IN THE CHRISTIAN BASIS AND CONTENT OF OUR COURSES

So please keep your eyes peeled for new courses under the new logo!

Liz

Join Huddersfield Town for the Big Sleep Out

Friday 8 March 2019

**Big Sleep Out continued for a second consecutive season
Initiative raising funds for charities supporting homelessness
Take part in the Big Sleep Out on and brave the outdoors**

The challenge will take place on the evening of Friday 8 March 2019 into the morning of Saturday 9 March 2019, with Huddersfield Town hosting AFC Bournemouth later in the day.

Participants are asked to fundraise at least £100 per person to take part with 100% of funds raised will be used to support local homeless causes.

All running costs towards the event will be covered by Dean Hoyle, ensuring every penny raised makes a difference.

For further information on sponsorship or to sign-up for the event please email enquiries@htaafcfoundation.com



My Lord God,
I have no idea where I am going.
I do not see the road ahead of me.
I cannot know for certain where it will end.

Nor do I really know myself,
and the fact that I think that I am following You will
does not mean that I am actually doing so.
But I believe that the desire to please You
does in fact please You.
And I hope that I have that desire
in all that I am doing.

And I know that if I do this,
You will lead me by the right road
although I may know nothing about it.

Therefore will I trust You always,
though I may seem to be lost
and in the shadow of death,
I will not fear, for You are ever with me,
and will never leave me
to face my perils alone.

Thomas Merton

Watoto Children's Choir in 'We Will Go' by Watoto UK

New Life Christian Centre
George Street
Wakefield
WF1 1DL

Wed 27 March 2019

19:00 – 20:15

Watoto Children's Choirs have travelled extensively since 1994, sharing a message of hope for Africa's orphans and widows. To date, the choir has toured six continents and performed to enthralled audiences in schools, retirement homes, churches, parliaments, state houses and royal palaces.

The Watoto Children's Choir concert is a fundraising event for Watoto. The choir's members are orphans and other vulnerable children; many of them have suffered the loss of one or both parents and now live in a Watoto village.

Accompanied by a team of adults, the choir presents Watoto's vision and mission by sharing personal stories, music and dance. While on the road, the children act as advocates for the millions of other African children who have experienced the same heart-breaking pain and suffering as them.

Through the power of their testimonies the children will share stories of how their lives have been changed, and how they have been called into a life of purpose to transform their communities. Each story will declare the miracle of transformation – from darkness to light; from despair to hope; from loss to purpose; from fear to faith.



ISRAEL PILGRIMAGE

We were very sorry at having to cancel our planned 2019 trip to Israel. I believe there were a number of factors which taken together left us with no choice but to take the decision. Easyjet prices for our dates were £250 more than last time, the exchange rate is considerably lower than the previous tour and the Brexit situation has brought an uncertainty and anxiety over the outcome which resulted perhaps in less people wanting to commit to being away.

Undeterred, we have been able to book for next year. We expect to be flying El Al who have recently returned to Manchester (and we're delighted about that!). The new dates are Sunday 26th April to Sunday 10th May. For any wishing to visit Eilat at the end of the Pilgrimage for a 3rd week this will be possible. At this point, I am unable to give a definite price because of all the variables. Once El Al publish their schedule for next year, and if the \$ gets up to 1.37 I am not expecting the cost to increase much. As always, we have a dedicated bank account available for anyone who would like to pay in over the months rather than in big chunks of money.

So, if visiting Israel and walking in the footsteps Jesus is on your bucket list, please may I encourage you to come and join the pilgrimage. For me, my first time was in 1990 and it radically impacted my faith. Ever since, through many, many visits, I never return home without the Lord having opened something up to me in a new way. It is His land, His people and His Bible, and there's so much more to discover.

UCHM's 2020 Pilgrimage to Israel


"In the footsteps of the Messiah"

Sunday 26th April to Sunday 10th May 2020



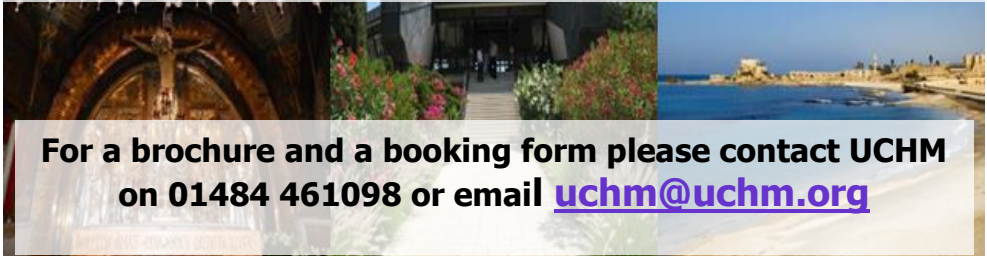
Flying Manchester to Tel Aviv

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 £2300 + £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

Rogues Gallery

My name is Val Haigh and I came to hear of UCHM about 15 years ago through a colleague of mine when I was working at Dove House which was a Christian Counselling Service in Wakefield. She had done her counselling training at UCHM and I felt God leading me in the direction of UCHM, so I started my journey in counselling training by attending the Level 2 and the 2 year Level 3 Diploma, and this led me on to achieving my BSc in Therapeutic Counselling in Leeds.

Since then I have become involved with UCHM as a Trainer teaching mainly on the Level 2 and 3 and delivering specialist subjects over weekends. I am also a counsellor and currently am the Deputy CEO and Counselling Coordinator for UCHM as well as one of the trustees.

After leaving school I started my work life as a printing assistant progressing to a career change into working as an Auxiliary Nurse, following that I moved into Social Care working with individuals with learning disabilities and mental health issues, progressing to Service Manager Level. I really loved my work for the last 30 or so years, retiring about 18 months ago allowing me to dedicate more time on a managerial position within UCHM. It's been an amazing journey with God and I have enjoyed visiting Israel along with others on the UCHM organised Pilgrimage, and look forward to going again.

Down time for me is spent with my family, and God has blessed us with honorary grandchildren. I love being in the Garden and walking, I find God speaks to me through nature, even spending time with my cat which just happens to be my favourite animal.

My favourite songs/hymns are:- Power of Your Love especially these words:-

Hold me close
Let Your love surround me
Bring me near
Draw me to Your side
And as I wait
I'll rise up like the eagle
And I will soar with You
Your Spirit leads me on
In the power of Your love

King of Kings:-

King of kings, Majesty
God of Heaven living in me
Gentle Saviour, closest friend
Strong Deliverer, beginning and end
All within me falls at Your throne
Your Majesty, I can but bow
I lay my all before You now
In royal robes I don't deserve
I live to serve Your Majesty

God has used both of these songs over the years many times to minister to me. My favourite scripture is Romans 8:28 this always speaks to me and encourages me that nothing is wasted with God, all things do work together with God, no matter how difficult things are in our lives He uses all situations to work together for the good.

Israel has got to be my favourite place to visit, but as for my favourite place to holiday it has to be Majorca, the western side up in the mountains. The hymn that always takes me back to that place is 'How Great Thou Art' When I look down, from lofty mountain grandeur and see the brook, and feel the gentle breeze—How Great Thou Art.

It is a privilege that God has brought me to UCHM, I feel very blessed to be a part of this wonderful team and charity.

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

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.



Mother's Day
March 31st

'Three Male Voice Choirs in Concert'

at Huddersfield Town Hall
on Saturday 18th May 2019, 7.00pm

Honley Male Voice Choir

Saddleworth Male Voice Choir

Côr Meibion Pontarddulais Male Choir



Welsh National Champions, from South Wales

Huddersfield Town Hall - Saturday 18th May 2019 - 7pm
Honley Male Voice Choir present
Three Male Voice Choirs in Concert
Huddersfield Town Hall
Tickets from £8

Truly a night to remember, when 150 voices will be on stage at the Town Hall Huddersfield. As Honley Male Voice Choir proudly presents Pontarddulais Male Voice Choir (17 times winners of the national Eisteddfod) in concert with Saddleworth Male Voice Choir.

Anonymous worker in the City of London

When I was 29 I had open heart surgery and went from being an hyperactive skinny athletic person able to work hard all day every day and party all night every night, to being a person who couldn't run for the bus or train, crumpled at the top of each flight of stairs, had coughing fits if I laughed too much or took too deep a breath, caught chest infections every time somebody with a cold looked at me, and some days looked separated at birth from Beetlejuice.

Suddenly diagnosed with asthma and hay fever shortly after surgery, my heart and lungs become the main focus in my life as my name was preceded by family and friends with the word "poor" and I quite simply became known as a bit of a sad case and a sickly wimp.

To cut a long story short, a couple of years ago I suffered severe allergies that triggered symptoms of heart failure. Deemed too weak to be allowed to walk down one flight of stairs to the cardiologist after failing to complete a treadmill test, I was finally told I had tachycardia, palpitations, three leaky valves, and the right side of my heart was permanently enlarged and sloppy from damage done before the surgery.

While the cardiologist never mentioned further surgery, the thought cast a big dark shadow over me and I prayed through my despair like I have never prayed before or since. No weeping and wailing or gnashing of teeth, just real despondent heartfelt prayer that I would not have to undergo another heart surgery. At the next appointment a surprised cardiologist told me I was a medical phenomenon.

My heart had gone back into shape and was no longer enlarged and sloppy. The cardiologist said it shouldn't happen, he had never heard of it happening, it had never happened to any of his patients before, he could see no reason why it had happened for me, but clearly it had.

Shortly afterward I saw the asthma nurse who told me, puzzled, that she did not think I could ever have been asthmatic, because I had the lungs of a twenty year old.

Now if you have ever stood behind me at a Wednesday service you could be forgiven for noticing that lungs would not be top of my swap list, given the choice of twenty year old body parts! But I could see The Lord was working to a theme and was grateful. My hearts normal size and shape was confirmed again this July when I was in hospital. Medics refused to believe The Lord had cured me, until an ECG proved there was no sign of my heart still being enlarged.

While I continue to avoid nuts and hair dye, my allergies seem to have abated, people around me drop like flies from cold and flu viruses that pass me by, and the same body that could not complete a treadmill test works perfectly well as I regularly run 10 miles on my cross trainer at a good speed on high resistance, calming my heart rhythm with deep breaths—no coughing.

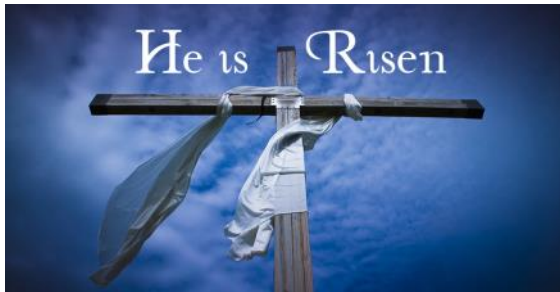
All I had asked of The Lord was not to put me through further heart surgery. He gave me so much more! That's my testimony Ladies. The Lord kept His promise made at Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you," declares the LORD, "and will bring you back from captivity."

I hope my testimony brings one of you fresh hope in a seemingly hopeless situation.

Anonymous worker in the City of London

EASTER

Sunday 21 April 2019



The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay."

Prayer Diary 2019

March

4th	Intermediate Certificate In Counselling Level 3
5th	UCHM Monthly Worship—4pm
5th	Advanced Diploma in Counselling Level 4 year 2 PD Group Supervision
13th	Finance Meeting
18th	Intermediate Certificate in Counselling Level 3
19th	Advanced Diploma in Counselling Level 4 year 2 GS
20th	Managers Meeting
22nd and 23rd	Level 2 Award

April

1st	Intermediate Certificate in Counselling Level 3
2nd	UCHM Monthly Worship—4pm
2nd	Advanced Diploma in Counselling Level 4 Year 2
5th & 6th	Racial Awareness and Child Protection Weekend Level 3
9th	Advanced Diploma in Counselling Level 4 Year 2 PD
11th	Trustees Meeting
12th and 13th	Level 2 Award
15th	Intermediate Certificate in Counselling Level 3
17th	Managers Meeting
19th to 22nd	CLOSED FOR EASTER
29th	Intermediate Certificate in Counselling Level 3
30th	Advanced Diploma in Counselling Level 4 year 2 GS

May

6th	CLOSED—Bank Holiday
7th	UCHM Monthly Worship—4pm
7th	Advanced Diploma in Counselling Level 4 Year 2 PD
10th and 11th	Working with Differing Sexual Orientations Level 4
15th	Managers Meeting
21st	Advanced Diploma in Counselling Level 4 Year 2 GS
27th	CLOSED—Bank Holiday

THE SHADOW OF THE CROSS

A young man who had been raised as an atheist was training to be an Olympic diver. The only religious influence in his life came from his outspoken Christian friend. The young diver never really paid much attention to his friend's sermons, but he heard them often.

One night the diver went to the indoor pool at the college he attended. The lights were all off, but as the pool had big skylights and the moon was bright, there was plenty of light to practice by. The young man climbed up to the highest diving board and as he turned his back to the pool on the edge of the board and extended his arms out, he saw his shadow on the wall. The shadow of his body in the shape of a cross. Instead of diving, he knelt down and asked God to come into his life. As the young man stood, a maintenance man walked in and turned the lights on. The pool had been drained for repairs.

Contentment

It was spring but it was summer I wanted; the warm days and the great outdoors.

It was summer but it was autumn I wanted; the colourful leaves and the cool dry air.

It was autumn but it was winter I wanted; the beautiful snow and the joy of the holiday season.

It was winter but it was spring I wanted; the warmth and the blossoming of nature.

I was a child but it was adulthood I wanted; the freedom and the respect.

I was twenty but it was thirty I wanted; to be mature and sophisticated.

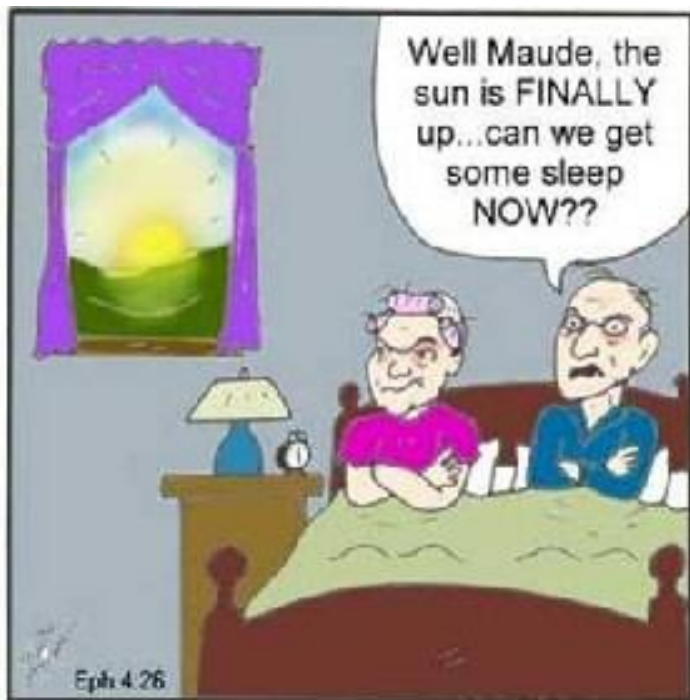
I was middle-aged but it was twenty I wanted; the youth and the free spirit.

I was retired but it was middle-age that I wanted; the presence of mind without limitations.

My life was over but I never got what I wanted.

Source: "Calm My Anxious Heart" by Linda Dillow





"Do not let the sun go down on your wrath."
Letting it come up on your wrath isn't good either



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/ 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.

OOOOPS!!

The light turned amber, just in front of him. He did the right thing, stopping at the crosswalk, even though he could have beaten the red light by accelerating through the intersection. The tailgating woman was furious and honked her horn, screaming in frustration, as she missed her chance to get through the intersection, dropping her cell phone and makeup.

As she was still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit her car with her hands up. He took her to the police station where she was searched, fingerprinted, photographed and placed in a holding cell.

After a couple of hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects.

He said, "I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, making lewd gestures to the guy in front of you and, cussing a blue streak at him.

I noticed the 'What Would Jesus Do' bumper sticker, the 'Choose Life' license plate holder, the 'Follow Me to Sunday-School' bumper sticker, and the chrome-plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk, so naturally . . . I assumed you had stolen the car."

Ask yourself . . .

Am I just a Sunday morning Christian?

Do I set a good Christian example everyday?

Think about it . . .

THINGS TO PONDER



1. Don't sweat the petty things, and don't pet the sweaty things.
2. One tequila, two tequila, three tequila, floor.....
3. Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
4. If man evolved from monkeys and apes, why do we still have monkeys and apes?
5. I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman, "Where's the self-help section?" She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.
6. What if there were no hypothetical questions?
7. If a turtle doesn't have a shell, is he homeless or naked?
8. What was the best thing before sliced bread?
9. One nice thing about egotists: they don't talk about other people.
10. How is it possible to have a civil war?
11. Whose cruel idea was it for the word "lisp" to have an "s" in it?

The Lawrence Batley Theatre Huddersfield

Lost Voice Guy: I'm Only in it For the Parking
Tue 23 Apr 7.30pm

Following the unprecedented success of his appearance on the final of Britain's Got Talent 2018, BBC New Comedy Award winner and star and writer of BBC Radio 4's comedy series, Ability, Lee Ridley (aka Lost Voice Guy) is setting out on a tour of the UK.

The Gingerbread Man
Wed 24 Apr - Thu 25 Apr

Stuff and Nonsense present a brilliant mix of puppetry, live action, great music, humour and a stunning staging of this well-loved classic tale. A perfect treat for the Easter holidays.

Kirklees What's On

Batley Vintage Day
Batley Town Hall
25 May 2019—10:00am

Visit Batley Town Hall this May 2018 for the Batley Vintage Day where there will be lots of Amazing Vintage Stalls, Live Entertainment all day, Vintage Fun & Games, Cars, Scooters, Bikes and much more.. So, hot foot it down folks, put on your glad rags and get your dancing shoes on.

Whichever way we turn, O God, there is Your face
in the light of the moon and patterns of stars,
in sacred mountain rifts and ancient groves,
in mighty seas and creatures of the deep.

Whichever way we turn, O God, there is Your face
in the light of eyes we love,
in the salt of tears we have tasted,
in weathered countenances east and west,
in the soft skin glow of the child everywhere.
Whichever way we turn, O God, there is Your face,
there is Your face among us.

John Philip Newell

Board Meeting

'There will be a meeting of the Board immediately after the service,' announced Reverend Morris.

After the close of the service, the group gathered at the back of church for the announced meeting. However, there was a stranger in their midst. He was a visitor who had never attended their church before.

'My friend,' asked Reverend Morris, 'did you understand that this is a meeting of the Board?'

'Oh, yes,' came the response from the visitor, 'and after that sermon, I'm about as bored as you can get.'





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**

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Company Registered in England and Wales

4614787

Registered Office:

The Elms

78 New Street

Milnsbridge

Huddersfield

HD3 4LD

01484 461098

Email uchm@uchm.org

Website www.uchm.org