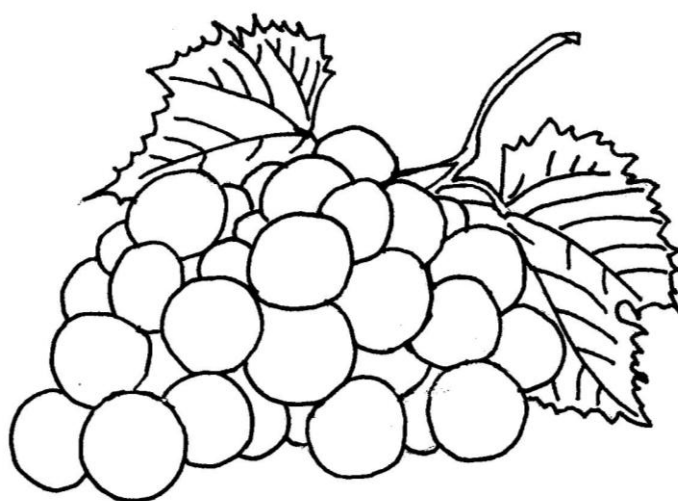


GROVE VINE

Online Edition

The Magazine of
Grove Methodist Church
Horsforth, Leeds

July/August 2021



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's letter

Sabbatical Arrangements

As many of you will already know our minister Rev Mark Godfrey is on sabbatical leave now. The leave will run from 14th June to 13th September. A sabbatical gives ministers the opportunity for study and reflection with usually a certain amount of travel as well. Mark says, "We were originally intending to visit my brother in Australia but it has been clear for some months that would not be possible. Instead we will be travelling to the Scottish islands to discover my Highland roots and to look at the interesting history of the church in those parts."

Chris Colman will be in pastoral charge of the Grove while Mark is away, so if anyone needs pastoral care or help they should contact Chris. (See contact details below.)

Dear Friends,

What does it mean to be strong? When you hear or read the word strength what comes to mind? Perhaps we think of physically strong people like body builders or athletes. Maybe we might think of social or political leaders with characteristics we would consider strong. But is this strength to God?

In the Bible we often see God using people who the world would regard as weak to demonstrate his strength. He took an old barren couple in Abraham and Sarah and from them formed a nation. He used Moses who was unskilled in speech to free Israel from captivity in Egypt and lead them while they were in exile. He used Hannah who was barren to give birth to Samuel who would lead Israel for a time before anointing Saul and then David as King. David, who was considered the greatest of Israel's kings, was also considered least among his brothers. Finally God used Mary who was a young girl to give birth to Jesus who bought our salvation. He also called His disciples who were uneducated and lowly fishermen; they were the first to preach the gospel after Jesus' resurrection.

In all these instances God used perceived human weaknesses to reveal His strength and glory. In 2 Corinthians 12:7b-10, Paul writes of his experience struggling with a physical ailment from which he prayed to be healed. In this he received the revelation that through God's grace towards him, God's power is revealed in his weakness. In verses 9-10 Paul writes,

"...Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. ¹⁰ That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

When we are struggling in our own weakness, if we bring this to God and rest in His presence, He holds us and carries us on and his power and glory are revealed in us.

God bless

Chris Colman

Lay Pastor

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Thought for the month

Be patterns, be examples walk cheerfully over the world, answering that of God in everyone, whereby in them you may be a blessing.

George Fox (1624-91) founder of the Quakers

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.

Deaths

Madeleine Price In hospital on June 12th. Prayers for son Simon and daughter Katharine. Harry Castle, a former member of The Grove Church, died recently in June.

Congratulations to Chris and Sarah Colman on their marriage on May 29th at St George's Church in Kendal, a long awaited and rearranged occasion in these strange times.

Congratulations to Eric and Linda Douglass and also to Mike and Mary Cooke (Central) on their Golden Wedding anniversaries which were both on June 19th

A Tribute to the Late Reverend G David Hall

I felt great sadness when I was informed in March that our former minister, the Rev. G David Hall, had suddenly died. Like most people at The Grove I only knew him when he was here as minister at our church nearly twenty years ago.

He was one of those outstanding ministers with a gift for transferring religious belief, knowledge and care for his flock with energy and enthusiasm.

I know little about his early years, but he would sometimes mention that he came from Blackburn in Lancashire, was educated there and studied for his M.A. degree at Liverpool University, with further ministerial training in Manchester achieving his B.D. He met and married June in his first circuit.

When he came here it was obvious to me that he was a man of high intellectual ability, but not one of those who spent his time in an ivory tower, as the saying goes. He was a good organiser, controlled meetings well and always showed an interest in the lives of other people.

For me his great gift was in his preaching. He would very often select one text from the Old Testament along with another from the New Testament, texts with apparently no links, but in a very skilful and ingenious way would bind them together by explaining the preparation and prophesies of the Old leading to the fulfilment of the New Testament. He always opened my eyes and ears to a better comprehension of the Bible. As an experienced teacher he was always clear and direct in his descriptions of biblical words and meanings. However he was not always in serious mood. He sometimes was very amusing, using events often from his own background that fitted in with the theme of his service. Of course he was a Lancastrian and knew he was in 'rival' territory by living and working among Yorkshire people. This stemmed from as far back as the Wars of the Roses in the 15th

century rivalry between the royal houses of York and Lancaster. Despite the passage of time that rivalry still exists to a greater or lesser degree!

Living with a local preacher (sometimes two!) for over half my life, I recognise the importance of the choice of hymns for a service. David never chose hymns from our latest hymnbook with those watery and wandering musical lines that made me wonder "What tempo and what key is this?" I think he preferred hymns with stronger and deeper words as are in the hymns of Charles Wesley and other great hymn writers since. David took part in an entertainment, presented more than once, celebrating the 19th-20th century songs and hymns composed by Moody and Sankey which was very enjoyable.

There is one hymn, no longer in our hymnbook, but was in Hymns and Psalms and The Methodist Hymn Book, by Geoffrey Thring (1823-1903) with a good tune 'Norfolk Park' by H Coward (1849-1944). That is the hymn 'Saviour Blessed Saviour'. I imagine it was one of his favourites as he repeatedly used it. I think it is a very fitting way by which to remember David.

Verse 4 Onward ever onward
 Journeying o'er the road
 Worn by saints before us,
 Journeying on to God;
 Leaving all behind us,
 May we hasten on,
 Backward never looking
 Till the prize is won.

We hope that June and family will find solace in the words of Jesus to his disciples and so to us and to David, in his promises of eternal life.

May he Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.

Christine Mathers

Albert and Gill Jewell recall forty years of close encounters with David and June from the time when David, with his new wife, succeeded Albert as Chaplain at Ashville College in Harrogate from where he later moved to a similar post at Woodhouse Grove, another Methodist School. At some stage David was also in this circuit ministering at Woodside. He then was appointed a teacher at Ripon Grammar School. He retired from there in 2000 only to answer the call the following year to minister at The Grove following the tragic deaths of the then minister David Bannister and his wife Christine. Albert always marvelled how David never needed notes for his thoroughly well-prepared sermons!



Christian Aid 2021

The total sent from Horsforth this year was £3,325 which was a great outcome considering the restrictions of the pandemic. Of this the Grove Church collected £1,057.

Thank you to everyone who helped and everyone who donated.

Chris & Caroline Turner

Last month Peter Reasbeck asked if others shared his frustration over the glut of new versions of the Bible. Here is one reply:

No ... because I enjoy reading passages from the Bible in different translations.

No ... because I don't think it is important to be able to quote exactly the words from any translation.

What seems important to me is the meaning of a verse or passage and not the words.

Thus when we are 'Opening the Book' to schools or 'Rewinding' the Christmas or Easter stories we don't expect any learning of words but we do hope the children will remember the Bible stories and hopefully something of their meaning.

With teenagers (e.g. the Sunday night Dance group) I found our discussions on the meaning of certain passages very stimulating. For example most of the girls had heard of the parable of the Good Samaritan but our discussion led them to believe that there are folk in our country, whom we consider unimportant, like asylum seekers, who have become life savers.

Some of the modern translations are helpful in a way that the Authorised Version is not. For example The Contemporary English Version 'Into the Light' produced by Bible Society and which we have recommended to the uniformed organisations (and given them copies) has the wonderful feature of letting you know if a certain passage is mentioned in another book. Thus we know that the story of the Good Samaritan is only told in Luke's gospel but the feeding of the 5,000 features in the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke.

What has become frustrating to me is finding a verse or passage which I want to revisit. This is because I often seem to be reliant on the position of the passage on the page. For example when I wanted to find the verse 'Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest' (AV words!) I knew they appeared in Matthew's gospel and I knew the position on the page of my New International Version. As my NEV was not nearby I tried to find the verse in other Bibles which I had to hand, but totally failed as I had thought it was much earlier in the book. It was so easy to find once I had the NEV and could skip through the pages looking on the correct position on the page.

Another example was when I wanted to find a helpful verse from a Psalm about weeping at night turning to joy in the morning. I knew the position of the verse on the page of my NEV (in the far right hand column) and found it quickly (Psalm 30: 5b) when going through the pages.

But my pocket NEV version is getting very tatty and will fall to pieces soon! How will I cope then?

That could be my frustration!

Jean Orton

Environment & Climate Change (From the Yorkshire West District Newsletter)

Faced with a climate emergency, the Methodist Conference in 2019 called on the UK to achieve net zero emissions well before 2050. The critical COP26 International Climate Summit is to be held in Glasgow in November of this year. Our nation has the opportunity to provide inspiration for others. The UK must back up targets with clear policies and urgent investment to bring about a zero-carbon future.

Our response must be both individual and as a Church, working to do all we can to tread more lightly on the earth. Genesis 2:15 reminds us that we were placed on earth to maintain and take care of it. As Christians, how well are we doing this?

As a District, we are examining our response to the challenge and aiming to improve our understanding of the challenges of climate change and developing a District-led response. We can all play our part and as a start we have listed a small number of ways that we can be kinder to the planet.

Shop little and often - A lot of waste comes from doing big shops, putting two-for-one 'bargains' in the trolley and buying on repeat rather than planning meals.

Buy half your food locally - The shorter the food chain, the less waste created before it reaches your kitchen. Aim to buy 50% of food grown within 25 miles of where you live.

Minimise packaging - Look for loose fruit and vegetables and take your own containers to shops and markets. Look for bulk unpackaged food shops.

Buy local flowers, or grow your own - About 90% of the flowers sold through UK florists, supermarkets and wholesalers are imported, mainly from the Netherlands, but they are also flown in from countries as far away as Ecuador, Colombia, Kenya and Ethiopia.

Recycle more - While 90% of us recycle our kitchen waste, we recycle only 40% of our personal care packaging, probably because our recycling bins are in the kitchen.

Opt for green energy suppliers - but just because you're on a green tariff, doesn't mean you should stop worrying about how much energy you use. Switch to LED light bulbs and look at smart heating controls.

Use water wisely - Check your WC; many new syphon toilets eventually leak water, but into the bowl so not as easy to spot.

Let the grass grow - Letting your grass grow longer between cuts not only saves petrol or electricity, and therefore reduces carbon dioxide emissions, but also encourages more wildlife into your garden. Longer grass is more drought-resistant too.

We will be looking at our response in more detail with opportunities for conversation at the September District Synod. Doing nothing is not an option, and in the meantime a small working group has been set up to coordinate our District response to this challenging situation.

Richard Walsh



Around the Circuit

Come with me (Phil Maud) for a ride round our Circuit.
I am no Louis Hamilton so it will be a slow journey allowing me to reflect on my own
experience and hopefully inform Vine readers.

Our church address is:
Grove Methodist Church
Town Street
Horsforth
Leeds LS18 4AP

To which we could add. . .
Leeds South +West CIRCUIT (27/01)
Yorkshire West DISTRICT
The Methodist Church of Great Britain
(which is affiliated to)
Churches Together in Britain and Ireland
Conference of European Churches
World Methodist Council
World Council of Churches

Buckle up!..we start with the familiar. . . .

Whether you have been at the Grove a short while, or your entire life, you will have missed it to some degree in the last 15 months. By simply attending or being involved in the organisation of activities you were 'in the building' which has largely been closed.

Covid times may have brought to your attention the work of the Circuit. Nearly 400 packs containing a ready-made service and other pastoral articles have been posted out every week..many others received the material via email. The Circuit hosted an evening service on zoom (with over 50 devices per week, so approximately 70 people) plus a Thursday podcast. Holy Week was marked with 5 evening zoom sessions using the BBC film The Passion.

SO WHAT IS THE CIRCUIT?

Geography

20 churches in the South and West of Leeds. (Leeds North and East Circuit has 17 churches so we are about half of Leeds Methodism).

Our churches are as follows, roughly North to South, with membership in brackets. **Churches in bold type** are Local Ecumenical Projects (LEP on the plan) with shared management between Methodism and other denominations.

Adel (25); Cookridge (63); Cotingley (15); Horsforth Central (17); Horsforth Grove (156); Horsforth Woodside (35); Headingley (55); Meanwood (20); **Rodley (15)**; Bramley Trinity (87); Hyde Park (25); St John's Stanningley (13); St Mark's Stanningley (37); **Farsley (23)**; St Andrew's Pudsey (95); Highfield Armley (26); Whingate Armley (31); **Wesley Road Armley (28)**; Lower Wortley (32); St Andrew's Beeston (48); **Beeston Hill (45)**; Hunslet (52).

People

We have 5 ministers: (number of churches they have pastoral charge of is in brackets)

Rev Jo Lightowler (2) is the Superintendent

Rev Keith Hunt (5)

Rev Mark Godfrey (4)

Rev Rach Ward (2 + circuit focus on Discipleship)

Rev Pete Brazier (7).. 3 of Pete's churches (Whingate, Lower Wortley and Wesley Road) are actively exploring shared worship at present, with the hope of sharing meetings and activities even further into the future.

Deacon: Guy Austin- Bride shares pastoral charge of Pete's 7 churches and leads on the New Monastic House. We are setting up a community who will live and work together following the 'Methodist Way of Life' spiritual structure.

Methodism has 280 deacons, they are to "model, integrate and encourage others in the servant ministry of Christ". The present order grew out of the Wesley Deaconesses 30 years ago, so blokes could join! You may remember Deacon Pam (who worked for us in South Leeds... she now ministers to Lincolnshire Caravan Sites!)

Lay Circuit staff:

Office: our Circuit Administration is in the hands of two very hardworking ladies. Those of us who have benefitted from support and advice from "the office" will know this already!

The headlines are below..the thousands of 'bits and bobs' that are so time consuming are not included (most of us don't even know about them). Cathy and Erica have an "*administry*" ministry for us all.

Cathy Boocock: Cathy supports a number of local churches as treasurer in addition to managing the Circuit Budget. She is our Safeguarding Officer and a Local Preacher.

Erica Hartley: Safeguarding, GDPR and 'typer- upperer' of countless information documents. Erica is also a local preacher.

Children + families Worker: Sharon Brocksom.

Sharon was leading and supporting church members with a number of Tots groups and Messy Church. A number of Circuit family events were run before lockdown. Sharon has continued to provide weekly Junior Church materials for all our churches to use. She delivers our safeguarding training sessions. She is a vital part of our Covid response team who have made church site visits to help approve our risk assessments and keeps us up to date with the Methodist and

Two other ministers live near us. Rev Melvyn Kelly is the Chaplain to the two Leeds Universities and Rev David Goodall is a District appointment to head up our Methodist mission in the City and the new Monastic Community work across Yorkshire.

Circuit Stewards: (churches they worship at in brackets).

Anne Jackson (St Mark's); Kirsty Butler (St Mark's); Peter Cordwell (Wesley Road); Edmund Linfield (Adel); Phil Maud (Grove); Rob Moore (Headingley); Elizabeth Smith (St Andrew's Beeston); Stuart Westerman (Bramley Trinity); Audrey Wilks (Hunslet).

Circuit stewards stand between ministers and the churches. Looking out for ministers and their families and looking ahead for future vision and Circuit activities.

These folk offer their time to the Leadership Team of the Circuit. They are all busy in their local churches as well.

Local preachers

Last, but certainly not least, we currently have 21 local preachers and 4 in training.

SO THERE YOU GO. I HOPE MY GUIDE TO GEOGRAPHY AND PEOPLE IS INFORMATIVE.

NEXT ISSUE: FINANCE AND VISION FOR THE FUTURE.

Phil Maud

Scout Group Bulb Sale 2022

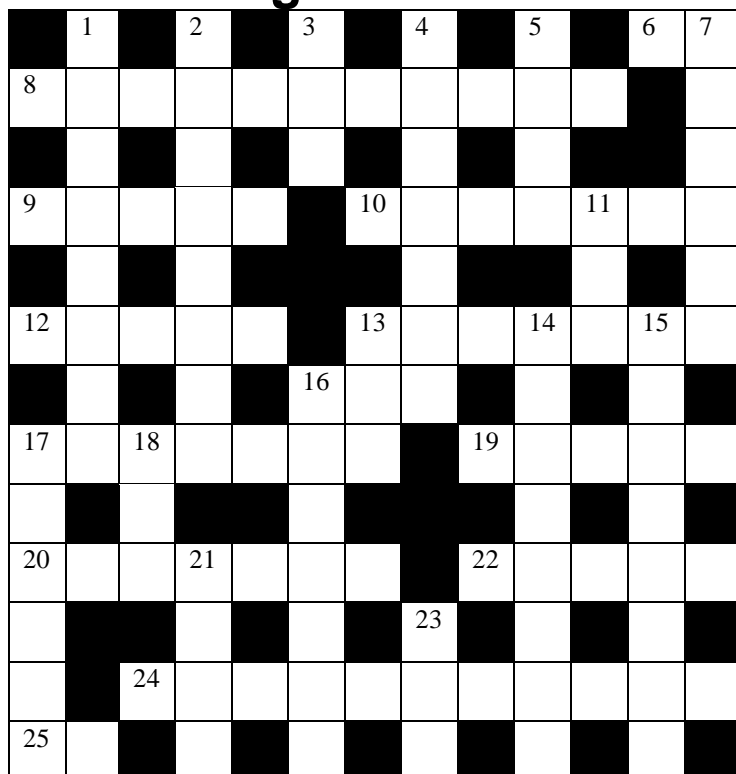
Due to popular demand the 9th Airedale Scout Group are once again selling Spring Bulbs which will bloom in 2022 to support their young peoples' activities.

Paper copies of the order forms will be found in the church Narthex. Order forms are also available by either downloading from the '9th Airedale Scouts' Facebook page or by emailing Graham Hoyle at: gdh@ntlworld.com to receive a copy by email.

The closing date for receipt of orders is Sunday 25th July and cannot be extended beyond this date, so please act promptly to avoid disappointment.

As many will already know, the high quality bulbs produce some spectacular flowers and will give a welcome splash of colour to complement and enhance any garden.

Puzzle Page: 1. Small Crossword 9



Across:

- 6 Ancient Mesopotamian city (2)
- 8 King of Salem (Gen 14: 18) (11)
- 9 He travelled with Paul (5)
- 10 Lush green vegetation (7)
- 12 Without hesitation the least note (5)
- 13 Competition (7)
- 16 Jump to get this plant (3)
- 17 Disciple of Jesus at Damascus (7)
- 19 Very regularly (5)
- 20 Succinct (7)
- 22 Subject distribution (5)
- 24 Prophesying destruction (11)
- 25 Undertake celebration (2)

Down:

- 1 Belief and practice (8)
- 2 Caesar Augustus (8)
- 3 Disappointing tree (Luke 13: 7) (3)
- 4 Mature advance (7)
- 5 '--- us heavenly Father, --- us' (4)
- 7 Express remorse about sin (6)
- 11 Utilise
- 13 Trigonometric island salad vegetable(3)
- 14 Arm of a church
- 15 Ancient city on the river Tigris (Acts 13: 4) (8)
- 16 Kneeler - alternative name (7)
- 17 Go up in the world (6)
- 18 Northumberland river (3)
- 21 Duplicate but it may be illegal (4)
- 23 White church vestment used in some denominations (3)

2. Word Ladders: Can COLD become WARM? Yes! - simply by climbing the first ladder, changing just one letter at each step. First, COLD can change to WOLD, then to WORD, then to WARD, and finally to WARM. Can you climb the other ladders in four steps?

WARM	MORE	FIND	WELL	TREE
WARD				

WORD				
WOLD				
COLD	LESS	LOSE	SICK	TWIG

Solution to June 2021 Puzzles

1. Word Spiral: The words are Alleluias, Samaritan, Newcomers, Shepherds, Serpent, Tremolo, October, Robotic, Choir, Rabbi, Image, Exile, Era, Ass, Sag, Gen; and the diagonals are Ascension and Strangers.
2. The hymns are: We love the place, O God; Lord, thy word abideth; Oft in danger, oft in woe; Let earth and heaven agree; Saviour, again, to Thy dear name we raise; I am the bread of life.
3. The O.T. names are Jonah, Sarah, David, Hosea, Enoch, Heber.

Reminder

Again, it is the wish of all of us that we can resume regular meetings. It will help to provide an update on group information, similar to that given on the inside cover previously. Can group leaders please submit details of meeting times; meeting names; telephone numbers and email addresses.

Please let any member of the Editorial Team know.

From the Editorial Group

Note that the Editorial Teams alternate..... n.b. the **September issue will be prepared by **Paul and Jenny** and you should send items to them - no later than **5pm on Wednesday 25th August**. Please include details up to **3rd October**.**

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

Please note that Grove Vine is published online.

All Uniformed Organisations will receive only online - or via the Grove Website.

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