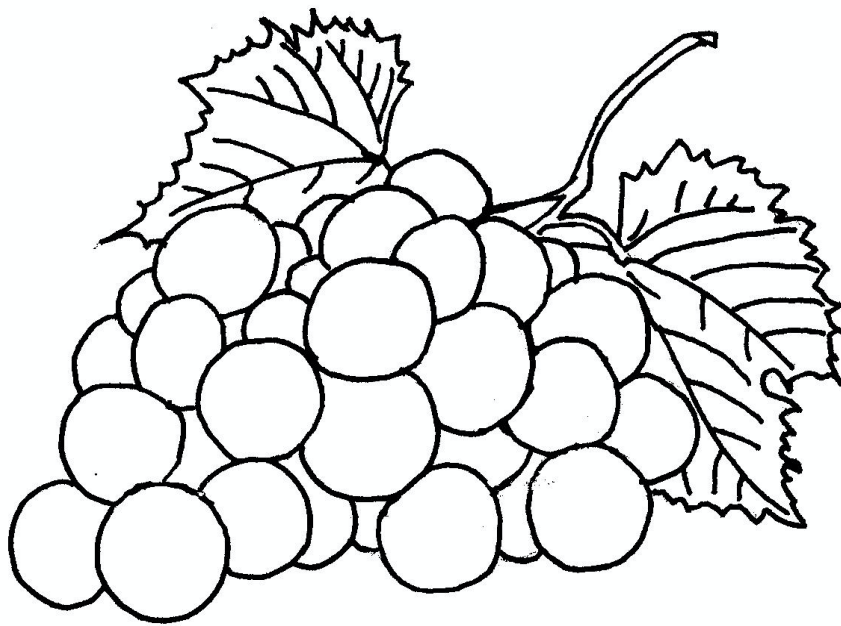


# **GROVE VINE**

**The Online Magazine of  
Grove Methodist Church  
Horsforth, Leeds  
September 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** – Rev. Mark Godfrey

Phone: 0113 258 2678 or email: [revmgodfrey@gmail.com](mailto:revmgodfrey@gmail.com)

**Minister's letter, no contribution as away on sabbatical.**

Thought for the month

Contemplation is ..... a way of growing in the knowledge and love of God ..... this relationship involves more than our minds; it is a thing that engages us, heart and soul - body and spirit too.

*Dom David Foster*

## **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.

### **Funerals**

August 27th	John Bussey
September 1st	Joan Kaye

**The Methodist PRAYER Handbook** cost £4.15 each

If anyone new would like to buy one we do, at present, have one or two spare.....

They are a brilliant source of information and inspiration!  
More information from Jean 0113 258 9093

God is **NOWHERE** ? or  
**WITHER** the GROVE ? or  
**CHURCH-IANITY** ? or

GOD is **NOW HERE** ?  
**WHITHER** the GROVE ?  
**CHRIST-IANITY** ?

*A personal reflection by Phil Maud on the 17 months, and counting,  
of the Covid 19 pandemic.*

I am sure that the seriousness of the Covid situation will have affected our way of living, our work, our family and our daily routine. Some will have lived through World War Two when the threat was tangible. We have been under threat from an invisible enemy. Both periods of history led to millions of deaths worldwide. Perhaps you could take a minute or two to recall your own 'highs' and 'lows.' The things you missed and the fresh, positive insights that have come from this challenging time.

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*The church building has been closed and with it that 'God - focus hour' of Sunday worship. Our weekly church activities were also taken from us.*

The Circuit sprang into action with zoom services and podcasts. When I was a lad a zoom was an iced lolly; steep learning curve there!

A weekly mail - out contained a written service, pastoral letters and news from the churches. If you received information by post you were one of 480 round the Circuit (just in case you felt like a minority against the email crew!). Circuit petrol costs were down but postage went up in lockdown.

**We had to** find out if our faith would hold up (without the preacher to explain the bible, the organ and choir to lead the hymns and someone to make the coffee).

**We had to** 'do' our worship at home. How did that work for you? Salvation on your sofa? bible study in bed? singing in the shower? and fellowship round the fireside? (unless you live alone).

**We had to** make a special effort to keep in touch with people; by phone, card, email or perhaps on a (socially distanced) walk, whilst carrying a coffee.

**We were fortunate** to have a small group of stewards and Alan meeting every 3 weeks throughout lockdown to work with both Mark and Jenny. Alan made the church 'Covid ready' and we took the first chance to open up for worship (minus singing and coffee!).

The addition of Zoom worship is down to a group of tech folk who have stepped up to the plate. At least you can sing your head off and have a cuppa to Zoom on your sofa!

The evening Circuit Zoom services attract approximately 70 devices, so this has been a Covid 'plus'.

Weekly postal letters, some Zoom coffee mornings, our website and social media have helped keep us in touch.

**We have operated** under national Methodist Church guidelines as follows: we were not allowed to 'ask' those over 70 (or with underlying health issues) but relied on 'offers'.

**We are very grateful** to all those who have seen a need and offered to assist. Those who have tech skills are especially valued.

**YOU..... (U)**

So what of the future.?

Can you fill in the missing letter to complete the word below?

**T    E**  
**AND IF YOU DON'T FEEL YOU ARE IMPORTANT**  
**( you are...you are! )**

*Every single church* will be approaching September (traditionally a 'new' church year) tentatively.

Can we sing and have a coffee on a Sunday?

Can the pattern of church activities start up again?

Has the enforced period of absence made a difference to our view of 'church'?

Do I feel I can easily slot back into previous activities?

Am I able to lead / organise as before?

Are there things that need to 'close' so that other things can happen?

**F L \_ \_ R I S H**  
**(Crossword time again)**

**Can you fill in the missing letters for the word which means...**

"to grow /develop in a healthy or vigorous way, especially

as the result of a particularly congenial environment”.  
***Flourish is a key word. It is ‘our’ responsibility to think, pray  
and act in a way that helps us all flourish.***

**AS A CIRCUIT** .... we embarked on a process of conversation called “Together Travel On” in 2018 /19. We anticipated a 10 year time frame; we did not see an enforced 2 year halt to normal activities!

The Circuit Leadership Team, at a recent (zoom) away- day, brought these reflections up to date. So we offer you the words from 2018, with the idea of a flourishing community incorporated within them.

You will see there is a gap in the first sentence below. In 2018 we had ‘regenerate’ in there. As this is a current ‘living statement’ of what we are seeking together, I wonder if you would like to find a word that works for you.

*The LEEDS SOUTH and WEST CIRCUIT seeks to:*

\_\_\_\_\_ (“regenerate”..or insert your own word)  
*Methodism in the area covered by the Leeds S + W Circuit.*

***We want to nurture a flourishing community which is:***

***Effectively Christian and Recognisably Methodist  
Viable (£) and Sustainable (10 years)***

***Honours where we come from (past) and has  
space for the new thing{future}***

## **GOD CALLING**

Your Methodist membership card has this sentence at the beginning.

**“Our Calling..**the calling of the Methodist Church is to **respond** to the gospel of God’s love in Christ and to **live out** its discipleship in worship and mission.”

We hope that the 6 point Circuit paragraph (above) will be a working tool to support local church and Circuit-wide conversations.

Here are some bible ‘pictures’ to help you focus:

Jesus : offers a ‘full’ life: ( John’s gospel chapter 10 v10 )

Paul: think on ( Philippians 4 v 4-9 )

Paul: praying for you ( Ephesians 3 v 14-27 )  
Paul: look in your wardrobe ( Colossians 3 v 12-17 )  
Peter: living stones ( 1 Peter 1 v 4-5 )  
Peter: chosen ( 1 Peter 1 v 9-12 )  
And a hymn: Hymns/Psalms 739 or Singing the faith 504  
ENJOY...and let your stewards know what you think.....*Phil Maud*

## Women's Fellowship

There will be a 'cuppa and chat' drop-in meeting on Monday 13th September between 2pm and 3 pm in our usual meeting room (Grove Small Hall).

At the time of writing (mid-July) it is not clear what national restrictions will be in place but we felt it was important to set a time for a tentative start to re-connect with our friends.

Every church group is in a similar position to us; meeting informally to establish what can, or cannot, happen over the autumn months. The people who cook our lunch or drive the community bus are also reviewing available helpers and operating procedures.

If you are able to make your own way on the 13th we look forward to seeing you, catching up and looking ahead.

We have greatly missed each other over the past 18 months and it is important that we know your views, so get in touch with any Fellowship member if you cannot come on the 13th.

*Muriel Christopher*

## Grove Ladies Group

The Ladies Group are to recommence their meetings, commencing Thursday 16th September, 2pm to 3.30 pm in the small hall.

We propose to meet on an informal basis on the first and third Thursday's of the month (note new time).

If any lady wishes to join us they will be very welcome.

*Elaine Hudson*

## Puzzle Page: 1. Mystery Crossword

Fill in the missing words in the mystery crossword. Each square has a number (1 - 26), each number represents a letter, and every letter of the alphabet is used. The columns on the right are to help you record the match between letters and numbers. Three letters and their numbers are provided to get you started.

11	15	25	15	2	6	10	2		3	10	11	19
	21		18		16		19		15		12	
18	17	20	19		15	14	19	16	16	17	20	9
	11		2		8		13				13	
14	19	2	26	16	22		17	2	2	10	19	2
			16				20		15		22	
26	23	12	10		1	17	9		6	15	2	13
	15		6		12				16			
7	10	15	13	19	16		12	24	17	20	19	11
	9				2		6		5		19	
2	23	15	11	16	15	6	23		19	8	16	15
	26		15		13		16		9		17	
23	22	25	20		19	4	19	9	19	2	19	2

A	15
B	
C	6
D	
E	
F	
G	
H	
I	
J	
K	13
L	
M	

N	
O	
P	
Q	
R	
S	
T	
U	
V	
W	
X	
Y	
Z	

## 2. Word Sudoku

Complete the grid so every row, column and 3x3 box contains the letters of the word 'WONDERFUL'.

D		U				E		O
	E		D		O			
O		N	R					U
	W	D		F			R	
			E		W			
	N			L		W	F	
W					U	N		F
			F		E		D	
F		L				R		W

## 3. Word Ladders

Can you climb the ladders to change NONE to MUCH and SOLO to DUET, changing just one letter on each step?

MUCH	DUET
NONE	SOLO

*Tony Orton*

## Safeguarding Training

There are still a few places left on the Creating Safer Space Foundation Module Training Course being held at The Grove on Thursday 30th September at 2.00pm.

If you are a church steward, a pastoral visitor, if you work at church with children (e.g. J Team, Messy Church, Holiday Club) or with vulnerable adults (e.g some Luncheon Club members) it is mandatory to have this training.

For other church volunteers, attendance is not obligatory but you are warmly invited to take part. The Course is enlightening and informative.

Refresher training is required every 4 years so even if you have been on the Course in the past you may be due to attend again.

For further details contact Sally Wolfe, tel: 0113 2587251 or email: [sallyandlenwolfe@gmail.com](mailto:sallyandlenwolfe@gmail.com)

## Will You Join The Team

### Expanding NOW the Grove Gardening Team

Michael Wallis, Ruth Symons and Peter Reasbeck are looking to recruit additional volunteer Grove Gardeners to tend the shrubbery

Up the side of the driveway.

Sessions are held on a Wednesday morning from 10 -11.15am

With a good number of volunteers we could each have our own patch to tend.

The way forward is open for discussion 10 x 6M<sup>2</sup>

Why not take a 3M wall stretch to grow a few vegetables, 3 spaces available now.

Don't delay. Team anxious to have a good clear up before this coming autumn

For more information please contact Michael Wallis on 0113 278 3278

## Harvest advance notice

This year's Harvest Thanksgiving Service will be held at 10.30 on 10th October 2021. On Saturday 9th October, we hope to hold a social event starting at 6.30pm. The format of this event has yet to be arranged.

*Kath Ashby*



## Thanks

I am sure I speak for many but on a personal note, I would like to thank all involved with the Zoom meetings each Sunday. They are a source of comfort. It has been so lovely to hear singing in Chapel these last few weeks. Special thanks to David and Peter for the organ music. Thank you one and all.

*Beryl Thompson*

**Kenneth Kaunda** was the first president of an independent Zambia, formerly Northern Rhodesia, from 1964 to 1991. He had been at the forefront of the struggle for independence from British rule.

He was the son of a Christian minister and a friend of some of our own ministers working in his country.

When he died earlier this year, there were fulsome tributes to him, but a few days later, I read this disappointing story.

The author remembered him saying:

' I think the white missionaries found me a difficult youngster. Each Sunday they sat in the front row of our church in padded armchairs. The black congregation – and that included my father- had to sit behind them on wooden benches. And yet he'd been a preacher longer than most of those whites. I got up in class one day and asked whether it would be the same in their heaven – blacks on wooden benches at the back? '

Everyone laughed, but not Kaunda.

*Peter Reasbeck*

**Church Bulletins!** Thank God for with typewriters / editors. These *sentences actually appeared in church bulletins.*

*The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water'. The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus'.*

*Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.*

*Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.*

## **Solutions to last month's puzzles**

**Crossword:** Across: 6 Ur, 8 Melchizedek, 9 Silas, 10 Verdure, 11 Minim, 13 Contest, 16 Hop, 17 Ananias, 19 Daily, 20 Concise, 22 Issue, 24 Apocalyptic, 25 Do; Down: 1 Religion, 2 Octavian, 3 Fig, 4 Develop, 5 Lead, 7 Repent, 11 Use, 13 Cos, 14 Transept, 15 Seleucia, 16 Hassock, 17 Ascend, 18 Aln, 21 Copy, 23 Alb.  
**Ladders:** LESS, LOSS, LOSE, LORE, MORE; LOSE, LONE, LINE, FINE, FIND; SICK, SILK, SILL, SELL, WELL; TWIG, TRIG, TRUG, TRUE, TREE. Other solutions may be possible.

## **From the Editorial Group**

**Our thanks to those who contributed articles this month. If your group or section is not mentioned and you feel you have a story to tell, please send to Gill for the October, Vine edition.**

**Note that the Editorial Teams alternate..... n.b. the October issue will be prepared by **Gordon and Mary** and you should send items to them no later than **5pm on Wednesday 23rd September, 2021**. Please include events and details up to 1st November 2021.**

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