

TODMORDEN BAPTIST HERALD

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2017

VALE BAPTIST CHURCH

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ROOMFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH

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Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise:
Which having no chief, overseer, or ruler, Provides her meat in
the summer, and gathers her food in the harvest.

Proverbs 6:6-8

Vale Pulpit Supply

1st Oct	10.30 am	Janet Waithaka - Communion
8th Oct	10.30 am	Betty Pedley - Ladies' Sunday
15th Oct	10.45 am	Harvest service at Roomfield
22nd Oct	10.30 am	Stephen Wells
29th Oct	10.30 am	Rev Brian Goodall
5th Nov	10.30 am	Rev Irene Greenman - Communion
12th Nov	10.45 am	Rev Kath Lawson - Remembrance Sunday
19th Nov	10.30 am	Colin Scholes
26th Nov	10.30 am	Susan Western

He who has so little knowledge of human nature as to seek happiness by changing anything but his own disposition will waste his life in fruitless efforts.

Samuel Johnson

Roomfield Pulpit Supply

1st Oct	10.45 am	John Lockhart
8th Oct	10.45 am	Doreen Landriau
15th Oct	10.45 am	John Lockhart
22nd Oct	10.45 am	John Lockhart
29th Oct	10.45 am	Allen Holmes
5th Nov	10.45 am	John Lockhart
12th Nov	10.45 am	John Lockhart
19th Nov	10.45 am	John Lockhart
26th Nov	10.45 am	John Lockhart

***“Unless the Lord builds the house,
its builders labour in vain” Psa 127:1***

We recently had the opportunity to attend worship in the Methodist church local to our caravan in Teesdale. The lectionary passage, one week late, was the same as the one I had preached on at Vale the previous week. It is always interesting to hear a different “take” on a passage you have preached on. It was a completely different sermon but very interesting. The preacher (his name was Ian) began with some geological observations about the rock formation which underlies a large swathe of land reaching from Teesdale as far up as Edinburgh, which is the foundation for many of the castles in the North East including Bamburgh Castle and Lindisfarne Castle.

He pointed out that a strong castle depends on a firm foundation and that though walls may fall into disrepair, it offers a chance to rebuild with adaptations that make the castle more appropriate for changing times.

His illustration made me think about our church and the changes we face since we have been without a minister and now a moderator. The church survives as long it is built on the right foundation of Jesus Christ, but some of the structures have been dismantled leaving us the opportunity to rebuild to adapt to changing times. What we face is something which has been faced already many times during the church’s history, and no doubt will face again.

We have been offered a chance to consider a different style of ministry, one in which a leadership team might offer a chance for the involvement of more people using the gifts God has given them to enable the church to grow. During my time as minister I tried to ensure that ministry was sustainable, that where gifts were discerned, people had the chance to use them. Much as we might like to leave it all to “the Minister” the truth is that ministry is not a one person band, where one person does everything and everyone sits back to watch. Christianity is not a spectator sport. It is the job of everyone, using the varied gifts God has given to his people.

The important thing is to remember this is *God’s* church. It is founded on the rock who is Jesus Christ and God is the one who builds it. Anything else, as the hymn says, is shifting sand.

Kath Lawson

Vale News

Family News

We were very sorry to learn that Kay Graham lost her beloved dad Bill on July 25th. To all Bill's family and friends, we send our deepest sympathy. We will remember him with affection at Vale.

Congratulations to Edwin and Joyce Banks who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on August 17th. They held an Open House on the day and had many visitors who were treated to a delicious buffet. Nigel spoke to his parents via Skype from Australia and some of us were able to say hello to him.

Thank you to everyone for your cards, gifts, flowers and good wishes for our Diamond Anniversary. Thank you to Kath for including our blessing and renewal of vows in the service and to all who joined in our special days.

Also on August 17th, a market stall was held in aid of Christian Aid which was well stocked with cakes and jams etc. with several ladies from the churches in Todmorden serving on the stall. £360 was raised for this very worthy cause. Thanks to all who contributed.

Joyce Banks arranged a Beetle Drive on July 21st which was well attended and raised £61 for church funds. Refreshments were served afterwards and everyone enjoyed the evening.

Our family would like to say a big thank you for all the cards and support given to us when dad died in July. Even though he was 89 years old it was such a shock to us as he deteriorated so quickly in the space of a week. It was a blessing for him and for us who were watching him suffer. He died peacefully in his sleep for which we were grateful.

I would also like to say a big thank you to Irene for a wonderful service. We received a lot of praise for her after the service from family and friends who attended. Kay

The little box on the table in church during October is for CICS.

A very moving DVD of the Leprosy Mission was shown in church on July 16th and a retiring collection was taken to support their very vital work in supporting and treating the sufferers of this disease. Our collection raised £140 and St Michael's added £40, so a cheque for £180 was sent.

Flowers for the month of July were provided by Mr John Kerr and Mrs Diane Morris (in memory of her Mum). Flowers for August were provided by Mrs Dorothy Pilling, Mrs Hilda King, Mr & Mrs Ian Walsh, Pam & Jim Anderson (in memory of Tommy & Barbara Threlfall) and the family of Jackie & Elsie Yates. For the beginning of September they were supplied by Mrs Christine Clark. Thank you all for your donations.

Ladies' Guild

Rev Betty Pedley will be taking our Ladies' Sunday service on October 8th, and everyone is very welcome.

Joyce Brierley will be showing us some of her pictures on October 24th and Margaret Crowther will be with us on November 28th, also with pictures for us to see. Please do come along and bring a friend with you.

There will be a bring and share Harvest Supper at Vale 6.30 pm on Saturday October 14th and an Operation Agri DVD will be shown. (Gifts for Cornholme food bank and retiring collection for Operation Agri).

Our Harvest service will be on October 15th when we will be joining our friends at Roomfield church



Do Not Ask Me to Remember



(An Alzheimer's poem, Author unknown)

Do not ask me to remember, don't try to make me understand,
Let me rest and know you're with me, kiss my cheek and hold my hand.
I'm confused beyond your concept, I am sad and sick and lost.
All I know is that I need you to be with me at all cost.
Do not lose your patience with me, do not scold or curse or cry.
I can't help the way I'm acting, can't be different though I try.
Just remember that I need you, that the best of me is gone.
Please don't fail to stand beside me, love me 'til my life is done.

October is the time of year when we remember the work of the Gideons and if you would like to support them again, please see me and I will be pleased to forward on any donations. Diane

Holiday Club 2017 (August 23rd-25th)

This year's theme for the holiday club, "Fishers of Men", was suggested by one of the Sunday school children, Madison. She also came up with some other great ideas. The thing that impressed me most however, was the way she launched into the three days by praying a beautiful prayer that the Lord certainly answered. Thank you Madison. I would also like to say a big thank you for all who gave of their time to make it such a success.

We had contact with 19 children over the three days, 6 of which were first time attenders. They had three days of singing, dancing, playing games and doing different craft activities all around our theme of fish and fishing.

We had a BBQ on the Friday evening when we also enjoyed fish fingers and fish shaped biscuits that the children had made.

One of the parents who brought 3 children on the Friday (First time attender) made a comment on Facebook I thought would be good to finish on, "I have just spent a wonderful morning with my children at Vale Baptist Church, where they had a great time playing and doing different activities. What a lovely community."



Roomfield News

Roomfield Church – Regular Activities		
MONDAY	Inspire – Bible Study	11:00am (check for dates)
WEDNESDAY	Rainbows contact Katie Brooman (07769151276) Brownies contact Abigail Birch (07796 618411). Guides contact Theresa Scholfield (01706 839959).	5.00 – 6.00 pm (term time) 6.10 - 7.20 pm (term time) 7.30 – 9.00 pm (term time)
THURSDAY	Pilates Classes Contact Kerensa McKie: 01706 818007	10.00 -11.00 am
FRIDAY	Quo Vadis/ Film Nights (occasional Fridays)	7:30 pm (check for dates)

Inspire – Bible Study

Our Bible Study sessions take place on Mondays at 11:00 most weeks. We are currently working our way through Acts, which throws up many surprises that people may not have noticed before! You are very welcome to join the group at any stage. Please look out for notices to check which weeks we will meet.

Quo Vadis

Our Quo Vadis discussion group will be meeting on Friday, 29th September at 7:30pm and then again on Friday, 24th November.

Churches in Ukraine

As in any other country, religious buildings in Ukraine solemnly reflect the country's long and complex history. As I briefly travelled across Ukraine this summer, I couldn't but notice different interesting details in Ukraine's religious landscape.



On an unusually cold and rainy day my mum got up very early to go to the centre of my native Kremenchuk (Central Ukraine), where local parishioners from various Orthodox churches gathered to discuss a potential construction of a new cathedral. The meeting took place outside, on the square where there used to be the Assumption Cathedral, built in 1804 and destroyed by the German troops in 1943. After the war the square was cleared from the debris, covered with large concrete plates and decorated with a monument to Lenin. When Lenin was demolished by unauthorised locals in 2014, the square became an empty reminder of the city's history. Soon afterwards Germany offered a grant to reconstruct the Assumption Cathedral based on the remaining original drawings of an Italian architect (the drawings were discovered in Italy).

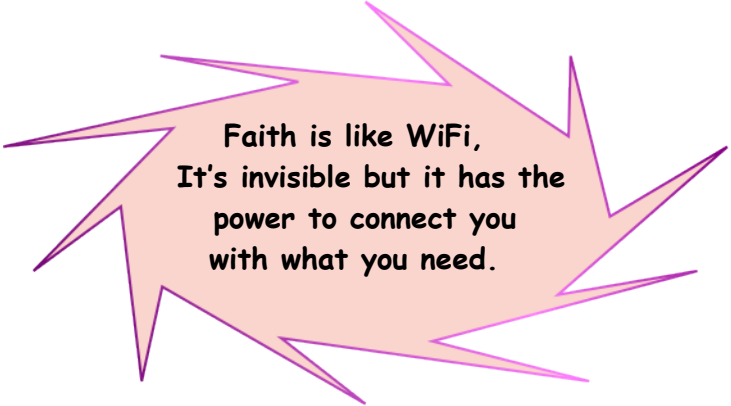
Consequently, the local community had to gather and decide which Orthodox branch (Kyiv's or Moscow's) would own the new cathedral after its construction. Given the ongoing war with Russia, the feeling was that it would be inappropriate to give this cathedral to the Russian Orthodox Church, and this matter triggered many debates in the city. The parishioners erected a cross near the square, to mark their intentions, and the cross is quietly looking at the empty space where Lenin used to be, and which is still an important place for my dad, who misses the monument to Lenin as a reminder of his happy young years.

As I moved up the map, I came to Poltava (Central Ukraine), which in 2000-2004 restored its Holy Assumption Cathedral. The cathedral was built in the 18th century and fully destroyed in 1934. Inside and outside the cathedral looks like a traditional Orthodox temple: with golden decorations, domes, icons, clean white walls and bright icons. >>

However, when you look closer you'll notice that there is something interesting about this temple: apart from its usual religious functions, it now also serves as Poltava's volunteer centre, which supplies various aids (such as food, clothes and equipment) to the Ukrainian army, fighting in Eastern Ukraine. The cathedral has now combined two parallel worlds: a quiet and solemn world of icons and contemplation, and a busy and noisy world of deliveries, cooking and packing. As the cathedral has become so closely connected with the army, most of the funerals of the killed soldiers from Poltava are held here, which has only enhanced the solemn feel of the building.

When I arrived to Western Ukraine, the historical peculiarities of this region immediately stood out. Western Ukraine had a shorter history of the Soviet rule, and over the previous centuries it was an area which saw battles between various forces: Turkish, Lithuania, Polish, Russian... You name it. The Sts. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Kamianets-Podilskyi clearly reflects the local history: it was founded in 1375 and until the middle of the 17th century it functioned as a Roman Catholic temple. In 1672, during the Turkish occupation of these lands, the temple was transformed temporarily into a mosque and a minaret was built. Shortly afterwards the lands were returned to Poland and the cathedral became a Catholic temple once again, however, the minaret wasn't destroyed: instead, it was decorated with a statue of the Holy Mother. In the years 1946-1990 the church housed a 'museum of atheism' Currently it looks like a wonderful example of architecture, which survived through many troublous times.

Anya Glew



**Faith is like WiFi,
It's invisible but it has the
power to connect you
with what you need.**

Interesting but worthless information!

Giraffes cannot cough (Probably just as well!).
A duck's quack does not echo and nobody knows why.
No word in English rhymes with "month".
The word "companion" comes from the Latin
for someone with whom you share bread.
Antarctica is the only continent with no spiders.
Charlie Chaplin once entered a "Charlie Chaplin
look alike" competition and came third!

The oldest computer can be traced back to Adam and Eve.
Surprise! Surprise!
It was an Apple!
But with extremely limited memory.
Just one byte...
Then everything crashed!

If you have good
thoughts, they will
shine out of your face like
sunbeams and you will
always look lovely.
Roald Dahl

Lord, there isn't any use in hiding my weaknesses from You,
I realise You already know everything I'm going to ask You for,
but Your Word says to ask for what we need, in faith believing.
Lord please give me Your Strength,
please support me with Your power,
help me make it through the trials that confront me.
In Jesus' name I pray. Amen

VALE DIARY DATES

- Sat 7th Oct 8.30 am Men's breakfast
- Mon 9th Oct 7.30 pm Churches Together Meeting at St Mary's
- Tue 10th Oct 7.30 pm Church Meeting
- Sat 14th Oct 6.30 pm Bring and share Harvest Supper
- Sat 21st Oct 8.30 am Men's breakfast
- Tue 24th Oct 2pm Ladies Guild - Joyce Brierley
- Sat 4th Nov 8.30 am Men's breakfast
- Sun 11th Nov **Herald notes for DEC-JAN magazine due today**
- Mon 13th Nov 7.30 pm Churches Together Meeting at St Mary's
- Sat 18th Nov` 8.30 am Men's breakfast
- Tue 28th Nov 2pm Ladies Guild -Margaret Crowther
- Tue 14th Nov 7.30 pm Church Meeting

The following regular meetings take place at Vale , All are welcome.

SUNDAY	Meeting for prayer and quiet before Church Service	9.45 am to 10.15 am
MONDAY	Elevenses, come and have a cuppa and chat in a relaxed atmosphere at Vale	10.30 am -12 noon
TUESDAY	Prayer Meeting in Church	10.00 am
	Prayer / Bible Study meeting at Vale (Parsonage or Church)	7.30 pm - 8.30 pm
SATURDAY	Men's breakfast alternate Saturdays	08:30 am - 10.00 am

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How happy every child of grace
Who knows his sins forgiven.
This earth, he cries, is not my place
I seek my place in heaven.
A country far from mortal sight
Yet, O' by faith I see
The land of rest, the saint's delight,
The heaven prepared for me!

Weardale Museum