

# TODMORDEN BAPTIST HERALD

## JUNE - JULY 2025

### VALE BAPTIST CHURCH

**Contact Person:**

Mrs Carol Haughey

 01706 816557

Email: [haughey524@btinternet.com](mailto:haughey524@btinternet.com)  
[www.valebc.org.uk](http://www.valebc.org.uk)



### ROOMFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH

**Contact Number:**

 07514487520

Email: [dilysppeacecock@gmail.com](mailto:dilysppeacecock@gmail.com)  
[www.roomfieldchurch.org](http://www.roomfieldchurch.org)



On the day of Pentecost all the Lord's followers were together in one place.

Suddenly there was a noise from heaven like the sound of a mighty wind! It filled the house where they were meeting. Then they saw what looked like fiery tongues moving in all directions, and a tongue came and settled on each person there.

The Holy Spirit took control of everyone.

Acts 2:1-4

# Vale Pulpit Supply

1 <sup>st</sup> June	10.30 am	Stephen Wells - Communion
8 <sup>th</sup> June	10.30 am	Stephen Wells - ANNIVERSARY- Pentecost followed by a Bring and Share lunch
15 <sup>th</sup> June	10.30 am	Neal Lefroy Owen
22 <sup>nd</sup> June	10.30 am	Simon Keane
29 <sup>th</sup> June	10:30 am	Clare Ashton
6 <sup>th</sup> July	10:30 am	Clare Ashton - Communion
13 <sup>th</sup> July	10:30 am	Crawford Kirkwood
20 <sup>th</sup> July	10:30 am	Nigel Turton
27 <sup>th</sup> July	10.30 am	Simon Keane

## A Prayer

**Lord, Fix me when I am the problem,  
And protect me when I am not.**

-----

**The reason I am now older and somewhat wiser,  
is that God protected me when I was  
young and stupid!**

## VALE DIARY DATES

- Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> June      7.00 pm Deacons Meeting
- Tue 24<sup>th</sup> June     2 .00 pm Ladies Guild
- Tue 8<sup>th</sup> July        7.30 pm Church Meeting
- Sun 13<sup>th</sup> July      Notes for August - September Herald due today
- Tue 22<sup>nd</sup> July     2.00 pm Ladies Guild

Church notice bloomer  
**Remembrance Sunday:**  
**We will remember those killed and injured**  
**in conflicts during our morning service**

The following regular meetings take place at Vale , All are welcome.		
<b>Sunday</b>	Meeting for prayer and quiet before Church Service	9.45 am - 10.15 am
<b>Monday</b>	Eleveneses, come and have a cuppa and chat in a relaxed atmosphere Community Keep Fit	10.30 am to 12 noon 4.00 to 5.00 pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	Men's Prayer meeting Prayer / Bible Study meeting at Vale Ladies Guild (4th Tuesday in the month)	10.00 am to 11.00 am 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm 2.00 pm
<b>Thursday</b>	Parent and toddler Group (Term Time only)  Tai Chi	9.30 am to 11.30 am  1.30 pm - 3 pm
<b>Friday</b>	Prayer for our Community  Rock Solid Youth Church	10.30 am - 11.30 am  7.00 pm to 8.30 pm
<b>Saturday</b>	Men's breakfast	8.30 am to 10.00 am

***“Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?” Matt 7:3***

Some years ago we took part in *The Jesus Video Project* as part of Churches Together in Todmorden. One reaction we came across very frequently was the view that churches were full of hypocrites; people who professed to believe one thing but didn’t reflect this in their behaviour. I would guess that nowhere is this more apparent than in our relationships with our fellow church members.

I have heard it said that the things we find most fault with in the behaviour of others are probably things others would criticise in our behaviour. Typically, however, we are often blind to our own shortcomings. It was this tendency that Jesus was addressing in the quotation above.

Nothing causes more problems in churches than bad blood between church members. And what a terrible picture it presents of the church which is supposed to be a reflection of Jesus Christ in the world. One of the clearest instructions Jesus left his disciples was that we should love one another as he loves us. In fact one of the comments made by non-Christian writers about the early church was how much they loved each other.

This is not to say there weren’t problems in the early church. You only have to read Paul’s letter to the church at Corinth in particular to see what can happen when people from vastly different backgrounds are suddenly put together and expected to work together. But one of the ways we put God’s love into action is by our willingness to forgive one another; up to 70 times 7 Jesus said. Elsewhere we are told to pray for those who hurt us by their treatment of us.

A friend of mine worked with someone who really got his back up. For a long time he prayed God would move him to another job. Then he got the idea maybe he should pray God’s blessing on the person every time irritating thoughts arose. When the person received a promotion that removed him from the same office, he found his feelings toward his one-time thorn in the flesh had changed so much that he was sad to see him go! I can say from personal experience it does work.

The best example we can give to fellow Christians and the world is to stop indulging in in-fighting. As Pope Leo said in his address soon after being appointed Pope, “God doesn’t need soldiers, he needs brothers”.

***Kath Lawson***

# Vale News

## Family News

Our thoughts and prayers go to Anne Binns and family at the death of her husband, Melvyn.

\*\*\*\*\*

Thank you all for your prayers, good wishes, letters, cards and gifts after my fall on January 17th. My collar was removed yesterday at Leeds hospital. Wonderful as I'd gone fully expecting I'd need another 4 months with the collar, but my neck has healed. The consultant said if the breaks had been 1cm away, the healing would have been much different. I was warned my neck would be painful (and it is!) but it will get better in time. I just have to be careful.

I also saw a doctor in Halifax hospital on Monday regarding my Parkinson's Disease and she was so nice. When I go again in 6 months time, I'll not be nervous to see her.

Now sorting out overdue eye examinations and dental inspections for next month, by which time I hope to have managed to get on and off a bus without bumping into someone's legs with my 4-wheel walker! An Occupational Therapist is coming next week to accompany me on my first bus ride since January.

Diane

\*\*\*\*\*

I would like to thank family and my friends at church for helping to make my 90th birthday party such a special day. Thank you for the many cards, and donations made which were shared between the RNLI and the British Heart Foundation, two charities close to my heart.. In total, £400 was raised. It was a lovely day to remember, Thank you all.

Many thanks for all the prayers for me from everyone at Vale. I am so lucky to have so many caring friends.

Shirley

\*\*\*\*\*

In June we will again celebrate another 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Congratulations to Margaret Crowther.

\*\*\*\*\*

Thanks to your generosity, £850 was raised for Christian Aid

£200 was sent to the Overgate appeal from money raised at the Lent group/Elevenses.

## Flowers

Flowers for April were provided by Christine Clarke, Shirley Fielden and the family of Jackie Yates.

For May they were provided by the family of Elsie Yates.

Thank you for your donations and also to those donors who wish to remain anonymous.

## Birthday Scheme

Thank you to all our members of the Birthday Scheme who contributed to the cheque for £275 which was gratefully received by the BMS. If anyone would like to join the scheme, please contact Joyce Banks.

## Todmorden Town Council

A "Service to Todmorden" award was presented to Jim Haughey for his work at Vale Baptist Church in Cornholme



## Baptisms



It was an exciting time on 18<sup>th</sup> May when Jaden, Ellie and Natasha were all baptised (Jim's nephew Terry was also baptised)

### My Testimony Jaden Landregon

Before I came to Christ my life was all good and well, I did well in school, finished college and went to university, all while boxing and looking like I had a promising career and life ahead of me.

I didn't believe in anything, always saying I'll believe something if I see it. But now I realise, how could I ever see the Father through my eyes - for it's in your heart you must see him.

Whilst at college, I started hanging around with the wrong people. I got involved in dealing and started using myself.

Things got worse, I couldn't get off the stuff no matter how I tried.

I stopped boxing, gave up university and ended in a very deep hole which I spent years getting out of. It's like you are in a cage that you can't break free from. Even after years of abuse and rushing to hospital several times, I still hadn't learned my lesson.

It was so hard on me mentally feeling as though I had gone from being somebody with the world at my feet, believing I was going to become someone, to then feel like I had become a nobody.

Maybe that is what I was for a while, and that dark cloud never leaves you, but you can control it and learn how to not give in. For one day, I sat there, not having slept for days, and I remember just asking God to ease the pain I felt. And He did.

The next morning I got on my knees and begged Him to help me. Trying for years, it was clear I couldn't do it alone. I was petrified of what the final outcome could have been. I was scared of myself.

That is when Alfie and I began speaking again after years. I believe God brought us back together to help each other. We started boxing together at the gym. Following from that I asked him if I could start coming to church with him, to try and stitch up the other hole in my heart, which was the guilt I felt and sadness of my late grandad.

When I was young my dad died. I became close to my Aunt Kelly (dad's sister) who died a few years later. Grandad had lost both children and only had one grandchild - me.

We were so close but just before he died he asked me to go and see him. I was too deep in a pit at the time to do so. I let him down which will haunt me for ever.

Jesus says in John 14 : Do not let your hearts be troubled, you believe in God, believe also in me. I am going to prepare a place for you. Thomas said "Lord we don't know the way to the place you are going, so how will we know the way?"

Jesus replied "I am the way"

This verse gives me hope that one day I will see my grandad and everyone else in the heavens again. Jesus tells us there is a heaven and if there is a heaven there is a hope.

Becoming a believer isn't something that happens over night. First you try and reach out, start praying, maybe you don't notice anything straight away.

Over time you start to notice changes, life is different, then you start to see more and more.

If you haven't embarked on that journey yet, I encourage you to do so. Proverbs 24:16 says : For though the righteous fall seven times, the Lord will help them rise again.

Don't ever give up because you are able. With God is much easier than without Him. Never lose hope.

Quote from Pope Leo XIV.

" Brothers, sisters...

I speak to you, especially to those who no longer believe, no longer hope, no longer pray, because they think God has left. To those who are fed up with scandals, with misused power, with the silence of a Church that sometimes seems more like a palace than a home.

I, too, was angry with God.

I, too, saw good people die, children suffer, grandparents cry without medicine.

And yes... there were days when I prayed and only felt an echo.

But then I discovered something:

God doesn't shout. God whispers.

And sometimes He whispers from the mud, from pain, from a grandmother who feeds you without having anything.

I don't come to offer you perfect faith.

I come to tell you that faith is a walk with stones, puddles, and unexpected hugs.

I'm not asking you to believe in everything.

I'm asking you not to close the door. Give a chance to the God who waits for you without judgment.

I'm just a priest who saw God in the smile of a woman who lost her son... and yet she cooked for others.

That changed me.

So if you're broken, if you don't believe, if you're tired of the lies... come anyway. With your anger, your doubt, your dirty backpack.

No one here will ask you for a VIP card.

Because this Church, as long as I breathe, will be a home for the homeless, and a rest for the weary.

God doesn't need soldiers.

He needs brothers.

And you, yes, you... are one of them."

Robert Prevost (Leo XIV)



Let's say you were having issues with your car so you take it to a mechanic and he says that you need a new fuel pump. But you get a new stereo instead. You drive out of the stereo shop and to your surprise the car is still spitting and sputtering. So you go to another mechanic and he tells you the same thing, but rather than fixing the fuel pump you decide to go get the windows tinted. As soon as you leave the shop the car begins sputtering again. Aggravated as can be you drive straight to another mechanic shop and sure enough they tell you the fuel pump is bad and needs replaced but instead you decide the car will run better if you simply move to a new location. You pack up all your belongings & drag your car to Colorado. As soon as you get settled, you get in the car smiling really big just knowing it's going to be so different but nope, it begins sputtering immediately. Reluctantly you carry it to an another mechanic and he tells you the fuel pump needs to be replaced... so finally you decide to listen to the mechanic and replace the fuel pump. And wouldn't you know it, it purrs like a kitten.

Now If we heard someone did that we would think they were nuts. But many MANY people do it every single week. Except it isn't their car... It's their life. There's way too many people that go to church and hear a sermon about their "fuel pump" and leave church and refuse to change it. They read the Bible but refuse to do what it says. They pray to God, asking Him to fix their life but instead of fixing the real issue they choose to do things their own way one more time hoping maybe this time it will be different.

Listen, you can change everything you want to change but until you allow The Mechanic to replace that fuel pump, you're going to continue having problems. It's time to do what you know you should have done a long time ago. But I have Good News...

Jesus told them, "They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. (Mark 2:17) Let Him do what only He can. Allow Him to fix the issue once and for all.

Dewayne Greenwood (Internet)



# Roomfield News

[www.roomfieldchurch.org](http://www.roomfieldchurch.org)



June/July 2025

## Roomfield events & Services

	25 May	10.45	Jim Haughey
	1 Jun	10.45	Stuart - Communion
Tue	3 Jun	7.30	Church meeting
Fri	6 Jun	10.30	Contemplative Prayer group (1 hour)
	8 Jun	10.45	Nikki Jenkins
	15 Jun	10.45	Irene
	22 Jun	10.45	Irene
	29 Jun	10.45	Shared Ministry service
Fri	4 Jul	10.30	Contemplative Prayer group (1 hour)
	6 Jul	10.45	Stuart - Communion
	13 Jul	10.45	John Froud

An up to date programme of events  
can be found on the church website



### Spiritual Nuggets

*When life gives you more than you can stand—kneel.*

*God doesn't call the qualified; He qualifies the called.*

*Prayer is the bridge between panic and peace.*

*Faith doesn't always make things easy, but it makes them possible.*

*You may not know what the future holds, but you know Who holds the future*

*Peace isn't the absence of trouble, but the presence of Christ.*

*Worship is not a part of your life—it is your life.*

## **Light in the darkness.**

To paraphrase St Paul 'When I was a child I knew God as a child knows but when I became a woman I put away childish things.' Actually, with God, I never put Him away but my understanding of Him developed.

I always longed to know more about Him and in the intervening years I have come to know God with me all the time.

So it was on Easter morning, before it was light, I encountered God afresh. I woke in awful pain and wondered – did Jesus suffer when His body was resurrected? I don't want to relive the next few hours of pain and uncertainty but with every fresh climax of pain I asked God to get me through it – or to make it stop.

I didn't have the brain space to formulate any prayers, just a quiet crying out to the God I knew was with me, even in this.

It was strange how calm and chaos came to a focus when the surgeon decided that I needed surgery NOW. It felt as if someone was working on every limb but my focus was totally on the doctor – his eyes level with mine at trolley level – as he shared the litany of what would be and what might be, to which I consented.

I think my first deliberate prayer was for the surgical team, that they would be successful in their work, whatever they needed to do. Everything was happening so quickly.

On my way to theatre I thought of all the people who were praying for me. When the mask went on and I was told to relax I asked God that I might be aware of all those who were praying for me and with me.

It was so much more.

Beginning with God, Jesus and my old Sunday School teachers, friends, family and prophets .. it was like the introduction to a Star Wars film but with faces instead of text coming towards me on a huge screen.

It was Glory.

The remembrance of that experience stayed with me strongly in the days I spent in hospital: I hope that I will always be able to recall it.

To know and love someone from childhood into maturity and a life-long relationship is a real gift. To know God for a lifetime is so much more.

I don't remember ever asking God for anything like that before, but perhaps I only had to do that, to ask. It was Glory.

Praise the Lord:

Christ is risen indeed.

Irene Greenman



## THE WEAVER

My life is but a weaving  
between my Lord and me;  
I cannot choose the colors  
he worketh steadily

Off-times he weaveth sorrow  
and I, in foolish pride  
Forget he see's the upper  
and I the underside

Shall God unfold the canvas  
and explain the reason why  
Nor till the loom is silent  
and the shuttles cease to fly

The dark threads are as needed  
in the weavers skillful hand  
As the threads of gold and silver  
on the pattern he has planned

He knows. He loves. He cares.  
Nothing the truth can dim  
He gives the very best to those  
who leave the choice with him

*Corrie Ten Boom*