

# intouch



The Psalms have always been a source of inspiration, comfort and guidance for people in many different circumstances, and a starting point for prayer, praise and reflection. Stealing shamelessly from the summer Sunday evening sermons at Sent, this month we begin a new series of articles on *My Favourite Psalm*. Chris Dyson kicks off with a précis of his thought-provoking sermon on Psalm 69 (page 21). If we can find 150 people with a different favourite, the series could run and run, and would be due to finish in the August 2041 edition of *Intouch* (cut out and collect them all)! If a particular Psalm, or verse from a Psalm, has a special meaning for you, then let us know in 50 to 500 words, and we'll feature it in a future edition. Or if, like the children at Connect, you've written a new Psalm (page 23), send that too!

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*Matthew Newman* Editor

## **Informed, Involved, Inspired... Intouch!**

Contributions to: [magazine@spbc.org.uk](mailto:magazine@spbc.org.uk) or to the church office

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# From the Ministry Team

## Reflections on Summer

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**T**his time of year is for many people a time of change. Pupils and students are getting to grips with a new academic year, and the autumn leaves crunching under our feet remind us that a new season is upon us. It's also a time where each year, I tend to reflect back over the summer.

One of the standout things for me this summer has been David Morris's two sermons on Ruth. Not only was it lovely to see Dave and Judy again, but also exciting to hear what Dave had to impart to us.

The book of Ruth holds a special



place in my heart because it was the story that Elfed Godding (now Director of Evangelical Alliance Wales) preached on at our wedding at Carreg Llwyd Church, Oswestry, 21 years ago, on 9 September 1995. Ruth's words to Naomi in Ruth 1.16, "Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay", are often quoted at weddings and these short but powerful words have brought Mike and I through the inevitable ups and downs of married life so far, helping us weather a few storms along the way – a few little gusts and one or two gale force squalls!

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*In a time of fast change  
people have a need for  
belonging. In belonging we  
feel accepted and safe.*

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Ruth stuck with Naomi through all the grief and uncertainty of change. Ruth had lost her husband. Naomi had lost her husband and her two sons, leaving her both a refugee and a vulnerable widow. Like Ruth and Naomi, we too are facing a time of

national upheaval and economic uncertainty. Whatever your views on Brexit, there can be no denying that it has brought with it some unpredictability, at least in the short to medium term. Globally this summer there has also been much unrest, terrorist attacks, political turmoil and mass movement of people. All this was punctuated by the Olympics in Rio which briefly brought some sense of global togetherness. We live in a time of fast change and that can, for many people, bring anxiety. It is perhaps in times such as these that, more than ever, people have a need for belonging. In belonging we feel accepted and safe.



**A**s a church we too are going through a time of change in some areas, particularly as we seek, under God's guidance, to appoint a Senior Pastor. On a personal level in the toddler groups it has been a privilege to help families navigate some of the changes happening in their lives - some joyful, some unforeseen, some very painful. Together with dealing with the whirlwind of change that having a baby brings, some mums are also coming to terms with being single parents, some have escaped abusive situations, some are seeking asylum and others are feeling apprehensive

about returning to work after maternity leave.

In the first of David Morris's sermons this summer he said, "One of the greatest things that we can offer to each other in the struggles that we all face in the world is

Ruth's kind of unstinting love and faithfulness". The name Ruth means "companion" or "friend" - which of course is exactly what Ruth was to Naomi. When our daughter was born on 16 July 2007 we named her Zoë Ruth which means "Life Companion" - and that is our hope for her - that she will be a good lifelong friend to people, through life's challenges. We chose her middle name to honour her late maternal Great, Great Auntie Ruth who was a missionary in Zambia for many years and who, as a nurse, set up a hospital to treat, love and witness to those who had received the life-changing diagnosis of HIV/AIDS.

**J**ust like Ruth in the Bible and Great, Great Auntie Ruth, being a good friend to others in times of change is what we are called to be. Getting alongside each other in God's love, being a listening ear and just, well, being there.

*Kate Burkett*

Under 5s Toddler Groups Co-ordinator

# Around the Church

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## **A Walk in the Woods (with Sent Lounge)**

The August Sent Lounge took the form of a Bank Holiday walk at Roundhay Park. It was a lovely little assembled group, of Sent and Headingley Morning Mission Community members as well as a couple of people from other churches in Headingley.

With both Grace Shipley and Lucy Churchill in tow, several methods of coercion were employed: with, Ruth carrying Lucy on her shoulders more than 50% of the total walk, Nathan singing to Grace



**Peekaboo**



**On the walk**

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*I marvelled at the idea of  
the Garden of Eden and  
our ultimate destination of  
eternal glory with our  
Father in Heaven*

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to bring her round from a toddler moment and then when Lucy upped the toddler melt down anti and decided she could go no further, a packet of crisps emerged from my bag, thus bringing restoration, peace and tranquillity to the park's populace.

Whilst on the Tim Cooke-led walk, which is definitely at a pace, there was still an opportunity to observe the masterpiece, which is God's creation. The sense of space and greenery that is tempered by the various water

sources, made me marvel at the idea of the Garden of Eden and our ultimate destination of eternal glory with our Father in Heaven.

Somehow in the park that day, I felt closer to our Saviour, his sense of peaceful purpose and leading in my life, which is so frequently inhabited with uncertainty and trepidation. It was amazing to feel calm and refreshed.

We completed the Gorge Walk and retreated to the Waterfront Café for refreshments. It was so nice to get to know people better and have fellowship with them. Once we disbanded, Ruth and I took Lucy to play in the playground and for an ice cream, she decided to play peekaboo with the park bollards, a demonstration of how much she had enjoyed her morning. This was my first experience of Sent Lounge, but it definitely won't be my last!

*Kate Churchill*

Sent

## **NCYH Summer Camp**

Just by way of a refresher, Summer Camp is a week-long residential run primarily by churches from Nottingham.

Thank you for your prayers for the event.

We had another fantastic week in

Market Rasen! Three girls (Ella, Mollie and Sally Anne) decided to follow Jesus for the first time and several young people re-committed.

The weather was good and even when we had rain, it didn't interrupt our activities - on one occasion it meant an impromptu sing-a-long in the marketplace.

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*Please pray for all who went on the Summer Camp, that they will keep getting to know Jesus*

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There were very few accidents (one Camper did suffer a bruised finger during a pillow fight) and we're pleased to report that there were no trips to the hospital this year! :-)

Please continue to pray for all of the Campers, that they will keep getting to know Jesus, connect with a local church and live differently among their peers.

*Nathan Shipley*

Associate Pastor

Youth and Young Adults



## **Northside News**

We wrote in the last issue about our decision to stop worshipping at Adel Primary School and join with the

## **South Parade @ Soul Survivor in Numbers**

- 14 teenagers
- 8 adults
- 1 Grace
- 4 Mission Communities
- 1 minibus (Hail to the minibus driver Geoff King!)
- 3 cars
- 14 tents
- 13 marvellous meals (Our compliments to the chef Heather McLeen!)
- 2 bottles of hand sanitiser
- 1 box of tissues
- 9 main meetings
- 1 inflatable banana
- 22+ seminars attended
- 36 pegs distributed
- 2 Soul Action fun runners (Go Beckie Grimshaw and Nathan Rockley!)
- 1 five-day-long birthday celebration (Happy birthday Joey!)



**23 people... (?)**

congregation at Headingley. We did not see this as the end of Northside, but a change in focus perhaps. We will still have Cafe Church at ABC Coffee Shop on the first Sunday of each month, and Outburst at the coffee shop on the third Sunday.

We have also proposed to meet at the coffee shop on the other Sundays for a few months only, with the intention of listening for God to tell us what he wants us to do. We anticipate that this group of members will be small, but may be swelled by some who currently come to Cafe Church.

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*Come to the Coffee Shop  
on 16 October to hear  
the perfectly formed  
Outburst Band*

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Some members of the mission community are moving to



Moortown Baptist, and others going to Headingley morning or Sent. Please welcome us, as this decision has been difficult for some.

# Northside

Our final service at Adel Primary School is on Sunday 9

October, and will be led by a founder member of Adel congregation, Geoff Greer.

One of the high points at present is the Outburst band – small, but perfectly formed. Come to Outburst at the Coffee Shop on 16 October to hear the band!

*Katharine Widdowson*

Northside Leadership Team

## **Champion Church!**

Leeds Faith in Schools exists to be good news to the high schools of Leeds. With more than 20 years of work behind us, we are blessed that God has used us so significantly in the lives of young people.

When it all began, we were rooted in the importance of partnership and collaboration, and we could not have managed thus far without the support, prayer and involvement of local churches around the city. We are so thankful for the individuals and churches who have stood with us and championed our work. We





Associate Pastor Nathan Shipley with a Champion Church certificate to be displayed at the church. Long may this partnership continue for the advancement of the Kingdom.

For more information about Leeds Faith in Schools, please visit [www.lfis.org](http://www.lfis.org) or contact us: 0113 247 0973 / [info@lfis.org](mailto:info@lfis.org)

literally could not do it without you. South Parade is one such church who have stood with us and invested financially for a number of years, and for your commitment to us we have given you the title Champion Church. More recently, by way of recognition of this partnership and as a show of appreciation, we presented

### *Mike Humphries*

Project Administrator,  
Leeds Faith in Schools

### **Cragg Visits South Africa**

Every two years a party, plus friends, from the Cragg Mission Community, visit South Africa to work with the Sethani charity.



**Cragg Team before setting off for South Africa**

Sethani works with children who have been made orphans because their parents have died from Aids, a situation common across much of the southern half of the African continent.

The Cragg parties have constructed play areas, and led a variety of activities. The photos show this year's party about to leave for Manchester Airport.

*John Lockwood*

Cragg Mission Community

## **Headingley Mission Community**

In spring this year we reported that the Leadership team were looking at the Headingley MC mission strategy. Things have progressed over the summer and at the MC meeting in July we considered how a vision (dream) or mission can be transformed into reality. We collected feedback from those who attended (see page 37)

We've noticed some consistent themes in the comments submitted, and the 5 year timescale effectively gives us a goal to aim at. Having such a goal will clarify and validate existing church activities and inspire new activities in our efforts to

achieve our vision. Before we implement the goal there will be opportunity for discussion at the next MC meeting (date TBC). Talking of the summer, after the service on 7 August we enjoyed good food and warm fellowship once again during another bring and share lunch. David Morris had been preaching in the morning, so it was a good opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new friends too. It really is encouraging to see the hall full and hear the buzz of enthusiastic conversation at events like this, so keep an eye open for future dates.

*Richard Sykes*

Headingley Morning Mission Community  
Leadership Team  
(More on page 37)

## **Senior Minister**

*Intouch* went to press before the visit of Peter and Ann at the end of September, and the special church meeting following his preaching with a view at services at Headingley and Sent.

Whatever the outcome, continue to pray for Peter and his ministry, and for the whole church of South Parade, that God will continue to guide us over the next few months.

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### **...informed...**

Share news from *Around the Church* by sending reports and updates to [magazine@spbc.org.uk](mailto:magazine@spbc.org.uk)



# Climate Change

## *A Matter For Prayer*

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**A** survey of decision makers in 2015 concluded that climate change was the greatest risk to human kind for years to come, ahead of weapons of mass destruction and water crises (floods and droughts). Water crises may be the result of climate changes.

The world's urban population is estimated to increase from around 3.5 billion today, or about half the global population, to around 6.5 billion by 2050, or about 70 per cent of the global population. Most of that growth will occur in developing and emerging market countries. How these cities are planned and built will determine whether they are clean and efficient, or congested, dirty and polluted.

Over the past 25 years, annual global energy demand has increased by around 50 per cent. More than 80 per cent of that demand is today met through fossil fuels. Over the next 20 years, energy demand could increase by more than 40 per cent.

If we continue to burn fossil fuels for energy and release dirty emissions into the atmosphere, we will create immense risks from local air pollution and climate change.

**T**he Paris Climate Agreement reached in autumn 2015 recognises the need to cut global emissions of greenhouse gases strongly, reaching net zero during the second half of this century. The global reductions in annual greenhouse gas emissions required over the next two decades to avoid dangerous climate change could be achieved through measures that will yield other significant economic benefits, such as reductions in air pollution.



Climate change is a very difficult and challenging problem, could I therefore ask everyone to make it a matter of long-term prayer.

**John Lockwood**

Cragg Mission Community



*In Christ I have  
Nothing to hide  
Nothing to prove  
Nothing to fear  
Nothing to lose*

**Spotted at  
[www.facebook.com  
/SPBaptistChurch](http://www.facebook.com/SPBaptistChurch)**

# Fighting Poverty Through Trade

## *Traidcraft's Annual Report*

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**Pam Roe runs the regular Fair-trade stall at Headingley Morning. Here she presents some highlights from Traidcraft's Annual Report.**

This year Traidcraft and its partners supported 558,000 people, running 18 projects in 11 countries. We have been fighting poverty with... tea, textiles, forest fruits, bees, coffee, cotton, horticulture, jute and handi-crafts!

### **Projects**

**Swaziland:** With the world's highest rate of HIV & Aids (26% of the adult population infected), grand-parents are often left to care for their grandchildren when their own children either succumb to the disease or leave to find work elsewhere.

**M**any of the grandmothers have become "chilli grandmothers", an inspiring

group growing chillies used in the 'Black Mamba' company's jars of tasty sauces. Thanks to this they are able to feed their young families.



### **Myanmar**

**(Burma):** Once one of the world's biggest exporters of rice. During half a century of military and communist rule, exports dwindled

and farmers suffered. Under the new regime things are improving. Traidcraft is helping two rural communities to renovate their mills, build storage facilities and start exporting their rice across the world.

**South Asia:** A tea grower working alone on a small plot of land has little bargaining power. The EqualITEA project supported by Traidcraft, local partners in India and Bangladesh and with help from the European Union, is enabling

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*The project supported by Traidcraft is enabling several thousand growers to increase their influence, share knowledge and negotiate best prices*

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several thousand growers to organise themselves into groups so that they can increase their influence, share knowledge and negotiate best prices, as well as receiving training in management and marketing. It has had a major impact on India's tea sector as a whole.

**Palestine:** Trading conditions don't get much more difficult than those faced in Palestine. The Zaytoun company (olive oil products) and the Holy Land Co-operative society (handicrafts) try to keep their business going amidst a volatile atmos-

phere and widespread poverty.

**Nepal:** After last year's devastating earthquake, many people continue to live in tents. Traidcraft's partner, "Get Paper Industry", which makes cards and other paper products, moved quickly to ensure the safety of its employees and their families by assessing damage to homes and helping repair or even rebuild.



### **Justice Matters Campaign**

Good progress has been made over the past year in highlighting those British companies who are exploiting workers in developing countries. The campaign is pressing the government to close the gap in laws and make companies legally accountable for their actions abroad.

**Pam Roe**

Headingley Morning Mission Community

### **...inspired...**

*There's much more on the products and campaigns in the Traidcraft report at [www.traidcraft.co.uk](http://www.traidcraft.co.uk) in the Resources or on the Fairtrade stall at Headingley. The new catalogue is also out: copies available on the stall or ask Pam Roe. Christmas cards available soon!*



**TRAIDCRAFT**  
Fighting poverty through trade

# Who is My Neighbour?

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**Mary was our neighbour, in the semi adjoining ours.**

She was an elderly widow who had lived there for over 50 years. She had recently come home in a police car, not her own car, and was becoming slightly confused. One day I helped her sort out a drawer full of keys to find her back door key. She showed me the spare front door key inside a brass bed-warmer hanging in the hall.



morning, and had been lying there all day.

We rang for an ambulance and her daughter in Grange-over-Sands. She drove over that night, and we were able to give her the key which had been in the bed-warmer. Mary died a week later.

The house was empty for several months before it was put up for sale. During that time wasps nested in the small bedroom and kept setting the alarm off, so we needed our keys to reset the alarm and let the pest controller in.

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*Would you know how to contact the next of kin for your neighbour?*

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The neighbours on the other side saw more of Mary as they shared a drive. One late afternoon they came back from a day out and were concerned that Mary's curtains were drawn. They knew we had keys, so we unlocked the front door. Mary was lying on the stairs in her bed clothes. She had suffered a stroke as she went down in the

If Mary were your neighbour, would you know who had keys in case of emergency? Would you know how to contact the next of kin?

If you were Mary, ageing and living alone far from family, who would you entrust with keys and contact details?

**Katherine Widdowson**

Northside



# Prayer Diary



*October & November 2016*

## OCTOBER

|     |    |   |
|-----|----|---|
| Sun | 2  | Peter and Ann   |
| Mon | 3  | Caring for Life   |
| Tue | 4  | Our friend in North Africa  |
| Wed | 5  | The future of South Parade with a new Senior Minister                 |
| Thu | 6  | Preachers and worship leaders in all Mission Communities              |
| Fri | 7  | Your Mission Community Leadership Team                                |
| Sat | 8  | Kate Burkett  |
| Sun | 9  | Northside as they meet at Adel Primary School for the last time today |
| Mon | 10 | Rooted  |
| Tue | 11 | Cragg Mission Community   |
| Wed | 12 | Your homegroup, small group or cell group leader                      |
| Thu | 13 | The church office   |
| Fri | 14 | Under 5s work   |
| Sat | 15 | The Joanna Project  |
| Sun | 16 | Northside Mission Community, Outburst service                         |

*Pull out and use!*

|                 |    |   |
|-----------------|----|---|
| Mon             | 17 | Geoff King  |
| Tue             | 18 | Local government councillors and leaders                      |
| Wed             | 19 | Pam Roe and the work of Traidcraft ( <i>see page 14</i> )     |
| Thu             | 20 | Ann and David MacFarlane ( <i>see page 28</i> )               |
| Fri             | 21 | The Deacons   |
| Sat             | 22 | Nathan Shipley  |
| Sun             | 23 | Lawrence Cockrill   |
| Mon             | 24 | The Arabic Christian Fellowship                               |
| Tue             | 25 | Your neighbours ( <i>see page 16</i> )                        |
| Wed             | 26 | Colin & Jill Jones and their work with the church in Normandy |
| Thu             | 27 | The Elders  |
| Fri             | 28 | The Ministry Team   |
| Sat             | 29 | Operation Christmas Child ( <i>see page 33</i> )              |
| Sun             | 30 | Headingley Morning Mission Community                          |
| Mon             | 31 | Sam and Katie _____ ( <i>see page 12</i> )                    |
| <b>NOVEMBER</b> |    |   |
| Tue             | 1  | Steve Cooper and Kate Churchill                               |
| Wed             | 2  | Members and friends who are sick, or in hospital              |
| Thu             | 3  | Young People meeting in Cell Groups                           |
| Fri             | 4  | ABC Coffee Shop   |
| Sat             | 5  | Heather McLeen  |
| Sun             | 6  | Church @ Little London  |
| Mon             | 7  | Andrew Bedingham and the work of the CAP centre               |
| Tue             | 8  | Missionaries with BMS World Mission                           |
| Wed             | 9  | TLG mentors working with children in schools                  |

|                 |    |   |
|-----------------|----|---|
| Thu             | 10 | St George's Crypt                                     |
| Fri             | 11 | Work with children and young people across the church |
| Sat             | 12 | Paul Rockley  |
| Sun             | 13 | Remembrance Day services today                        |
| Mon             | 14 | Those in hospital or waiting for treatment            |
| Tue             | 15 | Levi Booth in Japan                                   |
| Wed             | 16 | The Barnabas Bunch                                    |
| Thu             | 17 | Sent Mission Community                                |
| Fri             | 18 | Drop-in @ Cragg                                       |
| Sat             | 19 | Brian and Elsie Nicholls                              |
| Sun             | 20 | People who can't get to church any more               |
| Mon             | 21 | Someone you know who doesn't know Jesus               |
| Tue             | 22 | Adrian Howe, church treasurer                         |
| Wed             | 23 | UK Government as the Autumn Statement is announced    |
| Thu             | 24 | Charles Fletcher, church secretary                    |
| Fri             | 25 | Your Home Group leader                                |
| Sat             | 26 | Pray for another local church                         |
| Sun             | 27 | For local Christian witness this Advent               |
| Mon             | 28 | Connect Mission Community                             |
| Tue             | 29 | Chris Gnanakan  |
| Wed             | 30 | Christians in Science                                 |
| <b>DECEMBER</b> |    |   |
| Thu             | 1  | Pray about climate change (see page 11)               |
| Fri             | 2  | Junior Church leaders and helpers                     |
| Sat             | 3  | You and your place within South Parade                |

## **A Prayer for Our Earth**

*All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe  
and in the smallest of your creatures.*

*You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.*

*Pour out upon us the power of your love,  
that we may protect life and beauty.*

*Fill us with peace, that we may live  
as brothers and sisters, harming no-one.*

*O God of the poor,*

*help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten  
of this earth, so precious in your eyes.*

*Bring healing to our lives,*

*that we may protect the world and not prey on it,  
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.*

*Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain  
at the expense of the poor and the earth.*

*Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,  
to be filled with awe and contemplation,*

*to recognise that we are profoundly united  
with every creature*

*as we journey towards your  
infinite light.*

*We thank you for being with  
us each day.*

*Encourage us, we pray, in our  
struggle for justice, love and  
peace.*



**Pope Francis**

# My Favourite Psalm

## *Psalm 69: Honest to God*

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Over the summer, preachers at Sent have been selecting their favourite Psalms and explaining why they are significant to them. You can listen again to some of them on the church website. Chris Dyson preached on Psalm 69, encouraging us to be honest with God. Read the Psalm, and then read why it's one of Chris's favourites.

### **My Favourite Psalm? At Least for Now...**

**S**everal of the preachers in this series said that, like with films and music, our favourite

changes with time and circumstance. God put Psalm 69 on my mind recently because, speaking to people at SPBC and praying with them, it's clear that the Psalmist's life and struggles are similar to many people in and around our church family.

### **Admit That We're Sinking...**

The opening three verses are a powerful, emotive cry out to God from someone who feels like they're overwhelmed and sinking: God feels distant. Telling God how we feel is an important part of the Christian life.

### **...Because God Hears and Acts**

God is always with us and He knows exactly what we're going through already. Telling Him about our struggles, our pain and how we feel is still important. When we do, we invite God into our situation and make space for Him to minister to us. Because God loves us and cares for us, He's helping and guiding us anyway, but having the dialogue helps us listen and trust.



## **Remember What We Know About God**

The Psalmist remembers the truths about who God is (verses 6, 13, 16) and the promises God has made (verses 31-36). When life is hard, it's easy to forget these. Spending regular time in the Bible, in prayer and with God's people helps us remember the solid, unchanging truths of God during hard times.

What promises from God do you remember when you feel like sinking?

## **No Conflict**

It might feel a bit jarring, but there is no contradiction when we tell God about our pain and distress, and then remember His trustworthy promises that our faith is built on. Both our pain and God's goodness describe reality: acknowledging one doesn't cancel the other out. Acknowledging both invites a Holy and loving God to help us in our suffering.

## **Are We Honest With God?**

God knows everything about us, good and bad (verse 5). By openly and honestly bringing our situations (good and bad) to God, we seek His help and support. When we don't, we're not hiding our situation from God (because He knows it all already), we merely hold ourselves back from dialogue with Him. There

is no need to put on a brave face with God.

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*God is amazing,  
however we feel.  
Praising God puts Him  
in His rightful place  
in our lives.*

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## **Are We Honest in Our Christian Life?**

When life is hard, it's easy to feel like not worshipping God or keeping our faith quiet. The Psalmist, like many others, found this especially hard because people mocked him when he worshipped (verses 9-12): rubbing salt into the wound. Trying to worship God when we don't feel like it isn't "faking it", it has just as much integrity as when we're on top of the world. God is amazing, however we feel. Praising God puts Him in His rightful place in our lives.

What do you need to praise God for?

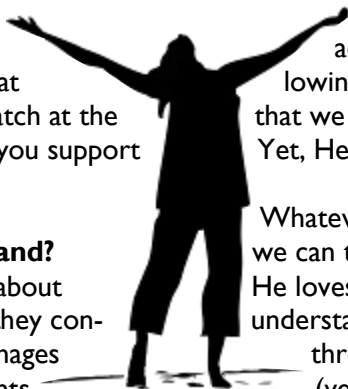
## **Are We Honest With Each Other?**

It's easy to want to say everything's alright and not make a fuss. However, God has given us the gift of each other, His family, to help us in hard times. If you need someone to pray for you, who could you ask?

Another salty wound is when no-one seems to care, notice or sympathise. The Psalmist knew this (verse 20). Who do you know that might be in a rough patch at the moment? How could you support them?

### Does God Understand?

**T**he great thing about Psalms is that they contain so many images of Jesus. Verse 21 points forward to Matthew 27.34 when Jesus, hanging on the cross, being punished for our sins, was humiliated by being given wine vinegar with gall for his thirst. When Jesus



was crucified, He suffered more than anyone in history. He was carrying out the greatest act of love in history, allowing us to be forgiven so that we could know God again: Yet, He was mocked for it.

Whatever we're going through, we can tell God about it because He loves us and because He truly understands what we're going through. His love is great (verse 13), His salvation is sure (verse 13) and He hears those in need (verse 33).

*Chris Dyson*

Sent Leadership Team

## A New Psalm

The kids at **Connect** were thinking about worship recently and wrote their own new Psalm:

**W**onderful God, we will

**O**bey You and

**R**espect You. You

**S**acrificed Your Son Jesus. You are our

**H**elper.

**I**ndescribable God, You are

**P**owerful and Peaceful

**Ellie-Louise, Grace, Isabelle, Angel, Genesis, Sean**

# Music for Hope

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**On Saturday 3 September a fantastic concert took place at South Parade featuring Tracy Fehr, a coloratura soprano from Okanagan, Canada, who was touring UK churches to promote the work of ACT in North Africa. Barbara Crosse, who hosted and organised the event, describes the evening.**

**T**racy Fehr, pianist Richard Casey, South Parade member and clarinettist Sarah Newman, and the South Parade Choir under the direction of Colin Jones, came together for a wonderful evening of music in support of

ACT projects in Tunisia. Tracy's particular concern and focus has been single mothers in Tunisia, and the concert also supported palliative care projects in the country.

We were very sorry that Dearbhaile O'Donnell, pianist and friend of South Parade from previous concerts, was unable to attend at the last moment, but very grateful to her for personally arranging for Richard to play in her place.

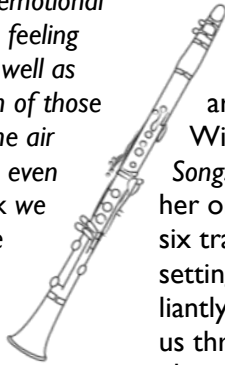
The evening opened with wonderful operatic arias with Tracy and Richard. I asked for comments from the audience:



***Sarah Newman, Tracy Fehr and Richard Casey***



*Due to its incredible difficulty it's rare that you hear Mozart's Queen of the Night aria performed outside the opera house. Tracy performed it (seemingly) effortlessly, with a really emotional performance that had us feeling sorrow for the Queen as well as fear, as she plucked each of those repeated top Cs out of the air and perfectly pitched the even higher notes. I don't think we breathed once during the whole piece.*



There followed a piano interlude with Richard playing two pieces by Ravel, delicate and lyrical, and a diverting contrast to the energy and emotion of the operatic first part.

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*This haunting and beautiful work offered a moving lament for the women Tracy seeks to help*

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Tracy followed with two powerful Handel arias, and then the Rachmaninov *Vocalise*. This haunting and beautiful work seemed to me to offer a moving lament for the women Tracy seeks to help.

A lively interval allowed Howard Jones and Steve Green to talk about

the work of ACT, and to promote the new UK charity. Robyn, Lauren and their team provided welcome refreshments for all.

The second half opened with Sarah on the clarinet and Richard at the piano with Vaughan Williams *Six Studies in English Folk Songs*. Sarah invited us to follow her on this lovely “amble” through six traditional songs from English settings, and went on to play brilliantly and expressively, transporting us through the landscape with her playing. Perhaps the highest compliment came from an audience member, hitherto unimpressed with clarinet music, who declared that she was a convert to the power and delight of the instrument after Sarah’s performance.

Another audience member said:

*Sarah is an amazing musician, and brought out things in the Vaughan Williams that I'd never really heard before in the cello and viola versions – superficially simple pieces that she performed with tremendous musicality.*

Tracy returned with two spirituals, *Over My Head* and *Plenty Good Room*, the former a pensive, and the latter a lively invitation to the listener to respond personally to God. The

South Parade Choir, by now (I can safely say as one of the members) somewhat unnerved and in awe at the quality of the music thus far, followed with Colin's own setting of *Steal Away* and a lovely arrangement of *Jesu, What a Beautiful Name*.

*The latter end of the concert, by accident or design, worked brilliantly – Colin's Steal Away in close proximity to Going Home, with Tracy accompanying herself on the piano, took Dvorak's evocation of the New World back to its roots in American folk and spiritual music*

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*The evening of glamour, professionalism, transporting music and enthusiastic participation raised £2,000*

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**T**racy closed with *Summertime* and an encore with Richard of *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*, to prolonged applause (and I suspect some discreet dabbling of the eyes). And so the evening of glamour, professionalism, transporting music and enthusiastic participation came to an end, and we packed up and set off into a rainy Yorkshire evening.

evening, apart from a lovely celebration of music and talent? The evening raised in the region of £2,000, which exceeded all expectations. Steve Green writes:

*It was fantastic to see so many people coming to support the work of ACT. Tracy has been to Tunisia on several occasions to raise funds through her beautiful singing and to meet many of the single mums in person that she is committed to support. The funds raised will also help to support "Mary's" work in developing palliative care in Tunisia. This is developing a more important educational focus.*



**Tracy Fehr**

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So what about the purpose of the

*This was the third in a series of three concerts in the UK: Newhaven, Stamford and Leeds, and also launched the new charity ACTUK whose goal is to support ACT from the UK.*

**S**o, thank you to everyone who worked hard to make the evening a success; to Tracy for sharing a her gift with us and on behalf of those whose lives are unimaginably more difficult than most of ours; to Richard for playing so professionally, and fitting in with everyone at the last minute; to Sarah, for her memorable performance; to the choir for singing their hearts out (and donning their best clothes for the occasion); to Colin

for faith in the singers and his ability to bring something lovely from unpromising beginnings; to Robyn and her refreshment team; Adrian for technical support; the SPBC admin team and Delessa; and Howard and Janet Jones, and Steve and Ismay Green for giving the evening meaning and context, and supporting in many other ways. Many others helped and encouraged.

Thank you to all of you who came and for your generosity. May we see God's purposes worked out through this event and the ongoing work of ACT.

**Barbara Crosse**

Headingley Morning Mission Community

**...informed...**

Steve Green adds: *If you would like to sign up to be a Friend of ACT (UK) for £15 a year please email Steve Green for details.*



**ACT**  
United Kingdom

*By faith in Christ I walk with God,  
With Heaven, my journey's end, in view;  
Supported by His staff and rod,  
My road is safe and pleasant too.*



*I travel through a desert wide  
Where many round me blindly stray;  
But He vouchsafes to be my Guide,  
And will not let me miss my way.*

**John Newton**

# Letter from Italy

Ann and David MacFarlane

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**South Parade's link missionaries in the Italian city of Reggio Calabria are Ann and David MacFarlane. Here's their latest newsletter.**

**W**e have been back now just about three months after our home assignment visits and it has been all go. Our time home as usual was a great blessing. The fellowship and support from you all as always gave us an encouraging boost. Our next home assignment will probably be our last but we will never lose the loving relationship that we have developed together over these last 24 years.

We have had another three conversions since our return and we praise God for the work of our youth leader Connie as she had the joy of leading two young men to Jesus Brian (25) and Omega (19). Ann and I also had the joy of leading a young mother to the Lord. Please pray for her (Cattia) as she is finding a lot of opposition at home especially from her husband. God is good and God willing we will be having baptisms in



the sea before the bitter winter temperatures of 11 degrees.

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*Ann spent seven hours at the port last night where a hundred migrants arrived. Today we are waiting for the arrival of another ship.*

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On Sunday we had our annual church outing where we have our church service in the open air. It was a great day spent together. The work with the immigrants here at Reggio goes on and as I wrote in our last newsletter, the city is over-run with these young men begging for money, food and clothes. Five of them are attending our church and Steve who has been with us more than a year now sings in our worship group.

Ann has just spent seven hours at the port last night where a hundred migrants arrived. Today at Reggio we are waiting for the arrival of another ship with 651 (525 men 98 women, 28 minors) plus 4 newborn



### **Ann and her work with the migrants**

babies. Some 6,500 migrants were saved off the Libyan coast in 40 separate rescue missions on Monday 29 August.

**T**he Italian coast guard reported that it was one of the largest influxes of refugees in a single day so far this year. The migrants were packed on board scores of small boats and dinghies all of which become unstable in high seas. Organisation for Migrants said on Friday that around 105,000 migrants had reached Italy by boat so far in 2016, many of them setting sail from Libya.

An estimated 2,726 men, women and children have died over the same period trying to make the journey. This evening Ann is attending a meeting in Siracusa which will be held by the first vice president of the European commission Franz Tinnermans concerning immigration and for international protection of people.

Prayer points:

- Praise God for the continual spiritual and numerical growth in the church. Pray for Brian, Omega and Cattia.
- Pray for our mission from 14 to 24 October when we will have a group of 12 from Easterhouse Baptist Church and Trevor Rowe.
- For the Action Team: Sarah, Laura, Jessica and Finlay.
- Praise God for the continual support that we are getting for our Food Bank.
- Pray for Bruna who coordinates the food runs on the Monday and Friday to the homeless and the advice centre and to all the volunteers who take part in this work of love.

*Ann & David MacFarlane*

### **...involved...**

*For more about Ann and David's work speak to Pat Dalgleish at Headingley or visit [www.bmsworldmission.org/admacfarlane](http://www.bmsworldmission.org/admacfarlane)*

# Ford's Focus

## *John's Gospel Part 9: Where is Jesus?*

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**Over the last few months in *Intouch* Steve Ford has been taking a close look at the Gospel of John. He continues this month with a study on John 6 verses 15 to 29.**

**What happens when Jesus is not with us?**

**A**fter the great miracle of feeding the 5,000 that Jesus had accomplished with very little resources, he became aware that the people wanted to exalt him to something he never came to be. They wanted an earthly king, a god to be bowed down to, and eventually an idol that would displace mankind's need for salvation with something that could become some kind

of talisman and superstition. So Jesus withdrew himself to the hills.

How long was it before anyone missed him? After all they were full and satisfied, they had no need for him just at that moment. We read eventually the disciples left and went down to the shore to wait for him but alas as darkness fell the need arose for them to continue on without him. How often do we wait and then get impatient and press on without God with us?

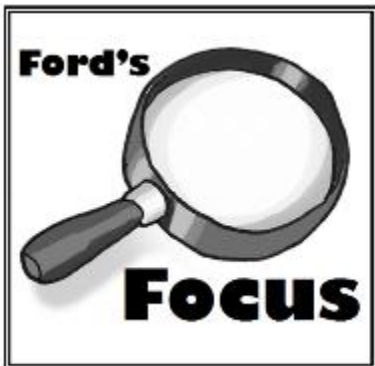
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*Life has unexpected ways  
of rocking the boat.  
Without Jesus in our boat,  
life can be incredibly tiring.*

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We may have very legitimate reasons to press on but to do so without Jesus is often foolhardy and tragic. The disciples pressed on, got into their boats and left Jesus behind, a situation that could have cost them dearly. However, Jesus being God was able to come to their rescue.

After they had been battling a storm and had rowed some three or four miles just trying to get to land and safety there was Jesus in the middle of the storm. Notice it is Jesus that calls out to them, not the other way round: they did not have to do anything other than let him into their boat and all was well.

**T**he lesson here is make sure that Jesus is with you before you push your boat out to sea. Life has unexpected ways of rocking the boat and without Jesus in our boat life can be incredibly tiring, all the needless rowing to and fro. Even in the event that you or I push out to sea without Jesus and life becomes somewhat turbulent, Jesus by God's mercy will find you and bring peace and calm to the situation.

### **Are we looking for Jesus in the right place?**

The people that Jesus had slipped away from the evening before suddenly realised that Jesus was not with them. Whereas the disciples had not waited for him, these people couldn't find him, although it didn't take them long before they realised that the only boat available for them to cross over lake Galilee had been taken by the disciples. For some reason they knew that Jesus

had not gone with them. In the event they managed to secure passage across the lake to Capernaum to look for him using some boats that were "passing by". For what reason were they trying to find him, I wonder?

However, Jesus wasn't under any illusion as to why they followed him and searched for him. In a very straightforward way he tells them they only wanted to find him for what they could get from him to satisfy their physical bodies. He then goes on to say don't spend your energies on acquiring materialism, but rather seek eternal life that I can give.

**T**hese people were no different to people today in that they asked the question "what must we do?" Jesus answers "believe on Him whom He has sent" (John 6.29). So often we think we have to earn God whereas really all we have to do is believe, trust that our lives are in God's hands and obey. Belief is salvation because it is not what I do that saves me but what God has done for me.

**Steve Ford**

Headingley Morning Mission Community  
blog.steveford.me.uk



# Church Noticeboard

## South Parade Posters



Do you have an idea for a poster? Do you know someone with design skills? Have you seen a thought-provoking poster elsewhere? If the answer to any of those questions is "Yes!", Nathan Shipley (nathan@spbc.org.uk) would love to hear from you!

## Christmas Craft Fair

**Green House, South Parade, Headingley**  
**Saturday 5 November 11am - 3.30pm**

- Lots of gifts for friends and family
- Traidcraft stall
- Children's knits (funds to Uganda neonatal nursery)
- Gift cards (Rhonda's project)
- St George's Crypt stall
- Teas, coffees, cakes and hot chocolate

*All welcome!*

If anyone has a charity link and can sell new goods and would like a table contact Liz Crathern via the church office. Cake donations gratefully received.





## It's Shoebox Time!

Get involved with Operation Christmas Child, the world's largest children's Christmas project, and transform the lives of children and their families around the world through a simple gift. Every gift-filled box is a powerful demonstration of God's love in a tangible way. For more information pick up a leaflet in the church foyer or go to [www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/occ](http://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/occ), and start packing your shoeboxes!

Collections will take place at Headingley on 6 and 13 November.

*Sabina Grahek*

Headingley Morning Mission Community



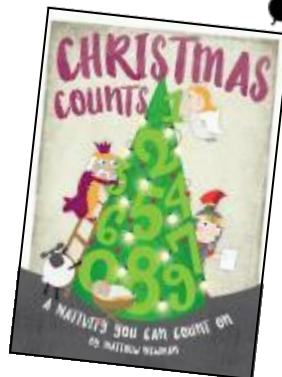
## Christmas Counts

Headingley Morning Mission Community have been singing my songs for many years. This Christmas schools across the country will be able to perform *Christmas Counts*, my nativity musical for 3-6 year-olds.

It's a set of 8 really catchy songs along with a simple script that tells the traditional Christmas story in a fun way. This great little musical for very small children comes with a CD of professional backing tracks and also with a choir of children singing along.

Please help spread the word to any teachers of young children you know that the music can be purchased by schools and individuals from the Out of the Ark website at [www.outoftheark.co.uk](http://www.outoftheark.co.uk)

*Matthew Newman*



# THE MUSIC GROUP

PLAYER OF DISTRACTING SOLOS

NEVER MADE IT INTO A PROPER BAND

FRUSTRATED ORGANIST

MADE TO PLAY AN ELECTRIC KEYBOARD

THE SPIRITUAL ONE

RESPONSIBLE FOR PLANNING 'THE SPONTANEOUS BIT'

MUSIC GRADUATE

DOES STRANGE HARMONIES AND COMPLICATED ARRANGEMENTS

YOUTH GROUP MEMBER

ENCOURAGES TO PLAY DRUMS TO GET ANGER OUT

QUESTIONABLE SINGER

HAS NO IDEA THEIR MICROPHONE ALWAYS KEPT OFF

SMALL CHILD GIVEN TOKEN INSTRUMENT

FLAUTIST

ALWAYS THERE. HAS NEVER BEEN HEARD

GROUP COORDINATOR

WISHES EVERYONE WOULD ARRIVE HALF AN HOUR EARLIER

ADMINISTRATOR

LUMBERED WITH ALL OF THE ILLEGAL PHOTO COPYING



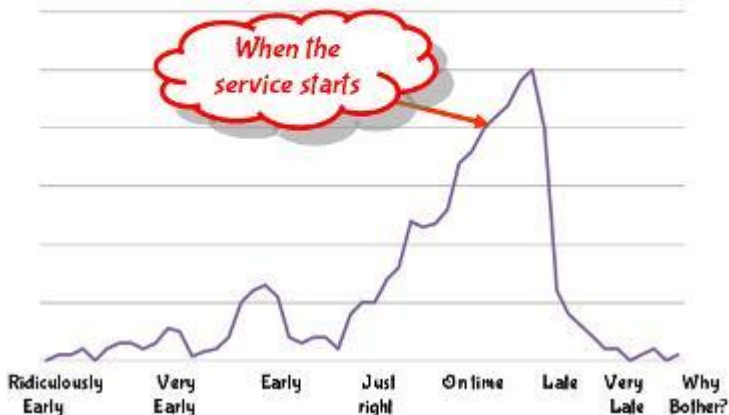
CartoonChurch.com

This CartoonChurch.com cartoon by Dave Walker is used with permission.

## When People Arrive at Church

## CHRISTIANITY EXPLODED

#3



christianityexploded.tumblr.com



South Parade meets as five distinctive Mission Communities across Leeds: in **Headingley** and **Cragg** on a Sunday Morning, and as **Sent** at Headingley on Sunday evenings. **Connect** meets in the community in Bramley. **Northside** meets at the ABC Coffee Shop in Holt Park. We're involved with Church@Little London, run a CAP Debt Centre and have a partnership with the Arabic Christian Fellowship. To find out more, visit the website or contact the church office.

Together, we have a shared vision to **build community in Christ**. We hope that all who meet us will be helped to **belong** to Christ and his people, will discover what it means to **believe** in him, and will **become** all that he invites them to be in character, lifestyle, witness and service.

Minister

Paul Rockley

Associate Pastor for  
Youth and Young Adults

Nathan Shipley

Children's Worker

Heather McLeen

Associate Pastor

Geoff King

Church Administrators

Kate Churchill/Steve Cooper

Associate Pastor

Lawrence Cockrill

Under 5s Co-ordinator

Kate Burkett

Elders

Andrew Bedingham, Steve Burras,  
Neil Cowling, Freeman Dumenu,  
Charles Fletcher (Church Secretary),  
Adrian Howe (Church Treasurer),  
Ruth Hughes, John Pelham,  
Sue Ricketts

**South Parade Baptist Church**  
**Kirkstall Lane, Headingley**  
**LEEDS LS6 3LF**

**0113 275 4989**  
**www.spbc.org.uk**  
**info@spbc.org.uk**



“

*Let everything that has breath  
praise the LORD.  
Praise the LORD!*

”

**Psalm 150.6 (NIV)**

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**intouch**

 **SOUTH PARADE  
BAPTIST CHURCH**  
*Building Community in Christ*

## **Feedback from Headingley MC Meeting 21/7/16**

**It is every Christian's responsibility to talk to non-Christians about Jesus.**

Disagree 0 Don't know 0 Agree Midly 1 Agree Strongly 9

**Describe in not more than 3 sentences what your ideal Headingley MC will look like in 5 years from now.**

- Too soon to say. Wait until the new minister is here.
- Vibrant, growing, multicultural and worshipping community, boldly going in mission where it's not boldly gone before, planting new mission communities as God leads us
- A bigger community full of people from different places in the world.
- A broad range of people: all ages, nationalities, backgrounds.
- Encompassing all ages from babies to the very oldest. Continuing to engage in some sort of service / social action in the community. A place where people can believe as much as they are able to, and comfortable to express that.
- Still with a good cross section of age, culture, nationality etc, but with a stronger sense of togetherness & supporting one another in the areas we serve in. Encouraging one another to serve God in the best way we can. Grateful for all God has done for us and will do for us. Everyone involved in a small group.
- Inclusive of ages, nationalities, backgrounds reflected in our worship. More students attending and other locals. Active in mission and supporting those in mission.
- A visible part of the local community – active in areas like Rooted, under 5s & perhaps new initiatives? Representative of the local community – all ages, all nations, all backgrounds.
- Committed in faith. Engaged with the community. Pleased to be part of congregation.
- Larger. Mixed – age, ethnicity etc. Committed individually to the church body.

A DREAM WRITTEN DOWN WITH A  
DATE BECOMES A **goal.**

A GOAL BROKEN DOWN INTO STEPS  
BECOMES A **plan.**

A PLAN BACKED BY **action**  
MAKES YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE.

- greg s. reid