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MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends

As I write this we are beginning to see the autumnal colours on the trees, and indeed some of our pavements are already being given a new 1970s style carpet of yellow and brown swirls. By the time you read this I suspect that there will be a lot more 1970s carpeted streets and a whole host of bare, shivering trees.

In the Atkins household it is also time to retrieve the old familiar, warm, comfortable evening leisure wear and fleecy blankets that some of us will be snuggling up with in the living room. Along with, of course, our cosy lined slippers. Who knows, one of us might even find themselves without an evening meeting on one of these nights and not be taxi-ing kids here and there and able to enjoy a heart warming glass of red wine (Pahh – chance would be a fine thing.)

There is something comforting about the familiar, especially our cosy autumn/winter clothes, but having been away from them for a while, as we all got more wear than usual from our summer clothes, when we get them out again there is a reminder of what is good about them and why they are precious to us. There are maybe even times when we've forgotten how good they feel on a cold winter's night.

Those of you who have to endure my services on the Sundays I'm at Lidgett will be all too aware that I will always give you a challenge or question to go away with as part of my message, and that is because I truly believe that my role on a Sunday is to get you to think about your faith and how you live it out in day to day life. I am not there to spoon feed you. Well here's a challenge of a slightly different kind.

One night as you keep yourself warm in your newly revisited autumn/winter wear I invite you to revisit a familiar story or passage from the Bible. I suggest you get yourself your preferred drink for the said evening and sit comfortably and then read the passage '*Carefully*' at least twice. Now ask yourself, why did I choose that passage? What has it said to me in the past? What is it saying to me today? Are these answers the same or have I found

something new? Is that a question I've always wanted to ask about this story?

And now for the scary bit. Next time you are at church, or you see someone from church, or someone from church calls to see you, share with them which passage you read and how you felt rereading it. Don't worry nobody will be expecting a deep theological exposition of your story, but it is a good way to build up confidence in talking about your faith.

Till next time.

Andrew

WORSHIP IN NOVEMBER

03	10.30 Mr. Garth White	
	6.30 <i>Chapel Allerton</i>	
10	Remembrance Sunday	
	10.30 Rev. Palo Tshume	Holy Communion
	6.30 <i>Christ Church</i>	United/Circuit Service
17	10.30 Mrs. Mary Curl	
	6.30 Rev. Andrew Atkins	Holy Communion
27	10.30 Rev. Joyce Nicholson	
	6.30 <i>St Edmund's</i>	Ecumenical Service

LADIES' GROUP

The Ladies Group meet on Thursdays at 7.45 pm in the Youth Hall.

Due to unforeseen circumstances there has been a change to the programme on 14th November (Gill Arnett has moved to next April). So we now have a Speaker from Trading Standards, telling us all about the dastardly deeds of those perpetrating doorstep crime, fraud and scams. Come and be forewarned!

On 28th Nov Hilary Hallewell will be conducting 'Desert Island Carols' at our Members' Evening. Some of you will hear more from Hilary regarding this.

This will again be mentioned in the next LINK, but the last Meeting of 2013 (where did this year go!) will, of course, be the Carol Service on 12th December. OPEN to ALL - 7.30 pm in the Community Hall.

Lynne Pullein

CHRISTMAS GIFT SERVICE – SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER

As there is no longer a need for items for Browning House, it has been decided that, instead, there will be an appeal for Martin House Children's Hospice at Boston Spa in the form of a money tree. Decorated envelopes will be available on the previous two Sundays, 17th and 24th November, to be returned and hung on the money tree during the service on 1st December. If you wish to Gift Aid your donation, please write your name on the envelope.

Gifts of toiletries will also be accepted which will be taken to PAFRAS.

The stewards would like to thank you all in advance for your support.

HERE COMES THE SUN

Despite what you may think this is not an entry for our “most exciting photo competition”. It is a picture of our solar panels which after years of toil (mainly by Andrew Benson) and tribulation are finally up and running.

I feel that after all the work Andrew has done on this we should probably retitle him St Andrew. Anyhow on the next page he gives us the gen on our panels.



CUTTING OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

The long awaited solar PV panels have been installed on the Church roof. The 30 panel (7.5 K watt rating) installation was completed at the end of June this year after long and difficult planning negotiations.

The installation was paid for out of a legacy received from the estate of Mary Raine, a former member of our Church.

The installation is estimated to reduce our carbon footprint by around 3.7 tonnes of carbon dioxide per year and will provide savings on our electricity bills.

The installation is on the lower part of the west facing Community hall pitched roof and on the adjacent flat roof over the Gledhow room.

Andrew Benson

ALCUIN RIDES AGAIN

*At a recent coffee morning **Kathy Benson** had the nerve to disagree with me about which person in last month's picture was Alcuin of York. Of course I was right and it has now been confirmed as she admits below –*

“Hannah, our granddaughter, who is a student at York University and is in Alcuin College said that he is definitely the one in the middle of the picture. She bumped into him on campus & instantly recognised him.”

St Edmund's Christmas Fayre

Saturday November 30th

From 12 noon to 4pm

In Church

Various stalls, games, Father Christmas

Raffle, Tombola, Teas

EXTRA PRAYER

My use of a prayer from Alcuin has inspired Joyce Wood to send in another old one.

Interesting that when Longfellow translated it he went for –eth endings; surely rather old-fashioned by his time? I thinketh just ending with an –s would make it speak more directly to the reader.

My November benediction and prayer is by Teresa of Avila (1515-82)
Translated by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-82).

Let nothing disturb thee,
Nothing affright thee;
All things

are passing,

God never changeth!

Patient endurance attaineth to all
things;

Who God possesseth in
nothing is wanting;

Alone God sufficeth.

True words believed, tried and tested over many years by **JOYCE WOOD.**



**PRAYER FOR
CHANGE**



Stop
Sit still

Close your eyes (for a minute)
And give thanks

For what ???

Think of one thing in the world changing for the better

Think of one thing in a developing country changing for the better

And give thanks

Think of one thing in a conflict area changing for the better

And give thanks

Think of one thing in Leeds changing for the better

And give thanks

Think of one thing in your church community changing for the better

And give thanks

Think of one thing in your life changing for the better

And give thanks

And give thanks

*Thank you Lord for all changes that are for the better. Help me to be an agent of change for the better in my life and in the lives of others.
Amen*

9

presents

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Music by RICHARD RODGERS

Lyrics by OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II

Book by HOWARD LINDSAY and RUSSEL CROUSE

Suggested by “The Trapp Family Singers”

by Maria Augusta Trapp

An amateur production by arrangement with

R&H Theatricals Europe Ltd

**20, 21, 22, 23 November 2013
at 7.30pm**

**St Andrew's Roundhay United Reformed
Church
Shaftesbury Avenue, Leeds 8**

Tickets £6 adult, £4 child

**Box office 268 3402
from Sunday 27 October**

PASTORAL LETTER: CALLED TO ONE MISSION



The sun was shining! The singing, accompanied by the Leeds Salvation Army Band, was heart-warming. We were reminded of the part played in the early

history of Methodism by people in the city of Leeds. We gave thanks for all who have been part of this remarkable story. The final blessing was given by Revd. Albert Jebanesan, from Sri Lanka, as it was to Sri Lanka that a group of missionaries set out very soon after the meeting held on this spot on 6th October 1813. This was the occasion of the unveiling of the Leeds Civic Trust plaque on the steps below the West Yorkshire Playhouse on 6th October 2013.

The celebration which followed, in Leeds Minster, marked a moment of transition from the days of the Methodist Missionary Society into a renewed understanding of mission as something that can happen “from anywhere to anywhere.”

The concept of “mission” – God’s mission – being a coherent activity is not entirely novel. When we read of the missional activity of the early church, there is a clear imperative to share the gospel in every community, near and far. John Wesley himself famously claimed the world as his parish. Perhaps we simply find it easier to create categories and targets for our human activity. In the 21st Century we are challenged to grasp an understanding of engaging with God’s mission in the world that enables both sharing and receiving fresh insights into the good news of God’s abiding and generous love. We are challenged to participate in this divine dance of love even in the most difficult of circumstances, in the face of persecution, or where children are hungry, or where basic medical care is still a distant dream, or where families in our own neighbourhoods struggle to put food on the table. The day after the celebrations in the city centre Dr Daleep Mukarji, Vice President of Conference, engaged with some of these issues of the World Market Place, at Guiseley, and Revd Ruth Gee, President of Conference, enjoyed conversations about rural ministry and mission in the Church in the Dale.

Two hundred years on, the challenge of being people inspired to share God’s love for every person in every place continues!

Liz Smith **Chair of Leeds Methodist District**
[See the story and more photos on the District website.]

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

“The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul.”

J.S. Bach

HARVEST FESTIVAL



LAST MONTH'S QUIZ ANSWERS

Each clue gives rise to two words which differ by one letter. The differing letters spell out a location in Leeds.

1. Note the whip. (3,4)	LAH, LASH	S
2. Bar the legume. (3,4)	BAN, BEAN	E
3. Put a layer of paint on the small bed. (4,3)	COAT, COT	A
4. A deer map. (4,5)	HART, CHART	C
5. Warm up the core. (4,5)	HEAT, HEART	R
6. An area of OOO. (4,5)	ZONE, OZONE	O
7. Plenty is to be found under the roof. (3,4)	LOT, LOFT	F
8. More than nine is half an em. (3,2)	TEN, EN	T

MORE COMMENT ON RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

Well done Gillian for your comments based upon the Racial Justice Sunday (RJS) sermon. I got the impression that it (RJS) had been a bit of a surprise to Mr. Richardson and he found (as I expect most people would) racial justice a very difficult subject on which to be objective. Racism of course in interpreted many ways by disparate people under various guises, motives and agendas and ranges from a mere slight to alleged institutionalised racism.

I would suggest Gillian that you are not alone amongst the congregation who have had to confront or be witness to acts of racism between different ethnic, including white, groups.

Being a fairly avid listener to and watcher of news and current affairs programmes and a reader of the local press I have been informed within the last week, i.e. week ending 5th October, that there was a national Poetry Day, a national Dialects Appreciation Weekend and a Grandparents' Day. In the run up to September 8th (other than that day being overshadowed by it being Charles' and my birthday!) I cannot recall any reference to RJS in the aforementioned media. "Thought for the Day" would have been a suitable vehicle for, if not promotion, a bit of a plug.

Apparently with little publicity it would appear, as it was confined to Sunday, that it was a Christian Church activity. No doubt a more informed person than me will advise. Was RJS a worldwide initiative? If not and preached about only in UK churches then it would, as Gillian alludes to, be brought to the attention of, in most instances, a predominantly white middle class audience. Surely a case of preaching to the converted. It would have been more inclusive if it had been Racial Justice Weekend encompassing worship in Mosque, Synagogue and Church.

The subjugation of women in a number of cultures and the battering of Christians in Syria, Egypt, Far East and a number of Central African states can be left, at this stage, for further discussion whilst we constantly admonish ourselves for not forgiving and loving our neighbours as expected.

Colin Watson

THIS MONTH'S QUIZ

Each clue involves the name of a British river and what you have to put in it to get the final answer. (eg The learner driver fell into the river but remained serene. (1,3) Answer: L and CAM = CALM)

1. Putting British Telecom in the river is a bit thick! (2, 4)
 2. The expensive car in the river should linger. (2, 3)
 3. Allow it in the river or eradicate it! (3,3)
 4. Put the record in the river and go. (2,4)
 5. If the policeman falls into the river he will blow up. (4,3)
 6. Put the record in the river to get these US native homes. (2,4)
 7. Put the sixth character in the river and set it alight. (1,4)
 8. The French may enter the river to reach their territory. (3,3)
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THE GRUMPY OLD MAN RIDES AGAIN



It will soon be Advent and Christmas and once again I suppose we will spend weeks singing Advent hymns that no one likes much. (We often have week after week of “the holly and the ivy are dancing in a ring”. To which the only sensible response is “No they’re not”). Then we will have a couple of services where we actually get to sing a few carols, which is what we wanted to do all along. Are local preachers and presbyters (!) instructed not to have carols until the last possible moment or are they just misery guts like me? I know what Scrooge would say –BAH HUMBUG.

LAST WORD

Well once again it is a bit of a short issue with not a lot of pictures. But coming next month is the bumper Christmas and New Year edition. DON'T MISS IT.

