

GROVE VINE

**The Magazine of
Grove Methodist Church
Horsforth, Leeds**

June 2010



The Grove Methodist Church is called to respond to the Gospel of love in Jesus Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship, service and mission

Minister – Rev. Greg Haynes

Phone 0113 258 2678; minister@grovemethodist.org.uk

Regular events

Sunday

10.20 Creche (0-3yrs) 216 0678

10.20 J Team (tots to 12s) 258 8803

10.30 Worship

6.00 Worship (alternate Sundays at Central Methodist Church)

7.30 Studio Dance SNYG 258 9093

Monday

12.15 Luncheon Club 258 3807

1.30 Network Women's Fellowship 258 2285

6.15 Beavers 258 1814

6.15 Cubs 258 2836

7.45 Scouts 228 9968

7.45 Flower Guild (3rd Monday in the month) 258 4520

Tuesday

9.00-9.30 Prayer Group 258 8803

9.15-11.45 Pre-school 258 9093

10-11.30 Coffee in the Centre small hall 258 3568; quiet room available for prayer. Jean Kemp's hand-made greetings cards will be available on the first Tuesday of each month

6.00 Rainbows (5th Horsforth) 259 0555

6.15 Brownies (5th Horsforth) 258 3670

7.45 Guides (5th Horsforth) 202 9010

Wednesday

9.15-11.45 Pre-school 258 9093

1.30 Line Dancing 258 7444

6.00 Rainbows (14th) 258 5519

6.15 Brownies (14th) 250 4907

8.00 Explorer Scouts 258 0882

8.00 Wednesday Break (fortnightly - 225 2734)

(Continued on inside back cover)

The Minister's Missive

“The Lord loves a cheerful giver”

In 70AD the Roman occupying force in Jerusalem brutally put down a Jewish revolt destroying most of the Temple. It has never been rebuilt although the Western wall, still standing, is a place of prayer and pilgrimage. During the decades following many Jews and Christians left the city in the face of continuing persecution. The church in Jerusalem became, as a result, poorer and poorer.

Paul, when he discovered their plight, organised in the new and emerging gentile churches a collection for the impoverished members of the mother church in Jerusalem. It is clear from some of his letters that there was a very willing and generous response from Christians, many of whom were not originally Jews and did not even speak the same language, to help their needy brothers and sisters in Jerusalem. It illustrates for us the important principle of mutual care and concern for all who are part of the body of Christ whether we know them personally or not. We are all one in Christ Jesus.

In the second of the letters Paul wrote to the church in Corinth he wrote about the generous response, following his appeal for help, shown by the churches in Macedonia despite their own difficulties and trials as he urges them to complete what they began in organising their collection, describing it as “this special service of love”.

What is also interesting is that Paul outlines the principles of Christian giving applicable to us all. They can be summed up like this. “We should give willingly, proportionately, regularly and generously”. Our example is of course our Lord himself who “though he was rich, yet for our sakes became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich”. Christian giving is not just about money. It is about the attitude we have towards all the gifts God has given us; time, the things we are good at, our home etc. It is about seeing all we have as gifts from God for which he has made us his stewards.

During Old Testament times the people paid tithes, a proportion, usually 10%, of their income, their crops etc. to the authorities. Essentially this was a tax which enabled both the civic and religious life of the nation to

function. By the time of Jesus taxes had to be paid to the governing power as we have to pay ours today. It is then up to us as responsible disciples of Jesus to decide prayerfully and thoughtfully how much we should give Sunday by Sunday. It helps to know where our money goes and how much we need as a church to do the work we believe God calls us to do.

The Methodist Church is known as a “connexional” church. Every local church is part of a group of local churches called a Circuit. Each Circuit is part of a larger regional group called a District. The District Synod then elects representatives, both lay and ordained, to the annual Methodist Conference the decision making body of the Church.

Financially every Circuit has to be self-financing. Methodism does not have a large investment income unlike the Church of England. Most of the income of a Circuit goes to maintain the paid ministry which serve the churches within the Circuit. That income comes from those individual churches. This ensures that every Methodist church, however small or large has a minister; so most ministers have pastoral charge of more than one church. I began my life as a minister with nine small churches along the south Cornwall coast!

Approximately one half of the income of the Grove Church goes into the Circuit account. We call it the Assessment. The bigger the church the bigger the assessment payable. This year it is £52,116 but, after several years of modest rises, there will be a jump of between 8% and 11%, from September.

Last year just over 60% of our income came from collections, standing orders and the tax relief claimed on behalf of those who gift aid their giving. Until about two years ago collections etc. were steadily rising, and the church was able to undertake a number of works of improvement. It is now a different story. Some members have died and some have moved away and for some their financial situation has changed and they are not able to give as much. The consequence is that by the end of next year our budget deficit could be as much as £13,000.

At the General Church Meeting the Treasurer alerted us to the situation and we clearly need to take action to address this before it becomes a real problem. Please think and pray about how much you give each week. On average we need to add £2 to every gift of £10 we give. Some of you may

be able to give more to make up for those who are unable to increase their giving. If you do not make a regular gift, weekly in the collection, and would like to, either through the envelope scheme or by standing order, please speak to the Treasurer or myself. In my experience Methodists have always been extremely generous in the giving of money, time and talent, and that experience is certainly borne out at the Grove.

Greg

From the Editorial Group

We are much encouraged by your comments and contributions. We are grateful for any articles submitted by you the readers.

Philip Abel pcabel@talktalk.net 258 7744

Margaret Bosomworth margaret.bosomworth@ntlworld.com 228 4777

Christine Hearn crhearn@uwclub.net 281 8176

Gill Jewell gilljewell@aol.com 278 9438

Gordon and Mary Mellor mmgm1@tiscali.co.uk 258 6199

Flower Rota for June

6th Mr & Mrs P Abel; Mr & Mrs B Ball
13th Mrs C Shagouri; Mrs V Julian; Mrs P Beck
20th Mrs A Lawrence; Mrs K Taylor; Mr & Mrs P Abel
27th Grove Wives; Mrs J Swales

July 4th Mrs D Wormald; Mrs J Douglas

Sunday Services in June

6th	9.00	Rev. Greg Haynes – Holy Communion
	10.30	Mr Philip Maud – Family Parade
	6.00	Civic Service
13 th	10.30	Rev. Dr Albert Jewell – Methodist Homes Sunday with Sister Agatha Leach
	6.00	Circuit Service at Woodside
20 th	10.30	Rev. Greg Haynes – Holy Communion
	6.00	United Service at Central
27th	10.30	Rev. Greg Haynes
	6.00	Mr Ian Batty

If you are unable to get to church because of transport problems, please phone the Hearn's on 281 8176; they will be happy to arrange a lift for you.

From the Church Registers

Baptisms

2 May	Elizabeth Grace daughter of Adam and Helen Pickles
9 May	Joshua Sam son of James and Joanna Howes

Funerals

6 May	Terry Sumpter at the Grove and Rawdon Crematorium
19 May	David Goodison at Lawnswood Crematorium

Church Family News

Please remember in your prayers: Poppy Busfield, Stan Ramsden, Eileen Stones, Chris Shagouri, those recently bereaved, friends who are housebound, and those who are caring for loved ones, who all need our prayers and help at this time.

Many thanks to everyone who supported me on the Midnight 12 mile Walk for St Gemma's Hospice. I was able to raise £676, which with those who gift aided their donations totalled £828. *Carole Abel*

We welcome Janette Mawson as the new Senior Steward and Carole Abel, Cynthia Hatton and Gordon Mellor as new Stewards following their election at the general Church Meeting.

Friends will have been sad to hear of the death of Margaret Cowell in February.

Margaret was born in Hong Kong of missionary parents, the first of three children. The family returned to England when Margaret was six. She was educated at Trinity Hall, Southport and then trained to become a nurse and midwife. She offered as a missionary and was sent to Burma where she met Leslie Cowell. They married in England and returned to Burma together. They came back to England in 1966 and Leslie continued in Methodist circuit life including superintendent of the Horsforth and Bramley Circuit.

When Leslie retired he and Margaret enjoyed for the first time their own home and garden in Sampford Peverell in Devon. Margaret became an enthusiastic part of the community, supporting local composting schemes, recycling and teaching adult literacy. She responded wherever she saw a need and was a passionate advocate of Traidcraft and Wateraid.

Although Margaret was a quiet and modest person she was an eloquent local preacher for forty years. She was resourceful, styling her own hair, making clothes and even furniture!

Margaret cared lovingly for Leslie during his long illness putting his needs before her own until his death in 2009. She died peacefully at home cared for by her family whom she loved and love her immeasurably.

(Based on the obituary in the Methodist Recorder by her daughter Ruth.)

Hymn Writers

In thinking about the series we have had on hymn writers, it occurred to me that some people may always notice who wrote a hymn and others may never think of it. The name is usually there, at the end in Hymns and Psalms and at the beginning in Songs of Fellowship.

I clearly remember that one of our activities, as children in Sunday School, in spare or boring moments, was to spot unusual names, like Thomas Hornblower Gill or Charles Coffin and have a good childish laugh. I seem to recall laughing at a fair number of names, but those are the only two I can now pick out. Perhaps over the years my sense of humour has matured.

There was a service a few years ago when my eyes were opened. I had spoken to the children about John Bunyan's hymn 'Who would true valour see' and in speaking of Bunyan's life I said: 'if you look at the bottom of the hymn you will see that he was born in 1628 and died in 1688' .

At the end of the service, one elderly member of the congregation, who had been going to a Methodist church all her life, said to me on her way out: ' Well, Mr. Reasbeck, I have learned something this morning'.

Any preacher is glad to hear those words and I secretly felt rather pleased with myself.

Not for long though. She continued: 'I often wondered what those numbers were for at the end of the hymns'.

Even as children we had known that. For one of our secondary interests, if we could do the calculation, was to work out how old the writers were

when they died, noticing especially those who had died young.

A more mature interest, perhaps, is to spot the period of Christian history from which the hymn comes. I want to see, say, in our proposed new hymn book, a balance between hymns that have been written in the last few years (though one never knows which will last and which will fade quickly away) and those from past centuries.

I think it great to sing number 79, Of the Father's love begotten, and think that Prudentius wrote this in a life which ended around the year 410. In singing this we have a link with Christians in the early days, a sharing in the communion of saints. We still sing, as they did, of the Father's love.

When we sing a hymn based on a psalm, we are taken back even further into Old Testament times. But also I like to see, after the author's name, the date (1945 -) and know the author is still with us.

Why not resolve, in singing a hymn, to glance at the author's name and dates? Then imagine their time and background.

A final question. How many women writers are there?!

Peter Reasbeck

Scout Executive Committee

At the last meeting we were sorry to hear that Gordon Mellor has decided to retire from his role as "Church representative" on this committee. The Scout group are grateful for his interest and his encouragement over the last 10 years or so. This also means that there is a vacancy! If you wish to be involved please speak to Keith Whitham, Sally Wolfe or Eric Douglass.

We also decided at the last meeting to revamp our AGM, which takes place in July. We will reduce the business meeting to about 15 minutes, and use the rest of the time to hold displays and presentations of the work done by the six different sections. At the time of writing the date is indeterminate, but will be announced in the July edition of Grove Vine. We hope to see many supporters there!

Keith Whitham

The Grove General Church Meeting

The meeting was open to all to discuss items affecting The Grove. At the start updates were provided on items raised last year:

Savings through Utility Warehouse Discount Scheme are anticipated to be £3,500 in a full year.

No evidence was found to suggest that the use of envelopes for specific purposes made any difference to weekly offerings but, to avoid confusion, the Finance Committee recommended that mention be made in the service when envelopes are being used.

Following successful completion of the 6-month trial period Alan Firth has taken over as Booking Secretary.

Thanks were expressed to retiring stewards Jean Fox (senior) and John Hardaker. Carole Abel, Cynthia Hatton and Gordon Mellor were appointed as stewards and Janette Mawson had agreed to act as Senior Steward. Gill Marley, Jean Fox, John Hardaker and David Whiteley were elected as representatives to the Church Council.

The Church Treasurer presented a detailed financial report for the year ending 31st August 2009, showing a deficit of £2,395. The Chair of Finance drew attention to on-going discussions with H.M. Taxes and an independent professional advisor concerning the possible liability arising from the provision of benefits. The meeting was then provided with the Treasurer's forecast for the current year based on the seven months from September 2009 to March 2010. Collections and pledged giving are down again on last year and consequently a deficit of £1,672 is projected for the full year. The Treasurer emphasised the vital need for increased giving or fund raising.

For the first time The Grove produced an Annual Report on what the church is doing as a charity. This was used as an opportunity to discuss what was being done well, what could be done better or differently and to identify new priorities. Contributions have been collated for later consideration.

Members raised other items including: an invitation to all to the September Worship Consultation, the vacancy of bulletin editor from February 2011, and Hope in the Park events on 4th, 11th, and 20th June.

The 2011 General Church Meeting is to be held in the Centre Main Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 27th April and all are welcome to attend.

Peter Mawson



Reg. No. 519138

AN EVENING OF CLASSICS

A Charity Concert in aid of Caring for Life June 19th 7.30pm

Aire Ensemble

Horsforth Music Centre
Senior Concert Band

Daniel Roberts: piano
Amy Cherryholme: flute
Deborah Pennington: clarinet
Joanne Batey: bassoon
Walter Coupe: french horn

Directed by Graham Phillips

Programme of light classics
featuring
Phantom of the Opera

Featuring Rubinstein's
Quintet opus 55

Venue: The Grove Methodist Church, Town Street, Horsforth.

Tickets £5 / £4 Concessions on the door, or from Deborah Pennington -
Mobile: 07910 414586

WHERE THERE IS LOVE

Where there is love the heart is light,
Where there is love the day is bright.
Where there is love there is a song
To help when things are going wrong.
Where there is love there is a smile
To make things seem more worth while.
Love changes darkness into light
And makes the heart take wingless flight...
Oh, blest are they who walk in love...
They also walk with God above,
And when man walks with God again
There shall be peace on earth for men.

(From St Mark's Events and News)

Beloved, let us love;	Beloved, let us love;
Love is of God;	In Love is light,
In God alone hath love	And he who loveth not
Its true abode.	Dwelleth in night.

Beloved, let us love:
For only thus
Shall we behold the God
Who loveth us

Horatio Bonar 1808-89

And now faith, hope and love abide, these three;
and the greatest of these is love

I Corinthians 13:13

Concert and afternoon tea event at Otley Methodist Church

On Saturday 10th July at 2.30pm, as part of the fundraising for the Community Redevelopment Project at Otley Methodist Church, a musical concert and afternoon teas are taking place.

Headlining at the concert will be Joanne Dexter. Joanne was born in Otley into a musical family and studied piano from a young age. She first appeared on stage at 7 years old and at the age 17 she won the prestigious Julie Andrews Scholarship and then studied singing at the RSAMD where she won many competitions and scholarships.

Joanne continued her training in Italy with an Italian language course in Perugia. On her return she worked with English Touring Opera, singing the role of Musetta in Puccini's "La Boheme". Then she worked with Pavilion Opera singing Pamina in Mozart's "The Magic Flute" in France (Aix en Provence Festival), Germany, Spain and for the Japanese Royal Family in Tokyo. She then joined Opera North singing and covering many roles, leaving 2 years ago to continue her freelance solo career.

A versatile artist Joanne has enjoyed singing in many different fields of classical music, as a recitalist for Leeds Lieder+ Festival and the Northern Aldborough Festival, and as an Oratorio soloist all over the country but most notably with Halifax, Huddersfield and Otley & Ilkley Choral Societies. She appeared on television in the series "Masterclass" with Sir Thomas Allen and a soloist in Opera North's recording of Mozart's "Idomeneo" for Chandos. Her love of musical theatre has continued all her life and she recently appeared in a Rogers and Hammerstein Evening with 'Much Loved Productions' taking over from Marilyn Hill Smith.

Other vocal solos will be by Margaret Dexter, Joanne's mother, and also Emily Cade, one of Joanne's prodigies at her musical academy in Burley.

As well as the vocal performances there will be instrument solos by David and Malcolm Sexton, both of whom perform with Otley Brass Band. In addition, as well as accompanying the vocal soloists, there will be contributions from pianist David McCarthy who was the former Director of Music at Woodhouse Grove School at Apperley Bridge.

Tickets for this event are now available priced at £7 for Adults and £3 for Children including the afternoon teas. These can be obtained by sending a cheque payable to "Otley Methodist Church" along with a SAE to: Afternoon Teas Event, c/o 76 The Whartons, Otley, LS21 2BS.

“GIFT FOR SOUND” Appeal

Many, many thanks to all who supported the Judith Hibbert Concert on April 24th for the above appeal to raise money to install a sound and loop system in the small hall, especially for the Women's Meeting on a Monday to enable those who have hearing problems to fully enjoy the meeting.

The target was £2,500 which was a tremendous sum to aim for! The concert itself raised £1,363 (including Gift Aid) but other donations received for the project brought the total to £2,840 – a wonderful amount which will ensure that the work will go ahead as quickly as possible.

I'm sure that the concert was enjoyed by all – Judith was a professional performer and gave us a very happy evening. My sincere thanks to Jean Fox and the Stewards who ensured the smooth running of the evening. Again many thanks to everyone.

Jack Myers

A reminder of the **LEPROSY MISSION** Fund Raising Event which will be on Saturday September 25th in the Church Centre.

Over the summer months please be sorting out your books, bric-a-brac, good as new clothes etc.

They can all be stored at Church after August.

Thank You

This is the first in a series introducing the work of our Church Committees

Church Family Life Committee

This committee was originally the Family Committee. It now meets twice a year in January and September, chaired by the Minister, and is made up of the secretary or representative of each organisation in the Grove Church. At present this involves 17 organisations covering a wide range of age groups from the Women's Fellowship/Network to the Cradle Roll and includes the uniformed organisations.

Each group reports back to the committee outlining events that have recently taken place, outings, parties, special speakers etc. It also informs the committee of any future events in conjunction with those published in *Grove Vine*. The committee is notified of any changes in leaders or secretaries which may mean changes in representation to the committee. The Minister and Worship Committee inform us of dates and arrangements for Christmas and Easter in consultation with Horsforth Churches Together.

Any concerns that organisations may have are discussed. These may result in a recommendation being made to the Church Council for action to be taken. For example the recent request for the installation of a loop system for the Small Hall.

The committee also discusses wider issues. Under the recent "Looking to the Future" initiative we considered Fellowship, including Feeling of Welcome, Communication and Spirituality in our church. This resulted in some of our suggestions being implemented.

I think this committee is a very important one because it brings together all aspects of Grove church life so that there is no feeling of isolation in our groups. It also gives us awareness of all that the various groups are achieving, the hard work put in by all the leaders and our outreach into the wider community.

We are all integral parts of the whole, working together in seeking to live out our Mission Statement to respond to the Gospel of love in Jesus Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship, service and mission.

Sylvia Parker, Secretary

So, What about our Finances.....?

I have spoken previously at meetings about the fact that our Income is continuing to fall short of our Expenditure. Shades of the Government.

However we cannot elect someone else to get us out of this potential mess, we have to do it ourselves.

	Original Budget £	Forecast This Year £	Last Year £
Income	95,374	98,060	103,924
Expenditure	97,046	101,665	106,319
Deficit	(1,672)	(3,605)	(2,395)

Our Collections & Pledged Giving is currently (as of 30 April) running below that of last year (- £1,300 -4%) but remember that Collections last year were also 8% down on the previous year! You can see this easier by showing collections at Y/E August 08 as £57,400 and expected collections this year as £52,100.

What is seriously going to challenge us is that next year our Circuit Assessment is going to rise by £4,230, and if the Circuit cannot get a volunteer Treasurer and has to pay somebody the rise will be £5,800!!

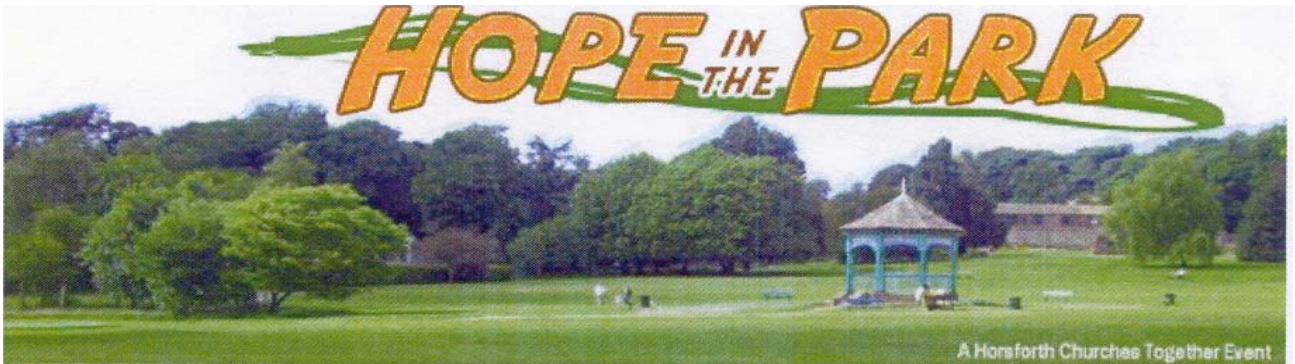
Our collections used to well cover the assessment but are now just on a break even basis. As far as our membership applies this works out at just over £5 per person per week! Next year's assessment will be the equivalent of £5.70 per person per week!!

Maybe the use of the Envelope Scheme or a Standing Order would assist in regularising your giving; perhaps a chat with Don Galbraith would help.

Can we all rise to the challenge in our giving to make sure it also increases in the same manner?

Philip Abel, Treasurer.

“Don't give until it hurts, but give until it feels good “



Bring a picnic lunch and enjoy time in Hall Park between 1.00 and 3.00 pm on one of the following Sundays: 20th June, 4th July and 11th July. Horsforth Churches Together will be providing a free BBQ, music, chill out area, labyrinth/meditation/prayer area, and activities for children and young people. (There will also be some activities provided at Horsforth Gala on Saturday 26th June). If you would like more information or would like to help phone 2589093, or visit [www. hopeinthepark.net](http://www.hopeinthepark.net)



Save us, O Lord, while waking and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep we may rest in peace. Amen

Office of Compline

Regular events (contd.)

Thursday

9.30-11.30 Tots & Tykes (0-4 years) 293 8458

10.30 Bible Fellowship 258 3239

12.30 Lunchtime service (Holy Communion on 1st Thursday), followed by soup lunch

6.15 Beavers 239 7327

6.00 Cubs 258 9865

7.45 Scouts 216 9006

7.45 Grove Ladies Group (1st and 3rd Thursday) 225 2734

Friday

7.45 Choir Rehearsal 259 1580

Walking Groups Thurs. 258 6579; Sat. 258 4520

Stewards on duty

June 6 th	Betty West David Buckley	June 13 th	Andy Walker Kathryn Bussey
June 20 th	Kay Bassett Gordon Mellor	June 27 th	Kathryn Bussey Betty West

Items for next month's magazine should be submitted to Gordon, Mary and Margaret by 23rd June. Please include dates up to 4th August. Email would be appreciated!

Premises Manager: Alan Firth
43 New Street, Horsforth, Tel: 258 2742 or 07985745525
Off duty from Saturday noon and all day Sunday

<http://www.grovemethodist.org.uk/>

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