



DORE METHODIST CHURCH



SUMMER 2021

The Magazine of the Church on the High Street



**TWO
BIG
THANK
YOU'S**

See pages
2 and 3
for the
stories
behind
these two
pictures.



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Farewell to Bridget.

On Sunday 9th May we said goodbye to Bridget a few days before she moved to her new home in Buxton.

Bridget has been a very valued member of our fellowship for many years, and has served us faithfully in a number of roles including Church Steward, Magazine Editor, Representative on the Circuit Meeting, Our representative on the Board of "Soul Roots" and most recently our Safeguarding Officer. She has also helped with many other church activities and on a Sunday morning has often been in charge of our sound system. Her wise counsel has been greatly appreciated by other members of the Church Leadership Team, especially over the last few months. She will be greatly missed by us all.

As a small acknowledgement of our appreciation for everything she has done for Dore Methodist Church Gail presented her with a piece of copper embossed artwork made by the Nottingham based artist Dawn Feeney.

Bridget has been in touch since her move, and writes:

"Thank you

I want to take this opportunity to thank you so much for the gorgeous picture given to me from the congregation on my 'last Sunday in Dore'. It was such a lovely surprise. It depicts a shell like a scallop shell which as many of you know is an old Methodist symbol said to be from John Wesley's family coat of arms, so very appropriate, thank you!

I not only want to thank you for the gift but also for the fellowship and kindness so many of you have shown me since I arrived in 2002. From the first day I visited Dore Methodist I felt at home and it has been a privilege to be a member for so many years. I leave with many happy memories.

I am settling into my new home, really enjoying the handy location for the town's amenities. I have taken quite a few strolls around the Pavilion Gardens which is such a lovely place to have on your door stop. But most of my time is taken up with jobs around the house which I think will take some time to get through; but they're keeping me busy!

My first visit to a morning service at Buxton Methodist Church proved what a small world Methodism is when connections were immediately made as the current minister used to be in the old Sheffield East Circuit. And I was pleased to find out that there are still many in the congregation who can remember my father who was an active supernumerary here almost thirty years ago. The church building hasn't changed much but there is a nice new carpet now and they have added solar panels to the roof! By the way, once Covid restrictions allow they serve coffee on Tuesday and Saturday mornings so if you are ever in the area let me know and I will meet you there!

I am looking forward to hearing Dore news from time to time and as I said on my last Sunday I hope to return for some 'specials' as I really do want to keep in touch with the very special people of Dore Methodist.

Thank you,

Bridget "



Christian Aid

In our last Magazine we highlighted that it was Christian Aid Week in May and a fundraising event would be held. Step forward Eric Barraclough, Roger Millican and David Willie who decided on a Sponsored walk.

Roger writes:

"You'll be pleased to hear that David, Eric and Roger completed the 8.5 mile walk as planned on Friday the 14th – without any mishaps. As the route included 'ascents' of Long Line, Whitelaw Lane and Lane Head Road, the cool and dry weather was ideal. The trio were very pleased with the way things went as it was the longest walk they had done for a few years. As Eric said at the end "We might get a bit of reaction tomorrow". Yes, just a bit!

As a reminder of its purpose, each of them carried an extra container of water. All the sponsorship funds raised will go to Christian Aid, some of it to support projects overseas to provide reliable water supplies – something most of us take for granted. Thank you for your generous support."

In the present circumstances we were uncertain how the arrangements for advertising the walk and getting sponsors would work. We are delighted to report that they worked extremely well and grateful thanks are expressed to everyone who supported our three intrepid walkers. The picture on the front page shows them enjoying a well deserved drink at "The Summer House" at the end of the walk.

As a result of the efforts of Eric, Roger and David we have been able to send £1125 to Christian Aid.

Re-opening - our Roadmap.

We re-opened our building for Sunday Worship on May 9th, with all the necessary social distancing and other precautions, including pre-booking seats, in place. We have an average congregation of between 15 and 20 each Sunday, and those attending appreciate the opportunity to worship together. Each service lasts for about 40 minutes but of course, we are unable to sing hymns, which seems strange. Our worship is enhanced by "live" organ music, which adds a degree of normality. No coffee afterwards - which is a shame - but this is just not possible at the present time. As the Sheffield Circuit are not making a plan until September all our services are led by people associated with Dore, and we are very grateful to everyone involved.

We fully understand and appreciate that some members of our church are unable to come to worship at the present time, and would not like to put anyone under any pressure to return before they feel comfortable to do so.

In order to comply with social distancing requirements we still have a one-way system through the building, with entry from the car park and exit via the front door. Until these requirements change we are not able to use the hall for any other meetings. We are hoping that the position will ease (by the end of July?) but are thinking that it is unlikely that any other groups will be able to return to our building before mid-August or September.

In the meantime the Leadership Team are exploring a range of future possibilities and will continue to make our Weekly Update available for those attending worship and for other people who have specifically asked to receive a copy.

We also thank everyone for their continued financial support and any enquiries about ways of giving should be made to our Treasurer, Eric Barraclough.

THANKYOU

A word often used each and every day
A word used so often, not only when I pray.
I say it from the heart
So why does it not convey
Just how much I mean it when I say
"THANKYOU"
Thankyou for life's blessings
The happiness I've known
My family, my friends, my comfortable home.
Thankyou for the N.H.S
In the stressful times we're in.
Doctors, nurses, surgeons
And all who work therein.
Thanks to all key workers
Whichever job you do.
For putting your lives on the line
For me and you - and you.
To volunteers and neighbours.
Kind hearts and friendships hand
To those who work behind the scenes
In this green and lovely land.
Thankyou, thankyou, thankyou
There's no other way to say
How much I really mean it
Every single day.
The scientists and vaccines
A miracle to set us free
How blessed we are, one and all
God's gift for you and me.
THANKYOU.

Joy Depledge

BIBLE MONTH

This year's *Bible Month* booklet invites us to spend *30 days with Mark*. For the month of July the Sunday Services will focus on Mark's Gospel under the following headings:

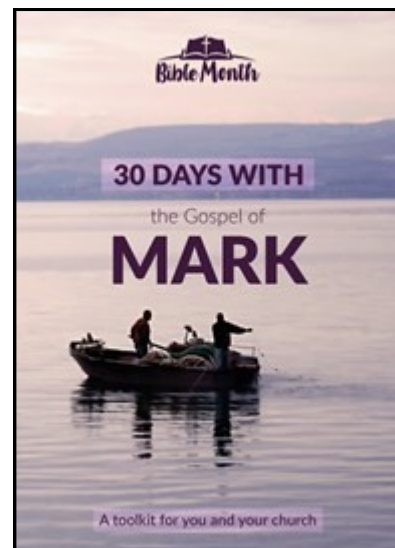
4th July Identity and Mission:
Mark 1.1 – 3.35

11th July Mission and Boundaries:
Mark 4.1 – 8.21

18th July On the Way:
Mark 8.22 – 10.52

25th July Passion Week:
Mark 11.1 – 16.8

Copies of the booklet will be available for those who wish to use the material for reflection and study during the week. There are also video links at www.preachweb.org.uk/biblemonth.



British Normandy Memorial at Ver-sur-Mer, Normandy, 6 June 2021

Opening Ceremony

I have been asked to write about the opening of the British Normandy Memorial at Ver-sur-Mer on 6 June 2021, but before I do that I would like to share with you the story of one soldier.

His name was Gunner Thomas James Frederick Warby and he was 27 years old. He had a lovely young wife, a one year bonny son, now 78 year old Thomas David Warby Clitherow, parents and several younger brothers and sisters. On D-Day plus four Thomas landed on Gold Beach along with thousands of other soldiers on specially built landing craft. They liberated Ranville Village, the first French commune to be freed from German Nazi control, after securing the landing beaches that involved intensive fighting and unfortunately a large number of fatalities. The next and main objective of the landing forces was to liberate the historic city of Caen as quickly as possible. Intensive fighting took place in the countryside around Caen strategically situated on the River Orne and the Caen Canal. The City was heavily defended by top German Panzer Divisions. The allies needed to win the Battle of Caen before they could make their way through France to Paris and on into Germany. It was only on 9th July that the northern suburbs and the city centre were liberated leading to complete liberation of the City of Caen by 19th July 1944.

Thomas contributed fully throughout the intense Battle and Liberation of Caen but did not witness the liberation of Paris because on the night of the 27th July 1944, a munitions lorry he was driving near the front line was hit by enemy fire. In a letter written to Mary, his wife, his Commanding Officer advised that Thomas was killed instantly at a place called Herouvillette, just outside Caen and was buried with military honours at the Ranville War Cemetery, along with over two thousand other brave soldiers, from the same battle which became known as The Battle of Normandy. His name is carved on a headstone and the grave is tended by a local French family. The cemetery itself is looked after and maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Thomas's name has also been carved on one of the pillars of the new British Normandy Memorial at Ver-sur-Mer close to where allied soldiers landed on Gold Beach.

The actual memorial site covers 50 acres and is laid out like the Union flag with 160 pillars on which the names of 22,442 allied soldiers, who died during the D Day Landings and the Battle of Normandy, are engraved. The Memorial finally pays tribute to those who gave their lives, some as young as sixteen, and who came from all corners of the globe. It has taken a long time to come to fruition and the Normandy Veterans Association has spent many years lobbying for a permanent memorial to be established in France. The Memorial was originally planned to be opened in 2020 but because of covid, it was postponed a year. This was a huge disappointment to the veterans, families and friends, with many veterans making a pilgrimage to Normandy each year to remember their comrades. This year, again because of covid, travel to France was not allowed and yet another disappointment followed. Instead on a rather damp Sunday morning, the veterans, their families and friends gathered at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire, courtesy of the Royal British Legion. Music was provided by the Band of the Yorkshire Regiment. A satellite link was set up with Ver-sur-Mer and there were two giant screens so that everyone could watch the event. Nicholas Witchell welcomed everyone and a short film was shown of the actual British Normandy Memorial. A video message followed by his Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales. The formal opening ceremony by The Rt Hon Lord Llewellyn (British Ambassador to France), The Lord Ricketts (former Ambassador) and Jean-Luc Veret (Mayor of Ver-sur-Mer) on behalf of HRH Prince Charles took place. A formal service of remembrance followed, then the Laying of Wreaths and Normandy veterans receiving the Legion d'Honneur. Towards the end of the ceremony the sun finally shone and we were able to lower our umbrellas and our group made our way to the Normandy Campaign Memorial at the Arboretum where the three youngest members - Freddie, Leo and Sofia laid our family wreaths.

It was a fitting tribute in the circumstances and the family look forward to being able to visit Ver-sur-Mer to see Thomas's name on the Memorial and the Commemorative Bench dedicated to him bearing the following inscription:

British Normandy Memorial Commemorative Bench Inscription



IN EVER LOVING MEMORY
THOMAS JAMES FREDERICK WARBY

68 Medium Regt. Royal Artillery
Killed in Action 27 July 1944 Aged 27
Son of Thomas and Eleanor Warby
Husband of Mary : Father of Thomas
Grandfather of David
Great Grandfather of Frederick and Leo

HIS LIFE GIVEN FOR DEMOCRACY
PEACE AND FREEDOM OF MANKIND

**Thomas's bench provides a place for remembrance and reflection
for visitors whilst experiencing the significance of the
British Memorial, Normandy, Gold Beach and the English Channel.**

Sincere and grateful thanks to the Normandy Veterans, Memorial Trust, Donors and
UK Government for this lasting legacy to those who gave their lives for our freedom.

Janet Clitherow

With help from Thomas David Warby Clitherow

They think its all over!...Sheffield District Roadmap stage 4

Had you been counting down the days to the earliest possible cautious but irreversible ending of covid restrictions? Had you family parties, wedding receptions or foreign trips booked? Is freedom deferred freedom denied?

Or have you stocked up on lateral flow tests, face masks, streaming services, supermarket delivery slots and corned beef? Resigned to the next unexpected turn for the worse, not daring to hope for anything better?

Some of us are increasingly anxious. Regulation brings surety and safety. Instruction to abandon social distancing and decide our own individual epidemiological risk appetite brings uncertainty and fear. Others of us were housebound long before the age of Zoom, and fear a return to being societies forgotten others once again.

They think it's all over... it isn't yet. Or to put it another way, how long O Lord?

How long O Lord we cry when we think of the churches we tend.

How long must we suffer? How long before we can throw off the enthusiasm-sapping laws against singing, sharing the peace and a cuppa? How long before our gatherings are not dominated by risk assessments? How many times must we defer life-giving sacraments and celebrations?

Or maybe the despair of how long have we got left? How many empty spaces will there be around the communion table? How many will prefer their new family walk to a Sunday in chapel? How many tired office holders have decided now is the time to stop? How will we pay the assessment?

Or the pleading of how long must we wait? How long until the harvest? When will we celebrate the fruits of our outreach? Will we ever see those friendships becoming faith-embraces and

lives transformed?

Or the frustration of how long before we learn? Will we recognise the shackles we have placed on God? Can we ever sift the wheat of discipleship from the chaff of routine?

They think it's all over... it is now time for Stage Four of our roadmap for churches in a post pandemic world. Building first on the foundations of:

Stage One – Get Listening Churches are very good at thinking what their neighbourhoods need, but not so good at asking. Listen to your family, your friends, your colleagues, your neighbours, your networks and your community leaders.

Stage Two – What is essential anyway? Reflect on what you hear together as a church, be alert to the voice of God. Take the once in a generation opportunity to refocus on what is most important for the people of your locality. Lighten your load by daring to pause activities which have passed their best-before date. Dream dreams and build partnerships.

Stage Three – Who needs a hug? How can we be with the people beyond our congregations we have been listening to? How alert are we to the health of those in our fellowship who have been absorbing stress and responsibility through the pandemic? How much time are we investing in growing disciples and modelling a way of life?

A series of public health emergencies and extreme weather events led to Joseph's descendants escape from slavery in Egypt. A place of salvation which had become an oppressive, but stable, straightjacket. During two hard years of desert existence they debated and wrestled with how to live as God's people in a changed world. They reached the river Jordan, and were within touching distance of freedom. And then they panicked. They forgot the miracles they had witnessed in the past, and thought only of how few in number, weak and impoverished they were. All they had to do was join in with God's plan and trust the outcome to God.

God's people didn't join in. Instead they ran away and spent a generation flailing around in the wilderness.

Yes the post pandemic church invests in listening long and intently to as many people beyond itself as possible

Yes the post pandemic church applies all of its analytical and interpretive skills to refocus, to understand priorities, to set adaptable plans for mission, to contextually reframe rhythms of worship.

Yes it builds new partnerships with people of peace.

Yes the post pandemic church gets out of bed every day not to do church, or to talk a good church, but to be church. To live a life of discipleship. To love when it is tired. To model a way of life when no-one is looking. To give and receive mentoring. To invest in its neighbourhood.

But the post pandemic church remembers its role is to just join in, prayerfully day after day with God's mission... and trust the outcome to God.

It's OK to pray our how longs. We should long for a world transformed. It is right to wish our friends could lean into the oaken staff of faith. There is a role for prophets to sound the alarm when church is doing more harm than good. It's OK to find change painful.

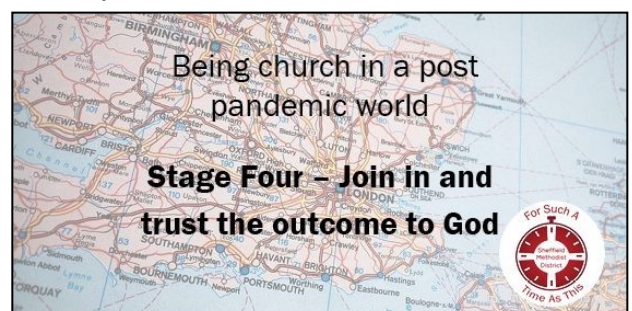
But being called for such a time as this requires us to echo the conclusion of Psalm 13 by trusting in God's unfailing love and rejoicing in God's salvation. Especially in the times when we cannot see the change we hope for and familiar structures are collapsing around us.

The post pandemic church looks beyond the despair of the present, thanks God for all that is past, trusts God for all that's to come... and joins in.

Neil Harland

Sheffield District Mission Development Support

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At the present time (early July 2021) we are open for worship every Sunday Morning at 10-30 a.m. Everyone is welcome but our capacity is limited, as Social Distancing has to be maintained. Seats need to be booked in advance and this can be done by phoning (0114) 2351085. When restrictions are eased we will adjust our practical arrangements accordingly. Currently no other activities are being held in our building.



This magazine can also be found in the pages of our church website along with our “Weekly Update” which contains all our news and any alterations to our practical arrangements.

Visit us at www.doremethodist.org.uk

DORE METHODIST CHURCH

You will find Dore Methodist Church a place of WELCOME, BELONGING and BELIEVING, ACCEPTANCE, SUPPORT, LOVE, FORGIVENESS and a place of COMMUNITY with caring people who will help you discover more of God’s love and purpose for your own life.

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Tel: 0114 236 0772



Church

Stewards:

Nigel Thomas
Jackie Bailey

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We hope that you have enjoyed reading this edition of our magazine.

Our “Weekly Update” includes worship material for the forthcoming Sunday.

Contributions for each should be sent to John Bailey by email at john.bailey23a@btinternet.com or by phoning (0114) 235 1085.

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