

Magazine & Newsletter



Morley Community Church September - November 2021

***A warm welcome every Sunday at 10.00 am
Morley Community Church, Merlyn Rees Avenue, off Wesley Street, Morley, LS27 9SL
(at bottom corner of Morrison's Car Park)***

Worship Services in September, October & November

<u>Sun 5 Sept</u>	<i>Worship Service</i>	Dr Ray Baker
<u>Sun 12 Sept</u>	<i>Worship Service</i>	Rev Alan Black (London City Mission)
<u>Sun 19 Sept</u>	<i>Worship Service</i>	Tony Lee
<u>Sun 26 Sept</u>	10.00 am HARVEST FESTIVAL	Tony Lee
<u>Sun 3 Oct</u>	<i>Commissioning Service for Gap Year Workers</i>	Cllr Andy Dalton
<u>Sun 10 Oct</u>	<i>Worship Service - Belonging to the Church</i>	Dr Ray Baker
<u>Sun 17 Oct</u>	<i>Worship Service - Belonging to the Church</i>	Cllr Andy Dalton
<u>Sun 24 Oct</u>	<i>Worship Service - Belonging to the Church</i>	Tony Lee
<u>Sun 31 Oct</u>	<i>Worship Service - Belonging to the Church</i>	TBA
<u>Sun 7 Nov</u>	<i>REMEMBRANCE SERVICE</i>	ASR Gavin Dickson (SASRA)
<u>Sun 14 Nov</u>	<i>Worship Service - Belonging to the Church</i>	TBA
<u>Sun 21 Nov</u>	<i>Suffering Church Sunday</i>	<i>Barnabas Fund & others</i>
<u>Sun 28 Nov</u>	Advent 1: <i>Worship Service</i>	MCC Preaching Team

Church website: www.morleycommunitychurch.org.uk

This magazine is a cooperative edition between Morley and Birstall Community Churches

PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

NO MISUNDERSTANDING

Have you ever spoken to Siri or Alexa over the internet/mobile phone? These two and other voice assistants embedded in our smart devices in our homes occasionally misunderstand what we are saying. A six year old talked into her family's new device about cookies and a new doll house. Later her mother received an email saying that an order of seven pounds of cookies and a £240 doll house were on their way to her home. Even a talking parrot in London, whose owner had never bought anything online, somehow ordered a package of golden gift boxes without her knowledge. One person asked their device to "turn on the living room lights", and it replied "There is no pudding room"

There is no such misunderstanding on God's part when we talk with Him. He's never confused, because He knows our hearts better than we do. The Spirit both searches our hearts and understands God's will. The apostle Paul told the churches in Rome that God promises He will accomplish His good purpose of maturing us and making us more like Jesus (Romans chapter 8 verse 28). When we are weak and don't know what we need in order to grow, God's Holy Spirit prays for us, according to God's will.

Troubled about how to express yourself to God? Not understanding what or how to pray? Say what you can from the heart. The Holy Spirit will understand and accomplish God's purpose for you.

A bible verse to remember

We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him (Romans chapter 8 verse 28).

A thought for reflection

What's on your mind right now that you should share with God?

A prayer to pray

Thank you God, that you know my heart. I love you for that and many other reasons. Help me to express my thoughts to you and to trust you to understand

Morley Matters

The summer is past.....well almost. Some days have been remarkably sunny and warm even as the Autumn approaches.

Our **Harvest Festival** is on Sunday 26 September. Some of the produce which will be on display has been grown by Rowan Taylor. She has been very busy over the last few months making a start on the renovation of the church graveyard. The long term plan is to create a community garden which will provide a place of tranquility and peace in the hustle and bustle of a busy town centre. With assistance, she has hacked brambles and extracted weeds from some graves that have not been tended for over 100 years. They have been turned into beds of magnificent colour with the plants and flowers she has inserted and grown. On **Saturday 23 October** there will be a major bulb planting session - 6000 bulbs have been sourced by Rowan. Next Spring the whole area will be a blanket of colour. If you can help with the bulb planting please turn up at 10.00 am on the day

On Saturday 16 September there will be a **work party** to remove the pews from the church. The object is to create a multi-use space which will cater for a multitude of activities. The pews were only put into (what was then) the church hall after the old Zion chapel was demolished in the early 1990s. So in effect we are reverting it to its original status anyway.

Please remember to **change your clocks** at midnight on Saturday 30 October. You have extra sleep that night because the clocks go back one hour!

We continue to receive cooking oil and eggs from our farming friends in North Yorkshire and any money raised through the sale of these goes to **International Miners Mission (IMM)** work in Zimbabwe such as their the hen rearing/egg producing projects. A total of five sacks of bubblewrap and foam pellets collected by our church has been passed onto **Day One Publishers** to help them in their literature distribution work. We are expecting a supply of calendars and diaries from Day One in the near future and these will be made available for you to use for yourself and as gifts for friends and relatives. Please bring your used postage stamps to church in the near future as another batch is about to be dispatched to the City Mission to help in their fundraising for their gospel work.

Leeds City Mission are transferring their Charity shop Re-Store from Fullerton's Bakery in Queen Street to their new premises in Armley. Join them for their Commissioning Service on 11 September (details later in magazine). We are grateful for their background support to our church and the opportunities for service and witness over the three year their Re-Store Shop has been in the town. We will continue to support Leeds City Mission by collecting items for their charity shop and helping in some of their projects.

PUZZLE - Can you find 29 books of the bible in this paragraph?

(Open your bible at the index page for the names of all 66 books in the bible - it helps! Hint - sometimes you will find the full name on its own in one word. Sometimes you will find the name within a word, sometimes the name is the latter end of one word joined with the beginning of another word. An example is included in the first paragraph to get you started!)

There are 29 books of the Bible in this paragraph. Can you find them? This is a most remarkable puzzle, it was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket, on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping him occupied for hours. he enjoyed it so much, he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his john boat. Another friend studied it while playing his banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend judges the job of solving this puzzle so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that will be really easy to spot. That's a fact! Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalised. Truthfully, from answers we get we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst. Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in this paragraph.

During a recent fund raising event, which featured this puzzle, the Alpha Delta Phi lemonade booth set a new record. The local paper, The Chronicle, surveyed over 200 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As Daniel Humana humbly puts it, "*The books are all right here in plain view hidden from sight*". Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentation from those who have to be shown. One revelation that may help, is that books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mad exodus; there really are thirty books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this article waiting to be found

Answers on a later page

Introducing our Gap Year Workers

Since 2006 Morley Community Church has welcomed Gap Year Workers from abroad. In an extraordinary course of events – despite Brexit and pandemic – our church is able to welcome two new arrivals from Hungary. They have penned a few paragraphs about themselves and once they have arrived we look forward to them settling in and working with our congregation.



Márta Vaczó

My name is Márta Vaczó, I am 19 years old, one of the two volunteers at Morley Community Church for the next 11 months.

I have been living in Hungary, Tahitótfalu since I was born. Tahitótfalu is a village in the northern part of Pest County with a population of more than 6000 people. I live here with my parents and my two sisters. My father is an English and History teacher and my mother works in a kindergarten. Both of them are reformed Christians and teachers of religion too. My older sister is a university student and my younger sister has two years left in secondary school.

I completed my confirmation in Tahitótfalu, however since 2018 I am a member of the youth club as well as the church of Szentendre. Szentendre is a town I went to secondary school to. It has a population of more than 26000 people and is a 30 minutes bus travel from my home.

With the youth club we meet every Friday to play games, talk, worship God with songs and read the Bible together. We often go to Christian organised events and we help in the church's children summer camps. I feel blessed to have friends from the church, friends who have faith in Jesus and who are not afraid to share it.

I spend most of my free time with the youth club. If not, I like to read, watch TV, play any kind of sports. I used to go horse riding and I was also a member of a girl football team. I like to go for a walk with my grandmother and family or visit friends. I consider myself as a sociable person.

Since I was raised in a Christian family I have heard about Jesus since I was a child but I was around 15 years old when I started praying and building a personal relationship with Him. Since then I am trying to put Him in the first place in my life. I believe that through our stories and relationships with God we can build each other's faith and grow in faith together and I am looking forward to doing that at Morley Community Church. I am also looking forward to the new things I will learn, the people I will meet and to be a part of the programmes the church is planning to restart or trial. I pray it will be a life-changing faith journey for my volunteer mate and for me too.

Zsóka Antal

Blessing, peace / Strong castle is our God/ Hi

My name is Zsóka Antal, and I come to you from Hungary to Morley. I live in Bokodon in a small village with my family (with 2 brothers, my parents and my grandmother).

I graduated from high school this year, but I'm not going to college right now. I chose volunteering. I studied at a Reformed High School, I am close to religion and God. In recent years, there have been several pastoral changes in my village. I love the people here, but my heart appeals to my school and the Tata people. There, every morning, all the students went to church together before school. Every morning someone else kept our devotion

and we sang and prayed together. I really liked these mornings. So, and so expressed now, I feel that I don't belong to the Bokodi or Tata congregation. I'm in touch with my head of class and my teacher of theology. I talk a lot.

My family was very afraid of this trip, but they support me in it. They didn't hear about volunteering before I told them about it. They want what's best for me, and I'm grateful to them for that.

About myself, I really like to bake and cook. It really turns off. My hobbies include singing and sports. I like to run mostly because it can be anywhere. I really like it. I'm very excited and curious to see what this is going to be like. How these 11 months are going to affect me. I would like to get acquainted with culture and to gain memories and experiences for life. I want to get closer to God and get stronger.

I still speak English quite poorly and I'm really looking for words, but I'd like to change that. Please be patient with me, I will try very hard.

I'm really looking forward to arriving and meeting you.



How the seasons of the year come around so quickly! On Sunday 26 September there will be a harvest display and traditional harvest hymns as we focus once again on God's bountiful provision for all our physical needs. Perhaps it is no coincidence that one of the Gap Year Workers expected from Hungary – Zsoka Antal – is a farmer's daughter. Her family have a 300 hectare farm and rear pigs, cattle and chickens as well as growing potatoes and onions. We look forward to this seasonal event and giving thanks to the goodness of our loving Heavenly Father.

HARVEST QUIZ

It's harvest time, the culmination of the growing season for many crops. Farmers are busy at work gathering the fruits of their labour. So how much do you know about all things related to the harvest?

1. Crop Over is the traditional harvest festival in which Caribbean country?
Dominica *Jamaica* *Barbados*
2. Churches traditionally marked the start of harvest at Lammas. But what did the 'Lam' of 'Lammas' originally refer to?
Yeast *Loaf* *Midsummer's Day*
3. What is the UK's most grown crop?
Wheat *Potatoes* *Oats*
4. In 2001, tennis balls used at Wimbledon began being recycled as homes for which endangered creature?
harvest mouse *moles* *bees*
5. How many Pumpkin Spiced Lattés did Starbucks sell in the drink's first decade?
100 million *80 million* *200 million*
6. 'For whatever a man sows, this he will also reap' – name the book of the Bible.
Ephesians *Galatians* *Philippians*
7. Which painter's work includes 'Potato Harvest' (1884) and 'The Sower' (1888).
Constable *Hogarth* *Van Gogh*
8. What percentage of global greenhouse gases comes from agriculture?
15% *25%* *35%*
9. Which BBC radio programme has an agricultural story editor?
More or Less *The Life Scientific* *The Archers*
10. Name the baked food eaten during China's Mid-Autumn Festival.
Suncakes *Mooncakes* *Leafcakes*

Answers to Harvest Quiz on a later page

GIGGLE IN THE MIDDLE

Why did the orange lose the race?

It ran out of juice.

Why are fish so smart?

They live in schools!

What did the sink tell the toilet?

You look flushed!

What has ears but cannot hear?

A cornfield!

Can February March?

No, but April May!

I'm so good at sleeping that I do it with my eyes closed.

Try the seafood diet—you see food, then you eat it.

What do you call a pencil with two erasers?

Pointless.

Did you hear the one about the roof?

Never mind, it's over your head.

It really takes guts to be an organ donor.

Did you hear the rumour about butter?

Well, I'm not going to go spreading it!

How do you deal with a fear of speed bumps?

You slowly get over it.

PRETTY UGLY

I'm very ugly
So, don't try to convince me that
I am a very beautiful person
Because at the end of the day
I hate myself in every single way
And I am not going to lie to myself by saying
There is beauty inside of me that matters
So, rest assured I will remind myself
That I am a worthless, terrible person
And nothing you say will make me believe
I still deserve love
Because no matter what
I am not good enough to be loved
And I'm in no position to believe that
Beauty does exist within me
Because whenever I look in the mirror
I always think
Am I as ugly as people say?

NOW – *read this again from the bottom line upwards*



COMMISSIONING SERVICE

For the new Mission Hub

Saturday 11 September at 2.30 pm

At the new Leeds City Mission Hub, Mistress Lane
Armley, Leeds, LS12 2LJ

Guest Speaker: Rev Alan Black
(Director of Training for London City Mission)

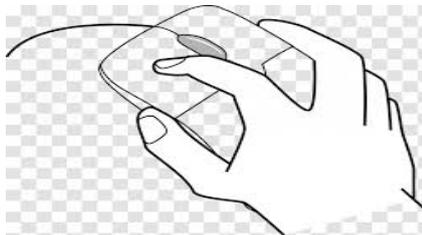
Free lunch 12 noon- 2.00 pm, tours of the new premises, browse in the charity shop and Christian book section

A warm welcome to all

Transport provided from Morley Community Church

LCM – the best friend of small churches in the Greater Leeds area

Amazon Shopping



Are you an internet shopper? Do you shop on line with Amazon? If so why not support Leeds City Mission as you make your purchases?

Go on the internet first to smile.amazon.co.uk. Customers are prompted to select a charitable organisation. Amazon will give 0.5% of the net purchase price (excluding VAT and other shipping fees) of eligible *AmazonSmile* purchases to the charitable organisations selected by their customers ie Leeds City Mission. You then progress to making your purchases and the percentage donated is allocated to Leeds City Mission. Amazon then transfer accumulated amounts at various points in the year.

Answers to Harvest Quiz from an earlier page

1. Barbados
2. Loaf (from the Anglo-Saxon 'hlaf')
3. Wheat
4. The harvest mouse (or 'field mouse')
5. 200 million
6. Galatians ch6 v7)
7. Vincent Van Gogh
8. 25%
9. 'The Archers'
10. Mooncakes

Puzzle Answers! From an earlier page - Here are the 29 books of the bible highlighted in this paragraph!

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FREEDOM OF SPEECH

The Nobel Peace Prize in 2021 has been awarded to two journalists - Maria Ressa (Philippines) and Dmitry Muratov (Russia) for their efforts to safeguard freedom of expression, The Award Committee said they were representatives of all journalists who stand up for this ideal in a world in which democracy and freedom of speech face increasingly adverse conditions. It you think this problem is only seen in 'totalitarian' countries – then think again.

Freedom of speech is a very precious commodity. Courtesy of political correctness, Christians in the UK are finding their rights to express their beliefs under attack. Readers will recall a previous article in this magazine (Feb-March 2020: *The Curious Case of Franklin, Free Speech and the Venue Police*) by barrister Peter Lynas from the Evangelical Alliance which flagged up this case as a matter for deep concern.

This summer Franklin Graham (son of American evangelist Billy Graham) ended a two-year legal battle after adverts for his 2018 Lancashire Festival of Hope were removed from Blackpool buses following an orchestrated campaign by politically correct activists who targeted his biblical and traditional views on sexual morality. A previous generation will recall his father's large 'Mission England' meetings in the 1980s around the UK. His planned Festival of Hope meetings were of similar nature – large auditoriums and gospel preaching by Graham to the anticipated crowds.



A Court ordered Blackpool Borough Council and Blackpool Transport Services must pay £25,000 in “just satisfaction” damages plus £84,000 in legal costs to The Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

A Judge ruled that the council and bus firm had indeed violated the Equality Act and the Human Rights Act by banning the adverts for his meetings.

In addition to paying the hefty damages, Blackpool Council were also forced to issue a public statement of apology conceding that they discriminated against Franklin Graham’s festival and his “*right to freedom of speech*”.

“We accept that the advertisements were not in themselves offensive,” the statement reads.

“We further accept that in removing the advertisements we did not take into account the fact that this might cause offence to other members of the public and suggest that some voices should not be heard. We also regret that we did not consult with the organisers prior to taking our decision.

“We accept the findings of the court that we discriminated against Lancashire Festival of Hope because of the religious beliefs of Franklin Graham and in doing so interfered with Lancashire Festival of Hope’s right to freedom of speech.”

The council “*sincerely apologises*” to the festival organisers and added that lessons have been learned from the experience.

In response, Franklin Graham said: *“This is an important moment for religious freedom in the UK.*

“We’re grateful to God for the final outcome of this case, and for what it will mean for churches and Christians across the UK in the years ahead. The Good News of Jesus Christ must be proclaimed. My prayer is that this case will encourage Christians to stand firm.”

Blackpool Council’s action was not the only one to discriminate and prevent freedom of speech. Their capitulation to politically correct pressure groups had a domino effect as one by one stadiums in Newcastle, Birmingham, Newport, Glasgow, Milton Keynes, Sheffield and Liverpool all cancelled the preacher’s events. Owners of these venues (usually local councils) are also facing lawsuits for their prevention of freedom of speech.

Of course, it will be council tax payers who will be footing the bill. Political correctness is not only dangerous (it’s chilling effect on freedom of speech and the shutting down of debate), it is also expensive. The waste of council tax payers money in Blackpool is particularly poignant. Blackpool has high rates of benefit dependency, high social care budgets and significant unemployment levels in its area. The total of £109,000 damages plus massive amounts of council staff time in processing this episode could have been spent instead on providing much needed social services in Blackpool.

It is a matter of concern to churches in the UK that there has been a significant acceleration of these incidents in the UK in recent years. The Christian Legal Centre, the Christian Institute and other organisations are increasingly having to resort to court action to defend the right of Christians in the UK to hold and express their beliefs without discrimination.

Christians have the right to uphold their beliefs and freedom of speech is a very, very precious thing.

BIRSTALL COMMUNITY CHURCH

Smithies Lane, Birstall

*Morley & Birstall Community Churches are both affiliated to the EFCC
– Evangelical Fellowship of Congregational Churches*

SUNDAY	10.30 am	Worship Service
MONDAY	2.00 pm	Crafts Group
MONDAY	4.15 pm	Bible Study & Prayer Meeting

Birstall Community Church continue their Sunday services in their chapel in Smithies Moor Lane. They have now brought their renovation of their church hall to completion and suitable for a wide range of uses. On Saturday 25 September they are planning a Harvest Supper and this will be the first Outreach they have been able to organise since Spring 2020. They are looking forward to it! Sheila Stone continues her residence at Priestley Care Home in the centre of Birstall. The congregation continue their search for a pastor. Advisor Steve Horton is helping them with this project with EFCC support.

DATES FOR THE NEW YEAR

During 2021 coronavirus continued to bring fear and despair. Millions of people have suffered in their social lives and mental health, thousands have died. Autumn has brought shortages due to delivery issues around the nation. These have all had an unsettling effect on people's lives – and many have been reminded of the fragility of life. What an opportunity to share the gospel message of redemption and hope.

Over the last 15 years Day One Publications have supplied Morley Community Church with their beautiful A4 size **Living Word** calendars. The **Day One Diaries** are A6 in size. The diary has a week to a page. Both publications have a monthly/daily scripture text and beautiful colour photographs. You can slip the diary in your handbag or pocket.

Both these publications are highly suitable for giving out to friends and neighbours. Please take copies once they are delivered in October and use them. *If you wish to do so* - you can cover costs by making a donation via the church collection box (calendars 33p & diaries £1).

Directions to Morley Community Church

By Foot

Walk 100 metres up the pedestrianized section of Queen Street from Morley Town Hall. The Market and the Queens Hotel are on your left. Opposite is Carl's Cobblers & the entrance to Beryl Burton Gardens. Turn right into Beryl Burton Gardens entrance, walk through the courtyard into Merlyn-Rees Avenue and you will see the church directly ahead.

By Car

The chapel is in the bottom corner of Morrisons Car Park in the centre of Morley. Park your car in the car park and enter the churchyard by the parsonage house at the corner with Merlyn-Rees Avenue. There is also parking in the church car park by the entrance gates in Merlyn Rees Avenue.

By Bus

Buses 46, 47, 65, 200, 201, 201a, 205, 425, 425a, 427, 51,52.
Alight at Morley Town Hall.

MORLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH

Below are the current regular weekly activities of the church in the chapel in Merlyn Rees Avenue, off Wesley Street, Morley, LS27 9SL (at bottom corner of Morrison's Car Park)

SUNDAY 10.00 am Worship Service*

Merlyn Rees Avenue, off Wesley Street, Morley, LS27 9SL

* Holy Communion is normally part of the morning service on the first Sunday of the month

SUNDAY Bible Study & Prayer

Various times and venues.

All-church bible study & tea often on last Sunday of month at 5.00 pm. – see service sheet for details.

WEDNESDAY 6.45 pm Yzup! Youth Club

Morley Community Church Hall

Youth activities for School Years 8-11

THURSDAY 7.30– 8.45 pm Prayer & Bible Hour

Currently on Zoom

Studying Scripture & praying for the needs of Morley & the wider world

Gap Year Workers:

Marta Vaczo & Zsoka Antal

e-mails: vaczomarti@gmail.com
 antalzsoka@gmail.com

Further Details:

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