

Buxton

United Reformed Church

Hardwick Square East



The Glory Window in the Chapel of Thanksgiving in Dallas, Texas, USA

April 2020

Buxton United Reformed Church
Everyone is welcome to come to our
Sunday Services



It is with the deepest regret that we write to inform you that **for public safety regarding the coronavirus outbreak**, as advised by the government and the URC, **we have taken the decision to close our Sunday services until further notice**. We will be monitoring the situation and hope to resume services as soon as possible.

We will be looking to keep in touch as much and as best as possible through all this.

Yours in Jesus

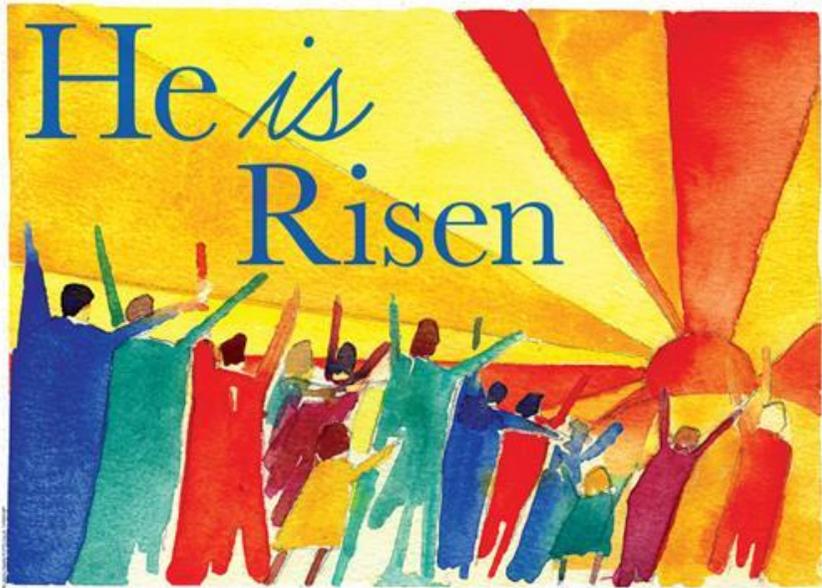
Simon and Fiona Bingham, Roger Horne, Cath Sterndale and Alison Darby – Church Elders.

Many years ago in Cornwall there was a preacher who was associated with John Wesley named Billy Bray. He was a man of powerful spiritual gifts who came out of a hard life in the tinworks of that area. In his own inimitable way, when he heard someone telling a long story about troubles and sorrows, his remark was:

“I’ve had my trials and troubles. The Lord has given me both vinegar and honey, but He has given me the vinegar with a teaspoon and the honey with a ladle!”



Taken from Treasury of Joy and Enthusiasm; Norman V Peale



CPO banner that is going to be on the outside of our church at Easter.

I wonder how forgetful you are and whether you take to writing Postits to put on the fridge door so you will remember things.

In the account of Easter we are told about **the people** who were closest and dearest to Jesus **who forgot.**

We know how, when weighed down with troubles, that our minds go blank about everything else going on in our lives.

I think that was how it was with Jesus's loved ones, starting with the women who collected the spices on the Sabbath to rise early on the first day of the week to hurry to the tomb to embalm His body.

The disciples were probably experiencing utter despair as they shut themselves away together, perhaps recalling events over

the last few days and feeling overcome with guilt that they did nothing to stop the terrible events.

They certainly were not thinking about what they would say on the first day of the week when they would see Jesus again!

What had both groups of people forgotten?

They forgot what Jesus had told them as He tried to prepare them for events that were to take place. At the transfiguration Jesus said to Peter, James and John not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.

Mark's Gospel recalls that the women on the first day of the week were bewildered at seeing the young man in the tomb telling them:

*"Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. **He has risen! He is not here.** See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'"*

For Mary it was not enough to see an empty tomb and hear God's messenger talk.

The mixture of feelings on the Sabbath that Jesus's friends experienced were to change on the first day of the week when Jesus said a simple phrase to Mary who was distraught in the garden **"Woman why are you crying?"**

Jesus came to her like a gentle Shepherd, caring and patient and called her name – **"Mary"**.

During this special time of a global pandemic of coronavirus many people throughout the world may be stuck in trauma of the crisis, being ill themselves or loved ones dying and being unable to spend time with them in their last moments; or even being unable to say their goodbyes at traditional funerals.

So many nursing and medical staff are turning to prayer because they are scared for themselves and also for looking after the patients who are so ill with the coronavirus.

Others in the wider community are finding it hard being confined to their homes for an indefinite period.

We need to be careful that we do not become so overwhelmed with concerns that we become blind to the wonderful message of Easter that **“Christ has Risen”** and that He calls you by your name too.

*He lives, He lives,
Christ Jesus lives today,
He walks with me and talks with me
Along life's narrow way.
He lives, He lives,
Salvation to impart,
You ask me how I know He lives-
He lives within my heart.*

As I am able to look out of our windows at home into our garden there are masses of narcissi, tulips, hellebores, crocus, and grape hyacinths in flower and the buds are swelling on the magnolia trees. That is not to forget the many birds that come for their food rations from our birdfeeder and the daily visit of the long tail tits hanging onto our window frames looking into our home. We thank God for the promise of spring that we see every day emerging from our garden, giving us joy.

Eileen Blane



Rainbows in windows across the Channel Islands to spread hope instead of germs. www.itv.com

A Family in 'Lockdown' Noah's Ark



40 days, 40 nights in the Ark, Noah's family was confined in a boat. There were no windows, no balconies, no terraces, no internet, no phone, no TV, no Youtube, Facebook or Netflix.

They only heard the rain. They spend their time praying, loving each other and caring for the animals. God the father took care of them as Noah was a man of faith and obeyed His word. Remember even though there is out there an ocean of viruses and life seems like a stormy ride, Our God is watching over us! Do not be Afraid! Be faithful to Him and wait patiently. The rain will stop one day. A rainbow will shine and all be well again.

Moderator of the East Midlands Synod.

The **Revd Geoffrey Clarke**, presently Minister of The Crossing Church, Worksop and Wales Kiveton Methodist Church has been nominated for the next Moderator of the East Midlands Synod.



Geoffrey's appointment was due to be ratified by the URC's Mission Council in March.

The Induction of Geoffrey Clarke as Moderator of the East Midlands Synod was planned for Saturday 16th May 2020, at Christ Church LEP, Grantham.

That was before the coronavirus! We need more information as to whether that will take place. But here is a bit of information about him we thought you might like to know.

The interviewing group was impressed by many fine qualities in Geoffrey: his experience of 27 years of pastoral ministry; substantial spells of service as Synod Clerk in the North West and Deputy Moderator in the East Midlands, and the high respect he has gained in both these roles; deep and broad ecumenical understanding; detailed knowledge of the Synod, its structures and staffing, and many of its people and churches; thoughtful pastoral insight; and a tested and honest personal spirituality.



The proposal was that he begins his term as Moderator on 1 May 2020 for an initial term of seven years.

Peter Alan Blackwell, Jennie Gill's Grandad

Peter along with his dear wife Noreen became part of our church fellowship when they move to Haddon Court, Buxton to be nearer their family. It was only after they needed special support they move to a flat in The Argyle Nursing Home in Broadwalk that they stopped coming to church but they were not forgotten.

Peter was born in Derby on 30th August 1925.



He left school in 1942 and went to work at Rolls Royce in Derby in the laboratory where the Merlin engine was developed for the Spitfire. He worked there until 1947 when he went up to Sir John Cass College, London University where he studied Engineering and Metallurgy, graduating in 1950. He then worked at a company in Watford which made components for power stations.

In 1951 he married Noreen Wibberley. They had known one another since their mid-teens at St Augustine's church in Derby. In 1953 he applied for a vacancy at Rolls Royce and was successful. He and Noreen returned to Derby and to St Augustine's, where he was a Sunday School teacher and sidesman. He also taught evening classes to engineering apprentices at the local technical college. They had two children. Margaret, Jennie's mum, who we know from Fountain Square Church Tideswell and Michael.



Peter continued to serve at St Augustine's as deputy warden and then vicar's warden. He was a member of the first Derby Diocesan Synod, which was constituted in 1971. The

college, which had been in Derby town centre, moved in 1964 to a new site on Kedleston Road as Derby College of Art and Technology. His work, which had been solely in metallurgy expanded to include plastics and carbon fibres and the department was renamed Materials Science. He taught London University external degrees, HND and HNC, as well as continuing to give courses for the apprentices of local engineering firms in day-release or evening classes.



Peter was particularly interested in the industrial archaeology of Derbyshire, which provided many sites for him to research, visit and photograph. It was his work on this topic which led to his election as Fellow of the Royal Society. He was an Associate of the Institution of Metallurgists and served a term as President of the East Midlands Metallurgical Society. He retired from teaching in 1984.

For Jennie her Grandad was gentle, endlessly patient with small grandchildren and very, very funny. He loved gardening, and especially garden centers where the café served a good selection of cake.



He was fascinated with anything to do with flight ever since, as a boy, he had a half hour flight from an aerodrome in a fairly early model in which the passengers still sat in Lloyd Loom chairs.

He once met Sir Patrick Moore and asked to shake his hand because Moore had once shaken the hand of Orville Wright. He spent the next month offering to shake people's hands so that they could say they'd shaken the hand of someone who'd shaken hands with Orville Wright!



“Orville Wright and his elder brother, Wilbur Wright, were the inventors of the world's first successful airplane. The brothers successfully conducted the first free, controlled flight of a power-driven airplane on December 17, 1903. Today, the Wright brothers are considered the "fathers of modern aviation.”

Grandad had many catch phrases, including 'you could never have imagined it', which applied to more and more things he encountered as he saw the world changing from how it had been in his youth.

'You could never have imagined it!'

I think it'll be the phrase on all our lips on Tuesday 31st March at a 15 minute funeral which neither Dad nor Grandma can attend and where the remaining 5 of us sit several pews apart. Lovely that Hilary Benson is leading it though...she'll have to dispense with giving us thinking time or playing beautiful music, although she might just have to play the hymn while we listen because apparently singing at funerals is likely to be banned by then because it means people spit more- you really could never have imagined it.

Thank you for the reflections that were provided
by Jennie and Margaret Gill.





THE WONDER OF YOUR CROSS

by Robin Mark

The wonder of your cross
shall be our meditation
To gather in that shadow as
the sun went down

To weep with those who thought that you were leaving, you were
leaving, Jesus

The humble king who never wore an earthly crown

To steal away at night when they took down your body

With love and tears to leave you in a borrowed grave

To go with Mary to that place they laid you, where they laid you, Jesus

And in the morning find the stone was rolled away

The cross, O the wonderful cross

What glory and vict'ry I've found

I'll come to the wonderful cross

And my whole life I lay down

Were heaven's praises silent in those hours of darkness,

Your Holy Spirit brooding 'round an empty throne?

Until the declaration, 'He is risen!' You are risen, Jesus!

He is not dead, behold He lives forever!

The cross, O the wonderful cross

What glory, what vict'ry I've found

I'll come to the wonderful cross

And my whole life I lay down

Easter

Easter is still coming
A celebration of what Jesus did
To bring us all new birth in Him
And take away our sin

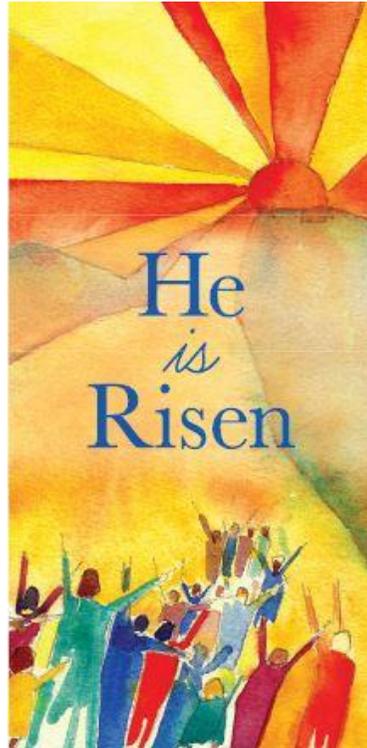
*Are you living in the Sunday?
When He rose up from the grave
Abiding in new life in Him
And knowing that He saves*

Come and know Him every day
Enjoy what He has to give
Praise and thanks for all He is
His freedom and release

*O look ahead, God is your hope
He's the way, the truth, the Life
Look forward and then focus
He's the One who'll satisfy*

Live life simply and keep clam
Have fun, laugh and smile
Carry on when the going's hard
It's worth the extra mile

*Christ in us the glorious hope
The world still falls around
Events prove this is sadly true
But we have our solid ground*



HE IS RISEN HOPE CARRIES ON!

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths. Proverbs 3.

Fiona Bingham

God is at work

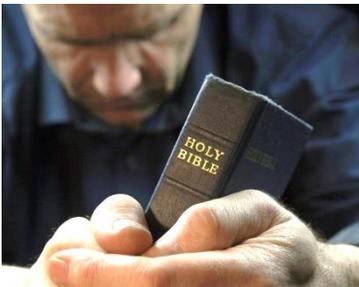
“What an incredibly moving report from this Italian doctor...
An English translation of a post shared by a friend in France:
(shared by my friend Steve Thomas):

The testimony of an Italian doctor:
Let's keep praying

‘A doctor in Lombardy: “Even in my worst nightmares, I would never have expected to see and live the events that have occurred in our hospital over the last three weeks. This horror is increasing every day; it's become unmanageable and we have become ineffective.

At first, only a few people came, then it was hundreds, and now, we are no longer doctors, but selectors... We have to decide who will live, and who will die by sending them home, even though these people have duly paid their taxes in Italy.

Two weeks ago, my colleagues and I were atheists. Belief in science was the norm. And science eliminates God's presence. I had always laughed at my parents for going to church



Nine days ago, a 75-year old pastor came to us with severe respiratory problems. He had a Bible and would read passages every day to those who were dying and hold their hands. We were both mentally and physically exhausted, and bitter, but when we had the time we would sit down and listen. We have to admit that, as humans, we have reached our limits, we can't do any more! More and more people are dying every day. We are exhausted; two of our colleagues have died and others are barely standing. We realised that mankind's scientific knowledge is limited and that we need God! We started to pray whenever we had a few

minutes. It's incredible, but even as committed atheists, we came to God and found peace! He helps us persevere so we can care for the patients.

Yesterday, this 75-year old shepherd passed away. We were devastated as never before (despite having seen 120 deaths over the last week). Because this old shepherd, whilst he was with us, managed to bring back peace to us, a peace I had had no hope of ever finding.

The shepherd has gone to be with the Lord and we will follow soon. I have not gone home for 6 days; I can't remember when I last ate and I've realised how useless I've been to people on this earth until now. I want to help others until my last breath. I am glad to have found God and I want to serve him by helping my fellow men until my final breath." ‘

Seen this on Facebook
Submitted by Debbie Delight

*Lord Jesus,
In the midst of a storm,
You said, 'Peace be still.'
Bid our anxious fears subside,
Sustain your church in faith, hope
and love,
Bring our nation and the world
through this tumult,
Grant wisdom to those with heavy
responsibilities,
And healing and hope to those
who are infected.
Amen.*



John Proctor, URC Church General Secretary

God of Our Yesterdays

© *Matt Redman Thank You Music 2008*

When we were in the darkest night
and wondered if our eyes would ever see the light
You were there Lord.

When we were in the stormy gale
and wondered if we'd ever live in peace again
You were there Lord.

You were there in the struggle.
You were there in the fight.
You were there all the time.

We praise You the God of our yesterdays.
We praise You the God who is here today.
We praise You our God as tomorrow comes

So whatever lies ahead,
whatever roads our grateful hearts
will come to tread, You'll be there Lord
And we will fix our eyes on You
and know that there is grace enough
to see us through **You'll be there Lord.**
You'll be there in the struggle;
You'll be there in the fight.
You'll be there all the time.

You're always closer than we know
Always more involved and in control
We will trust our lives to You
The One who was and is and is to come



Please pray for members of our church family, especially

- **Cath Sterndale** whose brother, John, continues to be very unwell in hospital.
- **Jennie Gill** whose father, Anthony, has had his chemotherapy stopped because of the coronavirus emergency. Jennie's grandfather's funeral will take place on Tuesday 31st March with only five members present because of government restrictions.
- **Alison Darby** whose mother has now been moved to a nursing home in her village.
- **Ken Phillips** who is confined to The Branksome Care Home and for his sister-in-law Norah who receives the magazine in Poole.

Prayer for an Economics of Life

O God, help us realise that human flourishing cannot be achieved by worldly economic systems. These shift wealth upwards and relegate the poor to debt, hunger and slavery. Inspired by the Gospel, help us understand Jesus' mission afresh. May we declare again the Year of the Lord's Favour: forgive all debt, overturn tables of monetary greed and tear down the hoarded barns. Help us to restore water, land and air to their pristine state. Give us Your spirit of generous love, and a spirit of fierce determination, as we seek to build an Economy of Life that champions a just and equitable society. In Christ's Spirit we pray. **Amen**

A C4L prayer submitted by Charles Jolly:

Dates to not Remember!



Lunch Club

Cancelled until further notice

Early Morning Prayers: Fridays between
7 & 8 am at church

Cancelled at church until further notice

Fellowship Evenings: Wednesdays

Cancelled until further notice

Next Church Meeting

Sunday 14th June This will be very much dependant on the advice
from the government about public meetings.

Elders and Leaders Meeting Thursday 30th April This will be
reviewed depending on the advice from the government about public
meetings.

Contributions for the magazine

*We appreciate your contributions
so please keep them coming.*

Contributions please for the next magazine to
Eileen and Peter Blane by
Monday 27th April 2020
for the May publication.



*To ensure your magazine is as informative
as possible please keep us up-to-date with
news and events. Tel: 01298 27591 or email peter@blane.co.uk.*

Please be aware that, in addition to the printed magazine, an electronic
version is available to read on the church's website:
www.buxtonurc.org.uk

Possible new minister for North Derbyshire

It was planned that on Friday 17th April the proposed new minister candidate for North Derbyshire would visit Rose Hill and St Andrew's in Chesterfield to tour the buildings of each and meet with their Elders in an informal chat.

On Saturday 18th April he was meant to travel with Camilla to the four Area Churches, including ours, spending an hour at each, with church members attending for an informally meet with him.

All the Area Churches were to be invited to the Sunday services the following day and to the arrangements following the services.

All these arrangements have now been **postponed** because of the coronavirus.

Buxton Community Wellbeing Café is **cancelled**.

Thursday Lunch Club **cancelled** with further notice.



In Buxton

All Lent and Easter celebrations cancelled.

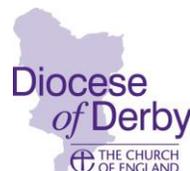
Christian Aid Week
10th to 16th May cancelled



[Please consider making an additional on-line donation to Christian Aid if you can afford it.](#)

Eco Church Training Courses.

20 May 2020 1.30-3.30 at
Buxton URC Hardwick Square East,
Buxton SK17 6PT **cancelled.**



Just to make you smile -

The value of a positive Attitude!

It couldn't be done!

Somebody said that it couldn't be done,
But he with a chuckle replied
That "maybe it couldn't," but he would be one
Who wouldn't say so till he'd tried.
So he buckled right in with the trace of a grin
On his face. If he worried he hid it.
He started to sing as he tackled the thing
That couldn't be done, and he did it!



Somebody scoffed: "Oh, you'll never do that;
At least no one ever has done it;"
But he took off his coat and he took off his hat
And the first thing we knew he'd begun it.
With a lift of his chin and a bit of a grin,
Without any doubting or quiddit,
He started to sing as he tackled the thing
That couldn't be done, and he did it.



Hats off/Potempa/nwitimes.com

There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done,
There are thousands to prophesy failure;
There are thousands to point out to you, one
by one,
The dangers that wait to assail you.
But just buckle in with a bit of a grin,
Just take off your coat and go to it;
Just start to sing as you tackle the thing
That "cannot be done," and you'll do it.



Buxton United Reformed Church



We would be very happy to warmly
welcome everyone who wishes to join us
for Sunday worship

BUT

because of the current restrictions all
church services and all other activities
have been cancelled until further notice.

*Once things are back to normal we
will again offer a sincere, loving
welcome to all in Christian Worship*

