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www.hornseaurc.org.uk



October 2015

SUNDAY 10.30 Morning Worship with Junior Church

for children of all ages, and crèche. Coffee etc. served at close of Worship.

Communion:1st Sunday evening at **6.30 p.m.**2nd Sunday morning at **10.30 a.m.**

Other Sunday evenings

6.30 p.m. Prayer and Praise

Tuesday: 9.15 to 11.30 'Open House' (in term-time)

1.30 p.m. Bible Study at Manse (6th, 13th & 20th)

7 p.m. Faith and Fellowship

Wednesday 2 p.m. Friendship Hour (7th, 14th and 21st)

Thursday: 10 a.m. to noon Coffee Morning Friday 6.30 & 8 p.m. Pilots (in term-time)

This Church is fitted with a Loop System For the benefit of the hard of hearing

WEDDINGS

25 July: Jonathan Williams and Stephanie Naylor

8 August: Simon Thomas Armstrong and Bethany Laura Holmes

FUNERALS

27 July: Beryl Kilby
3 September: Clive Smith
22 September: Stuart Walker

Hornsea Music Society

The Maureen Hunter Singers

Saturday 17th October 7.30 p.m.

Live Music in Hornsea URC, the home of Hornsea Music Society

SOPHIE AKEHURST

I will be twelve on Thursday 15th October. I have had a busy summer doing horse competitions every weekend with my Mum. For my birthday I would love to have a Chill Factor Squeeze Cup Slushy Maker, or if not, a piece of jewellery would be nice.

I miss reading in Church and seeing my friends, but I will definitely return soon now the Showing Season is over.

NIKIA ASHMEAD

Nikia will be twelve on Friday 16th October. She is feeling very grown up as she has just moved to Secondary School. We hope she has a very Happy Birthday.

A New Academic Year sees Sarah Kissack off to the University of Chester, and three people who graduated in the summer starting out on their teaching careers - Lauren Kerbyson at St. Mary's, Hull, Matthew Knapton at Longcroft School, Beverley and Josh Gillem, who is newly arrived in Hornsea, to teach at Hornsea School. Our good wishes go with them all.

Watoto 2015

Mandy Hood used two August days for a mammoth fund-raising sale for the Watoto charity which supports girls in education in Uganda.(ww.watoto.com)

They have asked that we use this space to express their heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported them so generously that, over the two days, they raised an amazing £2,670! £1,670 is going to Uganda.

They have also donated the £1,000 to our Church Redevelopment Fund, so on behalf of all the Church members, we in our turn, offer them grateful thanks for this most generous gift.

Hornsea Christian **Aid Committee** wishes to thank all those who supported the Coffee Morning at the Parish Hall on Saturday 15th August. It raised £276 for Christian Aid projects.

Comment 4

The Minister Writes...

Dear Friends,

These are going to be exciting times for us at Hornsea URC! If you were at our Church Meeting in September you will have heard that we are a step nearer to starting the work of redecorating and re-carpeting our church. Whilst there are still one or two things to put into place before we can book the date in the diary, we have reached the point where we can start to look at colour schemes. This is where the fun begins!

At the Church Meeting I shared with you the conversation we had with the carpet fitter. In advance of coming to discuss with us the details of our requirements, he had contacted a carpet company to supply him with some samples to show us. Once they knew it was to carpet a church, the company made an executive decision: 'If it is for a church, they will either want blue or red.' So just two carpet samples were sent!

It is possible that we will be as predictable as the carpet company suggests, and replace one blue carpet with another - though far be it for me to pre-empt such an important decision. (Fortunately, the carpet fitter did provide us with an alternative range of colours!) Even so, I don't think I am the only one to feel affronted that the company made assumptions about us, and thought that we would be that predictable!

The conversation did cause to me to wonder to what extent those outside the church make assumptions about what they will find inside the church; whether they are fair assumptions, and whether it matters.

For example, do people assume that worship will be a throw-back to the past, that it will be difficult to follow, and lacking engagement with the things that matter in today's world? Comment 5

Do people assume that the people inside the church will be cliquey and unwelcoming, with members keeping themselves to themselves and being reluctant to relinquish the positions they hold and the seats they sit in?

Do people assume that our attitudes will be puritanical and prohibitive – that our favourite word will be 'No', and that we will be against anything that is fun or light-hearted or enjoyable?

Do people assume that we will only be interested in ourselves, putting all our energies into making ourselves comfortable, keeping our building standing and keeping our structures going, with little interest in those who do not already belong?

If these are the assumptions people have then I would suggest they are mistaken in the case of our church (though if we spend too long discussing the colour of our carpet, then the last one could stick!). That said, I think we need to continually go out of our way to demonstrate how mistaken these assumptions are.

It is worth reminding ourselves that, as followers of Jesus, we are guided by a Saviour who proclaimed a Gospel that was radical and new – in fact it often caused offence for exactly that reason. This Gospel was radical in its time because of the way it challenged the children of Israel to not let faith become a cosy club of The Redeemed. The Gospel is still a challenge to believers in exactly the same way.

I hope and pray that all those who enter into the place we call Hornsea United Reformed Church will continue to find it a place where all these unhelpful assumptions are proved wrong - no matter what colour the carpet.

Camie Kuack

Yours in Christ.

Barefoot Walking - and more

The Editor apologises for forgetting to inform you of The Leprosy Mission (TLM) July Barefoot Challenge! It is what it says, a challenge to walk barefoot for 24 hours, and be sponsored for your pains.

I needn't have worried too much though as word got around and Carol Rutherford and Karen Rogers were well sponsored and raised £489 between them for their trouble.

This was an important summer, as the Government agreed to fundmatch money donated to TLM and submitted in June, July and August. The money Hornsea URC submitted from other efforts, apart from the walk was £863.05, making a total of £1,352.05.

TLM will therefore finally receive, with the fund-matching, £2,704.10 from our Church. **Stop Press:** Donations for Harvest Goods has produced £35.80. Thanks to all who have supported these events.

Commitment for Life

Our annual Commitment for Life Sunday raised much in thought and prayer, and £440.14 in donations. This total will be enhanced at a later date by the Gift Aid Scheme. We thank Steven for sharing this time of learning and sharing with us.

Goodbye - and Welcome!

At the beginning of August the quarterly Joint Service with the Methodist Church was a Farewell Service to Rev Keith Himsworth and his wife Hilary. We have enjoyed a lively and colourful five years with them and our Methodist friends, and were privileged to share a most enjoyable farewell lunch too.

The Welcome Service for the new minister took place at the beginning of September, when Rev. Colin Marchment and his wife Helen were welcomed to the Circuit. They come to us from the Fylde area of Lancashire – west coast to east, and we're sure they'll enjoy drier weather, and much else in our White Rose county! We look forward to our time together.

News 7

News from the FRSC (Fund Raising and Social Committee)

June Barton

We all hoped for fine weather for the Carnival but although it stayed dry and turned out sunny, the wind was rather strong and none too warm, so the brave team who tended the tombola and bric-a-brac stalls outside are to be heartily thanked for their heroic efforts to prevent the goods from taking flight. The Café was extremely busy thanks to all the people flocking to see the parade and seeking some warm repast. The day was well worth the efforts as we earned £380.07.

Our Promise Auction generated a wonderful result with grateful thanks to all who entered into the spirit of the occasion either by entering a pledge or participating in the bidding. Our Auctioneer, Mike Barrett, the man with the gavel, although new to the job gave a fantastic performance as his viewing of all those antiques programmes really paid off. This was followed by a thoroughly enjoyed Fish & Chip Supper courtesy of Whiteheads. The total raised was £443.00.

By contrast the Local Produce Show was much quieter than we would have liked as the quantity of people coming in was much diminished. Why, we do not know, however, we did manage to secure £198.70 for our funds, which was definitely better than nothing.

The joint Fashion Show between ourselves and the Lions was once again a most enjoyable and hilarious evening mainly due to our compère Steven Knapton who in his usual manner managed to ad lib and wing his way through the performance – but he does it so well!

Our models were as superb as true professionals and must be congratulated on the way they coped with the quick changes and on each appearance looked fantastic. A thoroughly good event that brought in £236.00 for our funds, with many thanks to the Lions, without their help this would not be possible.

Dates for Singing in the Residential Homes

The Promenade: Monday 12th at 2.30 p.m.

Stuart House: Tuesday 13th at 3 p.m.

Summercourt Hall: Thursday 15th October at 2 p.m.

Friendship Hour

October is a very busy month for the Friendship Hour. The East Yorkshire Mission and Care Rally will be held on Wednesday 7th October at St. Columba's URC, York, and everyone is welcome to go. This is the event held in our church last year for all URCs in our area. This time it will be led by the minister there, Rev. Alison Micklem, and it promises to be an interesting meeting. Starting at 2 p.m., it will be concluded with the traditional Afternoon Tea. More details are available from Doreen Rogers, but hurry as she will be busy fixing transport.

Back in Hornsea, usual meetings resume the following week – on **Wednesday 14**th **October at 2 p.m.** when there will be a visit from **Humberside Police**, and on **Wednesday 21**st, **also at 2 p.m**. you can be entertained by The Shoreline Singers (this will be in the Church).

October with the Fund-raising and Social Committee

June Barton

A Chocolate Afternoon has been arranged for Saturday 17 October 2.00-4.00pm when the chocolate fountain will be in action with an array of fruits and confectionery available to dip into the chocolate and be enjoyed. Tickets will be on sale for £3.00 each and there will be a raffle, cake stall, Fairtrade chocolate stall, hot drinking chocolate, milk

shakes and all things chocolate will be on offer. For all chocoholics this will be HEAVEN!!! Continued on page 13 >>>>

Sunday 4th October: Mark 10.2-16

The Gospel brings us back to the question of marriage, this time through the question on divorce. The Pharisees' question is a very specific one, concerning the rights of men – something that made perfect sense in a culture where a wife was considered a man's possession. The specific background was probably a difference of opinion among the rabbis, some of whom taught that a man could divorce his wife for any reason at all, while others believed that there should be some ethical basis for such a move. Jesus reminds them of their tradition, while adding the progressive possibility that a wife might divorce her husband, but then identifying remarriage and adultery. This is definitely a hard saying, not least because in the culture of the day remarriage was almost inevitable for both men and women, because economic flourishing more or less depended on it.

In the context of Mark's narrative, it is tempting to see this statement as a sort of warm-up for some even more challenging statements later in the chapter. Was the blunt manner in which Mark expresses this intended as a way of provoking discussion among his audience in firstcentury Rome (where, unlike Palestine, women could indeed divorce men as well as the other way round)? It is certainly the case that the Early Church adopted a more nuanced view overall, with Matthew's Gospel presenting a less strident statement at this point, and Paul being more liberal again. The last four verses relating to children might look easier to handle, but they also reflect the same sort of extreme language if taken literally, for how can one possibly become like a child? Instead of the sentimentalised explanations we often come across, perhaps this is best understood as an eschatological exhortation – to look to the future, in a way that a child inevitably does. And in that way perhaps – diverting attention away from our tendency to rake over the ashes of the past, asking (as the Pharisees were doing) who is to blame for things - the kingdom is about who we might vet become.

Sunday 11th October: Mark 10.17-31

This is another passage from Mark that isn't quite as straightforward as it might seem. It is easy to see it as a tirade against people with money, and has often been used in that way. Yet Jesus and his disciples were far from poor. Jesus himself came from what today we might call a middle-class family, running its own building business at a time when the construction trade was booming in Galilee, with the construction of two significant cities (Tiberias and Sepphoris) not far from Nazareth. The disciples likewise: the leading lights had enough employees to sustain their fishing business even while they were spending time out with Jesus. So the instruction to this particular individual must have been specific to his personal circumstance rather than a blanket statement about money as such. The key to understanding it is likely to be found in the statement about 'the kingdom of God' (v.23) - a term helpfully described by Scots theologian Ian Fraser as 'God's way of doing things'. And God often turns things upside down from our way of thinking: the first being last and the last being first (v.31). The mention of the eye of the needle has given rise to much discussion, for how could a camel ever possibly pass through such a small opening? Isn't that indeed suggesting that it is not just difficult for a rich person to embrace God's way of doing things, but totally impossible? One popular explanation is that 'the eye of a needle' referred to a small gate in the city walls through which a camel could only pass by getting onto its knees and having its load removed. Unfortunately, there is no evidence of the existence of such a gate – and a more likely explanation is to be found again in the oral nature of the stories that Mark tells. The Aramaic word for 'rope' (gamla) when translated into Greek becomes kamilos, which can sound remarkably similar to the Greek word for 'camel' (kamelos). Almost certainly Jesus said that a thick rope could only pass through the eye of a needle with great difficulty. It would need to be unravelled first - just as we need to unravel or deconstruct our natural expectations if we are to grasp what Jesus was really talking about here. For his call to discipleship is an invitation to unravel the way we see things, and that will often involve giving up whatever it is that seems most important to us as we begin to see the world and its people through God's eyes.

Sunday 18th October: Mark 10.35-45

The request of James and John here reflects something that has plagued the Church for centuries: the quest for power and influence. It is not hard to see the logic behind it, for if being a disciple is indeed about being partners with the coming world ruler who is the Messiah, surely faithful service must be rewarded with positions of significance in the ensuing kingdom.

We can trace signs of this mentality throughout the history of Christendom, as Church and state became ever more closely intertwined following the time of Constantine, until they were more or less synonymous with one another. It is easy to look back and see the flaws in that mentality, but underlying it is still an important question: where is the place for authentic Christian faith in civic life? And (though the term is not used in this passage) what does servanthood mean in that context? Once again, Jesus' answer is somewhat cryptic – which, of course, is the point, as that puts the issue back to the questioners and invites them to think a bit more deeply (or, if we are right about the essentially performative nature of Mark, provides an invitation to engage with others in such a conversation).

The reference here to drinking cups and being baptised can readily be understood as a reference to Jesus' death – and that would certainly connect it to the Isaiah passage (which, however, is not directly referenced here, and perhaps the connection would not be noticed were it not for the way the lectionary brings them together). But there can be no doubt that at the very least Jesus is saying that discipleship is a tough and challenging business because it reverses all the expectations that we naturally have about how things work, and how we recognise true value and greatness. This is something that also challenges the way our churches operate, as we think of relationships between clergy and lay leaders, not to mention those who work behind the scenes to make things happen.

Sunday 25th October: Mark 10.46-52

This is one of Mark's stories that has all the characteristics of performance and pantomime. The dominant character is a blind beggar, Bartimaeus, whose physical presence is striking enough in itself, and who soon becomes the centre of the action as he calls out to Jesus, using a provocatively messianic title. The crowd react as crowds do when somebody steps out of line, trying to keep him quiet, which just encourages him to shout even louder. This man recognises an opportunity and doesn't care what anyone else thinks or says. And predictably, by the end of the story, he has got his deepest wish. But notice the nuances in Mark's story. Bartimaeus' initial request has nothing to do with his blindness: he just asks for 'mercy'.

In the Old Testament, 'mercy' refers to that undeserved kindness bestowed by God on the people, which stood at the heart of the covenant relationship. It is not so very different from the agape love that is mentioned elsewhere in the New Testament, and when used as a prayer it implies that Jesus knows, better than we do, what we need, and that we can trust him for an appropriate blessing. But then, even though it must have been obvious to everyone what would really transform Bartimaeus' life. Jesus invites him to name his need as he understands it – and the crowd that a moment before was trying to silence him altogether is now on his side and noisily egging him on. Bartimaeus' openness to change has already been demonstrated by his willingness to leave his secure space and the one valuable possession he had as a beggar - his cloak - but it was still important to Jesus that his own voice should be heard rather than help being imposed on him from outside by a do-gooder. There is a lesson in here for our dealings with others - not to assume too readily what they need, not least because we are all needy and don't always know what will make us whole. Then, to wrap it up, Jesus gives Bartimaeus permission to go – and he does no such thing, but follows Jesus instead!

<<<< From page 8 The Table Top Sale takes place on Saturday 24 October 10.00am – 3.00pm so book your place now as table hire is still only £6.00. The Living Well Cafe will be open for business so what better place to bag a bargain and dine all under one roof.</p>

Urgently Wanted for Shoeboxes– small suitable items, e.g. toothbrushes, flannels, combs etc; small packs of crayons, pencils, note books, knitted hats and gloves, small toys; in fact anything that an under privileged child might enjoy receiving. These can be donated to the bric-a-brac stall at Thursday Coffee Mornings.

Advance Notice: - Lights night is on Friday 27th November followed by the Christmas Fayre on Saturday 28th November.

Shoeboxes 2015

People have already started gathering gifts for shoeboxes and Mandy Hood and a friend are collecting things to be packed into shoeboxes by the Pilots as they did last year. We hope people who cannot make their own box will sponsor those made by the Pilots.

The final Sunday for handing Shoeboxes in to be despatched will be the date of the next Joint Service with the Methodist Church, which will be held in our Church on Sunday 22nd November. At the time of writing we do not yet know which country they will be destined for.

Prayer Network - Prayers for Concern in October

The Effect of Global Climate Change, especially in Tanzania

UK Dairy Farmers

Give Thanks for Harvest

Faith and Fellowship Group

Our Church Flowers

We have a fantastic team of flower arrangers who never cease to amaze – I write this the afternoon before Harvest, knowing how they will be enjoying their time today.

But they are busy people, and they are wondering if there is anyone else who would like to join their group. Man, woman, young person, or older, if you could spare a little time now and then, do have a word with their co-ordinator, Ann Jordan (533852). Why not do it now!

Hornsea URC Christmas Delivery Service

Jackie Bradley

It's September again, the children are back at school for the autumn term and our thoughts begin to turn to Christmas!

This year, for once only, I am looking forward to Christmas as I will be taking semi-retirement in January! It has already been mentioned that certain people in the Church will be finding me lots of things to do so I won't get bored!

One of my regular tasks now is to sort out the Christmas Post. Last year I welcomed help from lots of new helpers, (as well as the regular helpers) and I am hoping that I can rely on the same team again. Please let me know if this is a problem so I can rearrange the list as soon as possible.

The regular boxes will be in Whittles Chemist and in the Church in late November. This year we will also be putting one in the Beach Hut Café in the Market Place. The Beach Hut provides food for the Living Well lunches each month and is well known to many of you.

Hopefully with three boxes we will be able to offer a better, more extensive service to the people of Hornsea, especially those living in the south of the town. Do tell your friends.

Details of dates, prices etc should appear in the November Newsletter.

[For anyone who is a new reader, our Church offers a Christmas Card Delivery Service to addresses within the town boundary at a price which is a fraction of Post Office rates. Any proceeds are for Church Funds, we have gold stamps on the envelopes bearing greetings from Hornsea URC].

Fresh from the Word 2016

Frank Hobson

This year I intend to order copies of the booklet of daily Bible readings produced by the IBRA (International Bible Reading Association) before the Christmas pressure, so that I will not rushing round in the closing days of the year in order to make sure that those who have ordered the booklets get them before the material comes into use.

Last year, as well as regular readers, several friends tried the booklets for the first time. It will be interesting to see how many have thought sufficiently well of them to re-order.

I shall be taking orders in measureable time. Please could *everyone who would like one, including the long term readers, let me know by the end of October. Samples of the bookstall £9 for a year's reading.

* The booklet is now also available as an Ebook and in PDF form, easily found on the Internet. It will become available probably in early October, and the price is around £7.50.

If you prefer this route, please also mention it to me, as I would like to keep a note of how many subscribers Hornsea URC has at present.

** **Did you know?** Be aware that from Monday 5th October large retailers in England are obliged by law to charge 5p for any new single use carrier bag they give to customers – plastic, paper or natural materials.* (Retailers with over 250 employees are regarded as 'large')

Publications 16

Reform 2016

Jane Martin

Reform is the national magazine of the United Reformed Church. A team of writers shares a breadth of Christian information, book reviews, a Bible study, comments and readers' letters with us.

There are ten copies a year at a cost of £25 for the ten and we need to order by the end of October to be sure to receive the January issue on time. Please ask me, and you can peruse back copies to see if this is your sort of reading.

BUT - Reform has gone digital too, so you can read it on your tablet, smartphone or computer at a much reduced cost of £18! Can't be bad, can it – why not have a go in 2016!

Ask me more!

And

Have you visited our Church Website hornseaurc.org.uk lately?

It's been changing a little, and we hope you like the new look.

Follow the new tab 'What's New' to keep up with coming events. Have a look through and make sure you've not missed anything. Tell your friends about it. You can also pick up the Newsletter there if you've not got your paper copy to hand. (In fact, you can help save a bit of a tree by reading the newsletter online instead of in print. Just tell me at jane.martin303@btinternet.com and I will send you a note when each issue is available)

You'll also find photos and instant reaction to various goings-on on our Facebook page.

Traidcraft

Margaret Knapton

Traidcraft have launched a campaign called **Show You Care** which is designed to let more people know what they do and how they can be involved – see the extract below.

Show You Care with Traidcraft

This autumn is an important time for people to remind themselves of why Traidcraft's work is so important – and different! We are like no other organisation. Not only do we sell the 'best of fair trade' products, our campaigns team lobbies on behalf of the world's most under privileged people and we run many life-changing development projects in the world's poorest countries.



Our work benefits 600,000 people every year, lifting them out of poverty and helping them build sustainable livelihoods for themselves and their families. Bongi is a young man working for one of southern Africa's best known candle producers, Swazi Candles. Listen to his amazing passion (on YouTube.com – Show You Care – Bongi's story) - he absolutely loves what he does! And it helps him support his mum, grandma and brothers and sisters.

This month we are asking all our supporters to **Show They Care** by committing to buy something from the Traidcraft stall or Autumn Magazine - and then to encourage a friend or member of the family to do the same. Thank you.

Advance Notice

Women's World Day of Prayer Annual Conference
In preparation for 2016 worship
By the women of Cuba
'Receive children, Receive me'

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Monday 2nd November

Toll Gavel United Church, Beverley

Ask Margaret Knapton now about transport or for more Conference details (533576)

Welcome to BRUNCH

On Saturday 7th November

Anytime between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

BRUNCH for BERUDA! See you there

A Quiet Time at Eastgate Convent Saturday 21st November 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Book now with Jamie or Kathy

Shop early for Christmas!

Collect your Traidcraft catalogue from Church
any Sunday or from Thursday coffee

Or ask Margaret Knapton

Make yours a Fair Trade Christmas

STOP PRESS: More news of Watoto in November too

November Newsletter .

If you are thinking of putting something in the next Newsletter, please speak to Sarah or Jane **NOW** so space can be reserved. After the deadline is too late to save space.

Last date **FRIDAY 9 OCTOBER.**. Issue available Sunday 1st November. Please give your material to Sarah or Jane or e mail to jane.martin303@btinternet.com or sarah.darlington538@gmail.com

SUNDAY	4	10.30 a.m. Rev. Jamie Kissack
		6.30 p.m. Rev. Jamie Kissack: Communion
	11	10.30 a.m. Rev. Jamie Kissack: Communion
	18	10.30 a.m. Rev. Jamie Kissack:
	25	10.30 a.m. Rev. Jamie Kissack
Evenings (except 4 th) at 6.30 p.m. Pra		ings (except 4th) at 6.30 p.m. Prayer and Prayer

And into November

Sunday1 10.30 a.m. Elders' Service
6.30 p.m. Rev. Jamie Kissack: Communion

Events in October

Saturday	3	Elders' Day
Tuesday	6	1.30 p.m. Bible Study at the Manse (3 rd of 5)
Wednesday	7	East Yorkshire Rally in York
Saturday	10	Yorkshire Synod
Monday	12	2.30 p.m. Singing at The Promenade
Tuesday	13	1.30 p.m. Bible Study at the Manse (4 th of 5)
		3 p.m. Singing at Stuart House
Wednesday	14	2 p.m. Friendship Hour: Humberside Police
		7.30 p.m. Elders' Meeting
Saturday	17	2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Chocolate Afternoon
Tuesday	20	1.30 p.m. Bible Study at the Manse (5 th of 5)
Wednesday	21	2 p.m. Friendship Hour: The Shoreline Singers
		(this will be in Church)
Saturday	24	9.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. Local Market Cinema St
		10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Table Top Sale and
		Living Well Café
		10 a.m. East Yorkshire Mission and Care Group
		at Toll Gavel United Church, Beverley
Sunday	25	1 a.m. British Summer Time ends.
		Clocks go back one hour
Monday	26	Half Term all week