

Hornsea United Reformed Church Newsletter June 2023



Pentecost: True Spiritual Unity and Fellowship in The Holy Spirit – by Rebecca Brogan

Artist's Reflection: Pentecost marks when the Holy Spirit came to empower believers to be God's witnesses of the gospel to the ends of the earth. This drawing of the Holy Spirit coming at Pentecost in wind and fire represents the empowerment of the Church from "every nation, tribe and tongue" (Revelation 6:9) throughout all generations. This drawing was inspired by a dream the Lord gave me about what true spiritual unity and fellowship in the Holy Spirit looks like.

It is amazing how much we unknowingly follow the patterns of established human traditions instead of the Holy Spirit when it comes to the way we Christians do "church". May the Lord open the eyes of our hearts and grant us discernment in these matters. May he graciously grant us the courage to forsake all human traditions that are detrimental to us so that we may find true spiritual unity, fellowship and joy with one another in his Holy Spirit. In this drawing I have also incorporated elements of the Biblical events in Acts 2-5 which detail the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and the spiritual unity in the early church that followed.

Worship services-

Sunday May 28th 10.30 a.m. Pentecost Sunday

Sunday June 4th 10.30 a.m. Colossians 4- concluding our series on Colossians and followed by Church Lunch

New series: -

Sunday June 11th 10.30 a.m. the Beatitudes (Holy Communion, Baptism and reception of new members)

Sunday June 18th 10.30 a.m. Salt and Light

Sunday June 25th 10.30 a.m. Anger

Our services are 'live streamed' so that you can join us from home, and if you miss any of the services you can find them on our dedicated YouTube channel - just search Hornsea URC on YouTube to find us.

This month at the U.R.C: -

In June we conclude our worship series looking at the book of Colossians, then begin a new series on the Sermon on the Mount. We also meet to eat lunch together, celebrate the baptism of two children, and the receiving of new church members, as well as all our usual events. Details in this newsletter; plus, a recipe, a quiz and some really exciting news about our building!

An introduction to our new Worship series beginning on June 11th: -



The Sermon on the Mount is by far Jesus' longest explanation of what it looks like to live as His follower and to serve as a member of God's Kingdom. In many ways, Jesus' teachings during the Sermon on the Mount represent the major ideals of the Christian life.

For example, Jesus taught about subjects such as prayer, justice, care for the needy, handling the religious law, divorce, fasting, judging other people, salvation, and much more. The Sermon on the Mount also contains both the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12) and the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13).

Jesus' words are practical and concise; He was truly a master orator.

In the end, Jesus made it clear that His followers should live in a noticeably different way than other people because His followers should hold to a much higher standard of conduct -- the standard of love and selflessness that Jesus Himself would embody when He died on the cross for our sins.

Regular events

Every Tuesday 2p.m. Faith and Fellowship in the Hall

Every Thursday 9.30 - 1pm Coffee/warm space

Every Friday 6pm Pilots in term time

Every Saturday 10 am Christianity Explored group in the Hall

Bible Book Club

Our Bible book club continues, always on the last Wednesday of the month, so in June it will be on **Wed. 28th June at 2pm and 7pm.** We get together and talk about what we thought of the book, what we liked/didn't like, and what we learnt from it- just like a regular book club. You can come regularly or occasionally; it is very informal.



The church was beautifully decorated to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles the third last month. Many thanks to the 'flower ladies'. Each week the church flowers are taken out after the service and given to someone, to show our love.

If you would like to donate money to keep this ministry going, please see Ann Jordan or Marion Clubley.

Thank you.





Church Lunch, June 4th

Our next lunch will be after the service on the first Sunday in June (4th). Please bring a sandwich, and we will share in home-made scones with cream and strawberries, and tea. Yum! Hope to see you there.

Membership

We are delighted to be welcoming 6 new members into church membership on June 11th. (It is not too late to let us know if you wish to become a member.)

To enable this, we will have a very short **extraordinary church meeting** after the service on **June 4th** (before our lunch), to ask the membership's consent to these people being admitted. This is something we have to do constitutionally, and it will give us the opportunity to pray for those who will be named as they prepare for their membership service the following Sunday.

Exciting news about our building:

I am delighted to be able to share with you that we have been awarded another grant for Church Property Development. This means that we will now be able to proceed with Phase 1 & 2 together (all of the downstairs work, plus a lift up to what will become our new 'Upper Room' meeting space = Phase 3).

Margaret and myself had a very positive and productive meeting with the Architects and successful Contractor, and we are looking at a provisional start date of 24th July 2023, with a 12-week window for Phase 1 & 2 works to be completed. In practice this means that our last service in the church will be on July 16th, and we will meet in the Hall after this. Please continue to pray for this very exciting development, that God will continue to bless us and continue to 'open the floodgates of heaven.'

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, says the Lord Almighty, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it." Malachi 3:10 (NIV).

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord! Thanks be to God! Every blessing,

Mark

Eco Church Corner

Welcome to June's news. The group continues with our work towards the church being awarded Eco Church status.

Margaret and I attended the 'beginners' Eco church Zoom session, which we found very useful, with several ideas we would look at taking forward- twinning our second toilet and twinning the fridge!



Once the building work at the front is completed, we are looking at making the garden wildlife friendly, with nest boxes, bird feeders etc. We have very kindly been given a raised planter in which we would grow vegetables to use at church lunches, and maybe the Pilots and Junior Church may like to be involved with this.

All these goals, once achieved, would help us towards achieving the "community and global engagement" goals.

At the recent church chat, we had a fun, informal eco quiz during the coffee break, with a few questions that started us thinking about the environment and how our lifestyles affect it. Two things that really stayed with me were: -

1/3rd of food that is produced globally never makes it to the table, and

To produce 1K of beef it takes 15,415 Litres of water!

As a fun exercise, here are some new questions to have a go at- no prizes, but they are designed to start us thinking. (Answers below): -

- 1) What are you encouraged to do on Arbor Day?
- 2) Who wrote the book 'How to avoid a Climate Disaster'?
- 3) Almost 50% of the 'Great Pacific Garbage Patch' is made up of what?
- 4) Which country obtains almost all of its electricity from renewable sources?
- 5) Which country generates the largest amount of solar power?
- 6) About 70% of the Earth is covered by what?
- 7) What is the outermost layer of the Earth's composition called?
- 8) What is another name for climate change?
- 9) What does the charity WWF stand for?
- 10) What fossil fuel is found in liquid form?

Eco Quiz answers-

1) Plant trees 2) Bill Gates 3) Fishing Nets 4) Norway 5) China 6) Water 7) The Crust 8) Global Warming 9) World Wildlife Fund 10) Crude Oil

I hope you enjoyed completing the quiz. Here is a recipe which Steph made and we sampled at our group meeting. It got the thumbs up from us!

Take care, God Bless, Ann

Vegan Lemon Cake

Ingredients

- 100ml vegetable oil, plus extra for the tin
- 275g [self-raising flour](#)
- 200g [golden caster sugar](#)
- 1 tsp [baking powder](#)
- 1 [lemon](#), zested, 1/2 juiced

For the icing

- 150g [icing sugar](#)
- ½ [lemon](#), juiced

Method

- **STEP 1** Heat oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6. Oil a 1lb loaf tin and line it with baking parchment. Mix the flour, sugar, baking powder and lemon zest in a bowl. Add the oil, lemon juice and [170ml cold water](#), then mix until smooth.
- **STEP 2** Pour the mixture into the tin. Bake for 30 mins or until a skewer comes out clean. Cool in the tin for 10 mins, then remove and transfer the cake to a wire rack to cool fully.
- **STEP 3** For the icing, sieve the icing sugar into a bowl. Mix in just enough lemon juice to make an icing thick enough to pour over the loaf (if you make the icing too thin, it will just run off the cake).

From www.bbcgoodfood.com

The Bookshelves



The book shelves in the Hall are for the use of everyone - do have a browse. You can take anything from here and keep it, return it or pass it on to someone else. Enjoy!

Margaret writes:- I have recently read, enjoyed and been challenged by the book - 'Heavenly Man'. It's a dramatic autobiography of Brother Yun. It's a gripping story of how God took a young, half-starved boy from a poor village in

Henan province and placed him on the front line for Jesus, in China's dedicated, courageous, and intensely persecuted house church leaders.

I found it hard to put down – and learnt a lot about what it means to 'give your life to Jesus'. Why not take a look on the 'Bookshelves' in the hall to see what interesting books you can find – there is something for everyone's age and taste.