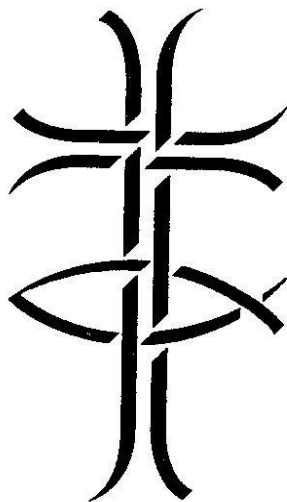


Hornsea United Reformed Church



Minister:
Secretary:
Treasurer:

Rev. Jamie Kissack, 12, St. Nicholas Drive
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www.hornseaurc.org.uk



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May 2015

SUNDAY **10.30** Morning Worship with Junior Church
for children of all ages, and crèche.
Coffee etc. served at close of Worship.
(24th: Joint Service with Methodists in our Church),
Communion: 1st Sunday evening at **6.30 p.m.**
2nd Sunday morning at **10.30 a.m.**
Other Sunday evenings
10th Christian Aid Service in our Church
17th, 24th and 31st : Prayer and Praise

Tuesday: 9.15 to 11.00 'Open House' (in term-time)
1.30 pm Bible Study at the Manse (not 26th)
7 p.m. Faith and Fellowship
Wednesday 2 p.m. Friendship Hour (6th, 13th and 20th)
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

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

27TH March: Mavis Horsfield

BIRTHDAYS

PETER KISSACK

Once again, I shall celebrate my birthday on May 10th. As usual, my birthday plans are focused around Doctor Who, which I started watching shortly after my fifth birthday (ten years ago!!!). My current target is to collect every surviving Doctor Who story since it began in 1963, and I estimate that on my birthday, I shall have 48 stories left to complete my collection! (The complete collection is 254: Editor)

I am currently studying (and enjoying) Ancient History and Drama GCSE at school, and have been enjoying a lot of performing both in lessons and in extra-curricular activities.

More birthdays on page 6 >>>>

Mavis Horsfield

Mavis lived her life in Yorkshire. Born in Askern, near Doncaster, one of five children, she left school at 14, as was the norm in those days, and took a job in a local post office, thereby setting out on a way of life of caring. The post office was the centre of the community when communications were so different, and so she found how she loved involvement with people. From there she took a job in a convalescent home in Filey. She met Stanley Burroughs there, and in 1950 they were married.

They moved back to Askern to run the village shop, but as Stanley's health was not good, in 1964 they came to Hornsea, where Mavis ran the Westbourne Guest House until 1976. She and Stanley became close friends of Tom and Kath Horsfield, but sadly both Stanley and Kath died within a year of each other.

In 1974 Mavis and Tom were married. Mavis sold the Guest House and moved into Tom's bungalow, which she loved. She took special care of the extensive garden.

Her love and care of others continued as she helped with WRVS Meals on Wheels, The Lions' Shop, and worked for many years in Images Photography shop in Newbegin, sharing with customers the delights of their family photographs. She also enjoyed the friendships of the small community in Shaftesbury Avenue, which looked out for each other in a gentle and loving way.

Apart from her talents in the garden, she enjoyed various craft hobbies, particularly cake decorating, for which she was renowned, and she was a skilled player for Hornsea Outdoor Bowls club – even representing Yorkshire.

She was always cheerful. Life had held great sadnesses for her, but she was ever positive, caring of those around her, and full of confidence for the future. Her gratitude for what life had afforded her, and her steadfast faith in God, made her loving and caring of others all the more powerful. We thank God for the privilege of knowing her and for all she showed us of life. May she rest safe in His care.

The Minister writes...

Dear Friends,

It's just a hunch, but I have a feeling this month will be dominated by the word 'Coalition'.

A General Election is just around the corner. I'm writing this exactly a fortnight before polling day, and you may well be reading this before you cast your vote (you WILL be casting a vote, won't you?!). At this point it is most unclear what the outcome will be, but no-one seems in any doubt that no single party will achieve an overall majority, and all the discussion is about who would be prepared to work with whom to form a coalition government.

There is a deeper question underlying this one: the question of whether or not coalition governments are a good thing for a country. For much of the rest of Europe, coalition government is the norm, whereas for us it seems to be a departure from business as usual. Does it lead to weakness, instability and messy compromise? Or does it lead to sensible moderation and a 'best of both worlds' bonus? It depends, of course, on the way the different parties enter into partnership, and the maturity they bring to it. Time will tell.

If the word 'Coalition' dominates our political debate, I wonder what it would say to our spiritual lives? I am reminded of a line from the Methodist Covenant Service, which has been adopted/borrowed by many other traditions and in which Christians are invited to renew their commitment to discipleship of Jesus. As part of a commitment each member of the congregation is invited to make, all say 'Rank me with whom you will'. It reminds me that, in Christian discipleship and as servants in the church, God does call us to work with other people in the great task of proclaiming the Gospel, and in doing so God does not tend to take much notice of the 'parties' we feel we belong to. It ought to be one of the characteristics of the church, that it brings together in one place and for one purpose people who otherwise might not ever think of working together.

I don't recall the apostle Paul ever using the word 'coalition', but I see coalition principles in so much of his writing. He describes himself as seeking to be 'all things to all people' (1 Corinthians 9:22) – in bringing the most unlikely of 'parties' together for the sake of the Gospel – Jew and Gentile, male and female, slave and free.

Compromise can be a bit of a dirty word. It can speak of weakness and lack of principle. We certainly don't want to compromise our faith. But at the same time, there is no doubt that unity and reconciliation are key Kingdom values, and God does call us to work in coalition to make manifest his redeeming love in Christ.

So here is the big question: with whom does God call us to work, in partnership or coalition, in the cause of his kingdom?

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jamie Kruach". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

NAOMI DUCK

Naomi will be 6 years old on Monday 18 May. She is doing really well at school, is starting swimming lessons soon and is looking forward to having a party with her friends. Naomi loves Sofia the First and is hoping to receive anything to do with Sofia.

KEIRA DUCK

Keira will be four years old on Friday 22 May. She is loving being at Nursery School and this is even better now her Daddy is working there too. Keira will also be having a party and inviting her many friends. Keira likes playing anything, she loves books, jigsaws and painting.

MAX JOY

Happy Birthday Max, 15 on Thursday 21st May. Max has just made another magnificent appearance, this time as Cinderella's Prince in 'Into the Woods' at Hornsea School. Much admired. Well done.

Our Social Diary

June Barton

Any opportunity for our church family to come together to enjoy each other's company is always a most enjoyable occasion and this proved to be so on Saturday 21 March when we gathered for a Games Afternoon, the main theme of which involved jigsaws with a few other games thrown in.

Here was a chance to see concentration in action as small groups with heads bent forward over the tables were intent on finding all the straight edges and achieving a completed puzzle before supper. However, there was one group who chose a circular puzzle which proved to be particularly challenging and another who were so determined to finish that a cloth was placed over their jigsaw at teatime, and afterwards stayed until nearly bedtime before they reached their goal! Once the supper of Pie and Peas was consumed and enjoyed there was nothing left but to wend our weary way home - eventually!

Sunday 3rd May: John 15.1-8

These are words addressed to the faithful and hard-pressed community of believers surrounding this Fourth Gospel – disciples who, scholars tell us, were rejected by, and distanced from, fellow Jews who did not share their convictions about Jesus. These disciples are asserting the pre-eminence of Jesus, particularly in relation to John the Baptist. These are the ones who see God in Christ, and the Gospel seems to be written primarily as encouragement for that community. As with last week's reading from the Fourth Gospel, we have here the kind of poetic repetition and allusion that can be difficult to access for a hearer unfamiliar with this passage. Do we hear Jesus' words as veiled or explicit threat, or as Jesus simply saying, 'this is what happens. God removes fruitless branches from the vine and nurtures fruitful ones. Your fruitfulness only comes from abiding in me, and that is to God's glory'? Dried-up, unproductive branches are burned, of course. But if we then imagine the fires of hell, we have gone a step beyond what the Scripture says, and may be invoking a vengeful god of our imagining, rather than the God who 'loved us so much' and who lives in us (together) 'if we love one another' (1 John 4.11-12). Abiding in Christ, with Christ's words abiding within, disciples are aligned with the will of God and therefore able to 'ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you' (15.7).

Sunday 10th May: John 15.9-17

Ben Quash, in his book *Abiding*, refers to the story of Ruth (1.16-17) to illustrate something of the richness of what is meant by abiding. 'Abiding has more the sense of a full, personal commitment. It expresses a quality of solidarity which just waiting would never convey.' Last week's Gospel reading (John 15.1-8, see p.6) was a meditation on abiding in Jesus, as Jesus abides in the Father. This week's reading is a continuation of this meditation, as Jesus speaks words of devotion and intimacy, of love and profound friendship. A compelling characteristic of John's Gospel is this intimacy, that resonates with present-day disciples who long to abide in the love that Jesus shares with the Father (15.10). In that love, commandment is heard as

wisdom, as the way of self-giving and of joy. This is a love that cannot be expressed in private devotion but only as love of one another (15.12), a love which bears lasting fruit. Only John's Jesus has 'friends' (and a favourite disciple; John 13.23). John portrays Jesus as deeply human, while intimately and uniquely bound to God the Father (15.15). From the beginning of the chapter there is repetition and progression: 'abide in me as I in you' (15.4) becomes 'if you abide in me and my words [my speaking] abide in you' (15.7), then 'if you keep my commandments [my speech] you will abide in my love' (15.10). Finally we hear that the abiding commandment is to love one another (15.12). The extent of that love is made clear in the prophetic declaration that no one has greater love than to lay down his life for friends (15.13). And this life will be taken up again, expanding even further the horizon of friendship. The meditation on unity and belonging reaches its climax as a poem of self-giving love. Any cheap notion of friendship is swept aside by this description of a deep friendship that is received to be given.

Sunday 17th May: John 17.6-19

With this 'priestly prayer' we find ourselves listening in on Jesus' intimate exchange with the Father. Jesus has asked for the glory he had in the presence of God before time began (17.5), before eternity was revealed in the human world (17.3), beginning with his birth, now to be made more fully visible to those who can see. The glory of God contradicts human glory (12.43) and following Jesus is, according to John, to choose God's glory over what this world offers. Jesus here prays to God the Father for the protection (17.15) of those God 'gave me from the world' (17.6). You may want to recall the shepherd who protects against wolves (John 10; Easter 4). The prayer is for protection from 'the evil one', not from the world by which they are hated because they do not belong (17.14). It would be a mistake to imagine the world as evil, if what we mean by the world is creation itself, or that which God so loved. What we have in the Gospel of John, however, is an opposition between two realms, one being heavenly ('of God' or 'with God' or 'from above'), the other being where God is not recognised or acknowledged, or where God is opposed – 'the world'. The former is

sometimes represented by ideas such as 'light' or 'truth'; the latter by 'darkness' or 'not seeing'. (For more on this vocabulary, see the Bible notes for Easter Day: Issue 76, p.26.) The world into which the Son is sent by the Father is the world into which the disciples are sent by Jesus (17.18). Those born of the Spirit can expect to be a mystery to the world (3.8), but that is where they are sent (17.15,18) as signs of God's abiding love for the world (3.16-17). This is a strange place for the lectionary selection to end, as the poetry of abiding, revelation and love continues through to the end of the chapter, with a high point perhaps at verse 21, 'that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.'

Sunday 24th May: Acts 2.1-21

'They are filled with new wine,' sneered some onlookers (2.13), and Peter's response brings to mind Paul's directive to the Ephesian Christians to be filled with the Spirit rather than drunk with wine (Ephesians 5.18). What does this mean? Throughout Acts, the Spirit is described as 'filling'. Peter is filled (4.8), the company are filled (4.31), Barnabas is full of the Holy Spirit (11.24); other disciples are filled with joy and the Holy Spirit (13.52). Those who are already disciples become so more fully when they receive baptism and the Holy Spirit (19.6). Time and again the Spirit brings more, a kind of all-encompassing completeness. Yet no description of the Spirit's coming is adequate, and the author of Acts reaches for metaphors: a sound like the rush of a violent wind, a vision as though of tongues of fire. What is plain is that people were amazed and perplexed as they heard language they understood. Where, at Babel, technological aspirations and craving for power had led to alienation from God and fragmenting of mutual understanding (Genesis 11.9), so at this Pentecost festival a communality of understanding is given back (2.6).

The Jewish festival of Pentecost (Festival of Weeks or Shavu'ot) celebrates the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai, and the offering of the first fruits of harvest (Exodus 23.16), and takes place seven weeks after Passover. Luke-Acts often recalls Moses and the prophets, so it is

not unreasonable to notice resonances here between the Christian celebration of Pentecost and its Jewish roots.

Sunday 31st May: John 3.1-17

The third and fourth chapters of the Gospel of John tell of encounters between Jesus and people who each seem to represent particular ethnic, religious or cultural groups. There are disciples of John the Baptist, a woman of Samaria, a royal official and Nicodemus, this leader of the Jews who came to Jesus in secret (3.2). These accounts together might be offering glimpses of the different communities that the Johannine community of disciples hoped would come to acknowledge Jesus as Messiah. Nicodemus acknowledges that Jesus' signs indicate the presence of God, yet Nicodemus' believing in this teacher from God remains secret. To be born of 'water and Spirit' implies that there is need for an open declaration of faith, a declaration represented by baptism. Public declaration is a threshold Nicodemus is unwilling to cross. The act of commitment matters, but this playful yet vital dialogue about being born again or born 'from above' (the ambiguity is intentional), about wind and Spirit (the Greek root means both), is less about acts of commitment than about God's gift of 'new birth'. Can we, after all, choose to be born? It can only be given. Those who are born of the Spirit make no sense in the logic of the world (3.8-9). Nicodemus seems to struggle to understand the metaphor as Jesus tells of being reborn into a new way of seeing, a different kind of knowing. The 'you' at verse 7 is plural, as is the verb at verse 11, where Jesus includes himself among those who 'bear witness to what we have seen'.

<<<<< *page 6* The afternoon was planned as a social event but we still managed a profit of £81 for our church funds.

The last of our Winter Lunches brought in £102 and a special thank you must go to all our wonderful soup makers, dessert makers, waiters and waitresses

Saturday 2 May is our URC's Got Talent when we can enjoy a relaxed afternoon of entertainment and refreshments. The talents on offer so far are many and varied and it would be fair to say that this will be a Variety Show with a difference! **Curtain up at 2.00pm** so come early to get a front row seat.

Spring has sprung and hopefully so have all those seedlings and cuttings you have been nurturing ready for the **Gardeners' Fair on Saturday 23 May 10.00am – 3.00pm**. This is the time to bring along all those gardening items you have stored all winter and now realise you don't really need them. Books, tools, pots, anything related to plants and flowers will be most welcome. As with all our major events that coincide with the Local Market, the Living Well Cafe will be open so once again the plea goes out for donations of sandwich fillings, cakes and helpers on the day.

Advance Notice – **Saturday 27 June** is our **Strawberry Treats** event. There must be a thousand and one ways to serve strawberries so let's see how many we can think of!

Friendship Hour

May is a very busy month for the Friendship Hour. On Wednesday 6th, Chris Ashmead will be along with a 'Surprise' Chris is a man with many and varying interests, so you'll have to come along and find out what has particularly taken his fancy. That's on **Wednesday 6th**, at **2 p.m.**

The following week sees the Annual Assembly of the Yorkshire Synod of the URC and so a day out in Scarborough. This will be at Scarborough Spa on **Wednesday 13th May**. Transport is being arranged, meals can be booked, and full details will be available at preceding Friendship Hour Meetings or from Doreen Rogers (533742)

<<<< The main speaker of the day at Scarborough is Ex Police Superintendent Jo Hampson "It's a Fair Cop".

Back in Hornsea on **Wednesday 20th** at **2 p.m.** it will be a delight to welcome **Rev. Anne Dawson**, sharing a subject very dear to her own heart "Let us make a joyful noise".

We are grateful to all our speakers, and those involved in organising each meeting. Do come along to any, and Doreen Rogers can give you more details.

A Bible Thought – or Two!

May sees us midway through a series of informal Bible studies at the manse on Tuesdays at 1.30 p.m. Do come and join us, even if you missed the first part. They run on Tuesdays 5th, 12th and 19th, and then there will be a pause for half term. Tea and biscuits served too!

Afraid, Alone, in Pain - Christian Aid Week 10th to 16th May

This Christian Aid Week we can help transform the lives of people in Third World countries like Ethiopia as churches the length and breadth of Britain come together to pray, campaign and raise money to improve the lives of Ethiopians and many others.

100,000 volunteers countrywide demonstrate God's love for the poor by taking part in House-to-House collections. This fantastic witness is a chance to take the mission of the church into your community.

For a small town Hornsea has, over many, many years, made a huge effort to contribute to this national appeal, and our townsfolk have been found to be exceedingly generous in time, money and prayer to share this challenge.

Please fill a red envelope when it comes through your letterbox. Maybe you can spare an hour to collect up some envelopes around where you live? Can you think and pray about the world-wide work of Christian Aid this spring. Thank you.

Anyone willing to join the collection team, please speak to Marion Clubley (535580)

Traidcraft – Nuts about Cleaning

Alistair Leadbetter, Supplier Coordinator at Traidcraft writes in the April Bulletin :-

If you have ever visited Southern India and Sri Lanka you will have noticed the swaying coconut trees everywhere. Coconuts feature heavily in the local diet, whether you are drinking fresh coconut water or eating some of the wonderful foods at Traidcraft but we are also interested in one of coconut oil's other properties; believe it or not it's great in soaps and detergents like our Clean & Fair range of cleaning products.

We have been working with Fair Trade Alliance Kerala (FTAK) for a long time. FTAK have over 5,000 farmers as members and focuses on fair trade, gender equality, food security and biodiversity. The coconut is a true badge of honour for farmers here. It is even suggested that you cannot be a true farmer in Kerala unless you are growing coconuts!

FTAK buy over 1.000 tonnes of coconut every year and process it into virgin coconut oil, desiccated coconut and coconut chips for use in such things as breakfast cereal. Rather than just being a normal trader FTAK works hard to offer the best deal possible to its members. It has set a minimum price for coconut and guarantees to pay 3 rupees a kilo more than the standard market price when the price is above the minimum. On top of that there is also the Fair Trade Premium.

I recently visited Jimmy Munjanattu, one of FTAK's farmers and we talked about Traidcraft's Clean & Fair range of products. When he saw the soap he recalled "When the price for coconut was very low we sometimes made our own soap. I like the smell of the hand wash. It is nice and light."

"Our coconut is organic. It is good for your health, there are no harmful pesticides unlike the conventional products which will give you troubles. By using only natural pesticides it means that we are true to nature."

Following on from this the **Clean & Fair range is ONE YEAR OLD!**

It is worth taking a few minutes to look at what has been achieved in that year :-

Thanks to your support Clean & Fair has sold in excess of 2 tonnes of hand soap; and around 40,000 litres of hand wash, laundry liquid, washing up liquid and multi-surface cleaner.

This has had a significant impact on the producers of Palm Oil and Coconut Oil – all of which is purchased on Fair Trade terms and with the added bonus of the Fair Trade premium. There is a huge potential to lift thousands of producers out of poverty – it only needs us to buy more. So, if you have not tried it yet PLEASE purchase at least one product from the range this month (available on the Fairtrade Stall at Thursday coffee mornings, Hornsea Local Market or just ask Margaret K) – I am sure you will not be disappointed and, like me, may even become a convert

Good for the producers – Good for the customers –
Good for the planet!

Dates for Singing in the Residential Homes

The Promenade: Monday 11th May at 2.30 p.m.
Stuart House: Tuesday 12th May at 3 p.m.

Remember FLAG? It is a scheme we are participating in to promote the work of Hornsea fishermen. Now it is running a Restaurant Challenge, where local eating places are being challenged to use local fish from local boats and say so. Ask Margaret Knapton or Jamie for more details, or look on the website or for posters in Church.

Prayer Network – Prayers for Concern in May

Christian Minorities in the Middle East
Yorkshire Synod Assembly at Scarborough
Pilots' Big Day
Areas around and including Northgate

This is May (from page 16)

Saturday **23** 9.30 am. to 1.30 pm. Local Market in Cinema St
 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Gardeners' Fair
 10 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. Living Well Café

Saturday Brunch – 9th May – 9.30 to 1.30

Bacon, egg or sausage, teacake etc.

The perfect pick-me up from General Election overload!!

Bric a brac, tombola etc. All for Canine Partners

.... After Brunch – at 2 p.m. join the **Humber Bridge Cross**
Raising money for Christian Aid and CAFOD
(Margaret Knapton has details of transport etc.)

.. and into June

Wednesday **3** 2 p.m. Friendship Hour: Rev. Fran Kissack:
 Hospital Chaplaincy

Saturday **6** 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. 'Summer Spirit'
 10 a.m. to noon Christian Aid Coffee Morning
 at the Methodist Church

Saturday 13 June

A Quiet Morning 10 till 1 at the Convent, Eastgate

THE BIG SING 6.30 p.m. in the URC

Ask about rehearsal times

June 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 8 MAY**. Issue available Sunday 7th June., or maybe earlier online.

Please give your material to Sarah or Jane or e mail to
jane.martin303@btinternet.com or sarah.darlington538@gmail.com

Worship

- SUNDAY** **3** 10.30 a.m. Rev. Stephen Caddy
of Toll Gavel United Church, Beverley
6.30 p.m. Rev. Jamie Kissack: Communion
- 10** 10.30 a.m. Rev. Jamie Kissack: Communion
6.30 p.m. United Service for Christian Aid Week
in our Church
- 17** 10.30 a.m. Rev. Jamie Kissack: Service Plus
- 24** Pentecost: 10.30 a.m. Rev. Jamie Kissack and
Rev. Keith Himsworth. United Service
with Methodists in our Church
- 31** 10.30 a.m. Rev. Jamie Kissack
- Other Sunday evenings:** Prayer and Praise (17th, 24th, 31st)

And into June

- Sunday** **7** 10.30 a.m. Rev. Jamie Kissack
6.30 p.m. Rev. Jamie Kissack: Communion

Events

- Saturday **2** 2 p.m. URC's Got Talent Event
- Tuesday **5** 1.30 p.m. Bible Study at the Manse (4th of 6)
- Wednesday **6** 2 p.m. Friendship Hour:
Chris Ashmead: A Surprise
- Saturday **9** 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Brunch (for Canine Partners)
2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Humber Bridge Cross

Christian Aid Week 10 – 16 May

- Monday **11** 2.30 p.m. Singing at The Promenade
- Tuesday **12** 1.30 p.m. Bible Study at the Manse (5th of 6)
3 p.m. Singing at Stuart House
- Wednesday **13** 7.30 p.m. Yorkshire Assembly at Scarborough
Elders' Meeting at Church
- Sunday **17** 11.45 a.m. Quarterly Church Meeting
- Tuesday **19** 1.30 p.m. Bible Study at the Manse (6th of 6)
- Wednesday **20** 2 p.m. Friendship Hour: Rev. Anne Dawson:
'Let us make a joyful noise'