

Gospel Mission Hall

Barnoldswick

2006 No. 4

December



Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:1

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Christmas At The Gospel Mission

Sunday	17 December	3:00pm Carols at Cravenside.
Tuesday- Wednesday	19-20 December	Christmas Down Your Street: Robinson Court, Hollins Court, Pendle Court and private homes.
Saturday	23 December	11:00am Carols on the Square.
Sunday	24 December	Carol Services. 10:30am Family Carols. 6:00pm Candlelight Carols with seasonal refreshments.
Monday	25 December	10:00-10:45am Christmas Day Service. Children can bring a present to open.
Sunday	31 December	10:30am Testimony Service. 8:00pm-Midnight Safari Supper.

Pastor's Notes

The Gift

There is a great deal of discussion today about Britishness. What is the soul of the nation? Some things about Britishness are great, Britishness is being in the last ditch, it's persevering against the odds, it's knowing your own mind but tolerating those who disagree, it's not taking yourself too seriously, it's being a gentleman, it's making the best of things. But there is one thing that has entered the soul of our nation that isn't so attractive. Often words that come easily to our lips betray the content of our hearts. I have in mind that little phrase, "It's too good to be true". We can be a cynical people. On one level cynicism can protect us from the criminal but on another level it can stop us receiving from those who are genuine. The message of Christmas often gets the cynical treatment which is a tragedy because it is genuine good news. The message of Christmas is a gift without catches. Our sins can be forgiven, eternal life can be received freely because God has sent his Son into the world to be our Saviour. All he asks is that we believe the good news and receive Jesus. When the Shepherds experienced the host of angels praising God for the birth of the Saviour, they went straight away into the town and found things just as the angels had told them. Don't let cynicism rob you of God's greatest gift.



Paul Standley

Bassenfell Church Weekend



Thirty four of us enjoyed a fantastic time at Bassenfell Manor. Overlooking the magnificent Bassenthwaite lake, the Manor nestles in an idyllic location. The Manor itself had “commodious” accommodation, with the serve yourself coffee lounge the biggest

hit. Children could hide themselves away in the top floor games room and the conservatory had great views. The weekend was billed as a holiday but we did have teaching. It was ably given by Rev. John Fisher who has recently retired to nearby Great Broughton. He spoke briefly but with real content on Paul’s advice to Timothy that physical exercise was of some value but godliness was of great value both for this life and the life to come, 1 Timothy 4:8. We are saved by grace alone but the pursuit of godliness adds so much to the Christian life. In particular John expounded on the value of godliness in the presence, power, provision and purpose of God which it opens our lives to. During Saturday we did a whole variety of things. One intrepid group made the ascent of Skiddaw in driving rain, led by Malcolm (Margaret led a low level group but they sensibly aborted their walk in favour of comfort.) We didn’t quite make the summit but were

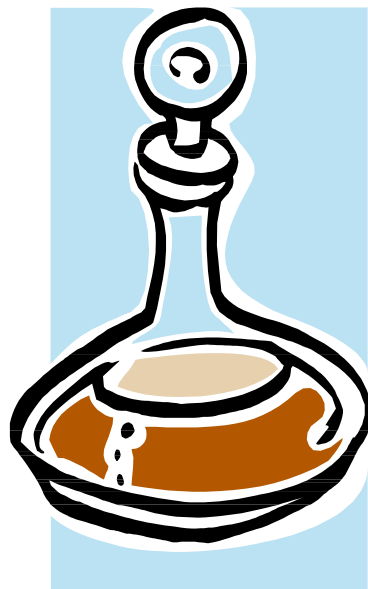
rewarded with panoramic views from several minor pikes when the rain gave way to sunshine. It was a memorable day on the fells. Other groups went into Keswick and the farm park which is only minutes from the Manor. The tea room at the bottom of Dodds Wood was wonderful and very reasonably priced. Saturday evening we had home entertainments: music from Chris and Bob, team games organised by David and Becky and a talk on the physics of the ionosphere from Paul. (I don’t think it was as boring as some suspected but that’s not for me to judge.)



Paul Standley

Ladies' Group - Body Shop Evening

The Ladies' group broke with tradition for its most recent meeting, when the 'New Pensioners' was the venue for a Body Shop evening. Despite the very inclement weather, a gathering of 24 ladies met to enjoy an informative and, it must be admitted, indulgent time sampling all the creams, oils and fragrances for which Body Shop is renowned. Paul Standley introduced the evening by explaining that oils, perfumes and fragrances were frequently mentioned in both old and new testaments and read the account of the sinful woman who anointed Jesus with her perfume.



The Body Shop representative, Jean Parker went on to explain the fair trade-style origins of these products created from the world's flora. Samples ranging from creams for sore hands and aching feet, to the frankly luxuriant pampering milks and lotions bearing names and fragrances more suggestive of fruit desserts than cosmetics were passed round and discussed. One willing volunteer agreed to have a 'makeover'! The meeting broke up after the opportunity to purchase gift items and enjoy refreshments.

God willing, we plan to hold the next Ladies' Group meeting on Friday 12th January 2007 when we will welcome Julie Sandel and her ex-colleague Janet to tell us something of the invaluable work of the Samaritans. Anticipating that we have now outgrown our respective living-rooms we hope to use the New Pensioners venue.

Gospel Mission Youth At Swarthghyll Activity Centre

15th-17th September 2006

Let me set the scene for you; it was late Friday afternoon, the sun was beginning to set on a misty Barnoldswick, and tension was in the air as GMH troops gathered, preparing for what was to be one amazing adventure. The Leaders' concern over an expected low turn out was dispelled as hundreds (well, 20) young people stood across the lawn anticipating what was to come. As the transport rolled out, dust rose high into the air and anxious parents waved off the convoy. Along the way the rolling countryside zipped by; some, feeling the need to get a closer view, stuck their heads out of car windows as we headed up the Dales.

On arrival, after swiftly unpacking, it was time for a spot of rip roaring entertainment from Victor and myself. Following supper, Christopher introduced the theme of the weekend – 'Quench the Thirst' - and spoke from Numbers 20. The first shock of the weekend was that the young people all seemed to listen quite well and take in a lot of what was being said. Then it was bed-time and the group fell quickly to sleep; well almost, after about three hours anyway.



David introduced Saturday with an early morning wake up call at around 6.00 am, ready for a quick breakfast lovingly prepared by Andrew and Mandy Wood. Sergeant Dave set up an assault course for half the group while

the other half set off through thick mist to Semer Water to mess about on the water. After a brief lunch it was time to swap over, and it was my group's turn to paddle around the

lake and try to build a raft that actually floated. This was extremely good fun, and Jon built an especially excellent raft; however, he wasn't prepared to get his shoes wet.

Back at the Centre, dried and fed, we welcomed Peter Thomas (from Grassington Congregational Church) where everyone hung on his every word as he spoke about people who made mistakes and then met Jesus. After more fun and games, courtesy of Alice and Bethany, bed time quickly came around and soon all was quiet - no doubt due to David's tough exercise regime.



Sunday morning was quickly upon us, when the majority of the group set off for a walk into the Narnian forests. However some of the troops hung back and enjoyed "Games With James" at the Centre. After a barbecue on the decking there was a final meeting with a talk from Andy Sellers on 'living water' from John 7 before the return to the Mission Hall and back to reality.



I myself had an excellent weekend away, as I'm sure all the other Leaders involved did. I found myself grow closer to the young people who were with us, the Leaders, as well as to God, who I believe really held this weekend together - without him it would not have been anywhere near the success it was. A lot of effort was put into the

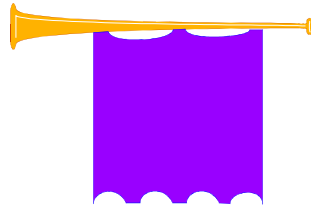
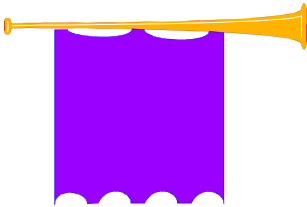
organisation of the weekend, and special thanks should go to Christopher Jackson, who did much to make it all feasible.

To conclude I would like to say a quick thank you to you the reader for paying me so much attention, and I hope the youth team will be in your prayers over the next year and especially for the next weekend away, which I'm sure will be in the pipeline soon.

James Lawton

Note: We are planning another Youth Weekend for 29th June to 1st July 2007, so if you are between the ages of 11 and 18, have a child in that age range, or are one of the Youth Leaders, make a note of the date now!

Christopher Jackson



Gather The People

Nelson Silverman Hall
7:30, Saturday 27th January 2007
No strings attached opportunity
To meet with other Christians and
Fellowships in Pendle for
Worship, Prayer, Giving and The
Word. More details contact Matt
Butler on 613598.

Missionary Update



London City Mission

On October 16th George Zammitt of London City Mission visited the Monday housegroup. He described with humour, enthusiasm and love his work among older people around Tower Bridge in London. The Gospel Hall was able to pass on £300 towards the work.

George has posted up, in the six homes he visits the following:-

Count Your Blessings

If you woke up this morning with more health than illness, you are more blessed than the million who will not survive the week.

If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation - you are ahead of 500 million people in the world.

If you can attend a church meeting without fear of harassment, arrest, torture or death - you are more blessed than 3 billion people in the world.

If you have food in the fridge, clothes on your back, a roof over your head and a place to sleep - you are richer than 75% of this world.

If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish somewhere - you are among the top 8% of the world's wealthy.

If you can read this message - you more blessed than over 2 billion people in the world that cannot read at all.

Zilda Lund

Keeping Tabs On The Townleys

Graham and Carol Townley work for New Tribes Mission at their UK base, North Cotes near Grimsby. They served with NTM in Papua New Guinea for a number of years, working with the Bisorio people.

In Papua New Guinea, eighteen years ago on October 1st God brought a second son into our lives, a joyful consolation after Matthew's death. Michael has grown into a (mostly) responsible young man, who loves the Lord and desires to follow him. He enjoys being with the students, and sitting in classes when work allows. His apprenticeship is going well. Continue to pray for him as he develops his walk with the Lord.

Can you believe that it is six years since we joined the staff at North Cotes? One of the benefits is hearing back from former students how they are involved in various tribal works. Wilsons and Hullys are doing survey work in North Waghi area of highlands, Moores and Muellers are with the Itutang people of Madang province, Danile has just finished formal language study. Husas are part of the team to the Mibu people, where new believers are already involved in evangelism. Then there are the Statt, Menne, Neuland and De Winter families helping in support and these are just a few folks from here working in PNG!

This year we have five volunteers working with us. These girls are from Germany and giving up a year to serve the Lord and explore where they might fit into missions. In the mornings they help in the nursery looking after the children of our students. (16 children, from babies to pre-schoolers). Then after lunch they either work in the kitchen or the guest house, and one helps in the publication department. This means Carol spends a lot of time with them. Pray for her as she disciples them.

This year we are 'bulging at the seams' with an intake of 45 students in our Biblical Studies class and 30 returning or starting the Missions Course, also three in the Linguistics Class. Back in the spring the mission received a very

generous donation to prepare the former 'Officer's Mess' into student accommodation. As applications for the training came in, we as a mission were hoping the new accommodation would be ready, but this has not been possible, hence the squeeze in the existing dormitories. Work is progressing well, with tradesmen, (lots of opportunities to witness), volunteers and staff working together. The building should be ready for January.

Last letter we mentioned that Graham has a tree surgeon on his team and Geoff was a tremendous help. This year Graham has a hand surgeon on his team and Scott is very 'handy' on a tractor and is a great asset to his team.

Betsy is back for the Missions course. She is only in the kitchen every 4th Saturday and I miss working with her. Lorraine is here because someone from her church took literature home from the Keswick Convention. That was encouraging to hear after the time we and others spent manning a stall. Several of the students are Missionary Kids and we were at Matlock with the parents of one of them! For the last few years some of our students are doing Bible School as part of their training with Child Evangelism Fellowship, they have been a big help with outreach to the local children.

It would be encouraging to have you visit us here at North Cotes and see what is happening. Thank you for your interest and prayers.

Yours in His Service

Graham, Carol and boys

What's On

Sunday	10:30	Family Worship & Sunday School (at the Civic Hall).
	6:00	Evening Praise.
	7:30	Young People's Fellowship. Discussion topics, Bible Studies, prayer times, games and social evenings (academic years 7 to 13).
Monday	11:00	Home Group. Come along for Bible Study, prayer & fellowship. (Varying venues as announced, or ask for details.)
Wednesday	7:45	Home Group.
Thursday	6:15-7:15	J Club. Games, crafts, and Bible stories for children from 6 to 11.
Thursday	7:45	Home Group.
Friday	7:00-8:30	Unplugged. Games, drama, teaching (academic years 7 to 9).
	8:30-10:00	Pulse. A time of games, activities and friendship in a relaxed atmosphere (academic years 10 to 13).

Contacts

Pastor	Rev. Paul Standley	01282 814705
Secretary	Christopher Jackson	01282 844472
Unplugged & Pulse	Christopher Jackson	01282 844472
Young People's Fellowship	Rachel Waddington	01282 816006
Sunday School & J Club	Sue Standley	01282 814705

Why not pay us a visit on the worldwide web at <http://www.barlickmission.org.uk>? You will find lots of useful information, including email contacts and this newsletter! You can also send email to our info@barlickmission.org.uk address.
