



# 'BEING CHURCH'

**Boston Spa and Clifford  
Methodist Churches**

**ISSUE 12: 7th June 2020**

## CONTACTS

### PHONE:

Rev. Steve and Sue: 01937 842156  
Donald: 07966 289937

### EMAIL:

[stephen.jakeman@methodist.org.uk](mailto:stephen.jakeman@methodist.org.uk)  
[donaldmilne53@gmail.com](mailto:donaldmilne53@gmail.com)



Follow us on Facebook



*"All God's children got a place in the choir  
Some sing higher and some sing lower  
Some sing out loud on the telephone wire  
Some just clap their hands, their paws, or  
anything at all"*

In his book 'The Body – a guide for occupants', Bill Bryson makes the point that the colour of our skin is determined by a sliver of epidermis less than 1mm thick. And yet such a small facet of our composition is given so much importance. Underneath the skin, we are all the same – and yet look how many people have been enslaved, or hated, or deprived of fundamental rights because of the colour of that outer layer.

Racism, defining and demeaning people based on their skin colour is not just senseless, it is a blasphemy against the God who created us. This has been brought into sharp relief this week with the death of George Floyd in the US. It happened a long way away, in a different culture to ours, but there are ripples which have moved over the whole world – and that is as it should be.

As Rev. Martin Luther King Jr said: '*In a real sense all life is inter-related. All men are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be, and you can never be what you ought to be until I am what I ought to be. Therefore, injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.*'

Our friend Joseph Kwallah, from Wetherby (originally Kenya) has introduced us to the African concept UBUNTU, which can be translated as 'I am because you are'. However much we hide behind our material possessions, the greatest possession of all, closeness to God can only be reached when we understand that we are all God's creatures, that we are all part of his body, we all have a place in his kingdom and we are all called to fight against injustice wherever and to whomsoever that happens.

***Steve, Sue and Donald***

**Sunday Morning Coffee 11:15 every**

**Sunday:** a chance to use Zoom to catch up on news and discuss aspects of the Sunday service – was there a hymn or prayer that was meaningful? Has it triggered any ideas you'd like to share?



**Don't Stew and Fester:** don't forget that if you want to catch up with friends, for a chat over virtual coffee, via Zoom (bring your own cake), the next session is on: Wednesday 10th June at 3:00pm

## Worshipping together – Offline

Attached is a short service, for Trinity Sunday, God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit - this will be shared by many of us on Sunday, at our normal Service time – please join us, to feel part of something larger.

**On BBC 1:** Sunday **11:00am** – 'Sunday Worship' a Service from St. David's Cathedral and, at **1:15pm** - 'Songs of Praise' – Aled Jones revisiting people who find inspiration from the great outdoors.

**Prayer Cards:** Every Sunday and Wednesday, at 7:00 pm, we remember to place a lit candle in the window and use the Prayer Cards, for a quiet moment with God, including prayers for those groups who would normally meet in the Church rooms over the coming week. Please also remember those of our immediate Church family, who we know are coping with loss of a loved one, their own health problems, loneliness or other worries.



The "Great 50 days" reflections by Leslie Newton, our District Chair end with a call to 'Let your life speak through the Spirit'. Pentecost last Sunday wasn't a 'one off' it was our annual reminder of the constant presence of the Spirit to guide and strengthen us, whatever we face in this life

**Dial-a-Sermon:** Thoughts on Pentecost available till 6th June and then Trinity Sunday for the next week



Tune in on Thursday at 10:15 – Donald will be giving 'Thought for the day' on the subject of our value to God.

**Worshipping together - Online:** 7th June – Reflections for Trinity Sunday by Stephen Spain, who has been working within the Circuit as part of his preparation for ministry will be on the Circuit website. Our own Rev. Steve will be leading a 'virtual' Service available on the usual Church websites / Facebook pages. Also available:



**Storytime** for toddlers (and over 60s): '**Stickman'**



**Tea-Time Church at Home:** for young (and not so young) families on the theme of '**Happy birthday Church!**'



**Our Church family:**



*'And are we yet alive, and see each other's face?  
Glory and praise to Jesus give for his redeeming grace!'*  
(Charles Wesley – Singing the faith 456)

One of the things we are all missing in these strange times is the chance to catch up with news of our Church family. For those 'online', we have the 'Don't Stew' sessions but wouldn't it be great to have more. So please send Donald your news – birthday, anniversary, what the children or grandchildren are doing, new skills learned, whatever you'd normally share. How about a photo (send in your own or ask Donald to come and take one – socially distanced of course) to prove to your friends that you're still alive and kicking! We're all in this together, so let's share our Church Family news.

***Stay safe - remember we love you and, more importantly, Jesus loves you!***

***Steve, Sue and Donald***