

KEIGHLEY NEW CHURCH

Founded 1789

Braithwaite Village

Dedicated to the worship of the Lord Jesus Christ

Newsletter February 2024



Snowdrops, symbolise new beginnings, hope, rebirth and the ability to overcome challenges.

The grass withers and the flowers fall,
but the word of our God endures forever

Isaiah 40:8

KEIGHLEY NEW CHURCH

Braithwaite Village, Braithwaite Road, Keighley BD22 6PX

(Please send all correspondence to the above address)

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All ages are welcome in Church each Sunday. Our services start at 10:30 am followed by complimentary refreshments in the hall.

www.keighleynewchurch.org.uk

Church services in February

February 4th

Service Leader: Rev. Christine Bank

February 11th Holy Supper

Service Leader: Rev. Christine Bank

February 18th

Service Leader: Jonathan Millar

February 25th

Service Leader: Rev. Christine Bank

All services start at 10:30am.



Why do we have leap years?

2024 is a leap year

If we didn't have leap years, the calendar year would be shorter than the solar year by approximately 0.24 days. This means that every year, the calendar would fall behind the solar year by almost a quarter of a day. Over time, this would cause the seasons to shift, and our calendar would no longer match up with the astronomical year.

Minister's letter:

This year we seem to be hardly clear of Christmas before Easter is on the way as it does fall relatively early this year. I found mini-Easter eggs in the supermarket among the discounted post-Christmas chocolates which did feel a bit too early, but gaps in the display meant some of the tiny eggs had already been purchased.

Does this continual availability of 'seasonal' items help us to plan and manage our budgets to spread the cost of products or special occasions across a longer time frame, or is it driven by research showing that products will find their way into shopping baskets and trolleys?

The analysis of how we all behave when browsing online or in person is very sophisticated with loyalty cards and online ordering generating vast amounts of data to enable predictions and targeted advertising or displays to be managed to be as tempting (for us) and effective (for the store) as possible.

Having our needs anticipated and met so easily can be rather convenient. So easy to go with the flow of ideas we see around us and follow the cues for buy this, try that and experience the offer which is going to be within easy reach on a shelf or delivered to the door within a matter of hours.

In many ways being served so completely with everything readily available makes life very comfortable, assuming we have the money to enable it of course. Instant isn't always good for us though.

Minister's letter continued:

This world works within the restrictions placed upon us by both time and space. If I have a great and wonderful idea it usually means I will have to put in some effort to achieve the outcome. I may have to plan, maybe learn or improve a skill, get several other things in place first so my great idea can eventually happen. Success needs effort, commitment, some dedication or staying power to achieve a possibly challenging but eventually worthwhile result.

Imagine if there was no period of waiting or effort at all. It may seem fantastic to have the idea, snap one's fingers and find the outcome is already perfect and complete with no more input from me, but a life of literally having anything and everything provided wouldn't really help me assess which aspect of life is more important than another, or where my own talents and skills find their best use.

Fairy stories end with 'and they all lived happily ever after...' when we know very well that life is not so simple or uncomplicated. Much as we may wish it otherwise, especially when things are extremely hard for us or those around us, life is about making choices and decisions which may be the best we can manage at the time.

This may not mean getting it right, we can only do the best as we see it, then learn each day as we cope with our own situation and the way other people also affect us. The ups and downs take time to work through, give us chance to learn and find new things out for ourselves. Quick solutions may be possible some of the time, but there is a lifelong challenge for each of us in the day to day progress we make as we manage each of those 24-hour periods in turn.

Much love

Christine

New Church Websites

If you are looking for a deeper meaning about our daily lives or more information about spiritual development based on the Bible, you may want to browse the internet on these websites. These sites are trying to offer help in understanding this world and the next. You may even find something useful for your life or relationships with others.

www.newchristianbiblestudy.org

This site was started in 2017 under the auspices of the Pittsburgh Society of the New Church, and now carried forward by the New Christian Bible Study Corporation, an online clearing house for people who are interested in the Bible, not just in its powerful literal sense, but also in its inner, spiritual sense.

The theological underpinnings of this site are based on Emanuel Swedenborg's religious works.

www.purleychasecentre.org.uk

Look through this website and you will discover a range of events, workshops and retreats

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Seaburn Dean New Church Sunderland are celebrating the 50th Anniversary at their current location, on the 17th March



And so, we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.

1 John 4:16

Church dates in February

- Tuesday 6th and Tuesday 20th February, Craft and Chat meet in the Church hall: 10am to 12pm.
- Saturday 17th February, work party: 09:30am to 11:30am.
- Saturday 17th February, Church Council meeting: 12pm to 2pm.
- Thursday 22nd February, coffee morning in the Church hall: 10am to 12pm.

Thank you to everyone who helps to prepare, serve and washup after Sunday morning coffee.

Thank you to everyone who helps at the Church work parties and Church Fayres, your help is really appreciated and made a huge difference over the last 12 months.

Christmas raffle prize winning tickets, drawn 17th December

- Hamper: **Ticket 575**
- Christmas cake: **Ticket 371**
- Wine: **Ticket 709**
- Chocolate: **Ticket 402**

The offertory collections on Christmas Eve and Christmas day, raised £150. £75 was sent to both Inn Churches and the New Church Children's Society

Coffee Morning Thursday 22nd February 10am to 12pm.



Tea/Coffee £1

Cafetière coffee £1:50

Cakes, scones, biscuits as priced.

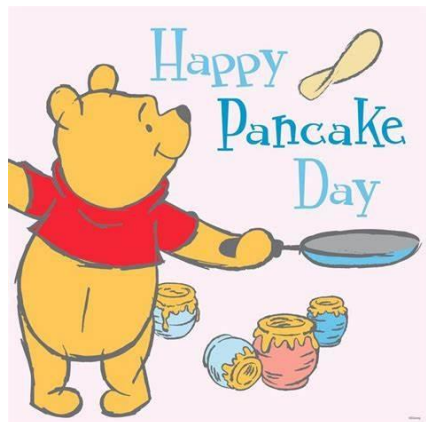
We would love to see you there

A bit of nostalgia (Anon)

Do you remember?
Plimsols in the gym.
Eating winkles with a pin.
Hopscotch on the path.
When Popeye made you laugh.
Papers brought by hand.
The Salvation Army band.
When the dustmen took away
your bin.
When your bath was made of
tin.
Alleys dark and smelly.
Crackerjack on the telly.
Wine gums in a pack.
Getting coal carried in a sack.
Duffle coats with pegs.
Shoes with metal segs.
Watching Andy Pandy.
Cigarettes made of candy.
Milk with silver top.
Vans that delivered pop.
Liquorish in a stick.
Kalie that you licked.
Bon Bons rolled in white.
Gas lamps through the night.

Chips frying in the lard.
The toilet in the yard.
Dynamos on your bike.
Tripe you didn't like.
Assembly in your school.
Getting caned for being a fool.
Christmas and being merry.
Mum knocking back the sherry.
Calling in the sweep.
Snow a metre deep.
Fun with Bill and Ben.
Ink wells for your wooden pen.
Saturday at the flixes.
The drink up on a stick.
Listening to rock and roll.
Licking out the bowl.
If you can remember these
memories that you hold.
Then just like me you are
getting old.

**Shrove Tuesday
February 13th**



Fill your life with sweetness.

**This article was supplied by Phillip Brooks courtesy of:
Alan Misson (Pastor and Editor for the West Wickham New Church
newsletter.)**

We should realize as well that we present our whole person in our works and deeds and that our volition and thought, or the love and faith that are our inner constituents, are not complete until they are [embodied] in the deeds and works that are our outer constituents. These latter are in fact the outmost forms in which the former find definition; and without such definitions they are like undifferentiated things that do not yet have any real presence, things that are therefore not yet in us.

To think and intend without acting when we can is like a flame sealed in a jar and stifled, or it is like seed sown in the sand that does not grow but dies along with its power to reproduce.

Thinking and intending and doing, though, is like a flame that sheds its light and warmth all around, or like seed sown in the soil, that grows into a tree or a flower and becomes something. (Heaven and Hell paragraph 475)



Sun setting on Grimworth Reservoir between Grassington and Pately Bridge.
A beautiful winter walk, so much wildlife about. (Janet Benson)

And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

Matthew 25:40



Lesley and Anne busy in the kitchen after one of the Christmas services.



Work party at Keighley New Church
Saturday 17th February 09:30am to
11:30am.

February 2nd

Groundhog Day is a popular North American tradition observed in the United States and Canada on February 2nd.

It derives from the Pennsylvania Dutch superstition that if a groundhog emerges from its burrow on this day and sees its shadow due to clear weather, it will retreat to its den, and winter will go on for six more weeks; if it does not see its shadow because of cloudiness, spring will arrive early. What Great British weather lore is the equivalent to Groundhog Day? Probably it is St Swithin's Day for predicting the British summer.

St Swithin's day is celebrated on Monday 15th July 2024.



Do you need a card to
celebrate an event?

Cards for all occasions
available to buy in the
Church Hall.



Wherever you go, no matter what the
weather, always bring your own
sunshine. (Anthony J. D'Angelo)

Wanting help?

If you wish to know more about our church, or be baptised or married here, if you need comfort in sorrow or advice on personal problems, or want someone to pray with you, please ask and we will do what we can.

You will be most welcome to join in our worship or other meetings or receive a copy of our newsletter.

CONTACT – Rev Christine Bank Telephone 07928047253/ 01274772451

What does the New Church believe?

In one wise and loving **God**, who manifests as the LORD JESUS CHRIST, who shows us the Divine the qualities of love and wisdom.

Salvation means repeatedly being made new by opening our life to God, turning away from our selfish tendencies, and living a life guided by His Commandments.

The Bible is a symbolic parable of our inner life. It is to be understood spiritually rather than literally.

We are given free-will and reason so that we can choose between good and evil, truth and falsity, and we freely enter a state of heaven or hell as a result of these choices.

After we die, as our true character emerges, we shall be with those we love.