

KEIGHLEY NEW CHURCH

Founded 1789

Dedicated to the worship of the Lord Jesus Christ

Newsletter August 2026



'The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it.' Psalm 24:1

KEIGHLEY NEW CHURCH

Braithwaite Village,
Braithwaite Road,
Keighley,
West Yorkshire
BD22 6PX

(Please send all correspondence to the above address)

Contacts for the Church

Minister: Rev. Christine Bank

Tel: 07928047253 or 01274 772451

Email: christine.bank@generalconference.org.uk

Please contact any of the following by email:

keighleynewchurch@gmail.com

Secretary: Rev. Christine Bank

Treasurer: Mrs Kathryn Higgins

Newsletter: Mrs Janet Benson

Hall hire: Rev. Christine Bank

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 August

August 2nd

Service Leader: Rev. Christine Bank

August 9th Holy Supper service

Service Leader: Rev. Christine Bank

August 16th

Service Leader: Favourite Hymns

August 23rd

Service Leader: Rev. Christine Bank

August 30th

Service Leader: Rev. Christine Bank

All services start at 10:30am.

'If you truly love
nature, you will find
beauty everywhere'

Vincent Van Gogh

August

May your month of August

Be filled with wonderful

Blessings of good health,

Love, peace, happiness

And prosperity.

Minister's letter:

This month sees the church celebrate thirty years in the Braithwaite Village location, but as you see from the front page of the newsletter, we were founded in 1789, so this is just the most recent part of our overall history in Keighley.

Celebrating anniversaries, recognising that time has passed and that there have been changes is part of how we live. In recent weeks the national church held their AGM, a time of reporting back on the past year and of getting together with church friends from across the country.

It can be so simple to only look back, to fondly remember times that are conveniently distant so the warm glow of the happy nostalgia isn't brought up short by the reality of having to live in what would probably feel very dated and unsuitable ways. Of course, at the time no-one knew any differently so my childhood of only a few TV channels and then amazing advent of colour TV was all wonderful and new, not just for me but for everyone else. We had no sense of 'missing out' on the easy communication of today because mobile phones and the internet were all well in the future.

There's a real benefit in understanding history, to see and learn that human nature probably doesn't change a great deal, even if the things of the material world and lifestyles are unrecognizable.

The Old Testament has Moses leading the enslaved Israelites out of Egypt, only for them to complain bitterly. **Exodus 16** speaks of their early journey...

on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had come out of Egypt. In the desert the whole community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the Lord's hand in Egypt! There we sat around pots of meat and ate all the food we wanted, but you have brought us out into this desert to starve this entire assembly to death."

Minister's letter continued:

We can recognize how initial new ideas bring euphoria and enthusiasm which then diminishes quickly; the old ways and old life suddenly seem much better because they can be viewed selectively and are out of reach. What lies ahead can't be avoided, but it's quite nice to moan about things and blame someone else. At the same time the Israelite fond memory of having plenty of food is at odds with the reality of the slave life from only a few chapters before.

When Moses encountered the Lord at the burning bush in **Exodus 3**,

The Lord said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So, I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey..."

Old Testament history shows the Israelites reaching this wonderful Promised Land and then experiencing all kinds of struggles to settle and live peacefully for any length of time as a common theme is of people trying to 'do their own thing' at the expense of following the instructions they received from the Lord for how to order and conduct their lives.

Human nature is such that we face that same problem of what we know we should do or ought to do for both physical and spiritual health and wellbeing but making the daily personal choices and decisions to put it into practice is something that requires ongoing effort and attention. We are so fortunate to be able to gather in this beautiful church for worship and friendship, sharing together is a key part of life and we keep looking to the future together.

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



For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21

August dates for your diary

- Tuesday 4th August and Tuesday 18th August, Craft and Chat meet in the Church hall 10am to 12pm.
- Saturday 8th August, work party 9:30am to 11:30am.
- Saturday 8th August, Church Council meeting, 12pm to 2pm.
- Sunday 9th August, the morning's service will be followed by refreshments to celebrate our 30 years in Braithwaite Village.
- Sunday 23rd August, Discussion Group, 12:30pm to 2pm.
- Thursday 27th August, coffee morning in the church hall, 11am to 1pm.
- Monday 31st August to Sunday 6th September Rev. Christine Bank annual leave.

What has been happening in our church and church grounds recently?

The church grounds are looking amazing, thanks to the hard work of Rodger and Terry at our regular work parties.

The insides of both buildings are well looked after by willing volunteers, who keep a keen eye on the fabric of both buildings.

There is a new hot water heater supplying the toilet blocks and both lots of taps have been replaced with push taps.

The church hall door has had some repair work done to help prevent it sticking in different weather conditions.

Craft and chat, coffee mornings and pie day continue to be successful.

Discussion group is held on some Sunday's after the morning's service and you will find all these dates in the monthly newsletter.

Noah's Ark window in Keighley New Church.

The LORD then said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and your whole family, because I have found you righteous in this generation." **Genesis 7:1**



The inscription reads :

"This Church was reopened August 10th 1996 as the Keighley New Church"

We are celebrating the 30th anniversary of Keighley New Church at its location, Braithwaite Road, Braithwaite Village, BD22 6PX. Refreshments will be served after the morning's service on **Sunday 9th August**. Please join us if you can.

Yorkshire Day Saturday 1st August 2026

Sing a song of Yorkshire

Sing a song of Yorkshire, from the Humber to the Tees.
Of horses, wool and terriers, of pudding and of cheese.
I know no other county where the land is quite so fine.
England's lovely county. And I'm proud to call it mine.

Where shining purple heather stretches far across the moor,
and the lapwing's cry above me takes the place of traffic roar.
And peace comes drifting gently, there's no place I'd rather be
than this land of hills and valleys, from the Pennines to the sea.

So, when I've done my roaming, and when my step grows slow;
when heart and mind assure me that the time has come to go,
then let me rest in Yorkshire, for it's there I want to lie
'neath sun and wind and heather... and a gleaming Yorkshire sky.

This poem was written by Doreen Brigham from Harrogate and was the winner of a competition to write words of 'A Symphony for Yorkshire' by the BBC for Yorkshire Day 2010



Table set for Pie Day in July. 15 people enjoyed pie, mash and vegetables followed by apple crumble and custard.



One cannot think well,
love well, sleep well, if
one has not dined well.

Virginia Woolf

Food ready!



Did you know?



A synonym is a word or phrase that has the same or nearly the same meaning as another word in the same language.

An antonym is a word that means the exact opposite of another word, as in jailer and prisoner.

English is the easiest language to speak badly.

George Bernard Shaw

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.