

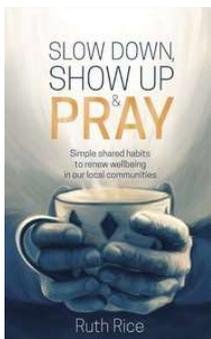
Ripon And Lower Dales Circuit Newsletter

Welcome to this month's issue of the Herald. Our vision is to provide a helpful place for connecting with some of what God is doing across the Ripon and Lower Dales Circuit. To give voice to those experiencing the love of God in their daily walk of faith. To celebrate and share the good news of God's kingdom.

'My dwelling place shall be with them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.' [Ezekiel 37:27]



Book review in 100 words



SLOW DOWN, SHOW UP & PRAY: Simple shared habits to renew wellbeing in our local communities by Ruth Rice. Ruth describes herself as 'an ordinary Christian with an ordinary story' she continues to say, 'but something extraordinary seems to be happening around me.' The extraordinary that Ruth speaks of is found in the organisation that she leads called Renew Wellbeing and draws upon this ongoing experience. This inspiring book offers many helpful insights of wisdom and learning that is much needed. The care of everyone's mental health and wellbeing is crucial, Ruth demonstrates how this care is part of the gospel imperatives to be taken seriously by the church in its local community. A worthwhile and pertinent read.

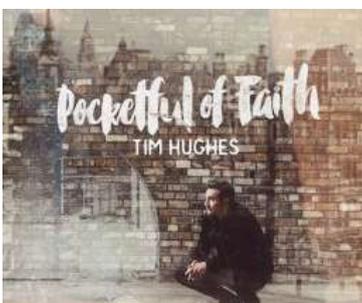
(If you are interested in learning more about Renew Wellbeing online the website can be found at www.renewwellbeing.org.uk)



Murmuration of starlings performed a glorious spectacle in the beautiful theatre of the dusk sky. Trees which stood stark became alive with the starlings causing a silhouette that gave an impression it was full of leaves. For me this is a divine production of creation praising their creator in dance and song. Perhaps too, this is something which lifts your eyes and heart like it does mine with a soul full of thankful praise to God for such a precious sight. It also teaches me what can be achieved by working or should I say flying together. What wonder of God creation speaks to you?



Worship Album Highlight – 'Pocketful of Faith' by Tim Hughes



Tim Hughes' album Pocketful of Faith was released in 2015. The first song on the album is entitled 'Here with me' and resonates with how so many are finding these challenging days of living through a pandemic. Those familiar with the worship songs of Tim Hughes will recognise the profound and authentic Christian heart which comes through vocally. Although this album is five years old, it still sounds fresh and I guess that worship is timeless. Whether you are listening on your daily exercise and during your daily devotions, this is a great worship album.

Circuit Phone Prayer & Reflection Call: 01765 530700 Calls are charged at a local rate.

The Prayer & Reflection will be updated weekly with a new prayer & reflection recorded by local preachers, worship leaders and Methodist Ministers from within the Ripon and Lower Dales Circuit.



Let us continue to be a people of prayer.

Living loving God,

We pray for all those who are hurting, suffering, and struggling in any way.

We pray for all those who are serving and caring for others in these difficult times.

We pray for all those teaching, learning, and growing whilst enduring challenges.

We pray for all who work in our hospitals and medical surgery's.

We pray for those caring for patients with the COVID-19 virus and its long-term health impacts.

We pray for all those involved in the development, production, distribution and administrating of the COVID-19 vaccines.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen



You have 1 new message!

If I were to ask you the question, when and how you became a Christian? I imagine your story would be different from mine, since we each have a story which is uniquely our own. For some the story might begin from a place of having no or little engagement with Church. For some, it might include seeking, exploration, and discovery. Each Christian will have a story to tell and I would expect it includes others. Perhaps another Christian or a church group, but usually our stories are woven together in some way with another. I believe God is active in the life of everybody, calling each with love by name having been with us since we were in our mother's womb. I cannot imagine my life without God, but I can remember when and how I became a Christian. I can remember those who played a role in helping me in my time of seeking.

Next month sees the beginning of a mission project 'Try Praying' that is aimed at helping those who are seeking and those beyond the walls, circles, etc of the church. Try Praying is for those who are not religious and don't do church. The aims of Try Praying are simple, it is an invitation for people to try praying. Prayer is a precious gift from God for all people and as the sign in the old dining at Cliff College in the Peak District, read 'Prayer changes things.' Prayer might be something we take for granted but ought not to. Neither is it something we should keep to ourselves, rather, it is something we can sign post and encourage other to try for themselves. Through a campaign of raising Try Praying banners outside as many church buildings as possible across the area, we can share this invitational message. Accompanying the banners are booklets providing a helpful resource for a 7-day journey. People wanting to try praying can visit the website or download the App too, and we can raise digital banners on the social media platforms we use. But how will they know? I hope and pray they will know because they have seen a sign, a banner or two.

trypraying

Note from the editor – Thank you for reading this month's issue of The Herald. If you have an article, a book worth a 100-word review or a newsworthy story to share, please do get in contact on email: Gareth.baron@methodist.org.uk or **Could you write a Worship Album Highlight Review?** - Please email Graham at gpentelow@gmail.com

Jesus said, "To what should I compare the kingdom of God? It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened." [Luke 13:20-21]

FREE phone lines for prayers and news from the Methodist Church

Listen to a **prayer**: 0808 281 2514

Listen to the **President and Vice-President**: 0808 281 2695

Listen to **news**: 0808 281 2478

