

ROTAS FOR FEBRUARY

	Stewards	Lessons	Flower Distribution
6 Feb	Maureen Niemayer	Emily Calman Ivor Pugh	Alison Dempsey Barbara McHugh
13 Feb	Irene Entwistle	Becky Cochrane Jackie Cochrane	Lois Porter Diane Bolan
20 Feb	Marjorie Wrennall	Georgia Sayer Arnold Rayton	Jackie Cochrane Ann Gill
27 Feb	Jean Simmons	Uniformed Organisations	Linda Crump Olwyn Rayton

If you need to change your place on the Lessons rota please let Stella know

SUNDAY REFRESHMENTS FOR FEB 2011

6 Feb	Sylvia Bairstow	Irene Entwistle
13 Feb	Glynis Bury	Stella Eccleston
20 Feb	Linda Barnes	Marion Howard
27 Feb	Ann Gill	Diane Bolan

SATURDAY CAFÉ

5 Feb	Ann Gill	Linda Barnes
12 Feb	Ken Houlton	Lesley Lowe
19 Feb	Lois Porter	Linda Kay
26 Feb	Brenda Farrer	Irene Entwistle

Reflecting on the past, discerning the future

At the beginning of next month we gather as church meeting for our AGM. On Thursday 3rd Feb at 7.30pm we gather to reflect on the year that has passed. We give thanks, we commiserate, and we learn lessons for the future. After the formal AGM we will then continue to discuss other issues.

At our AGM we will share reports from all of the groups and activities of our life together as Leyland URC. We will review the breadth and scope of all that happens in this place as together we live out the way of Christ. It is also the time that we give thanks for the service of leaders within our church and especially the role of elders. At our AGM we give thanks for the service offered and we discern who should take up this role in the coming year.

At the next elders meeting following the AGM the new group will review how best to take us forward. If we have more elders than we started with we can spread the load, if we have less we'll need to review what we will be able to do.

I do not believe in arm-twisting and cajoling people to do or retain roles - we all need to respect each others decisions. But we do all need to listen for the voice of God when we make these decisions. God does have a habit of turning our 'no' into a 'maybe', and our 'maybe' into a 'yes'. What we need from elders is a group of people committed to the pastoral care, leadership, and future of our fellowship. The rest is in God's hands.

The main issue for us after the AGM part of the meeting will be to review progress on the organ. The organ, by its physical presence and its use, is central to the worshipping life of our church. Our finances mean that it is even more important that we carefully consider our options and make decisions fully aware of the likely outcomes and how these will affect us. We make this decision with one hand on our balance sheet and the other on the Bible as we discern together, through prayer, conversation, and discussion, the path God is holding before us.

With every blessing, Rev'd David R. Coaker

FAMILY NEWS

As a church we offer our sympathy to three families who have suffered bereavements in recent days.

To Brian Rimmer and family on the death of Brian's wife, Barbara. Barbara was a loyal member of the Women's guild for many years and the guild was represented at the funeral service which our minister conducted at Charnock Richard Crematorium.

To Jean Goodall and family on the death of Jean's son Stuart . The funeral service, conducted by our minister was held in our church prior to cremation at Charnock Richard.

To Lionel Glover and his family on the death of Lionel's wife Marjorie. The immense number of mourners present for the funeral service which Shirley Farrier conducted in our church, again prior to cremation at Charnock Richard, bears witness to the loving regard in which Marjorie was held by so many people. Marjorie grew up in our church serving, at different times as Brownie leader, Sunday School teacher, Elder and founder member of the old church drama group. The last mentioned interest led to an active involvement, shared so closely with Lionel, in the local world of the amateur theatre. It is here that she will be most missed - except, of course for the home in Whittle le Woods which she shared with her husband. Her life was cut short and we are all saddened - clearly by Lionel more than anyone for they had a wonderful loving relationship though we are also conscious that Marjorie's brother Keith and Lionel's brother in law, Graham have also been reminded that they too have previously suffered such a loss in their lives.

We also record the death of Revd Ted Chapman during the autumn of last year. Ted and his brother, Maurice came to Leyland as evacuees , settled here with Mr and Mrs Lake and, through the Scouts entered the life of the Congregational Church and the old Young People's Fellowship. Eventually Ted was called to train for the ministry in 1957 and, while at the Manchester college, served as chair of the national Youth Council. He became minister of Colne Congregational church but after this one ministry he resigned and eventually became a minister in the Anglican church serving in Yorkshire.

CHURCH & WORSHIP DIARY FOR FEB 2011



Thur 3 rd	Church Meeting (AGM)	7.30pm
Sun 6 th	Worship led by Revd David Coaker Communion	10.30am
Sat 12 th	Ramble	
Sun 13 th	Worship led by Revd. John Hopkins	10.30am
Mon 14 th	Fabric Committee	7.30pm
Thur 17 th	Elders Meeting	7.30pm
Sat 19 th	'Last Night of the Proms' *	7.30pm
Sun 20 th	Service led by the Worship Group	10.30am
Sun 27 th	Service led by Revd. David Coaker Parade	10'30am

The Last Night of the Proms concert, our twelfth, once again stars Ivan Sharpe* and Victoria Ward (Sharpe!) who are joined this year, for the first time, by a full regular Brass band, the one from Lostock Hall. We have had near full house attendances in recent years so you would be well advised to purchase your ticket (£7.50) in advance. Mollie Ward or Marjorie Wrennall will supply you.

*Did you see Ivor on television in the recent 'Songs of Praise' from Winchester Cathedral? He was shown on archive footage singing as a choir boy, and then being interviewed as head chorister. Then he was interviewed as one who had gone on to a career as a professional musician and finally sang 'Panis Angelicus' as soloist. And now he and his wife are coming to sing for us.

ROTAS FOR MARCH 2011

	Stewards	Lessons	Flower Distribution
6 Mar	Sylvia Bairstow	Linda Barnes Lesley Lowe	Marjorie Wrennall Linda Barnes
13 Mar	Linda Kay	Jan Chapman Mollie Ward	Mollie Ward Sylvia Bairstow
20 Mar	Linda Crump	David Holmes Stella Eccleston	Jan Chapman Alison Dempsey
27 Mar	Janet Porter	Uniformed Organisations	Barbara McHugh Lois Porter
(3 April)	Dianne Bolan	Ian Dempsey Ann Gill	Dianne Bolan Jackie Cochrane

If you need to change your place on the Lessons rota please let Stella know

SUNDAY REFRESHMENTS FOR MARCH 2011

6 March	Joyce Robinson	Jean Simmons
13 March	Barbara McHugh	Lois Porter
20 March	Ann Riding	Lesley Lowe
27 March	Sylvia Bairstow	Irene Entwistle
(3 April)	Glynis Bury	Stella Eccleston

SATURDAY CAFÉ

5 March	Alan Niemayer	Sylvia Bairstow
12 March	Ernest Wrennall	Mollie Ward
19 March	Ann Gill	Linda Barnes
26 March	Ken Houlton	Lesley Lowe
(2 April)	Lois Porter	Linda Kay

However Ted was perhaps the first person from our church ever to become a minister.

(Ted's brother, Maurice, who married Barbara Kenyon went to New Zealand as an architect and while there was ordained into the Presbyterian Church of that country. He is now retired and lives, in close contact with a seemingly large number of grandchildren in Tauranga.)

Though hardly family news from our church it is of some interest that Revd Chris Parker, from East Croydon URC has just been inducted as the new minister of Trinity URC, Wigan and Leigh URC. As a sometime visiting lay preacher to Wigan, Ernest, together with Marjorie were invited to the induction service and were interested to find that Chris had once been a member of the three person Synod Ginger Group team who spent about a month at Leyland URC in 1995. That led to his becoming a minister as it did for Jason McCullagh, another member of the group, now minister of Scarborough URC, who was also present at the induction service.

Congratulations go to Dr. Shaw aka Rita Coaker on being awarded her Eng D in Environmental Technology.

We congratulate Ross and Sueanne Baxter on the birth of a baby daughter, Thea, another great granddaughter for Ken Houlton,

We also congratulate Allan and Karen on the birth of a baby daughter, Rowan Ellis, another granddaughter for Jackie and Ellis.

We welcome into our church family Abigail Lucy Keanne, daughter of Joanne and Stephen, granddaughter of Bob and Susan Lay and great granddaughter of Marian Howard.

In the aches and pains department we offer support to Doris Holt who hurt her back in a fall while coming to church and also to Robert Barton who broke ribs in a nasty fall. Sylvia Stacey has also received injury after falling.

In our prayers we should remember Ina Lockwood, Irene Nelson, Lillian Dawson and Eva Marland, all of whom are unwell at this time, Revd John Hopkins who has had to return to hospital and David Lamb who is awaiting hospital treatment. We also think of Susan Lucas and offer her our prayers and support at this difficult time in her life.

Big Day Out - MORECAMBE

This year's celebration is taking place in Morecambe on July 9th from 11am - 7pm.

Whilst this date clashes with Leyland's Festival weekend 9th & 10th July; Hough Lane is not being used this year. As it is Worden Park's Diamond Jubilee all activities will be on the park.

The day starts with an open air short act of worship to dedicate the day to God on the promenade. There are 3 different locations where events, speakers, workshops and fun activities for all the family to take part in throughout the day. The day will finish with a big celebration on the seafront with a live band.

Speakers will be Revd Roberta Rominger, URC General Secretary and Bishop Graham Cray, Fresh Expressions Mission. Revd Martyn Atkins, General Secretary of the Methodist Church is hoping to be with us.

Activities planned for you to participate in include: puppetry, flag worship, drama with kids praise, getting creative with pottery, the big sing, sharing in contemporary worship, craft activities, brass band, hymn writing and much, much more.

To book, collect a form from Lesley Lowe (one per adult) or visit NW synod website: (WWW.nwsynod.org.uk) to download the form. A programme will be sent to you to tell us which activities you want to take part in. These will be sent out on or just after 1st February. Children 18 and under are free. Adults £3 each.

If enough people wish to go it may be possible to book a coach. Please give your names to Lesley Lowe if you are going, so that this can be arranged.

Lesley Lowe

CHURCH & WORSHIP DIARY FOR MARCH 11



Fri 4 th	Women's World Day of Prayer Service	
Sun 6 th	Worship led by Revd Nigel Lemon	10.30am
	Communion	
Sat 12 th	Ramble in the Clayton area	
Sun 13 th	Worship led by Revd Paul Pells	10.30am
Mon 14 th	Fabric Committee	7.30pm
Thurs 17 th	Elders Meeting	7.30pm
Sat 19 th	Cake stall	
Sun 20 th	Worship led by Revd Shirley Farrier	10.30am
Sun 27 th	Worship led by Revd David Coaker	10.30am
	Parade. Induction of elders	

TRAIDCRAFT ROTA FEB/MARCH 2011

6th Feb	Lesley Lowe
13th Feb	Mollie Ward
20th Feb	Rita Coaker
27th Feb	Sylvia Bairstow
6th March	Christine Holmes
13th March	Linda Barnes
20th March	Mollie Ward
27th March	Lesley Lowe
(3rd April	Rita Coaker)



ITEMS FOR NEXT MAGAZINE

APRIL/MAY

TO BE WITH LINDA KAY BY SUN 20TH MARCH

PLEASE

GARDENING

If you planted any spring bulbs in bowls or containers for flowering in the house remember to water and feed them, keep them in good light and away from radiators so that they won't become drawn like forced rhubarb. Outside you may find snowdrops pushing through the soil and beginning to show the white of the flower down between the leaves. It's about time that the Christmas rose (Hellebores) were producing flower buds down at soil level. Check the leaves for brown or black spots and if present cut off the leaves and dispose of them as this is a fungal disease which can spread. New leaves will soon appear.

It is a good time of the year for doing simple repair jobs to trellis and fences before they get covered in plant growth and on a dry day these could be painted with preservatives to prolong their life. Continue to tidy up fallen leaves and prune some shrubs while they are dormant to keep them within bounds. Clean pots and seed trays and make them ready for sowing seeds when the weather warms up a little, although some seeds need a frost to help them to germinate. You need to follow instructions on the seed packets.

Leyland Gardening Club have a full programme of monthly meetings throughout the year, see me for details if you are interested. We will be running a coach trip to Ness Gardens on the Wirral later in the spring.

Enjoy your garden
Eddie



OSWALDTWISTLE MILLS TRIP

There is to be a Guild trip to Oswaldtwistle Mills on Tuesday 15th February in memory of Grace Singleton.

The coach leaves at 11am and will be back by 5pm. The price of £12 includes a 3 course meal followed by entertainment, later tea and biscuits and more entertainment with shopping in between!

Anyone wishing to join us on this 'adventure' please see Mollie Ward or Marjorie Wrennall as soon as possible.

All welcome

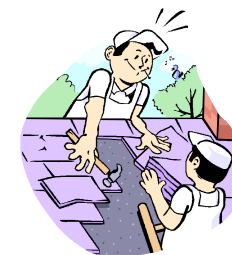
Thanks, Mollie

ROOM BOOKINGS

Contact Mollie Ward on Tel: 01772 433123
Rooms £15 for 1-2 hours, then £7.50 per hour
Hall £25 for 1-2 hours, then £10.50 per hour
Kitchen facilities included

If anyone knows of organisations looking for rooms to use especially during the day, please pass our details on, room rentals are vital to church finances.

Please don't forget our 'buy a slate' campaign which Ken Houlton administers so ably. We still have a long way to go to completely repair the roof.



GUILD PROGRAMME FOR FEB/MARCH

- 1st Feb Pauline Kay (aka Kay Purcell from Emmerdale & Waterloo road)
8th Feb 'Pot Pourri' of members anecdotes
15th Feb Trip to Oswaldtwistle Mills (see article)
22nd Feb Pam Roberts—Family History
- 1st Mar Canon Brunswick—To be arranged
8th Mar Chocolate by Josie
15th Mar Margaret Harrison, Salvation Army
22nd Mar Norman Pearson—The Nine Day Queen
29th Mar Carol Banks—The city of Bath

FLOWER LIST FOR FEB/MARCH 11

- Feb 6th Susan Lucas—Memories of parents
Feb 13th In memory of Ivy Ainsworth and loved ones from all the family
Feb 20th Vacancy
Feb 27th Vacancy
- March 6th Memories of Mary—Eddie and Alison
March 13th Brenda Holmes—Memories of mother
Janet Baxter-Bennet—Memories of mother
March 20th Olwyn and Arnold Rayton—Memories
March 27th Alyce Blackhurst—Memories
Edna Harvey—Memories of mother and Frank

RAMBLES AND PLODS

The months around the turn of the year do not lend themselves to outside activity so there is only one ramble, one plod and the annual Mollie's Meander on which to report.

The midweek plod was based on the Pear Tree Hotel in Penwortham on a lovely sunny day which drew a splendid turn out of walkers. The walk, planned and led by Frank McHugh, was along the network of paths using former railway tracks and canal tramways between Penwortham and the River Ribble. A smashing walk followed by a lovely meal and we thank Frank, Barbara and Marjorie Bartlett for planning and leading it.

The Saturday ramble in November was the by-now traditional local walk followed by an opportunity to enjoy the hospitality graciously provided by Malcolm and Karen Birrell. A handful of walkers met at the Birrell's house to be greeted by the worrying sight of Malcolm, our host, being placed in an ambulance on his way to hospital. However we were assured that the visit was just for treatment for a worrying leg injury, and that the tea would be as arranged with Karen's father helping with the preparation. So we walked through territory new to most of us looking for the elusive Neddy Spring and following the course of the River Lostock before returning for a welcome buffet meal for which we were very grateful. Malcolm returned from hospital as we ate! We thank Karen, Malcolm (and Karen's father) for their hospitality.

Mollie's traditional 'Meander' on New Years Day had no sun and lots of mud but at least the snow had more or less gone as we ventured once again into the Cuerden valley. Our numbers were swelled this year by friends from Midge Hall Methodist Church who actually outnumbered the URC walkers. Ernest led the way for the walk though he failed to keep track of the rearguard properly so allowing Mollie herself to take a small group on another longer route before eventually meeting up just in time to lay on the usual abundant supply of hot drinks, mince pies, Christmas cake and shortbread. Thank you Mollie and Peter; this is the 23rd consecutive New Years Day that we have been welcomed like this.

Ernest Wrennall

Dates for your Diary

As you are all aware we badly need funds for the general upkeep of the church and the organ. Your support is greatly appreciated in whatever capacity, without it we will cease to function.

Cake Stalls:

19th March

23rd April (Easter Fair)

21st May

18th June

23rd July (Mollie's garden party)

27th August

24th September

22nd October (possible date for Autumn fair)

Other Events

19th February - Last Night of the Proms

19th November - Talent Show

27th December - Christmas Lunch

Other events to be arranged - keep your eyes peeled for further announcements!!!!

Lesley Lowe

Ministry & Mission Fund

All congregations of the URC contribute a fixed amount, each month, to central URC towards the Mission & Ministry fund. This is an amount agreed by Assembly to cover costs of programmes that have been decided upon; and is collected annually from each church.

The object of the fund is to provide financial resources needed to train, equip and remunerate ministry, to support centralised services, and the world-wide work of the church

Each Synod has the responsibility for agreeing with its local congregations the share which each will take in meeting the budget commitment. Synods are free to determine in their own way the contributions of each of their local churches. Our own Synod has linked the contribution to the number of members each congregation has.

Ministry

A substantial part of the expenditure of the Ministry and Mission Fund relates to the monthly payment of stipends, salaries and pensions and retired ministers' housing.

It also covers:

Education and Learning - the preparation of candidates for stipendiary and non-stipendiary ministry, through our Resource Centres for Learning and other training institutions, lay training through our Training for Learning and Serving programme and the programme of the Windermere Centre.

Youth and Children's work - the Fellowship of United Reformed Youth, youth and children's leadership training and activities, and the development of the Pilots non-uniformed youth organisation.

Mission

There is ecumenical involvement at all levels, debate and action via the Joint Public Issues Team, the Belonging to the World Church programme and work encouraging multicultural ministries and racial justice

Alongside all these is the work of the Communications team at Church House in publishing Reform magazine, together with other publications and the URC website.

This is the contribution that we all make to support each other as fellow Christians living out the Reformed tradition throughout Britain.

Lesley Lowe

RAMBLE PROGRAMME FOR 2011

Feb 12 th	Walmer Bridge	Chris Baines
Mar 12 th	Whittle /Clayton	Lois Porter
Apr 16 th	Abbeystead	Ernest Wrennall
May 21 st	Bentham	Ernest Wrennall
June 11 th	Ashurst Beacon	Roy and Linda Barnes
July 2 nd	Catforth (BBQ)	Ian and June Holt
Aug 20 th	Chipping	Chris Baines
Sept 17 th	TBA	Mike Chapman
Oct 22 nd	Lake District	David Lamb
Nov 19 th	Local	Karen and Malcolm Birrell

Jan 1st 2012 Cuerden valley Mollie and Peter Ward

Jan 21st 2012 TBA Ernest Wrennall

To some extent these are provisional as far as locations are concerned but we will endeavour to stick to the dates listed.

Please note that these are NOT 'members only' events. If you can manage a gentle walk of about five miles on a Saturday afternoon then you would be very welcome to take part. Who needs a fitness class at a gym when the glorious countryside of the Northwest is there just waiting for you to explore?



Atlantis Explorer Scouts

The Explorer Scouts are on a mission to increase their map-reading skills in preparation for their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award expeditions due to take place during the Easter Holidays. After a practice expedition during October half term it became apparent that they needed to brush up on their navigation skills. We have therefore arranged the programme to help them achieve that by Easter. Thursday 20th January we decided it would be a good idea for them to try the orienteering course at Waddecar Scout Campsite - in the dark!

What we hadn't banked on when we planned the programme was the 'fog' and 'ice' also!!!!!!!

We set off from Leyland travelling rather more slowly than we would normally do but still slipped and slid around on the country roads near Waddecar campsite near Beacon Fell. Once we arrived at Waddecar we set them off in the dark, and the fog and the ice to look for permanent check points that are always laid out.

Considering the bad conditions I think they did exceptionally well and once back under the barn at Waddecar they got their camping stoves & Trangia's out and warmed up hotdogs and hot chocolate for supper and to warm themselves back up again. A great night was had by all - and none of them got lost .

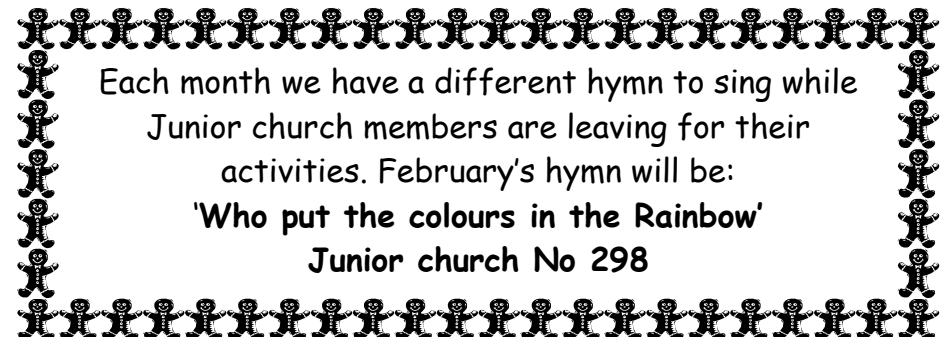
We at present have 9 Explorer scouts and 4 Explorer Scout Leaders and our programme is full of fun and adventure so if you know of any young people who may be interested in joining us please give Alison Bamber a call on 01772 451341. Explorer Scouts are aged 14-18 years old.

Alison Bamber
Explorer Scout Leader



TO:

- Everyone who helped with all the activities throughout the Christmas celebrations. Many hands worked in the kitchen, manned stalls, decorated the church and generally made themselves indispensable. Thanks to you all!!!
- A big thank you to the Uniformed Organisations leaders for all their work on the stage. With the aid of a grant and the skills of some of their leaders the stage is almost ready to be used again. Now all we need is ideas for what to put on.
- Many thanks once again to Jackie Cochrane our Treasurer whose job has now been made much harder with worries about funding for the organ repairs. Add this to constant concerns about how to meet escalating bills and keep on top of roof repairs and it is an unenviable task.
- Thanks to our minister Dave and our organist Janet for all the extra work through the Christmas period
- To David Holmes and Ian Holt for their technical know how on setting up the computerised equipment and sound for the display screen . The rest of us on Fabric committee haven't a clue what they are talking about but it is all good!
- Thanks to everyone who has made donations to get the organ blower replaced.



Each month we have a different hymn to sing while Junior church members are leaving for their activities. February's hymn will be:
'Who put the colours in the Rainbow'
Junior church No 298

CHRISTMAS 2010

•**Christmas Lunch.** good food, good company, good profits for this after worship Fund Raising committee event . We thank the members of the committee especially Lorna and Pat for catering so efficiently.

•**Christingle Service.** This early Friday evening event really started the Christmas season and, with the help of Cubs and Beavers plus some parents and families, was well supported. This time there was a DIY element as those present did their own orange assembling during the service so there was a good sense of involvement which the youngsters appreciated. The mince pies and drinks afterwards went down well too. The church's decorations were in place for this event and they created a very bright and attractive backcloth for the festive season's happenings. We thank the organisations and individuals involved.

•**Uniformed Organisations Service.** This was very well prepared and presented with even the singing being led by a leaders music group. After an awards section and before the Shoe Box reception there was a fine nativity presentation incorporating a well rehearsed pantomime with extra care being given to delivery and audibility so that we all could enjoy what was offered. Well done to everyone involved.

• **SRBC Celebration.** This Saturday event organised by the Council was based on our premises, which illustrates the high regard which the local authority has for our church as community centre - even to placing their Christmas tree in our church garden. Unfortunately this was also the weekend when the winter weather arrived so people were kept away by cold and ice. The scouts ran an outside tented Christmas stall and a well supported Santa's grotto in a side vestibule. And in the afternoon there was a carol service attended by the Mayor, with music from the Lostock Hall Brass Band. We provided suitable refreshments for our guests after the service. The one unfortunate element was that all this communal coming and going rather distracted from the Christmas Prayer Stations which were laid out during that day and the following day



A programme for Christian invitation, initiation, and spiritual formation

Invitation to Journey

Living the Questions is an open-minded alternative to studies that attempt to give participants all the answers and instead strives to create an environment where participants can interact with one another in exploring what's next for Christianity. Featuring thirty acclaimed scholars, theologians and other experts, it consists of 21 sessions which may be offered in sequence or as three independent flights of seven units each: "Invitation to Journey," "Reclaiming the World" and "Call to Covenant."

7.30-9.00pm

Wednesday: Penwortham United Reformed Church, Liverpool Road
Thursday: Leyland United Reformed Church, Hough Lane

Pen-wortham	9/2	23/2	9/3	23/3	30/3	13/4	20/4
Session	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Leyland	10/2	24/2	3/3	10/3	24/3	31/3	14/4

1. An Invitation to Journey
2. Taking the Bible Seriously
3. Thinking Theologically
4. Stories of Creation
5. Lives of Jesus
6. A Passion for Christ: Paul
7. Out into the World

Outline of time together:

Welcome and refreshments
Watch episode (20-30min.)
Open discussion
Brief closing reflection

AUTUMN FAIR QUIZ.

The Anagrams Quiz which was on sale at the Autumn fair attracted quite a good number of entrants and about a dozen of the papers were returned for marking. For the benefit of those who did not get involved the challenge was to find the thirty paired off words, each the anagram of the other, to match the paired off clues which were presented. Example;-'Yellowish green citrus fruit' (- - - -) and '1760 yard' (- - - -), with the answers being LIME and MILE respectively.

Most people did very well with the main difficulties seeming to be to recognise that the anagram of TOM CRUISE ('Top Gun maverick') was 'COSTUMIER' ('One who suits the actors') or, while knowing that RAVEL (of 'Bolero' fame) fitted the clue about the Spanish jacket which was linked with T. and D's Olympic gold, failed to link it with LAVER, the Welsh seaweed bread mentioned together with Rod, the old Aussie star of the (tennis) court.

Congratulations to the all correct answers sent in by Sylvia Bairstow, Mrs V. Robinson, Mr E. Robinson, Pat and Colin Whalley, Paul Martin, Marjorie and Ivor Pugh, Ivan and Victoria Sharpe, Connie Finnigan and Malcolm Milnes.

To find a single winner there was a tie-break challenge to compose a DIY pair of anagrams with clues and the adjudicator gave his vote for the last named person, Malcolm, who is a regular rambler and plodder. His selected clues were a pair of five letter words to fit the clues 'This will give you a lift' and 'Parent of Margaret'. The first answer is a pretty ordinary 'CRANE' but the second is the far more devious 'NACRE'. The dictionary tells us that 'Nacre' is 'Mother of pearl' and a book of meaning of names reveals that the name 'Margaret' means 'a pearl'. Very clever!

A Challenge! Can you work out the anagram of the following sentence which, like the clue itself, has a Christmas link.

'O hark the herald angels sing the boy's descent which lifted up the world' (5,9,7,5,6,2,5,3,6,2,3,6). Answer in our next magazine.

Ernest Wrennall

- **Prayer Stations.** This was a series of table meditation stations arranged around the church building for people to explore the way the different gospel writers presented the gospel story with the opportunity to follow the unique nativity stories in Matthew and Luke. It was a pity that not many people followed the journey this time and we need to try this again on a less distracting weekend. It should be noted that this ambitious study was the brain child of our Minister and not something off the peg from some outside source. In fact Dave's creation is now publicised on the national URC website for other churches to use.

- **Festival Service.** The Junior church, handicapped by casualties of the deep snow, presented their Nativity play during the morning service on the Sunday before Christmas. Helped by some 'volunteers' from the congregation the story was told clearly and well and we thank all involved.

- The **Lessons and Carols** service that evening was disappointing as not many more than the readers themselves attended.- the deep snow was at least in part to blame. However the mince pies afterwards were appreciated.

- **Christmas Eve Service.** Instead of a midnight service on Christmas Eve, we had worship in late afternoon though the experiment only attracted a few more people. However we did prepare for the day of Christ's coming - and enjoyed more mince pies afterwards - knowing that we were not to have a Christmas Day service on the following day in our church.

- **Christmas day** Some of us joined the Penwortham URC congregation for Christmas Day Service led by Dave. There was a very good number in the congregation compared with the disappointing attendance for items 7 and 8 above which left us wondering what we did wrong.

Gentle Exercise Class

at

The United Reform Church, Leyland

If the idea of attending an exercise class brings you out in a sweat with thoughts of Lycra and feeling "the burn", I'd like to make it clear that this is not one of those classes! I am an exercise professional with a passion for making exercise accessible, enjoyable and social for Older Adults who are looking for a moderate way to keep fit... and I don't do Lycra! We meet every Wednesday, 10.30 - 11.30, for chair-based and standing exercises, a few laughs and a cup of tea - all for £3! If you find this spectacular offer hard to resist and you'd like to come, you don't need to invest in a new outfit (unless you're looking for an excuse to): just wear comfortable clothing and sensible shoes. Whatever your fitness level, you will be most welcome to come and do as much as you can. The areas of health and fitness that we focus on are:

- joint mobilisation to maintain range of movement and help manage arthritic wear and tear.
- gentle strengthening, including work with Therabands, to contribute to muscle strength and bone density.

In those twenty one years Les tells us that our giving, which includes those St. Mary's additions, has been sufficient to provide **474,333** life saving sachets (about 8% of the entire National total) by giving no less than **£29,257**. We set a target of **20000 lives** for last year and actually reached a total of over **30,000**.

£29,257 = 585140 coins. Placed in a line they would stretch 6.5 miles; piled one on top of another they would stand 3263 ft high (Scafell Pike is 3162ft.); and the metal would weigh about 2 tons.

As reported some time ago Roy Barnett, now officially retired, was honoured with an MBE for his inspiring work with this charity. Richly deserved - and so, equally, should we honour Les North for his long dedicated work (on 1092 consecutive Monday mornings!) to make it happen.

Ernest Wrennall



LEYLAND URC ONLINE

Our website is now up and running.

Check it out at

<http://Leyland.urc.org.uk>

It should be an ongoing project and you should be able to keep up with planned events from the website (that's the theory anyway!)

MITE SCHEME

Each week we collect those little 5p 'Widow's Mite' coins which Les North counts, banks and sends word to the current organisers of the national Mite Scheme about how much has been received. Recently that same organiser sent word to Les that the Mite Scheme is celebrating its 25th Anniversary since Roy Barnett (now MBE) set up the scheme in his Northamptonshire church. The plan was just to collect small value coins so that UNICEF could provide the salt/sugar sachets. Based on the market cost of such sachets which have varied from year to year we are told that in that quarter of a century **five and three quarter million** potentially life saving sachets have been paid for.

Clearly the scheme operated only locally at first but in the spring of 1990 Roy wrote a short, one paragraph letter to 'Reform', our denominational journal, which was placed on the agenda of the very first meeting of the World Church and Mission Group when our Church meeting began the pattern of division into four or five special interest groups. It caught our imagination and, following the premiere of the special Diarrhoea play during a service in July 1990, the scheme was introduced to our church. Les North became the money handler then and getting on for twenty one years later continues in the task. By publicity in services conducted by our lay preachers and by special promotions at District and Synod events a number of other United Reformed Churches got involved as well as the generous members of the congregation at Leyland St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church.

We thank them all and especially we thank Les North for twenty one years of handling those fiddly little coins especially that his local bank branch has closed and he has to make a special journey to pay in.

- stimulating circulation for oxygenation of all the body's tissues: as valuable to mental function as physical.
- challenging co-ordination to stimulate neuro-muscular links.
- balance exercises to assist in fall prevention
- gentle stretches to maintain flexibility, helping to ease cramp and prevent injury

The overall effect of exercise is the feel-good factor through the release of certain hormones into the bloodstream. We all know how hard it can be to find the motivation to exercise, but you always feel better once you've done it. So if you're looking for some gentle exercise in a friendly atmosphere, we'd be delighted to see you!

For further information please call Age Concern: 01772 321868

ANOTHER WAY TO KEEP FIT AND ENJOY YOURSELF

Dance Moves are launching a brand new Absolute Beginners Ballroom & Latin American class on Wed 2 Feb 2011, in the main hall at 7.30pm. (£5 pp for a 45 min class.) .Class run by former British Champion Ann Freeman, please contact her for any queries on 01772 314551/ 07749 881883, or see the web site: www.dancemoves.me.uk.

If anyone has done a little dancing before, there is also an Improvers class at 8.30pm.



Rainbows

GIRLS AGED 5-7 YEARS

TUESDAYS 6 PM TILL 7 PM

PLEASE CONTACT BERNADETTE ON

TEL NO: 07753 585 733

Brownies

GIRLS AGED 7-10 YEARS

TUESDAYS 6 PM TILL 7.30 PM

PLEASE CONTACT NADINE ON

TEL NO: 07749 772 181

Guides

GIRLS AGED 10-14 YEARS

TUESDAYS 7 PM TILL 9 PM

PLEASE CONTACT NADINE ON

TEL NO: 07749 772 181

THE ORGAN

In our last magazine there was a semi-historical article about our wonderful church organ aimed to attract sympathetic response in the form of donations to pay for initial repairs. There has been some response though more is certainly needed even to do a mere patch up job, still less than to finance the complete overhaul which is really needed.

However the article was not intended to be a complete story of the organ over its entire life, still less a potted series of pen pictures of those who have been recognised as Church Organists down the years. The ones mentioned were ones whose names seemed to stand out either in the somewhat sketchy Minute Book records or in the memory of the writer. For example there was no mention of Ronald Holding and there should have been for I do remember him in the late 1940s and 50s standing in for lengthy periods between appointments and covering for holidays, illness periods etc. Ronald was a big man with a fine touch despite having enormous hands. His background was, I believe, in the dance band world (Frank Smalley's Band?) and he was the sort of musician who could play anything to perfection without the need of a printed score. He played often though whether he was ever listed as the official Church Organist receiving an annual honorarium is something which I do not know. I do know however that in later life, when Jasper died, he married the widowed Margaret Simmons, the mother in law of our own Jean Simmons.

Ernest Wrennall.