

# CONTACT

CHRIST CHURCH HALTON  
COLTON METHODIST CHURCH

October 2024



## **“WANTING”**

*By Sean Copping*

*27-05-24*

I want a life like yours.

Where picnics don't need toilet maps  
or nature walks need special ramps,  
where access to the light and air  
do not need special plans for care.

Where there's no need to ring ahead  
and we can change our minds instead,  
to visit old decrepit bars  
with narrow doors and dodgy stairs.

I want a life like yours.

A day without the chronic pain,  
the counting carbs, the mental drain,  
the masking, hiding who I am,  
the normalising social scam.

To be accepted, not be judged,  
belong, be love and not begrudged.  
Be all I know that I can be  
and live, with you, in victory.

I want a life like yours.

To see the colour of the sky,  
to cry and never wonder why,  
to feel for words where words are  
found,  
to walk on rough, uneven ground.

To hear the breeze blow in the trees,  
the song of birds, the buzz of bees,  
the sound of traffic passing by,  
my lover's breath, the newborn cry.

I want a life like yours.

Though Jesus is my crutch, my  
hope,  
my falling pad, my safety rope,  
I long to be spontaneous,  
and rid the world of “them” and  
“us”.

To feel part of the human race,  
to stretch and grow with time and  
space,  
without the need for counting  
spoons,  
I want a life like yours.

*The theme of this year's Disability  
Pride Month in July was “we want a  
life like yours”, which tied in with  
work on disability by the Leeds  
Church Institute. LCI's activity was  
based on work by theologian  
Professor John Swinton which seeks  
to move us beyond “inclusion” to  
discover what it means for people  
with disabilities to belong to a  
church or community.*

*This poem was written by Sean  
Copping of Harehills Lane Baptist  
Church, part of the LCI group who  
are exploring disability theology and  
planning a retreat for disabled  
Christians in Leeds.*

*The poem was originally published  
in the most recent edition of “City  
Theology”, the LCI magazine, and is  
reproduced here with kind  
permission of Sean.*

## Update on Worship Planning for Colton Church

On Thursday 19th Sept a small group of Stewards from all the churches in Becki's section, including Kathryn and Elaine, met at Scholes to organise with Becki the preaching plan for the next 2 quarters, a mammoth task helped along by fellowship and homemade goodies!

Before we started Becki explained the situation as it stands at present with stationing. In this circuit there are two posts to be filled, to start in September 2025, however at present time it is looking unlikely that we would get two ministers and may not even have one post filled. Obviously we hope and pray that this is not the case, and the Circuit Leadership Team have outlined plans how this might be dealt with should this eventuality arise.

However, all is not lost. In our meeting Becki encouraged us to work together as churches and to look now at new ways of Sunday Worship, including joint worships, to start to prepare us for changes ahead. We did this and worked well together. There will be some services planned that may be a bit different but held with the same reverence and hopefully uplifting and joyful. Some will be held jointly with other churches within Becki's care, ie, Scholes, Crossgates and Garforth and some maybe at different times. There is finite number of Ordained and Lay Preachers within the circuit available to take Sunday Services in each church and Becki is due to take a sabbatical early in 2025,

For Parade and All Age Worship services we have requested preachers who can readily engage with the younger children to try and encourage an interest so that they might just want to come back and explore more about our church. After all, if we do not encourage them where is the future? We would ask that whoever is preaching you give it a try, and hopefully leave church with a smile on your face and joy in your heart.

When there is a joint service planned away from Colton, Becki has asked that Colton Church be open at the usual time for anyone who wants to just have a quiet reflective time. On these occasions we will need to ask for volunteers, two people for safety. But more on this later.

Stewards at Colton have requested two Local Arrangements early next year, to promote and introduce our aim to become an eco-church and to try something different relating to a District project Becki is involved in called Susanna's Table. Again more on this later! (*continued*)

## *Worship Planning at Colton, continued...*

We realise that for many the expectation coming to church is for hymns, bible readings and prayers in a set order, that which we grew up with, a bit like school assemblies. However, we have got to embrace change if we want our church to continue to have a presence in Colton. We pray that God will be ever present and guide us as we walk together on this journey of change. Services will not be different every week, it may just be once a month or once a quarter. We have actually embraced new ways of worship with Family JAM. and Wednesday JAM already. All we ask is that you give it a try, as we endeavour to work with churches under Becki's care, we are all in the 'same boat', let's keep it afloat with everyone on board.

## **Update from Sue Guy**

“After eleven months of frustration, Roger and I have moved to a new bungalow, and you can contact us there on our old landline number of 0113 264 7037.”



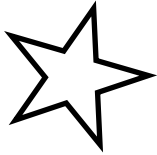
## **Christ Church Christmas Shoe Boxes**

We will have covered shoe boxes ready by the end of October. They are going to Meeting Point to be distributed to needy children in the local area, on December 7. Please see Sue for more information.

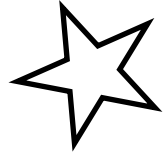
## **Pet Blessing Service**

After how well-received last year's Christ Church pet service was, Nicola is planning to hold a similar one this year. It's scheduled for **Sunday 3 November at 3.00pm**. Please keep an eye on the weekly notices, and our church Facebook page, for more details.





# CHRIST CHURCH GUILD WEEKEND



**Saturday, 26 th October  
at 3.00pm**

A concert with singer, David Twizzle, accompanied by Lynne Staveley on the piano, followed by tea/coffee and cakes.

Tickets - £8, available from Sheila Staveley (2602553) or Barbara Harris (2934995)

**Sunday, 27 th October  
at 10.30am**

Guild Service led by Rev'd Ruth Crompton  
Followed by lunch at Garforth Golf Club.

If you wish to join us for lunch please see Sheila or Barbara.

## Family Jam – Jesus And Me

Family JAM runs on the fourth Sunday of each month, from 4pm-6pm. The remaining dates for 2024 are 27th October and 24th November.



It's an informal time of gathering, hearing a Bible story, responding using craft, creativity & conversation, a short time of prayer & song, then eating a meal together. This is especially suitable for families with children aged 4-12, but everyone is most welcome, whether you have children in your family or not.

To help with catering please let us know how many people would like to come and if you have any allergies/dietary requirements. You can let Elaine or Kathryn know at church, by messaging the Colton Methodist Church Leeds Facebook page, by popping a note through the church letterbox, or via email ([info.coltonchurch@gmx.co.uk](mailto:info.coltonchurch@gmx.co.uk))

# LEEDS URC PARTNERSHIP BIBLE STUDIES

Reading the Bible in a Time of Environmental  
Crisis: Challenge, Action and Hope

Three different  
sessions at  
three  
different  
churches.



Each session  
starts  
at 2pm and  
includes  
refreshments.

**Come along to 1, 2 or 3 sessions.**

**Monday 7 October: Wigton Moor URC, 82  
High Ash Drive LS17 8RE**

**Monday 14 October: URC in South Leeds,  
Nesfield Road, LS10 3LG**

**Monday 21 October: Headingley St  
Columba URC, 70 Headingley Lane, LS6 2DH**

**For more information contact:  
[revnicola.robinson@gmail.com](mailto:revnicola.robinson@gmail.com)**

## Down By The River

A man, out for a walk, stumbles along a baptismal service on a Sunday afternoon down by a river. Curious, the man proceeds to walk down into the water and stand next to the Minister.

The minister turns and notices the man and says, "Hi there! Are you ready to find Jesus?" The man looks back and says, "Yes, Reverend, definitely."

The Minister then dunks the fellow under the water and pulls him right back up. "Have you found Jesus?" the Minister asked. "No, I haven't," replies the man.



The Minister then dunks him under for quite a bit longer, brings him up and says, "Now, brother, have you found Jesus?" The man replies, "no, I haven't Reverend!"

The frustrated Minister holds the man under for at least 30 seconds this time, brings him out of the water and says in a firm tone, "My good man, have you not found Jesus yet?"

The man wipes his eyes and asks the preacher, "are you sure this is where he fell in?"

### Don't forget!

This month is Christ Church's designated month for supporting Meeting Point Café in Harehills. Donations can be brought into Christ Church throughout October. Thanks for your support.

"I am still far from being what I want to be, but with God's help I shall succeed."

- Vincent Van Gogh

## **Messy Church @ Christ Church**

**Saturday 12 October 2-4pm**

Last month around 20 kids enjoyed an afternoon of fun and worship all themed around being thankful for God's creation, and the importance of looking after it. This month's theme is "With A Little Help From My Friends", and we'll be hearing the story of some men who went to extraordinary lengths to help their friend come to Jesus when he was unwell. If you'd like to come (and *all* are welcome!) please let Helen know, or message us via Facebook.

## **Colton Methodist Church Christmas Fair Saturday 23rd November 10am to 1pm**

This year's Christmas Fair at Colton Church will be on Saturday 23rd November, so please make sure you've put this in your diaries! There will be a number of craft stalls from local businesses as well as other stalls including a raffle, Christmas theme tombola, £1 stall, table top games and the ever popular cake and a cuppa!. We have started to plan for the event and if you would like to be involved in the planning or help in any way **please speak to us**. There will be a number of ways you can help including:

- Help to set up on the Friday or clear away on the Saturday
- Help on the day with stalls, refreshments or meet & greet
- Baking cakes/traybakes
- Donating goods for various stalls
- Help with distributing flyers & posters before the event

More information will appear in the weekly notices at Colton so keep an eye out for this! Thanks, in anticipation of your support!

*Elaine Preston and Kathryn Glasby.*



## **“Makes You Think, Doesn’t It?”**

“When you get to your wit’s end, you’ll find God lives there”

“We were called to be witnesses, not lawyers, or judges”

“It’s easier to preach ten sermons than it is to live one”

“Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on your front door forever”

“Some minds are like concrete – thoroughly mixed up and permanently set”

“Coincidence is when God chooses to remain anonymous”

“Don’t put a question mark where God puts a full stop”



“The human way leads to a hopeless end, but God’s way leads to endless hope”

“Plan ahead – it wasn’t raining when Noah built the ark”

“People are strange – they like the front of the bus, the middle of the road, and the back of church”

“God doesn’t call the qualified – he qualifies the called”

### **Happy Birthday Elizabeth – and Congratulations!**

Everyone at Christ Church would like to wish Elizabeth Moll a very happy 60th birthday (sshhh!) for 2nd October. Elizabeth is also celebrating 40 years of service to the NHS. Huge congratulations Elizabeth from all your friends at Christ Church, and thanks for everything you do.

## **Colton – Eco Church**

Just a reminder that the next Colton Eco Church meeting will take place on

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October**

**7pm**

**Colton Church.**

If you'd like to join our small team in helping us meet our Methodist Church's aspirational target of becoming a net zero carbon emissions Church by 2030, please come along. It'd be good to see you there.

### **Eco Tip of the month**

#### **How to calculate your personal Carbon Footprint**

The Methodist Church's net zero target requires us to drastically reduce all carbon emissions that we are responsible for by around half by 2030.

As well as looking at what we can do as a Church, why not have a look at what you can do personally to reduce your carbon footprint?

There are lots of carbon footprint calculators available, but if you have internet access, why not try this one?

It's available on the WWF website – you can access it as follows:

**[www.footprint.wwf.org.uk](http://www.footprint.wwf.org.uk)**

See how you can help God's world by reducing your own carbon footprint.

- *Colton Eco Church Team.*



## Friendship

Having passed the threshold of 70 years and become more acutely aware that the years slip away with such rueful stealth, it is so clear that nothing in this life soothes, inspires or satisfies more than the gifts of friendship. Such gifts of caring and affection are blessings as good and gracious as anything one could hope for, or want, this side of Paradise.

*(From "Musings Of A Wayward Pilgrim" by Mark Zenick and reproduced with the author's kind permission.)*

## Christ Church Guild News

The 65th session of the Guild has got off to a good start. To open the 'new season', we welcomed Revd Becki Stennett, one of the ministers from our Methodist Circuit, who spoke about Susannah Wesley, the mother of John and Charles. That was followed by someone I believe to be the youngest speaker we have had at our Guild, Catherine Warr who came to tell us about "A Yorkshire Year", a variety of themes surrounding folklore, customs and traditions. Just to remind you all, Guild is open to everyone, young and old, and you don't have to commit every week, just come along when you can. Our October programme looks like this:

8th Oct	The Life and work of John Smeaton
15th Oct	Why did the Gascoigne Family give Lotherton Hall to Leeds?
22nd Oct	Pharmacology
29th Oct	Yorkshire Air Ambulance

So there we have our October programme, I am sure you will enjoy at least one of these sessions, and I know you will always get a warm welcome if you do come.

- *Elizabeth Moll (A Guild committee member and one of the younger persons who attends).*

## **Christ Church Table-Top Sale**

Saturday 19 October, 10am – 12noon

Come and support our regular table-top sale, browse the stalls  
and see what takes your fancy!

For more information please call Sue on 0113 2647037.



## **Christ Church Parking**

You may have noticed the signs which have gone up at the entrance to our car park. Church Council were concerned to hear about the pressure on parking spaces for church events due to local residents and customers of nearby businesses using the car park. We posted an item about this on the church Facebook page, and local businesses have been approached to explain the new signs. We'll be keeping an eye on things, with the hope things start to improve.

## **East Leeds History & Archaeology Society**

Methodist Church Hall, Austhorpe Road, Cross Gates

Friday 25th October 2.00pm

**'The War on the Home Front 1914 -1918' by Mike Turpin**

Admission £2.00. All welcome

## **Remembrance Sunday 10th November at Colton**

As last year, we will be holding an all-age worship and parade service at Colton on Remembrance Sunday at the normal time of 10.30am. This means the previous week (3rd November) will not be all age worship, so Junior Church will meet at their usual time that day.

## Harvest Festival Weekend at Colton Methodist Church

A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped on Friday and Saturday to prepare for a successful Harvest Coffee Morning. Whether you moved furniture, baked more scrumptious cakes (and you know we love cakes...of any kind) or served drinks and cakes to our visitors, washed and dried numerous pieces of crockery and cutlery or made copious drinks, we couldn't have done it without you.

Harvest Service was another wonderful event, celebrated with the Garforth congregation and our uniform groups followed by lunch and yes..... more cakes and fruit!

THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the task of clearing away and packing all the wonderful donations of food ready to go to either Foodbank or Meeting Point. The fantastic teamwork of everyone involved is what makes our Church events such a success.

### **JESUS THE GREAT HIGH PRIEST – Hebrews 4:15-16**

“For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

### **Colton dates for your diary**

**Monday 4th November:** Colton Church Council 7.30pm.

**Sunday 10th November:** All Age Worship and Parade Service for Remembrance Sunday.

**Saturday 23rd November:** Colton Christmas Fair.

## Forthcoming Services at Christ Church

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| 6 October  | Rev Nicola Robinson<br>Church Anniversary  |
| 13 October | Rev David Goodall  |
| 20 October | Mr Alex Walker   |
| 27 October | Rev Ruth Crompton<br>Guild Sunday, Holy Communion                                      |
| 3 November | Mrs Susan Howdle (10.30am)<br><br>Rev Nicola Robinson (3.00pm)<br>Pet Blessing Service |



### **Christ Church Guild** **PLANT SALE**

## **Winter Flowering Plants and Shrubs**

*@ Christ Church*

Friday, 18th October (9am - 4.30pm)  
and Saturday, 19th October (9am - 12.30pm)

*Refreshments available*

*Proceeds go to church funds*

## **Forthcoming Services at Colton**

- 6 October            Mr Stan Pearson
- 13 October         Rev Steven Jones  
Holy Communion
- 20 October         Rev Mark Stennett
- 27 October         Mr Ted Britton (10.30am)
- Rev Becki Stennett (4.00pm)  
Family JAM (Jesus And Me)
- 3 November        Mr Richard Vautrey

### **Additional Services**

**Sundays, 6.00pm, MHA Moor Allerton**

Ecumenical Service

**Thursdays, 1.30pm, St Gemma's Hospice**

Free Church Service

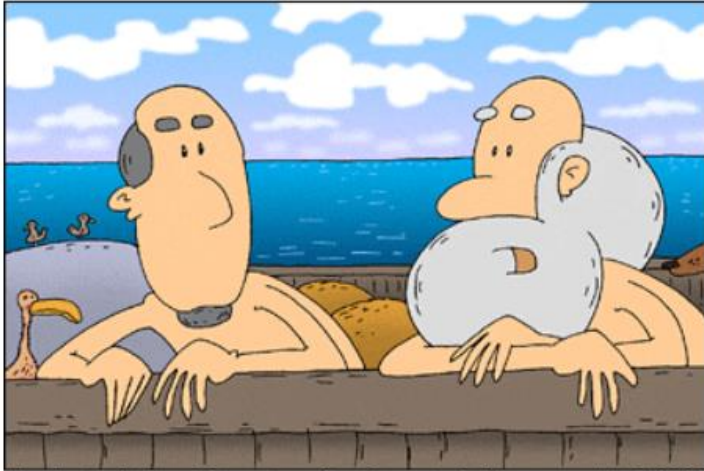
**Thursday 17 October, 11.00am, Lidgett Park Methodist Church**

"Teddy Praise"

NB There will be no circuit services in October or November

### **"Contact" Deadline**

Please let Andy have any articles or contributions for November's edition of Contact by 7pm on Tuesday 29 October. Many thanks.  
andybirkett76@gmail.com or 07952 861316.



Thanks to Richard Germain (See Genesis 6-8) 11-13-2009

THE IRONIC THING IS THAT I TOTALLY  
FORGOT TO PAY THE WATER BILL THIS  
MONTH

<b>Senior Steward</b>	Helen Lappage (CC)	07415 058187 helenlappage@sky.com
	Kathryn Glasby (Colton)	07503 740500 kathryn.glasby@talktalk.net
	Elaine Preston (Co-Senior Steward, Colton)	ea.preston@ntlworld.com
<b>Room Bookings</b>	Pauline Wood (CC)	0113 2647510 paulineawood@yahoo.co.uk
	Shirley Dann (Colton)	0113 2820828 colton.mcbookings@outlook.com
<b>Ministers</b>	Rev Edward Sakwe (CC)	0113 4147602 revsakwe@yahoo.co.uk
	Rev Nicola Robinson (CC)	07572 986305 revnicola.robinson@gmail.com
	Rev Becki Stennett (Colton)	0113 2872412 becki.stennett@methodist.org.uk