

# UPPER EDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

## Newsletter

Dewsbury Rd, Rastrick, HD6 3QD



[www.uebc.org.uk](http://www.uebc.org.uk)



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O God

Times of change and transition can be so unsettling.

How easily I get used to my routines.

How quickly I gain a false sense of security in my "comfort zones."

I like to think of myself as a person comfortable with change.

But the truth is that I struggle with change just as much as anyone.

And it doesn't take much for me to feel off-balance.

The truth is that I am afraid of change. Even good change can be seen a threat to my safety.

Because the unknown is fraught with danger, even when I'm being led to something bigger, better, or brighter.

With change, there's an inevitable period of mourning.

I mourn the loss of the routines I didn't know I'd grown so fond of.

I mourn the loss of the sense of security that comes with predictability.

I mourn the friendships that may wither, no matter how hard I try to keep them going.

But as I take step after step into the unknown, I believe that you are the very ground on which I stand.

As long as I can remember this, I have nothing to fear.

So I will step into the unknown as fearlessly and joyfully as I dare, knowing that you will keep me grounded and will not let me fall.

*Amen*



A hearing loop is  
installed in church.



DECEMBER 2023 & JANUARY 2024





Upper Edge Baptist Church  
126 Dewsbury Rd  
Rastrick  
Brighouse  
HD6 3QD

Greetings Everyone,

Have you ever thought about why the cash that you sometimes receive when you have been shopping is called change?

As a young person did you ever go shopping for say a parent by yourself or with friends? You might have been given a pound coin – or for some of us a pound note – and when you got home with the shopping you were asked for the change. So why the word ‘change’? I suppose it came about because your original amount of money had now changed and become less, perhaps only 25p (or 2s 6d) now. Will this meaning of the word ‘change’ still be around in years to come as people use cards far more and there is no change.

Of course another meaning of the word change which is familiar to us is the one which means that things are no longer as they were and something new is in their place. This can be very difficult to deal with when we really don’t like what has happened. In my case it is having to accept that the 10m tall pole which has appeared outside my house is there to stay whether I like it or not.

At Christmas time many people like to uphold family traditions and whilst these are mainly times of great joy and celebration

they can also be tinged with sadness as possibly there will be an empty chair now.

How do you cope with change? How can you help others to cope?

“As one person I cannot change the world, but I can change the world of one person.” *(Paul Shane Spear)*

After Christmas, as we enter the New Year, this church will undergo some changes because we welcome Mr Daryll Hackett our half time Pioneer leader who will be an agent of change. He will look at how we do everything and work out how to develop all that is best and most stimulating and will bring with him the wind of change as the Holy Spirit did at Pentecost.

When Daryll first came to preach for us more than 4 years ago, he certainly shook us out of any complacency.

How many preachers would perform on the high beam as they recount the Easter story, or throw little umbrellas to people to hold off imaginary rain?

This preacher does things differently. Some wise people said to me ‘He is just what we need!’

When Jesus comes as Living Lord into people’s lives there will inevitably be changes. May we be open and willing to welcome the invitation to fresh ways of living and sharing our faith.

Love from Anne and Louise



## DECEMBER

Saturday 2nd

Decorate Church and Hall

Sunday 3rd

1st in ADVENT TOY and TIN Service

10.30am

Morning Worship led by the deacons and friends  
'Preparing for Change'

Monday 4th

7.00pm

Beer and Banter for men @ The Four Sons 'Mission to Africa' by Graham Wilford

Wednesday 6th

10.00am

Time To Reflect

Sunday 10th

2nd in ADVENT

10.30am

Morning Worship including Communion led by Mr Julian Dowson

6.30pm

Carols at The Rock Tavern Upper Edge

**Names for Christmas lunch on the 13th – by TODAY please**

Wednesday 13th

10.00am

Time To Reflect

12.15 for 12.30pm

Christmas Lunch

7.00pm

Overgate Hospice Concert

Saturday 16th

8.30am

Men's Breakfast @ Toby Carvery, Ainley Top

Sunday 17th

3rd in ADVENT

10.30am

Christingle Service for all ages led by Mrs Lorraine Tatham and the Young Church

Wednesday 20th

10.00am

Time To Reflect

Sunday 24th

4th in ADVENT

10.30am

Morning Worship – Carols and Readings led by Rev Louise and Mr Paul Armitage

Monday 25th

CHRISTMAS DAY

10.30am – 11.00am

Short Family Service led by Mr Simon Thompson

Sunday 31st

New Year's Eve

10.30am

Morning Worship – Reflections



## JANUARY 2024

Wednesday 3rd

10.00am

Time To Reflect

Sunday 7th

10.30am

Morning Worship

**Names for lunch on the 10th – by TODAY please**

Monday 8th

7.00pm

Beer and Banter for men @ The Four Sons 'Tickling the Ivories' by Graham Kennedy

Tuesday 9th

7.00pm

Deacons' meeting at church

Wednesday 10th

10.00am

Time To Reflect

12.15pm for 12.30pm

Church Lunch

Sunday 14th

10.30am

Morning Worship with Communion

Wednesday 17th

10.00am

Time To Reflect

Saturday 20th

8.30am

Men's Breakfast @ Toby Carvery Ainley Top

Sunday 21st

10.30am

Morning Worship

4.00pm

Churches Together United Service at St Matthew's

Saturday 27th

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

10.00am

Time To Reflect

Sunday 28th

10.30am

Morning Worship followed by Church meeting

Wednesday 31st

10.00am

Time To Reflect

*At the time of going to press we have not got confirmation of who is leading each service.*



## News of and from the Fellowship

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Please remember that not everyone finds Christmas as exciting and joyful as they once did and may choose to spend it in their own way. Others though might welcome an invitation to your home or a friendly visit to show you care.



Just let them know that you are there for them if they need you.

Don't forget to let someone know if you would like us to pray for them.

**Father in heaven**, may we share the light and life of Jesus with others today, and always.



### Baby Congratulations

Congratulations to Laura Thompson and Sam on the birth of Benjamin Joseph Robinson who was born on Tuesday 7th November, a brother for Luke. He weighed 8lb 5oz. We look forward to seeing them in the near future.



More exciting news as we hear that Charlotte Thompson and Kyle Sharp have set the date for their wedding which is to be Saturday 3rd August 2024 at Upper Edge Baptist Church.

We hope all goes well with the planning for this happy event!



It looks like it is going to be a busy, costly but exciting time for Simon and Karen next year!



What do Santa's beard and a Christmas tree have in common?

*They both need trimming.*

## MY TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS - ANON

On the first day of Christmas my true love said to me, "I'm glad we bought fresh turkey and a proper Christmas tree".

On the second day of Christmas, much laughter could be heard as we tucked into our turkey, a most delicious bird.

On the third day we entertained the people from next door. The turkey tasted just as good as it had the day before.

Day four, relations came to stay; poor Gran is looking old. We finished up the Christmas pud and ate the turkey cold.

On the fifth day of Christmas, outside the snow flakes flurried. But we were nice and warm inside, for we had our turkey curried.

On the sixth day, I must admit, the Christmas spirit died. The children fought and bickered, we ate turkey rissoles, fried.

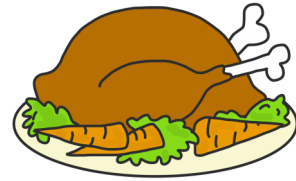
On the seventh day of Christmas, my true love he did wince, when he sat down at the table and was offered turkey mince.

Day eight, and nerves were getting frayed, the dog had run for shelter. I served up turkey pancakes, with a glass of Alka Seltzer.

On the ninth day our cat left home, by lunchtime dad was blotto. He said he had to have a drink to eat turkey risotto.

By the tenth day the booze had gone (except our homemade brew). And if that wasn't bad enough we suffered turkey stew.

On the eleventh day of Christmas, the Christmas tree was moulting. The mince pies were as hard as rock and the turkey was revolting.



On the twelfth day of Christmas, my true love had a smile upon her lips - the guests had gone, the turkey too - and we dined on fish and chips.



### What will we make of 2024?

We cannot see what lies ahead, but we can pray that we will have the courage and the faith in God to face whatever may come.

Let us pray for a year in which we can work towards peace for all people, and a better world for all to live in

Let us pray we can each do our bit to help the poor, the sick, the weary of heart, and those who grieve.

Let us pray for the strength to overcome our weaknesses

And for courage to make amends to those whom we have hurt.

A year is a long time. No doubt we will slip from these high standards at some time or another,

But surely if we try and try again, we will come through as better people.

The Bible tells us "Be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed; for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever Thou goest."



## Christmas 2

K	E	E	H	I	N	D	P	N	B	R	E	A	S
E	S	R	R	R	A	F	T	A	E	H	B	Y	B
O	E	S	D	A	I	C	H	Z	G	L	E	E	R
K	S	H	E	Y	S	P	L	A	N	E	T	O	Y
S	T	E	C	E	M	P	S	R	E	M	H	A	A
A	A	P	R	E	A	K	N	E	I	A	L	A	D
S	B	H	E	R	B	R	H	T	A	R	E	M	L
E	L	E	E	D	R	N	N	H	H	Y	H	R	D
S	E	R	G	O	L	D	M	E	E	A	E	O	A
E	D	D	O	N	K	E	Y	N	Y	Y	M	B	N
D	E	S	N	E	C	N	I	K	N	A	R	F	G
P	L	B	E	E	A	R	S	M	Y	R	R	H	E
S	M	S	Y	C	A	R	P	E	N	T	E	R	L
M	A	G	I	A	J	O	S	E	P	H	S	E	S

- DECREE
- FRANKINCENSE
- DONKEY
- MARY
- MAGI
- CARPENTER
- NAZARETH
- JOSEPH
- BETHLEHEM
- ANGELS
- STABLE
- MYRRH
- GOLD
- SHEPHERDS



Answers for HARVEST - words of 2 or more letters

Christine Lister and Dawn Swaine managed to find 74 words!! Well done!

Are Ash Art Avert Aster Ah At Earth East Ear Eat Eh Er Eta Hare Hate Have Har Ha He Heart Hear Her Has Haste Hater Hat Heat Haver Rest Rate Rat Rave Rev Rah Stare Star Shave St Set Sat Seat Sea She Shear Steer Save Saver Shar Starve Tea Tare Tear Tar The Te Ta Trash Vest Vet Vase Vast Vesta Vat Aver Avet Era Resat Sate Sear Share Taser Tsar Veta

So for this newsletter I have chosen the word CHRISTMAS. The target this time is 50 or more.

This good practice for those who will be playing Scrabble over the holiday period!!

**Christmas carols** are based on Christian lyrics and relate, in the main, to the Nativity. Christmas carols were introduced into church services by St Francis of Assisi in the 12<sup>th</sup> century.

As for the word carols, “carol” is a derivative of the French word caroller, the interpretation of which means dancing around in a circle. Carol and carols, eventually came to mean not only to dance but included music and lyrics – hence Christmas carolling.

Today Christmas songs and carols are also fast becoming a tradition.

"Silent Night" is about a calm and bright silent night, and the wonder of a tender and mild newborn child, words written in 1816 by a young priest in Austria, Joseph Mohr, not long after the Napoleonic wars had taken their toll.

It was Christmas Eve, 1818, when the now-famous carol was first performed as ***Stille Nacht Heilige Nacht***. Joseph Mohr, the young priest who wrote the lyrics, played the guitar and sang along with Franz Xaver Gruber, the choir director who had written the melody.

The composition evolved, and was translated into over 300 languages with many different arrangements for various voices and ensembles. It was sung in churches, in town squares, even on the battlefield during World War I, when, during a temporary truce on Christmas Eve, soldiers sang carols from home. "Silent Night," by 1914, known around the world, was sung simultaneously in French, German and English.

Today, The Stille Nacht Gesellschaft - Silent Night Society promotes the use of all six verses (usually only 3 are sung), which in the words of Silent Night Society president "[encourage] peace and [demand] responsibility for the globe."

## Silent Night

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright.  
'Round yon Virgin Mother and Child, Holy Infant  
so tender and mild.  
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.



Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight!  
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!  
Christ, the Saviour is born, Christ, the Saviour is born.

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light.  
Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace.  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.



### Advance Notice for 2024

**PIE & PEAS supper served from 6.30pm**

Followed by a **Slide Show and Talk on**

**@ 7.30pm on Wednesday February 21st 2024**

**"By Bike and Bullet train in Japan"**

- their latest adventure

**By Ken and Anne Inwood**

Upper Edge Baptist Church, Rastrick



### The three stages of a man's life:

1. He believes in Santa Claus;
2. He doesn't believe in Santa Claus;
3. He is Santa Claus.



A four-year-old boy was asked to give thanks before Christmas dinner. The family members bowed their heads in expectation. He began his prayer, thanking God for all his friends, naming them one by one. Then he thanked God for Mummy, Daddy, brother, sister, Grandma, Grandpa and all his aunts and uncles. Then he began to thank God for the food.

He gave thanks for the turkey, the dressing, the fruit salad, the cranberry sauce, the pies, the cakes, even the Cool Whip. Then he paused, and everyone waited — and waited. After a long silence, the young fellow looked up at his mother and asked, “If I thank God for the Brussels sprouts, won’t he know that I am lying?”



As a little girl climbed onto Santa’s lap, Santa asked the usual:

“And what would you like for Christmas?”

The child stared at him open mouthed and horrified for a minute, then gasped: “Didn’t you get my email?”



I stopped believing in Santa Claus when I was six. Mother took me to see him in a department store and he asked for my autograph.

**Shirley Temple**

It was the week before Christmas. Parking spaces were hard to come by. There were long lines, crowded stores, rude people and grossly inflated prices. In one long check out line, a man was heard to say, “They should kill the guy that started Christmas.”



One wise and godly woman in the line said, “They did - they hung him on a cross.”

Therein lies the REAL Christmas story.

### What’s on and when in the church hall

Tuesday	Stitch group	Fortnightly 10.00am - 3.00pm
Wednesday	Time To Reflect Lunch	10.00am – 11.00am 12.30pm (2nd Wed in the month for the community)
Thursday	Table Tennis	2.00pm - 4.00pm
Friday	Line Dancing	10.15am – 11.30am (coffee, tea and biscuits after)
Saturday	Creative Edge Bound To Be Good	10.00am – 4.00pm (3rd Sat in the month) Quarterly + November



### BIRTHDAY GREETINGS in



#### DECEMBER

#### JANUARY



Mary Green	9th	Ann Gilmore	1st
Allan Hainsworth	22nd	Louise Armitage	14th
Esther Church	26th	Allan Wolfenden	21st
Karen Thompson	30th	Lorraine Tatham	27th



Why does Santa Claus go down the chimney on Christmas Eve?

*Because it 'soots' him.*

May we pray for the people of Ukraine, Russia, Gaza and Israel in whatever way we are able and remember them daily in our prayers.



# Christmas Concert

for

## Overgate Hospice

At Upper Edge Baptist Church, Rastrick

Wednesday December 13th 2023

at 7pm



10th Dec - 6.30pm Carols at The Rock Tavern

13th Dec - 12.30pm Church Christmas lunch

- 7.00pm Concert for Overgate

17th Dec - 10.30am Christingle Service for all ages

24th Dec - 10.30am Christmas Readings and Carols

25th Dec - 10.30am Short Family Service

### Poppy display

What a wonderful spectacle hit our eyes as we came to church in early November and saw this wonderful display of hand crafted work. There was a total of 226 poppies alone on the rails of which 8 were white and 2 were purple. The big tree in the rockery on the left was covered too with a few hundred glorious red poppies.

There were also 3 rings with approximately 15 to 20 poppies on

Our grateful thanks to Christine Lister, Joyce Kaye, Ann Gilmore, Christine Sunderland and of course the chief ideas leader Dawn Swaine. Dawn even had a friend in Scotland who offered to crochet or knit some for us.

We have received some lovely encouraging comments from passers by. We hope you have been able to see the results yourselves.



A little boy and girl were singing their favourite Christmas carol, "Silent night". The boy concluded the rendition with the words, "Sleep in heavenly beans". His sister quickly corrected him: "It's not beans, it's peas."



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