



# Ackworth Community Church News Letter

[www.ackworthcommunitychurch.co.uk](http://www.ackworthcommunitychurch.co.uk)

Issue 232  
November 2024

Contact:  
Church Leader

Michael Bellamy  
07955657773



---

## What's Happening This Month

Michael's Letter - Pages 2&3  
Healing Ministry Team - Page 4  
God of Grace - Page 5  
Hello - Pages 6&7  
Verse of the Month - Page 8  
Bible Quiz - Page 9  
Praying for Ackworth - Pages  
10&11  
No Substitutions - Pages 12&13

Book Review - Page 14  
Coming Events for November - Page  
15  
Information Exchange - Page 16  
Coming Events for December - Page  
17  
Small Group Meetings - Page 18  
Preaching Rota - Page 19  
Prayer Diary - Page 20



## Michael's Letter

*...and do this, understanding the present time: the hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.*

*Romans 13:11*

Snooze, you lose...

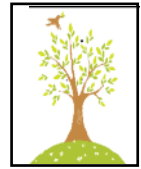


As you get older, you do tend to enjoy a slower pace – don't you think? Be encouraged then, that you can still challenge yourself and do more at any age. Take Julia 'Hurricane' Hawkins. She broke the record for her age category in the 100m sprint with a time of 62 seconds. Now that may not seem impressive. I mean, Usain Bolt can do it in less than 10. But then, Julia was 105 years old when she ran it. At the end of the race, her take away thought for the rest of us was 'stay healthy and keep running'.

In Hebrews 12:1-2, the writer exhorts us to run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus. But I know that the older I get, the more I gravitate towards comfort and not effort. 'You snooze, you lose', they say. And it really is easy to snooze through life and find weeks months and years have simply gone by.

For me, I know that I need to maintain disciplines in my life. Physically, I need to keep up at least 3 runs a week. Spiritually, I need to discipline myself by maintaining my time with the word and prayer each day. I find the Nicky Gumbell Bible in One year, gives me 3 convenient Bible readings I can maintain morning, afternoon and evening. A good practice in the evening is to pray the examen. It is a form of prayer founded by Ignatius of Loyola – a 16<sup>th</sup> century priest and founder of the Jesuits. The idea is to prayerfully review your day with God, seeing where God has been present, listening to Him, allowing Him to bring to light things about yourself and look ahead to the day to come.

Now none of that may suit you and some of you may think it smacks of religiosity. For me, I know I need to discipline myself because if I don't I will



snooze through life and miss God and all He has for me to do. Too much snoozing will stunt my growth – and I’m already in deficit in that department! Jesus calls us to take up our cross and follow Him. He calls us to action, to get involved. So to be prepared, you need some spiritual exercise – you need to find your rhythm. What does your rhythm of life with God look like now?

There are things already that are or could become part of your rhythm, such as the weekly Bible Study or the prayer meeting. I will be introducing a weekday prayer meeting I’m calling ‘power prayer’, where we will be praying for a move of the Holy Spirit in us, in our church and in our community. I hope that will become part of your rhythm. If the examen interests you, I will be recording one to post online shortly, with others to follow. Christmas is fast upon us, but there will be new things in 2025, which may become part of your rhythm.

For some time, God has been prompting me that His church is too comfortable (that’s the church as a whole in this country). We need to wake up from our slumber, because as Paul says, our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. We don’t want to lie in bed dosing until the last minute. We need to be up and about. Many of us sense the time is near and we don’t want Jesus to find us sleeping. So, we need to get up and get involved.

It takes effort to get out and run, when you don’t feel full of vigour. Sometimes the legs feel so heavy and the thought of stopping is so appealing. But I have never regretted going for a run and I always feel so much better at the end of it. The same applies with my spiritual disciplines. So find your rhythm and run with it. Join with others if it helps for mutual encouragement. It will certainly do you good!

Every blessing

Michael



## Healing Ministry Team

If you would like to receive ministry and prayer for healing, please contact Alyn or Carole who will arrange for members of the ministry team to come and wait on the Lord and pray with you. The healing ministry team are: Michael, Helen, Alyn, Carole, Brenda, Denise, Jacque, Dot & Ash.

---

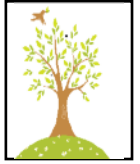
### Birthday Celebrations

11<sup>th</sup> November - Jacque

17<sup>th</sup> November - Matt

22<sup>nd</sup> November - Hannah

**A Very Happy Birthday From Everyone At  
Ackworth Community Church**



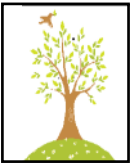
## God of Grace

God of grace I turn my face to You,  
I cannot hide  
My nakedness, my shame, my guilt,  
are all before Your eyes.

Striving and all anguished dreams  
in rags lie at my feet  
And only grace provides the way for me to stand  
complete.

And Your grace clothes me in righteousness  
And Your mercy covers me in love  
Your life adorns and beautifies  
I stand complete in You.

Chris Bowater



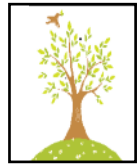
## Hello to the most esteemed and wonderful Church in Ackworth.

First of all, our family would like to congratulate you on the Church's birthday and wish you spiritual growth and God's presence in all the wonderful things you are doing.

It's been over a month since we had the pleasure of fellowshiping with you. You may not remember us, as we were rather quiet and not too noticeable, but we certainly cannot forget you! It was with you that we received a boost in spirit during some of our happiest church moments. I still remember the joyful face and smile of my guitar after each service – it meant so much to me. Worshiping God together with Sue, Ady, and Cheryl was an incredible blessing for it. But no worries now, my guitar is in good hands and living with the best friends we've ever had while we settle in our new place.

Now, just a few words about less important things, like our family. We've been in the U.S. for more than three weeks, and thanks to God, we've already gotten most of the necessary documents (I'll be honest – the American dream quickly fades after you leave the airport and start navigating through paperwork!). With God's help, we've managed to find a lovely apartment in a quiet, peaceful area. All that's left is finding a job, and we trust that God will lead us to a place where we will be the happiest. We see His mighty hand guiding us through every challenge and giving us hope that soon we'll be able to meet again, share a big hug, and exchange the love that never fails, because our God is the God of love and eternity.

In the early days of our search for a new church (and let me tell you, most of them here are so huge they feel like Mega corporations – we actually got lost once, trying to find our way out!), we were a little disheartened because we couldn't find people quite like you. But the Americans have turned out to be very



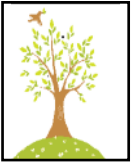
friendly. We've started attending a church in Raleigh where we've found some new friends. To our surprise, six months ago, the First Ukrainian Evangelical Church was established there, which we've also been attending. The people there are wonderful, and we are so grateful to God for the opportunity to worship in our native Ukrainian language.

In closing, dear friends, we are so happy that we can share in fellowship, even though there is an entire ocean between us. God's love truly unites us all, and you will always be in our hearts and thoughts.

Overall, we're doing well! By the way, Alyn asked us not to mention the weather... so we won't say anything about the endless sunny days or the warm, beautiful 25°C weather we're still enjoying. We wouldn't want to upset you, after all! :)

With our warmest regards,

Dmytro, Nataliia and Mr. Denys



## Verse of the Month...

*'Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.'*

*Col 3:12*

Reading Scripture, or learning scripture only has purpose if we put what we learn into practice. Memorising Scripture might serve as brain training and be useful in that sense, but unless that Scripture informs how you live it is little more. Scripture memorisation is wonderful when the Holy Spirit brings it to mind at just that right moment to share with someone or inform your prayer, decisions or attitudes.

So this month take this Scripture, memorise it, or keep reading it and reflecting upon it over the month and see the ways Lord uses it to help, encourage and shape how you relate and respond to others. You could write it on a slip of paper and put it in your purse or wallet or leave yourself a note on your phone.

Why not also read the following verses (13-14) too?

'Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity'.

May God bless His word to you that you may be a blessing to others.

Much love in Him

Michael.





# Bible Quiz

**Question 1.** Of what wood was Noah's Ark made?

- A. Gopher wood
- B. Acacia wood
- C. Cedar of Lebanon
- D. Carob wood

**Question 2.** How did Paul escape Damascus when the Jews were trying to kill him?

- A. An earthquake created the means of escape
- B. An angel lifted him out
- C. He was let down from the city walls in a basket
- D. Silas came to his rescue

**Question 3.** What was our Saviour's last command to his disciples?

- A. Help widows and orphans
- B. Love others
- C. Honour the Sabbath
- D. Make disciples of all the nations and baptize them

**Question 4.**

What was the first miracle performed by Jesus?

- A. Healing of the blind man
- B. Feeding of the five thousand
- C. Water turned to wine
- D. Jesus walking on water

**Question 5.**

What woman continued in prayer day and night in the temple?

- A. Drusilla
- B. Anna
- C. Mary
- D. Lydia

**Question 6.**

Who was compelled to bear the cross of Christ to the place of crucifixion?

- A. Simon
- B. Joseph
- C. John
- D. Peter



## Praying for Ackworth – North, South, West and East

During a recent prayer meeting when we were praying for revival,  
God spoke to us from Isaiah 43: 5-7

- <sup>5</sup> Do not be afraid, for I am with you;  
I will bring your children from the east  
and gather you from the west.
- <sup>6</sup> I will say to the north, 'Give them up!'  
and to the south, 'Do not hold them back.'  
Bring my sons from afar  
and my daughters from the ends of the earth—
- <sup>7</sup> everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made."

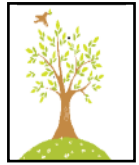
At the same time, we were led to sing the song 'Men of faith rise up and sing', which has a chorus:

Shout to the North and the South  
Sing to the East and the West  
Jesus is saviour to all  
Lord of heaven and earth

Let us take up what the Lord is saying to us and pray for Ackworth. The prayer map on the opposite page may help you in praying for different areas, there are probably more to add, please let me know.

To get the directions, if you want to pray facing the right way, from the Parish Rooms, Pontefract is to the North, Barnsley to the South, Doncaster is East and Wakefield West.

Alyn.



# Praying for Ackworth – North, South, West and East

## **NORTH**

High Ackworth  
Low Ackworth  
Mount Pleasant  
Hillside  
Bell Lane

## **WEST**

Holly Bank  
Hayfield Estate  
Strata Estate  
Bracken Hill  
Moortop

## **PARISH ROOMS**

## **EAST**

Doncaster Road  
Doncaster Road Estate  
Mill Lane Area

## **SOUTH**

Charlestown  
Orchard Drive  
Howard Drive  
Rhyddings Estate  
Chiltern Drive

Please pray for:

## **Churches Together**

St. Cuthberts  
Quakers  
Methodists  
All Saints

## **Schools**

Howard School  
Quaker School  
Mill Dam School  
Bell Lane School  
Oakfield Park School



## No Substitutions

*Those who live in the shelter of the Most High will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty. (Psalm 91:1 NLT).*

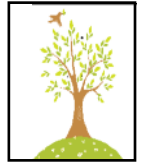
There are different words we use to describe people that indicate their relationship to us. For example, we describe family members as husbands, wives, sons, and daughters. And if someone is our teacher or pastor or doctor, we might describe them by their vocations.

In Psalm 91, we find an interesting presentation of the nature and character of God. In fact, the psalmist begins by giving us four different pictures of God, four different words to describe the Lord. And each one gives us a different glimpse into who He is.

Verse 1 says, “Those who live in the shelter of the Most High will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty” (NLT). The Hebrew word translated “Most High” is Elohim, which speaks of God as the One who possesses everything. It’s a reminder that God owns and possesses all.

Then the psalmist referred to God as “the Almighty,” which originates from the Hebrew word Shaddai. The thought here is that of provision. While it’s wonderful to know that God owns everything, it’s also wonderful to know that He wants to provide for us. He is not only the living God but also the giving God.

In verse 2, the Psalmist wrote, “This I declare about the Lord: He alone is my refuge, my place of safety; he is my God, and I trust him” (NLT). “The Lord” is translated from the Hebrew word Jehovah. This is the word God gave to His own people, the Jews, which speaks of the covenant that He had established with them. He made promises to them that He intends to keep.



Also, in verse 2 we find the word “God,” which is from the Hebrew word Elohim. This term is plural. There are three members of the Trinity: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

When we put it all together, the psalmist is telling us that the all-knowing, all-powerful God who possesses Heaven and earth is in a special covenant with you and wants to provide for your needs and protection.

Among the promises contained in this great psalm, God promises that He will deliver us, protect us, answer our prayers, and be with us in times of trouble. However, there are several times in Psalm 91 where the writer gives a condition, and then the promises follow.

For example, verse 1 says, “Those who live in the shelter of the Most High will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty” (NLT). The Hebrew word translated “live” speaks of resting and remaining with consistency.

Essentially God is saying, “I don’t merely want a relationship with you; I want fellowship with you. I want you to be near Me and remain consistently in My presence.”

Sometimes as believers we substitute work for worship. We are so busy doing Christian things with Christian people in the Christian church that we forget about Christ. And then one day we’re suddenly feeling overwhelmed and burned out.

There is a time for work. And thank God for everyone who does work. Yet the best work always will overflow from a life of worship. It can never take the place of it.

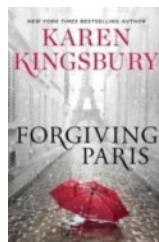


Book  
Review  
by:

www.eden.  
co.uk

## Forgiving Paris

£11.65



In Indiana, Ashley Baxter Blake and her husband are about to take an anniversary trip to Paris, where a French gallery will show her paintings. But Ashley is hesitant. More than two decades ago, she made her most grievous mistake in Paris. She has never forgiven herself for what happened there, and she still harbors secrets that she's afraid will come to light. Just before the trip, Ashley gets a call from her niece. Jessie explains that her boyfriend's mother remembers working at a bakery with an American named Ashley. "Could that be you?"

When Alice and Ashley meet, a flood of memories comes for both women, taking Ashley back to a reckless affair and an unexpected pregnancy and Alice to the night she nearly ended it all. Can this reunion bring healing and closure? Maybe it is finally time for Ashley to forgive herself...and Paris.

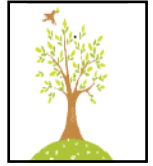


## The Seaside Homecoming

£13.96

Disgraced eldest sister Claire Summers has been living in exile as companion to a stern great-aunt in Scotland. About to lose her place and longing to be reconciled with her estranged family, Claire sees an advertisement from someone looking for a "respectable female partner" in a Sidmouth boarding house. Is it a sign? She answers the ad, hoping she has not made another reckless mistake. When she meets the handsome, secretive proprietor, she wonders what he's hiding and if he's any more trustworthy than the nobleman who betrayed her years ago. Claire is drawn to him even though she fears he will reject her when he discovers her genteel façade hides a less-than-respectable past.

Meanwhile, the Summers family learns their great-aunt has died and Claire has disappeared without a word. The sisters rally together to find their lost sibling, but will their unexpected reunion heal old wounds and rekindle their bonds . . . or deepen the divide?



## Coming Events for November

---

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November

Toddler Group re-starts.

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November

All articles for the News Letter must be received by Lisa.

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November

Christmas Lights switch on at All Saints Church.



## The Information Exchange

This is a place where you can request prayer for yourself or others, share your need /request for help, exchange surplus goods, or if you have some spare time, help someone with gardening, housework, shopping etc. You can use this section also if you want to say anything to the Church. Just ask Lisa to place your request.

---

### Remember to Recycle

Please remember to recycle your empty Ink Cartridges. (HP, Cannon, Lexmark, Dell) and Stamps. Lisa is collecting them, each item donated will raise money for a Charity.

---

### Christmas Meal at The White Horse Charlston

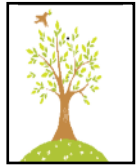
The Christmas Meal at The White Horse will be on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 6.30pm. The menu will be available soon. Please see Lisa if you would like to go.

---

### Bible Quiz Answers

- Q1. **A.** Gopher Wood (Gen 6:14)
- Q2. **C.** He was let down from the city walls in a basket (Acts 9:25)
- Q3. **D.** Make disciples of all the nations and baptize them (Matt 28:19)
- Q4. **C.** Water turned to wine (John 2:1)
- Q5. **B.** Anna (Luke 2:36)
- Q6. **A.** Simon (Mark 15:21)

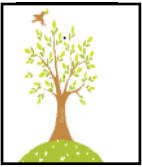




## Coming Events for December

---

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December   | 6.30pm Christmas Meal at The White Horse Charlston.                                     |
| Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> December | 12 noon Carol Singing at the Co-op.   |
| Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> December   | 4pm-6pm Christingle Service at The Parish Rooms. <b>Please Note NO Morning Service.</b> |
| Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> December  | 3pm Village Carol Service at St Cuthberts.  |
| Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December  | All articles for the News Letter must be received by Lisa.                              |
| Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December  | Carol / Nativity Service.   |



## Small Group Meetings

Do get involved in a mid-week group and let us know which one you're hoping to be part of.

---

### **Alpha Groups**

There will be no post alpha groups during November.

---

### **Thursday Lunch Group led by Denise**

Meet on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November, Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November, Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November & Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November at Dot's house - Midday. **Continuing in 1 Peter.**

---

### **Thursday Evening Group led by Alyn (Zoom 8pm)**

Meet on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November, Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November, Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November & Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November. **Continuing in Revelation.**

---

**Sunday Evening Prayer Meeting** at 6pm, venue to be announced.



## Prayer Diary

Please pray for each other.

If you would like to be on the prayer list please let Lisa know.

| Mon                        | Tue                                  | Wed   | Thu                     | Fri  | Sat                    | Sun                                |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|--|------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                            |                                      |   |                         | 1<br>Dot                                     | 2<br>Kevin &<br>Jeanie | 3<br>John &<br>Lilian              |
| 4<br>Brian &<br>Linda      | 5<br>Dimytro,<br>Natalia<br>& Denys  | 6<br>Amanda                                       | 7<br>Michael &<br>Helen | 8<br>Matt,<br>Cheryl,<br>Oscar &<br>Georgina | 9<br>May               | 10<br>John &<br>Pat                |
| 11<br>Denise               | 12<br>Neill, Sue,<br>Grace &<br>Hope | 13<br>Joel &<br>Holly                             | 14<br>Jacquie           | 15<br>Ash, Di.<br>&<br>Ceryws                | 16<br>Stan &<br>Moiria | 17<br>Tony,<br>Jilly &<br>Family's |
| 18<br>Julian &<br>Valerie  | 19<br>Lisa                           | 20<br>Anne-<br>Marie<br>&<br>Alison               | 21<br>Neil &<br>Eileen  | 22<br>Brenda                                 | 23<br>Adrian &<br>Anne | 24<br>Maryna                       |
| 25<br>Julian &<br>Caroline | 26<br>Alyn &<br>Carole               | 27<br>Andrew,<br>Kimberley,<br>Hannah &<br>Joanna | 28<br>Ann               | 29<br>Joan A<br>James                        | 30<br>Elders           |                                    |