



Ackworth Community Church
News Letter
www.ackworthcommunitychurch.co.uk

Issue 204
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Ash's Letter

But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?" He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid." – Genesis 3: 9

It was lovely recently to have the visit of Bishop Ken Clarke, who came and ministered to us over a weekend in May. During that visit Ken spoke to the church on Saturday evening and then again on the Sunday morning and the Elders were also able to spend time talking to him on the Saturday afternoon, getting his wisdom on a couple of important issues. It was the first time Ken has been able to visit us since October 2019 and it had the feeling of another positive step in the process of rebuilding post pandemic.

During his time with the Elders, Ken was reflecting on church life after the pandemic and he gave us some insightful questions to consider as we think about where we find ourselves now as a church. The first of the questions he posed was the first question that God asked in the Bible. It is in the verse quoted above, where God calls out to Adam "Where are you?"

This is directly after the fall, when Adam and Eve had eaten from the forbidden fruit and it wasn't that God had suddenly lost Adam and Eve and couldn't find them physically, he knew full well where they were, however in another sense he had lost Adam and Eve and their relationship had been gravely damaged by their turning away from God and towards doing their own thing. So the question "where are you?" was a sad one and perhaps was intended for Adam and Eve to reflect on their choice, on what had happened and the damage that had been done. It was a direct question that required an honest answer.

For us, as we reflect on the question where are you? It might not be quite as sad as it was for Adam and Eve. It is good from time to time to stop, to take stock, to see how far we have come and to give an honest assessment on where we are as we walk with the Lord.



A good follow up question for us each to ask is am I moving closer towards the Lord or am I walking away from him? Again, let's be honest in our answer. Perhaps at the moment, you are enjoying a close and intimate walk with the Lord and feel you are gradually moving forward. If so, great, keep pressing on. Equally, you might feel as though things are a bit more of a struggle and you need a fresh touch and anointing of the Holy Spirit, if so, ask Him to fill you afresh and to re-charge your spiritual batteries.

It is also a good question for us to ask as a church, where are we? As I've said on a few occasions, the rebuilding process post pandemic hasn't been easy and it's taken a bit of adjusting to accept where we are now as opposed to where we were a couple of years ago. However, there are signs of the rebuilding taking place. I heard a comment about the queen during the recent platinum jubilee celebrations that described the way that during her reign she had been very good at taking small steps towards change. Let's keep on praying that we too might find the next step, then the next step that the Lord would have us to take as we move forward.

Ash.

Prayer and Pastoral Support

Just a reminder that should a need arise; there are a couple of means of support available. Firstly, there is prayer support, so if you contact Ash or any of the elders with a prayer request then they can circulate it to people through e-mail and word of mouth.

Also, there is pastoral support, so again you could contact Ash, Tony, Neill, Alyn or Denise and they will arrange some appropriate help where possible.



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: Alyn and Carole, Brenda, Denise, Jacquie, Catherine, Dot & Ash.

Birthday Celebrations

3rd July - Steven

23rd July - Hope

23rd July - Lilian

24th July - Dot

24th July - Jeff

26th July - Joan B

27th July - Anne-Marie

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



Hi Everyone!

Thank you so much for your prayers for us, the wedding day was a great occasion and we had a lovely honeymoon on the Isle of Wight. Now we are at home and adjusting to life together, and both working from the same location. We value your prayers for the on-going adjustments in both our lives. We wanted to say a big THANK YOU for the card you gave me, and the generous gift from the church towards our new life together. Our new address is below.

We are looking forward to seeing you for the weekend of Joel & Holly's wedding.

Much love to you all! Tony & Jilly

*Upper Flat,
281 Belle Vue Road,
Southbourne,
BH6 3BB
Dorset
07434610586*



Passing on the Baton

When I left university at the age of twenty-one, I moved to London and was looking for a church to join. I visited HTB and heard Sandy Millar speak. Afterwards, I asked if I could meet with him. Soon after, I joined the church and began to learn from this extraordinary leader, friend and role model.

After several years as a member of the congregation, I went on to train for ordination in the Church of England and ten years after our first meeting I returned to HTB as Sandy Millar's assistant minister. I continued in that role for nineteen years until 2005 when he passed on the baton to me, and I succeeded him as vicar of HTB. To this day, Sandy continues to be my role model, friend and inspiration.

There have always been people in my life from whom I am learning and others to whom I am trying to pass it on. Like runners in a relay race, we all have a responsibility to pass on the baton.

Psalm 78:1-8

A maskil of Asaph.

- 1 My people, hear my teaching;
listen to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth with a parable;
I will utter hidden things, things from of old—
- 3 things we have heard and known,
things our ancestors have told us.
- 4 We will not hide them from their descendants;
we will tell the next generation
the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord,
his power, and the wonders he has done.
- 5 He decreed statutes for Jacob
and established the law in Israel,
which he commanded our ancestors
to teach their children,



- 6 so the next generation would know them,
even the children yet to be born,
and they in turn would tell their children.
7 Then they would put their trust in God
and would not forget his deeds
but would keep his commands.
8 They would not be like their ancestors —
a stubborn and rebellious generation,
whose hearts were not loyal to God,
whose spirits were not faithful to him.

You have a story to tell. Every family has stories. Every church has its own stories of what God has done. Every Christian has a story – a testimony. All of us have access to the great story of what God has done in Christ. We have to ‘tell the stories’ (v.6, MSG).

This psalm gives us a sketch of Hebrew history leading up to King David and stresses the importance of passing it on to the next generation. We see a contrast between the sins of Israel and the goodness of God. Jesus himself quoted this psalm (Matthew 13:35).

The psalmist says, ‘We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done... to teach their children, so that the next generation would know them... and they in turn would tell their children. Then they would put their trust in God’ (Psalm 78:4–7).

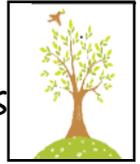
Juan Carlos Ortiz tells the story of meeting an old lady in his native Argentina who introduced him to a young girl, who was one of her great-grandchildren. She went on to tell that she had six children and thirty-six grandchildren. Her family was impressive in number and among her grandchildren were many well-educated and professional people. Carlos asked her, ‘How did you manage to produce such a large, well-fed, well-dressed, well-educated extended family?’ She replied, ‘I didn’t. I just took care of the six. And each of them took care of their six.’



Each generation has a responsibility to tell the next one about the goodness of God and to warn them of the mess that we make of our lives when we turn away from God's goodness.

Lord, thank you for those who told us about 'the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has

nickygumblebibleinoneyear.org



My heart is filled with thankfulness

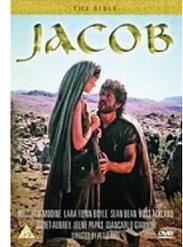
*My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who bore my pain;
Who plumbed the depths of my disgrace
And gave me life again.
Who crushed my curse of sinfulness,
And clothed me with His light,
And wrote His law of righteousness
With power upon my heart.*

*My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who walks beside;
Who floods my weaknesses with strength
And causes fears to fly;
Whose every promise is enough
For every step I take,
Sustaining me with arms of love
And crowning me with grace.*

*My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who reigns above;
Whose wisdom is my perfect peace,
Whose every thought is love.
For every day I have on earth
Is given by the King.
So I will give my life, my all,
To love and follow Him.*



DVD Review by:	www.eden. co.uk
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The Bible Series - Jacob DVD £9.98

The story follows the conflict between two of the most famous biblical brothers, Jacob and Esau, as they fight for their father's affection and inheritance. Matthew Modine heads a strong cast which includes Sean Bean as Esau, Lara Flynn Boyle and Joss Ackland .



Return to the Hiding Place DVD £11.00

The Nazi regime is spreading through Europe, putting the lives of millions at risk whilst Corrie ten Boom, Holland's first ever licensed female watchmaker, leads a secret resistance made of university students who work together to save the lives of hundreds of Jews.

Entering into this army are Piet Hartog and Hans Poley, two bright, young resistance fighters who reject Nazism and go into hiding with ten Boom.

Appalled by the horrors the two see at the hands of the German soldiers, they help ten Boom with her dangerous Exodus of persecuted Jews under the noses of their enemies. Risking their lives for complete strangers, the two men learn what differences a small group can make, and the importance of being willing to sacrifice everything.



Coming Events for July

Monday 18th July

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

Saturday 23rd July

Joel & Holly's wedding: The service will be online from 11am.



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, Canon, Lexmark, Dell) and Stamps. Lisa is collecting them, each item donated will raise money for a Charity.

I am not collecting CD's or DVD's anymore.
If you would like to take these items to a Charity shop they would gratefully receive them.



Coming Events for August

Monday 15th August

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



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 led by Ash (on Zoom)

New Post Alpha

Meet on Tuesday 5th July - 7.30pm.

Old Post Alpha

Meet on Tuesday 12th July - 7.30pm.

Thursday Lunch Group led by Denise

Meet on Thursday 7th July, Thursday 14th July, Thursday 21st July, Thursday 28th July. Midday at John & Lilian's.

Thursday Evening Group led by Alyn (on Zoom)

Meet on Thursday 7th July, Thursday 14th July, Thursday 21st July, Thursday 28th July at 8pm.

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



Worship, Preaching, Projection, Music and Children's Rota

Date	Time	Theme	Worship	Preaching	Projection	Music	Sunday School	Creche
03-Jul	10.30am	Simply Jesus / Communion	Ash	Ash	Lisa	Worship Group	No Sunday School	No Creche
10-Jul	10.30am	Luke 17	Sue	Ash	Lisa	Worship Group	Sunday School Di	Creche Cheryl
17-July	10.30am	Luke 18	Ash	Ash	Lisa	Worship Group	Sunday School Holly / Jacquie	Creche Sue
24-July	10.30am	Free Topic	Sue	Tony	Lisa	Worship Group	Sunday School Carole	Creche Val
31-July	10.30am	Free Topic	Alyn	Alyn	Lisa	Worship Group	No Sunday School	No Creche

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 Alyn & Carole	2 Kevin & Jeanie	3 John & Lilian
4 Julian & Valerie	5 Neil & Eileen	6 Neill, Sue, Grace & Hope	7 Brenda Joan B	8 Brian & Linda	9 Joan A James	10 Owen & Vickie
11 Denise Lisa	12 Matt, Cheryl, Oscar & Georgina	13 Andy, Sue & Rachel	14 Jacquie Vera	15 Kate & Family	16 Anne- Marie & Alison	17 Andrew, Kimberley, Hannah & Joanna
18 Dayo, Anu, Shalom & Shekinah	19 Julian & Caroline	20 Derek, Catherine & Family	21 Jeff & Kath	22 David & Janet	23 Ash, Di. Joel, Holly & Ceryws	24 Somesh & Jasmine
25 Tony, Jilly & Family's	26 Stan & Moira	27 Adrian, Anne & Family	28 Brian & Sheila	29 Steven & Christina	30 Dot May	31 Elders