



# Ackworth Community Church News Letter

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

Issue 248  
March 2026



*For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great  
is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;  
Psalm 103:11*

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## What's Happening This Month

Denise's Letter - Pages 2&3

Healing Ministry Team - Page 4

Cheryl - Page 5

World Day Of Prayer /

Lent Bible Study - Page 6

The Voice of Hope - Page 7

January Prayer 2026 - Pages  
8,9,10&11

The Immeasurable Love of God -  
Pages 12&13

Book Review - Page 14

Coming events for March - Page 15

Information Exchange - Page 16

Coming Events for April - Page 17

Small Group Meetings - Page 18

Preaching Rota - Page 19

Prayer Diary - Page 20



## Denise's Letter

### Looking Back & Looking Foreword

As we approach the end of the first quarter of this New Year 2026, it seems appropriate to pause and reflect on how the Lord has been our 'strong tower' through the storms of the later part of 2025 and early 2026.

Firstly, I would like to thank God for 'Sue and the Worship Team' who have consistently taken us week, by week, into God's presence to offer up our praise and thanksgiving to him, and in doing so forget all our hurts, pains, worries and anxieties.

Secondly, I would like to thank everyone who has generously given their time and support to 'help out' at the parent and toddler group. I would especially want to pay tribute to Alyn & Carole who have gone over and above the call of duty to help out with the setting up and putting away of the equipment & toys. Without that extra input the running of the group would be much more challenging.

Thirdly, I would like to thank Neill and Ash for Leading, guiding, directing and steering us through the mire of disappointment and confusion, and yet maintaining our focus on our faithful Lord and Saviour.

Finally, on behalf of the Elders, I want to say a 'big thank you' to everyone of you for being patient, trusting and tolerant with us as we sought to 'steer you', 'support you', and 'guide you' through a period of 'the uncertain' and the unknown.

Thank you for accepting 'the decisions' we made, 'trusting us' and 'hanging in there' with us.

'One thing we can say is that through it all, 'THE LORD HAS REMAINED FAITHFUL'

### Looking Forward - Recruiting a New Pastor / Couple

As you are aware, we spent the 4 Sunday Evening Prayer Meeting in January, waiting on God and Listening to what HE had to say to us.



In this Newsletter you will find a detailed transcript of all the Lord said to us. Read it, reflect upon it and pray specifically about what you feel God is laying upon your heart.

I just want to remind you that we have started the recruitment process for A NEW PASTOR. The Advert is out with a closing date for application around the end of the third week in April - that is about 50 days

One of the Scriptures God brought to us during our WAITING & LISTENING was Psalm 37 v 23 "THE LORD DIRECTS THE STEPS OF THE GODLY. HE DELIGHTS IN EVERY DETAIL OF THEIR LIVES"

I would like to ask you to do a couple of things during this period of recruitment.

1. Try to read the following 13 chapters of Scripture over the 50 days -i.e. 1 Timothy ch 1-6, 2 Tim 1-4, Titus 1-3 These are called the 'Pastoral Epistles or Letters' and relate more or less to the job of the Pastor. They are believed to be around the last letters Paul wrote.

2. I want you to set aside perhaps around 15-20 minutes every day during the recruitment process to pray for the person God has for us. That God would be stirring, prompting and speaking to them about ' His Call on them to Ackworth.

You can use the Prayer schedule in the Newsletter to remind you to pray or you can use your phone, dairy, or your notice board or your ' TO DO LIST' . Anything that will prompt and remind you.

LET US COMMIT TO DOING THIS TOGETHER

May God give us success and bring us the right person / couple to take us into the next phase of Ackworth Community Church.

May God continue to bless us and prosper us as we seek to fulfill his mission here in Ackworth of 'Going and Growing'.

Every Blessing  
Denise



## 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, Carole, Brenda, Denise, Jacquie, Dot & Ash.

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### Birthday Celebrations

14<sup>th</sup> March - Cheryl

15<sup>th</sup> March - Tony

16<sup>th</sup> March - Moira

21<sup>st</sup> March - Cerwys

29<sup>th</sup> March - Alyn

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



## Cheryl

As many of you will know, Ackworth Community Church (ACC) is where I became a Christian, was baptised (well, Hemsworth, but you know what I mean) and have lived out my Christian life for many years now, so I hope you know how important you all are to me and how special ACC is to me!

As you will now be aware, after wrestling for a long time over this, I have decided the time is right for me to move on from ACC. A while ago, I came across a blog post entitled 'We are all just walking each other home'. I have borrowed part of it, as I think it says how I feel more poetically than I could.

*We are all just walking each other home. Sometimes we are walking hand in hand, sometimes side by side, sometimes a little bit ahead or a little bit behind each other. Sometimes we find we are walking a little out of step with the people we were once walking alongside. This is when we thank our fellow travellers for walking us as far as they could, and we try to be tender and forgiving towards each other as we carry on our journeys.*

Thank you all for being my very much loved travel companions along the journey of faith and life. I will miss you all. I will continue to pray for you all individually and as a church and hope we will remain friends.

With much love,

Cheryl



## World Day of Prayer

*This year the day as been prepared by Christian women of Nigeria with the theme “ I will give you rest, come”.*

*The day will be celebrated on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March.*

*In Ackworth you are invited to join your fellow Christians on that day at St Cuthbert's Church at 11am for a service of prayer and worship lasting for 1 hour.*

*Lillian.*

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## Lent Bible Study – March 2026

*Revd. Chris is planning a Lent Bible Study at the Methodist Church, to which all the Churches are invited.*

*The details are:*

*Wednesdays 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> March & 1<sup>st</sup> April*

*Meet 10.30am for coffee*

*Start 10.45am*

*Finish 12 noon*

*Studying the letter to the Philippians.*



## The Voice of Hope

As high as the heavens  
 Are above the earth  
 So high are your ways to mine  
 Ways so perfect they never fail me  
 I know you are good all the time.

And through the storm  
 Yet I will praise you  
 Despite it all  
 Yet I will sing  
 Through good and bad  
 Yet I will worship  
 For you remain the same  
 King of kings.

You are the voice of hope  
 The anchor of my soul  
 Where there seems to be no way  
 You make it possible  
 You are the prince of peace  
 Amidst adversity  
 My lips will shout for joy  
 To you the most high.

You were the one  
 Before time began  
 There's nothing beyond your controll  
 My confidence  
 My assurance rest in your  
 unchanging world.

And through the storm  
 Yet I will praise you  
 Despite it all  
 Yet I will sing  
 Through good and bad  
 Yet I will worship  
 For you remain the same  
 King of kings.

You are the voice of hope  
 The anchor of my soul  
 Where there seems to be no way  
 You make it possible  
 You are the prince of peace  
 Amidst adversity  
 My lips will shout for joy  
 To you the most high.



## January Prayer 2026

**This is a summary of the things that people heard during our January prayer evenings:**

### **Consecrate Yourselves**

**Ready.** All that has gone before, the sorrow and the joy, I have used to make you ready for this moment.

**Be Ready.** Lean forward, ready to go when I give the word.

**Ever Ready.** You are fully charged, keep plugging into me each day.

**Path.** We each have a path that God has defined for us by his grace, both as individuals and collectively.

**Psalm 37 v 23** The LORD makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him.

**Clay.** Jesus is the potter; we are the clay.

We have before us an open door, are we willing?

**Set apart.** We are to be different, attractive, reflecting his glory.

We need you be ready to meet him in unexpected places.

Thank God that the old year has gone, and the new year has come.

Christ surrounds us and fills us.

This is the engine room of the church. We have battled hard over the years, stood faithfully and need to do so again. God will bring builders and warriors to join us. Ready to fight, Ready to build, Ready to do his will. The engine needs oil, the oil of his spirit to keep us running.



New people over the past year are a wonderful encouragement.

### **New Leader.**

Carefully. Follow me step by step, refer to the map often, I will lead you to the right person.

Scripture shows the characteristics of a leader **1 Timothy 3, Titus.**

The new leader will be found on holy ground. When we pray, we are on holy ground.

Keep your eyes on the Lord.

Converging paths, ACC and the new leader coming together because of God.

It must be God's choice; we need to lean on him.

God is already moving; the wheels are in motion.

Nehemiah had a heart's desire, and he sought God; we need to do the same.

Dedicate time in prayer regularly to seek God for a new leader.

Don't be hesitant, be like a new Christian, filled with fire.

### **Tomorrow God will do amazing things among you.**

Period of taking our stand. The enemy knows that something is happening on its way so we must take our stand.

The miraculous catch of fish – catch of a lifetime – the nets felt like they were about to break.



God will bring warriors and builders to grab hold of the nets he fills.

Everybody needs to pull together.

The battle belongs to the Lord. We have the victory – the gains have already been made.

Personally & corporately, we need to give ourselves over to God.

### **Isaiah 54 v 2-3**

“Enlarge the place of your tent and let them stretch out the curtains of your dwellings;

Do not spare; Lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes. For you shall expand to the right and to the left, and your descendants will inherit the nations, and make the desolate cities inhabited.

### **Blessed in every way.**

May the LORD enlarge your territory, expand your experience and increase your walk in faith.

May his hand of power be upon you in a way that marks everything you do.

May he keep you from harm – both causing and enduring it.

May he use you to bless in a world very much in need.

May he surprise you with breakthroughs and still water moments.

Your shepherd has placed his hand of blessing upon your head and will faithfully lead you.

Have a light-hearted joy filled day today

Amen.



Breaking through barriers requires action, faith requires action.

The priests walked toward the Jordan river and had to step in it before God stopped the waters. Moses raised his hand all night and God parted the red sea.

Do you trust me? Spare no expense, build the tent now and the blessing will come. Strengthen the stakes, fix fast to God. Christ will make his home in your hearts.

Do not hold back, do not give into weariness, be like Joshua and Caleb who saw what God saw.

Oh, that you would bless Ackworth Community Church and enlarge our territory.

God will never leave us nor forsake us; he sees us, and he loves us.

A picture of a metal cog in sequence that has moved and freed all others to rotate freely, generating power. God has moved something, and power is released, doors are being opened, now we must walk through.

**Song of Songs 2 v 11** 'See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come.

### **1 Chronicles 4 v 9-10**

Jabez was more honourable than his brothers. His mother had named him Jabez, saying, 'I gave birth to him in pain.' Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, 'Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain.' And God granted his request.

Ash.



## The Immeasurable Love of God

(Psalm 103:11-14)

*For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; <sup>12</sup>as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. <sup>13</sup>As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him. <sup>14</sup>For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.—Psalm 103:11-14*

In Psalm 103, David is preaching to his own soul. He tells his soul to bless the Lord and to not forget all of God's benefits. When we remember what God has done and is doing, our soul will rejoice and bless His Holy Name. Let's take each verse and see what God wants us to learn and know about Him.

Starting in verse 11, David continues to name the benefits of His God, our God. How great is His steadfast love toward all who fear Him. It is as high as the heavens are above the earth.

*"...and inquiring minds want to know: how high are the heavens above the earth? Well, if you go by today's understanding of "the heavens"—meaning the totality of the universe outside Earth—they are approximately 46 billion light years higher. In fact, the heavens are so high above the Earth that human beings cannot possibly see everything in them."*

In other words, God's love is so great that we can, in no way, measure it. It is limitless. We can try to put words to it but we soon realize our words are too small. God's love is immeasurably high. And this great love is steadfast—unchanging, consistent, and dependable. Bless the Lord, O my soul!

The next verse says, "as far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our transgressions from us." This is great mercy—not getting what we deserve.

How far is the east from the west? If you get in a jet with unlimited fuel and start heading east you can continue going east forever and never meet west. In other words the phrase "as far as the east is from the west" would



mean our sin and God would be infinitely apart—never to come together again.

There is no better analogy to describe the absolute act of mercy through forgiveness that God gives His people in Jesus Christ. When we are forgiven by God our shame is gone forever! Our guilt is pardoned forever! Our debt has been paid forever! We have been set free from our transgressions for all of eternity! Bless the Lord, O my soul!

Next we see the tender compassion of our Heavenly Father—a compassion that understands our weaknesses. He knows our frame and fully understands our shortcomings and what we are made of—dust. And knowing us this way, He moves toward us knowing that we would not make the move toward Him. He shows us compassion we don't deserve and didn't do anything to earn. He moves toward us as a tender Father who is full of compassion for His little children.

### ***For Reflection***

Speak to your soul, saying, Soul, do not forget these benefits:

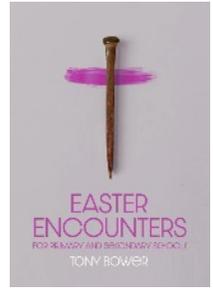
- God has immeasurably high steadfast love for me
- God removes my transgressions forever
- My compassionate Father comes to me, His child of dust

Say to your soul, Soul, Bless the Lord!



Book  
Review  
by:

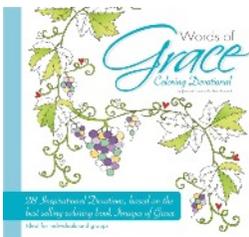
Revived.  
com



## Easter Encounters

£2.99

Let's go back nearly two thousand years, to a big city in the backwater province of Palestine. Many people in the city of Jerusalem were about to have an encounter with a man they would never, ever forget. Even though Pilate washed his hands of an innocent man, how could he ever forget his conversation about truth with the 'King of the Jews'? A soldier would always remember the words of the man on the cross. But, that's not all. This man died and was buried. Three days later people encountered the same man – alive. Surely, that was an encounter that they would never forget. And this man's name was Jesus. This book is a collection of scripts, poems, prayers and dramatic readings all about these groundbreaking encounters. Tony Bower is the head of YoYo (York Schools and Youth Trust), which is a Christian charity that brings the Christian faith alive.



## Words of Grace Colouring Devotional

£6.36

Words of Grace Colouring Devotional, based on the award-winning colouring book 'Images of Grace' by Jacqui Grace.

28 inspirational devotions, split into 4 themed weeks.  
With colouring page for each day

Discover the relevance and truth of God's word for your life as you bring the images to life through colour! It offers a creative journey through Scripture.



## Coming Events for March

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Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March

World Day of Prayer at St Cuthbert's Church at 11am.

Wednesdays 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> March & 1st April

Lent Bible Study at the Methodist Church, Meet 10.30am for coffee, Start 10.45am

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March

Tony and Jilly will be with us to take the morning service.

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

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



## 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.

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### 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.

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### *New Church Contact List*

Lisa is preparing a new Church Contact List, if you are already on the list could you please check your details are correct.

If you have not been on the Church Contact List before and would like to be, please print clearly your name, address, telephone number, mobile number and email address.



## Coming Events for April

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Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Outreach on Co-op Car Park:  
11.45am Walk of witness from All  
Saints Church. On to the Co-op Car  
Park 12.00 Midday.

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April

10.30am Easter Sunday Service.

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April

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.

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### **Power Prayer (Revival Prayer Meeting) 10.30am**

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March, Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March,  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March & Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March. Venue to be announced .

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

Meet on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March, Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March, Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March  
& Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March. Venue to be announced.

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### **Ackworth Harmony led by Sue & Cheryl**

Meet on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March, Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March, Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March  
& Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March, 7.15pm – 7.30pm Coffee/Tea, then 7.30 -  
8.30pm singing at The Community Centre.

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**Sunday Evening Prayer Meeting** at 6pm, at The Community Centre.



# Worship, Preaching, Projection and Children's Rota.

Date	Time	Theme	Worship	Preaching	Projection	Sunday School	Creche
1-March	10.30am	Simply Jesus/ Communion	Sue	Sue	Joel	No Sunday School	No Creche
8-Mar	10.30am	Morning Routine: Clean Yourself	Ash	Ash	Lisa	Di	Sue
15-March	10.30am	Free Topic	Jilly	Tony	Lisa	Ash	Jacquie
22-March	10.30am	Morning Routine: Feed Yourself	Ash	Denise	Lisa	Ash	Gerwys
29-March	10.30am	Morning Routine: Be Thankful	Sue	Neill	Joel	Carole	Val

## 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 Dot Maryna	3 John & Pat	4 Joel & Holly	5 Neill, Sue, Grace & Hope	6 Anne- Marie & Alison	7 Julian & Val	8 Stan & Moirra
9 Kevin & Jeanie	10 Danny & Pauline	11 Richard & Roo	12 Brian & Linda	13 Xochilt, Jonathan, Julissa & Alissia	14 Adrian & Anne	15 Tony, Jilly & Family's
16 Neil & Eileen	17 PonRaj, Jenifer, Peniel & Judah	18 David & Carol	19 Brenda	20 Matt, Cheryl, Oscar & Georgina	21 Denise	22 Ash, Di. & Ceryws
23 Andrew, Kimberley, Hannah & Joanna	24 Lilian & Family	25 Lisa	26 Julian & Caroline	27 Jacquie	28 Dimytro, Natalia & Denys	29 Ann
30 Amanda	31 Elders					