

Diary of Services and Activities

Sunday	Prayer Meeting	8.00am
	Morning Worship*	10.30am
	Key Club (Children aged 4-11)	10.30am
	Evening Worship	6.30pm
	Holy Communion follows the first morning and the third evening service each month	
	*A fully supervised crèche for young children is run in the church side room during the sermon.	
Monday	Followers (Young people of secondary school age)	7.30PM
Tuesday	Second Tuesday (monthly)	10.15AM
	Ladies' Prayer Group (2nd & 4th Tuesdays)	7.30PM
	venue as announced	
	Men's Fellowship (3rd Tuesday monthly)	7.45PM
Wednesday	Tots' Club (term-time)	1.30 - 3.00PM
	Prayer Meeting and Bible Study	7.45PM
Thursday	Thursday at Two (senior citizens – fortnightly)	2.00PM
	Followers' Prayer Group (fortnightly) at 68 Moseley Wood Walk	7.30PM
Friday	Good News Club (Children aged 5-11)	6.00PM
	Friday Youth Night (Ages 11-16)	7.30PM
	Missionary Prayer Group (monthly) at 1 Tinshill Mount	7.45PM

TINSHILL FREE CHURCH
 HOLLY AVENUE, LEEDS LS16 6PL
 Registered Charity No. 511933
 website: <http://www.TinshillFreeChurch.org.uk/>

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THE MAGAZINE

Nº 278



TINSHILL FREE CHURCH

JUNE/JULY 2010

ROTAS

Week ending		Cleaning		
June	12	Ruth Holder	Ann Mountain	Yvonne Chell
	19	Carol Getzels	Kathryn Hibbard	Deborah Williams
	26	Jenny Leng	Eva Ng	Rosemary Hilton
July	3	Beccy Henry	Ben Henry	Jennie Lewis
	10	Mavis Mathers	Angela Mathers	Christine Crossley
	17	Margaret Williams	Colette Hickman	Katy Sellens
	24	Anne Sellens	Carole Brearley	Natalie Walker
August	31	Ruth Holder	Ann Mountain	Yvonne Chell
	7	Carol Getzels	Kathryn Hibbard	Deborah Williams

For Sunday		Flowers	
June	6	Anne Sellens	13 Ruth Holder
	20	Deborah Williams	27 Jenny Leng
July	4	Beccy Henry	11 Angela Mathers
	18	Margaret Williams	25 Carole Brearley
Aug	1	Christine Blayney	8 Carol Getzels

		Library	
		Morning	Evening
June	6	Phil Leng	Angela Mathers
	13	Christine Crossley	Mavis Mathers
	20	Rosemary Hilton	Jack/Ruth Rozday
	27	Paul Crossley	Nigel/Kathryn Hibbard
July	4	Angela Mathers	Phil Leng
	11	Christine Crossley	Rosemary Hilton
	18	Nigel/Kathryn Hibbard	Jack/Ruth Rozday
	25	Paul Crossley	Mavis Mathers
Aug	1	Angela Mathers	Christine Crossley

Pastoral Letter — June/July 2010

The Longest Day

Like a mother who forgets the pain of child-bearing in the face of her beautiful child now lying in her arms, we all have forgotten the rigours of a harsh winter (when I certainly slid into town on the Kirkstall Road) in the light of summer and the longest day. We have already had a mini-heatwave as the days have drawn longer – the prospects of a long hot summer (barbecue summer?) come to mind. Even when the days become cool for a while, we revel in the knowledge that temperatures will increase on average. God is good to give us this temperate climate; this is what gives England its ‘green and pleasant land’ tag. What do we want to do with these longest days – go on holiday perhaps? Sit on a verandah far away looking over the sea? Or perhaps it will include working for the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Remember the words of Christ – *“I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work”* (John 9: 4).

And when is the longest day in 2010? This year it is June 21st.

“The Longest Day” is also a film about D-Day, the invasion of Normandy (France) on 6th June 1944. Only this week we have been remembering God’s amazing deliverance of over 300,000 men of the British Expeditionary Force by use of 850 boats and 42 British destroyers back to mainland Britain from Dunkirk, beginning May 27th 1940 near the start of the war. This was a miracle of God’s grace, but the lowest point of the Second World War. “The Longest Day” concerning D-Day was the re-taking of Europe and another miracle of God’s grace – it was the beginning of the end of the war. Without it, we could not enjoy the longest days of June or any other year. It could have been captivity under one of the most ungodly regimes in history. I wonder if we still give God the glory for what was His work, *“while it is day”*.

It seems to me that truly the Longest Day was experienced by our Saviour, our Lord Jesus Christ, on the day He was crucified. The previous night He had had little if any sleep. He had eaten the last supper and initiated the first

Christian communion. He had been betrayed and taken to see the High Priest. In the morning He faced the Jewish Council; then Pontius Pilate; then Herod the so-called 'King of the Jews' under Roman rule; then back to Pilate. Then all the mockings, the sentence passed, the agony of flogging and the route to the cross. Then the supreme agony of the cross, bearing our sins. For those hours on the cross it must have seemed the longest day. With that cry *"My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"* in the mid-afternoon, He felt the sense of interminable desolation, as though His Essence with the Father was broken.

And then the release of His spirit into the hands of His Father and there in Heaven is the longest day, when it is never night-time and the very concept of time changes. And yet He broke into time again for the Resurrection on the Sunday.

In the light of Christ's love for us, whether it is the longest or the shortest day, let's go back to that text: *"I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work"*.

Now make it the words, not of Christ, but of any Christian who wants to serve the Lord. We must work while it is day. Every day on earth is a day of grace, quickly finished by death. The night of this world is coming when all work for Christ is unnecessary because it is finished, and we are taken up with the Glory of Christ's Second Coming.

Let us work the works of Him (Christ) while it is day.

With best wishes for summer

Glyn Williams

Remembering Jack

On Monday May 24th several of us were able to gather with a large congregation at City Evangelical Church for the Thanksgiving Service for the life of Jack Rawnsley. The private burial had taken place prior to this service.

Jack had become more known to us at Tinshill when we were planning and designing the new church building in the 1980s when he gave us much

- | | | | |
|-------------|----|----------|--|
| Wed | 23 | 7.45pm | Prayer Meeting & Bible Study
Speaker: Douglas Young |
| Sat | 26 | 7.30pm | Leeds City Mission Summer Praise and AGM
at Tinshill |
| July | | | |
| Thu | 1 | 2pm | Thursday at Two Speaker: Peter Murray |
| Wed | 7 | 7.45pm | Prayer Meeting & Bible Study
Speaker: Martin Sellens |
| Sat | 10 | 4pm | Fellowship BBQ |
| Sun | 11 | 2.30pm | Cookridge Court Service |
| Tue | 13 | 10.15am | Second Tuesday |
| | | 7.30pm | Ladies Prayer Group |
| Wed | 14 | 1.30-3pm | Tots Club final meeting before summer holiday
(Fruit picnic and Bible presentation) |
| | | 7.45pm | Outreach to Malta and North Africa
Speaker: Edwin Caruana (Malta) |
| Thu | 15 | 2pm | Thursday at Two Speaker: Mike Wild |
| | | 7.45pm | Elders/Deacons Meeting at 87 Tinshill Road |
| Fri | 16 | 9.30am | Year 6 Transition meeting for schools at church |
| | | 7.45pm | Missionary Prayer Group |
| Tue | 20 | 7.45pm | Men's Fellowship |
| Wed | 21 | | Deadline for items for the Aug/Sept Magazine |
| Sun | 25 | 4.30pm | Fellowship Tea to bid farewell to Jonathan, Yvonne,
Hannah & James |
| Tue | 27 | 7.30pm | Ladies Prayer Group |
| Thu | 29 | 2pm | Thursday at Two Speaker: Erroll Hulse |

Note

There is no Second Tuesday in June

Services at Cookridge Court will take place on the second Sunday of each month from June onwards

Sun 18th July am/pm Hall Green Baptist, Haworth

Martin Sellens

Sun 1st August am Bethany, Swinton, Rotherham

Jonathan Chell

Sun 6th June am/pm Bethel, Armley

Sun 13th June 4pm Nidderdale

Jonathan, Yvonne and children will be moving to Ramsey in Cambridgeshire during the week commencing 26th July. The induction service in Ramsey will be on Saturday August 28th at 3pm. Do pray for the family as they move from Leeds to Ramsey and for Jonathan as he begins his first pastorate and settles into a new situation and church.

Pray also for Ruth Holder who is going on the camp for handicapped people at Talybont, North Wales 17-23 July as a medical help (rumour has it that it may be her last year?).

DIARY

June

Tue 8 7.30pm Ladies Prayer Group at 14 Bedford Drive

Sun 13 2.30pm Cookridge Court Service

Wed 16 7.45pm Prayer Meeting & Bible Study
Speaker: Alan Brearley

Thu 17 2pm Thursday at Two Speaker: Jonathan Chell
8pm Rehearsal and set up for Bible Exhibition

Fri 18 am Bible Exhibition "The Amazing Journey"
7.45pm Missionary Prayer Group at 1 Tinshill Mount

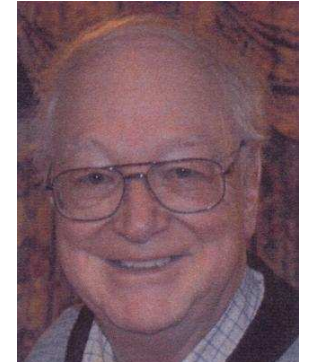
Mon 21 - am/pm Bible Exhibition "The Amazing Journey"
Thu 24

Mon 21 7.45pm Evangelism Group at 87 Tinshill Road

Tue 22 7.30pm Ladies Prayer Group

7.45pm Men's Fellowship (moved from 15th)

valuable help and advice on the first phase of the building. More recently we again had closer fellowship with Jack through our close links with Bethel, Armley where he and Mary spent Jack's last years. Though he had health problems Jack served the Lord courageously right up to his last days by taking on the responsibility of eldership at Bethel where he served as a faithful uncomplaining servant in this capacity to the end.



We knew Jack to be humble, willing, always wanting to attend to the needs of others, and this was borne out in the tributes which were given at the service, including a video from Stuart Shepherd (serving abroad with Wycliffe Bible Translators). My personal memory of Jack is the way he spoke on the telephone. He phoned quite a bit to speak with Glyn in the last weeks of his life as he was trying to tie ends together regarding the move of Leeds City Mission into the premises above Bethel Armley as their new offices. When I answered the phone his usual phrase would be – "Oh, hello Margaret, sorry to bother you, it's just Jack". Well, at his Thanksgiving Service it was clear how much 'just Jack' had poured into people's lives in love, spiritual encouragement and practical help.

The service was led by Glyn, who paid his own tribute, and read out a written tribute from John Lewin who was too ill to deliver it himself, and Roger Carswell preached a clear gospel message as Jack had insisted he should do.

The service was a hugely uplifting experience as a large number of Christians met together, sang together and prayed together not only to give thanks for the life of a beloved brother, but to give praise and thanks for our beloved Saviour, the Lord Jesus who poured out his life for sinners – *"...that whoever believes on Him should not perish but have everlasting life"*.

We send our love to Mary at this time and will pray for great strength and peace for her and the church at Bethel, Armley.

Margaret Williams

Ladies Day 2010

On Saturday 22nd May around 25 ladies, including 3 from Bethel Free Church in Armley, gathered at Tinshill for our Ladies Day. The first such gathering, back in November 2006, was such a success that it has gone on to become an annual event and has a now familiar programme of hymn singing, talks from a guest speaker, prayer together, lunch and opportunity to simply talk together.

Our speaker this year was Margaret Lacey from Stowmarket, who spoke on "Exploring the Life of Love" both in the life of the Lord Jesus and in our own lives. She spoke in a way that was easy to listen to, but at the same time challenging for those who really wanted to learn and grow spiritually.

In the morning Margaret spoke about Jesus' love for us. She read 1 John 4: 7-16 and talked of:

- 1) Christ the gift of God. He is a gift that is free, planned from eternity past for all who would receive Him; a gift that will never be taken away, unlike health, possessions etc which will be taken from us at death; a gift that satisfies our souls, giving joy and contentment in our hearts; a gift that is priceless, as the Father put His own Son to death; and a gift that is perfect.
- 2) Christ the power of God. Christ has power over creation, which He upholds in all its beauty; power over Satan, demonstrated so clearly in His dealings with the demon-possessed man known as Legion; power over death, seen clearly in the raising to life of Lazarus; power to preserve His word the Bible, and also His church, despite Satan's best efforts to destroy them.
- 3) Christ the wisdom of God. Jesus made many references to how the Father had sent Him and to the oneness that they enjoyed, and so all God's wisdom is in Christ. He then reveals that wisdom to God's children, and there are many instances in Scripture where those who need wisdom receive it from God, for His glory.

In all that Margaret said she sought to exalt the Lord Jesus and encourage us to think more fully and highly of Him.

a mother and baby could live. This story should help us to realise this. God is always in control. We may not see the reason behind things, and we may never know this side of heaven, but God is always in control, "*Give thanks to the Lord for He is good. His mercy endures forever*" (Psalm 136: 1)."

(Included in Steve & Rachel Peat's weekly email update on May 11th.)

THANK YOU

I would like to thank the fellowship for the wonderful gift of a digital camera presented to me upon my retirement from playing the organ for Sunday morning service. It is something I shall use a great deal once I have read the instructions and had a practice with it.

Mavis Mathers

PREACHING PLAN

		Morning	Evening
June	6	Glyn Williams	Glyn Williams
	13	Tim Mills	Jonathan Chell
	20	Glyn Williams	Douglas Young
	27	Glyn Williams	Glyn Williams
July	4	Jonathan Chell	Martin Sellens
	11	Malcolm Peters	Malcolm Peters
	18	Nigel Westhead	Jonathan Chell
	25	Glyn Williams	Glyn Williams
August	1	Glyn Williams	Glyn Williams

OUTSIDE APPOINTMENTS

Do pray for our men as they minister in other places over the next 2 months.

Glyn Williams

Mon 7th June pm Leeds City Mission Holding Trustees

Sun 13th June am Christ Church, Bradford

pm Thornhill Baptist

Sat 17th July 2.30pm Torch Trust for the Blind at City Evangelical

shook violently. We had blown out a tyre. I replaced the tyre as quickly as I could, but we still missed her flight. Both very upset we drove home.

I received a call from my father who was retired from the New York Fire Department. He asked what my wife's flight number was, when I explained that we missed the flight, my father informed me that her flight was the one that crashed into the southern tower. I was too shocked to speak. My father had more news for me – he was going to help. “This is not something I can just sit by for, I have to do something.” I was concerned for his safety, of course, but more because he had never given his life to Christ. After a brief debate, I knew his mind was made-up. Before he got off the phone, he said, “Take good care of my grandchild.” Those were the last words I ever heard my father say – he died while helping in the rescue effort. My joy that my prayer for the safety of my wife had been answered quickly became anger. I was angry at God, at my father, and at myself. I went for nearly two years blaming God for taking my father away. My son would never know his grandfather, my father had never accepted Christ, and I never got to say good-bye.

Then something happened. About two months ago, I was sitting at home with my wife and my son, when there was a knock on the door. I looked at my wife, but I could tell she wasn't expecting anyone. I opened the door to a couple with a small child. The man looked at me and asked if my father's name was Jake Matthews. I told him it was. He quickly grabbed my hand and said, “I never got the chance to meet your father, but it is an honour to meet his son.” He explained that his wife had worked at the World Trade Centre and had been caught inside after the attack. She was pregnant and had been caught under the debris. He then explained that my father had been the one to find his wife and free her. My eyes welled up with tears as I thought of my father giving his life for people like this. He then said, “There is something else you need to know.” His wife then told me that as my father worked to free her, she talked to him and led him to Christ. I began sobbing at the news. Now I know that when I get to heaven, my father will be standing beside Jesus to welcome me, and that this family would be able to thank him themselves. When their baby was born, they named him Jacob Matthew, in honour of the man who gave his life so that

After an enjoyable lunch (including many kinds of cake to choose from!) Margaret read 1 Corinthians 13 and gave us a second talk, this time on the life and fellowship of the local church, and supporting one another through life. She commented how the church is not some kind of club, but a spiritual family, and Jesus commanded His disciples to love one another as He had loved them. Such love has many sweet and desirable aspects. However, we do not always know how we should love others, and we need to pray for help with this.

Margaret listed many practical ways in which we can demonstrate love to those we know who are hurting or are needy in any kind of trouble or difficult situation. These included: take time to assess a person's situation, getting alongside them to listen and to pray; don't be judgmental towards someone; treat brothers and sisters in Christ with respect; remember that in some situations solutions are not always possible; pray for wisdom in the choice of scripture passages to bring to someone; be ready to offer material support; do not be shy to communicate love to someone. Margaret also spoke of specific ways in which to love and help those who suffer from dementia. Her conclusion was that, in a strange way, the more we love and give to others, the more we ourselves receive.

It was good to sit and listen to Margaret explaining the word of God to us, but it was also good to have the time to chat between ourselves at different stages during the day. Often on a Sunday when we are together at church we can be so busy with making arrangements, sorting out church business, fulfilling various commitments and responsibilities, that we run out of time to talk with and listen to people to find out how we can really love them.

There were a number of ladies absent from the meeting due to illness, bereavement, and various family duties; we missed them very much and were happy to be able to pray for them during the day.

I woke up on the Saturday morning feeling rather flat, not really wanting to go out, thinking of all the jobs I wanted to get done in the house and garden... But I had a commitment to attend Ladies Day (bring some food, play the piano) and so I went out. Now I am glad that I did. Being in the

presence of others who are worshipping God has a cheering and encouraging effect, and I hope that God will prompt and enable me to show something of the love that we heard about.

Rosemary Hilton

Volcanic Ash.

Most people will be aware of the problems the Volcanic Ash has caused air travel. I recently travelled to Malta on a Ryanair Flight from Leeds Bradford Airport on Thursday the 13th May. When the airline announced they were to operate flights to Malta Thursday and Sunday, it seemed a good opportunity to visit the island, meet friends and attend the Sunday service at Pastor Edwin's fellowship in Qormi, and be back in Leeds late Sunday evening.

I was aware of the disruptions caused a few weeks back by the Ash cloud but it appeared to be settling down. Gloria and I discussed my plans and we both agreed I should go ahead with the trip. I informed Pastor Glyn Williams of my intended visit.

The Sunday morning service at the Evangelical church on Malta was well attended and a group of Americans led the service and Pastor Edwin preached on Relationships. After the service and sharing in fellowship with many old and new friends I received a text message on my mobile phone – Ryanair informing me I had an urgent email message regarding the cancellation of my flight back to Leeds Bradford Airport later that day. The ash cloud had closed UK air space!

Overcoming a feeling of panic I can only relate now how the Lord was with me as events worked out for the rest of Sunday and Monday. After the initial shock I was able to share this news with people that in a few more minutes would have left the church and been on their way home.

Pastor Edwin was himself leaving to go to Turkey. His wife Sylvia was leaving to go to Switzerland.

Standing close to me was Willie Musu. who later related he had only attended the service at the last minute because he was feeling ill earlier in the

The presence of the Leeds City Mission gives one banner under which churches can co-operate on the basis of the gospel alone, without doctrinal compromise. There are, however, areas of reasonable compromise where churches' cultures are different, yet Christians meet for the LCM Praise meetings. These are bound to vary depending on where they are held – the next one is at Tinshill!

Conclusion

God never compromises with sin, and yet by His grace, for those who have trusted in Christ, He has met our sin head on, at the cross. Although sin remains in us, we are considered righteous, and therefore we are co-labourers with Christ, or in coalition with Him. We as Christians are never in coalition with the world on spiritual issues, although we may well co-operate in social and medical matters with a caring ministry. A caring ministry often turns into a gospel ministry, and that is when the world shows resistance to us.

Our dealings in the world at home, at work, in marriage are not to show sinful compromise to disguise the fact that we are Christians, to gain friends or be acceptable to them.

Christians must be in coalition together in the local church, between local churches of evangelical type, or under the banner of organisations like the Leeds City Mission. In doing this, there must be self-denial and good compromise, so that the work of the gospel can be pursued.

Glyn Williams

God is always in control!

A man from Norfolk, Virginia called his local radio station to share this on September 11th, 2003, two years after the tragedies of 9/11. His name was Robert Matthews. These are his words... "A few weeks before September 11th, 2001, my wife and I found out we were going to have our first child. She planned a trip to California to visit her sister. On our way to the airport, we prayed that God would grant my wife a safe trip and be with her. Shortly after I said "Amen", we both heard a loud pop and the car

very good thing. Compromise in the sense of falling short of God's standards, is bad.

- 3) At work. Needless to say, Christians should carry out their employment well and engage in good time-keeping, as a witness to Christ in them. The need also to speak up on moral and spiritual issues as situations and conversations arise. In some cases, it would be more tactful to say nothing. What happens though, when a friend or junior at work puts in his notice and leaves, inviting all colleagues to a 'do' at lunchtime at the local pub. If the Christian doesn't drink alcohol, should he go at all? Perhaps yes, as long as he is not persuaded to drink alcohol, but rather a soft drink. Should he spend more than his normal lunchtime there? Only if his superior has given approval to take more time.

4 The church as a coalition.

The local church is definitely a coalition of people who have, as their priority, Jesus Christ as personal Saviour and Lord. On other matters, there needs to be genuine compromise (not sinful compromise) to keep the unity of the believers. All pet doctrines, all peculiarities of personality, must be subject to the importance of the true gospel and the Scriptures.

John 17: 11 tells us that our Lord prayed that the Father would *"keep through Your Name those whom You have given to Me, that they may be one as We are"* We are told to remain in unity with other Christians, but not in uniformity. The church has to be a coalition, submitting to one another in love, not being determined to have one's own way, and to have a good attitude where some other decision prevails. If we are to live peaceably with all people as far as we are able, in the world, it is certainly an absolute to live in peace in the church. We certainly are co-workers together in the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. *"Be of the same mind"* says 2 Corinthians 13: 11.

There are different problems in relation to the wider church. Coalition between churches often cannot happen without compromise on basic doctrine. This church came out of Methodism on these grounds, plus the tendency of the denomination to seek unity on questionable grounds.

morning. But P.T.L he was there to reassure. We first went to his home to get the laptop. Ryanair were offering return flights to the original destination if seats were available. But so many people were trying to book it was not easy to get through to the web site. Considering there are only two flights a week to Leeds Bradford this could have caused a great problem and a long stay. We made the decision to go to Luga airport. I was able, within an hour of getting the cancellation news, to book an Airmalta flight to Manchester the next day subject to flights resuming in the UK. Later many people were also trying to book flights back to the UK. This was reflected in the price. The first quote I received was over £400 for a one way ticket. When I explained my situation this was reduced to £181. In these situations you have no choice if you want to return home. Ryanair give a refund on a one way fare but not immediately. After purchasing the ticket we then returned to his home, (All things work together for good to those that love God). Marlene, his wife, works for Airmalta in the flight check-in area of the airport.

Willie and Marlene offered me a bed for the night. The next morning we went to the airport at 5.30am only to be informed that Heathrow and Gatwick flights had been cancelled and that it was in doubt whether Manchester would open that day. The ash cloud was moving over the whole of the UK. I knew I was in good hands. Marlene phoned the airport many times during Monday. She had the inside information on the whole situation. Finally we received the news that Manchester had opened and it was possible flights would be operating later that day. Marlene again was so kind. She arranged my check in and boarding card to be collected just one hour before take off. When we did arrive at the airport for the delayed Manchester flight I had no queues to contend with – everyone had checked in and the plane was full taking not only Manchester passengers but also some of the Heathrow and Gatwick passengers from the earlier cancelled flights. The Volcanic Ash has been recorded as an Act of God. Many people have been stranded. For me it was an experience that I will remember for a long time. But looking back I realise how the Lord was in control of the whole situation. A lesson to be learned to cast all my cares upon Him.

Kenneth Link

KIDZ FUN ZONE

At the holiday club we learnt about Daniel and his 3 friends.

I went to the holiday club and I liked making the magnificent biscuits, especially the icing, they reminded me of the story on the first day which is below, obviously they danced into my mouth they were so delicious. Also, I liked making the lion puppet, because it was fluffy fun. My favourite part was the puppet show because they were funny and made me laugh. In games we had a water fight, we threw wet sponges and things at each other and we all got extremely wet, but we had lots of fun too.

The story on the first day –

Daniel and his friends were taken from their homes and sent to Babylon. In Babylon, the King of Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar, offered his food, that had been put in front of a false god, to Daniel and his three friends. Daniel and his friends said no, instead they asked if they could only have vegetables and water for the next ten days. After ten days they looked more healthy than all the other men who'd been sent to work for the king.

Questions:

- 1) Why did Daniel and his friends not eat the king's food?
- 2) Where were Daniel and his friends sent?

Daniel and his friends did not eat the king's food because they knew it was wrong. The only things they ate and drank were vegetables and water. For ten days they did this and after this they looked more healthy than the other men.

Questions:

Can you remember the names of the puppets? S _ m _ a and Mufasa

Did you like the puppets? Yes No

salvation, in readiness for His second coming and judgement of the world. In His ordering of these things, there will be no compromise with sin, only a price paid – His own blood.

3 Our dealings in the world

It should be noted first of all that we have no coalition with the world in spiritual things. We must “*render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's*”; we must “*submit ourselves to every institution of man for the Lord's sake*” (1 Peter 2: 13). Where appropriate, we may be ‘in coalition’ with the state in some caring issues for example, co-operation with a doctor in treating a patient; following the state rules concerning child protection or food provision from the church; but on spiritual matters, or matters which have a moral bearing, we are to obey God and not man, if really necessary to make such a choice. Very rarely should it mean breaking the civil law of the land, though that might become necessary in the climate of increasing pressure on Christians.

Tricky issues do crop up, however, where in society day by day we might be tempted to compromise, or at the other end of the scale, to be tactless and unloving. Here are some scenarios.

- 1) At a time of decease. When you are speaking to someone who has lost a loved one and he/she wants to be assured of them being in ‘a better place’ when the departed one had showed no sign of conversion.
- 2) In marriage. Somebody becomes a Christian after marrying a non-Christian. Clearly the marriage must stand, as we read in 1 Corinthians 7, unless the non-Christian wishes to leave (verses 12-15). If the marriage partnership is to be maintained which in itself is a type of coalition, then there will need to be some compromise for the marriage to continue to work. The non-believer will have to allow the believer to get involved in church work, but not at the expense of having too little time together as man and wife, and with the family if they have children. The Christian would need to negotiate what is a fair time spent at church – there would have to be, for example, attendance at at least one Sunday service. The greater problem is probably the different outlooks, and purposes, they now have on life. Compromise in the sense of ‘giving and taking’ is a

does not compromise on sin, and cannot come into coalition with us, until that sin is dealt with. The gospel of grace is all to do with how Jesus took the penalty for our sin on the cross, and how He gives the believer His righteousness, which makes us acceptable with God, and even co-workers with God. 1 Corinthians 3: 9 states *“For we are labourers together with God”*. This can only happen if our sins are washed away and we are considered righteous before God.

There was once a book written called “No holiness, No heaven” in which it was stressed that, although we are saved by faith alone receiving as a gift the righteousness of Christ, we are to hate sin and pursue holiness. Paul asks the question in Romans 6: 1-2 *“What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?”* No compromise.

And so God does not compromise with sin, yet is ready to forgive us and to act in coalition (co-labourers) in order to reach out to other sinners with the gospel for the salvation of souls and for God’s glory. The idea of grace (unmerited favour) extends both to Salvation by grace and also working together with Him by grace, despite the fact that He is the Holy God and we are still sinners. The sin is overlooked by the washing of the blood of Christ. You might ask whether our Lord compromised in any way in His outreach to lost people in the world. Whereas John the Baptist was quite remote from the people, our Lord ate and drank with ‘publicans and sinners’. He reached out personally to Zaccheus before he was ever saved; he was in close contact with villains of all sorts. Was he compromising in doing so? Not at all, because he was never in league or coalition with them. He was among them, but not of them. He did not sin in thought, word or deed. Mixing with unsaved sinners for us too, is not wrong, unless they become our close company and we start following their sinful ways. Our Lord was always aiming to reach out with the gospel. We are too prone to fall for some temptations, so we have to be more careful.

In the greater scheme of things, because our Lord won total victory over temptation and death, He holds the governing of all things, raising governments and bringing them down, calling people to Himself for

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

Can you find these words in the wordsearch?

- | | | |
|----------|---------------|----------------|
| DANIEL | LIONS DEN | NEBUCHADNEZZAR |
| JESUS | FIERY FURNACE | VEGETABLES |
| WATER | SHADRACH | MESHACH |
| ABEDNEGO | IDOL | FRIENDS |
| THREE | TRUE GOD | |

Can you remember the memory verses from the holiday club?

I am who I am Exodus 3: 14

I am the ____, the truth and the ____ John 14: 6

I am the ____ shepherd..... can you remember the rest of this verse?
 John 10: 11

I am the resurrection and the _____. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies, and whoever lives and _____ in Me will never ____
John 11: 25 and 26

Use your Bible to help you.

If you would like to tell us something you have learnt at Key Club or Good News Club and would like it to be considered for the next edition of the magazine, please speak to Deborah, or perhaps you could make your own word search or puzzle based on something you have learnt.

Complete this month's Kidz Fun Zone, and bring it to Key Club or Good News Club for a prize.

Rachel Williams

Thank you for the Music

On Sunday the 30th May during the morning service there was a presentation of a gift and card to Mavis Mathers to say thank you to her for faithfully playing the organ for worship over many years. Mavis first played the organ for the morning service with Rae Benson playing in the evening, and then Rosemary Hilton in the evening, but recently she has felt it right to resign as she was having increasing difficulty with stiffness in one hand.

As Glyn wrote on the card which she was given, Mavis has played faithfully and with dignity. Her good time keeping and reliability have honoured the Lord in her contribution to our services.

Mavis is still involved in many other areas of service within the life of the church, but on Sunday mornings now she says she will really enjoy sitting in the congregation and singing freely.



Margaret Williams

Second Tuesday – 11th May 2010 Coalition and Compromise

These are brief notes from the Second Tuesday seminar.

1 Introduction.

The title clearly reflects the topical situation of “Coalition and Compromise” necessary to form a new Government for the UK. According to the dictionary, a coalition is a “temporary alliance, especially of political parties forming a Government”. A compromise is “an agreement reached by each side making concessions”. Compromise is necessary to reach a coalition. Both sides may have strong and different views, but for the nation's interests they have to make some of their major views secondary. This is a discipline indeed. Even in wartime, coalition generals, in fighting a common enemy, have to agree methods of war which might be different if fighting on their own. United Nations forces, including British forces, are currently called ‘Coalition Forces’ in Afghanistan.

The Liberal Democrats want Electoral Reform as a priority. The Conservatives want to take steps to reduce the national debt this year, by cutting Government Expenditure. For Christians, compromise has two meanings: 1) Bad, if it is against God's laws 2) Good, if it means making pet ideas subsidiary to the bigger issues for the purpose of unity.

The question is, is God in ‘coalition’ with the human race or with the church? Does He have to compromise in any way to form a coalition? Does the concept of ‘Grace’ mean He compromises with us? And should Christians compromise in their personal lives or in working with other Christians?

2 God never compromises with sin

He Himself is entirely pure and perfect. He cannot abide sin. Sin cannot enter Heaven. Sinners cannot enter Heaven unless we are ‘presented perfect’ to the Father (Revelation 21: 27) *“But there shall by no means enter it (Heaven) anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life”*. We were born “in sin” – *“all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”* (Romans 3: 23). God