THE PORCH FEBRUARY 2024

I have a Dream

80p

STEDWARD'S CHURCH DRINGHOUSES,YORK

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I have a dream....

Tim Vine is one of my favourite comedians. He has a way with groan inducing one liners and puns that is second to none- if you like he is the Daddy of the dadjoke. One of his best is: "I had a dream last night that I was cutting carrots with the Grim Reaper - dicing with death."



The words "You're dreaming" are rarely a compliment. They tend to mean that the person in question is out of touch with basic reality and rapidly needs to reassess their priorities. And yet in the Bible dreams are often the way in which God is able to reveal a deeper reality, and to show possibilities that were not otherwise obvious. In the last few weeks as we have retold the Christmas story, we have heard again of Joseph being visited in a dream by the Angel Gabriel and told to go ahead with his marriage to Mary. We also hear of the wise men being warned in a dream not to go back to King Herod with news of where the baby Jesus is to be found. In both cases, God shows the dreamers a deeper reality and enables them to see a way forward that they hadn't previously considered.

In his famous 'I have a dream' speech, Martin Luther King invites us to see a deeper reality, one with possibilities for a different way of being. He dreams of a world where his four little children "*will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character.*" At the time his speech seemed to be deeply out of touch with the reality of life in so many parts of America, but in his dream Martin Luther King invited his listeners to be those who travelled the next part of their journey by a different route.

Martin Luther King's speech is still incredibly powerful and moving, not least because his dream has not yet been fully realised. As is pointed out later in this issue, in the Church of England we have a journey to make as we seek to live out that call to be the whole People of God.

To have a dream is not somehow to be detached from reality, but to be ready to plot a different course. For Joseph his dream meant taking Mary as his wife and becoming step-father to Jesus. For the wise men, it meant being willing to change their plans and to journey home by a different road.

I wonder what dreams we carry with us into 2024? I wonder, too, what dreams God has for each of us as we seek to journey well with God and with others? Dare we take the risk of seeking after God and ask what those dreams- that deeper reality- might look like for us, and then dare we respond by taking a different road?

As we begin this new year together, I pray that we will each know the presence of God with us, and that we will be enabled to live well with God and with those around us; and that as we begin to see those deeper possibilities, we will have the courage to take that risk of faith and step boldly into a genuinely transfiguring new year.

Richard

Where do we go from here?

I'm here with Arun Aurora the Bishop of Kirkstall in Leeds. So, Arun, do tell us a little about yourself...

So, I'm from Birmingham born and bred. I didn't come from a Christian family but came to Jesus as part of the Billy Graham crusade at Villa Park in the 1980s- yet another reason to love Aston Villa! I originally started by joining a Baptist Church where I learned about Christian community,



about discipleship, about the Bible and serious engagement with the Bible. I particularly liked the fact that in Baptist churches especially, you had people from every background – socioeconomic, age, race – all gathered together, and it was a wonderful introduction to the family of Jesus and to the Church.

After a really hurtful church split, I was looking to be in a place where I could worship God and have nothing to do with community; where I could go to church, pray, leave and where no one would speak to me - so thank God for the Church of England! And that's where I began my journey with the Anglican Church. It's a journey that I particularly loved, not least in that movement from the Baptist tradition to the Anglican tradition with the centrality of the Eucharist, and also the beauty of liturgy, neither of which featured strongly in my Baptist beginnings. Now both of those, alongside daily prayer and the psalms, are things that are key to my own faith journey and my own Christian traditions.

You were Co-Chair for a Church of England report into race in the Church of England, "From Lament to Action" and so when you hear Martin Luther King's "I have a dream" speech, where do you feel that we are now in the Church of England? Where is progress being made and where do we still have a journey to make? (<u>https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/</u> <u>FromLamentToAction-report.pdf</u>) We've just marked Martin Luther King Day in the middle of January and it's good to be able to reflect on all his different speeches and writings, so alongside "I have a dream" there was another key speech that he made a number of years later called "Where do we go from here?" It was a speech he made about 8 months before he was assassinated. In that speech he considered the progress of the civil rights movement and the things that had been achieved, but also recognised how far as a people they had to go in America. He said that in the fight for racial justice some things had been achieved but there was still a huge distance to go. In some ways it feels like that in the Church of England. The Report "From Lament to Action" was written because the Church had done so little to act on racial justice. Over the previous 30 to 40 years there have been lots of reports, lots of debates, lots of resolutions but there has been very little action or implementation of those reports. So, one of my hopes is that "From Lament to Action" will act as the catalyst with its emphasis on action rather than being yet another report! I'm encouraged by the way that some of those actions have taken place but there's still a long way to go. However, one result of our Report was creating the Racial Justice Commission within the Church of England. The work that they are doing is to finally implement some of those actions across a broad range of areas including participation, theology, governance, youth engagement, and wider issues such as slavery.

As someone from an Indian background how does that affect the way that people have treated you?

There is a saying we heard quite a lot which is that 'you need to see it to be it', particularly for the young when it comes to aspiration and role models. So what does that mean? Well, even after years of being a Christian in places like Birmingham and Wolverhampton, in addition to places like Durham and Harrogate, I had never been at a service where another Asian man had either presided or preached at Communion. That was, until last year, when I was at a House of Bishops Service at your church at St Edward the Confessor where Saju Muthulaly- the current Bishop of Loughborough- was the preacher.

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That's quite a thing when you consider the racial diversity of places like Birmingham and London! So in that sense it wasn't easy to see myself in the church, let alone as a Bishop, but God is faithful and thankfully we're not dependent upon our own abilities or our own ambitions and the call for each of us is to respond to God where we are and in whatever way God has decided for us.

As part of "From Lament to Action" we called for increased participation of people from UKME - that's UK Minority Ethnic or Global Majority Heritagebackgrounds. We talk intentionally about the language of participation rather than representation. As an Asian man, I can't represent all Asian people any more than a white vicar with an English background could represent all white English people. Rather it's about increasing participation and to that extent it is a really encouraging that we're starting to see participation from UKME people at higher levels in the Church of England and its leadership- in senior lay positions, in its clergy and bishops - but there is still a long way to go. There are no Diocesan secretaries in the 42 Dioceses in the Church of England who are from a UKME background. There are no principles of theological colleges who are from a UKME background. There's about two or three Deans out of 42 who are from a UKME background. As far as we're aware there are no Diocesan Lay Chairs and so those are just a few examples of how far we have to go and why we should not at any point be complacent. We do now have a number of suffragan or area bishops from UKME backgrounds and there are now two Diocesan Bishops- John Perumbalath who's the Bishop of Liverpool and Guli Francis-Dehgani who is the Bishop of Chelmsford. I think that I am right in saying there has never been more than two serving diocesan bishops from a UKME background. Previously there was Michael Nazir-Ali and then John Sentamu and since they retired, we are only just back at that high number of 2 out of 42 Diocesan Bishops!

So where do you see signs of hope?

I suppose that it's recognising the hope that comes from the number of people who are beginning to own racial justice as part of their discipleship, and recognising the racial justice is not just something that is for people of colour. It is recognising that racism is a sin and that racism makes a lie of our common identity in Christ. As Galatians 3:28 reminds us we are neither male nor female, Jew nor gentile, slave nor free, but we are all one in Christ Jesus, and when we come to faith in Jesus we are remade.

Martin Luther King talked of having a dream; what is your dream?

My dream would be the re-evangelization of England of people of every age, colour and background so that all discover a new life in Jesus and discover that they are loved by him. I dream that we would each rediscover that we were made for worship of Jesus and would rejoice in the fact that we are loved by Him. I dream that we would each then respond as builders of the Kingdom of God and bring His rule to bear in this land, in our cities and in our countryside, so that the family of God would increase, and we together would rejoice at the movement of the Spirit. And that would be such a wonderful dream becoming God's reality.

Interviewer: Revd. Canon Richard Carew

The Dream of the Rood

One of the earliest works of English literature is a poem about a dream, and a

Christian one at that. The Dream of the Rood, "rood" being an old word for "cross," is known to us from a 10th century manuscript. A section of the poem appears, in runic script, on the 8th century Ruthwell Cross in Dumfriesshire, a beautiful surviving example of an Anglo-Saxon high cross. Although scholars believe

the runes may be a slightly later addition, it is still thought that

the poem was written as early as the 8th century.

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The unknown poet of the Dream of the Rood wrote it in the alliterative verse that is characteristic of most Old English poetry. In other words, the poet used patterns of repeated initial consonants, rather than end-rhymes, to structure the poem. We still love to use alliteration to make our phrases catchy and memorable: through thick and thin, busy as a bee, right as rain, and so on.

Of course, the language in which *The Dream of the Rood* was written is vastly different from the English we speak today. To give you a brief flavour, the runes on the Ruthwell Cross include these words:

Krist wæs on rodi. HwePræ Per fusæ fearran kwomu æPPilæ til anum. Ic Pæt al beheald. ("P" would be spelt "th" today)

(Christ was on the cross. And there, hastening from afar, they came to the noble prince. I beheld all that.)

So, if you want to read The Dream of the Rood, you'll probably want to do it in translation! There are a number of versions on the Internet, including one by Roy M. Liuzza from which I take my quotations.

The poem itself is about a dream which comes at night to a Christian believer. He has a vision of the rood or cross on which Jesus was crucified:

> Listen! I will speak of the sweetest dream ... It seemed that I saw a most wondrous tree raised on high, wound round with light, the brightest of beams.



from Project Woruldhord, University of Oxford (http:// projects.oucs.ox.ac.uk/ woruldhord)

Then the cross itself begins to speak. It tells how it was felled and shaped into a cross, set on a hill. There it saw the "young hero," Jesus Christ, ascend it:

I trembled when he embraced me, but I dared not bow down ... I had to stand fast.

The cross suffers with Jesus, but like him it does not yield to "the worst of torments." Yet, because of Christ's resurrection, the cross becomes a beacon of healing and hope:

On me the Son of God suffered for a time; and so, glorious now I rise up under the heavens, and am able to heal each of those who is in awe of me.

In the final section of the poem, the speaker awakes from his dream, believes all that has been revealed to him and desires eternal life, along with all other faithful saints:

May the Lord be my friend, he who here on earth suffered on the hanging-tree for human sin; he ransomed us and gave us life, a heavenly home.

One of the fascinating things about *The Dream of the Rood* is that it was written at a time when pre-Christian, pagan practices had not entirely disappeared from people's consciences. Indeed, Christian and pagan elements and images intermingle in the poem. Jesus is portrayed as a kind of heroic warrior figure, and having a talking cross or tree is hardly a normal Christian device! Nevertheless, the Christian beliefs of salvation and after-life are clearly given centre-stage, and there is no doubting the fervent sincerity of the Christian poet and dreamer.

Worth a read, if you have the time and interest!

Martin Bailes

Just a Minute: Notes from the PCC

Monday 15th January 2024

Meeting opened with prayer and Psalm 63. The latter gave a timely reminder that despite life's troubles, we sit under the shadow of God's wings.

Matters arising:

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- The solar inverter has been replaced and so the solar panels are now back in operation.
- Richard, Helen and Sally had run a Christmas activity afternoon at Dringhouses Primary School which was well received and so they have been asked to lead a whole day next time.
- Christmas Services were well attended and felt as though we were returning to pre-covid levels - but still with some room for growth!

Safeguarding

St Edward's is signed up with the Church of England safeguarding dashboard, which provides a helpful tool in creating an action plan. The priority remains training to be completed by all PCC members and to review the list of Non-Church Activities to ensure relevant groups have their safeguarding/risk procedures in place before giving approval. However, it was agreed that there were areas of church life, such as pastoral visiting, not covered by the action plan that required further discussion with regard to safeguarding.

Finance

The church continues to run a budget with a $\pounds 60,000$ deficit and the finance committee are discussing how we can begin to balance the budget over the next three years. There are some considerable challenges ahead.

Premises

- A consultant has been appointed to advise and draw up plans for a new lighting system in the church. Funding is already in place, but it will be required to go out to tender. He said it was also worth considering the removal of pews, as in his experience, churches were increasingly looking at developing more flexible spaces. It was agreed this would be a matter for future discussions with the PCC.
- A caretaker, Mr Mike Hewitt has been appointed to start on Monday 22nd January. His hours will be from 8.00am to 12.30pm, Mon-Friday.
- The red feature wall in the atrium has been repainted.
- Due to the offer of a generous donation, the stained carpet in the Vestry kitchen will be taken up and replaced with new flooring.

Kneelers

There are 30-40 kneelers stored in the loft and now surplus to requirement. A faculty is not needed for disposal, but the PCC agreed these could be offered to members of the congregation.

Electoral Roll: The number has risen to 215.

The meeting closed with prayer.

Promise Page - I Have A Dream

In late January, it is Martin Luther King Jr Day. On this day, we remember the life of this Baptist minister who is known for his efforts to end segregation through non-violent means. His famous speech delivered on August 28th, 1963 on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial has been heard around the world.

In writing this article, I read through this speech since I'd not read it or heard it in some time. I was struck by the passion in his words and the hope he shared with those who were there to hear him. The famous phrase "I have a dream" precedes hope after hope of what the future will look like. It made me wonder what King would make of all that has happened since his death. Would he see any of his dreams coming to fruition? Would he find himself moved to make a similar speech perhaps? The faith that he speaks of so ardently in his speech suggests to me that whatever he made of the world since the 1960s, he would absolutely not give up the hope that his dream would come true.

"I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together!"

As we venture tentatively into 2024, I wonder if any of you have dreams for yourselves, for your family, for the country or perhaps even the world? Where do you hope for the ground to be levelled out, what rough places do you dream to be made plain, and what crooked places would you love to be seen made straight?

Helen

C&Y Coordinator

A prayer...

Dear God

In 2024, help us to hold fast to our faith in you and to the dreams we have. Amen.

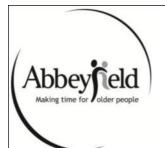
An activity...

As a friendship group, a family or on your own, set aside a little time for prayer about the year ahead. What do you dream? Record somewhere what you think of and pop it in a jar or tin. Throughout the year, any time anything joyous, thoughtful or fruitful happens, record it and add it to the tin. Open the tin or jar at the end of December and look through all these things. Do they give you hope for your dream? Do they actually put you on a different path and you have a new dream? Whatever you find in your jar or tin at the end of the year, be assured that God is God and is in it all with you.

A Prayer for this New Year

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose years never fail and whose mercies are new each returning day: let the radiance of your Spirit renew our lives, warming our hearts and giving light to our minds; that we may pass the coming year in joyful obedience and firm faith; through him who is the beginning and the end, your Son, Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.





The Abbeyfield York Society Ltd

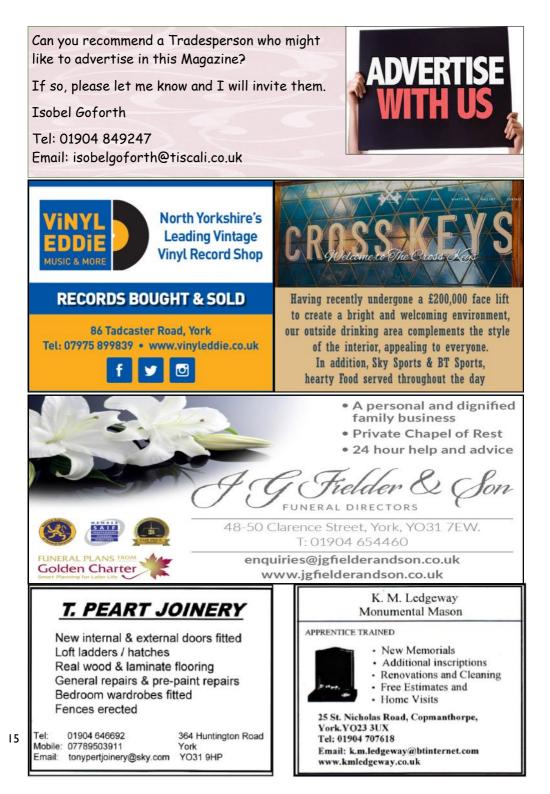
Are you an older person, feeling lonely and vulnerable, but not ready for a care home? If so, we may have the answer.

The Abbeyfield Society is a national charity providing supported housing for older people. Our caring staff support your independence. At our Regency Mews property, we also offer a personal care service to our residents, helping with bathing, dressing, laundry, shopping and other domestic chores. We offer bedsitting accommodation with en suite facilities.

- Healthy home cooked meals, with special diets catered for.
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Telephone:	01904 704500	
E-mail:	Enquiries@abbeyfieldyork.co.uk	
Website:	www.abbeyfield.com	
Registered Charity 2	222424; Housing Association H2055	



MUFFIN TUESDAY!

Join us for a free hot drink and cake

10.30AM -11.30AM on Tuesday mornings

in the Atrium Café and small meeting room.

A chance to meet old friends and make new ones.

Transport may be possible: please contact the Parish Office on 01904 709111

St Edward the Confessor Church, Tadcaster Road, Dringhouses, York, YO24 1QG

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February 2024 SERVICES & EVENTS

Monday -Thursday	Church open during daytime 9.30am-3.00pm (Friday 12.30-3.00pm)	
Monday -Thursday	Café open 9.30am-12.00 & 1.30pm-4.00pm	
Friday	Café open 9.30am-12.00	
Mondays	Garden Gang (during the season) 2.00pm-4.00pm	
Wednesdays	Youth Group 7.00pm-8.30pm	
Wednesdays	Wednesday Afternoon Small Group 2.30pm-4.00pm (alternate)	
Fridays	Little Teds 10.30am-12.00pm (term time only)	
Fridays (see below for	practice dates) 6.30-7.30pm Choir practice in Church	

Any enquiries about Baptisms, Weddings etc to 01904 709111 or parishoffice@stedsdringhouses.org Timings are correct at time of going to press.

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Monday	10.00-12.00	Needlecraft Group
	2.00-3.15	Cindy's Vitality Yoga
	7.00—8.00pm	My Yoga Journey
Tuesday	10.00-11.00am	Exercise for Fitness & Health
	12.30-4.00pm	U3A Bridge
	6.15-7.15pm	Beaver Scouts (in term time) see back page for Wednesday evening session
	7.45-9.45pm	Line Dancing
Wednesday	9.30am-12neen	Probus (fortnightly)
	9.45-11.30am	Musical Connections
	10.00-11.00 am	Aerobics
	1.15-3.45 pm	Art Group
	6.15-8.15pm	Perfecting Pilates (2 x hour classes)
lst Thursday	2.00-3.00pm	Contact
3rd Thursday	2.00-4.00pm	Townswomen's Guild
	7.30-9.30pm	Local History Group
Thursday	11.30-12.30	Yorkshire Club
Friday	9.30-12.00	Living Well Health Community (2nd & 4th in month)
	l 2.00-2.00 dates)	Lunches in the Community Hall (see poster for
	6.15-7.15pm	Beavers Scouts (in term-time)

Thursday 1st February	
10.30am Holy Communion	
2.00—3.00pm	Contact
Friday 2nd February	
10.30-12.00	Little Ted's
6.30—7.30pm	Choir Practice
Sunday 4th February	
8.30am Holy Communion	Colossians I: 15-20: John I: 1-14
10.00am All-Age Service	
3.00pm Baptism	
6.30pm Holy Communion with Prayers for	Readings as above
Healing	
Monday 5th February	
10.00—12.00	Needlecraft
Tuesday 6th February	
10.00-12.00	Exercise for Fitness & Health
7.00– 9.30pm	'Out of the Box Circle'
Wednesday 7th February	
12.00 noon	Praying in Company
7.00—8.30pm	Youth Group
Thursday 8th February	
10.30am Holy Communion	
Friday 9th February	
10.30-12.00 noon	Little Ted's
12.00– 2.00pm	Lunches
Sunday 11th February	

8.30am Holy Communion	2 Corir
10.00am Holy Communion	Reading
Monday 12th February	
10.00—12.00	Needle
Tuesday 13th February	
10.00—11.00am	Exercis
Wednesday 14th February	
12.00	Praying
7.00—8.30pm	Youth
7.00pm	Ash W
Thursday 15th February	
10.30am	Holy C
2.00—4.00pm	Towns
7.30—9.00pm	Local H
Friday 16th February	
6.30—7.30pm	Choir I

Sunday 18th February Lent I

8.30am Holy Communion

10.00am Holy Communion

Monday 19th February

10.00-12.00

Tuesday 20th February

10.00-11.00

7.30-9.00pm

Wednesday 21st February

12.00 noon

2 Corinthians 4: 3-6: Mark 9: 2-9

gs as above

craft

se for Fitness & Health

in Company Group ednesday Service

Communion women's Guild listory Group

Practice

Genesis 9: 8-17: Luke 2: 1-7

Readings as above

Needlecraft

Exercise for Fitness & Health

Lent Course part I

Praying in Company

7.00—8.30pm	Youth Group		
Thursday 22nd February			
10.30 am Holy Communion			
Friday 23rd February			
10.30—12.00	Little Ted's		
12.00—2.00	Lunches		
Sunday 25th February—Lent 2			
8.30am Holy Communion	Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16: Luke 5: 1-11		
10.00am Holy Communion	Readings as above		
3.00pm Baptisms			
Monday 26th February			
10.00—12.00 noon	Needlecraft		
Tuesday 27th February			
10.00-11.00	Exercise for Fitness & Health		
7.30—9.00pm	Lent Course		
Wednesday 28th February			
12.00 noon	Praying in Company		
7.00—8.30pm	Youth Group		
Thursday 29th February			
10.30am Holy Communion			
2.00—4.00pm	Women's Fellowship		
From the Registers			
Funerals			
Brian Tate	17th November 2023		

Valerie Rose Wheatley

Judith Humphrey

17th November 2023

27th November 2023

21st December 2023

Free at last

An interview with Beryl Johnson

For many who attend the 10am service on a Sunday morning, the opportunity to move on into the Community Hall for a cup of tea or coffee is greatly appreciated. A chance to warm up, catch up with friends and a comfy chair. What's not to like? But, unlike manna, the tea, coffee and biscuits do not appear miraculously, nor do the cups wash themselves, whilst singing a happy tune a la "Beauty & the Beast." For years, this service has been provided by a rota of volunteers, and for the last 15 years Beryl Johnson has co-ordinated the rota and stepped in to fill the gaps. But this



year she has decided to step down and we are very pleased that Stella Pycroft has bravely stepped into the breach.

Beryl started attending St Edward's with her husband's cousin about 40 years ago. She eventually joined the coffee rota with Irene Pallace and became one of the regulars. Fifteen years ago, the rota was organised by Maureen Nicholson, who needed time out for a medical procedure. Beryl agreed to step in and has never been stood down.

We have never charged for Sunday morning teas and coffees but depended on donations. Beryl's kitty started out at $\pounds 5$ and gradually built up. Over the years the 'profits' have been used to buy 2 fridges, a freezer and numerous kettles and toasters for the church kitchens.

Beryl says she has always enjoyed doing the rota and being in the kitchen. Since the pandemic, the number of people willing and able to join the rota has dwindled, though hopefully we have now found a few new recruits. The decision to step back from organising the rota has been due to developing arthritis in her hands and also to give her the opportunity to be able to attend family outings and celebrations on a Sunday. She is keen to say that she will continue to put herself on the Sunday rota and do Community Café on a Tuesday afternoon, so she is not quite hanging up her apron.

So "Thank You" Beryl and all the volunteers who provide refreshments on a Sunday morning. If you are not on the rota and feel you could help out, please let Stella know, or email Wendy in the Parish Office. If you find the wheezing coffee percolator or the steaming dishwasher a bit daunting, you could pair up with one of the "old hands". The more people we have, the less often you have to do it.

Linda Sykes



Set my People Free

(The following piece is based on two articles from the USPG magazine 'Revive' Volume 1 Autumn 2023)



The theme of this month's Porch is "I have a dream". Whilst this allows a whole range of interpretations and ideas, for those of us of a certain age, it strongly reminds us of Martin Luther King's historic speech on racism in the USA and his hope for justice and freedom.

USPG is one of the charities that St Edward's supports. Helen Dawe regularly updates us about their work, and we have used some of their resources in Lent courses. In the Autumn edition of *Revive*, we read about how the Church is responding to the issues of both historic and modern-day slavery.

The first article is about the Triangle of Hope. This is a project coordinated by the Dioceses of Liverpool (UK), Kumasi (Ghana) and the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia (USA). These three communities were historically involved in the transatlantic slave trade. The project aims to "transform the long history, ongoing effects, and continuing presence of slavery in our world through repentance, reconciliation and mission". Thirty young people have signed up to be part of this project. In July 2023 they started the journey by meeting the Archbishop of Canterbury for his blessing. They then completed a 10-day study programme in Liverpool. Next year the group will visit Virginia (USA) and in the final year, complete their journey in Kumasi, Ghana.

Further on in the magazine, we learn of another initiative where 15 Primates and 23 delegates from across the Anglican Communion met up in Dar es Salaam, in Tanzania. This was for an international consultation on The Call of the Church against Human Trafficking. There were testimonies from people who had survived



child trafficking in Ghana, where children were forced to undertake long days fishing on Lake Volta - the largest artificial reservoir in the world.

On the second day, delegates made a pilgrimage to Zanzibar. Christ Church Cathedral in Stone Town, stands on what was one of the largest slave markets in the world. A spot in front of the altar marks the position of the whipping post, and below the souvenir shop are the dungeons where the slaves were held.

In the second half of the consultation, Archbishop Marinez Bassotto spoke



about the work that was being done in Brazil to support and protect indigenous people from human trafficking.

Given that there are more people in slavery today than in any other time in history, the

Church needs to work in partnership with other agencies in response to God's call to set His people free. 60 years on from Dr King's historic speech, we still await his dream's fulfilment.

St Edward's Parish Weekend Wydale Hall | 12–14th July 2024 a weekend like no other!

www.stedsdringhouses.org/wydale



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Aedh Wishes for the Cloths of Heaven

W. B. Yeats 1865 -1939

Had I the heavens' embroidered cloths,

Enwrought with golden and silver light,

The blue and the dim and the dark cloths

Of night and light and the half light,

I would spread the cloths under your feet:

But I, being poor, have only my dreams;

I have spread my dreams under your feet;

Tread softly because you tread on my dreams.

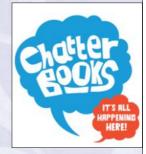


Hello from Dringhouses Library, and hello again from Lucy, who is back from her maternity leave! Do pop in and say hello, she'd be delighted to see you (and show you endless pictures of her baby, Dot!)



Kids, if you completed the Bloodaxe Book challenge in January, reading 4 books and getting stickers, don't forget to ask the library about your ticket to meet the amazing Louie Stowell, author of 'Loki', on Tuesday 13 February at York Explore Library.

And if you want to do even more reading (and who doesn't?!), this half term come along to **Chatterbooks reading club**, with the amazing Jess who managed the library between September and January! **Saturday 17 February**, **10-11am**. For children 6-11 years, join us and talk about books and play some games. This is just a taster session, but if there is interest we will start a regular Chatterbooks club, so why not visit and try it out!



We're holding a **Big Booksale** on **Thursday 15** – **Saturday 17 February**. Browse a variety of books for sale from the withdrawn library stock. Fiction, non-fiction, children's, there's something for everyone! Pick up your favourite next read and support your local library service – everyone wins!

If you are keen to **support your library service**, you can **donate** online, here <u>https://exploreyork.org.uk/support-us/giving/</u>. The cost of running Explore this year will be over £3.1m. Two thirds of this amount comes from our contract with City of York Council and the remainder we need to raise ourselves through trading, grants and other fundraising. Make a difference to your community and give to Explore York Libraries and Archives today. It matters now, more than ever.

Our Lego Club is on every Tuesday 3.30pm to 4.30pm. Expect building challenges and creative fun with Lego every week. Free and no booking required.

Under 5s Storytime is on every Thursday and Saturday, 11am to 11.30am, with songs, rhymes, and stories for children under 5 and their carers. Free and no booking required.

Our friendly Knit and Natter group meets every Tuesday, 10am to 12pm, for coffee, chat, knitting, crocheting, and fun. Free and no booking required.

Lucy

Lighten our Darkness....

I HAD A DREAM and I still have the same one....to replace the internal Church lighting!

Some time ago, possibly 2018, along with members of the Premises Committee it was decided it was time to replace this old, expensive and not user-friendly system. The present system uses bulbs which I believe are called lamps and the electrician has to replace them. They are now obsolete.

I had a dream of what it would be like and how much cheaper to run it could be thinking it would be quite easy to do. I spoke to several electricians and in due course got 3 quotations. We then decided it would be a good idea to add emergency lighting.

After the Premises Committee decided what they felt would be best, I put it to the PCC who decided I should contact the Diocesan lighting advisor. His report was not favourable to our choices and then a pandemic arrived.

Job on hold until after Covid then we start again..... So now we have an independent lighting advisor and we have visited some of the churches where he has overseen the lighting projects. I am very happy that we are moving on slowly and hopeful that my dream will be fulfilled by the end of the year.

Over the years, various lunches have helped to raise the funds - now we just need to raise the lights!

Louise Robinson

Chair of the Premises Committee

Martin Luther King Jr. quotes:

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

"The time is always right to do what is right."

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

"I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear."

"Forgiveness is not an occasional act; it is a constant attitude."

"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase."

"Nothing in the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity."

"We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope."

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?''

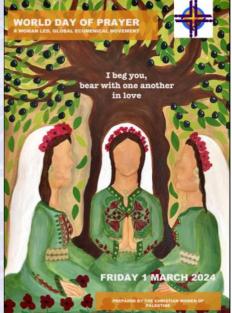
World Day of Prayer

The service this year will be held at 2pm on Friday 1st March at St James the Deacon. Everyone welcome.

This yea, St James the Deacon, St Edward the Confessor, West Thorpe Methodists and St Stephen's of Acomb join together to prepare and present this service.

There will be refreshments afterwards.

³¹ Please do join us.







Dream Answers

- 1. Any dream will do Jason Donovan.
- 2. When I dream Crystal Gayle
- 3. Nice Dream Radio Head.
- 4. Dream Lover Bobby Darin
- 5. California Dreaming Mamas and Papas.
- 6. Dreams and Nightmares Meek Mill
- 7. Your Wildest Dreams Moody Blues.
- 8. I Dream of Jeanie with the Light Brown Hair Bing Crosby
- 9. Sweet Dreams are made of this Eurythmics
- 10. Head Full of Dreams Cold Play.
- 11. Follow That Dream Elvis Presley
- 12. I Have a Dream ABBA

<u>Choir Practices – January – March 2024</u> <u>6.30 – 7.30pm in Meeting Room</u>

January 26th

February 2nd

February 16th

March 8th

March 22nd

March 29th (Good Friday)



Extra Services

Wednesday 14th February – Ash Wednesday @ 7.00pm

Sunday March 31st – Easter Day Service @ 10.00am

NB. No Choir Practice on April 5th

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