

GREASBROUGH UNITED CHURCH

June 2018

From a friend

Dear Friend

How are you? I just had to send you a note to tell you how much I care about you.

I saw you yesterday as you were talking with your friends. I waited all day hoping you would want to talk with me too. I gave you a sunset to close your day and a cool breeze to rest you - and I waited. You never came. It hurt me – but I love you still because I am your friend.

I saw you sleeping last night and longed to touch your brow so I spilled moonlight upon your face. Again I waited, waiting to rush down so we could talk. I have so many gifts for you! You woke and rushed off to work. My tears were in the rain.

If you would only listen to me! I love you! I try to tell you in blue skies & in the quiet green grass. I whisper it in leaves on the trees and breathe it in colours of flowers, shout it to you in mountain streams, give the birds

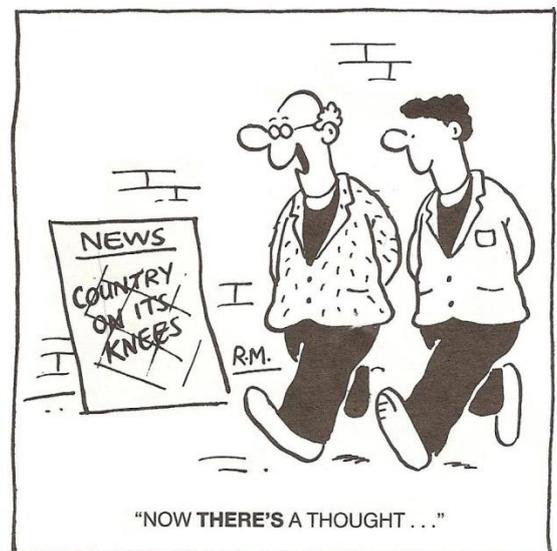
love songs to sing. I clothe you with warm sunshine and perfume the air with nature scents. My love for you is deeper than the ocean, and bigger than the biggest need in your heart!

Ask me! Talk to me! Please don't forget me. I have so much to share with you!

I won't hassle you any further. It is **your** decision. I have chosen you and I will wait - because I love you.

Your friend,

Jesus



News



the purple butterfly *appeal*

As you know we have recently been collecting for Christian Aid and I am pleased to let you know that so far £146.69 has been donated. However, if you have not yet given, and wish to do so then please let Martyn have your gift. Thank you for your generosity towards such a worthy cause.

At our last church meeting, it was decided that **The Purple Butterfly Appeal** would be our church charity this year. Please see below for further information of this fundraising initiative.

“Patients nearing the end of their lives have the right to choose where they die. While many people prefer to spend their final days at home or in a hospice environment, sadly 60 per cent of people in Rotherham are likely to die in hospital. We already provide an excellent level of clinical care for patients nearing the end of their lives and we work hard to make sure we maintain their dignity and respect their wishes, whatever their illness or condition. What is more challenging, in a busy hospital, is our ability to provide some home comforts. The charity set up the Purple Butterfly Appeal to help raise awareness about the importance of providing

compassionate and specialist end of life care. The appeal was also set up to raise money to fund Purple Butterfly rooms, which provide privacy, dignity, space and a home-from-home for

people nearing the end of their lives, their families, friends and carers. Thanks to your fundraising, the Trust already has three Purple Butterfly rooms at Rotherham Hospital on Ward A2, the Fitzwilliam Ward and the Labour Ward. Purple Butterfly rooms are private, comfortable and include all the necessary equipment and facilities patients and their families need to remain close to one another when every minute counts. Each room costs more than £75,000 to install and equip with the right balance of medical equipment and soft furnishings which make the room feel like a home from home. We are currently fundraising for a fourth Purple Butterfly room and need your help more than ever”

Rev Simon invites us all to join him on Wednesday 6th June 3.00-5.00pm for a time of Prayer seeking guidance for our walk and work for The Lord here in our church.

Don't forget to come along on Monday 4th June for a time of fun and friendship at our Social starting at 6.30pm with a buffet.

Jean

WORDSEARCH



Pentecost and the Early Church

Find these words in the grid above. The words may be in any direction – forwards, backwards, upwards, downwards or diagonal. After you have found all the words, use the leftover letters to form a mystery answer.

Answer: _ _ _ _ _

- | | | | |
|------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Amazed | Determined | Jerusalem | Salvation |
| Anointed | Devotion | Language | Sermon |
| Baptized | Endowed | Miracles | Signs |
| Believers | Faithful | Multitude | Sins |
| Bewildered | Filled | Perplexed | Teachings |
| Bread | Fire | Power | Thousands |
| Brethren | Galileans | Preaching | Together |
| Crowd | Healing | Prophecy | Upper Room |
| | | | Witness |

Just close your eyes
And open your heart
And feel your worries
And care depart,
Just yield yourself
To the Father above
And let Him hold you
Secure in His love.

For life on earth
Grows more involved
With endless problems
That can't be solved.

So when you are tired
Discouraged and blue,
There's only one door
That is open to you.
And that is the door to
The house of prayer,
You'll find God waiting
To meet you there.

The Friendship Book 1995

Bank Account

A few years ago a Church Treasurer received a cheque representing a proportion of an annual promise. The following letter was attached:

"My church account seems to be overdrawn. I deposited myself; I withdrew a way of life. I deposited my wedding vows; I withdrew a wonderful and satisfying marriage. I deposited my children for baptism; I withdrew the joys and privileges of parenthood. I deposited time; I withdrew the friendship of young and old.

"I deposited money. Now that's a touchy subject. What did I get for my money? a beautiful building, yes, but much more ... an investment in my children and others. A place where I feel good deep within, and the knowledge that I am at one with God ... A place to worship, a place to meet friends ... A Minister ... well who can measure the value of people who present us with God and visit the sick and comfort the bereaved and love us when we are not so loving?

"I know of no other organisation where I am free to decide how little I want to deposit and am still free to withdraw as much as I need. I will try in the future to make greater deposits, but, please don't count on me not being overdrawn, for I am already so deeply in debt."



Prayer this month

We ask that you pray for:

- **guidance for the future of our church;**
- **an end to conflict between nations.**

A teacher asked her class of 6 year olds "**How do you think Noah and his family would pass the time when they were in the Ark. Do you think they might do a lot of fishing?**"



Johnny scornfully piped up "**What with only two worms!**"

If your heart is in your prayer, God will know it.

Sunday Services

Held at 10.30am every Sunday.

Preachers

3 rd Jun	Anne Holmes
10 th Jun	Rev Brenda Hill
17 th Jun	Jean Kirk
24 th Jun	Rev Simon Copley
1 st Jul	Phil Critchlow

Friendship Group

Held at 2.00pm every Wednesday.

Speakers

6 th Jun	Rev Simon Copley
13 th Jun	Open Meeting
20 th Jun	Margaret White
27 th Jun	Rev Brenda Hill
4 th Jul	Open Meeting

What's on

Social evening –

4th June @ 6.30pm

Friendship Group followed by a time of Prayer –

6th June @ 3.00pm til 5.00pm

Care home services –

21st June @ 2.00pm

Bible study and prayer group

These are held at 34 Green Street on Tuesday mornings at 10.00am and are a valuable time of learning and sharing God's Word. It is a very relaxed gathering and all are welcome.

Contact us

If you would like to know anything about the church please contact:

- Rev Simon Copley (01709 814471)
- Phil Critchlow (01709 555704)

Email: Greasbrough.United.Church@sky.com

Website: www.greasbroughunitedchurch.org.uk

Meet the disciples: Thomas

Thomas was most likely born and raised in Galilee although the Gospels do not give details of his life before meeting Jesus. He is also referred to Judas Thomas or Thomas Didymus. His name 'Thomas' in Aramaic (Te'oma) and Greek (Didymos) means 'twin'; John 11:16 identifies him as 'Thomas, called the Twin.'

The Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke tell us nothing about Thomas except his name. However, John defines him more clearly in his Gospel.

In John 11, when Lazarus had recently died Jesus planned to return to Judea, where some Jews had attempted to stone Jesus. Thomas bravely spoke up *"Let us also go, so that we may die with him."*

At the Last Supper, in John 14, Jesus announced that he was going to prepare a place for his disciples to be with him. Thomas did not understand and asked *"Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"* Jesus replied with his famous words *"I am the way, and the truth, and the life."*

In John 20, when the other disciples told Thomas what they had seen, he refused to believe it until he saw Jesus and touched his wounds for himself. That's why Thomas became known as Doubting Thomas. Although Jesus rebuked Thomas for doubting, this event resulted in Thomas being the first to acknowledge Jesus's divinity aloud with the words *"My Lord and my God!"*

Thomas is mentioned only once in Acts, listed about the disciples in Acts 1 when they returned to Jerusalem after Jesus ascended into Heaven.

The historian Eusebius of Caesarea, quoting a 3rd century account by Origen, stated that the Apostles drew lots as to where each should go and Thomas was allocated Parthia and India. The apocryphal Acts of Thomas, written c180-230, gives a similar account. It also says that Thomas was recruited as a builder for King Gondophares, the ruler of the Indo-Parthian Kingdom, working in the royal court at Taxila (in modern day Pakistan). He then travelled to the South Indian kingdom of Mazdai (near modern day Chennai) about 72AD. The King, Misdus was infuriated when Thomas converted Queen Tertina and Prince Juzanes. Misdus led Thomas outside the city and ordered his soldiers to kill him on what is now known as St Thomas Mount.

