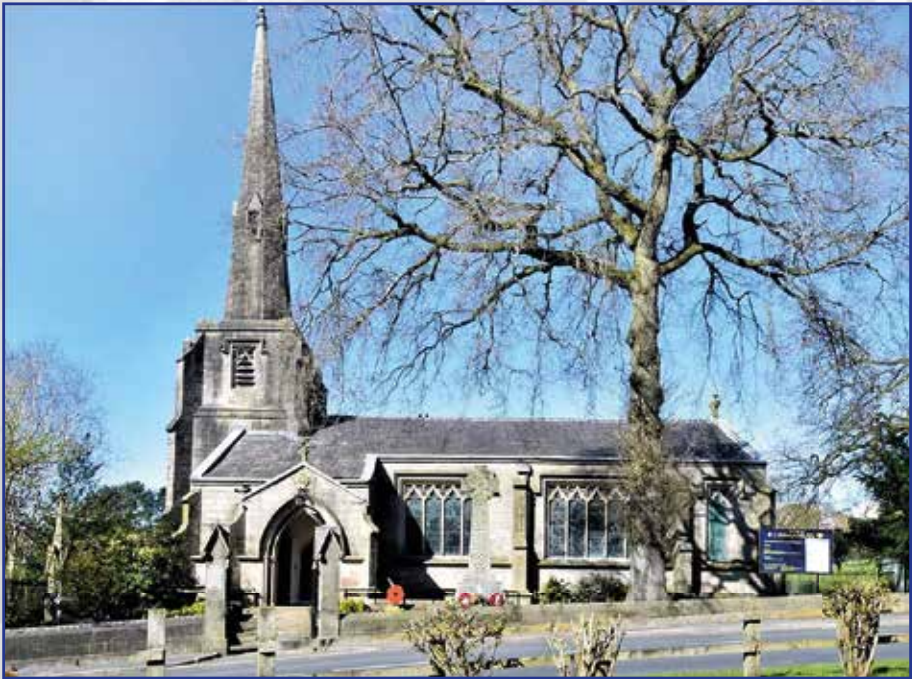


PARISH VIEW

**Immanuel
Feniscowles**



Epiphany 2025
£1

Immanuel Feniscowles

Welcome - *Immanuel is a church at the heart of our local community here in Feniscowles and Pleasington. We believe that God has called us to reflect the grace, beauty, love and peace of Jesus Christ to one another and to our neighbours here in Feniscowles, Pleasington, Livesey and Cherry Tree. God has blessed us with a beautiful and historic church building and with a heritage of prayer and Christian worship. We want to share all that God has given us, with those who want to experience more of God's grace and blessing in their lives -* **Come and Worship**

M: 07493 088 703 **E:** immanuel252@btinternet.com

51 Lomond Gardens, Blackburn BB2 5BW

Our new web address is: **Immanuelchurchfeniscowles.org**

Sunday Services: 9:15am – Parish Eucharist

2nd Sunday of the month: Café Church in the Church Hall 9.00am for a 9.15am start, Coffee Croissants and a family friendly church service.

4th Sunday of the month: Eucharist following the BCP prayer book.

Thursdays: 7:30pm Family Communion

Everyone is welcome to have a family Baptism (Christening) at Immanuel or to arrange to be married here - please contact Rev Bryn to book weddings and baptisms on:

07493 088 703

email on - immanuel252@btinternet.com

or come along to a Service and speak to Phil.

Safeguarding

Our parish of Immanuel Feniscowles is committed to safeguarding children, young people and adults from harm. We follow the House of Bishops guidance and policies and have our own Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO). If you are concerned that a child or adult has been harmed or may be at risk of harm in our parish please contact our PSO, Craig Atkinson (contact details below) or the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor, Cath Smith (contact details below). If you have immediate concerns about the safety of someone, please contact the police and your local authority's children or adult social care services. The Diocese of Blackburn's safeguarding pages contain further links and information and can be found here: <https://www.blackburn.anglican.org/overview>

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Joanna Duckworth-Crowell

Mob - 07837 340932

Email - scruffyduck007@hotmail.com

Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser

Cath Smith

Mob - 07711 485170

Email - catherine.smith@blackburn.anglican.org



Welcome to Our Services

Everyone is very welcome at Immanuel. We have a range of Services on different days and of different styles, come along to experience more.

Sundays - 9.15am - Holy Communion

Our main weekly Holy Communion service with hymns, prayers, and a talk on one of the Bible readings.

2nd Sunday of the month - Café Church in the Church Hall 9.00am for a 9.15am start, Coffee Croissants and a family friendly church service.

4th Sunday of the month - Holy Communion in traditional language, using the Book of Common Prayer.

Thursdays - 7:30pm - Family Communion

A shorter, more informal Holy Communion service suitable for the whole family.'

LOTS OF OTHER SEASONAL AND OCCASIONAL SERVICES ARE HELD THROUGH THE YEAR - KEEP AN EYE OPEN FOR THEM BY LOOKING AT THE WEBSITE, THE PARISH MAGAZINE OR, BETTER STILL, COME ALONG TO ONE OF OUR REGULAR SERVICES TO FIND OUT MORE!

IMMANUEL YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Please don't forget to visit YOUTUBE at FENNYCHURCHES if you have been unable to attend worship. If you know someone who is ill and would like to keep up with our church services, please let them know. They can watch a fortnightly video on Youtube.



Praying with greater depth and urgency for the Kingdom of God to come

As one of the four focuses of the Diocese 'Making Disciples' area of Vision 2026 is we want to help you to spend regular time in prayer.

Why Pray?

As we all have different ways of talking with our friends, families, neighbours and colleagues, so we also have different ways of talking to our Heavenly Father. Wanting to pray is the beginning of a relationship with God that can grow and grow

Praying can be woven into everyday life. Prayer is not just something done in church. It is about praying with others, praying alone, at any time and any place. It is living life in a relationship with God.

When we pray, there are millions of Christian people all around the world also praying; daily in churches, in their homes, in their cars, at work. You might not hear them. You might feel very alone in your prayer; but you are not alone.

Flowers for January and February

Altar

19th January The Waring Family

Memorial Desk

19th January The Waring Family

Altar

16th February Mr K Coulthurst



THE VICAR

Happy New Year! As we head into 2025 have you made any new year's resolutions? I'll be honest and admit that I started thinking about what I might do (or stop doing) in 2025 but no resolutions have materialised. In any case, I had a browse on the internet and it seems that the most popular new year's resolutions revolve around things like getting fit, improving our finances, losing weight, eating more healthily. It's why gym memberships are so popular at this time of year!

Now, none of those things are bad - it's great to commit to improving our fitness and health, and using any money that we have more wisely. But what it would look like if the new year's resolutions we made were more spiritual? What would it look like if our resolution was to become closer followers of Jesus in 2025? I'm sure you'll have your own ideas, but let me suggest a few things:

Prayer: Why not commit to spending some time each day, in the quiet, praying - talking to God, bringing to him the things that are on your mind, and resting in his presence?

Bible Reading: As part of your quiet time, you could also commit to reading the Bible - you don't have to read books at a time, you could choose one of the gospels and start reading a few verses a day, asking God to speak to you through his word.

Worship: If you've been struggling to make it to church, why not commit to coming to worship God regularly - give it a try and see how God might meet you in our churches week by week.

Serving: Perhaps you feel like you want to serve our churches in a new way, volunteering your time and talents, or perhaps giving financially - talk to me or one of our church wardens if this is something you want to commit to in 2025.

Now, the joke about new year's resolutions is that they're made to be broken, and I admit that I've accumulated my fair share of unfulfilled resolutions over the years. But this is the beauty of being part of a church family where we're all trying to become closer followers of Jesus - we can help and reassure one another so that we keep going. If you decide to commit to Jesus in any of the ways above, why not share that with a friend here so that they can cheer you on and pray for you?

Whatever resolutions you decide to make (or not) this year, I'll be praying that you all grow as closer followers of Jesus - that 2025 will be a year where you get to know his love and his grace more deeply, and where you see him at work in your life. Please be praying the same for me, for our church, and for the communities where we live.

Best wishes - **Bryn**

A TALE OF TWO BROTHERS

A few weeks ago, I witnessed a familiar scene in my household - my two boys locked in a heated argument over a game of pool. The victor's triumphant cry was met with accusations of cheating, and harsh words flew back and forth. In that moment of conflict, forgiveness seemed as distant as the North Pole. Yet, as the initial anger subsided and cooler heads prevailed, I saw a transformation. The boys, who moments ago were bitter rivals, were soon laughing together again. This small act of forgiveness, while seemingly insignificant, carries a profound lesson for us all. In our Gospel reading, we encounter John the Baptist, whose mission was to prepare the way for Jesus. As Jesus approached, John proclaimed, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" This powerful statement reveals the heart of Jesus' purpose - to offer forgiveness and reconciliation on a cosmic scale. John's testimony continues, describing how he witnessed "the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him". This divine confirmation marked Jesus as the one who would "baptize with the Holy Spirit". Unlike John's baptism with water, Jesus offers a spiritual renewal that can transform us from the inside out. The beauty of Jesus' forgiveness is its indiscriminate nature. Whether our sins are as trivial as a squabble over a board game or as weighty as the gravest offenses, Jesus takes them all away. He doesn't categorise our failings or rank them by severity - He simply offers complete absolution. As we reflect on John's role in pointing others to Jesus, we're reminded of our own calling. In a world often divided by grudges and resentment, we're invited to be beacons of forgiveness. By extending grace to others, we mirror the boundless mercy of Christ. Following the Christmas celebrations, let's embrace the transformative power of forgiveness. Like my boys who moved past their conflict, we too can experience the freedom that comes from letting go of grievances. In doing so, we not only liberate ourselves but also point others to the ultimate source of forgiveness - Jesus, the Lamb of God - ***Iain Parks***, Director of Education



WARDENS REPORT

Happy New Year to you and your families. I hope you had a healthy and peaceful Christmas and were not hit by the flu which appears to have really hit people hard over recent weeks.

It does not seem two minutes since the announcement of the appointment of Bryn as our new Priest in Charge was made in December 2023, soon Bryn with have been in post for a year, during which I am sure he will have been weighing up how he sees the Benefice moving forward.

It is great to see Rhiannon, Max, Grace and Ella attending church, together with Bryn's mum and Rhiannon's mum and dad when they are visiting.

Bryn is now Vicar of the United Benefice. We have commenced looking at growing both the number and the depth of knowledge of the congregation through the Parish Renewal Scheme. We have also joined the Parish Giving Scheme which is a system which allows regular monthly contributions to be made to Immanuel and Gift Aid to be claimed within the same month. This is great for our Treasurer Linda as it makes her job easier and if everyone signed up, which would mean she did not have to go to Preston to bank cash. Please speak to Linda about joining.

We have held some excellent Christmas Services, the Café Church Toy Service, joint Lessons and Carols (at St Francis), Crib and Christingle on Christmas Eve which was once again full and Christmas Day Eucharist. During this time it is great to see that we have supported those less fortunate than ourselves through toys at the Toy Service which went to Secret Santa for distribution to children who would otherwise not receive anything and The Childrens Society through the money from the Christingle & Crib Service.

One other personal thank you for again supporting those less fortunate through donation of coats to WrapUp Central Lancashire, which is co-ordinated by Rotary and just in the small area covered saw 2095 coats passed to charities to distribute. Several charities had already used all the coats they had been given by the time we had more available. It is disturbing that the 3 charities mentioned above are all for UK people in need, many of them in Blackburn or wider Lancashire, we should be thankful for what we have.

The Quinquennial Inspection of the church has been undertaken and a long list of repairs and renewals are required over the next 5 years. The urgent item is that we have dry rot in the disabled toilet, which needs to be dealt with as a matter of urgency, the issue has been caused by the design of the roof and we are going to explore the option of changing from a flat to pitched roof.

The Narthex (paid for by a legacy) should be completed in January when the new internal glass entrance doors (paid for by Rose Queen fundraising) are installed. I believe that even those who were not convinced by the plans have seen that the work has enhanced Immanuel church and made it more useable for meetings as well as our usual services.

Many of you will have seen that the old vicarage is sold, Immanuel will get nothing from the sale, any funds generated will go directly to the Diocese, who purchased the new vicarage,

There are several people I would like to thank for their support over the last year; Peter Hodgkinson, Sandy, Linda, Judith, Mary and Kathryn (flowers), Bernard, Janet, Steve and others (garden) and not forgetting Diane, who tries to keep me on track with the many things that need to be thought about as Warden.

There appears to have been a bit of a hiatus in people volunteering to undertake some of the 'jobs list' and I will be pushing this as it needs us all to participate, even if it is only in a small way. If one of our eldest members can be an active PCC member and attend Deanery Synod, then there is something everyone can contribute.

I will continue to attempt to ensure that Bryn is undertaking as little 'admin' as possible, his role is 'vicaring', I will probably be advised that there is no such word, but I think you will all understand what I mean by it and from your own working days have the experience of being bogged down by things you should not have been doing. We are not always assisted by the Diocese, but I will exert as much influence as I can to make sure that the Benefice doesn't add to his burden.

Best wishes - ***Phil Entwistle***

IMMANUEL & ST FRANCIS WALKING GROUP

The next joint walk will be the end of January early February 2025.

Make sure that you don't miss out please listen for the announcement in our churches - ***Peter Hodgkinson***

CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDRENS SOCIETY

Thank you to all the people who either purchased Christmas cards or contributed at the Christingle Service on Christmas Eve, the amounts sent to the Childrens Society are:

Sale of Christmas Cards £52 - Christingle £318 - Total £370.

This will be used by the Childrens Society to provide specialist support that empowers young people to make positive changes and rediscover their hope. They work alongside young people, their families and community to create a society built for all children.

Also a big thank you to Jean Winterburn for assistance with making the 120 Christingles which is no small job.

Kathleen Hargreaves

IN REMEMBRANCE FOR JANUARY

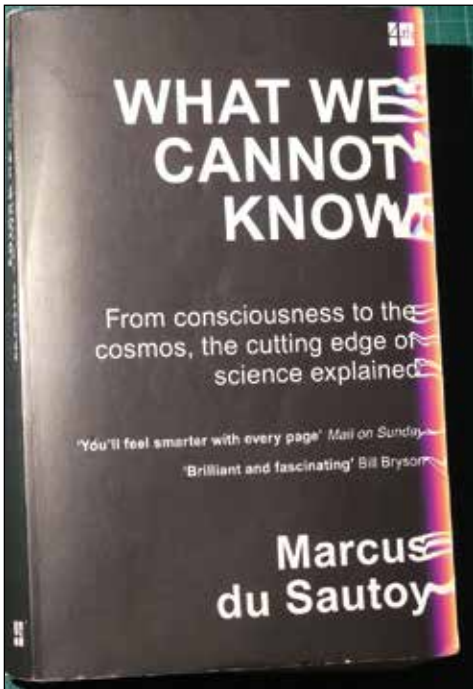
1st	2006	Mary Elizabeth Leigh	2011	John Hastings
2nd	1994	Bryan Dodd Burke	2017	Michael Robbins
	2018	Vera Watson		
3rd	1997	Anne Oldroyd	2011	Ronald George Ackroyd
	2019	Gillian Gaskell		
4th	1989	Myra Gleaves	1990	Winifred May Newport
	1994	Elsie Gent	2001	Annie Margaret Blow
5th	1986	Norman Ainsworth Walsh	1994	Robert Mercer
	1997	Jack Taylor	1996	Stella Marsden
	2005	Peggy Miller	2006	Betty Green
	2011	Robert David Wilson		
6th	1991	John G. Walton Mitchel	2003	Brian Duckworth
	2003	Pat Oldnall	2018	George Leslie Brogden
	2021	Roy Alan Parker		
7th	1989	Harry Clegg		
8th	2002	Olive Hocking	2008	Donald Jones
	2009	Brenda McNamee		
9th	1995	Walter McDermaid	1996	Bob Tomlinson
10th	1951	Valerie Kay Pearce	1990	James Bolton
	1980	Catherine Beatrice Smith	2016	Frances May Hill
11th	1999	Harry Hindle	2012	John Charles Smith
	2013	Raymond Matthews	2018	Maureen Milligan
12th	1989	Madge Bullen	1993	Margaret Jones
	2000	Mary Jean Lincoln	2001	Peggy Harper
	2001	Leslie Miller	2004	William Bolton
	2011	Ernest Pawson	2022	Stephanie Matthews
13th	1999	Margaret (May) Dixon	1999	Elsie Parkinson
14th	1988	Betsy Dixon	1996	Richard Hilliard
	2016	Pamela Mary Coulter		
15th	1975	Simon Robert Smith	1975	Jonathon Ian Smith
	1975	Christopher James Smith	1987	Dilys Bolton
	1983	Edith Lina		
	2001	Kathleen Leyland	2007	Don Thurston
	2011	Isabella Hardacre		
16th	1970	Leslie Tabiner	1985	Reginald Edgar Webb
	1992	Bill Eastham		
17th	1986	Jean Wishart	1990	Annie Hatfield
	1995	Albert Winchester	1997	Thomas Welding
18th	1989	Elsie Whittle	1996	John Clayton
	1999	George Chadwick	2000	Thomas Humphries
	2001	John Ainsworth	2006	John Walker
	2013	Elizabeth Esther Nixon	2022	Roy Haworth
19th	1992	Emily Ann Shorrock		
20th	1978	Jame Ainsworth	1981	Frank Harling
	1986	William Holt		
	1993	Herbert Foulds	2000	Doris Haworth
	2002	Terence W. Lord		
21st	1986	Bert Twist	1987	Sarah Elizabeth Livesey
	1992	John Shaw	1999	Elsie Horsefield
	2018	Jessie Hickmott		
22nd	1994	John Moreby	2014	Veronica Evelyn Henderson
23rd	1972	Eileen Shutt	1996	Edie Newby
	1998	Ewart Brennan	2005	Thomas Snape
	2006	Evelyn Riding	2007	John Thomas
24th	1972	Elizabeth A. Barrett	1993	Jim Sherbourne
	2011	Bessie Barry	2014	John Edgar Shankland
	2009	David Wild		
25th	1997	Edwin Bury		
26th	2001	Mavis Cooper		
27th	1989	Bertha Gradwell		
30th	2013	Sandra Gillian Taylor		
31st	2014	Kelvin John Thomas	2016	Herbert Daniel Smart

IN REMEMBRANCE FOR FEBRUARY

1st	1978	Mollie Knight	2003	Ivy Lee Holding
	2005	Harry Ainsworth	2007	Margaret Pawson
	2011	Eunice Vose		
2nd	1975	Grace Hindle	1987	Cyril Coulthurst
	1990	Frank Hindle	2022	Peter Aspinall
3rd	1988	Joseph Parker	2007	Dennis Day
	2014	John Edgar Shankland		
4th	1962	Nicholas Wright	1987	Elsie Miles
	1993	May Pearson	1993	Hazel Sargison
	1993	Peter Sargison	2005	Mary Slack
5th	1994	Ken Jones		
6th	1989	Hilda Gill	2008	Jean Mary Howson
	2010	Horace Walker	2018	George Leslie Brogden
7th	1972	Eric Roy Duckworth		
8th	1980	Harold Smith	2011	Fred Kemp
9th	2003	Susan Stanley	2005	Joan Thornton
10th	1990	Alan Shaw	1994	Sidney Challenger
	1995	Joan Haslem	2000	Geoffrey Parkinson
	2011	Susan Mary Hargreaves	2011	Frank Holroyd Kenyon
11th	1986	William C.D.Cooper	1988	Fred Dixon
	1989	Elizabeth Shorrock	2003	Leslie Earnshaw
	1998	Stanley Hesketh	2012	May Holgate
12th	1990	James Woodhall		
13th	1992	Roger H. Wolstenholme		Frederick H. Smith
	1978	Edith Stocks		
14th	1953	Frank Broadley MM	2003	Ada Wenham
15th	1990	Winifred Wadsworth	1990	James Masterton
	2020	Fred Newbury		
16th	1989	Florence Clegg	1990	Ciceley Rigby
	2022	Susan Samek		
17th	2018	Janet Ward		
18th	1957	Peter Devine	1990	Sarah Ellen Robinson
	1991	Lucy Stevans	1996	Lawson Donelon
	2004	Bill Aspinall	2011	Kathleen Jackson
19th	1925	John Ely Jepson	1978	David Barrett
	2001	Pegg Green	2011	Roland Cyril Crompton
20th	1995	Ethel Hunter		
21st	1996	Denis John Webb	2001	Arthur Walmsley
	2012	Dudley Moss	2018	Jessie Hickmott
22nd	2001	Bill Turner		
23rd	1990	Alexander Carus	1998	Mary Almond
	1999	Ellen Alison	1999	Peter Barker
	1992	Eric Greenhalgh		
24th	1997	Mary Grimshaw	2001	Ronald Gilman
	2006	Gwen Littleworth	2015	Vera Heyes
25th		Alfred Cree	1992	Malcolm Yates
26th	1998	Margaret Kitchen	2019	Vera Harwood
	2021	William Magee		
28th	1992	Margaret Sutton	2001	Jean Margaret Brown
	2001	Irene King	2003	Dorothy Crook
	2011	Peter Anthony Boardman	2013	Mary Geyer
29th	2000	Lilly Bland		

What we cannot know

'What we could not know'



Moving on from my last article on encryption and keeping secret information from others, I would like to consider the title of the book 'What we cannot know' by one of my favourite authors, Marcus du Sautoy. The book is split into chapters based on the chance roll of a dice. I have several books by Marcus du Sautoy and all of them provoke thoughts far beyond the text. The book as mentioned revolves around the throw of a dice and that we cannot know with any certainty what numbered facet will be uppermost. Hundreds if not thousands of experiments have

been conducted to ascertain a pattern in how the dice will fall even if all the conditions are the same at the launch stage. The best we can do is say it will be one of six facets. We do not have to have an interest in mathematics to enjoy the title. Consider the humble yet sophisticated snowflake. I'm sure that most of our church's congregation will remember the pleasures of being a lot younger and the those first few snowflakes of winter landing on the palm of a gloved hand only to watch them fade into drop of water. In our later years the delights of the first few flakes perhaps spell some form of internal hatred – cold, wet, slippery, broken joints etc. I have not grown-up. Therefore, snowflakes always bring excitement as they transform the world around me into a hushed wonderland of mystery. What do we know about what forms a snowflake? Snowflakes don't just happen; a number of conditions have to coincide.

- **Cold wet air**
- **A temperature of 2°C and below**
- **A seed of dust or pollen onto which the moisture can coalesce and freeze**

What we cannot know is what shape the six-sided flake will be, no two snowflakes are the same. Why do we not know or are able to predict the final pattern? Simply because we cannot identify the many small atmospheric conditions the icy water droplet is being subject to.

Some year ago, when I attended the local Methodist Church, the Shutts and the Hodkinsons ran a youth group (No bureaucracy intended to protect those higher up, just get on with it). An outing had been organised to take the youth on a winter walk to the summit of Helvellyn via Striding Edge. At the top of Birkhouse Moor we stopped at the 'Hole-in-the-Wall'. The wind was gentle with the possibility of snow. Two things happened which we could not have known or predicted.

Firstly, on the windward side of the wall, just a light breeze, on our side of the wall snowflakes appeared from out the tiny gaps. Why, on the windward side, the air was compressed by the wall. As the slightly compressed air expanded through the gaps the temperature drops. This almost imperceptible difference was just enough to cause the formation of snowflakes.



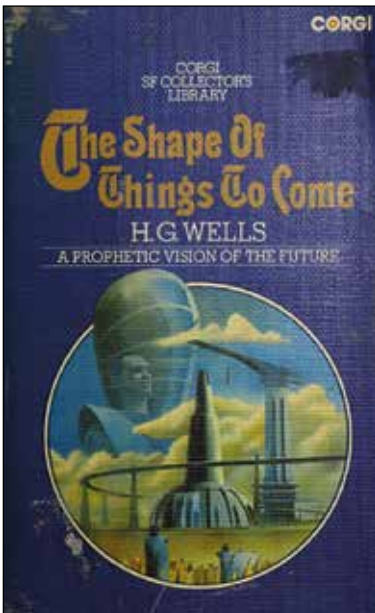
Secondly on a more humorous note. As we all marvelled at the phenomena a dog appeared and stole a bacon sandwich.

Neither of these events could we have known or predicted or known about. Shortly after the weather turned to heavier snow fall and we all turned round to live another day.

At the turn of the 1900's many things we could not know are now an every day event. Consider a pregnant lady, the sex of the unborn child could not be known at the turn of the last century. Lots of sophisticated processes existed claiming they could predict the outcome, perhaps with a 50% success. Some methods involved frogs, crystal swinging, urine sampling, movement of the baby and so the guess work goes on. Our quest to know what we cannot know goes on. As a result, if you want to know, medical professionals can inform the mother with almost 100% accuracy, the sex of and unborn child. I think I would be happy just to know that they are healthy.



HG Wells the great science fiction writer, when he wrote 'The Shape of Things to Come' (about 1933) made many predictions about the future. Many have come to be true and are morally alarming:



Blanket bombing of whole cities. WW2, The Indochina wars of the 1950's and many more.

Weapons of Mass Destruction. How many times did we hear of this during the Gulf Wars?

Submarines that could launch air torpedoes/bombs that could reach half A global Airforce built of planes that could fly nonstop around the globe. Not yet but getting closer.

Read the book if you have not already done so, a lesson I learnt was 'Peace is worth fighting for'

At this point to get back on track HG Wells never foresaw the jet engine. He could not know or foresee what innovations WW2 would bring for good or not so good.

How did all these ramblings start? It was during a recent Sunday visit by our Archdeacon Ven Mark Ireland when he spoke these words “. If you want to KNOW what people need, you must first live amongst them”. The key was ‘know’ ‘What we cannot know’ and need to know is the essence of man’s craving for knowledge. What our Archdeacon said was you must go in search of knowledge and find what is needed to solve the problem. You cannot know by sitting still and thinking your opinion is correct. You must go in search of the mysteries in your life and be prepared to adjust your view. I return to the start and the title of the book ‘What we cannot Know’. At the beginning of the first chapter the question is posed how can a few cells become conscious? What I cannot know is

where do I exist? The debate becomes philosophical and probably has no solution. If you look into the works of authors and especially those who chose to compile the many books of the Bible, no matter what version you choose, questions will be posed the answer to which you cannot know. You must choose what you believe is correct and be



prepared to change for the better. My Grandma often told me “Seek and you shall find.” ‘What we cannot know’ should not be a dead-end but a turning point in our search for knowledge.

My apologies if this article is a little heavy perhaps after our next walk (two churches and friends) I will have a more light-hearted article and will be able to confirm that a bad day on the hills is better than a good day at home.

Thanks for putting up with my ramblings. I have been annoying people with these jottings since about 2009 and the brain is now less sharp, if you don’t like them give a go at writing yourself.

Peter Hodkinson

Prayer Page

from Christine

I have been talking to Phil about writing a prayer page for the magazine and he is happy for me to do so hence this new admission to the content. Not that I am an expert, I am not, but it is sometimes good to share our experiences in order to support one another in these challenging times both within the Anglican Church and in our own lived experiences as we grow as a congregation and share our faith with others.

Prayer comes easily to some people but sometimes to others it is a hard thing to do, especially when we are angry or upset when life throws us a challenge and even though we pray we may not seem to have been heard by God.

God's timing is perfect, he knows our needs before we ask for help, but sometimes God can say no as well as yes perhaps because we have to learn something and what seems to us to be impossible at that time, is a means for us to learn more about trust or faith.

I thought that some of you might like to share some prayers with me in the magazine, as I will do with you, so that we can share our experiences of God's love and care which I hope will give comfort and hope to us all In this very troubled world today.

People have asked me where is best to pray, or how should they pray and perhaps because in their past experiences they have heard very formal ancient prayers they feel too in awe of God and avoid just simple talking to God too hard to do.

Jesus taught his disciples how to pray and of course most of us know that prayer by heart...!Our Father!..Some of you may have unhappy memories of your father and that might bring pain or fear, so if you are moved to pray just speak to Jesus as you would to a friend.

When I was nursing we had no intensive care; no machines to breathe for patients other than 2 anaesthetic machines in theatre. We carried great responsibility at quite a young age, but we were trained under a military model and we were told to stand and do our duty even if our lives might be under threat. I never liked night duty much, alone with an auxiliary as we were short staffed and 32 patients to care for. When admissions came in it was often very stressful. We started night duty at age 19 when we became a second year trainee; each block was for 3 months. In Blackburn

Royal Infirmary 'New Wing' the view from the windows looked over Mill Hill and all night a cross was lit up from a church, and when I felt unable to cope I would take a minute to be still and look at that cross and know that my Lord was near and would give me strength to deal with that challenge, and he did. The hymn "The day thou gavest Lord is ended" has the words within it : "is waking our brethren Neath the Western Sky...,I was not alone, others were also praying as nurses.

As your faith increases and your experience of God grows, you will have confidence in the Knowledge of His loving care and the strength that comes from the Holy Spirit within you. If you feel that you don't really know God like that but you have been to church all your life, you perhaps have not realised that you have not asked him to come into your life because you feel that you are already a Christian, so maybe you might take a bit of time to think about the things that Jesus taught and who he actually is which is clear in John's Gospel.

So I hope this page will help us all to share our knowledge of the Love of Jesus in our lives and His saving Grace by reading the words written by others and sometimes by my simple prayers which might lift your Spirits when life is tough or happy and joyous.

I am writing this before Christmas, so I hope that you have all had a really blessed time and that this New Year ahead will be a good one for you and your family.

I will end this introduction to prayer with a piece from a book of Pocket prayers with guidance and Wisdom for each New Day (2010 Beers A.Ronald.Pub.Tyndale House)

A prayer for ENCOURAGEMENT

I can go on because God knows my needs:

Mighty God,

My world seems to be crashing down around me, and nothing is going well. The only comfort I can find is in knowing that you know exactly what I need. Sometimes I don't even know my own heart, but I am so thankful that you are ready to meet me at the point of greatest need. Please continue to encourage me through your Word with comfort, hope, and strength. Amen.

May you experience the love of Christ though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.

Ephesians 3:19

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Easy Ways to Help and Support your Church

1) *Join the Parish Giving Scheme;*

We know that things are tough, but the church cannot survive without regular giving, the church needs funds daily even if you only attend once a month. Please consider what you give to church, remember we do not receive any other income than that which we generate from renting the hall and the money people directly give.

2) *Gift Aid your giving;*

If you Gift Aid your donations, then for every £10 you give the HMRC gives us £2.50 for nothing - it is money you paid in tax returned to the church.

3) *Join the 100 Club; Annual Payment Now Due*

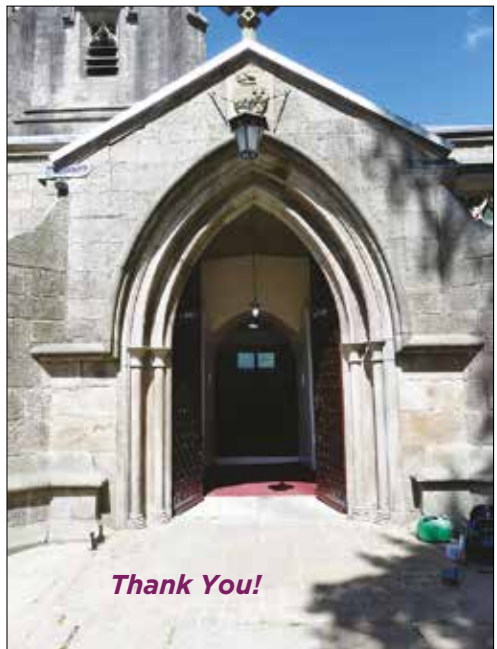
This monthly draw allows you the opportunity to win £50 each month. It costs £12 to join for the year and if we can get up to 200 numbers sold from the current 121, then we will be able to increase the prizes with a monthly second prize.

4) *Church Magazine;*

As well as encouraging you to buy a magazine, why not buy an extra one and give it to a friend, neighbour, someone who is lonely etc. If you really cannot afford the extra £1 then let Phil know and we will organise something to allow you to pass on to others about our church.

5) *Volunteer;*

There are always things which need to be done, how can you help? Please approach us and offer a little time, it doesn't need to be weekly but a couple of hours here or there can always be put to good use.



The Leading your Church into Growth Prayer

God of Mission

Who alone brings growth to your Church,

Send your Holy Spirit to give

Vision to our planning,

Wisdom to our actions,

Joy to our worship,

And power to our witness.

Help our church to grow in numbers,

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Immanuel Church

Immanuel Vicarage, 51 Lomond Gardens, Blackburn BB2 5BW

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Vicar	Rev Bryn	07493 088 703
Church Warden	Phil Entwistle	209096
Deputy Warden	Peter Hodgkinson	202283
PCC Vice Chair	Phil Entwistle	209096
PCC Secretary	Margaret Duckworth	202670
PCC Treasurer	Linda Moulden	200566
Safeguarding Officer	Joanna Duckworth-Crowell	07837 340 932
Diocesan Safeguarding Officer	Cath Smith	07711 485 170
Vision 2026 Champion	Sandy Woods	07947 904 987

Uniformed Organisations

Brownies Leaders	Pam Scard	07881 441 360
	Janet Dent	07843 728 051
Guide Leader	Emma Tranter	07837 065 435
Beaver Leader	Emma O'Callaghan	07850 459 434
Cub Leader	Susie Veevers	07984 448 338
Scout Leader	Simon Blake	07717 707 583
Group Scout Leader	Suzie Veevers	07984 448 338

Mission & Administration

Deanery Synod Rep	Margaret Banks	201906
Deanery Synod Rep	Margaret Duckworth	202670
Deanery Synod Rep	Phil Entwistle	209096
Planned Giving Secretary	Diane Entwistle	209096
Gift Aid Secretary	Diane Greaves	207912
£50.00 Club Secretary	Diane Entwistle	209096
Electoral Roll Officer	Peter Smith	
Flower Secretary	Kathryn Marsden	201386
	Mary Griffiths	
Children's Society Rep'	Kathleen Hargreaves	201759
Christian Aid Rep	Vacant	

Magazine

Editor	Phil Entwistle	209096
Advertising	Phil Entwistle	209096
Distribution	Sheila Haworth	722602



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