

A visit to Caring For Life

For almost 20 years our Church has been interested in the work of this charity which is based just outside Leeds at Crag House Farm. They are involved in caring for vulnerable adults by providing them with projects on the farm and helping with accommodation and other needs. Some of our members are in a local support group and recently travelled to the annual Supporters Day. We were able to see the amazing and varied activities and to chat with some of the beneficiaries and staff. Through donations from churches and individuals, as well as sympathetic companies, there has been massive expansion since our last visit in 2015. The

Equine Project has always been an important feature and during the lockdown a new stable block was built. Those involved in caring for the horses and learning to ride or carriage drive derive great encouragement and comfort. We also saw how very professional videos and photos are made as well as viewing the printing and art projects. There is a marvellous shop and a fine restaurant which attracts many visitors from the area and further afield. The farm is set in beautiful countryside though quite close to Leeds and the airport. You can find out more online at: caringforlife.co.uk



Prayer requests

Remember those **persecuted** for their faith.
Pray that God will bring the nation to **repentance** and **faith**.
Ask God to comfort those who have been **bereaved**.
Give thanks for the blessings of the Church **Anniversary** and pray that the Lord will raise up people to continue His work.
Pray for some of our **Aroma** friends who are in poor health.
Many people are living in **fear** because of Covid or the threat of violence in their communities. Pray that the Lord will draw near.
Pray for the work of **Caring For Life** (*see above*).

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Getting Anniversary attention



All eyes on Sam as he shares God's word.

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Anniversary report

It was good to see friends from other fellowships join us on the 18th September for the 175th Anniversary Service. There were less in the congregation than five years ago when we celebrated the 170th occasion but after the restrictions of the last 18 months we were happy to be able to invite others to join us. Being conscious of Covid concerns we used anti-viral cleaners, provided hand gel and ensured adequate ventilation.

Our invited speaker was **Dr. Sam Gordon** from www.truthfortoday.co.uk who took as his text the first chapter of 1 Thessalonians and for a title, “A Church with the right stuff”. As he reminded us why the Apostle Paul regarded those First Century Christians so highly we felt the challenge to us in 2021 to be even more enthusiastic and united in serving the Lord Jesus together.

As on previous occasions, we tried to involve other local churches in the celebration. **Andrew Beacham** from Copse Road Chapel in Clevedon chaired the service and read Psalm 111. **Peter Davey** from Bethesda Evangelical Church in Weston-Super-Mare led us in prayer and **John Chaplin** from Congresbury Methodist Church provided the music for us to sing God’s praise.

The Pastor gave a brief summary of the beginnings of the Church in Langford. Our background knowledge of this had recently been enhanced as our Secretary, **Rob Derry**, researched the 1851 census and it seems that many of those who began to worship, first in a house and then in a shed until the Chapel was opened, lived in the road, so it started as a truly *local* church. Recalling the 1896 Jubilee service and the resolve they had then to go on preaching the gospel, we were encouraged to continue to do that now.

A cream tea and a time of fellowship concluded the afternoon.

Sam stayed in the area and preached at both services at the Chapel on the following day from Acts 2 and Ephesians 2.

Verse for the month

I will praise the LORD with my whole heart

Psalm 111 verse 1

If you look at the world, you’ll be distressed. If you look within, you’ll be depressed. If you look at God you’ll be at rest.

CORRIE TEN BOOM

Quoted on Twitter by [@AndrewTRoycroft](https://twitter.com/AndrewTRoycroft).

Dutch Christian Corrie Ten Boom survived a concentration camp after helping Jews to escape from the Nazis. She wrote books and featured in the film “The Hiding Place”.

From the Pastor’s study

So we come round to Harvest Thanksgiving time again. The letter of James in the New Testament tells us, ‘Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.’ Put simply, we all rely on the God who cannot change whether we believe in Him or not. The theological term ‘Common grace’ conveys the truth that the true and living God is kindly disposed to His creation and not like the fake ‘gods’ who soon anger and have to be desperately placated. He is actually longsuffering with us. The Bible also uses sowing, watering, reaping, and harvesting as spiritual symbols associated with His saving grace. Readers may well be familiar with Jesus’ parable of the Sower in Matthew Chapter 13. The seed of the word of God grew well where it fell on good ground so we can’t blame the Bible if hearing it doesn’t change us. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 3 of how a local church grows – planted by someone, watered by another but God gives the increase. So we depend on the Lord materially *and* spiritually. He alone can save us and maintain His Church. Are you thankful – and praying?

For your diary

Some years ago we moved our **Harvest Thanksgiving** services to October and this year these will be on the **10th** at the usual times of 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Perhaps this year we should be particularly grateful

for all God gives us, with the media alarm about shortages but more so as we consider the real need of those in other parts of the world.

The **Aroma** coffee morning is on Saturday **23rd**, *not* 30th!