

BANK



TOPICS

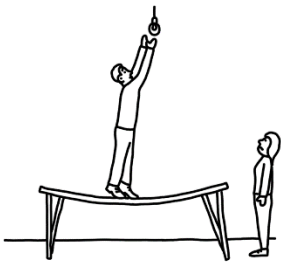
NEWSLETTER FOR AUGUST TO NOVEMBER 2022

Dear Friends

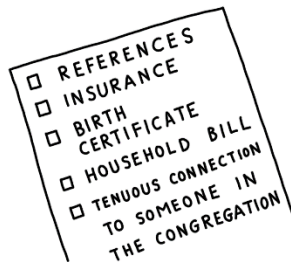
What a day it was! From Gazebos at dawn to the last sausage on the BBQ it was a fantastic way to bring back the village fair. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard (inside as well as outside), but also those who sang so well, “saxed” so well, calligraphied so well but also to everyone who came and joined us for the day, or just part of the day. I’m told that our two novices Bet and Betty also pulled fine pints, proving that in the church it’s never too late to learn a new skill. Julie’s next communion may be a little different!! You may not be aware but a small group of us need annual Gazebo “putting up” training from Val, which reminded me of this

FOLDING TABLES

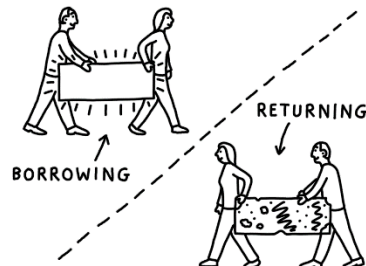
COMMON SCENES



A FLAGRANT DISREGARD FOR THE INSTRUCTION MANUAL



CHECKLIST FOR THOSE WANTING TO BORROW TABLES



BORROWERS, WHO HAVE NOT BEEN PARTICULARLY DILIGENT



SEMINAR FOR THOSE NEW TO THE UNFOLDING PROCESS



THOSE WHO DO NOT NEED THE SPECIAL TABLE TOOL LOOKING DOWN ON THOSE WHO DO



THE MAN WHO CAN UNFOLD TWO TABLES SIMULTANEOUSLY

CartoonChurch.com

This month we heard from Dave Bagley about all the good work that Bolton Urban Outreach are planning to undertake. This is a great time of Christian enterprise in Bolton and they are also just starting this year’s packed lunches for when schools aren’t open. Thanks to everyone who has offered to help at Rose Hill this year.

And please don’t forget the GrubTub! Tragically, food banks will be needed more and more this summer.

This really threatens to be a pretty awful year for many people in the country, those needing the NHS to be working properly, those whose fuel bills are set to soar and many more ordinary people caught in the cost of living crisis. Do not sit in silence and worry, talk about it, talk to a friend, talk to someone at church, you can do it confidentially too. But talk about it.

So summer is upon us as is, it would appear, traffic chaos. I hope those of you planning to escape have a fantastic time and that you are reminded of Martha and Mary and therefore find time to wind down, put your feet up and enjoy!

God Bless

BANK TOP UNITED REFORMED CHURCH - CONTACTS

Church Telephone No		01204 593393
Minister	Rev Jacky Embrey	01204 843783
Church Leader	Mr A Guthrie - andyguts@gmail.com	01204 591185
Secretary/Treasurer	Mrs V Singleton - singletonv@hotmail.com	01204 305401
Church Hall Hire	Mrs V Singleton - singletonv@hotmail.com	01204 305401
Pulpit Supply	Mrs J Skidmore	01204 307130
Flower Secretaries	Mrs M Flitcroft Mrs C Rideout	01204 301328 01204 596360
Choir Leader	Mrs A Smith	01204 693740
Newsletter Editor	Linda Rainford	01204 667095
Serving Elders	David Canham, Christine Counsell, Andy Guthrie, Graham Naylor, Linda Rainford, Carol Rideout, Lynn Ridyard, Val Singleton, Julie Skidmore	
Sunday Worship	10.30am Morning Service and Sunday School. Church Parade 4th Sunday of the month in Jan, Sept, Nov, and Sermons	
Bank Top Artists	Monday, 1-3pm contact Mrs V Singleton	01204 305401
Bank Top/The Oaks Brownies	Monday 5.45-7.00pm, contact Miss E Farrell or Mrs C Greenen	07770 450 229 01204 592594
Guides	Monday 7.30-9.15pm, contact Mrs V Constantine	07806 789757
Toddler Group	Tuesday 9-11.00 am. contact Mrs V Singleton	01204 305401
House Group	Second and Fourth Tuesday of each month, at the home of Val Singleton	01204 305401 07971 272 772
Theatre Works	Wednesday 4-5.00pm contact Lauren Bateman	07999 634 208
Adult Craft Class	Wednesday 7-9.00pm contact Jean Greer	01204 594127
Rainbows	Thursday 6-7.00pm contact Mrs E Robinson	07510 895 470
Eden Singers	Thursday 7.30-9.00pm, contact Adrian Yapp	07766 140 386
Brunches	1st Saturday of the Month, (excluding August) from 12-1.00pm	01204 305401
For Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Sick Visiting or Home Communion please contact A Guthrie or V Singleton		
If you would like to join our Direct Offering scheme through the Envelope scheme, please contact V Singleton		
We also have a Memorial Fund - contact V Singleton		
We have a 50/50 Club which is drawn each month – please see Val Singleton for more information		
Bank Top is a member of the Bolton and Salford Missional Partnership		

Letter from Jacky

Dear all,

I'm writing this the day before my holiday starts. Holidays were originally Holy Days – days off with a specifically religious purpose. This is reflected in the fact that both Good Friday and Christmas Day are bank holidays.

What we do on holiday and where and when we go are now very personal choices. For example, I recently spoke to someone who told me that he prefers to scan his work e-mails whilst on holiday and deal briefly with any urgent matters, because otherwise he gets stressed about what will be waiting when he gets back to work. Whereas I don't look at work e-mails at all, because it's only when I see what they contain that I (sometimes) get stressed.

When I have told folk that I'm going to Scotland this time, most of them have replied 'how lovely'. However, one told me they never go near Scotland because it always rains. I accept that we are likely to have rain, but we'll also have the lovely countryside that the rain refreshes.

Yet another person was enthusiastic when I mentioned Scotland, but when I said we'd be running/orienteering, they said that was where their enthusiasm ended. Though quite a number asked if we'd be walking and thought that was OK!

It's not surprising that our likes and our needs are as individual as we are, whether it's to do with holidays or anything else. However, we mustn't forget that God, in whose image we are made, rested on the seventh day (Genesis 2:2&3). Not only that, but God commanded us to set aside the Sabbath for rest (Exodus 20:8-11) and decreed sabbatical years every seventh year (Leviticus 25:1-7).

We all need to rest. We need a break from routine and ways of refreshing ourselves, however different these are. This is God's law, which we reflect both in the convention of Sunday being a day of rest (though that is not so much the case these days), in employment law, legal limits on school terms and in many other ways.

We probably all agree with the need for days off and holidays, when it comes to paid employment. However, there are many folk who have taken extra jobs in their time off, because they are struggling to make ends meet. That goes for students too. Their combined study and paid employment can cover a huge number of hours per week. How do they get sufficient time off?

Then there are the unpaid and unending roles of caring for children and other family members, who need help due to age, infirmity or disability. Plus, domestic chores like cleaning, laundry, gardening or shopping for ourselves and others. That's before we add many, many hours of voluntary work, in the church or elsewhere.

Many of these can be enjoyable and fulfilling, but that doesn't mean that they aren't incessant. Having a break can make all the difference to our capacity to carry on. In other words, we need a sabbath of some sort from time to time, however challenging that is to arrange.

We have to remember that we are called to love our neighbour AS ourselves. (Matthew 22:39) That means loving ourselves, just as much as loving our neighbour. So, let's work at finding ways to help ourselves and others to have a short break, a change of scenery, or even a few minutes for a walk or a potter. That might be through a carer's club, or a sitting service, or simply offering to take over for a hour or two to let someone have some much needed 'me time' – whatever they do with it.

If you are able to go away for a few days over the summer, I hope you have a great time and come back feeling refreshed. If not, how are you going to benefit from some rest?

May God grant us the refreshment we each need,

Jacky



CLEANING ROTA

AUGUST

5th Heather
12th Val & Andrea
19th Christine & Pat
26th Graham & Linda

SEPTEMBER

2nd Carol & Ann
9th Lynn
16th Heather
23rd Val & Andrea

OCTOBER

7th Christine & Pat
14th Graham & Linda
21st Carol & Ann
28th Lynn

FLOWER LIST

AUGUST

7th Heather
14th Carol & Ann
21st Phil Seddon
28th Margret & Ruth

SEPTEMBER

4th Vicky Constantine
11th David Canham
18th In Memory of Phyllis Walsh
25th Val & Jill

OCTOBER

2nd Ann & Richard Smith
9th Vicky Constantine
16th In Memory of Clarice Bickerstaff
23rd In Memory of Kath Tyldesley
29th Ali Spence

If for any reason you can't manage the cleaning on the selected day, please try to swap with someone else on the rota.

If you wish to go on the cleaning rota, please have a word with either Christine Counsell or Val Singleton

There are still some vacancies on the Flower List for 2022. Please see Carol or Maureen if you wish to go on the list

A HUGE THANK YOU FOR ALL THOSE WHO CLEAN OUR CHURCH EACH WEEK SO THAT WE CAN WORSHIP IN A LOVELY CLEAN BUILDING

THANK YOU ALSO TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DONATED FLOWERS FOR OUR ALTAR TABLE IN 2021. THESE FLOWERS ARE TAKEN OUT TO PEOPLE EACH WEEK AND THEY ARE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED



BIBLE READINGS

AUGUST

7th Luke 12: 32-40
14th Luke 12: 49-56
21st Luke 13:10-17
28th Luke 14:1,7-14

SEPTEMBER

4th Luke 14: 25-33
11th Luke 15: 1-10
18th Luke 16: 1-13
25th Luke 16 19-31

OCTOBER

2nd Luke 17: 5-10
9th Luke 17: 11-19
16th Luke 18: 1-8
23rd Luke 18: 9-14
30th Luke 19: 1-10

BANK TOP FAMILY NEWS



6th August Eric Spencer
27th September Aiden McDermid
11th October Arthur Kenyon
15th October Isabelle Dean
29th October Poppy Spence

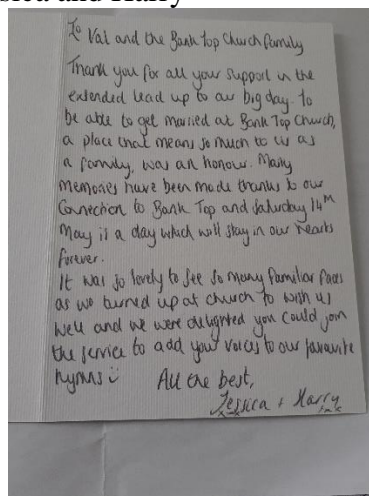
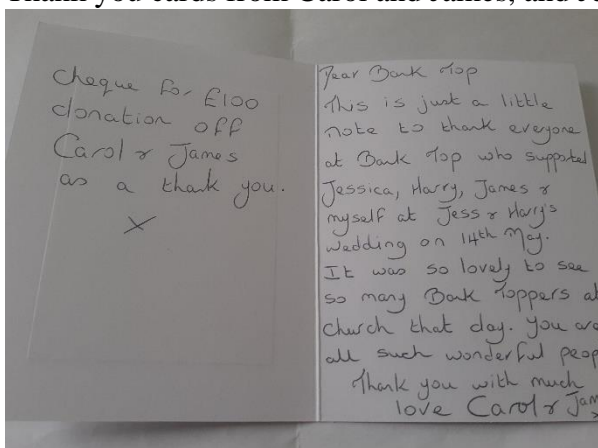
We hope you all have a great day
Xxxx



Congratulations to two of our gorgeous young ladies who were recently married. On the left is Jessica Rideout, who was married at Bank Top in May, and on the right is Nicola McNulty with her mum, Pat, who was married in Cephalonia in July. We send you and your husbands lots of love and best wishes for your future lives together



Thank you cards from Carol and James, and Jessica and Harry





We remember in our prayers, the families of those who have recently passed away:
Joe Coward, Glynis Brown (former Brownie Leader and Toddler Group Helper), Barbara Harper and Graham Archbold (from Red Lane URC)
Lord may your love surround these people as they grieve for their loved ones.

We also pray for:

Dave Ozard, who has recently had a second hip operation – we wish him a speedy recovery and Linda Rainford's sister, who is in hospital – we send our love, and our thoughts are with Linda.

VILLAGE FAIR

After an absence of two years, the Village Fair was back on the 2nd July. And what a fabulous day it turned out to be.

After probably the wettest week of the year, Saturday morning was also wet and miserable when the gazebo teams arrived at church at 8.30am. But not for long! Very quickly the clouds cleared, cagoules came off and wellies were exchanged for more suitable footwear. And by 11.30, when we were all set to open - well it was warm, and the sun even came out.

The crowds flocked; all eager to catch up, eat, drink and be merry! Entertainment by Phoenix Knights and Midweek Sax created a lovely ambience to the day, and once again, our Village Fair was a great success.

A big thank you to all those who gave up their time to help, those who donated bottles, mugs, cuddly toys, bric-a-brac and cakes. Also, to the Brewery for the barrels of beer and Warburtons and Asda for Bread Rolls and Fingers, and, not forgetting Malcolm's butchers for the lovely joint of beef for our Sunday Lunch Raffle Hamper. We are truly well blessed and grateful.





SOME POETRY BY OUR RESIDENT BARD

MILLWORKERS DAY OUT

Upon the rocky outcrop, I survey the scene
A patchwork likes before me of golden brown and green.
The tractor moving slowly up and down the field
Gathers in the harvest of summers golden yield.
Up in the sky above me, a little brown bird sings.
Trilling o so sweetly hovering on tiny wings.
This day has been so happy, but now the sun sinks low
I give a sigh, pick up my pack for I must homeward go.
For in the morning early before the break of day
I must arise and go to work if I am to earn my pay.
I have a wife and children who cry out to be fed
So, from early in the morning, I toil to earn my bread.
The factory is so noisy, I cannot hear a word
But in my head, I hear the singing of a bird.
And in my mind, I wander back to that rural scene
Of quiet peace and sunlight over the fields of green.

C Catherall. August 2021

THE WEDDING DRESS

It hangs upon its hanger, the dress as white as snow
The satin softly gleaming in the firelights glow.
The last seam has been finished, the final frill is sewn
The bridal veil and circlet are waiting all alone.
For in the morning early, the young girl will appear
To wear the dress on this the best day of the year.
Today she will be married to her handsome groom,
To begin their lives together as they go on honeymoon.
They will return to share a cottage by the sea,
To live happy ever after and raise a family.
But all this happened so very long ago.
The bride and groom are old now,
The children all have grown.
They often come and visit with children of their own.
One day an invitation – a Granddaughter's to be wed.
Oh what joyful news a happy tear is shed.
Then Grandma remembers a box she hid away
She tells her Granddaughter about her happy day.
They find the box inside of which is a shiny satin dress,
Which Grandma wore upon the day she felt like a princess
And now the dress is hanging on its hanger by the door,
Waiting for the happy bride as in the days of yore.

C Catherall August 2021

RECIPES



These recipes are taken from a book which was published by Bank Top Church in 1983, some of you may remember it, but for those who don't you may like to try. The measurements are in "old money" as are the oven temperatures. There are many more recipes, so if anyone would like me to put some in the next newsletter, OR you have recipes of your own you would like to share, please let me know

Linda

CHOCOLATE SURPRISE CAKE (the surprise is one of the ingredients)

Submitted by Janet Turner and Barbara Yates

10oz S.R. Flour; 8oz Caster sugar; 1 ½ teaspoons of Baking Powder; 7oz jar of Hellman's mayonnaise; 4 tablespoons cocoa in 8 fluid oz of boiling water; 1 teaspoon of vanilla essence or extract

Mix all the ingredients well in a large mixing bowl. Line and grease a 7" Cake tin; Pour mix into tin and bake, Gas mark 4, 350F (180C) for 1- ½ hours. Decorate as wished

WELSH MACAROONS

Submitted by Marian Batty

Line some patty tins with a shortcrust pastry. Put a teaspoon of Jam or Marmalade into each. Mix together 4 oz butter; 4oz castor sugar; and then add 2 eggs. Fold in 5 oz S.R flour.

Place a generous heaped teaspoon of this mixture on top the jam in the patty tins. Sprinkle with sugar and bake for 30 minutes in a pre-heated oven, Gas mark 4, 350F (180C)

FINANCE REPORT from your Treasurer, Val

MONTH	CASH COLLECTION	ENVELOPES	STANDING ORDERS
April	159.20	327.00	860.00
May	204.25	341.30	840.00
June	211.00	342.80	1040
Totals	574.66	1011.60	2740.00

Brunches		Village Fair
April	250.00	
May	148.80	
June	263.00	1964.85

**Our chosen charity for this year is Fortalice
In April we sent a donation of £400 to the Ukrainian Appeal**

50/50 Winners

Month	Winner	Number	Amount
April	D Canham	42	50
	G Singleton	15	30
May	M Flitcroft	10	20
	J Marsden	35	50
	L Swan	96	30
June	E Johns	40	20
	D Myers	2	50
	I Larkin	25	30
	M Flitcroft	27	10

MEETING DATES 2022

Wednesday, 7 th September	ELDERS
Sunday, 2 nd October	CHURCH MEETING
Wednesday, 2 nd November	ELDERS

OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday, 18 th September	HARVEST
Sunday 13 th November	ARMISTICE DAY

PLEASE CHECK OUT WHAT'S ON AT BANK TOP!

EVENTS: AUGUST – OCTOBER 2022

August			
Sun	7 th	10.30 am	Morning Service, Adrian Yapp
Sun	14	10.30 am	Communion Service Val Singleton
Sun	21 st	10.30 am	Morning Service, Susan Holme
Sun	28 th	10.30 am	Morning Service, Andy Guthrie
September			
Sat	3 rd	12 noon – 1pm	Saturday Brunch
Sun	4 th	10.30 am	Morning Service, Alison Spence, followed by Tea & Toast
Tues	7 th	7.30 pm	Elders Meeting
Sun	11 th	10.30 am	Communion Service, Andy Guthrie
Tues	13 th	7.30 pm	House Group Starts. The 12 Disciples' Study 1 (reading tba)
Sun	18 th	10.30 am	Harvest Family Service/Church Parade, The Worship Group
Sun	25 th	10.30 am	Morning Service, David Beattie
Tues	27 th		NO HOUSEGROUP
October			
Sat	1 st	12 noon – 1.00 pm	Saturday Brunch
Sun	2 nd	10.30 am	Songs of Praise, David Canham, followed by Church Meeting and Tea&Toast
Sun	9 th	10.30 am	Communion Service, Andy Guthrie
Tues	11 th	7.30 pm	House Group, The 12 disciples' Study 2 (reading tba)
Sun	16 th	10.30 am	Morning Service, Adrian Yapp
Tues	18 th	7.30 pm	St Paul's Womens' Fellowship Social at Bank Top
Sun	23 rd	10.30 am	Morning Service, Alison Hall
Tues	25 th	7.30 pm	House Group, The 12 disciples' Study 3 (reading tba)
Sun	30 th	10.30 am	Morning Service, Mark Curtis

This Newsletter has been emailed to all those currently on Val's email list. A limited number of copies will still be available in church for those people who are not