

NewsShare

Good news, thoughts and reflections from our churches

Empowering the 1000



If we are truly transformed by the new life we share in Jesus, then it should be evident in all we do. One hour on a Sunday is special, sacred, set-aside to concentrate on worshipping the God who is awesome, loving and imminent.

But what about the rest of the week?

Have you ever been to a film and having left the cinema, found yourself still laughing days later? Or, have you ever attended a football match only to find yourself talking with your mates at work about how well Buckshaw United Athletic played in the cup?

Our worship should be even more apparent in our Monday to Friday lives. Not simply an hour on a Sunday.

Whole Life Worship is a wonderful, achievable goal, where it isn't simply an hour a week, but a state of being.

Whole Life Worship is a series of five sermons and Bible studies after Easter where we look at how we can worship the Lord in ALL we do. We're using this resource for our latest Empowering the 1,000 initiative.

On **4th March**, we are delighted to have Neil **Hudson** from LICC to come and inspire us and expound the topics which we'll study with insight, passion and humour.

Get your ticket and come along to the **Farrington Lodge** on at **3.00 pm** for afternoon tea, worship and a truly inspirational time!

Visiting the Holy Land

Rev. Gyula Fiak



Visiting the Holy Land had always been my dream and I was so happy and excited to get there finally.

The idea was simple: I wanted to become a tour leader for future pilgrim groups that are hoping to visit that land in order to deepen their faith. I remember how I started to see biblical events differently as I was walking at the same places it was talking about...Caesarea, where once Paul was staying as a prisoner, or having a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, where once the disciples learnt that it was possible (only with Jesus) to walk on water...

It was wonderful to stand on Mount Tabor where Jesus had a chat with Moses and Elijah and walking around in the Church of Transfiguration, looking at all those wonderful frescoes.

I could hardly believe that when we arrived at Nazareth for spending 2 nights there and when I was going to bed just imagined that the Lord spent many nights there...I spent 6 full days in Israel that were fully packed with sites that we were scheduled to visit.

If you have never been to the Holy Land before then you need to bless yourself with a trip to that place – who knows, you might even join me one of my future trips there.

All these mini articles, and much more, can be found in full on the circuit website:

www.chorleyandleylandmethodists.org

Arriving in Lancashire

Rev. Tony Simpson

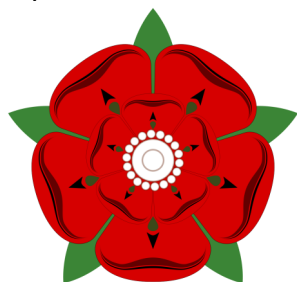
As 'the new kid on the block' I've been asked to put down a few thoughts on my arrival in Lancashire. Some context then... I was born and lived for most of my adult life in Leicestershire only leaving the county of sheep (two breeds of sheep named after Leicester), cheese (proper Red Leicester, not that insipid stiff they sell in supermarkets) and Melton Mowbray pork pies (see Red Leicester) in the mid 2000's. Since then Ruth and I have lived in Cambridgeshire (Peterborough and Cambridge) and North Lincolnshire in a village called Messingham, just outside Scunthorpe. So, after the rolling hills of Leicestershire it's nice to see a county with some undulations after time in the Fens and Cambridgeshire.

When we lived in North Lincolnshire one of the Chapel Senior Stewards was a Yorkshireman so my 'introduction' to Lancashire was a somewhat jaundiced view from Ian, a White Rose man, so much so that he threatened never to speak to either of us again when he found out we were coming here (he was joking).

My only other experience of Lancashire was when Ian (yes, that Ian) and I set off from Morecambe to cycle to Bridlington along the 'Way of the Roses' to raise money for one of the Chapels and Water Aid. He said we were doing it that way so as to leave Lancashire as quickly as possible, although the real reason most people cycle from West to East is to make the best use of the generally prevailing wind (Ha! - what prevailing wind).

So, I like the scenery, I like the people who are as friendly as any I've ever met but my one disappointment has been that, so far, I've only sampled two Lancashire Hot-pots!

Now, where can I get a decent Melton Mowbray pork pie.....



Administrative Ministry

Kathryn Townson

I recently attended Cliff College for a Certificate in Administrative Ministry. I started the week feeling exceedingly nervous as I haven't been in education since I left school (many years ago!).

The week has to have been one of the most amazing weeks I have had in many years. The fellowship we shared between the 22 attendees was a special part of the week. We also learnt and shared skills, best practice and much more between us. It reaffirmed my love of my job and the joy I have each day when I get up for work.

It has also opened up my eyes as to how I see my role within the Circuit. We discussed how we can feel like we are 'just admin' people but actually we are much more. Each one of us felt led to our roles by God and that we are providing a ministry to our Circuits - we are Administrative Ministers!

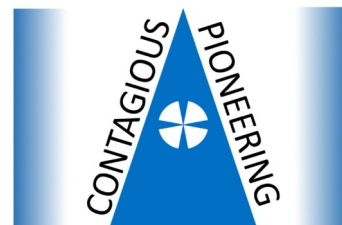
Alongside this element of the week I also had the opportunity to spend some 'one on one' time with God. This was probably the most special part of the week for me. I am now keen to learn more and also further strengthen my relationship with God.

Finally, I have an assignment to complete by 23rd April which, upon hopefully passing, will finish with a Graduation Ceremony in November.

Many I take this opportunity to thank the Circuit for the allowing me to attend this course.

Pioneer Ministry Enabler

The search for the right person to join our team as Pioneer Ministry Enabler goes on. We ask for your continued prayers so that we are able to appoint after re-advertisement.



Thanks again to all who have put a great deal of effort into this project and have brought it to this stage. We'll keep you informed on this key part of our '**Contagious Pioneering**' initiative across the whole of Chorley and Leyland Circuit.

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