

'Seeking to be the People of Christ at the Heart of the Community'.



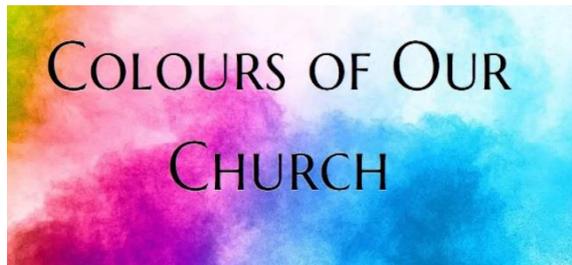
Parkwood Herald

News Flash

May 2021



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'Colour my World!'

This is what the adverts shout at us when we are buying anything - from Clothes to Cosmetics to Cars – because 'Colour' sells. Louis Armstrong charmed us with the song 'It's a Beautiful World':

I see trees of green
Red roses too
I see them bloom
For me and you
And I think to myself
What a wonderful world



celebrated and said 'Thank You' to the NHS with our rainbows.

Colouring Books and 'Colour Therapy' sessions have also helped many during the Pandemic.

Colour is all around us. Sometimes we take it for granted – yet it's just as though we also swim in a 'Sea of Colour.'

Colour has played a big part in our lives during Covid as we have

Having worked in the printing industry colour has been such a large part of my life. In the interview for my first job I was given a colour test before I was allowed to work for Waddingtons.

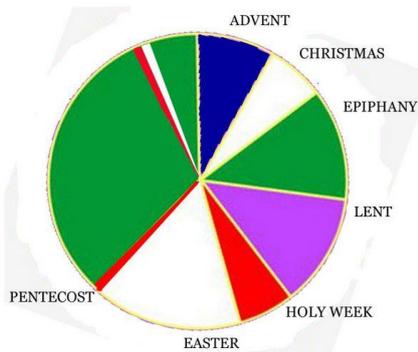
I soon found out there's a lot at stake in printing with colour – especially when we have printed thousands of leaflets and the



customer doesn't think we've printed the 'right' colour!

There's a world standard for printing colour called the 'Pantone' system, and there are 1,755 different colours in the Pantone printing range. 'Colour' has become a huge industry. Within the Pantone empire there is a division called the 'Pantone Colour Institute' which is staffed by 'colour researchers'. They spend a lot of time (and money) working out what the 'Pantone Colours of the Year' will be to tell the world fashion and design industry. (Just in case you're dying to know, the chosen colours for 2021 are PANTONE 17-5104 Ultimate (Grey) + PANTONE 13-0647 Illuminating (Yellow) – if you want to be with the 'in' crowd!)

But guess what? The Church got there hundreds of years before Pantone invented it's expensive and complicated system. This is the Christian Colour Wheel that the



Church has used since the fourth century. Every colour has a special meaning attached to our Christian

Calendar to help to live out the life of our faith.

The colours of the church aren't like scientifically calibrated Pantone colours, they possess a deeper meaning for understanding our faith

These are some of the meanings that the Church has attached to colours.

 Blue represents Advent. It's a time of waiting and watching. It brings to us the message of hope.

 White: White is a festive, joyful colour. It is used during the Christmas and Easter seasons.

White signifies the birth and resurrection of Christ.

 Violet reminds us of the violet flower that bows its head as a symbol of humility. It is the colour of Lent and a season of quiet reflection.

 Red symbolises Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Pentecost. It represents the Passion of our Lord and the Coming of the Spirit.

 Green symbolizes life, hope, and expectation. It is the colour of "Ordinary Time." Ordinary Time is any time of year between Easter and Advent and between Christmas and Lent.

We also use colours in our hymns. One of my favourite hymns from Singing the Faith is hymn no. 399, which was written by a Methodist Minister, Michaela Yungson. The set tune, which suits it very much, is Parry's 'Repton', (Dear Lord and Father of mankind).

I've used it especially for Pentecost services, but it's just as though it could have been written for our pandemic. Here's the first and last verse:

1. When deep despair casts out all light
And hope is wearing thin;
Come Spirit, dance with gentle grace
Shine through the dullness we embrace
And make the colours sing;
And make the colours sing.

4. When guilt and fear tear us apart
and faith's a bitter thing;
Shine through the dullness we embrace
And make God's colours sing;
And make God's colours sing.

Come Spirit, dance with gentle grace

May God's colours sing in all our lives.

John
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Memories of the Drop In Lunch

I was thinking about the poem "Lord of All Pots and Pans and Things" written by American schoolteacher Klara Munkres and wondering if she was a Methodist. I'd like to think she was; we are a bit obsessed with hospitality.

Sadly many of our dear friends from the DIL team have now passed away – Barbara whose vision started it all, dear Freda who became Team Leader, Nora who helped at the outset, Davina who



helped for a while but most enjoyed coming along and Linda who was

a bit of a pressed woman but served willingly for as long as she was able. Many others have helped over the years so forgive me if I don't mention them all. I recall a lot of camaraderie among the helpers chatting during our break, over

the meal and the washing-up. I remember very little discord over the years unless it was Robin and I having a little spat as, being the only professional amongst us, he could tend to get mildly "chefy" at times. Jean deserves a special mention for always cheerfully taking



everything in her stride and her expertise at making custard. Most of all we were happy to provide a hot meal and the opportunity to socialise for many who would otherwise eat alone. Our efforts were even immortalised in verse by the incomparable Frank Littlewood.

In the end our flesh became weak as we were none of us were getting any younger and the decision was taken to wrap up the lunches. Hospitality continued though at many special occasions led by Elaine, notably the Craft Fair and, my particular favourite, Golcar Lily Day. There were



occasions when she was catering for the Craft Fair on the Saturday having just cooked the Drop in Lunch a few days beforehand. I don't know how she did it. We had the odd disaster over the years but always redeemed these, some might

say with a little help from above, and I don't think they ever realised "front of house". What happened in Parkwood kitchen stays there!

I always count it a really good sermon if I can still remember what it was about on Tuesday but one presentation given by Freda in her role as Worship Leader remains in my memory to this day. That too was about Martha and Mary. I think I am destined to be a Martha which is fine but I like to think I have an inner Mary struggling to get out. Another favourite quote by George Herbert runs on a similar theme "A servant with this clause Makes drudgery divine. Who sweeps a room, as for thy laws, Makes that and the action fine". I prefer Klara Munkres though, as I was never very keen on housework!

Sheila Whittam

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Thank You Sheila.

There were many occasions that meals and chat were on the menu:-



Set-up for Old Folks Party



OK not at Church; never-the-less!

At the end of lockdown, there's no reason why we can't re-start the fun.

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**Date for the diary:-
Planning Garden Party @ Leaffield Avenue
31st July 2021. Covid rules allowing.**



Time for some good cheer instead of the gloom of the past months.

Maybe as soon as possible plan a meal out to get everybody back together again.



The lockdown has been mind bogglingly boring for many and has affected many with their social and communication skills. (ed!)

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**Something to look forward to:
Our church at St Mark's Centre is scheduled to reopen on 23rd May. There will be Covid restrictions and rules in place. A leaflet is being prepared explaining all. Meanwhile put these dates in your diaries.**

2021	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th
Parkwood 10.45	XX	XX	XX	Rev Ros	John Oldham

**Look forward to seeing you there.
Stay Safe**

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The best vitamin for a Christian:--- B1

Part time Religion is like a part-time job. It will not support you.

Don't live like a Christian: Be one.

In the dark? Follow the Son.

If you can't sleep, don't count sheep. Talk to the Shepherd.

Church Bloomers:-

There will be a meeting of the Little Mothers club tonight. Anyone wishing to become a Little Mother should join the Pastor in his study after the evening service.

Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again" giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

And on that note I close the book for now.

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Now; there you have it, folks. This may well be the last "regular" Newsflash. As we come to the end of lockdown and into summer I feel people will have more time to socialise and meet up and not need reading matter.

The Newsflash is still there, so should anything be so important not to be able to wait for the Herald. Then it will be resurrected. Thanks for contributions and participation. Ed!