

United Reformed Church of
St Andrew and St George - Bolton



October & November 2018



"The World is Changing – How about us?"

One World Week 21st – 28th October.

A Member of the Vision Pastorate with Rose Hill URC
and Tonge Moor URC
and a Member of Central Synod Area: Missional Partnership 1
and a Member of Christians Together in Bolton Town Centre

Minister's Letter

Dear friends

The heat of the summer has passed and we are now officially in Autumn. A time when traditionally we look at the gifts that we have been given. A time when we look at what we can store for the dark of the winter months; using different preserving techniques to save the harvest, so it can be enjoyed throughout the dark winter months. We are already being told that some of the foodstuffs will be more expensive because of the weather we have had.

This year is also a poignant one, as we commemorate 100 years 'since the end of the war to end all wars'. We can look back at a time that changed the landscape of this country forever. Women taking on roles carried out by men. In 1918, Parliament passed an act granting the vote to women over the age of 30 who were householders, the wives of householders, occupiers of property with an annual rent of £5, and graduates of British universities. Another 10 years and they were in line with men for the vote.

The end of the war meant that many thousands of families in this country were left devastated. The harvest that would have been enjoyed prior to the outbreak of war was a dim and distant memory. This was a time for rebuilding, of remembering, and looking to the future that seemed a lot darker. Following Jesus crucifixion, the disciples were facing a future that seemed much darker without their friend and mentor. They would have been wondering if it had all been worth it. In Johns Gospel ch15 verse 13 'Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends'. Jesus called the disciples his friends and we are also his friends. This same passage is used in commemorative services across the country as we remember the ultimate sacrifices, made by so many.

Looking at the harvest, Jesus gave instructions to the disciples in relation to the harvest, as he warned them about an uncertain future; one where he would be taken from them and they would have to take care of themselves and more importantly of each other.

Matthew 9 verse 37 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field".

That was the case after the war when so many people had been killed, the workers were indeed very few, and the work still needed doing. The roles and expectations of society had been changed forever. Now as we look around our churches we can see there are less of us, but there is still work that we need to do. I think that we might need to learn new ways of being church with fewer workers but with different roles. As we do look forward we remember to ask the Lord of the harvest to give us the strength and the assurance of his presence for our journey ahead.

Mark



October Peace Candle



During October please pray for everybody.

We are the first generation to know that we're undermining the ability of the Earth system to support human development.

At the start of the 21st century, we now know that we cannot continue to extract resources and dump waste into the ecosystems of our planet without the very real risk of a shift away from the stable conditions of the last 12,000 years in which humans developed agriculture and civilizations flourished.

Since 1950, we have been pursuing a path of economic development to fuel lifestyles which have demanded a dramatic increase in the use of Earth's resources.

- ❖ Population x 3
- ❖ GDP x 7
- ❖ Energy use x 4
- ❖ Fresh water use x 3
- ❖ Fertiliser x 10

In the last few years we have become aware of changes in weather patterns: extremes and irregularities in droughts and floods, melting icecaps, polluted oceans and air; dying coral reefs and a rapid rise in species extinction all indicate that human activity is destabilising Earth's systems.

Examples of actions being taken: -

- ❖ Renewable energy offering a real and potentially planet saving alternative to fossil fuels.
- ❖ New businesses starting up with the aim of putting the welfare of their workforce and the health of the environment before their shareholders profits.
- ❖ Local currencies ensuring that local enterprises flourish.
- ❖ Degraded land being transformed back into productive farmland with terraces and organic methods.
- ❖ People in run down areas of cities working together across cultural divides to build communities that meet their common needs.
- ❖ People eating less meat, growing vegetables on their roofs and underground and reducing plastic waste.
- ❖ Widespread commitment to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

Seeds of hope across the world are growing technologies and changing mind sets to be fit for a 21st century world.

Extracted from the internet by the editors



November Peace Candle



During November please pray for Peace and all who lost someone as a result of
World War 1

At the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, the Great War ended. At 5 a.m. that morning, Germany, bereft of manpower and supplies and faced with imminent invasion, signed an armistice agreement with the Allies in a railroad car outside Compiègne, France. The First World War left nine million soldiers dead and 21 million wounded, with Germany, Russia, Austria-Hungary, France, and Great Britain each losing nearly a million or more lives. In addition, at least five million civilians died from disease, starvation, or exposure.

A formal state of war between the two sides persisted for another seven months, until the signing of the Treaty of Versailles with Germany on 28 June 1919. The United States Senate did not ratify the treaty despite public support for it, and did not formally end its involvement in the war until the Knox–Porter Resolution was signed on 2 July 1921 by President Warren G. Harding. For the United Kingdom and the British Empire, the state of war ceased under the provisions of the Termination of the Present War Act 1918 with respect to Germany on 10 January 1920, Austria on 16 July 1920, Bulgaria on 9 August 1920, Hungary on 26 July 1921 and Turkey on 6 August 1924.

Remembered by many

Everybody hurting deeply

Many crying faces

Embracing people around the world

Memories and stories shared by all

Buried in Flanders Fields

Elevated up to heaven

Rewarded with everlasting life



"I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers!" said Anne of Green Gables! And this year promises to be a good one, if wild blackberries and other fruit crops are anything to go by! Another burst of late Summer would be welcome!

There were pleasing exam results for Luke and Marcus who have now progressed to Runshaw College and Bolton School VIth form respectively. Ella has also moved to a new school and we send them all our best wishes.

We send our love and best wishes to several members who have spent time in hospital recently. Joyce Kelly, Jessie Brown still in C1, and Bill Sheppard, hoping that loving care will complete their recovery soon. Others are receiving medical treatment or undergoing investigations from home, - Jim Hollyman, Jean Riley, Joan Sheppard, Pat Turner and Amanda Murphy. Our thoughts are also with Christine Jones as she awaits an operation. Our prayers are with all these friends along with all others who are struggling with ill health and other concerns.
Shalom, Margaret

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2018 CHRISTMAS POST

As last year the posting boxes will be in the Welcome Area for your cards on December 2nd and 9th ONLY, for distribution to your friends in the congregation on Sunday December 16th as 23rd will be too close to Christmas for anyone going away.

If you would prefer to send just one card to all your friends in the church there will be a festive board in the Welcome Area from December 2nd where your card can be displayed.

All donations will be added to the Christmas Day collection for Winter Watch and Emmaus

Jan Macnab would like to express her sincere thanks to her friends at church for the lovely flowers, visits and phone calls she received after her recent cataract operations. Your kindness was very much appreciated

Please send any item for inclusion in Family News to **Margaret Allen**,



Tom Grime

4th June 1930 – 5th August 2018

Tom, or to give him his Sunday go to meeting name Thomas William was born on June 4th 1930 at the family home 10 Northern Grove. He was called after his maternal Grandad who was a Welsh speaking Welshman from Anglesey. His brother, David, was born two years later. He arrived just after midnight in the middle of a thunderstorm, and he made such a noise that Tom woke up and asked his father if they had got a doggy. The home had no electricity or bathroom and had a toilet in the back yard. Electricity was installed in 1936.

Tom went to school at Oxford Grove as had his parents. In 1941 Tom passed the 11 plus exam and went to Bolton County Grammar School, and from there he passed 9 subjects in School Certificate the forerunner of O levels. When he was sixteen he decided to join the YHA and took his brother on a cycle tour of North Wales, and the following year took his brother and four other boys on a walking holiday in the Lake District, and then took one of those boys cycling in the Yorkshire Dales.

He took the Civil Service entrance exam and he passed. He started work at the Inland Revenue, but after two years he was transferred to Stoke on Trent where he had to live in digs, which he did not like. On a home visit he asked a girl from church for a date and he took Hilda Heyes to a dance on Saturday night at the Spinners Hall on St Georges Road. That date lasted until they had been married almost 60 years when Hilda sadly died in March 2014. They had a son, Duncan of whom they were rightly proud.

Tom was saved from the Civil Service when, like all his generation, he was called up for two years National Service and he became 2408460 Aircraftman 2nd class Grime in the Royal Air Force. He did two months square bashing at Bridgnorth in Shropshire and was then posted to Yatesbury in Wiltshire for the rest of his service. Somehow, he managed to come home every weekend in order to see Hilda!

When he was demobbed he did not return to the Civil Service but worked at Musgrave Spinning Company, Bolton Farmers Dairies, De Haviland and then Ferranti's where he stayed until he retired when he was 60. He took a correspondence course to qualify as a chartered secretary and then another course to qualify as an accountant. With these qualifications he rose to be Company Secretary at Ferranti.

Amongst his other talents he was a talented artist and sold some of his paintings from exhibitions.

He was meticulous in everything he did and was a loving husband to Hilda and a loving father to Duncan. And now his immortal soul has left his earthly body to be re-united with Hilda in Eternal Life.

It is not given to us to fully understand the mysteries of Eternity, but the promise is there for us.

David Grimes

CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN BOLTON TOWN CENTRE

A meeting of CTBTC was held on 12th September at the Salvation Army. In addition to routine business and planning, the following dates (all some time off) were decided on. :-

Carol Singing

	When	Where
Sunday 2nd December	12.30 to 1.30pm	The Market Place
Tuesday 11th December	11am to 12noon	Bolton market
Tuesday 18th December	11am to 12noon	Crompton Place

United Service

Sunday 20th January 2019 10:30am the Salvation Army

Women's world Day of Prayer

Friday 7th March 2019 5.30pm St Patrick's Roman Catholic Church

The Events planned for Sunday 11th November (open event but not organised by CTBTC) to mark Remembrance Day and the 100th anniversary of the end of World War 1 include"-

A morning service at 10.30am in the town Hall Square (at the same time as our own service)

and

Songs of praise at 3.00pm at the Parish Church.

Tony Edisbury

The way of The World

It's all in the way you look at the world.

It's all in the way that you do things.

With laughter or sorrow your lips may be curled,

But it's all in the way that you view things.

Yes it's all in the way that you journey along

that makes life a plague or a pleasure.

The mind is the fountain of wailing or song.

A man is the judge of the measure.

It's all in the way that you look at your woe

And not in the woe that is sent you

You may bear it with courage and smile as you go
or frown and let it discontent you.

For care is a creature that's born in the mind

And gloom is a cloud we can scatter;

The thorn of the rose if we seek we can find,

But the thorn of the Rose doesn't matter

We can make our own sunshine and make our own mirth,

We can add to our troubles by moping

We can make a grim graveyard of this glad old earth,

by giving up loving and hoping

For it's all in the way that we look at the world

yes it's all in the way that we view things

With sorrow or laughter our lips may be curled

for it's all in the way that we do things.

with thanks to Seibert Blackman



Jim Hollyman presented Derek's Desert Island Hymns

A Vision Pastorate Joint Service was held at StAGs on 16th September and the preacher was Mr Derek Estill, Joint Moderator of the URC. This was followed by Derek's "Desert Island Hymns" presented by Jim Hollyman. We learned more of Derek's life and sang his favourite hymns. Afterwards, everyone enjoyed a delicious buffet lunch.

The editors

The Knitted Bible

In August Peter and I visited the lovely seaside town of Tenby on the Pembrokeshire coast.

We visited St John's URC on Warren Street in the town centre to see an amazing exhibition of scenes from the Bible, all knitted! We received a warm welcome in the porch & we were encouraged to take as long as we wanted to view these delightful scenes.

In total 34 hand-knitted scenes were on show throughout the main body of the church. Starting, of course, with the Old Testament 'In the Beginning...Creation' to include Noah's Ark with tiny detail of animals two by two with a fantastic knitted Ark. Abraham & Sarah, Samson & Delilah, Samuel in the Temple, Jonah & the Whale to name



Noah's Ark



The Nativity

just a few. Then through the New Testament...The Angel visits Mary, The Nativity, Jairus' daughter, Boy with loaves & fishes, Palm Sunday, The Last Supper and the Crucifixion. All the scenes were amazingly & finely

hand knitted, with great attention to detail (tiny cups, fishes barrels etc) all complimenting the overall concept.

The exhibition featured 34 scenes from the best loved



Palm Sunday



The Last Supper

stories in the

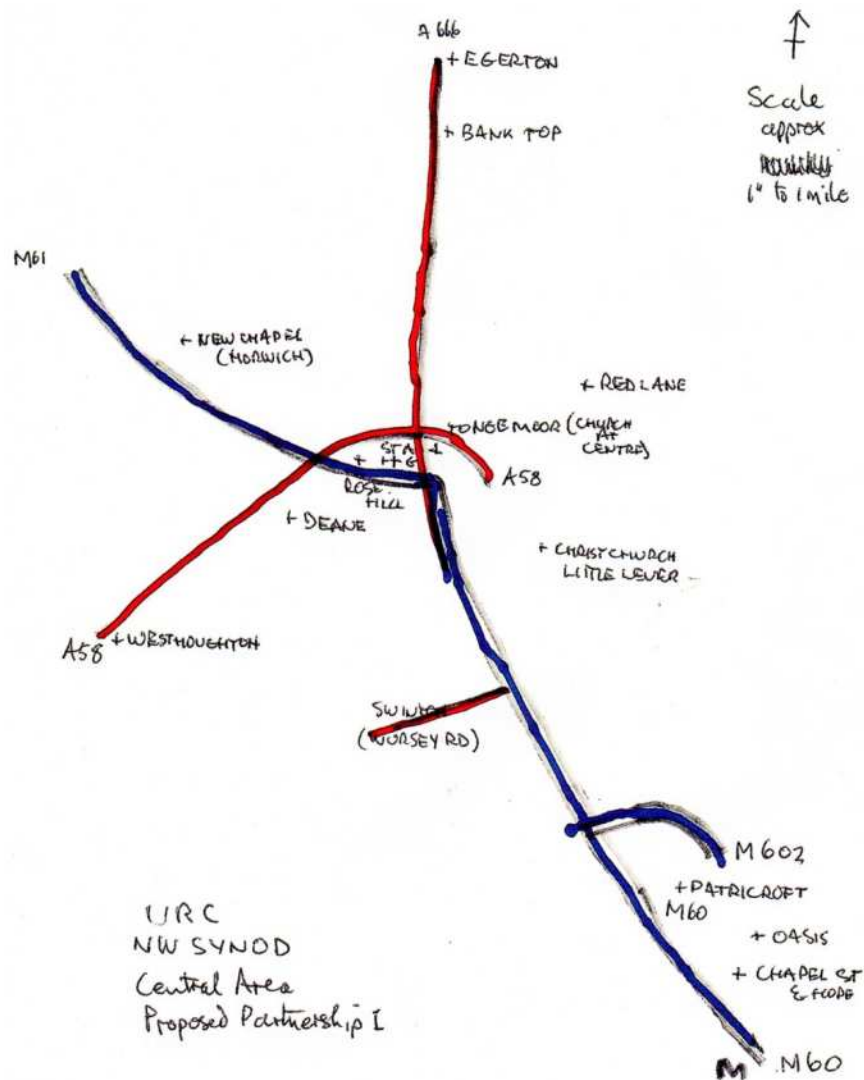
Bible, that had been lent to them from St George's URC, Hartlepool. They started knitting in February 2008, & only intended to create the scene of The Last Supper. Enthusiasm and imagination took over culminating in 33 added

scenes!

I believe the whole collection is on tour around the country with each church having it for approx. 4 weeks, well worth a visit.

Laraine Scofield

NW Synod, Central Area: Missional Partnership 1



	CHURCHES:	ADDRESS	POSTCODE
1	Bank Top	Ashworth Lane, Bolton	BL1 8RX
2	Chapel St & Hope	Lamb Court, Chapel Street, Salford	M3 6AF
3	Christ Church Little Lever(UM)	Mytham Road, Little Lever, Bolton	BL3 1JW
4	Deane	385 Wigan Road, Bolton	BL3 4QJ
5	Egerton	Blackburn Road, Egerton, Bolton	BL7 9TB
6	Horwich New Chapel	New Chapel Lane, Horwich, Bolton	BL6 6QN
7	Media City UK (URC/Oasis)	Oasis Academy, Media City. King William Street, Salford	M50 3VQ
8	Patricroft	Shakespeare Crescent, Patricroft, Eccles	M30 0PE
9	Red Lane	Newby Road, Bolton	BL2 5EQ
10	Rose Hill	Bradford Road, Bolton	BL3 2HE
11	St Andrew & St George	St Georges Road, Bolton	BL2 2BX
12	Swinton	310-312 Worsley Road. Swinton, Manchester	M27 0FF
13	Tonge Moor	Starkie Road, Tonge Moor, Bolton	BL2 2ED
14	Westhoughton	Park Road, Westhoughton, Bolton	BL5 3DE
15	Wharton Cleggs Lane (UM)	Cleggs Lane, Little Hulton, Worsley, Manchester	M38 9SZ

THE FRIDAY GOSPELS

How much do you know about the Mormons?

I am not suggesting that you should read this novel. It is confusing since only towards the end do we learn where it is set and there are five different narrators. Finally, the black humour becomes nasty. So why am I writing this? I chose the book because the blurb declares that, though fiction, it accurately describes facets of the Mormon faith and life in a Mormon community in the 1950s. The author was brought up in the faith but turned her back on it in her teens. As my own knowledge of the subject was limited to Joseph Smith, Utah, young missionaries and polygamy, I was fascinated by what the Friday Gospels told me.

It was a surprise to find (eventually) that these Mormons lived on our Lancashire doorstep, as this was the first area of Europe to be inhabited by people of that faith. Early communities settled in Morecambe, Lancaster and Formby. Each had its elaborate temple, a faith school and a day school, both mixed. Bishops were non-stipendiary, holding down a full-time job to keep their families.

As Christians they followed closely both the Old and New Testaments. Each day at faith school children, like Moslem youngsters, had to learn and repeat passages from their Holy Book, though much shorter ones. In the writer's town it was held in the teacher's own home, beginning at about six and lasting two hours. The young scholars had to fast until this was over. The teacher had to follow the only textbook to the letter, with role-playing and craft work. Great emphasis was put on the woman being more important than the man (for obvious reasons) and on the importance of marrying within the community. While expecting the end of the world as we know it to come soon, they preached that Jesus would first return to live among us for a thousand years of peace.

Boys between eighteen and twenty were expected to do two years' missionary service, not only helping people but trying to bring them to accept Mormon baptism by total immersion (of the baptist as well). And where did the likeable missionary of the book serve? In the USA! During the whole period the boy was not allowed to speak to his parents, though he might write. He was one of the few believable characters in his town. And that town, which his brother says will never be famous, turns out to be Chorley, site of the Preston Temple which members of our congregation visited on its completion!

PS: If you fancy a fine book that touches on the impact of Mormonism in the Mid West, try Zane Grey's classic "Riders of the Purple Sage"

PATRICIA TURNER.

When you enter this church, it may be possible that you hear the call of God. However, it is unlikely that He will call you on your mobile. Thank you for turning off your phones. If you want to talk to God, enter, choose a quiet place and talk to Him. If you want to see Him, send Him a text while driving."

St. Francis - and the Life of Simplicity

Just about the only thing most people know about Francis of Assisi is that he talked to the birds. Church-goers also know the popular hymn based on his famous prayer, 'Make me a channel of your Peace', which was sung at the funeral of Princess Diana.

However, Italy's patron saint, whose feast day is October the 4th, was a more complex, and some would say controversial character. His life spanned the end of the twelfth and beginning of the thirteenth centuries. He was born into a very wealthy family, but after what he called his 'conversion' standing before a crucifix, he renounced all his possessions. In fact, he stripped himself of his wealthy garments in a public square in his home-town, Assisi.

For the rest of his life he and his followers, including his feminine counterpart. St Claire, longed, prayed and worked for a life of simplicity - a lifestyle without luxury or privileges, for the Franciscan brothers and the Poor Claires. This meant no private possessions at all. Francis saw that many poor people without these things, actually seemed to live happier and more fulfilling lives than the ambitious rich. He spoke of a simple life not shaped by money or power but by love and mutual concern. As his hymn says, 'it is in giving of ourselves that we receive'.

Of course, poverty; in our modern western world is seldom a matter of blissful simplicity, as present-day Franciscans recognise. For too many it is a matter of poor diet, over-crowded rooms, rough sleeping and unemployment. The call of today's followers of Francis and Claire is that those who are better-off should 'live more simply, so that others can simply live'. Christians follow a Master who said that he came with 'good news for the poor'. They believe that many of us today can be that good news.

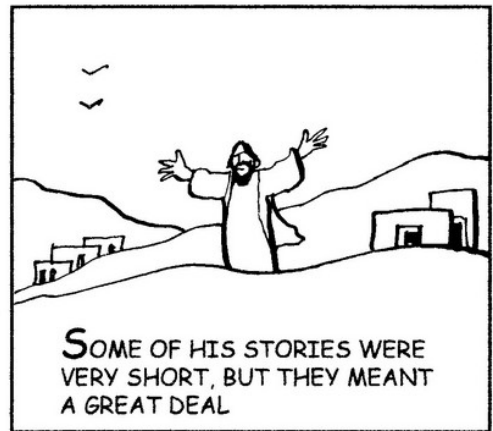
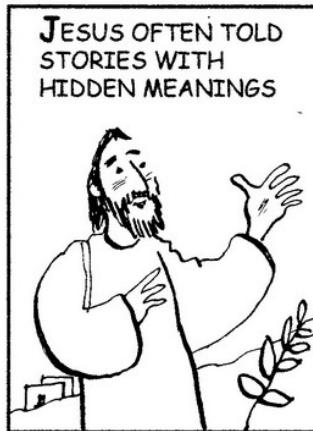
Extract from ParishPump



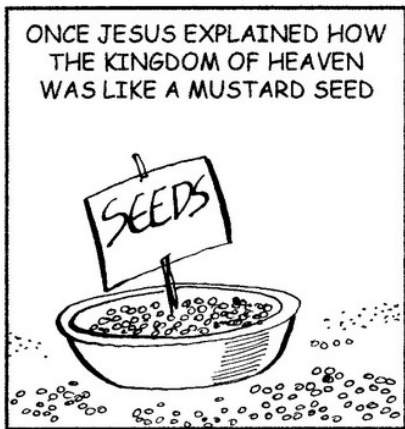
*They had been promised a Celebrity
Guest Preacher*

Young at Heart

The tale of
the
Mustard
Seed
& the tale of the
Yeast



SOME OF HIS STORIES WERE
VERY SHORT, BUT THEY MEANT
A GREAT DEAL



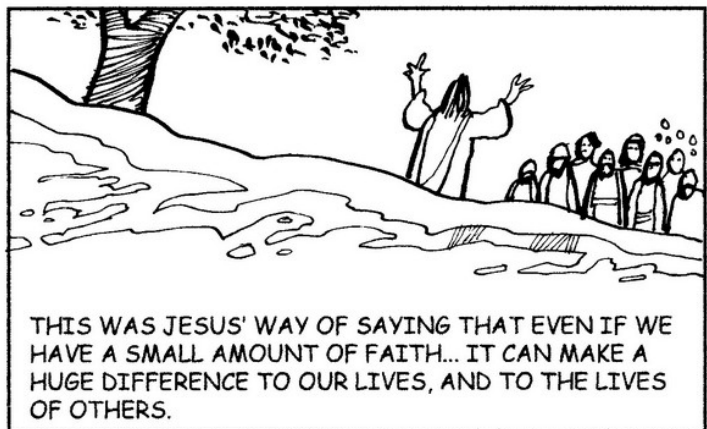
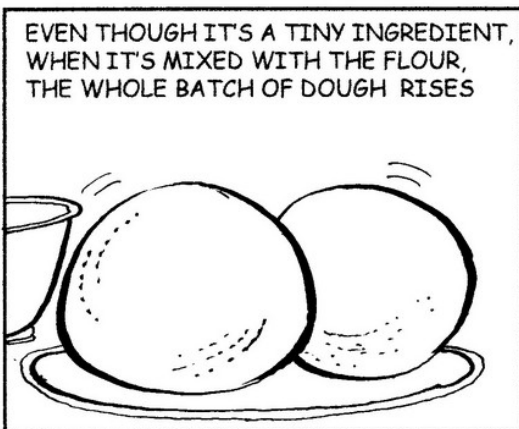
IT IS ONE OF THE SMALLEST
OF SEEDS....



BUT WHEN IT GROWS UP IT IS
THE BIGGEST OF ALL PLANTS



JESUS ALSO EXPLAINED THAT THE
KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE YEAST.



THIS WAS JESUS' WAY OF SAYING THAT EVEN IF WE
HAVE A SMALL AMOUNT OF FAITH... IT CAN MAKE A
HUGE DIFFERENCE TO OUR LIVES, AND TO THE LIVES
OF OTHERS.



Haslingden Concert Band



Christmas Concert

**United Reformed Church of St Andrew and St
George, St Georges Road, Bolton**

Sunday 9th December

2.30pm – 4.30pm

**Come and join us and get into the Christmas Spirit with a
collection of well known Christmas songs and the chance to
sing some of your favourite Christmas Carols**

Admission £5 on the door including refreshments



**For further information please contact
Glenda Ostick on 01204 300214**