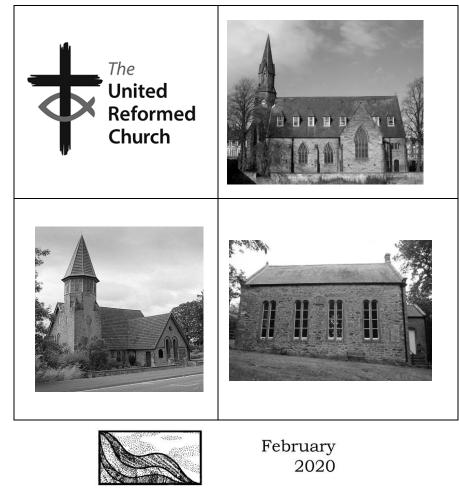
St George's, Widdrington & Great Bavington United Reformed Churches **Newsletter** 



Website: stgeorgesurcmorpeth.org

#### Dear Friends,

February is the season of "Love". You cannot go anywhere over the next couple of weeks without being bombarded with symbols and messages of undying love. Stores will be awash with 'hearts' emblazoned all around the place reminding us that this is a season for lovers.

But of course, we know that we do not love with just our hearts: "thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength" *Mark 12:30* 

So why do we focus on the heart as such a symbol of love? Why are the stores not decorated with brains and souls (whatever that may be) and muscles too?

Well, since the book of Genesis the heart has been the place which guides our actions, the evil thoughts of men were situated in the heart (Genesis 6:5) and with the Hebrews in slavery, Pharoah's heart was repeatedly hardened against them.

Aristotle considered the heart to be the place where thought, reason and emotion were situated in a person, while the Roman physician Galen located passions in the liver, reason in the brain, and emotions in the heart. It is perhaps this that has remained in our western culture where the heart remains a symbol of our emotional love.

In the quote from Mark's gospel, Jesus takes one of the laws from the book of Deuteronomy. The love expressed in the Deuteronomic laws is the love between two parties of the covenant, much as the love expressed during February may be between a married couple, who too have covenanted together. This kind of love is much more than mere emotion. Jesus' command expresses this love that comes from the whole of a person, mind, soul and spirit, and that in love we offer all of ourselves to the other.

The "soul" represents in a way our life and commitment, the "heart" and "mind" our emotions and thoughts, and "strength" represents that which gives us substance, our wealth and property. So John Calvin preaches in one of his sermons:

"Thou shalt love God with all thy soul, is as much as to say thou shalt not spare thy life for the love of thy God...Thou shalt love thy God with all thy mind or heart...so as a man should prefer God above all other things...and finally, thou shalt love God with all thy strength, imparted among them, that thou must love him with all thy substance and with all thy goods, as if the case required that

thou shouldest be impoverished."

So during this month when loving couples express their love for each other, let us be reminded of the God whom we love. As married couples celebrate their commitment to each other, let us celebrate the God who is deeply committed to us. And as we are bombarded with images of hearts, let us be reminded that our love for God goes beyond mere emotions, and that we love with our mind, and soul and strength too!

With every blessing, Julian

#### St George's Needs You!!

Our church is full of people who work hard to keep things running as smoothly as possible, and its because they do such a good job that many don't realise just how many roles need to be filled. As it comes up to our annual church meeting we not only give appreciation for what everyone does, but inevitably it is a time when there are changes in the roles undertaken.

In the coming months we are looking especially for people to fulfil the roles of Lettings Officer and Property Manager. This need not be a lifetime commitment!!- and training and support will be given to those who take up these roles. So if you think you might be able to help to keep St George's running smoothly, or would like more information about what is involved, then do please contact the minister.

## Morpeth and Mitford Churches Together Asylum Seekers Support Group

#### West End Refugee Service

The WERS website is currently saying that they are still unable to accept any donations of clothing etc for their clothing store, as all their storage areas are full.

#### **Justice and Peace Refugee Project**

I have also received an email from the Justice and Peace Project to tell me that they have received some very generous donations of bedding recently. Usually they have a huge demand for this but the demand has more or less dried up this year, probably because of the very mild winter. Consequently, they have a huge glut of bedding and can't take any more at the moment. So they want people to hang fire on bedding donations for the time being.

I am sure both of these Projects will require more stocks before long. I will let you know when their stores are open again for donations. Meanwhile please keep donations of food and toiletries coming.

Thank you for your continued support. Margaret Brock

## Wansbeck Valley Food Bank

David has received this thank you letter from the Wansbeck Valley Food Bank.

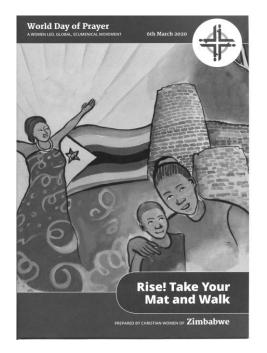
#### Cheque Donation £273.46.

Thank you for your recent cheque donation from collections at St George's United Reformed Church – it is very much appreciated.

It is very encouraging to know the Food Bank provided 19,000 person days of food to referred clients and demand has continued to increase significantly since then.

Your support ensures that we can continue to meet the needs of people who find themselves facing hardship, particularly at this time of the year. Thank you for your continued support.

#### Linda Fugill, Project Manager



## Women's World Day of Prayer

The service is prepared by Christian women of Zimbabwe on the theme

# "Rise! Take your mat and walk."

## Friday 6th March at Morpeth Methodist Church at 2pm

Rehearsals Friday 21st and 28th February 10am (for readers) and 11pm (singers and musicians)

Singers and players welcome to join choir and band led by Harriet Gilfillan Please contact Christine Oakes or Suzanne Hamnett for more information. All welcome The Service is followed by refreshments and hosted by members of the Baptist Church.

Church.

#### 

## Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February

The 'Re-seeding not Receding' Garden Centre Tour 2020 – an opportunity to meet informally with Rev Dave Herbert, Northern Synod Moderator. Dave will be at Dobbies Garden Centre Café, Morpeth from 10.30am – noon. If you can't make this date, there are other dates and venues on Dave's tour, see posters on the church notice board for further details.

## **Commitment for Life**

Commitment for Life is the United Reformed Church's global justice programme.

Commitment for Life is a way in which local congregations are enabled to participate in actions for justice around the world. Commitment for Life belongs to every congregation. Many choose to support a region in the world through prayer, learning, advocacy, and action for justice. We support the region of Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

Commitment for Life partners are Christian Aid and Global Justice Now. The four partner regions are Bangladesh, Zimbabwe, Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, and Central America (Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala).

There is information about "Commitment for Life" on the notice board in the hall and further details can be found on the website:- urc.org.uk/moving-stories.html

Every month we have a retiring collection for Commitment for Life. In the last year £391.62 has been collected and sent to continue the work of "Commitment for Life" Please continue to give to this very worthwhile cause.

Sarah Cleverley Link Person

## Knitter, Natter, Crafts & Chatter Coffee Group

The group meets on Wednesday mornings from 10am-12noon in the Drysdale room (entry by the <u>front</u> door). We aim to enjoy each others company whilst drinking tea/coffee, sharing projects for church or charity, or doing our own projects. Anyone is welcome to drop in just for a cup of coffee.

Contact: Joan Cooper, Tel: 515682

## Word Search for February

In New Testament times 40 days old was an important age for a baby boy: it was when they made their first 'public appearance'. Mary, like all good Jewish mothers, went to the Temple with Jesus, her first male child - to 'present him to the Lord'. At the same time, she, as a new mother, was 'purified'. Thus we have the Festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, 40 days after Christmas. Jesus is described in the Bible as the Light of the World, and so early Christians developed the tradition of lighting many candles in celebration of this day. The Church also fell into the custom of blessing the year's supply of candles for the church on this day - hence the name, Candlemas. The story can be found in Luke 2:22-40. Simeon's great declaration of faith and recognition of who Jesus was is of

OIIDOEERBIICIRP

TPRESENTAOSHURD

LHEITCILBUPAARB

ILGFNNAYYISYSRE

RNOITATNESERPLH

DNIPEEVOSEEDENS

NICSFPSITTIMIDR

OEUSFACEISEPOST

RGYNUNCNIVERVPY

LAOSHSIWEITFSDA

DNBVYHPIDYUSOUE

DTIBATWNDMIRSPE

Ρ

AFO

LMFRLRWFDRBA

WYERSPTLTHI

course found in the Nunc Dimittis, which is embedded in the Office of Evening Prayer in the West.

Forty	Days	Baby	' Boy
Public	Appe	arand	ce Mary
Jewish	Moth	ners	Temple

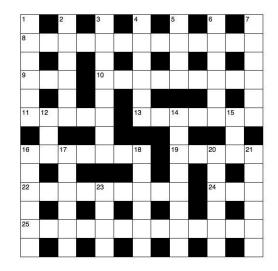
Jesus Purified Present Lord Festival Presentation Light World Candlemas

Simeon Nunc Dimittis Office Evening Prayer West Solution on page 16

**Lost in translation...** Two American preachers were visiting in Germany and attended Sunday services. Since they couldn't speak German, they decided to do as the man sitting in front of them did. A few minutes into the service the preacher from the pulpit said something and the man in front of them stood, and they stood also. The congregation burst into laughter. They then sat down when the man did. At the end of the service, they met the pastor and found that he spoke English. They asked him why everyone laughed so much when they stood. The pastor explained that he had announced that they would have a christening service that evening, and would the father of the child please rise.

#### **Crossword for February**

Across: 8 Interrogated (Acts 12:19) (5-8) 9 'Burn it in a wood fire on the — heap' (Leviticus 4:12) (3) 10 Tobit, Judith, Baruch and the books of Esdras and the Maccabees are part of it (9) 11 Science fiction (abbrev.) (3-2) 13 Clay pit (anag.) (7) 16 Went to (John 4:46) (7) 19 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to — your bodies as living



sacrifices' (Romans 12:1) (5) **22** David's plea to God concerning those referred to in 14 Down: 'On — — let them escape' (Psalm 56:7) (2,7) **24** Royal Automobile Club (1,1,1) **25** How the book of Ezekiel refers to God more than 200 times (Ezekiel 2:4) (9,4).

Down: 1 Seas (Proverbs 8:24) (6) 2 One of the sons of Eli the priest, killed in battle by the Philistines (1 Samuel 4:11) (6) 3 Specialist in the study of the Muslim religion (8) 4 'Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but — him as if he were your father' (1 Timothy 5:1) (6) 5 One of Esau's grandsons (Genesis 36:11) (4) 6 Taking a chance (colloq.) (2,4) 7 God's instructions to the Israelites concerning grain offerings: '— salt to — your offerings' (Leviticus 2:13) (3,3)
12 Confederation of British Industry (1,1,1) 14 'All day long they twist my words; they are always — to harm me' (Psalm 56:5) (8) 15 The crowd's reaction to Jesus bringing back to life a widow's son in Nain (Luke 7:16) (3)
16 Disappear (Psalm 104:35) (6) 17 How Jeremiah was likely to die if he wasn't rescued from the cistern where he was imprisoned (Jeremiah 38:9) (6)
18 What the prophets do to a wall, with whitewash (Ezekiel 13:10, RSV) (4,2)
20 Made by a plough (Job 39:10) (6) 21 Noah was relieved when the flood waters continued to — (Genesis 8:5) (6) 23 Jesus gave the Twelve the power and authority to do this to diseases (Luke 9:1) (4). Solution on page 16

**Love in a bag...** I asked my nephew whether he bought his wife anything for Valentine's Day, and he said he had bought her a belt and a bag. When I commented that I am sure she would appreciate them, he agreed: "Yes, and hopefully the vacuum cleaner will work better now."

## Lunchtime Concerts

#### Wednesdays from 12.30 – 1.30pm

#### WINTER-SPRING SERIES

On **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February** there will be the Annual Lunchtime Concert by Musicians from KEVI Music Department including the Chamber Choir.

All concerts run from 12.30 to 1.30 pm and tickets cost £3 at the door. Doors are open at Noon. Tea & Coffee is available in the South Transept of the Church.

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March** there will be a concert by "*The Fiddling Three*" Stuart Hardy (From The Bottle Bank Band) together with Brian Jackson and Alan Edwards present a selection from Light Classical to Swing – something for everyone.

Further details of the Winter – Spring Series are posted on the Vestibule & Hall Noticeboards.

#### Buy or Borrow Book & Jigsaw Library

Again, our grateful thanks to all those who continue to bring **paperback** books (only paperbacks please) and jigsaws enabling us to refresh the shelves and update the library. Please keep them coming as we try to keep the Library refreshed with up-to-date books and jigsaws. More importantly keep borrowing or buying !!! This continues to be a steady regular income for the Church so many thanks to those who do borrow or buy.

#### **Christmas Tree Festival 2019**

The 2019 Multiple Sclerosis Research and Relief Fund Christmas Tree Festival was held in the Church Sanctuary on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> December. This was well supported by local businesses, community groups and organisations within the church. Once again there were some very talented exhibits with 22 trees shown. This year MSR&R treated the festival as a means of bringing the work of the Fund to the attention of local folk and not as a fund-raiser. In spite of this almost £1000 was raised by donations and the small raffle.

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec the Charity welcomed 160 children from local Infant Schools & Nurseries and the Church resounded to happy laughter of children searching the trees and the surroundings for elves and the occasional knitted angel.

They also listened to a narration of the Christmas story and in the Drysdale Room had a whale of a time with Christmas games led by a member of staff of "Little Movers", a leading provider of pre-school dance and movement classes in the North. The Mayor officially opened the event on the Friday evening which was very well supported. The audience was treated to a concert by members of The Mid-Northumberland Chorus, Oboist Emma Straughan and Heaton Voices from Newcastle.

The Church was then open to the public on the Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> throughout the day with a steady stream of visitors including children, who had visited on the Friday, bringing parents and grandparents to view the excellent trees. During the morning all visitors were directed upstairs to the Ladies Coffee Morning which proved to be of benefit to church funds.

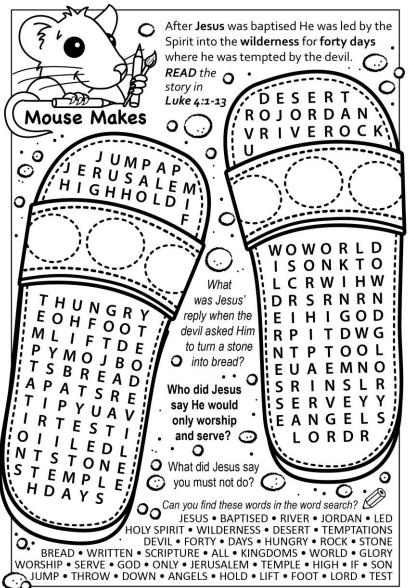
About half of the trees were retained and graced our Life Remembered Service on Dec 9<sup>th</sup>, our Joint Nativity Service with Morpeth Methodist Church on Sunday Dec 15<sup>th</sup> and also our Community Carol Service on Monday 16<sup>th</sup>.

Once again we would like to thank all those who contributed in any way to this very successful event.

# St George's Ladies Coffee Club

Saturday 22nd February 2020 7.00 pm In the Church Hall

Tickets: Adults £10.00. Children (under 12) £5.00 2 Course Supper (Bring your own drinks and glasses) Tickets available from Sarah Cleverley 515257 or Linda Glascott 515582



Feb20 © deborah noble • parishpump.co.uk

## Country Dance Club The CDC will be held in the Church Hall from 7.30 pm on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February No experience necessary – all dances are "called" before doing them! It is suitable for ALL ages! Bring along your own refreshments (and a friend or two?) Still only £1.50 per adult (Children Free) Everyone welcome

Contact me by phone or email if you need any further details. Ring 514610 or email: jared-marg@hotmail.com

#### **Bible Readers**

Readers are needed for the Months of February and March. Please consider whether you would be able to help with this and sign up on the list in the Vestibule. Please contact Church Secretary Teresa if you need any further advice or information.

#### **Church Flowers**

Flower Donors are required also for the months of February and March. Please consider whether you would be able to help with this and sign up on the list in the Vestibule

#### Tea & Coffee Rota

Tea/Coffee servers are urgently required. Please consider undertaking this duty – please also sign up where possible for dates further in the future. A new Rota has been posted on the Hall Notice board.

#### Church notices that didn't quite get it right...!

Mrs Thomas, of this church, wishes to thank all those members who so kindly assisted in the death of her husband.

The regular Monday night choir practise of this church will be held on Tuesday night instead of Friday night.

Children are normally collected during the Offertory Hymn.



Available as posters up to A0 size from cpo.org.uk
 For more resources visit cpo.org.uk or call us on 01903 263354

## **Tea Time Talks**

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> January at 2.00pm

The Speaker will be Michael Quincy

## with 'Carry On up the Kumbu'

The talk will be followed, as usual, by a cream tea with homemade scones and jams. Entry is by donation of between £2 - £3 per person. Please let Jared know (preferably in advance) if you are likely to attend, so that the caterers can bake enough scones. Contact details are: 01670 514610 or email jared-marg @hotmail.com

## St George's Ladies Coffee Club

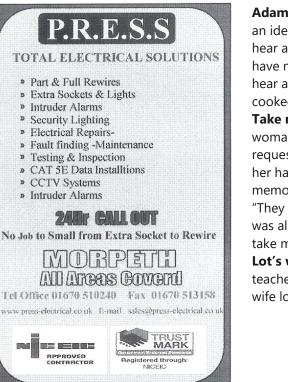
Tuesday 18th February Ian Gilliard with 'Mary Ann Cotton'

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February Domino Drive at 7.00pm In the Hall

We meet in the Drysdale Room at 3.00pm and new members will be made most welcome.

The Ladies Coffee Club says a big thank you to everyone who supported their Christmas Coffee morning on Saturday 7th December. The final figure was £889.50p, after a few sales after Sunday church. Linda Glascott

							7	2 3
					9	5		3
6	7			3	2	9		
9				1				
4	1	6				7	9	5
				6				1
		3	1	8			4	6
2		7	4					
8	4							



Sudoku Solution on page 16



Today's hymns are based on last week's trend in petrol prices...

Adam and Eve... Adam and Eve had an ideal marriage. He didn't have to hear about all the men she could have married, and she didn't have to hear about the way his mother cooked.

Take me out...An elderly single woman died last month. She requested no male pallbearers. In her handwritten instructions for her memorial service, she explained: "They wouldn't take me out while I was alive, so I don't want them to take me out when I'm dead." Lot's wife... The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, 'My Mummy looked back once, while she was driving,' he said, 'and she turned into a telephone pole!'

#### Here is the news from Great Bavington for February:

#### Services

During the winter (November to March), services continue to be on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, at 6.30pm Sunday 2 February, 6.30pm Sunday 16 February, 6.30pm

History Night Wednesday 19 February, 7.30pm

#### Film Night

Tuesday 11 February, 7.15pm for 7.30pm start. Film to be announced Further information on all of the above: **bavingtonchurch@gmail.com**, 01830 540350

#### Solutions

**Crossword: ACROSS:** 8, Cross-examined. 9, Ash. 10, Apocrypha. 11, Sci-fi. 13, Typical. 16, Visited. 19, Offer. 22, No account. 24, RAC. 25, Sovereign Lord. **DOWN:** 1, Oceans. 2, Hophni. 3, Islamist. 4, Exhort. 5, Omar. 6, On spec. 7, Add all. 12, CBI. 14, Plotting. 15, Awe. 16, Vanish. 17, Starve. 18, Daub it. 20, Furrow. 21, Recede. 23, Cure.

3	5	9	6	4	1	8	7	2
1	2	4	8	7	9	5	6	3
6	7	8	5	3	2	9	1	4
9	3	5	7	1	4	6	2	8
4	1	6	3	2	8	7	9	5
7	8	2	9	6	5	4	3	1
5	9	3	1	8	7	2	4	6
2	6	7	4	5	3	1	8	9
8	4	1	2	9	6	3	5	7

OIIDOEERBIICIRP TPRESENTAOSHURD LHEITCILBUPAARB ILGFNNAYYISKE RNOTATNESER P L/H LMFRDRWFDRBA PIN YEFUDAMÈFLRMSOG DNIPEEVOSEEDENS N C S F P S I T D MK I D R WYERSPTLTHUNAFO OEUSFACEISEPOST RGYNUNCNIVERVPY LAOSHSIWEDTBSDA DNBVYHPJDYUSOUE DTIBATWNDMIRSPE

## Widdrington United Reformed Church

**PRAYING TOGETHER** 

During February please pray for: People in war zones Victims of natural disasters Those suffering religious persecution (of any faith) Our country The refugee families being settled in the county, and those who help them The work of relief agencies People in care homes Anyone who is recently bereaved Your neighbours Your family

"Prayer, the Churches banquet, Angels age, God's breath in man, returning to his birth, The soul in paradise, heart in pilgrimage, The Christian plummet, sounding heav'n and earth" **(George Herbert)** 

Seven days without prayer makes one weak

#### WIDDRINGTON CHURCH NEWS

I'd like to invite everybody to contribute information that they think might be of interest. Just give me the details *in writing* either on a piece of paper or by email to **elliemist@gmail.com** and I'll do the rest. (I'd still welcome articles though). The **Copy Date** for each magazine is the Sunday prior to the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month before the next issue. If you miss the deadline your contribution may have to be held over to the next issue. December/January and June/July are usually double issues.

Flowers: Arranged February by Kathleen and in March by Fiona

**Easy Fund Raising (Easy?)** Do you shop online? The chances are that your vendor will be part of Easy Fund Raising. Amazon and John Lewis are, for instance. (Some of our EF members only shop with retailers who are in the scheme!) This means that if you register for Easy Fund Raising at easyfundraising.org.uk and select Widdrington United Reformed Church as your Good Cause 1 or 2 % of the purchase price of your item will come to us at no extra cost to yourself. Please talk to Fiona about it soon. We have raised over £240 so far with just eight members. As they say, every little helps! **Recent fund raising:** Our Salvation Army gift day raised £100 in cash as well as some material gifts. On Christmas Eve we raised £303, which enabled us to send £101 each to Christian Aid and Shelter, keeping the balance for church funds. Our February **Social Event** will be a Domino Night on Saturday 15th. These are always good fun, if a little chaotic! Starting at 7.00pm, there will be a pooled supper. Donations for hall expenses are always welcome!

#### **Regular events:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday:** Coffee Club meets at a variety of coffee shops in the area. 10.30am. In February we will be going to The Drift at Cresswell.

**1st Wednesday:** The Prayer Group meets at 7.00pm, usually at Cook's Hemmel. All are welcome, and suggestions for prayer can be given to any member of the group. (I'd like suggestions for Praying Together, too)

**Facebook**: If you are on Facebook, have you checked out our Facebook page yet? Search for Widdrington United Reformed Church. Please like us and let me know if you think I've missed anything that should be on. If you take pictures at any event please post them as a guest ( but remember to get permission of any people on your photos and particularly from the parents of any children before you post) The page now has over 100 (106 actually) likes, with another 5 people 'following '!

Please note: Sean, our sheep, has his own Facebook page! Search for 'Sean'. Sean now has 17 page 'likes' but he wants some more, so please tell your friends about him!

The **website** is at: www.widdringtonurc.org.uk

I'd appreciate some help to improve it, as it's very wordy at the moment, partly because I'm happiest with words. I'm still looking for volunteers to be additional site editors. Someone with hardware the can post pictures would be good!

#### **Churches Together in Widdrington and Ulgham**

We started a midweek meeting for worship and fellowship on Tuesday 28th

January. It was at 6 Lambert Terrace at 2pm. At that meeting we decided details of frequency, venue and a name! Details will be in the March magazine, while information about dates in February will be in the Sunday notices.

On Shrove Tuesday we hope to arrange a meal at the Drift at Cresswell. This will be on February 25th, probably at 6.00pm.

Numbers and menu choices to Diana as soon as possible, please.

There will be a Lent Course running on Tuesdays from March 3rd at Widdy Welcomes, at 1.30pm and 7.30pm.

We intend to run the Big Brekkie for Christian Aid again, on Saturday May 9th from 9 to 11am.

Meanwhile, the pop-up cafe continues on Thursdays at Widdy Welcomes. Why not pop in for a cuppa and a chat? **FEM** 

#### In memoriam

In November Widdrington URC lost, in swift succession, an old and valued friend, and then our oldest member.

Michael Spears was a good friend to us, conducting services for us on a number of occasions. His sermons and talks, illustrated with events from his earlier careers, especially as a bus driver, were always interesting and amusing. He continued to conduct our Christmas Day service until only a few years ago, when his health sadly deteriorated. He will be much missed in Hadstone and Broomhill.

Joyce Waddell joined our congregation as soon as she moved into Ulgham. It was to be her retirement home, but sadly her husband died just before the move, so we never knew him. Joyce quickly became a faithful member of the congregation, missing very few Sundays until a couple of years ago. Even after she stopped driving (aged 90!) various family members and friends were called into service to get her to the church on time'. Joyce was active in church life, attending all our social events -she even managed to come and see the Knitted Bible. She took over the church flowers when Mrs Goodman moved away, and our Christmas decorations followed pattern devised by her until we acquired a.m.e bigger candle holders after a wedding last year. Joyce was also an enthusiastic member of the Friendship Club and the Bowls Club (both organisations that long predeceased her). Many of us remember with affection the summer evenings playing bowls on her (or Elizabeth's) lawn: not perhaps bowling green quality. A special skill was required, quite different from the carpet in the hall! Joyce was an interesting lady. I was aware that she had been a driver in the ATS in the war. I was fascinated to learn also of her career as a textile designer.

Last year, sadly, Joyce had a fall at home, which put an end to her independent living. She died last November, aged 96 **FEM** 

#### Breakthrough: report by Hannah Walden from Widdrington

Over New Year I went to 'Breakthrough', a Christian youth event in Scarborough. We were put in small groups for group times and had some really interesting conversations about the Resurrection.

We also had seminars. I chose 'doubt'. We discussed people's explanations of the Resurrection, and the proof that we have to prove them right or wrong. Secondly I chose 'self ' where we looked at self concept and how God sees us. Thirdly I chose 'third world countries' and we discussed how they don't have the resources we have to get through day to day tasks and learning about God and the world around them.

The last one I chose was on community and how we can bring light to where we are.

We did lots of other fun games. I met a lot of great people who I hope to stay in contact with. Overall it was a great experience to go and interact with people my age who have faith, and I loved going. We have church every day and it made me think about things I never really thought about before. The next one as I am going to are 'Staying Alive' at Seahouses and 'Summer 2020' at North Berwick. I will definitely be going to the next 'Breakthrough' event in December.

## CHRISTMAS EVE 2019

Anyone who has seen the film 'Groundhog Day' will understand when I say it's as if one Service seems to run into another one, with virtually no time in-between. Perhaps it's a sign of age when the passage of time seems to fly in the face of physics, and pass at ever greater speeds each year! And so it was in 2019. A full house in church makes the teamwork and team effort worthwhile, as it does every year. Once again, a big thank you to all involved, in any capacity, and to those who come to celebrate the Birth of Jesus with us. It truly is an all-age, ecumenical effort! The collection raised £303 which has been shared equally between Christian Aid, Shelter and church funds. Thank you, on behalf of Margaret and myself.

Kathleen

#### **HOUSE GROUP**

**Aim:** to provide time and space for a short, informal act of worship through fellowship.

**Venue:** 6, Lambert Terrace Ferneybeds, Widdrington. **When:** 2pm, Tuesday 28th January.

Anyone of any denomination is welcome. The idea is to provide a focus in the midst of the everyday stuff of life, on our relationship with God. Come along and find a bit of peace! And a cup of coffee! *Kathleen* 

#### Widdrington Calendar

February		
Sun 2nd	10.45am	Morning Worship
Tues 4th	10.30am	Coffee Club, The Drift, Cresswell
Wed 5th	7.00pm	Prayer Group 'Cooks Hemmel'
Sun 9th	10.45am	Morning Worship. Carol Dixon
Fri 15th	7.00pm	Domino Night: Hall – pooled supper
Sun 16th	10.45am	Morning Worship. Revd Julian Sanders
Sun 23rd	10.45am	Morning Worship. David Rodgers
March		
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup>	10.45am	Preacher to be arranged
Tues 3rd	10.45am	Coffee Club: venue to be arranged
Wed 4th	7.00pm	Prayer Group. Cook's Hemmel

#### Widdrington Rota

Date	Vestry	Door and Offertory
02-02-20	Diana Hogg	Ena Whinham Audrey Grieves

09-02-20	Fiona Middlemist	Liv and Hannah Walden
16-02-20	Kathleen Bailey	Diana Hogg Margaret Scott
23-02-20	Tom Whinham	Fiona Middlemist Ruth Gordon
01-03-20	Diana Hogg	Kathleen Bailey Judith Hart