

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



July &
August
2022

Website: stgeorgesurcmorpeth.org

Worship at St George's United Reformed Church for July/August

JULY		
Sun 3 rd	10.30am	Morning Worship - Communion
Wed 6 th	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service – doors open at noon
Sun 10 th	10.30am	Morning Worship
Wed 13 th	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service – doors open at noon
Sun 17 th	10.30am	Morning Worship
Wed 20 th	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service – doors open at noon
Sun 24 th	10.30am	Morning Worship
Wed 27 th	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service – doors open at noon
Sun 31 st	10.30am	Morning Worship

AUGUST		
Wed 3 rd	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service – doors open at noon
Sun 7 th	10.30am	Morning Worship
Wed 10 th	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service – doors open at noon
Sun 14 th	10.00am	Morning Worship at Morpeth Methodist Church
Wed 17 th	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service – doors open at noon
Sun 21 st	10.30am	Morning Worship
Wed 24 th	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service – doors open at noon
Sun 28 th	10.00am	Morning Worship at Morpeth Methodist Church
Wed 31 st	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service – Doors open at noon

Steward's Duty Rota is on page 12

Flower Rota

Jul 3	Auld Family	Aug 7	See Notice Board
10	Dorothy Luke	14	"
17	See Notice Board	21	"
24	Teresa & Laurence	28	Jean Elliott
31	Anne Bennett	Rep	Sue Rutherford 860811
Rep	Mary Kelly 829656		

The next joint newsletter with Widdrington & Bavington URC's covers events in **September**

The deadline is Sunday 21st August

Please do not wait for the deadline if you already have articles ready to be included.

Please contact Stephanie. E-mail: robson-robson@hotmail.co.uk

What's On at St George's

SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP & JUNIOR CHURCH

10.30 am

MON	Age UK Exercise 9.00-12.00 noon Ronka Gbadebo	07952381160
	Age UK Exercise: 3.00 – 4.00pm As above	
TUES	Morning Badminton 10.00am – 12 noon Allen Oakes allen@oakesa.co.uk	
	Rainbows, 5.00pm Liz Kelly 783434 Mobile 07714481089 liz.kelly@jcpce.com	
	Brownies: 6.00pm Susan Fairgrieve . s.fairgrieve21@gmail	
	Guides and Rangers: from 7.00pm Liz Kelly 783434 Mobile 07714481089 liz.kelly@jcpce.com	
	Ladies Coffee Club: 2.00pm (3 rd Tues) nb: new start time Contact: Sarah Cleverley	515257
	Cobweb Orchestra 7.30 – 9.30pm In the Sanctuary Contact: Christine Oakes 518608 or Penny Oxley 514612	
WED	Morning Badminton: 9.30am Sarah Cleverley	515257
	Knitter, Natter Crafts & Chatter 2.00 – 4.00pm Joan Cooper	515682
	Afternoon Bowls 2.00pm Andrew Cleverley	515257
	Zumba: 6.00pm High Intensity with Lisa O on 07507 179 692 or zumbawithlisao@hotmail.com	
THURS	Morning Badminton: 10.00-12.00 Allen Oakes allen@oakesa.co.uk	
	Zumba: 5.45pm. Low Intensity with Lisa O on 07507 179 692 or email zumbawithlisao@hotmail.com	
SAT	Table Tennis: 10.00 – 12.00 Christine Richardson Country Dance Club: (Varies from month to month) Contact: Shirley Forster	513913
SUN	Orchestra: Norm. 4 th Sunday Andrew Hamnett 518485 (not August) Christine Oakes 518608	



A letter from our Minister, Revd Julian Sanders

Dear Friends

"Let us not be weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up" Galatians 6:9

Well, it is now coming up to three years since Louise and I moved to Morpeth with the boys, and began ministry here in this area of Northumberland. Thanks to COVID those three years have gone incredibly slowly and also incredibly quickly, and when I ask myself what has been achieved in those three years I come up short.

We are told that Jesus' ministry lasted just three years, and it seems that this amount of time is such a short amount of time in order to really achieve anything. I have reflected on many things that have not been fruitful, and many areas that have been. But I still can't get away from the frustration, which many leaders in our churches feel today, that the church still feels like it is in decline.

So let me share with you a story as an encouragement about a guy Charlie Lubin. The name probably doesn't ring a bell, but Charlie made great cheesecakes. In fact, his cheesecakes were so good that the story goes that he decided to open a cheesecake shop on the north side of Chicago. It went so well that he opened a second shop in South Chicago. That shop did not do so well and eventually he lost both shops as a result.

But as Charlie sat in his room one night, eating his cheesecake, he said to himself "This is good cheesecake!" So he eventually opened his original shop again. After a while he opened another shop, but again that did not do so well and he once again lost both shops.

A few months later, while eating cheesecake he said to himself, "This is good cheesecake!". And so he opened his original shop again. But after opening a second shop, he went bankrupt again. This happened a fourth time!

Months later, Charlie sat in his house eating his cheesecake and thought to himself again, "This is good cheesecake!" And so he decided to open another shop again. Only this time, he would name his cheesecakes after his daughter, **Sara Lee**, and it became the largest bakery in the world.

It may seem, for many in the church, that there is a tireless struggle to make what we do a success, and the story of Charlie and the origin of the Sara Lee brand, can give us encouragement to just keep on persevering. I don't know what achievements have been made in the past three years, or indeed how you would be able to measure any sort of success, but what I do hope is that when people come to our churches, they can say to themselves 'This is good' and press on ahead. The words of Paul to the Corinthians are as much an encouragement to us as the early church:

"Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain." 1 Corinthians 15:58

Julian

Sea Sunday – 10th July

Look around your home. How much of the contents your cupboards, wardrobe, rooms, and even garage came to you over the seas, via the great merchant ships? What would your home be like without them? Yet when did you last give a thought to the people who bring them to you?

It is a curious fact that seafarers are one of the most important, and yet invisible, people groups in our society. We all of us depend on them to fill our homes and businesses with an endless variety of goods, and yet we never see them, never speak to them, and rarely even remember their existence.

It suddenly makes Sea Sunday seem good sense: an annual opportunity to give thanks for the seafarers of the world, and to pray for their personal well-being. For going to sea is a lonely occupation. It separates families for months on end. It can sometimes be dangerous, and it is always physically demanding work. So this month, on Sea Sunday, let's pause and give thanks to God for the seafarers of the world. Let's remember how their work so enriches our lives. Let's pray for them, for their families, and let's support the organisations that offer them care and support through their chaplaincy work.

In doing so, we will join with thousands of other Christians, from London to Lagos, Manila to Melbourne and Durban to Dunkerque, who each year remember the seafarers who make our prosperity possible.



Refugees

July/August 2022

I thought this month instead of talking about services and organisation I would let some of the refugees and asylum seekers do the talking, because it is important to remember that behind all the rhetoric and the political arguments we hear there are real people. People who are really struggling.

Some quotes from the **WERS** website:-

“When I first came to WERS I was very depressed, stressed and worried about my situation here. People were lovely and friendly. I don’t have enough words to express how it makes me feel. Thank you is not enough! Coming to WERS has helped me to feel better about myself. Being amongst people, being able to talk and feel relaxed has helped a lot. Just being able to sit and watch people helping each other makes me feel happy, less isolated and more a part of life.

I am a shy person but coming here makes me happy, as people will talk to me and help me and others. I have seen that WERS has helped people to grow and be able to go out there and cope on their own. I am not there yet but hope to be in the future.”

“WERS has helped me with the befriended scheme. Through it I made an incredible friend Through her I know more about British culture and I discover new places.

WERS also helped me to find volunteering jobs which are helping me to improve my confidence and my skills. WERS has made a big change in my life, I feel more confident about making new friends, I feel useful and appreciated.”

“I remember when I first came to WERS everyone was so friendly and very helpful. I was given help to register with a GP and was able to get some lovely warm clothes and a very nice jacket from the clothing store.

Coming to WERS has made me very happy I have made lots of friends. We get lovely Christmas gifts.

I am very happy that I am given my weekly support the staff and people at WERS are my friends and it feels like family!”

Some quotes from the **Justice and Peace** website:-

“... I was living in a lost world stressing where to find my next meal – then I got told about the Refugee project and called them – they were so supportive and helpful. They always make you feel comfortable and listen to your problems. Without that project I don’t know how my life would be.”

“I am a materials and metallurgy engineer. I have been living in the UK for almost 5 years and recently moved to Newcastle. My friends and I are very pleased with your organisation for helping Refugees – we hope to make up for it one day – you are doing whatever you can to help us and this is very sacred. If it were not for the help of your organisation it would have been impossible to go to language classes and engineering courses. Thank you. God bless you.”

“The Refugee Project is playing a vital role supporting Asylum Seekers in the northeast. I with my 5 members of family were seeking asylum – the support by the home office is not enough to carry out basic needs. You treat all Asylum Seekers with extreme respect and the staff is very co-operative and caring.”

“I want to tell people about the support I have got from the Refugee Project. When I had no other support the project gave me supermarket vouchers and bags of food. It was so important to me. I want to say thank you for everything”

“I want to say it’s really amazing help for me and for all people who don’t have nothing. I appreciate for keeping helping me. Thank you so much for everything to help me”

All of these quotes demonstrate how much the work undertaken by these two organisations are valued. Please keep praying for them and supporting them in whatever way you can. One thing I noticed this week was that as well as the usual food and toiletry requests Justice and Peace are keen to receive hand knitted items for new babies as they make up hampers for any of their families who have a new baby to celebrate. So some of you may want to get your needles and knitting hooks working!

Rwanda

As you will probably have heard there is still much confusion about whether the UK government's plan to fly asylum seekers to Rwanda to be "processed" will happen. Many charities working with refugees and asylum seekers have been challenging this plan and there are numerous petitions circulating on line to support them in this.

Margaret Brock

Wordsearch for Sea Sunday...

10th July brings us Sea Sunday, the day when Christian churches remember, pray and give thanks for the more than 1.5 million merchant seafarers and fishermen worldwide. If seafarers seem irrelevant to your daily life, think again: 90 per cent of everything you buy in the shops comes to you by sea. Merchant seafarers quite literally keep our global economy afloat. Yet it is a tough life, far from loved ones. Merchant ships are harsh working environments, never mind the threat of piracy or even shipwreck.

To help the seafarers, a worldwide network of port chaplains has sprung up.

They offer hospitality and friendship, as well as practical, emotional and spiritual support, providing almost a 'home from home' in hundreds of ports, in more than 50 countries. You might wish to support one of these three well-known societies: The Mission to Seafarers (Anglican), The Apostolate of the Sea (Roman Catholic), and The Sailors' Society (inter-denominational).

July Sea Sunday Remember Pray
Give Thanks Merchant Seafarers

Daily Shops Economy Afloat Harsh Working Environments Piracy
Shipwreck Hundreds global Port Chaplains Hospitality Friendship
Practical

E	R	J	O	C	B	T	A	O	P	C	R	S	A	O
C	S	P	U	S	K	A	S	R	R	N	D	Y	S	D
C	F	N	R	L	R	I	G	K	F	C	A	T	G	A
Y	R	S	Y	S	Y	E	M	P	N	H	H	I	N	E
S	E	W	M	C	L	G	R	Y	O	A	F	L	I	A
B	B	L	A	C	I	T	C	A	R	P	H	A	K	F
V	M	S	H	V	A	I	T	S	F	L	R	T	R	L
H	E	S	E	A	D	R	H	E	I	A	P	I	O	O
I	M	U	N	P	T	W	C	A	O	I	E	P	W	A
W	E	N	V	I	R	O	N	M	E	N	T	S	P	T
A	R	D	H	U	N	D	R	E	D	S	H	O	P	S
L	L	A	B	O	L	G	Y	S	E	M	R	H	L	R
E	I	Y	M	E	R	C	H	A	N	T	O	O	K	H
M	N	Y	C	A	R	I	P	A	R	S	I	M	R	N
K	C	E	R	W	P	I	H	S	P	P	S	M	S	J

Solution on page 19

UKRANIAN FAMILIES IN MORPETH & DISTRICT



We are now holding Coffee Mornings in our church for Ukranian families who are newly arrived in the area, and their hosts, providing an opportunity to support and welcome them into our community. These are being held every Friday morning from 10.00am until 12 noon from now until 22nd July. It is hoped that this will provide a hub for families to get together supported by our community. Please come along and support this initiative.

Stamps

I have a full carrier bag of your donated stamps collected over the last few months ready to go to Oswald's Hospice. Thank you for supporting this worthwhile charity. Please keep saving your stamps and putting them in the box in the vestibule.

David



St

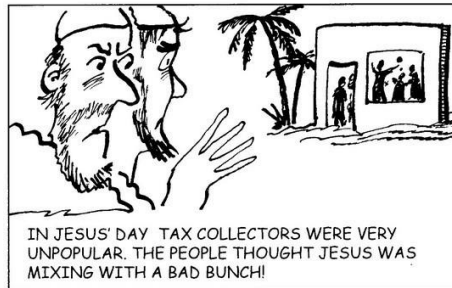
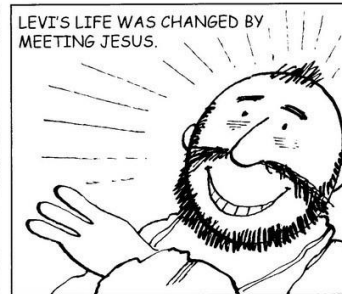
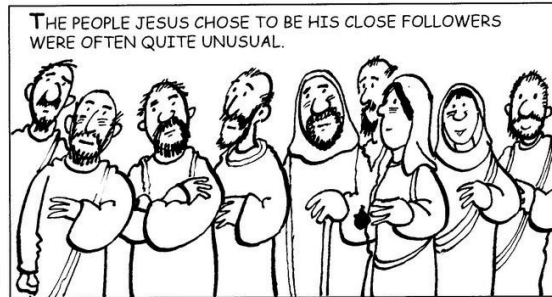
Gift Day

Gift Day this year will be on Sunday, 17th July, to go towards roof repairs, which have been estimated at £2,000 but may be more when the roof is properly inspected. Envelopes will be available in the vestibule from the beginning of July and may be handed to me or put in with the collection.

As the managers consider it uneconomic to lose our insurance no claims discount and our income is still down from pre-pandemic levels, please consider giving generously for this unexpected storm damage over and above your normal contributions.

David Calcraft

The Doctor and the Sick

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

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Are you camping this summer? Here are some helpful hints...

~ When using a public campground, a tuba placed outside your tent will keep the spaces on either side vacant.

~ You can duplicate the warmth of a down-filled bedroll by climbing into a plastic garbage bag filled with several geese.

~ Take this simple test to see if you qualify for solo camping: shine a torch into one ear. If the beam shines out the other ear, do not go into the woods alone.

~ A potato baked in the coals for one hour makes an excellent side dish. A potato baked in the coals for three hours makes an excellent hockey puck.

Solar power...

Somebody finally invented a solar-powered laundry dryer. It's called a 'clothes-line'.

Advert in local paper: 2016 Nissan Micra for sale. Reverend owner from new, never missed a service.

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Tea Time Talks

We are pleased to announce that Teatime Talks should be resuming in September. There will be more information to follow.

Knitter Natter Coffee group

The last meeting of the season of the Knitter Natter Coffee Group will be on Wednesday 13th July in the Drysdale Room from 2.00pm – 4.00pm, but please note that we will be on our end of year outing on 6th July.

We will start our autumn meetings on 7th September and all newcomers will be made most welcome. Entry, as usual will be by the front door. Enjoy your Summer.



Joan Cooper

Seeing the Queen having tea with Paddington Bear me reminded of something that happened in Morpeth years ago. Mr. Stait, who had the photographic shop now run by his son, told the story.

There was a fancy dress parade in Morpeth. One little boy decided to go as Paddington Bear, and it had to look good. He wanted the coat, the hat, the boots, and he insisted on having a small case containing six full jars of marmalade. Nothing else would suit.

Imagine the scene. Hot day, sun shining, lots of people, small boy, warm hat, warm coat and a heavy case to carry. Mr. Stait got there just in time to photograph a scene of a policeman leaning forward and offering to carry the heavy case, only to be confronted by a scowl from the little boy who was determined to keep going without any help. Wasn't that wonderful?

I wish I had seen the photograph. I wonder if it still exists?

Janet Brown





Mouse Makes

Cross out all the X to find the bible verse:

NXOXWXTXHXERXEXA
 XRXEXMXAXNXYXOXT
 XHXEXRXTXHXIXNXGX
 SXTXHXAXTXJXESSXU
 XSXDIXDX.WXEXRXEXE
 XVXEXRXYXONXEXOXFX
 TXHXEXMXTXOXBEXW
 XRXIXTXTEXNX,IXSXU
 XPPXOXSXETHXAXTX
 TXHXEXWXXRLDXDI
 TXSXEXLFXCXOXUXLD
 XNXOXTXCXOXNXTXAI
 XNXTXHXEXBOXOXKXS
 TXHXAXTXWXXULX
 DBXEXWXXIXTXTEXN
 X.JXOXHXNX2X1X:2X5X

What did Jesus turn water into?
 John 2:1-11

Who's mother-in-law did Jesus heal?
 Matthew 8:14-15

How did Jesus get out to the disciples in the boat?
 Matthew 14:22-27

Who did Jesus raise from the dead?
 John 11:38-44

How long had the woman at the synagogue been disabled?
 — years

What did she do after she was healed?
 Luke 13:10-13

Who did Jesus heal when his ear was cut off?
 Luke 22:47-51

DID YOU KNOW?
 Jesus fed thousands of people from a few loaves and fish, ... not once but twice!

READ
 Matthew 14:13-21
 AND
 Matthew 15:32-39

In each story...
 How many loaves and how many fish did Jesus have?
 How many people were fed?
 How many baskets of broken pieces were left over?

F A L S H B J O H E A L E D
I S T T W L W M I R A C L E
S P G O A I I D E A F A I M
H E A R T N N Y J I S S W O
C A L M E D E A D S I T A N
K K P A R A L Y S E D O L S
M U L T I P L I E D E U K T
J E S U S I C K E M U T E W

DID YOU KNOW?
 There are over **37** miracles of Jesus recorded in the Gospels.
 How many of them do you know?

Find these words in the word search

JESUS • MIRACLE
DEAF • HEAR • BLIND • SEE
PARALYSED • WALK • SICK
HEALED • DEAD • RAISED
MUTE • SPEAK • DEMONS
CAST OUT • STORM
CALMED • WATER • WINE
FISH • MULTIPLIED

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We can report that the highly successful and entertaining Jubilee Concert held on Friday 10th June, raised the sum of £875.00 for church funds. Thank you to Ken & Gillian and all who supported this very memorable day.

A Big thank you to everyone who bought/sold raffle tickets and supported me through the process of organising the Grande Raffle. £1700 was raised for church funds.

Lorna

Steward's Duty Rota July and August 2022

Sunday 3rd July	Joan Cooper and Christine Oakes
Sunday 10th July	Katherine Smailes and Gordon Slack
Sunday 17th July	Christine Hawkins and Karen Howe
Sunday 24th July	Helen Muckle and John Muckle
Sunday 31st July	Madeline and Sarah Cleverley
Sunday 7th August	Gordon Slack and Christine Oakes
Sunday 14th August	Joint Service at Morpeth Methodist Church
Sunday 21st August	Madeline and Sarah Cleverley
Sunday 28th August	Joint Service at Morpeth Methodist Church



It was bad enough your mobile ringing half-way through his sermon, without the ring-tone being the 'Christians Awake' tune!



Not everyone has a natural gift for rural ministry

St James the Least of All...

On why our church is safe from vandals

The Rectory, St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

I was sorry to hear that your church was broken into last week. Since your sound system rivals that of any concert hall and your projection equipment would put most cinemas to shame, it is not surprising that is what they had their sights on. Your bemusement that they never touched your library of recordings is less understandable. I would have thought that few thieves would have been much interested in renditions of 'Shine Jesus, Shine' and other such artistic gems. It may have been an act of Christian charity to put a sign outside saying 'Thieves will be forgiven', although since they took this as an invitation to burgle your house the following evening, I hope your forgiveness still operates. Especially as they also stole your favourite guitar.

Last year, we had unwelcome visitors. The thieves must have spent several hours breaking down the church's 400-year-old oak door to get in. Shame about that. Had they bothered to try the handle, they would have discovered that we never lock the church anyway.

Since we have yet to leap forward into the 19th century, there was little to attract them. Had they removed the marble sarcophagi of the Earls of Lincombe, the money they may have made wouldn't even have paid for the subsequent hernia operations. Inevitably, there was general outrage that the poor box had been broken into – although as far as I can remember, for many years it had contained nothing more than an old three-penny piece and a button.

For many of our congregation, this represented the End of Civilisation as We Know It. Calls were made to have a permanent armed guard on the premises, and a few even speculated about the possibility of having strategically placed land mines about the place. Mrs Beaufort offered to lend us her fierce Pekingese, and Colonel Beauchamp generously offered us his collection of man traps. Perhaps our thieves may be forgiven their crime, but until that three-penny piece and button are returned, it will not be forgotten.

Your loving uncle, **Eustace**

Sometimes it's the little things that get to us. You need to get the labels off a jam jar, so that you can recycle it (preferably by putting home-made jam in it in the autumn!) But can you get the wretched things off? Well, maybe you can, but I really can't seem to manage it!

The Sticky Label...

I think, if I was clever
That I would never, never
Invent a label, sticky
That needs one to be picky
And takes a painful hour
To scrape off from a jar!



They drive me into fits
They tear in tiny bits!
I can't help feeling blue
When they leave behind the glue;
D'you wonder that I'm miffed
When it simply will not shift?



I'm sure that I'd be able
To make a sticky label
That peels off really well
And leaves no gungy gel!
I'm sure I could – however
I'm *really* not that clever!

By Nigel Beeton

US Holiday...A couple with three young children went on holiday to America, and eventually ended up waiting in line at San Francisco's Pier 41, to purchase tickets for a boat trip to Alcatraz. Others watched with varying degrees of sympathy and irritation as the young children fidgeted, whined, and punched one another. The frazzled parents reprimanded them, to no avail. Finally they reached the ticket window. "Five tickets, please," the father said. "Two round trip, three one way."

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Luke chapter 2 verses 41 to 51

Every year Joseph and Mary went to Jerusalem for the Passover festival with their family and friends. This year Jesus was twelve.



The Lost Coin

Read Luke 15: 1-8



Can you find the lost coin?

Can you also see the lost sheep?

There is a mouse hiding in the picture too, can you find him?

What else can you see in the picture?

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Crossword for July/August

Across: **1** Proverbs describes her as being 'of noble character' (Proverbs 31:10) (4) **3** 'Shall we go up again — against the Benjamites, our brothers?' (Judges 20:23) (2,6) **8** A descendant of Shem (Genesis 10:28) (4) **9** 'Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my — ' (Luke 14:27) (8) **11** Resentment (Ephesians 4:31)(10) **14** In Cain(anag.)(6) **15** 'Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to—' (Psalm 139:6) (6) **17** Intense (1 Thessalonians 4:5)(10)

20 Third Order of the Roman Catholic Church(8) **21** 'At midnight the cry rang out, "Here's the bridegroom! Come out to — him"' (Matthew 25:6) (4)

22 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in — ' (2 Corinthians 12:9) (8) **23** 'As the — pants for streams of water,so my soul pants for you, O God' (Psalm 42:1) (4).

Down: **1** Nickname of popular First World War chaplain, the Revd G.A. Studdert Kennedy, — Willie (8) **2** Occasion of religious joy (Lamentations 2:22) (5,3) **4** 'We three kings of — are' (6) **5** Allegation or charge (Jude 9) (10)

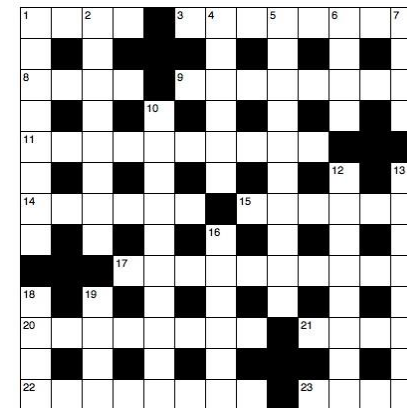
6 Kind (1 Chronicles 12:33) (4) **7** 'Open your — and look at the fields!' (John 4:35) (4) **10** Also known as the Feast of Lights (John10:22)(10)

12 Area that saw the healing of two demon - possessed men and a herd of pigs stampeding to their deaths (Matthew 8:28) (8) **13** Forebear(James2:21)(8)

16 Name given to the first two books of the Apocrypha(6)

18 Esau sold his birthright for this (Genesis25:34)(4)

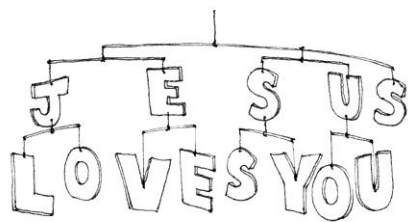
19 Rear (anag.)(4) *Solution on page 19*



Pay for what you get,,, A man and his ten-year-old son were on a fishing trip, miles from home. At the boy's insistence, they decided to attend the Sunday worship service at a small rural church. The father forgot to bring any cash, so he reached in his pocket and gave his son 10p to drop in the offering plate as it was passed. As they walked back to their car after the service, the father complained. "The service was too long," he lamented. "The sermon was boring, and the singing was off key." Finally the boy said, "Daddy, I thought it was pretty good for 10p."



A summer holiday visiting old ruins was just the thing to put the vicar's leaky roof problems into perspective



Wendy checked the message on her mobile

Talk...Did you hear about the self-help group for compulsive talkers? It's called On & On Anon.

Flies...A woman went into the kitchen to find her husband swatting flies. "I killed three female and two male ones," he said triumphantly. She asked him how on earth he knew that. "Easy. Two were on my beer can, and three were on the phone."

Elephants...Sign spotted in a safari park: Elephants, please stay in your car.

Sky at night...The scientific theory I like best is that the rings of Saturn are composed entirely of lost airline luggage.

Summer is a time when families spend

more time together. With this in

mind...The real art of conversation is not only to say the right thing at the right time, but also to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.

If they squeeze olives to get olive oil, how do they get baby oil?

Ever notice that the people who are late are often much jollier than the people who have had to wait for them?

How long a minute is depends on what side of the bathroom door you're on.

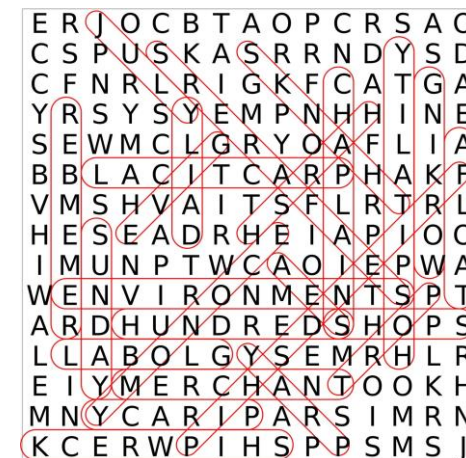
Children's wisdom: In the Olympic Games, Greeks ran races, jumped, hurled the biscuits and threw the java.

Solutions:

ACROSS: 1, Wife. 3, To battle. 8, Obal. 9, Disciple. 11, Bitterness. 14, Niacin. 15, Attain. 17, Passionate. 20, Tertiary. 21, Meet. 22, Weakness. 23, Deer.

DOWN: 1, Woodbine. 2, Feast day. 4, Orient. 5, Accusation. 6, Type. 7, Eyes. 10, Dedication. 12, Gadarene. 13, Ancestor. 16, Esdras. 18, Stew. 19, Area.

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

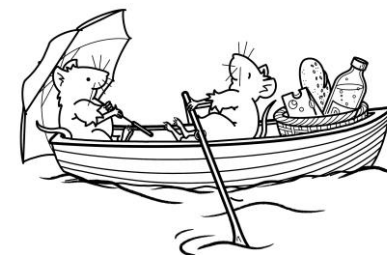


St Swithun's Day is on 15th July.

St Swithun's day, if thou dost rain, for forty days it will remain;

St Swithun's day, if thou be fair, For forty days 'twill rain na mair.

Ancient rhyme



Great Bavington United Reformed Church

Here is the Great Bavington news for July/August

Services

Sunday 3 July, 6.30pm, Communion service

Sunday 17 July, 6.30pm

Sunday 7 August - no service today because it will be Thockrington Fete at Carrycoats at 2.30pm, NE48 3JG, just off the A68.

Sunday 21 August, 6.30pm

History Night

Is on the 4th Tuesday of each month:

Tuesday 26 July, 7.00pm

Tuesday 23 August, 7.00pm

Two themes running at the moment: roads and paths, and this year is the URC's 50th anniversary so we are having a review of 1972, to be presented at the celebration service which will be held in October. Please bring along any photos, memories, etc which you have of 1972 - local or national.

Please check the church's Facebook page in case there are any changes to the above information: www.facebook.com/GreatBavingtonURC, email bavingtonchurch@gmail.com or ring 01830 540350.

Bavington Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 4 August, 7.00pm

The church is open for visitors every day.

Nicola Bell

* * * * *

Grandchildren...

Grandchildren are God's reward for not strangling your own children.

Spider...

Whoever said "Out of sight, out of mind" never had a large spider disappear in the bedroom.

Widdrington United Reformed Church

PRAYING TOGETHER

Dear Friends: this month's Prayer List is almost identical with last: because the same problems require our concern. If there is anything you feel should be in future lists, please contact me.

During July and August please pray for:

Ukraine

Other war zones and refugees. The people of Afghanistan, especially women.

Those suffering religious or ethnic persecution

Victims of natural disasters

Victims of crime

The work of relief agencies

Those suffering from Covid19 throughout the world, especially in countries where health services are less advanced. That vaccines may be fairly distributed.

Health workers

Workers in essential industries and services

Researchers working on covid19 vaccine and treatments and teams working to deliver the vaccines

Vaccine delivery in third world countries.

Those whose mental health has suffered during the pandemic

The harvest

Students awaiting results and those who are looking for work having finished their studies

The homeless

Your neighbours

"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 20th of the month before the next issue. If you miss the deadline your contribution may have to be held over to the next issue.

Flowers: Flowers for July and August by Kathleen, and for September by Fiona. Donations to appropriate arranger please. If you have suitable flowers or foliage in your garden which you would like to donate we would also be grateful.

Easy Fund Raising (Easy?) Do you shop online? Have you joined Easy Fund Raising yet? The chances are that your vendor will be part of Easy Fund Raising. Amazon and John Lewis are, for instance. 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. This can range from a penny for a Kindle 99p short to several pounds for a major purchase. Please talk to Fiona about it soon (though you can easily register with no help from me, as all our members have discovered). We have raised over £400 so far with just nine members. We get payouts in arrears every time we reach £15.00 in any quarter. Every little helps!

Fund raising: Our Jubilee Coffee Morning was a little quiet, but we raised over £150 and made some new friends.

Worship:

Please join us when you feel able. Mask wearing is voluntary. You will still be asked to sanitize your hands.

We will be serving coffee/tea after the service for those who feel able to partake. Don't worry if you don't feel able to stay yet.

Preachers for July and August, along with duty rotas are in the table below.

The service on July 19th will be Communion.

Social: The Treasure Hunt was postponed to **July 1st**. Starts from Church Car Park from 6.00pm. Refreshments will be provided (i.e. **not** a pooled supper)! Come along even if you are on your own: we will find you a place in a car, or give you a companion. (You need at least two people but the upper limit is how many your car will hold!).

July's official event is a talk by Mary Davidson about the visit she and the Moderator made to our sister church in Mozambique. This is on July 9th at 7.00pm. This is a "semi-pooled" supper: ie we are asking our Church members to bring a contribution, but others should regard themselves as our guests. This meeting should have happened in 2020 but was a casualty of COVID] In August we have Coffee Club (see below) and the August Bank Holiday Coffee Morning on 29th

Regular events:

1st Tuesday: Coffee Club meets on the 1st Tuesday in the month at 10.30am. July's event will be a Coffee Tasting in the church hall. If you have a cafetiere and/or an interesting coffee bring them along to share. However, there will be plenty of coffees to try, and large cafetieres if you don't have your own. In August we will be at Cook's Hemmel, Causey Park by kind invitation of Mrs Diana Hogg.

1st Wednesday: Prayer Group: Prayer Group will continue to meet on first Wednesdays at Cook's Hemmel. We gather at 7.00pm.

Open Church: Thursdays from 10.30am to 12 noon. Come along for quiet reflection, fellowship and refreshments.

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. The page now has 186 likes, with another 8 people 'following'! Any information we have about service arrangements and social events will be published there. Please note: Sean, our sheep, has his own Facebook page! Search for 'Sean'. Sean now has 24 (+2 following!) 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 that can post pictures would be good. We are now considering a relaunch - watch this space.

Churches Together in Widdrington and Ulgham.

The Group will be meeting in early September to discuss up-coming events. News of this in the October magazine.

FEM

We are still collecting things!

- *Medicine blister packs for Cancer Research
- *Green plastic milk bottle tops to make wheelchairs
- *Basic toiletries for the Ukraine appeal
- *And don't forget the hamper for the food bank!
- *Crisp packets no longer required for the moment.

Widdrington Rotas: July & August

Date	Preacher	Vestry	Door/Offering
<u>July 3</u>	Ann Wilson	Liv Walden	K Bailey. J Hart
10	Maureen Baker	Kathleen Bailey	L. Walden. A. Grieves
17	Revd Julian Sanders	Fiona Middlemist	D. Hogg. M Scott
24	Revd Paul Golightly	Diana Hogg	F. Middlemist. R. Gordon
31	Revd Marie Atwell	Kathleen Bailey	D. Hogg. M Scott
<u>Aug 7</u>	Annetta Reid	Fiona Middlemist	K. Bailey J Hart
14	Revd Julian Sander	Diana Hogg	E. Whinham. A. Grieves
21	Carol Dixon	Kathleen Bailey	F. Middlemist. R. Gordon
28	David Rogers	Fiona Middlemist	D. Hogg. M. Scott