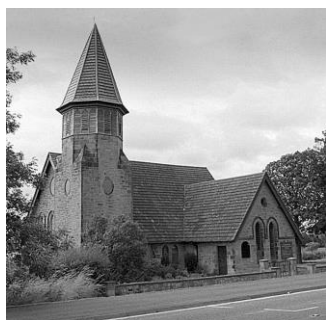


St George's, Widdrington & Great Bavington United Reformed Churches Newsletter



May
2023

Website: stgeorgesurcmorpeth.org

Worship & Events in May at St George's United Reformed Church

Wed 3 rd	WOW Service
Wed 3 rd	Elders Meeting at 1.30 pm
Sat 6 th	Coronation of King Charles III
Sun 7 th	Morning Worship with Communion
Sun 7 th	Coronation Lunch
Wed 10 th	WOW Midweek Service
	Churches Together Prayer Meeting 6.30 to 7.30pm
Thu 11 th	T Time Talk
Sat 13 th	Country Dance Club 7.30 pm
Sun 14 th	Morning Worship with Communion
Tue 16 th	Coffee Club in Hall at 2.00 pm Social Event
Wed 17 th	WOW Midweek Service
Fri 19 th	Prep for Plant Sale pm onwards
Sat 20 th	St George's Annual Plant Sale
Sun 21 st	Morning Worship
Wed 24 th	WOW Midweek Service
	CT Prayer Meeting 6.30 to 7.30pm
Sun 28 th	Morning Worship for Pentecost

Half-term 26th May to 5th June

Steward's Duties

Sun 7 th May	Madeline Cleverley and Katherine Smailes
Sun 14 th May	Gillian Irvine and Karen Howe
Sun 21 st May	Gordon Slack and Christine Oakes
Sun 28 th May	Christine Hawkins and Helen Muckle

Flower Rotas

See Notice Board



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 Mobile 07714481089 783434 liz.kelly@jcpce.com	
	St.George's Coffee Club: 2.00pm (3 rd Tues) 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 (not August) Christine Oakes	518485 518608



The next joint newsletter with Widdrington & Bavington URC's
covers events in June 2023

The deadline is Sunday 22nd May

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

Notes by the Way - May 2023 by Rev Stuart Brock

There seems an awful lot of waiting about in life. We stand at the bus shelter waiting for a bus that doesn't arrive. Then two of the same route number arrive together. This experience is so common that it has entered the culture as a general observation on the cussedness of life. Why do we have to spend so much time just waiting about for things to happen – or not?. Anyone who has got stuck at an airport waiting for a delayed flight knows only too well the frustration of not knowing what is happening and when we will get home.

Some things we wait for are, however, enjoyable. We spend endless time waiting for one of those big occasions in life.. Perhaps we are planning a wedding in the family. As the day approaches the anticipation grows as all the plans fit into place. We wait with excitement as the big day draws nearer.

Then there is the joy of the birth of a new baby. Nine months of preparation for the arrival, waiting with hope for the safe delivery is followed by announcement of the birth and the details of his or her gender, weight and name. The waiting has all been worth it. Later on, proud parents and grandparents look forward to a child's first day at school and the new phase in the family's life it promises. As the child grows up it's the news of success in exams which we wait for. We hope, with them, for good results and to celebrate their success. But we also wait to offer support where there is disappointment.

'Waiting' is a mixed and ambiguous experience. While it can be a positive it is not necessarily so. We wait anxiously for the results of medical tests and hope for good news. Sometimes this is not realised and we must wait some more whilst a treatment plan is developed. There's more of this sort of waiting the older we get and as our bodies tire. We come to rely more and more on the power of medicine to keep us going. We grow weary more easily and we are forced to wait yet again for recovery to take place and for healing to happen. However, one of the blessings of ageing is that we have the time and space to think through the greater issues in our lives.. The desk can be cleared, removing the clutter and showing up those things that really matter for us and those that are of relatively little importance.. In other stages of life we spend so much time in 'doing' and busying ourselves with many activities that we miss the opportunity to reflect on our life and 'wait' for new directions to emerge..

'Waiting,' then, is part of the preparation for any new advances in our spiritual growth, whether we are young or old. This, it seems to me, can be true both of our personal faith journey and that of the church's story. The gospel of Luke and the book of Acts tell us that the disciples were instructed to wait for the coming of the Holy Spirit who would give them the strength and power to preach and proclaim the gospel across the world. Pentecost would follow from the wonder of Easter. The first disciples must meanwhile wait and pray for the Spirit's coming and be ready for the new things that would happen. In this time of waiting today we too can pray for a new outpouring of the energy and power the Spirit brings. Then the 'waiting' will all have been worth it.

Refugees May 2023

I thought I would start this month with news about the joint action taken by churches in lobbying Downing Street about the proposed Illegal Migration Bill. A statement signed by more than **1450** church leaders opposing the government's Illegal Migration Bill has been handed in to 10 Downing Street, saying that the government's proposals are *"incompatible with our Christian conviction that all human beings are made in the image of God."* They say they are *"appalled"* by the proposals to *"detain, punish and reject thousands of people seeking safety,"* and that these proposals will *"foster discrimination and distrust"* and cause *"immeasurable harm"*.

Church leaders are calling on the government to withdraw the legislation, and to honour the UK's *"moral and international obligations"* by establishing *"safe and accessible routes to enable the UK to play its part in welcoming people in need of safety."* (more information is available at [https://jpit.uk/1450-church-leaders-oppose-the-illegal-migration-bill?utm_source=JPIT&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=13881326_New sletter%20April%202023&utm_i=1MV9,89IWE,8UXUYE,XYE20,1](https://jpit.uk/1450-church-leaders-oppose-the-illegal-migration-bill?utm_source=JPIT&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=13881326_New%20sletter%20April%202023&utm_i=1MV9,89IWE,8UXUYE,XYE20,1)).

West End Refugee Service

Skillsmatch is one of the projects run by WERS. They say "Refugees arrive in the UK with a huge range of skills, interests and professional experience. For many, this project is a stepping stone to rebuilding their professional life here and accessing employment. For others, it is a way of building confidence, meeting people and improving their English – equally important steps to rebuilding their lives and taking back control of their future. The project has also been important for individuals who are waiting a decision on their asylum claim, during which time they are unable to work and have little to do.

As part of skillsmatch, we work closely with organisations to develop partnerships that enable individuals to contribute their skills to their local community and for these communities to increase their understanding around asylum issues. Central to the skillsmatch project are opportunities for refugees and local people to spend time together, work alongside each other, learn from each other and build connections."

Justice and Peace Project

"If only we might rediscover once for all that we need one another, and that in this way our human family can experience a rebirth, with all its faces, all its hands and all its voices beyond the walls that we have erected." Fratelli Tutti 35

In addition to providing clients with food (£9726 worth in March) volunteers endeavour to signpost clients to other useful services and agencies. A guidance sheet has been developed to support this. Recently a client was referred to the Unlimbited charity which specialises in the design and building of innovative 3D arms and he has been successfully fitted with a new device. Another project they work with is Recycle Y'bike. Recently several asylum seekers have received questionnaires as part of the Home Office's streamlined process. It is hoped that this will speed up the decision making process. Please continue to remember these Projects and support them in whatever ways you are able.

Margaret Brock

St George's Coffee Club Coronation Tea

Tuesday 16th May 2pm in the Church
Hall



*A social afternoon with a quiz
and afternoon tea*



Any photos or newspaper cuttings of previous royal events e.g. street parties, Royal visits to Northumberland or meeting royalty would be welcome so that they can be displayed.

Any memorabilia from previous Coronations would also be appreciated so bring them along.

We will have a 'Faith' tea – a list for contributions are in circulation.

Guests are welcome and if you plan to bring a guest, please let Sarah Cleverley (515257) know how many are coming for numbers.

Any help on the day would be much appreciated.
Dress Code: wear red, white and blue if possible please.

Tea Time Talks

The next Teatime Talk is on Thurs May 11th 2pm.
The Speaker will be Suzanne Austerberry
who is the founder of 'Morpeth for Ukraine'

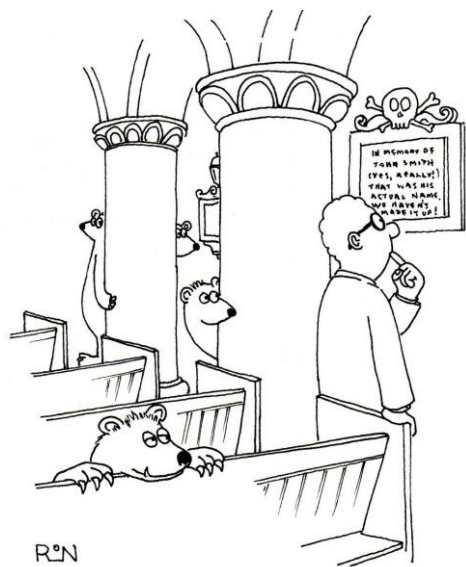


The title of her talk will be '**Morpeth for Ukraine, Our Journey**'.

There will be fruit scones with jam and cream
for a suggested donation of £3.00

4th Morpeth Brownies Annual Report 2022

The Brownies' work towards gaining badges within a theme, for the beginning of this year the theme was Be Well. In addition to the activities linked to the theme, we celebrated Chinese New Year by making toy Chinese dragons and trying some Chinese snacks. The girls had red envelopes with chocolate coins to take home. As usual the Brownies enjoyed eating pancakes on Shrove Tuesday despite having eaten some at school and home. Our Mother's day activity was making a paper flower in a vase made out of a cardboard tube, the girls enjoyed themselves and the flowers and vases turned out very well. The Brownies favourite activities are the ones with an art and craft element, we have some very talented artists. After Easter we continued with the Be Well activities and also included activities for the Platinum Jubilee Challenge badge. We decorated our notice board with bunting made of cards with messages of congratulations and well wishes for the Queen. Some of our Brownies attended the Divisional Queen's Jubilee party and had a great time enjoying the many and varied activities. The big excitement was the possibility of being on television which they achieved even if it was a view of their backs playing one of the games. Little did we know that it would not be long before we were in mourning for the Queen. For Father's day we made mosaic coasters, a messy activity but resulting in some amazing designs. Three of our Brownies made cakes and helped serve teas and coffees in the church when members of the congregation undertook a day of fasting and prayers to raise funds for Ukrainian refugees. The term ended with a picnic tea,



Dennis spent a long time in church looking for his forbears

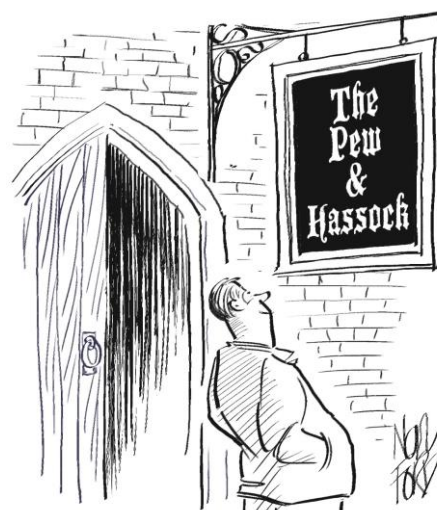
games and well earned badges were given out. In the Autumn term our new theme was Express myself. We had 5 new Brownies join us from Rainbows, so alongside the theme related activities there were Promise activities not only for the benefit of the new Brownies but also to act as a reminder for the older ones. Before we broke up for half term the new Brownies made their promise in front of their parents. In November, some of our Brownies joined the Remembrance day parade, they were very well behaved but their marching needs some work. To start feeling Christmassy we made pop up Christmas characters which proved to be very

popular. The term concluded with the Christingle which was a lovely service and helped us remember the true meaning of Christmas.

Susan Fairgrieve Brownie Leader

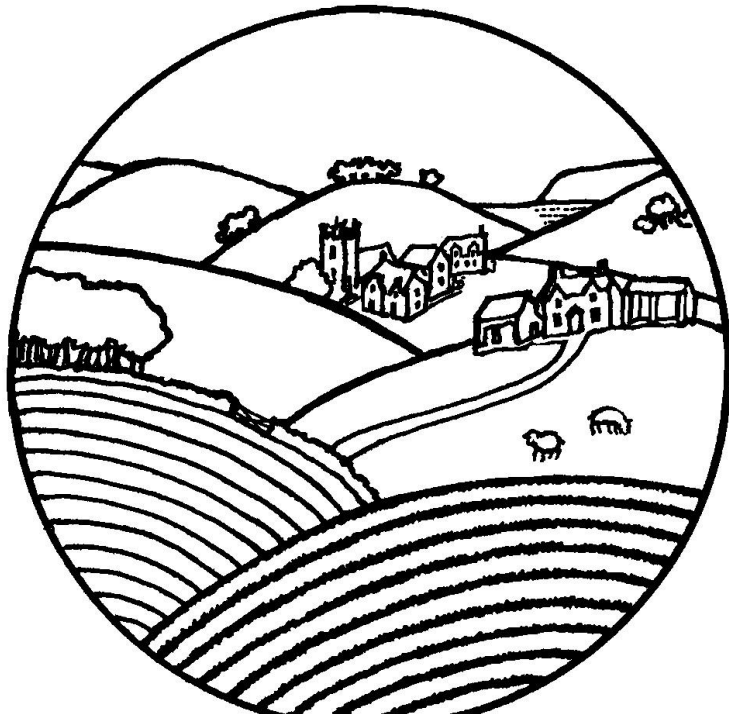
Proof-reading needed! *The following true-life headlines found in local newspapers make you wonder: is proofreading a dying art?*

Man Kills Self Before Shooting Wife and Daughter
Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says
Panda Mating Fails; Veterinarian Takes Over
Miners Refuse to Work after Death
Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant
War Dims Hope for Peace
If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last Awhile
Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures



Changing the name from 'St Mark's Parish Church', resulted in a big increase in the number of men attending services

Life abundant...Two students from a theological training college decided to spend part of their holiday in the countryside doing outreach. They stopped at an old farm house and proceeded up the path through a group of screaming children and a washing line heavy with wet clothes. When they got near the door, the woman of the house stopped scrubbing the steps, brushed her hair and perspiration from her brow, and asked them what they wanted. "We'd like to tell you how you can live forever," they answered. The exhausted woman hesitated for a moment, and then replied, "Thank you, but I don't think I could stand it!"




Pentecost

BUTTER THOSE PEAS St George's *Strip that willow*
Country Dance Club

Saturdays 7.30-9.30

April 8, May 13, June 10, July 8



You don't need a partner. You don't need to know how to dance,
 Dances are explained and there is plenty time for a rest and a chat.

£2.00 for St George's Church. Bring your own refreshments

More information from Shirley Forster 07749525269

shirlsgurc@gmail.com



Crossword Clues for May

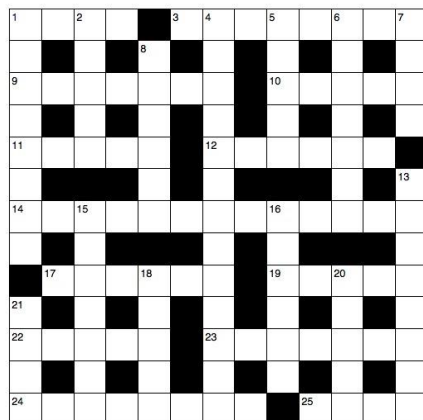
Across

- 1** 'Therefore let us — passing judgment on one another' (Romans 14:13) (4) **3** 'I — these persons here present' (Marriage service) (4,4)
9 According to a prearranged timetable (Numbers 28:3) (7)
10 Group of eight (5)
11 The cell into which the Philippian jailer put Paul and Silas (Acts 16:24) (5)
12 — Taylor, pioneer missionary to China (6) **14** Otherwise known as the Eucharist, Breaking of Bread, the Lord's Table (4,9) **17** 'So that after I have preached to others, I — will not be disqualified for the prize' (1 Corinthians 9:27) (6)
19 Attend to (3,2) **22** Approximately (Acts 4:4) (5)
23 Tea rite (anag.) (7) **24** Rule of sovereign (8) **25** Test (anag.) (4).

Down

- 1** The name of the street where Judas lived in Damascus and where Saul of Tarsus stayed (Acts 9:11) (8) **2** 'The playing of the merry —, sweet singing in the choir' (5) **4** 'We have been saying that — — was credited to him as righteous' (Romans 4:9) (8,5) **5** Dr Martyn — Jones, famous for his ministry at Westminster Chapel (5) **6** Port at which Paul landed on his way to Rome (Acts 28:13) (7) **7** Observe (Ruth 3:4) (4) **8** Minister of religion (6)
13 'I am — of this man's blood. It is your responsibility' (Matthew 27:24) (8)
15 'Greater love has no one than this, that he — — his life for his friends' (John 15:13) (3,4) **16** Archbishop who calculated that the world began in 4004BC (6) **18** 'No one can — the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit' (John 3:5) (5) **20** Establish by law (5)
21 Product of Gilead noted for its healing properties (Jeremiah 46:11) (4)

Fire... There was a fire at the main Inland Revenue office in London, but it was put out before any serious good was done. — *Ronnie Corbett*



Mouse Makes

Forty days after His resurrection Jesus appeared to the Apostles one last time. He told them that the Holy Spirit would come, then He blessed them and **ascended** into heaven.

Find the answers in the word search

What hid Jesus from the Apostles?
a _____
Acts 1:9

Where was Jesus taken up to?
Luke 24:51

Where did the Apostles return to?
Acts 1:12

What did Jesus say that the Holy Spirit would give the Apostles?
to be Jesus' witnesses.
Acts 1:8

Who appeared to the Apostles?
Two _____ and what were they dressed in?
Acts 1:10

Where is Jesus seated?
At the _____ of God.
Mark 16:19

READ Acts 14-17

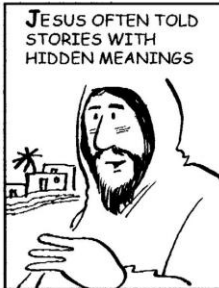
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S	K	Y	S	B	H	N	H	O	L	Y	S	P	I	R	I	T	R

JESUS • CHRIST • FORTY DAYS • APOSTLES • ASCENSION • TAKEN • LOOKING
 SKY • RETURN • BLESSED • WORSHIPPED • JOY • PRAYER • GOD • SAT
 GATHERED • WITNESSES • HOLY SPIRIT

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The parable of the Fish and the Nets

JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONCE JESUS SAID THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN WAS A BIT LIKE CATCHING FISH!



WHEN PEOPLE GO FISHING THEY THROW THEIR NETS INTO THE LAKE...



...WHEN THE NETS ARE FULL, THEY PULL THEM TO SHORE



ONCE ON SHORE THE FISH HAVE TO BE SORTED OUT.



THE GOOD FISH GO INTO BUCKETS



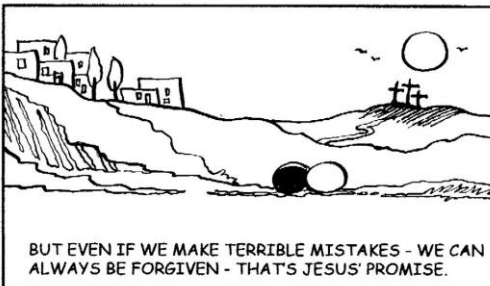
THE BAD FISH GET THROWN AWAY!



JESUS EXPLAINED THAT WE TOO WILL BE SORTED LIKE THE FISH. WE CAN CHOOSE TO DO GOOD OR BAD THINGS WITH OUR LIVES.



BUT EVEN IF WE MAKE TERRIBLE MISTAKES - WE CAN ALWAYS BE FORGIVEN - THAT'S JESUS' PROMISE.



St George's United Reformed Church
Bridge Street,
Morpeth

Annual Plant Sale

& Coffee Morning

Saturday 20th May

10 am to 12 noon

A large selection of perennials & bedding plants.

Garden Related Stall & Tombola

Also books, hand crafted greetings cards, raffle and more.

Tea, Coffee, Biscuits and Home-scones



Free Admission – In aid of church funds.
Lift Access

Sudoku for May

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

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Married...
How many women can one man marry? A little boy who attended his first wedding worked that one out pretty quick: the answer is 16. It is easy, if you think about it. Four better, four worse, four richer, four poorer. Comes to 16.

When Children and RE mix... *When children meet the Bible, the result can be unpredictable. As in these answers to a school chaplain's efforts to teach RE...*

~ The main purpose of the prophets was to set up the lights for when Jesus came on the stage.

~ The Kingdom of God is no ordinary place like the bathroom at home.

~ Jesus said: If you want to divorce your wife leave a note for her on the table. ~ Jesus healed a man with a weathered hand.

~ Some of the seed from the sower was carried off by Satan.

~ The last verses of Mark's gospel were written later by a unanimous person.

~ Jesus first proclaimed the gospel to the Jews: He told them to make love to each other.

~ An altar is a stall for candles.

~ An example of Holy Orders are the Ten Commandments.

~ An epistle is the wife of an apostle.

Wordsearch for May

Facts about King Charles

He was born at 9.14pm on 14th November 1948 at Buckingham Palace. He has been heir-apparent to the throne since he was three years old. He is the first monarch in British history to have earned a university degree. He can speak Welsh.

He is a qualified pilot and diver. He is a keen watercolour painter, a published author and played the cello at Cambridge.

As Prince of Wales, he founded about 20 charities which raise about £140million each year for good causes.

Aged 73, King Charles III is the oldest monarch ever to be crowned in British history. He became King on 8th September 2022, after the death of his mother, the Queen, in Balmoral. As King, he is also now head of the Commonwealth.

Author Pilot Cello Balmoral Commonwealth Palace Welsh Charles Watercolour University Throne Buckingham Cambridge Oldest Monarch Charities November Diver King heir

R	T	T	C	R	I	H	U	R	H	H	T	E	T
O	O	O	U	E	R	B	E	O	L	T	A	C	T
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O	I	A	T	R	S	L	H	S	W	A	S	L	W
O	P	S	R	U	O	L	O	C	R	E	T	A	W
L	G	G	V	E	A	C	R	L	W	W	L	P	M
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M	N	R	A	L	V	O	O	H	M	I	B	T	L

SOLUTIONS:

Crossword: ACROSS: 1, Stop. 3, Call upon. 9, Regular. 10, Octet. 11, Inner. 12, Hudson. 14, Holy Communion. 17, Myself. 19, See to. 22, About. 23, Iterate. 24, Monarchy. 25, Stet. **DOWN:** 1, Straight. 2, Organ. 4, Abraham's faith. 5, Lloyd. 6, Puteoli. 7, Note. 8, Cleric. 13, Innocent. 15, Lay down. 16, Ussher. 18, Enter. 20, Enact. 21, Balm.

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

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

Here is the news from Great Bavington United Reformed Church

Services:

Sunday 7 May, 6.30pm

Sunday 21 May, 6.30pm

Coronation Picnic, Sunday 7 May, 12 noon

Bring your own picnic, drinks and something to sit on, and celebrate the Coronation in the church garden. Hot drinks provided. Indoors if wet.

History Night, Tuesday 23 May, 7.00pm

Highly informal chat, and a good excuse for home baking.

Bavington Parish Council

Meeting on Thursday 4 May, 7.00pm. Claire Miller, Parish

Clerk: clairemillerparishclerk@hotmail.co.uk.

And planning ahead for June:

Rogationtide Walk

Sunday 4 June

Walkers will set off from St Aidan's Thockrington and St Bartholomew's Kirkwhelpington at 3.30, arriving at Great Bavington URC in time for Tea on the Lawn at 5.30pm. Live music from the Band from St George's Morpeth; Songs of Praise at 6.30pm.

There is a tradition, since medieval times, of walking the parish boundaries and asking God's blessing on the communities, agriculture and industries. "Rogation" comes from the Latin "rogare", to ask.

If you would like to walk from Thockrington, on the footpath across the fields, please contact Rev Sarah Lunn: sarahlunn63@gmail.com. If you would like to walk from Kirkwhelpington, on St Oswald's Way, please contact Jane Armstrong: jarmy_55@yahoo.co.uk. If you would like to just come to Great Bavington for the tea, please contact Rev Julian Sanders: sanders.julian@talk21.com. Or phone 01830 540350.

Please check the church's Facebook

page: www.facebook.com/GreatBavingtonURC in case there are changes to any of the above.

WIDDRINGTON CHURCH NEWS

PRAYING TOGETHER

If you would like to add any topics to next month's prayers, please let me know.

During May please pray for:

Ukraine and other war zones;

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 still from Covid19 throughout the world.

Health workers and workers in essential industries and services

Medical researchers, especially those working on COVID 19 vaccines

Vaccine delivery in third world countries.

The sick, both with physical and mental problems, and the recently bereaved

Those in financial difficulties, and fuel poverty

The homeless

Students as exams approach, especially those doing GCSE, A level and Finals

"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

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 second last Sunday 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 May by Kathleen, June by Fiona. Donations of cash or garden flowers would be welcome.

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 a payout each quarter provided at least £15.00 has been raised. Unfortunately not quite enough was raised in the last quarter. Every little helps!

Fund raising: Easter Monday Coffee Morning: £200 including donations.

Worship:

We feel we are 'back to normal'! Please feel free to wear a mask - or not - as you wish. Hand sanitisers continue to be available You are invited to join us for coffee/tea after the service.

Preachers for May along with duty rotas are in the table below.

Social: Sadly our April Afternoon Tea event was cancelled because our chosen venue wasn't available on our chosen date.

We have 3 Bank Holidays this month! So three Coffee Mornings: May Day on Monday 1st Coronation Bank Holiday on Monday 8th

Spring Bank Holiday on Monday 29th.

All from 10.00am in the Hall. Also in May: Christian Aid Quiz Night: 7.00 pm in the Hall. Pooled Supper, donations to Christian Aid

Regular events:

1st Tuesday: Coffee Club meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 10.30am at various coffee shops. In May this will be Hauxley Visitors Centre (don't forget the parking charge).

1st Wednesday: Prayer Group: We gather at Cook's Hemmel, Causey Park at 7.00pm. You are welcome to join us, or tell us any of your concerns for prayer.

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!

website is at: www.widdringtonurc.org.uk

The

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. Churches Together in Widdrington and Ulgham. Holy Trinity will be getting a new vicar soon! We look forward to welcoming her.

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 time being

Widdrington Rotas May

Date	Preacher	Vestry	Door/Offering
7th	Sue Rutherford	Fiona Middlemist	K Bailey E Barber
14th	Margery Tate	Diana Hogg	R Gordon F Middlemist
21st	Rev Julian Sanders	Katheen Bailey	D Hogg M Scott
28th	Carol Dixon	Fiona Middlemist	A Grieves K Bailey