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











October 2022

Website: stgeorgesurcmorpeth.org

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

	_				
Sun 2nd	10.30am	Morning Worship with Communion			
	3.00pm	SENEA Jubilee Service.			
Wed 5th	12.30pm	WOW Worship on Wednesdays			
Sun 9th	10.30am	Morning Worship			
Wed 12th	12.30pm	WOW Worship on Wednesdays			
Fri 14th	Ukrainian	Fund Raising Concert (details to follow)			
Sat 15th	10.00am	Charity Card Sale & Coffee Morning			
	7.30pm	Country Dance Club			
Sun 16th	10.30am	Morning Worship			
Wed 19th	12.30pm	WOW Worship on Wednesdays			
Sun 23rd	10.30am	Morning Worship			
Wed 26th	12.30pm	Worship on Wednesdays			
Sun 30th	10.30am	Morning Worship			
	6.30pm	Evening Worship			

Steward's Duty Rota

Sun 2nd	Christine Hawkins and Gordon Slack				
Sun 9th	Madeline and Sarah Cleverley				
Sun 16th	Joan Cooper and Christine Oakes				
Sun 23rd	Sun 23rd Katherine Smailes and Karen Howe				
Sun 30th	Helen Muckle and John Muckle				

Flower Rota

	to tu					
2	Christine Hawkins					
9	See notice board					
16	Margaret Butchart					
23	See notice board					
30	Lyndon Jobson					
	Rep: Penny Oxley 514612					

The next joint newsletter with Widdrington & Bavington URC's covers events in **November 2022**

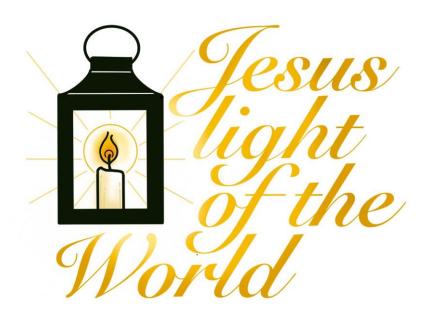
The deadline is Sunday 23rd October

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

MON	Age UK Exercise9.00-12.00 noon Ronka Gbadebo	07952381160					
1,101,	Age UK Exercise: 3.00 – 4.00pm As above	01702001100					
TUES	Morning Badminton 10.00am – 12 noon						
1020	Allen Oakes allen@oakesa.co.uk						
	Rainbows, 5.00pm Liz Kelly	783434					
	Mobile 07714481089 liz.kelly@jcpce.com	705151					
		eve21@gmail					
	Guides and Rangers: from 7.00pm Liz Ke						
	N 1'1 07714401000 1' 1 11 @'	9					
	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 5146	12					
WED	Morning Badminton: 9.30am						
	Sarah Cleverley						
	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	513913					
	Country Dance Club: (Varies from month to month)						
	Contact: Shirley Forster						
SUN	Orchestra: Norm. 4 th Sunday Andrew Hamne	ett 518485					
	(not August) Christine Oake	es 518608					





A Message from our Minister, Revd Julian Sanders

Dear friends

It was with great sadness that we received the news of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. The outpouring of grief and love from thousands of people all round the world is a testimony to the way in which she lived out her faith and conducted her life. Whether we are monarchists or not, we can all recognise that her service to the country and contribution to the Church was exemplary. This is a momentous event in the life of our nation and one which has caused many to feel unsettled and to struggle with emotions they cannot quite recognise or verbalise. In her Christmas Broadcast in 2008 the Queen said the following words which seem appropriate for us at this time:

"I hope that you, like me, will be comforted by the example of Jesus of Nazareth who, often in circumstances of great adversity, managed to live an outgoing, unselfish and sacrificial life.....He makes it clear that genuine human happiness and satisfaction lies more in giving than receiving, more in serving than in being served. We can surely be grateful that, two thousand years after the birth of Jesus, so many of us are able to draw inspiration from his life and message, and to find in him a source of strength and courage."

Our thoughts and prayers are with those for whom grief is the greatest, especially for the members of the Royal family at this time. We pray too for our new sovereign, King Charles III, and ask God to bestow upon him a dedication and commitment to the faith and a passion for peace and justice.

With every blessing, Julian

Notes by the Way by Revd Stuart Brock

I don't know whether or not it is apocryphal but the story was told me by a church member in one of my former congregations about a minister of that church many years ago. It was said that this minister, newly called to the pastorate and wanting to find out what the congregation was really like, disguised himself as a beggar and called on some of the unsuspecting folk in that church to ask for help. He wanted to know whether there was a genuine attitude of acceptance of the needy among what was, at that time, an affluent congregation in a pretty well - heeled area.

He feared the existing congregation might find him, as a beggar, an embarrassment. Would they find him too different, too 'other' than themselves and their way of life? Indeed, would such a person be welcome and accepted in church if they turned up for worship on a Sunday?

The story above may be a fiction although that particular minister was apparently one noted for his sometimes theatrical ways of getting across his message but the issue of acceptance is not a new one in the life of the church. In the letter of James in the New Testament we read that some early Christian congregations were prone to welcome the wealthy at the expense of the poorer members of society. (James ch 2 vv 1-7) The point here is partly about how we treat the rich as against the poor in the life of the church. It is also about how we treat anyone who is different from us. We are, if we are totally honest, prone to favour those who are like us and to be uncomfortable with those who are of another age, heritage, political outlook, culture or class etc. etc.

Acknowledging that these attitudes have been around for a long time, how should we respond today to this? Can the church be different from the communities where division and hostility reign? Most of us as individuals, if we're honest, are guilty of occasionally rushing to judgement on people who seem different from us. But what about the community of the church? For me, the miracle of the church is that somehow, people of vastly different outlooks, circumstances and opinions do manage to live together in a way that acknowledges difference but still pulls together because of our common fellowship in Jesus.

The vision that can bring people together is reflected in Marty Haugen's great hymn – 'Let us build a house.' In this hymn, which we quite often sing in our churches, we are reminded that the church should be 'a place where love can dwell and all can safely live.' After each verse comes the phrase: 'All are welcome.' That theme, when echoed in the life of the church leads to doors being open to all sorts and conditions of people without fear or prejudice. As a postscript to these notes I should add that in the three churches in this pastorate, St George's, Widdrington and Great Bavington, there is always a warm welcome. Visitors often remark on it. And, as the world of war and violence impinge on every one of us it has been heartening to see the response of welcome offered by the churches to the displaced Ukranian community. We have opened our buildings for encounter with those who have found themselves refugees in a strange land.

We have offered space for them to learn a new language or simply to relax and to make new friends. A number of folk have opened their homes to host visitors longer term. This is the church at its best.

As for the anecdote with which I began these notes, I must also add that my 'dramatic' predecessor, along with other ministers who served that church succeeded in leading it to become a much more open congregation. Many years later, I was called to serve there. One of the things that helped me affirm that call was what I saw in the church's treatment of twin brothers, both of whom had severe learning disabilities. They were accepted and appreciated for who they were. They were welcomed by everyone. They were treated as equals among the youth organisations and by the youth leaders. It seemed to me then and it seems to me now, that where church communities live this vision of a safe and secure place of refuge, welcome and acceptance, the kingdom of God has come near.

Goodbye and hello...

In 1974, John and I moved from Preston to work in Cramlington, and John being a Scot we both joined the Presbyterian Church (now St George's URC) in Morpeth.

It has been a wonderful Christian journey there for 48 years.

I am now 99 years old and no longer physically fit enough to leave my flat.

It is goodbye to my old church life and hello to a new kind of membership where we, the sick and elderly have to depend upon active members to befriend and talk to us still.

God bless us all as we work together, Joy Wight

UKRAINIAN FAMILIES IN MORPETH & DISTRICT

Karangan karang Kara

We continue to hold Coffee Mornings in our Church for the Ukrainian 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 <u>every</u> Friday from 10.00 am until 12 noon <u>until further notice</u>. This is providing a very successful hub for families to together supported by our community. Please come along and support this initiative.

Refugees October 2022

WERS

WERS continues its work supporting refugees and giving them activities, new skills and opportunities to meet together, enjoy themselves and share hospitality. During the summer months this has included trips to Lanchester Community Garden where they got involved in scything, visiting the bees and eating together. They also joined with the Prudhoe Riverside Community Foundation where they spent time 'balsam pulling,' that is trying to control Himalayan balsam which is an invasive weed.

Anyone who is on Facebook can see updates of their activities on the WERS page. They ask for donations to "help us to make the North East a more welcoming, supportive and safe place for refugees, where people are able to rebuild their lives and fulfil their potential.

You can donate to our Hardship Fund to directly support destitute asylum seekers, or to our Main Fund to contribute towards our projects that offer support and opportunity to people fleeing persecution."

Justice and Peace

The J&P Project reports that they are continuing to see an increasing number of people using their services with a further 24 new registrations for support in the past month. Currently they particularly need toothbrushes, toothpaste, shower gels, deodorants, shampoo, conditioners and washing powders as well as cooking oil, coffee and rice.

Father Adrian Tuckwell, the Episcopal Vicar for Caritas, has asked for his thanks to be passed on for all the contributions they receive. He said, 'For over 20 years the Justice and Peace Refugee Project has supported refugees and asylum seekers. ... We are truly blessed to have such generous support from individuals, parishes and schools right across our diocese. Your gifts to the Justice and Peace Refugee Project touch the lives of some of the most vulnerable members of our local community. Sadly, the need for support continues to rise and so everything you do to help is so valuable.'

An example of the effect of their work was demonstrated by the experience of two clients who recently arrived in Newcastle after a torturous 5-year journey from Darfur in Sudan. They were clearly moved by the welcome and respect they received – things that were apparently sadly lacking during their travels through Libya, Malta, Italy and France.

At J&P Project they had been greeted in their own language and received toiletries, food, clothing and a backpack. They had experienced the essence of the project – human kindness.

Margaret Brock

WERS & Justice for Peace Project. Please leave any items donated in the appropriate box in the Vestibule.

The Morpeth Justice and Peace Group is holding a

Big Brew Coffee Morning
Saturday 8th October
10.00 am – 12.00 noon
St Aidan's Community Room,
Stobhill (NE61 2SA).

There will be a cake stall, a Traidcraft Stall and a Climate Action Network Stall. There will also be a quiz and a word search.

ALL WELCOME

More details available from Elaine Willmore (willmore8@outlook.com) or from Margaret Brock

A revised **Church Diary** is posted in the Vestibule and in the Hall.

A new Rota is posted in the Vestibule for **Bible Readers**. Please sign if you are willing and able to undertake this duty.

A new Rota is post in the Vestibule for **members to serve tea & coffee on Sunday mornings**. Please sign if you are willing and able to undertake this duty.

St George's Ladies Coffee Club Meeting

Tuesday 18th October 2pm in the church

Ian Gillard with be giving us a talk on Fingerprinting.



Although this is St George's Ladies Coffee Club we welcome anyone to our meetings, male or female, so do come along if the topic interests you.

It is only £2 for the talk, a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit, and the chance to win a small raffle prize!

Sarah Cleverley, Coffee Club Coordinator. Tel:-515257

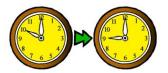
St. George's Knitter natter Group

Every Wednesday from 2-4 pm in the Drysdale Room. One of our first projects has been Balaclavas for the men in Ukraine. Patterns are already available in the church vestibule with dark wool, please help yourself.



Coffee will be available for anyone who would like to call in for a chat.

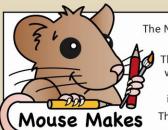
Joan Cooper 01670515682



The day the clocks go back falls on Sunday, October 30th, at 2am.

Dead cow...A farmer was trying hard to fill out an extensive and complicated railway company claim sheet for a cow that had been killed on the track. Finally, he came down to the very last item: 'Disposition of the carcass.'

After puzzling over the question for some time, he wrote: 'Kind and gentle'.



The New Testament has **four** gospels, **twenty one** epistles and the book of Revelation.

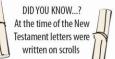
The **epistles** are a collection of **letters** that were written by the apostles to the early Christians, they contain teaching, instruction, advice and encouragement.

The Apostle **Paul** is thought to have written **thirteen** of the *epistles*...

does Paul send greetings to at the end of his letter to the Romans?

How many people

.....



Look in your Bible to see who wrote the other eight and who they were written to.

The word **epistle** comes from the Greek word **epistolé** which means *letter* or *message*



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

EPISTLE · LETTER · ROMANS · CORINTHIANS · GALATIANS · EPHESIANS
PHILIPPIANS · COLOSSIANS · THESSALONIANS · TIMOTHY · TITUS · PHILEMON
HEBREWS · JAMES · PETER · JOHN · JUDE · PAUL · SCROLL · WRITE

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2023 URC Prayer Handbook - Cities of Sanctuary

A city of Sanctuary is the theme for the 2023 URC Prayer Handbook. In a troubled

world, there are many people seeking sanctuary of one kind or another: a place of physical safety, for those fleeing conflict or abuse; a place of refuge for people who are wounded; a place of inner peace from the torments of mental illness or stress. The prayers gathered in this book speak of the many reasons for needing sanctuary, and of some of the ways in which sanctuary might be provided. This Handbook is arranged into two sections. The first follows the Lectionary readings for each Sunday and other significant occasions in the year, while in the second section, the editors, the Revds Stephen Ansa-Addo and Susan McCoan, invited people to interpret the idea of cities of sanctuary in whatever way resonated with them. Included are prayers which can be used in public worship and those in personal devotions.

Whatever sanctuary you seek, be refreshed and nourished. Cost £6.50. If you would like a copy, please see Sarah Cleverley Tel 515257

Shooting season... Butcher: "Sorry, sir, but I'm all out of wild ducks. I could let you have a fine end of ham." Customer: "Don't be absurd. How could I go home and say I shot the end of a ham?"

Miscellaneous observations on life:

A lot of people want to serve God, but only in an advisory capacity.

It is easy to do any amount of work – provided it isn't the work you are supposed to be doing.

Anyone who thinks talk is cheap never argued with a traffic warden.

Anything that is good and useful is usually made of chocolate.

One reason why a dog is such a lovable creature is that his tail wags instead of his tongue.













THE RICH MAN HAD HEARD THAT THE MANAGER HAS BEEN WASTING MONEY.

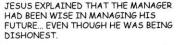




THE MANAGER AGREED TO LET THE RICH MAN'S TRADERS FIDDLE THEIR BOOKS!



SO THEY ALTERED THEIR DEBTS - AND STAYED FRIENDS WITH THE MANAGER.







JESUS WAS TRYING TO ENCOURAGE THE PEOPLE TO THINK ABOUT THEIR OWN FUTURES TOO. BUT IT'S A HARD PARABLE TO UNDERSTAND!

St George's United Reformed Church

SATURDAY 15th OCT 1000 a.m. — Noon

CHARITY CHRISTMAS CARD, GIFT SALE & COFFEE MORNING

With home baked scones

Supporting numerous charities including

Age Concern, British Heart Foundation, Barnardo's, Guide Dogs for the Blind, Christian Aid, Save the Children, RNLI, Young Lives Versus Cancer

Entry Free Lift access

COME AND SUPPORT SOME OF YOUR FAVOURITE CHARITIES

When all else fails...My colleague and I delivered a large refrigerator to the local priest's home. With difficulty we had managed to get the fridge into the porch, but then struggled for over 20 minutes to make the 90-degree turn through the narrow door. The priest, seeing our difficulty, asked what we usually did when confronted with such a situation. Rubbing some badly skinned knuckles, I replied, "Well, Father, at this point we usually start swearing." "That's fine, gentlemen," Father replied, "just allow me time to move out of earshot, so you can continue your work."



"Never mind, let's just be happy that Baz came to church in the first place."



I don't do drugs or alcohol, because I find I get the same effect just by standing up really fast.

I don't approve of political jokes... I've seen too many of them get elected.

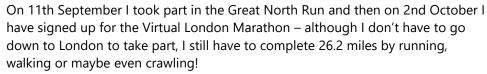
The email of the species is more deadly than the mail.

I don't know how I got over the hill without getting to the top.

Long ago when people cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft. Today it's called golf.

Probably nothing in the world arouses more false hopes than the first four hours of a diet.

Remember... You will be stuck with your debt if you can't budge it. **Politician:** "I dream of a better tomorrow, where chickens can cross the road and not have their motives questioned."



By completing these two events I am hoping to raise funds to support the Great North Air Ambulance Service and all the great work they do. I have seen them in action and also know several people who have been helped by them. If anyone would like to contribute, I have set up a Justgiving page – justgiving.com/karin-jackson4

Thank you, *Karin Jackson*

Word Search for October

With October, autumn is underway – the leaves are turning gold, the chilly nights are closing in and the shops are full of Halloween things. Our ancestors were frightened of the dark and cold of winter, and feared that evil things might attack them. So they lit fires and wore frightening masks, to ward off evil spirits. But Christianity taught a much better way: it taught that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and that when He died for us on the

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cross, He overcame all the powers of evil that there are. So we don't need charms to ward off evil, we just need to turn to Jesus in prayer. He will protect us from any power of darkness that menaces our lives. The Psalms say that He is our shield and protector!

Autumn Gold Night Dark Pumpkin Sweets Saints Goodness Saving Prayer Protection Light Jesus Son fearless School Exams Half term Coal Leaves Bonfires Sneeze Scarves soup. Solution on page 20



Dark forces were at work in Dave's fridge

Collecting firewood...It was April and the Aboriginals in a remote part of Northern Australia asked the new minister at their small church to ask God if the coming winter was going to be cold or mild. The minister did not want to lose their confidence, as he had only just arrived, but when he prayed and looked at the sky, he had frankly no idea what the winter ahead would be like. To be on the safe side, he told his congregation that the winter was indeed going to be cold and that the members of the tribe should collect firewood to be prepared. But after several days he had an idea. He called the Bureau of Meteorology and asked if the coming winter in his area was going to be cold. The meteorologist responded, "Yes, it looks like this winter is going to be cold. "So, the minister went back to his people and told them to collect even more wood in order to be prepared. A week later he called the Bureau of Meteorology again, to ask if it still looked like it was going to be a very cold winter. The meteorologist again replied, 'Yes, it's going to be a very cold winter.' So, the minister went back to his community and ordered them to collect every scrap of firewood they could find. Two weeks later, and still concerned, the minister called the Bureau again. "Are you absolutely sure that the winter is going to be very cold?" he asked. "Absolutely," the man replied. "In fact, it's looking more and more like it is going to be one of the coldest winters ever." "How can you be so sure?" the minister asked. The sky didn't look any different to him.

The weatherman replied, "Our satellites have reported that the Aboriginals in the north are collecting firewood like crazy, and that's always a sure sign."

Conversation on the way home from the Office...

Speaking about wedding anniversaries and commenting on our own upcoming 64th, a friend said "It's a bit like a fairy taleGrimm "

George Brown

Hymn or maths?

A father had taken his small son to church. The boy listened attentively without saying a word until the clergyman announced: "We will now sing hymn two hundred and twenty-two: 'Ten Thousand Times Ten Thousand', two hundred and twenty-two." Alarmed, the little boy nudged his father. "Do we have to work this one out?"

Crossword for October

Across: 1 Tertullus, who presented the high priest's case against Paul in his trial before Felix, was one (Acts 24:1) (6) 4 As balm (anag.) (6)

- **8** Having explored Canaan, he and Joshua urged the Israelites to take possession of it (Numbers 13:30) (5)
- **9** On becoming king of Judah, he had all six of his brothers killed (2 Chronicles 21:4) (7)
- **10** 'Even the has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself' (Psalm 84:3) (7)
- **11** Banishment(Jeremiah29:1)(5) **12** 'And now I will show you the most way'(1Corinthians12:31) (9) **17** 'Titus did not exploit you, did he? Did we not ——the same spirit and follow the same course?' (2 Corinthians 12:18) (3,2)
- **19** Mice den(anag.)(7) **21** How Egypt is often described in the Old Testament: 'the land of ' (Exodus 13:3) (7) **22** One of the first Levites to resettle in Jerusalem after the exile in Babylon (1 Chronicles 9:15) (5)
- 23 'As a sheep before her shearers is —,so he did not open his mouth' (Isaiah 53:7) (6) 24 Paul's birthplace(Acts22:3)(6).

Down: 1 Ravenous insect inflicted on Egypt in vast numbers as the eighth plague (Exodus 10:14) (6) **2** Well-being (Philippians 2:20) (7)

- **3** Small piece of live coal or wood in a dying fire (Psalm 102:3) (5)
- **5** Sportsman or woman (2 Timothy 2:5) (7) **6** The original name of Abraham's wife (Genesis 17:15) (5) **7** 'So in Christ we who are many form one body, and each belongs to all the others' (Romans 12:5) (6) **9** According to Peter, a wife's beauty should not come from wearing this (1 Peter 3:3) (9)
- 13 'For God did not send his Son into the world to the world' (John 3:17) (7)
- **14** 'The Lord of heaven and earth...does not live in built by hands' (Acts 17:24)
- (7) **15** 'If your hand you to sin,cut it off' (Mark 9:43)(6)
- 16 Something like these fell from Saul's eyes as soon as Ananias placed his hands on him (Acts 9:18) (6) **18** Track(Job41:30)(5) **20** Religious doctrine(5)

Solution on page 20

Late... Sidesman to timid parishioner: Why are you late? Timid parishioner: Church started before I got here.

St. George's Church Social December 3rd 2022 – "50 shades of Blue"

This year is the 50th anniversary of the United Reformed Church and to celebrate this, I am putting together a medley of songs, poems and other entertainment.

If you feel able to join us on the night and would like to step onto the stage please let me know (j.evans152274@btinternet.com or 07518916939).

Further information regarding tickets will be available soon.

Thanks, Jo

Christian Aid Ceilidh



There will be a Christian Aid ceilidh on **Saturday 19th November** from **7.30pm – 9.30pm** in the Hall. St George's ceilidh band, SGURC, will be playing. All dances will be called and will be suitable for beginners & the more experienced dancers.

Tickets will be £5 for adults – free for children. Bar and raffle.

Come and join us whether you want to join in the dancing or just enjoy the music & company! Have an evening out, have fun & support a good cause all at the same time!

Please no stiletto shoes though because of potential damage to the floor)

Margaret Brock

BBBBB

It can be read in the Bible in John chapter 2 verses 1 to 10

A short story from the Bible

Jesus, his mother, and his disaples were guests at a family wedding in Cana. The bridegroom was responsible for the food and drink.







Marynoticed

The bridegroom and his family would be shamed for life, and perhaps even sued!













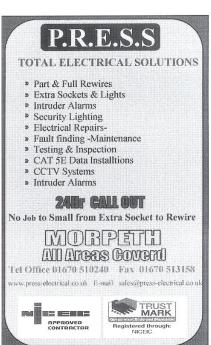




Octobers Sudoku. Solution on page 20

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

2008 KrazyDad



First day back... It was the first day of school. As the new Head made his rounds, he heard a terrible commotion coming from one of the classrooms. He rushed in and spotted one boy, taller than the others, who seemed to be making the most noise. He seized the lad, dragged him to the hall, and despite his protests, told him to wait there until he was excused. Returning to the classroom, the Head restored order and lectured the class about the importance of good behaviour.

"Now," he said," are there any questions?" One girl stood up timidly. "Please sir," she asked, "May we have our teacher back?"

Miscellaneous observations on life:

A lot of people want to serve God, but only in an advisory capacity.

It is easy to do any amount of work – provided it isn't the work you are supposed to be doing.

Anyone who thinks talk is cheap never argued with a traffic warden.

Anything that is good and useful is usually made of chocolate.

One reason why a dog is such a lovable creature is that his tail wags instead of his tongue.



ST GEORGE'S TEA TIME TALKS

Autumn Series

Thurs. 13th Oct
At 2.00pm

Tiberia:

The Love of Liberty'

Speaker: Keith Stead





Followed by refreshments
Admission by donation
All welcome

Name...Vicar (benevolently): "And what is your name, my little man?"

Small boy: "Well, that's the limit. It was you who baptised me!"

What?! I get most of my exercise these days from shaking my head in disbelief.

Free to a new home...

I have recently changed my printer at home. Unfortunately I am left with a couple of new boxes of ink, black and tri-colour, from my previous machine. If anyone has a printer that takes *hp301* ink please let me know and they are yours. **Sue Rutherford**

Dates for your Diaries...

19th November – Christian Aid Ceilidh

3rd December – Church Christmas Social

10th December – Ladies Christmas Coffee Morning

17th December – Christmas Concert by Mid Northumberland Chorus.

Puzzle Solutions

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



What they say...

When my older brother was very young, he always walked up to the church altar with my mother when she took Holy Communion. On every occasion, he tugged at her arm and asked, "What does the priest say when he gives you the bread?" Mum would always lean over and whisper something in his ear. Imagine his shock many years later when he learned that the priest doesn't say, "Be quiet until you get to your seat."

Great Bavington United Reformed Church

Here is the news from Great Bavington

Services in October:

Sunday 2 October, 6.30, Communion followed by the church meeting Sunday 16 October, 6.30, Harvest and the URC's 50th Anniversary - time for cake and a chance to reminisce about how the church and the village have changed since 1972. Do come along.

Collection for The People's Kitchen

In the past we have had a cash collection for The People's Kitchen at the Harvest service. However, it is much more cost-effective for The People's Kitchen if individuals send donations directly to them, because they can claim Gift Aid on donations from individuals, but not on donations from churches.

Film Night

Following a very successful launch of the new Film Night season in September, on Monday 10 October at 7.00pm it will be Death on the Nile (2022) (cert 12A), starring and directed by Kenneth Branagh.

History Night

Tuesday 25 October

Informal and informative! We might be looking for a new topic for research, so if there is something you would really like to find out about this area, please come and join in.

Building work at the church

The contractors will be starting work on the church at the beginning of October. They will be doing repairs in the roof space to improve ventilation, some repointing, and interior and exterior decorating.

This may mean that sometimes we won't be able to use parts of the building. If there are any changes to the above plans for services, Film Night and History Night, we will post information on the church's Facebook

page: www.facebook.com/GreatBavingtonURC

Collection of clothes, etc for the Air Ambulance

The Air Ambulance will collecting from Kirkwhelpington Village Hall on Wednesday 12 October - they collect clothes, sheets and towels, used stamps, mobile phones, printer cartridges, CDs, DVDs. This raises a huge amount of money for this very valuable service.

Nicola Bell

WIDDRINGTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

PRAYING TOGETHER

If you would like to add any topics to next month's prayers, please let me know. During October 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, especially the floods in Pakistan

Victims of crime

The work of relief agencies

Those suffering still 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 sick and recently bereaved

Those in financial difficulties

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 October and November by Kathleen. Harvest is on October 9th, so we will be decorating the church on Saturday 8th, probably at 2.00pm (to be confirmed). Donations of money, flowers and berries from your garden if you have them, donations for the food bank, and help will be gratefully received.

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 got a payout last month of £34.29. Every little helps!

Fund raising: The August Bank Holiday Coffee Morning raised £240. Our Mozambique evening (which had a disappointingly sparse turn out) raised £65, which Mary will pass on to the Synod for transmission to the church in Mozambique.

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 October along with duty rotas are in the table below.

The service on October 9th will be Harvest with Communion.

Social: October begins with a 50th Anniversary social with the St George's Ceilidh band on 1st at 7.00 pm. Pies and Peas supper £5.00 per head. Hopefully you have already told Diana that you are coming, but if you are still thinking about it please act now!

During the school half term holiday we are hoping to have a litter picking session around the church. The details of this are still to be finalised and will be published in notices and on Facebook.

On November 5th we will have our now traditional Hot dogs and Fireworks at Causey Park from 6.00pm

Regular events:

1st Tuesday: Coffee Club meets on the 1st Tuesday in the month. 10.30am. As everyone enjoyed the Coffee Tasting in July so much we are repeating the event in the hall for our October meeting. Kathleen has promised bacon butties as well as scones. Not to be missed.

1st Wednesday: Prayer Group: Although Prayer Group is normally on the first Wednesday, our October meeting will be on the second Wednesday, i.e. 12th. We gather at Causey Park at 7.00pm

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

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.

Churches Together in Widdrington and Ulgham.

We intend to host a "Festival of Cribs" where the pupils of Grange View First School will be invited to design and make Nativity Cribs. These will be displayed in Church over the first weekend in December. Help would be appreciated for stewarding when the church is open. More details next month.

There will be an Advent Course led by Rev d Julian Sanders. More details of this next month too.

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: October

Date	Preacher	Vestry	Door/Offering		
2 nd	John Macadam	Diana Hogg	K. Bailey. E Barber		
9 th	Julian Sanders	Kathleen Bailey	D. Hogg. M. Scott		
16 th	Carol Dixon	Fiona Middlemist	L. Walden. A Grieves		
23rd	Worship Team	Liv Walden	F. Middlemist. R. Gordon		
30th	Sue Rutherford	Diana Hogg	K. Bailey. E. Barber		

