



Newslink

SOUTH WEST CUMBRIA UNITED AREA

Methodist and United Reformed Churches Working Together

The Minister Writes



In the fast-moving world of the 21st Century of today, it is very easy for us to sample things and then carry on, to experience something and then move on to the next experience. As I write, Easter Day is but 5 days in the past; as you read this, it is a bit further behind us. However, the joy of Easter Day and the experience of resurrection should continue to be lived, felt and experienced for many-a-day and a-week to come! There is a natural time to 'pack away' Christmas, on the twelfth night, but what about Easter? In many church traditions that follow closely a set liturgy and lectionary in their worship life, the Easter Season continues right up to Ascension Day (this year on the 17th May) which is, of course, quickly

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followed by Pentecost, the birthday of the Church some 10 days later. Only after that great celebration, does the Church calendar revert to what is now termed 'Ordinary Time'.

All this means that the New Life of Easter is a fundamental part of our whole being for weeks to come (theologically I suppose, it should last for ever!). It is so very easy to get drawn back into the 'ordinariness' of daily life too soon, as people go back to work after the Easter holidays; as children return to school; as clubs, societies and organisations begin their summer schedules. But this post-Easter period is NOT ordinary at all! In God's love and power, it is extraordinary, and, as followers of Jesus, we are called to demonstrate his new life and light in the daily living of our lives.

So may God bless each one of us, in everything we do in his service - the ordinary and the extraordinary - and may he grant each one of us 'New Life' in Christ's name.

May the joy of Easter remain with us all,
All God's Blessings

Ron

Congratulations

Congratulations to Rev Rachel Williams: the (wonderfully named) “District Probationer’s Oversight committee” who met in March enthusiastically agreed that she should continue into her second year of probationer study.

David Edmondson

Worship Opportunities

There will be café worship at Hartington St from 8:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 6th.

Ascension Day, May 17th: There will be a United Area service to mark Ascension Day led by Rachel Williams at Kirkby Methodist Church at 7:30 p.m.

The theme of the next “Reflections” evening at Vickerstown will be “Time”. The church will be open from 8 pm until at least 9 pm on the evening of Sunday May 20th, and (as always) refreshments will be available in the church porch.

Pentecost, May 27th: The leaders of Churches Together in Barrow have arranged the usual “Pentecost in the Park” service at 3:00 p.m. If it is wet, the service will be at Barrow Baptist church. The speaker will be Ven. Penny Driver, the Archdeacon of Westmorland and Furness.

Sabbatical

Martin is on a three month sabbatical during May, June and July. Any issues, pastoral or otherwise from Trinity CC during that time should be directed towards David Edmondson, whilst similar from Roose or Ramsden Street should be directed to me.

Martin’s theme of “Roots and Routes” will lead him (and Rita) around the country, so we wish them both well on their journeys, and look forward to their return, refreshed and invigorated in August.

Ron Wilson

AREA & NATIONAL WEBSITES

District: www.cumbriamethodists.org.uk

North West Synod: www.nwsynod.org.uk

Connexional: www.methodist.org.uk

National: www.urc.org.uk

June issue No 72 of *Newslink* will be published at the end of May
Please send all material to reach Mrs Hazel Edmondson, 22 Tweed Rise, Barrow,
LA14 3LX by Sunday May 6th. Items can also be passed on by
(01229 474601 or * edmo@twtw.freeseve.co.uk

UNDERSTANDING PRAYER & 'PRACTISING THE PRESENCE OF GOD'

Presented by Dr Tony Moodie, Principal of Hartley Victoria College, Manchester and arranged by the NW Methodist Regional Training Forum and the Cumbria Methodist District.

On Saturday, May 19th at Ambleside Parish Centre from 10:00 to 3:30.

This day-long workshop will focus on two main areas:

Understanding prayer:

We will consider a number of questions, depending on the particular interests of the group, for example:

What happens when we pray?

What does our view of prayer tell us about our understanding of God?

How should our understanding of God shape our view of prayer?

What do we make of statements that prayer is 'projecting positive thoughts into the universe'?

What do experiments about prayer prove?

How does Christian prayer differ from non-Christian prayer?

What other kinds of Christian prayer are there apart from 'asking prayer'?

So how should we pray?

Depending on the preferences of the group, we will look at two or three of the following approaches to the practice of prayer:

What happens when we pray?

Understanding and using the Lord's Prayer

Praying without ceasing: constant prayer, using 'The Jesus Prayer'

Contemplative prayer: a beginner's introduction to the prayer of silence

Christian meditation

There is no set charge: donations are invited to meet expenses. Lunch provided.

Please book through me (01229 474601) - there are 40 places available.

David Edmondson

Cameo

The next "Cameo" evening will be at Ramsden St on Tuesday 15th May, at the usual time of 7 o'clock. The theme chosen by the people who went to the April meeting is the Royal Family. Do come along to explore whether Christians have anything distinctive to say about this subject, to enjoy good conversation, and to share in refreshments and lighter chat afterwards. We're usually away by 8:15.

David Edmondson

District World Church Support Group

The first meeting of this newly formed group was held on in the District Manse, Penrith on 21st February 2012. Rev Gilbert Hall is Secretary; this is a summary of the meeting's minutes:

The group has been formed for two purposes;-

- a. **To support the Mission Partners** sent from this District to serve the World Methodist Church.
- b. **To oversee the Argentina Link**, now in its 12th year between the Cumbria District and the Patagonia District

Our present Mission Partners are Rev Michael and Mrs Sheila Holland (Gilbert Hall's son-in-law and daughter) and family working in Togo, West Africa. Their correspondence enables us to pray about special issues, situations and people:

The Togo Methodist Church:

- to recover its mission vision particularly for the Northern Region
- its working relationship with their Mission Partners
- the release of ministers/ leaders for training; working with women
- its confidence in the leadership of the Church

The Mission Partners:

- Family health; language (French and Mina)
- Their financial needs, estimated over next 3 years to be £6,500
- MRDF completed project - clinic & installation of water pump and tank serving 5000 people
- Cumbria Network Project - training women and family care (money raised to date £550)

b. **To oversee the Argentina Link** between the Cumbrian District and the Patagonia District

To pray for:

Nathan and Joe Pattinson from Thurstonfield who attended an Argentine Methodist Young Church Leaders conference last autumn, an excellent experience about which they are willing to speak. One of our plans for the future is to build on Nathan and Joe's experience and develop an ongoing youth link.

The **Rev Alicia Woelflin**, Superintendent of the Patagonia region, who will be spending a week in Cumbria from 5th to 12th July, following the Methodist Conference.

Currently, the political tensions between the UK and Argentina are a matter of concern (there is a 'Call to Prayer' on the District web-site), and letters have been exchanged between Bishop Frank (Methodist Bishop of Argentina) and Rev Leo Osborn, President of Conference emphasising the unity we have in Christ and affirming a desire for peaceful negotiation.

Quarterly updates are planned, so watch this space for further info!

South West Cumbria United Area Reps, Bob and Daphne Watkinson

Community Outreach Group

Please try to ensure that your church is represented at the next meeting of the Community Outreach Group, which will be at Dalton Market St at 6:45 for 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday May 29th. The agenda for the meeting will be:

Welcome/Devotions/Apologies

Minutes of the last meeting (08-02-12) and Matters arising

Notice of any other business

Treasurer's report

Review: CAMEO group

Updates: Fairtrade/Churches with Fairtrade status

Environmental Issues/Recycling

Credit Unions/Financial Inclusion/Barrow Food Bank

Available courses

Future events: COG coffee morning 09-06-12 (Please bring tombola/raffle items to the meeting)

COG Slog 24-06-12

“Every Methodist to Invite a friend” - July 2012?

Area Camp 20 to 22-07-12

“More than Gold” - Olympics 2012

Abbot Hall Weekend 23-25 Nov 2012

Next big event?

Any other ideas

Any other business (as notified at start of meeting)

Date/venue for next meetings

Hazel Edmondson

United Area Camp

Booking forms are now available for the second United Area camp at the Scout Campsite at Urswick from Friday, July 20th to Sunday, July 22nd - if you are planning on staying overnight please email me and I will send you one (edmo@twtw.freeserve.co.uk). If you don't do email give me a ring (474601) and I'll get one to you somehow. As last year, day visitors will be welcome - look out for a detailed programme in the June “Newslink”.

David Edmondson

Network

Coffee Morning for Network at Broughton - Tuesday 8th May, 9.30am to 11.15am

Janet Ladds

Cumbria District Network invites you to a Fellowship Day on Wednesday May 16th from 10.15 a.m. to 3.30p.m. at Tebay Methodist Church. The speaker will be Ann Kirkman. I usually travel to these events, and will be glad to offer a lift to anyone wishing to attend.

Elaine Pears

Local Preachers And Worship Leaders

Study dates - Continuing Local Preacher Development - looking at prayer.

1. Wednesday 9th May, 7pm - Corporate Prayer
2. Tuesday 19th June, 7pm - Prayer life
3. Thursday 5th July, 7pm - Praying with current affairs

These will be held at Kirkby Methodist Church.

Janet Ladds

First Tuesday Ladies

The May meeting is on Tuesday May 1st, at 59 Croslands Park.

Janet Ladds



Green Tip

This month's "Living Lightly Eco-tip":

"Throughout Lent many of us will have given something up as a way of reflecting on the sacrifice that Jesus made for us. As we celebrate the resurrection this Easter consider now taking something up in celebration of the life we have in Jesus: it might be making an effort to talk to a neighbour, or moving to a green energy supplier, or praying for a particular situation each day. Whatever you do, enjoy bringing a new practice into your life."

Hazel Edmondson

Individual Churches

Trinity

Usual Monthly Coffee Morning: Saturday 5th from 9:30 a.m.

Plant Sale: Saturday 12th from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Coffee will be served in the lounge.

Coffee Afternoon for **Christian Aid** on Wednesday 23rd May from 2:00 p.m.

Chetwynde Concert - On the evening of Thursday 10th May at 7:00p.m, pupils of Chetwynde School music section are to give a concert at Trinity in aid of a the Roa Island lifeboat station.

Entry fee £4.00

Margaret Manvell

Prayer Meeting -

Where - Trinity Church Centre, lower meeting room

When - Every Friday beginning on 20th April

What time - 8:45a.m. to 9:30a.m.

Who for - anyone who wishes to come along - this is an open invitation to anyone in the United Area as well as for Trinity.

Alan, Janet & Kay

Dalton

A sincere thank you to everyone who helped and supported the Bible Society Action Group's coffee morning at the Coronation Hall in March. The event raised £308.09 for Bible Society work worldwide.

R Willock

Christian Women's Fellowship: The next meeting of the CWF will be on Wednesday 16th May at 7.30pm when the speaker will be Lynne Pearce. All welcome.

D Qazi

Beacon Hill

Beacon Hill Church is holding a Coffee Morning in aid of church funds Saturday May 26th at Dalton United Reformed Church. Everyone is welcome.

Elaine Pears

Roose

Please join us for the following event:

May 4th 7:00pm at Roose North Row: **Quiz in aid of Christian Aid,**
£2.50 with light refreshments.

Hartington Street

All are welcome to our Fellowship mid week meetings:

- Tea Club:** You are invited to join us for our Tea Club, which starts at 6:00pm & ends around 7:30pm on alternate Thursdays. Tea is served at 6pm. It's a great opportunity to enjoy fellowship over a light meal, and listen to a guest speaker, a lovely gentle way to introduce new people to the church family (or re-introduce those who've been away for a while). More details from Val & Jim (831035). All are welcome! Dates & **Speakers:** 3rd May CADAS,
17th May Jack Giles,
31st May Ray Guselli & Alison Meadows.
- Care & Share Fellowship:** Fortnightly led by Barbara Crickett on Tuesdays at 10:00 -11.00 a.m. at Hartington Street. Fellowship, prayer and a cuppa.
The dates are May 1st, 15th and 29th.
- Knit & Natter:** Tuesday fortnightly No experience needed (for knitting)
Dates: May 8th and 22nd.
- Bible Study:** Will continue on Thursdays from 6pm -7pm.
Dates: May 10th and 24th.

Ellen Powell

Ramsden Street

We held two Lent lunches and were able to donate £40 to Furness Homeless Support Group and £35 to the Alzheimer's Society.

It was a special day for the church on Sunday March 18th when Gemma and Geoff brought their son Oscar Michael Ronald for infant baptism. Oscar also brought his friends and family to the service which was conducted by Martin and all the ladies received daffodils as it was Mothering Sunday as well.

Another special occasion was on April 1st when Jasmine Draper was baptised by Martin in our Family Service. It was lovely to have Jasmine's family and friends with us as well and they even brought cake for us all to share!

Easter Sunday was a happy occasion when the church was decorated with items the FACTORS group had made - including vases with daffodils in, an Easter tree, cards and Easter circles. Everyone went home with an Easter gift and hot cross buns were served with the coffee.

Anne Stevenson

Marshside Kirkby-in-Furness

Our annual Plant and Produce Sale is on Saturday 12th May from 10am to 12 noon. As usual we will have a wide variety of locally raised plants for sale including bedding plants, perennials, shrubs and fruit bushes and a stall with homemade jams, marmalade and cakes. Tickets are £1 and that includes a cup of tea or coffee. As well as a good opportunity to stock up your garden and try our award-winning marmalade, you will also be able to see our recently laid carpet. Having for many years made do with second hand carpet or pieces which only covered a small area we are delighted to have raised enough money from fundraising and a grant from CGP to carpet the entire chapel floor.

Janet Sheldon

Millom

We had a great day with our Daffodil Tea and as usual lots of fun and chatter. We raised £300 which is an amazing result.

There will be a 'Diamond Jubilee tea' on June 5th from 3pm-5pm. We hope to raise a good amount for Methodists in New Zealand.

Our Lent lunches were very well supported this year and we raised £614. Half goes to our church and the rest goes to Christian Aid.

Sue Giles

Vickerstown

Please note the May Good News library visit will also be on a Monday: Monday, May 7th from 2:00 p.m. Do join us to browse and borrow the books and recordings, and to share conversation and a cuppa. Our next monthly coffee morning will be on Saturday May 26th from 10:00 a.m.

We are joining with our partner Walney churches to hold a "Big Jubilee Lunch" on June 3rd, the Sunday of the Jubilee Weekend. We will meet at 12:30 p.m. at St Columba's.

Hazel Edmondson

Regular Sunday Services

You are welcome at any of these churches at the following times:

Askam	(Duddon Road) 9:30 am
Beacon Hill	(Holyoake Avenue, Barrow) 10:00 am
Broughton	(Princes Street) 9:30 am
Dalton Methodist	(Wellington Street) 10:30 am
Dalton URC	(Market Street) 10:30 am
Hartington Street	Barrow 10:30 am
Kirkby	(Marshside) 10:30 am (on 1st, 3rd & 4th Sundays) (6pm on 2nd Sunday) (St Cuthberts 10 am on 5th Sunday in any month)
Millom	(Queen Street) 11:00 am
Ramsden Street	Barrow 10:45 am (except 1st Sunday, 10:30am)
Roose	(North Row, Barrow) 11:00 am
Trinity Church Centre	(Warwick Street, Barrow) 10:30 am
Urswick	(Tarn Close) 10:45 am (2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays)
Vickerstown	(Warren Street) 11:00 am

For times of the evening services, special services and postcodes, please ask one of the church members, or look at our website:

www.swcumbriamethodists-urc.org.uk

Regular Coffee Mornings

Please note that coffee mornings are held every week as follows:

Broughton -	Tuesdays from	10:00 till 11:30
Roose -	Thursdays from	9:30 till 10:45
Millom -	Fridays from	9:30 till 10:30
Ramsden St. -	Fridays from	10:30 till 12:00
Askam -	Saturdays from	10:00 till 11:30



Dalton - Tea and Chat every Monday at Wellington Street from 10:00 to 11:30
On the first Wednesday of each month Kirkby have "Coffee and Company" from 9:45 till 11:30