



Newslink

SOUTH WEST CUMBRIA UNITED AREA

Charity Registration Number 1141404

Methodist and United Reformed Churches Working Together

The Minister Writes



Dear Friends,
“Worry is one of the most powerful weapons of the devil,” said a preacher firmly. We might not all see it like that, but it certainly can be a problem. I’ve lost count now of the number of nights where sleep is hard to come by because something or other is turning over endlessly in my mind. I think I’m not alone in this, and usually it’s a worry of some kind. The strange thing is that most of the things we worry about seem not to happen - in my case I’d say a good 99% of them proved to be quite groundless. Even with those things that did happen, the sun still rose the next day and life went on.

ISSUE 99 March 15

It is very rare indeed that major catastrophes that merit worry actually befall us, and even when they do worrying in advance makes no difference. You’d think we’d learn and be able to cast matters out of our minds but it doesn’t seem to be so. Nevertheless, worry does serve a useful purpose, and it is rightly a part of us. It is the same with other emotions we might term as “negative” such as fear. Worry can drive us to do sensible things such as making sure that our insurance is up to date when we go away, or making sure that proper provision is made for our loved ones should anything happen to us. Likewise with fear. We can owe our very survival to fear, because it leads us away from harm. It can give us necessary strength to overcome some danger because it makes the adrenalin flow. The problem with these things is that they need to be controlled. Fear, if it is allowed to take control can easily lead to cowardice. Worry, if it gets out of control can easily lead to an inability to sleep or to take proper thought for our

Area Website www.swcumbriaunitedarea.urch.org.uk

daily lives. Sun Tzu (544 - 496BC), a Chinese general and philosopher is reputed to have said, "Fear is the true enemy, the only enemy. Conquer that and you will prevail." While there is much truth in it, it is easier said than done. I think it is helpful to consider the teaching of Jesus on these things.

In Luke's Gospel chapter 10 and starting at v 38 is the story of Mary and Martha. Jesus has gone to visit these two sisters' house and while Martha busies herself getting things ready, Mary sits down by Jesus to listen to him. Clearly Martha is worried that things might not be just so for their guest, Jesus, and understandably, she's annoyed that she's being left to do all the work. When she complains, Jesus says, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled over so many things, but just one is needed. Mary has chosen the right thing, and it will not be taken away from her." (v 41 - 42) Mary focuses on the things of God, and perhaps that should be a help in our worries.

Also, in Matthew 6 v 34, Jesus says, "Do not worry about tomorrow; it will have enough worries of its own." He does not say that we should not worry at all, but that we need to worry about the right things. In other words he suggests that we learn to channel it. In the same passage, a few verses before, he says that we should not worry about food or drink or clothes but that we should be concerned above all else with the Kingdom of God. Similarly with fear, there are ways in which it can be assuaged. Often it is helped by the presence of someone else. In Isaiah 41 v 10, God says, "Do not be afraid, for I am with you."

The same thought is to be found in Psalm 23, "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me." Even with these thoughts in mind I think most of us struggle to completely overcome fear and worry, but the Bible does suggest that the pathway to finding peace in things lies in our focus on the things of God and the purposes of God. For instance, our worries can be eased when we consider the plight of people worse off than ourselves. An American writer called Wally Lamb said, "I cried because I had no shoes. Then I met a man with no feet." I'm not sure that there's a complete answer to this problem but maybe it's more a question of learning to worry more about the things that do matter, and less about the things that don't.

Every blessing.

Mike Little

REGIONAL & NATIONAL WEBSITES

District: www.cumbriamethodists.org.uk

North West Synod: www.nwsynod.org.uk

Connexional: www.methodist.org.uk

National: www.urc.org.uk

April issue No 100 of *Newslink* will be published at the end of March
Please send all material to reach Lilian Wood, 89 Risedale Road, Barrow,
LA13 9QY by Sunday March 8th. Items can also be passed on by

☎ **01229 825986** or ✉ lilian.wood4@gmail.com

Fairtrade In Barrow Borough

Hello everybody,

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Jasmine Aldred, I am 18 years old and I am the new head of the Fairtrade Barrow Borough Group. I took over the role from David Edmondson when he moved on to his new Circuit, and am very excited about using my ideas and enthusiasm to make sure that the Barrow Borough maintains its Fairtrade status. We have submitted the renewal form for 2015, to retain the current Fairtrade status, and are eagerly awaiting the response. Meanwhile, for this year's Fairtrade Fortnight, Coffee Mornings are our fundraiser of choice. If you haven't already attended one (or hopefully more!) of the Fairtrade Coffee Mornings in the area, please try to get to one before the Fortnight is over. Information will be available in your church about all the coffee mornings in the area, so please come along to one and show your support for the Fairtrade Foundation.

If you wish to get involved in the Fairtrade activities in the area, or would like to know any information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

You can write to me at: Beacon Hill Church, Holyoake Avenue, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, LA13 9LH.

Email me at: jasminecaldred@gmail.com

Call me on: 07846023977

Thank you.

Jasmine Aldred

Lent Groups In The United Area

The following meetings are open to all members of the Area churches and other local churches. Everyone will be made very welcome.

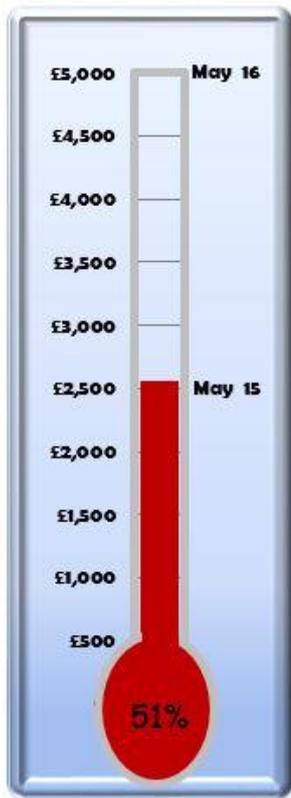
'Journeying with Jesus' - at Dalton Market Street on four Tuesday evenings, March 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th from 7:30 pm to 9 pm, with refreshments at the end. Run by Ann Hufton and Yvonne Blackley, this will be more of a devotional course than a discussion based course using music, images, creative activities, meditations as well as some discussion. The titles of the four sessions are: Where are we?, Surrender, Transformation and The Servant.

'Walking towards Glory' - at Hartington Street at 8 pm on Monday evenings starting on 23rd February. The course will be repeated at 3 pm on Thursdays starting on 26th February. All 5 sessions will be led by Jennet McLeod.

'Exploring Spiritual Practices' - at the Baptist Church on Thursday evenings beginning on 19th February. There is an optional meal at 6 pm and the meetings begin at 6:45 pm. This is a joint course with Trinity and the meetings will be led by Jennet McLeod.

Walney ecumenical Lent groups - at Vickerstown on Tuesdays 17th, 24th and 31st March at 7:30 pm.

Christian Aid Community Partnership



Our total still stands at £2561.24, over half-way towards our target of £5,000 for the maternal and child healthcare project in Kenya. Please let me know if you are planning any fundraising events, so that they can be advertised in Newslink.

Lilian Wood

The following information is taken from the latest update from Christian Aid.

The hospital at Kilgoris has now been equipped by our partners for maternal and child health services. They have been given a delivery bed, screens for maternity wards and a baby resuscitator. Staff have been trained on emergency obstetric treatments, and on how to store and manage records and data to ensure better care. The system of referral from the rural areas using the new ambulances has also been tightened up. Medical officers from this hospital are supporting the partners in getting healthcare services to the community and the community to healthcare services.

Local hub

The hospital is now fully functioning as a hub for coordinating maternal and child healthcare services. This is another example of the long-term sustainability of this project: by ensuring all support is coordinated through the district hospital and with the support of the local government, our partners are strengthening the whole healthcare sector in this area and setting up systems that will ensure comprehensive cover and provision for years to come.

Local Preachers/Worship Leaders

The next LP/WL meeting will be held on Wednesday 4th March at 7:30 pm at Market Street, Dalton. Please note the change of venue. Worship Leaders in particular are encouraged to attend.

Janet Ladds

Women's World Day of Prayer

An invitation is extended to everyone (men as well as women) to attend one of the services on Friday 6th March.

Baptist Church, Barrow at 2 pm. Leaders Mrs S Ashurst and Rev J Northey.

St Peter's Church, Ireleth at 2 pm. Leader Mrs Alison Kendall.

Salvation Army Fortress, Millom at 2 pm.

The service has been prepared by Christian women of the Bahamas.

First Tuesday Ladies

There will be no meeting in March, as we will be attending the Lent group at Market Street, Dalton. There will also be no meeting in April.

Janet Ladds

Network

The Cumbria District Spring Meeting will be held on Thursday 12th March at Grange Methodist church. Coffee will be available from 10:15 am, followed at 10:45 am by the Council meeting, which everyone is welcome to attend. Please bring a packed lunch; drinks will be provided. At 1:45 pm there will be a testimony and Bible study from Angie Mills, "Running on Empty?" Please bring a Bible and notebook for this. The day will conclude with tea at 3 pm.

There will be a bring & buy stall, resources and a bookstall. For catering purposes please inform Maggie Bucknell by Thursday 5th March if you wish to attend (Tel 015395 34097).

Elaine Pears

News From Roose

Whilst it was with some sadness that Roose Methodist church closed in December, we were delighted when the Head of Roose School offered the facilities of the school to host the Thursday morning Community Coffee morning. Initially scheduled to be on a monthly basis, to accommodate the number of children wishing to help 'make cakes and serve tea and coffee' this is now taking place twice monthly, on the first and third Thursdays of the month. This has got off to a very successful start with over 20 local people and clergy attending the first and subsequent 'Coffee mornings' so far, and thus continuing both the secular and spiritual association that used to take place in church. Long may it continue.

Ron Wilson



Green Tip

This month I have a request for information. Does anyone know how printer cartridges can be recycled? Are there any organisations locally that do this? If you know the answer, or if you send your cartridges off anywhere, could you please let me know the details by emailing me on lilian.wood4@gmail.com or phoning 825986.

Thank you.

Lilian Wood

Individual Churches

Trinity

Monthly Coffee Morning Saturday 7th March 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. sponsored by Audrey & Debbie Jackson.

Easter Fayre Saturday 28th March 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Weekday Short Communion Service Tuesday 3rd March at 10:30 a.m.

Margaret Manuell

Trinity Prayer - We meet in the lower meeting room at Trinity each Thursday morning between 8:50 and 9:30 am to pray; each week we give time to one of the United Area churches, and a set of streets, as well as other prayer concerns. If you have any prayer concerns or things you wish to be prayed for, please contact Janet/Alan Ladds (833882) so we can add them to the prayer book.

1/03	Vickerstown	'D'
8/03	Hartington St	'E'
15/03	Beacon Hill	'F'
22/03	Ramsden St	'G'
29/03	Urswick	'H'

Janet Ladds

Hartington Street

All are welcome to join our Care and Share fellowship/Knit and Natter. We meet weekly on Tuesdays at 10:00 - 11:30am. Fellowship, Prayer, a cuppa & bring your knitting.

Ellen Powell

Beacon Hill

We have an extra coffee morning this month, at the end of Fairtrade Fortnight, Saturday 7th March, 10:30 am-12 noon. There will be a cake stall and a chocolate tombola (where everyone will win a prize). All proceeds will be given to the Fairtrade Foundation.

Our usual monthly coffee morning will be held on Thursday 26th March, 10 am-11:15am, with stalls selling cakes, handmade cards, books and Fairtrade items.

Lilian Wood

Dalton

As part of the Bible Society's Big Mission launch in 2014 support groups have been set up in Barrow and Ulverston to visit primary schools to bring dramatized Bible stories to children who would otherwise not hear them. If anyone is interested in helping to create a Dalton group please contact Joan Linney, 5 Elliscales Avenue, Dalton (466716) or email jlinney99@yahoo.co.uk

Approximately £190 has been sent to Bible Society HQ, the proceeds of Advent praise, the Christmas tree and a donation box.

R Willock

Christian Women's Fellowship: The next meeting of the CWF is on Wednesday March 18th at 7:30 pm. The subject for that evening is 'Lenten Meditation'. All are welcome.

D Zazi

Dates:

Thursday March 5th Coffee Morning at the Coronation Hall, Ulverston for the Bible Society, 9:30 am to 12 noon.

Saturday March 7th Coffee Morning at Market St 9:45 to 11:15 am.

Askam

As mentioned in the previous edition of Newslink, Askam Sisterhood will be celebrating 100 years since its formation this year. A birthday celebration party has been arranged for Wed. 13th May.

Our first meeting this year, on 4th Feb, was unusual, as it was chaired, possibly for the first time, by a man, as Alan Mason agreed at short notice to deputise for Dorothy who was unwell following her recent holiday.

On 4th March we hope to have a talk on the Boxes of Hope for Rumania and on 18th March our guest speaker will be Barbara Irwin from Dalton. Our Easter Service will be on Wed. 1st April, when we welcome Rev Jennet McLeod to speak to us.

Askam News: 1st April 2015 is the anniversary of the commencement of building on Ireleth Marsh which subsequently became the settlement of Askam in Furness. It seems to be a time of looking back but we hope that we as a church can also look forward as we can report some modest but positive growth with an increase in our congregation which is most welcome.

Alan Mason

Kirkby-in-Furness

Our Coffee and Company on Wednesday 4th March falls in Fairtrade Fortnight which this year runs from 23rd February until 8th March. We make no charge for the morning and donations will go to The Fairtrade Foundation. We will also have a Fairtrade stall, selling homemade cakes and preserves made with fairly traded, local or organic ingredients. As usual we will start at 9:45am with coffee and biscuits and from 11:30am to 1pm we will serve a variety of homemade soups and bread for our Lent Lunch. The cost for the lunch which will include a cup of tea and bread and jam to follow the soup will be £3.50 and the proceeds will also go to The Fairtrade Foundation. As a Fairtrade church all the tea, coffee and sugar we serve is fairly traded and our soups will be made using seasonal and local vegetables. Everyone who comes on March 4th will have the opportunity to take part in a Fairtrade prize draw and nobody will go home empty handed.

We look forward to seeing you any time during the morning.

Janet Sheldon

Ramsden Street

The decoration of the Church has now been completed and also a new boiler has had to be installed.

Advance publicity of all our events has been produced in the form of a bookmark and posters and these are being circulated around the churches and community.

On Monday February 2nd children from Greengate Junior School brought the bunting they had made for us along with some '100 birthday cards'. They stayed most of the afternoon and enjoyed having their photographs taken, doing a quiz and having refreshments.

On Wednesday March 25th, Joe Wardman is giving an illustrated talk on the local area and the changes over the years. This begins at 2:15 pm and will include refreshments.

Anne Stevenson

Millom

The Women's World Day of Prayer on Friday 6th March will be at the Salvation Army Fortress this year at 2 pm.

The following week on Friday 13th March it will be our Daffodil Tea in aid of **Marie Curie Cancer Care**. Teas will be served from 3-5pm at a cost of £3.50. There will also be a raffle.

Lent lunches on Thursdays from 12 noon until 1:30 pm (which began on 19th February) will continue during March.

Please join us at any of these events - you will be made very welcome.

The **Girls' Brigade and Girl Guides** continue each week during term time. Numbers are down slightly but there have been lots of illnesses during the winter months so hopefully we will see an increase as the weather improves.

The **Crochet and Craft Group** averages twelve ladies every Thursday and some lovely items have been made. Several of the ladies knit and crochet garments and blankets for premature babies and others are already making scarves for this year's shoe boxes!

The church is looking at its best following the cleaning session on Saturday 31st January. Eight adults (plus little David Williams) spent four hours sorting out cupboards, washing down units and vacuuming and also sharing a faith lunch together (the most enjoyable part!) Nothing happens at Millom without food involved at some stage during the proceedings.....

Donations for the Food Bank continue and are distributed by the Baptist Church on Tuesdays and Fridays.

There are joint evening services with the Salvation Army every Sunday and we also have links with St. George's Church of England with the Vicar and Curate helping at Messy Church on the fourth Sunday afternoon each month.

Margaret Riley

Vickerstown

Vickerstown will host the Walney ecumenical Lent groups on Tuesdays 17th, 24th and 31st March at 7:30 p.m. - friends from the United Area are also welcome to join us if this time is convenient. We will also take part, with the other Walney Churches, in the Palm Sunday 'walk of witness' from 9:10 a.m. on March 29th starting at Walney Library, and will worship at St. Mary's afterwards.

March's coffee morning at Vickerstown, with the usual cake, Fairtrade and bring & buy stalls, will be held on Saturday 28th March from 10 a.m. until about 11:30 - all welcome.

Karen Edmondson



BIG FUN

BIG Worship

BIG GAMES

BIG QUIZ

BIG 2015 Bible Market study

BIG savings if you book early!

£7.00 before 5 April 2015

£10.00 each if booked later

Under 18s FREE

Bookings: NW Synod Office 0161 789 5583

Or email admin@nwsynod.org.uk

Mersey Synod Office 0151 722 6590

Info: www.nwsynod.org.uk or
www.urcmerseysynod.org.uk

18TH JULY 2015

With SOUTHPORT CONVENTION CENTRE

MICHAEL JAGESSAR

STEVE CHALKE

Regular Sunday Services

Morning service times are as follows:

Askam	(Duddon Road) 9:30 am (except 5 th Sunday–11:00 am)
Beacon Hill	(Holyoake Avenue, Barrow) 9:30 am
Broughton	(Princes Street) 9:30 am
Dalton Methodist	(Wellington Street) 9:30 am
Dalton URC	(Market Street) 9:30 am
Hartington Street	Barrow 10:30 am (except 2 nd Sunday – 4 pm service)
Kirkby	(Marshside) 10:30 am (except 2 nd Sunday – 6pm service 5 th Sunday – 10 am at St Cuthbert's)
Millom	(Queen Street) 11:00 am
Ramsden Street	Barrow 11:00 am (except 1 st Sunday– 10:30am, 5 th Sunday – 11:00 am at Trinity)
Trinity Church Centre	(Warwick Street, Barrow) 11:00 am
Urswick	(Tarn Close) 11:00 am (except 1 st & 3 rd Sundays – at Parish church)
Vickerstown	(Warren Street) 11:00 am

Evening services are held as follows:

Beacon Hill	6 pm every week (4 pm in winter)
Trinity Church Centre	6:30 pm every week (4 pm in winter)
Hartington Street	4 pm on the 2 nd Sunday (all age service) 8 pm café worship as advertised
Kirkby	6 pm on the 2 nd Sunday

United Area joint evening services as arranged. For details, please consult the Plan or the website: www.swcumbriaunitedarea.urch.org.uk

Regular Coffee Mornings

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

Broughton -	Tuesdays from	10:00 till 11:30
Millom -	Fridays from	9:30 till 10:30
Ramsden St. -	Fridays from	10:30 till 12:00



Dalton - Mondays:	Tea and Chat at Wellington Street from 10 to 11:30
Hartington St - Tuesdays:	Care & Share Fellowship & Knit & Natter from 10:00 to 11:30