



NewsLink

SOUTH WEST CUMBRIA UNITED AREA

Charity Registration Number 1141404

Methodist and United Reformed Churches Working Together

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Venue	Start Time	Finish Time
Nov 3	Craft fair and Coffee morning	Dalton Market Street	9:45 am	11:15 am
Nov 3	Coffee morning	Trinity	10:00 am	11:30 am
Nov 3	Autumn Fair	Ramsden Street	10:00 am	1:00 pm
Nov 5	Area bonfire	Vickerstown	6:00 pm	
Nov 5	Bible study	Trinity	7:00 pm	7:00 pm
Nov 6	Area Trustees meeting	Beacon Hill	7:00 pm	7:30 pm
Nov 6	First Tuesday Ladies	59 Croslands Park	7:30 pm	
Nov 7	Coffee and Company	Kirkby	9:45 am	11:30 am
Nov 10	Soup and quiz	Beacon Hill	6:00 pm	
Nov 12	Bible study	Trinity	7:00 pm	7:00 pm
Nov 14	Autumn Fayre	Millom	2:00 pm	5:00 pm
Nov 17	Cumbria Dementia Conference	Windermere	9:30 am	3:30 pm
Nov 19	Bible study	Trinity	7:00 pm	7:00 pm
Nov 21	Christian Women's Fellowship	Dalton Market Street	7:30 pm	
Nov 24	Christmas Bazaar	Dalton Market Street	9:45 am	11:15 am
Nov 24	Christmas Coffee morning	Vickerstown	10:00 am	11:30 am
Nov 24	Christmas Fayre	Trinity	2:00 pm	4:00 pm
Nov 26	Bible study	Trinity	7:00 pm	7:00 pm
Nov 26	Advent meeting	Beacon Hill	7:00 pm	
Nov 29	Coffee morning	Beacon Hill	10:00 am	11:15 am



Change

Having moved to Dalton from the city of Birmingham in early August I finally feel as if I'm getting settled in to my new home and new life. In fact, there has been so much change in my life right now it's hard to recount everything! Most of you will know that I have a new puppy named Boaz, after one of my favourite Old Testament characters, and he has been keeping me on my toes, as well as getting to know the people where I am now living and the members of the churches I am involved with. Serving God in the United Area has brought additional challenges;

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learning the new language of the URC and endeavouring to improve links with the Anglican churches and congregations in our area to name a couple. We often hear people say, 'a change is as good as a rest'; well, I'm not entirely sure I agree with this idiom but certainly change can bring about different opportunities and challenges to be explored. For some however, change can signify a difficult time ahead; losing a loved one, or a beloved pet, a change for the worse in our financial situation, a deterioration in health, our own or someone's we love and care for, can all bring unnerving, new demands on our lives. No matter whether the change appears to be for better or for worse there seems to always be a guarantee in life that change will happen. Often change brings with it fear, anxiety and apprehension; I know I've felt all of these at some point over the last two months. But if we trust in God and allow the change to help us grow in our Christ-likeness, in how we respond and react to

change, then we are promised that all things will ultimately work together for good for those who love him and keep his commandments. Because, whilst our lives change, 'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.'

In Romans 6:4 the Apostle Paul tells us that the change God makes in our lives, as we grow in faith, sanctifies us, releasing us from the continual struggle with sin: that we have been baptised, buried and raised again along with Jesus Christ, so that 'we too might walk in newness of life.' A real spiritual transformation takes place inside of us. We do not remain the same as we were before. We come to life for the first time, afresh, and God means for us to participate in this new life in a meaningful way. We are reminded of God's words in Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'" So, take heart fellow Christians, in an ever changing world, we can trust in our unchanging God!

Zena

Cumbria Churches' Dementia Conference

The third annual Dementia Conference will be held on Saturday 17th November at the Carver Uniting Church, Lake Road, Windermere LA23 2DB. The conference gives opportunity to hear directly from someone living with the diagnosis of dementia, to learn of the progress of the dementia-friendly churches project in Cumbria, and to receive an update on the present state of play in dementia research. The programme will run from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. Speakers will include Rev Lucie Lunn and Rev Richard Teal and, from outside the county, Hilary Doxford, a member of the World Dementia Council, and Colin Capper, Head of Research Development and Evaluation for Alzheimer's Society.

Everyone is welcome. Please contact Emma Brown ebctic@outlook.com to book your place. Tea and coffee available; please bring your own packed lunch.

Beryl Hollowell will be attending and has suggested that anyone going could meet her at Greenodd to car share from there. If anyone is interested please phone Beryl on 716640.

REGIONAL & NATIONAL WEBSITES

www.cumbriamethodistsdistrict.org.uk	North West Synod: www.nwsynod.org.uk
Connexional: www.methodist.org.uk	National: www.urc.org.uk

Dec/Jan issue No 137 of *Newslink* will be published at the end of November. Please send all material to reach Lillian Wood, 89 Risedale Road, Barrow, LA13 9QY by Sunday November 4th. Items can also be passed on by ☎ **01229 825986** or ✉ lilian.wood4@gmail.com

Regular Sunday Services

Morning service times are as follows:

Askam	(Duddon Road) 11:00 am fortnightly (alternate weeks at St Peter's, Ireleth at 11:15 am)
Beacon Hill	(Holyoake Avenue, Barrow) 9:30 am
Dalton Community Church	(Market Street) 9:30am
Hartington Street	Barrow 10:30 am
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
Vickerstown	(Warren Street) 11:00 am

Evening services are held as follows:

Beacon Hill	4 pm every week
Trinity Church Centre	4 pm every week
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.swcumbriaunitedareaurc.org.uk

Regular Coffee Mornings

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

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

Broughton - Tuesdays:

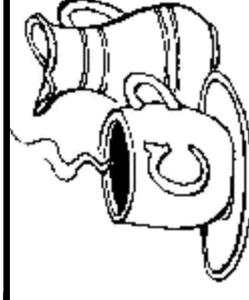
at the Square Café from 10:30 to 12 noon

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





Prayer For Remembrance Sunday

Ever-living God
we remember those whom you have
gathered
from the storm of war into the peace of
your presence;
may that same peace
calm our fears,
bring justice to all peoples
and establish harmony among the
nations,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Cumbria's 2018 Christmas Shoebox Campaign Boxes of Hope

Filling a shoebox is a simple and fun thing to do, doesn't have to cost a lot of money, and it really does make a difference to a child who has none of the basics we take for granted. For these children there is none of the commercialisation we endure for weeks leading up to Christmas. Many of them have never in their lives had a gift. Many have never had a toy.

The campaign runs from November 1st - 12th.

If you would like to get involved with this year's 2018 Christmas Shoebox Appeal by filling a shoebox of gifts then here below are some tips on how to do it:

- Find a medium-sized, empty shoebox (PLEASE NO BOOT BOXES), and cover the lid and box separately with any bright wrapping paper.
- Decide whether you want to make a box for a boy or a girl.
- An ideal box will contain: soap and facecloth, toothbrush and paste, hairbrush or comb, hat, scarf, mittens, socks, educational supplies such as paper, pens, pencils, colouring pencils, ruler, rubber and pencil sharpener, and then some sturdy toys such as ball, doll, toy car, dominoes, skipping rope, yo-yo. Add some treats - sparkly hair accessories or bracelet/necklace for a girl, football stickers for a boy, and some sweets - best before at least until the end of March 2019. And a cuddly toy will go down well with all ages. A plastic mug will be useful. You may like to add a photo or a greetings card to make the box gift more personal.
- And please add a donation of at least £2, in an envelope on top of the items inside your box. Your shoebox cannot be taken overseas unless we can pay for the transport.
- Tape a Boy or Girl label onto the outside of the lid, securing the box with a stout elastic band.

This year Furness Churches United Choir is performing 'Simeon', which is the traditional Christmas story re-told by Simeon. The musical describes how Mary and Joseph take Jesus into the Temple in Jerusalem and how Simeon takes Jesus in his arms and praises God for allowing him to see the Messiah. Come and hear not only the musical but also other Christmas hymns and poems on Friday November 23rd, 7:30pm, at St Mark's church, Barrow.

Admission is free with a retiring collection or donation of food items to support Barrow Foodbank.



I will be collecting shoeboxes between 1st and the 12th November 2018 so if you would like me to collect your shoebox/shoeboxes I am happy to do so. Alternatively you can drop them off at my house. Many Thanks.

Pam Mills

Tel: 01229 825028 or 07752455093

26 Thorncliffe Road, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria LA14 5PZ.



News From Re:new

Greetings to you all!

CHRISTMAS! Once again, it's slowly creeping up on us and it will be a busy time for us all churchwise and as a charity shop. With the world's focus on Christmas turning more and more to retail and a reason to spend money we hope that the shop will be very busy - could you please find time to come and help us out? You never know, you could be the reason that a customer attends church over the Christmas period. It doesn't have to be much, as little as an hour a week over the festive season if that is all you can manage. With all this in mind, do you have any unwanted presents, Christmas jumpers or spare decorations that just won't do this year? Well, we would be more than happy to take them off your hands!

As in previous years, during the festive period the churches in Barrow are going to be holding the Christmas carol flash mob and we are planning to have a group of people that will start outside of our shop and go from there.

I'm also hoping to be making an appearance at some of the United Area churches' Christmas fairs and coffee mornings to help increase awareness of the shop and raise some funds for that church and the shop. Back in August we held a Family Fun Day at Trinity Church Centre that was attended by several of my shop customers that hadn't been to Trinity's events previously. This was a real confirmation that we are in the right place, doing the right things. Please remember that if your church is holding an event we are more than happy to put up posters or hand out flyers in the shop to spread the word a bit further.

This is the time of year when Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes are being filled up with all sorts of fun and essential items for children in other countries. Many of you will be making up a box (or boxes) for this worthwhile cause. At re:new we have a wide variety of items that are suitable to be put in the boxes, from small teddies to hats, scarves and gloves, so why not come on down and see if you can find something to help you complete your box. By helping a child overseas you could also be helping us to help our local community.

More and more local businesses are coming on board and supporting our shop which is a huge encouragement. We have had donations from several of the local pubs and clubs, ranging from lost property that never got collected to large spirit bottles that can then be used as money saving jars (these are flying out so if you would like one then please get in contact). We have also had items donated by the opticians next door such as glasses chains and reading glasses. Our shop never fails to surprise me and the generosity of the general public is astounding. And I know I say it in every piece I write for Newslink but thank you for all you do in donating, spending and spreading the word around. Without you there would be no re:new.

Tim Jeffries

Green Tip

More ideas from Plastic Free Cumbria for reducing single-use plastic in your household. The following is taken from their website www.plasticfreecumbria.com

“Food Storage

At home many people still use zip-lock, sandwich and freezer bags to store food. Why not use up some of the containers you would have thrown in the recycling such as soup pots and yoghurt pots or use re-usable containers.

Straws

Get into the habit of saying ‘no straw please’ when ordering your drink. Most establishments do not even ask you whether you want one or not. If a straw is a must then ask for a paper one or carry your own reusable straw.

Cutlery

Fish and chips out or other take away meals often give you plastic cutlery. Refuse their cutlery and carry your own wooden fork, knife and spoon.

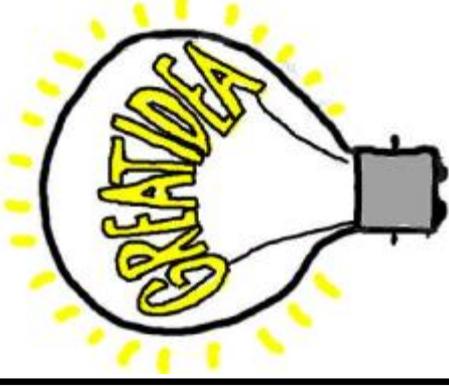
Milk

How many empty milk cartons do you throw out each week? Why not save yourself the bother of shopping for them at all. Have them delivered to your doorstep in glass returnable bottles.

Cling Film

This is easy to avoid and there are some great beeswax alternatives. If cost is an issue, cut up the inside of cereal packets and use an elastic band.”

Lillian Wood



Ramsden Street

£120 was raised for Macmillan Cancer Care at our coffee morning on Friday September 28th.

Our Harvest supper and Service on Friday October 26th begins at 6pm with pie & peas. The meal will be followed by a thanksgiving service led by Jennet. The gifts of tins will be donated to Furness Homeless Support Group and the offering from the meal and service will be sent to Christian Aid. If you are reading this before then and would like to join us please let us know you are coming (for catering purposes) by ringing 825662.

Our Autumn Fair on Saturday November 3rd will begin at 10am and finish at 1pm. We will have several stalls selling a variety of things including jigsaws, books, jewellery and cosmetics and, of course, a lovely home-made cake stall. The result of our URC quiz will be announced around 11am. Soup and sandwiches will be available for lunches and coffee will be available all day.

There will not be a church lunch on Wednesday November 7th but we hope to have a visit from year 3 children from Greengate School who will be reading from their favourite books to several adults and 'sharing stories' with them.

Nine of us are going to the Maddy Prior and Carnival Band concert at Forum on Saturday December 8th. We have two spare tickets if anyone would like them for a reduced price of £21. Please ring Jean 837969 or Anne 825662 if you are interested.

Anne Stevenson

Vickerstown

Our Harvest Festival on September 30th gathered an impressive 41.7 kg of tins, packets etc. which have been passed on to Barrow Foodbank. It was lovely to have a good turnout from the uniformed organisations to share our Harvest, and they got enthusiastically involved in Zena's service. Donations of money, along with the proceeds of our Harvest meal, sale of fresh produce and the previous three monthly Food & Fellowship gatherings, raised a total of £200 for Christian Aid which will be put into the Area project total.

Vickerstown's Christmas coffee morning will be held on Saturday November 24th from 10-11:30 a.m. with all the usual stalls (homemade cakes, Fairtrade goods, bring-and-buy) plus a few extras! Please join us for a cuppa, chat and browse.

Karen Edmondson

Important Safeguarding Notice

If your last DBS / CRB check took place over 5 years ago (or if your 5 year marker is approaching), please contact Jennet about getting your status renewed.

Area Bonfire

There will again be a United Area Bonfire Party at Vickerstown Church, on Monday November 5th from 6 p.m. with bonfire, fireworks and food. The cost will be £5 per adult and £2 per child (under fives free); proceeds for the Methodist Church Fund for World Mission. Please contact Karen on 474601 if you are planning to come, to give an idea of numbers, and especially if you are willing to help by bringing a few cakes, letting off some fireworks or assisting with food in the kitchen. If you can, please bring some fireworks to share (but only those intended for garden use).

Karen Edmondson

First Tuesday Ladies

We will meet on Tuesday 6th November at 7:30 pm at 59 Croslands Park to watch the final programme in a television series on the theme 'Finding the real Jesus'.

Elaine Pears

Youth Spot

We have been running Messy Church at Trinity for over 18 months. Numbers of adults and children have been steady (around 30 in total, just taking a dip in May and June due to the hot weather). We have had new families as well as existing ones joining us over the year. We have covered various subjects including Prayer, Pentecost, Jonah and the Whale and Joseph and his technicolour dreamcoat. October's Messy Church was themed around the 7 days of creation.

In August we held a Family Fun Day instead of Messy Church. Tim did a fantastic job of organising games, face painting, live music and of course a super barbecue. The day was well attended by people of all ages.

Everyone is welcome to join the fun on the 2nd Saturday of the month, 3.00pm - 5.00pm.

Debbie Jackson

Christian Aid Project

The amount of money so far sent to Christian Aid in support of the project to help children in Kenya affected by HIV and AIDS is £1698.19. We are expecting money from several churches, which should take the total to over £2000, so we are well on the way to reaching our target of raising £5000 by June 2020. You will remember that the project is part-funded by USAID, who will give £17 for every £1 raised, so we will be responsible for raising a considerable sum of money.

Lillian Wood

Community Outreach Group

An extract from the minutes of the COG meeting held at Dalton Community Church, Market Street on Thursday 4th October:

Treasurer's Report: Balance £794.92. £209.41 raised at the COG Coffee morning on 16th June was donated to Lebone Village. £200 was given to the Indonesian Tsunami Appeal.

Fairtrade: There are now five schools with Fairtrade status: Urswick, Haverigg, South Newbarns, Walney and Dowdales, with another school in Barrow showing interest.

There are now 2,073 FT towns in the country. Fairtrade fortnight will be 25th February - 10th March 2019.

Traidcraft is likely to cease trading at the end of this year.

Eco Church: Beacon Hill and Vickerstown are Eco Churches. Dalton hopes to become an Eco Church eventually.

re:new Charity Shop: Doing extremely well. Now selling small items of furniture. Old music sheets and cassettes are wanted as Tim sells these on line. Volunteers are still needed to help in the shop, even just for one hour.

Linking Lives: A befriending service, set up by Sophie, linking churches with people in need. Sophie would like people from around the Area to volunteer to visit people who live within walking distance of them.

School holiday meals: After a trial at Easter, churches set up lunches in the summer holidays, on three days each week during August. It was hoped to cover the week, but only three churches volunteered. The meals consisted of bread, spread and fillings for the families to make their own sandwiches, followed by biscuits and fruit. Simple activities were supplied for the children afterwards. This service was greatly appreciated by the families who attended.

Chaplaincies: The United Area now provides chaplaincy for the Fire Service, the Police, Haverigg Prison and the Hospital, which is paid by the NHS. Volunteers are needed for the hospital work, which is run by Deacon Debbie Wilde, full-time hospital chaplain. Barrow AFC is interested in having a chaplain, but as they train in Manchester this is not practicable at the moment.

Children and Youth Work: Flashbacks will run from 29th October at Dalton.

Messy Church: Held at Trinity and Hartington Street, with 30-40 attending.

Mission Community progress: Barrow is going well. Zena is trying to initiate more joint ventures on Walney and also with St Mary's in Dalton, working closely with Rev Canon Ruth Crossley and Rev Lucie Lunn from Urswick.

Zena will run a prayer group at 9:30 am on the first Saturday of each month before the Coffee Morning at Dalton Community Church. There will pulpit swaps in Dalton.

Askam

We were delighted to welcome Rev Canon Ruth Crossley, and members of St. Peter's Church, to our joint Harvest on Sunday, 30th September. Ruth led us through a varied service with lots of participation from both churches. The wonderful display of food donated for the Service was given to the Barrow Food Bank. The collection of £92.00 was divided between the two Churches, for the Bishops Harvest appeal, and the United Area Christian Aid appeal. Thanks go to everyone who took part, especially our one Beaver, who handled his spade well, as a farmer in the sketch. We look forward to sharing in this way again. Thank you for the gift of cakes from the Pensions Saturday Coffee Morning which were enjoyed after the Service with tea and coffee.

We welcome our local singer, Graham Standing to entertain us at Sisterhood on 31st October. A fortnight later, on 14th November, Rev John Crossley (Ruth's husband) will join us for the afternoon, for the first time (initially we had to cancel his visit because of the bad weather at the beginning of the year). We look forward to hearing him speak. Our Christmas Party takes place on Wednesday 28th November, when Rachel McFarlane, Head of St. Peter's School, will bring her children to entertain us. These school visits are always a joy, and we will later sit down with the children for party food. All events start at 2:30 p.m. and everyone is welcome to join us.

Dorothy Gleaves

Millom

Autumn is here - a slight nip in the air in the mornings and the nights are cutting in even though the clocks haven't altered yet!! But after an exceptional summer this year we mustn't complain about the weather especially when we see the beautiful colours of the leaves turning from green to yellow, orange, red and brown - God's glorious creations which remind us of the beautiful area we are privileged to live in. (Can you remember having a kaleidoscope when you were a child and shaking the colours to make wonderful patterns?)

Harvest Festivals are very different these days as instead of fresh fruit and vegetables we concentrate on bringing gifts of tins and packets to donate to the local Food Bank but we still sing the old favourite hymns we learnt at Sunday School. "All things bright and beautiful" and "We plough the fields and scatter" are usually on the list and I will be using them at Lapstone House this month as I know the residents remember both of these hymns. So many people around the world are desperate for food and clean water which we take for granted here in Great Britain so I know we need to support all the relief agencies as part of our Christian calling. Here at Queen Street we fundraise for Lebone House and Canaan Heights each year as well as charities in this country but at this time of year we concentrate on the Boxes of Hope for Romania and I shall give an update next month on how many boxes we have managed to fill and send. Our Autumn Fayre is on Wednesday 14th November from 2-5pm. This is for our church funds.

Margaret Riley

Beacon Hill

Our Harvest Festival service on the morning of September 23rd was also a Family and Parade service, led by Yvonne Blackley. Using material from the All We Can Harvest Appeal, she described the situation in Malawi and how the offering we collected during the service will help the people there.

On 7th October we were very pleased to welcome our new minister Zena to lead our Chapel Anniversary service. This was at a later time than usual, as it was followed by our now traditional lunch of pie and peas.

During the last week of September we enjoyed two very different concerts, both to support the Area Christian Aid project. The first, given by Furness Chorale, raised £77. Then on Saturday afternoon the children of Cast Theatre Company entertained us while we enjoyed afternoon tea; the proceeds are to be split between Cast and Christian Aid.

As another fundraiser for the Area Christian Aid project, we will be holding a Soup and Quiz evening on Saturday 10th November at 6 pm. If you intend to come could you please let me know for catering purposes (phone 825986, email lilian.wood4@gmail.com)

Our monthly coffee morning will be held on Thursday 29th November, 10 am-11:15 am, with stalls selling cakes, handmade cards, books and Fairtrade items.

The first of our 4 Advent meetings will be held on Monday 26th November at 7:30 pm in the Wesley Room. We will look at the different Gospel accounts of the Christmas story with hymns, prayers, activities and food. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Lilian Wood

Dalton

Our very enjoyable Harvest Supper raised £110.20 for our refurbishment fund. The Bible Society coffee morning raised £195 for Bible Society work. Thanks to everyone who supported us.

The Church held a craft afternoon on Tuesday 16th October to prepare decorations for the Christmas tree and to cover the Christmas shoeboxes. The Bible Society tree will be finalized at the AGM.

Future dates:

Saturday 3rd November Craft Fair and coffee morning at Market Street 9:45 to 11:15 am.
Tuesday 13th at 2:30 pm Midweek Communion Service at Market Street.
Saturday 24th at 9:45 to 11:15 am Church Christmas Bazaar at Market Street.

R Willock

Christian Women's Fellowship. The next meeting of the CWF is on Wednesday 21st at 7:30 pm when Anne Stevenson will be our speaker. All are welcome.

D Zazi

There will be a service to bless the Christmas Trees at St Mary's when all participating charities will be invited.

Kirkby are planning carols around the Christmas Tree.

The Joint Harvest at Duddon Road Church was a shared service with St Peter's congregation, led by Ruth Crossley with members from both Churches taking part.

As suggested at the Area Meeting, details discussed at COG meetings will now be covered by the new Mission Team, led by Debbie and Sophie. Therefore COG meetings will cease. The annual COG Coffee Morning will continue as money will still be needed to fund Mission projects. Daphne will continue as Treasurer. Information will be shared via Newslink, the Area website and reports at Area meetings.

Dorothy Gleaves

Network (Methodist Women In Britain) Year ending 31 August 2018

Receipts		Payments	
Cash in hand/brought forward	7.20	Banked: World Mission Fund	564.65
Easter offerings	564.65	Banked: MWiB	140.00
Coffee morning (1)	140.00	Expenses (District Levy)	5.00
Donation	5.00	Cash in hand/carried forward	7.20
Total	£716.85	Total	£716.85

Marisel Dawson

Methodist Mission Funds

Details for the 12 month period ended 31st August 2018 are as follows:
World Mission Fund

All 8 churches made a contribution, with a total amount of £1376.98 being paid into this fund (JMA £662.48 and General Fund £714.50).

This is a total increase of £122.56 on last year's figures (JMA reduced by £64.24 and General Fund increased by £186.80).

Mission in Britain Fund

5 out of 8 churches contributed, with a total amount of £715.92 being paid into this fund.

This is an increase of £52.92 on last year's figure.

Bob and Daphne Watkinson

All in a Good Cause

This is the second in a series of articles highlighting the charities and causes supported by churches and individuals throughout the Area.

The Leprosy Mission

Someone is diagnosed with leprosy somewhere in the world every two minutes. The Leprosy Mission was founded in 1874 by Wellesley Bailey (who first saw the effects of leprosy when working as a missionary in India) and his wife Alice. It was originally known as The Mission to Lepers; the name was changed in 1965 to avoid the negative connotations of the word 'leper'.

Leprosy is a mildly infectious disease associated with poverty. It causes problems and deformities with the hands, feet and face, but it is also seen as a curse on those who catch it. People with leprosy are often bullied and rejected by the people around them; they might not be allowed to go to school or to work or even marry, and they can become outcasts even within their families.

A cure for leprosy has been available since 1982 in the form of multidrug therapy, a combination of three drugs taken daily for 6 to 12 months. Despite this, according to the latest World Health Organisation statistics there were 214,783 new cases of leprosy diagnosed throughout the world in 2016. More than 60 per cent of these new diagnoses were in India. Due to the reluctance of leprosy patients to seek treatment because of the stigma surrounding the disease, TLM considers these figures to be an underestimate. So there is still a great need.

At Beacon Hill we have supported TLM for many years. When John Roughley was the Area Co-ordinator he regularly came to speak at the women's meeting and he led Sunday worship several times. The girls of the Gateway young people's group became involved and had the idea of raising funds by holding a 'Tea at the Ritz' style event. This was very successful for several years and people entered into the spirit of the occasion by dressing in their best clothes. In John's book "Hope and Happiness" he wrote about the 'Gateway Girls' and the afternoon teas and included a photograph of some of our ladies in their hats.

We hold at least one fundraising event every year and always mark World Leprosy Day (the last Sunday in January) by asking the preacher to refer to it during the service and by having a cake stall afterwards.

More information can be found on the website www.leprosymission.org.uk

Lillian Wood

Individual Churches

Trinity

Our usual monthly Coffee Morning is on Saturday 3rd November from 10:00-11:30 a.m. Mid-week Communion will be held on Tuesday 6th at 10:30 a.m.

We will be leading a short service at Risedale on Wednesday 21st at 11:00 a.m. On Saturday 24th we will be having our Christmas Fayre 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Entry is £1.00 which includes refreshments.

We are delighted to report that our Nativity Service this year is being arranged by Debbie Jackson along with the children of Victoria Infants School. It will be held on 16th December at **10:30 a.m.** The change of time is to allow everyone to stay and have refreshments after the service (before the service there will be too much going on for all to enjoy a cuppa).

Family News

On Sunday 23rd September we welcomed Raine Morrison into God's Family at Trinity. A happy service conducted by Jennet. We hope Raine and her family and friends felt at home and may join us again, perhaps at Messy Church which meets again on Saturday 10th at 3:00 p.m.

Margaret Maxwell

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.

Week commencing

Nov	4th	Askam	T
	11th	Kirkby	U
	18th	Broughton	V
	25th	Millom	W

Janet Ladds

Hartington Street

Monday's Toddlers 1-2:30 pm in The Hub.

Tuesday's Knit and Natter 10-11:30 am in The Hub.

Chris Mills

Kirkby-in-Furness

We have a lot of talented people in our community. We now have lots of fabulous gloves, mitts, hats and scarves for the shoebox appeal. Our Craft and chatter meetings will keep going and goods not needed for the shoeboxes will go to Tim at the re:new shop. Also we will continue with our Angel project.

Seraph Hollowell