

NORTHSTEAD NEWS

The magazine of Northstead Methodist Church.

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February 2013 – No. 317.

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Can you Help

There are many new initiatives coming up in the area, in response to the needs of the local community, and in which the churches have a vital role to play. Your support is vital!

Rainbow Food – One of these concerns the growing need for food parcels amongst a range of people in the town. In recent years this need has been covered by the Rainbow Centre, but as economic problems increase, the demand for this service has increased. In the past, goods given at harvest time by the churches have been sufficient to fulfil this need, but because of increased demand this is no longer so.

We, as a church, have been approached by the Rainbow Centre, asking if we would join other churches in collecting food and other goods for this work. We already have a box to collect goods for Homeless Support, which is very much related work. The proposal is that we have one large box in the entrance and that the goods will be divided between the two organisations.

The kind of goods needed are: tuna, pasta, soup both tinned and dried, corned beef, Pot Noodles, tinned hot dogs, tinned baked beans, spaghetti, instant porridge such as "Oats So Simple", tin openers, toothpaste, toothbrushes and toilet rolls. If you are able to help, by picking up a couple of extra items when you shop, and adding them to the box on a Sunday, then we will be able to offer valuable support to this vital work.

At the beginning of February, the Rainbow Centre, working alongside the Barrowcliff Project and the Eastfield Project, will be opening a new storage unit next to the Briercliffe Children's Centre, to store donations of food, so food parcels can be made up to be distributed from various points around the town. There will be an opportunity for volunteers to get involved with this work. More information coming soon.

Our Mission

We are called to be a worshipping, welcoming, praying and caring Christian presence within our community.

Our mission is to serve God and our neighbour by :-

- enabling people of all ages and abilities to hear and respond to the Good News of Jesus through worship, teaching and example
- raising awareness of poverty, cruelty and injustice, and taking appropriate action to relieve them
- and promoting peace between all God's people.

Community Angels – Can you get involved in an exciting new project on Barrowcliff? The Churches in partnership with the council, police and youth service, are working together to help build community confidence by establishing a team of "Angels" to be present on the estate on a regular basis. Volunteers need to be over 18, and will be trained.

There will be a meeting to find out more about this at St. Mark's Church Hall at 7 p.m. on Monday 28th January. All welcome! If this date has already passed when you see this notice, it's not too late to get involved. Speak to Rev. Clare Stainsby on 361841 or cestainsby@yahoo.co.uk

Message from the Minister

*Lord, now let Your servant go in peace, Your word has been fulfilled.
My own eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared in the sight of all peoples,
a light to reveal you to the nations, and the glory of Your people Israel.*

(Luke 2: 29 - 32)

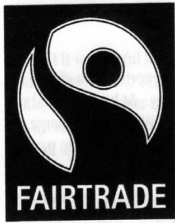
As I write this we are close to Candlemas, a festival traditionally celebrated by the church on February 2nd each year, though one that may often pass us by as Methodists. Part of the tradition of Candlemas is that it marks the mid-point of winter, half way between the shortest day and the first day of Spring, and in the past there was a practice of giving candles to light homes and to remind people that even in the midst of the dark season of the year, there is hope and light. Candlemas also coincides with Groundhog Day in America. Have you seen the famous film? A groundhog is like a large squirrel. If it peers out of its hole on mid-winter day and sees the sun shining, and its own shadow, it will pop straight back in, because another spell of winter is just about to begin. An ancient rhyme puts it like this: "If Candlemas be fair and bright - winter has another flight. If Candlemas brings clouds and rain, winter will not come again."

I guess we are all waiting for the end of winter and the beginning of spring. It's always good to have lighter mornings and evenings, and a milder temperature, not to mention the pleasure of seeing spring flowers all around.

But the true importance of Candlemas is in its connection with the presentation of Jesus in the temple by his parents, as remembered in Luke Chapter 2. His parents were following the traditional requirements of their Jewish faith, but this moment is given significance for us in their encounter with two elderly prophets - Simeon and Anna. Both were awaiting the coming of their Saviour, and both believed that they would see him with their own eyes. And in Jesus, they recognise that the moment has arrived. Simeon's words in response are one of the most familiar passages in the Bible, also known as the "Nunc Dimitis". In Jesus, he sees the salvation he has longed for, beginning in this tiny child. He sees the light of hope being lit, and he is full of gratitude to God, who has brought that light of hope into this world through this child before him. Anna too, a widow who spent her time watching and praying in the temple, sees reason to give praise to God when she encounters the infant Jesus in his parents' arms.

We may be waiting eagerly for the lighter mornings and evenings and for the colourful rush of spring, and Candlemas marks a step on the way towards that. But the true light of hope witnessed by Simeon and Anna is still, for us, in the child, in our Saviour Jesus, whose light is in this world, and will never be extinguished. And so we have reason to offer God our continued praise and gratitude. He is with us!

Clare



Fairtrade Yorkshire!

Yorkshire is now officially the UK's first Fairtrade Region! Ceremonies in Ilkley, Leeds and York on Friday, January 18th, celebrated our new status, recognising local support for Fairtrade, the result of three years' work by campaigners. The South West, Dumfries and Galloway, and the North East are among the regions working towards Fairtrade status, but Yorkshire can be proud to be the first to achieve it.

Fairtrade Yorkshire sends a big thank you to all the schools, universities, faith groups, MPs and MEPs, and others who have helped the bid - "Everyone who has served Fairtrade refreshments, bought, sold or supported Fairtrade anywhere in Yorkshire has contributed to this - the support really has been amazing from Holmfirth to Hull, Sheffield to Scarborough. It just shows how caring Yorkshire folk are."

The success of Fairtrade has defied the downturn in trade, growing to sales of £ 1.32 bn. across the UK in 2011. These are tough times for millions of farmers, growers and craft workers in developing countries. Climate change, rising food and fuel costs, and volatile market prices mean that small farmers often struggle to provide for themselves and their families, and they are the hardest hit in uncertain times. Fairtrade provides them with the security of knowing they'll receive a fair price for their crop, and the long term stability that comes from having a better relationship with their buyer, but without the demand for Fairtrade products in our shops, producers can't sell their products on the Fairtrade market no matter how hard they have struggled to meet the high quality requirements of the Fairtrade Foundation.

Over 4,500 products now bear the Fairtrade mark, certified by an international network of foundations, and there's a person or a family behind every one. Choosing and asking for Fairtrade when doing your shopping is one way to ensure farmers and workers can plan for their future, and earn enough to provide for their families and invest in their communities. Together we're making steady progress, but we need to reach more of the people who need a fairer deal from trade. So that's why the slogan for **FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 2013** (February 25th to March 10th) is "Go Further for Fairtrade!" Watch your weekly notice sheet to see how we will be celebrating Fairtrade Fortnight at Northstead!

Fairtrade Easter Eggs - now that Christmas has come and gone, we look forward to Easter! The Real Easter Egg is the only one, out of 80m sold in the UK each year, that tells the true story of Easter, is Fairtrade and donates money to Traidcraft Exchange as a sign of hope and new life. Included with your Egg is an activity sheet with the Easter story, a poster, i-Tune download and a sticker set - and all for £ 3.99! See Ros to order yours, before stocks run out!

A Prayer for Fairtrade Fortnight

Father God, as we reflect on our responsibilities as Christians, help us to understand the impact our choices and actions have on others.

Help us to be true disciples of Jesus, living the gospel and bringing social change in an unjust world. Give us courage to challenge unfair trade rules and pray for those who have the power to make far-reaching decisions affecting the world's poor.

As we eat and drink, help us to pray for those who have laboured to bring the food to our table. Fill our hearts with compassion for our brothers and sisters around the world, so that we acknowledge our common humanity and dignity.

Give us insight and understanding so that we can make good choices about how we spend our money.

You have called us to care for the poor and needy and we want to take that responsibility seriously. Help us to be generous with our time and money so that we can honour you through serving others. **Amen.**



from Anthea Purdy

I have just packed and dispatched another box full of your knitted and crocheted garments and blankets for "Smile". We were asked not to send baby cardigans for some reason, but if anyone would prefer to knit these, I can pass them on to Mrs Sue Pynn, who has another overseas outlet which will be glad of them. She gives me donations of hats and mittens, so we help each other!

Please keep those needles busy! There is a box in the church porch, or you can give them to me. To those who don't knit etc, I am grateful to receive any sweatshirts, hooded tops or T-shirts, which can often be bought quite cheaply, especially at sale times. Thank you.

Family News

Alice Pickersgill sends her thanks for the Christmas gift of biscuits she received. And we send our congratulations and love to Alice on her 99th birthday last month!

Our friend **Andrea Crooks** is still awaiting surgery to her knee, following a postponement. No date has been set as yet for her operation. We continue to keep her in our prayers.

We were sorry to hear of the death of **Hilary Mayes**, a regular member of our Ladies' Circle and Keep-fit groups. Our sympathy and prayers go to her family and friends.

From Phyll and Monica

We wish all our friends at Northstead a very happy and blessed New Year. Thank you for the Christmas biscuits, which were much appreciated and enjoyed!



Coffee Morning

Our friends at Scalby Chapel invite us to their monthly Coffee Morning at 10 a.m. on Saturday, February 2nd. This month it's in aid of Barrowcliff Community Choir, and may even feature a brief performance!

As usual, there will be a cake stall, a Fairtrade stall and a very warm welcome!

From the Rainbow Centre

This is a letter to say a huge thank you for the wonderful donations that you so generously made to the Rainbow Centre. I just feel you need to know how truly grateful we are and as we get busier and busier how much your generosity means to so many. Your continued support makes a huge difference to so many lives. It is never taken for granted and is always so much appreciated by all who receive the help that your generosity enables us to give.

On Christmas Eve, we saw 65 clients and on Boxing Day, we had up to 200 people eating Christmas lunch, so you can see how much the donations will help so many people.

With best wishes to you all for a very Happy 2013, and hoping your Christmas was a really good one.

With lots of love,
Trish.

Bereavement Service

We are invited to join in a Bereavement Service at 3 p.m. on Sunday, February 17th at St. Mark's Church - a service to remember those we love but see no longer. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Sunday

"Sunday @ 8" at Burniston Methodist Church offers a time of multimedia, contemporary worship, starting at 7.45 p.m. on alternate Sunday evenings, February 3rd and 17th.

Drinks and food are available in the café afterwards, and everyone is welcome.

Synod a call for help from Diane Robinson – Circuit Stewards co-ordinator.

On Saturday, 27th April 2013, from 9.30 a.m. until 4 p.m. the North Yorkshire Coast Circuit will be hosting the York and Hull District Spring Synod at Caedmon School, Whitby.

This entails an enormous amount of organisation, and as this is a responsibility for the whole of the North Yorkshire Coast Circuit, we would like to give as many people as possible across the circuit the opportunity to use your skills, get involved and if you wish, experience what happens at Synod. This is a chance to work together and make new friends across the Circuit and District.

We are looking for volunteers to

- Be a Work group member - setting up and arranging chairs etc, before the event and restoring to order afterwards, from 8.30 to 9.15 a.m and from 4 p.m to 4.45p.m
- Help with assembly of stalls etc, from 8.45 to 9.15 a.m.
- Be Car Park Stewards from 9 to 10.30 a.m. and from 3.30 to 4.30 p.m.
- Be Welcomers - hand out information as representatives arrive etc.
- Be Stewards – on hand throughout the day to point people in the right direction etc.
- Be Caterers - prepare, serve tea/coffee and biscuits from 9.15 to 10.15a.m.
Serve drinks from 12.30 to 1.30 p.m. – time to be confirmed.
Serve tea/coffee and cakes from 3.30 to 4.30 p.m.
- And in all cases above, clear up afterwards
- Bake/supply cakes/buns etc for the 250 expected delegates.

We are also looking for volunteers to co-ordinate the various tasks above as ‘team-leaders’, and a small team of IT experts to help with the audio-visuals and computer related needs.

If you are willing to help in any of these areas, please contact the circuit office or speak to one of the circuit stewards a.s.a.p. but before the **end of February**. Please give us your contact details in writing, with details of which area you would like to be involved with. You can volunteer alone or with some-else from your church. If you would like to work alongside some-one else, please indicate and let us have the names together.

Thankyou for all your help.

Diane Robinson – 01723 363002 Circuit office: Julie Fairweather - 01723 507339 or email nyc.circuitoffice@gmail.com

“A Different Drum”

“A Different Drum“, will be performed by Riding Lights Theatre Company at Westborough Church on Friday, 1st February, at 7.30 p.m.

In the blood of a flea, wrapped in a bundle of French silk, the plague arrives in the Derbyshire village of Eyam, and with it comes a devastating decision. As the entire community chooses the bold path of sacrifice, they begin to march to a different drum.

Beginning in the 17th century, the play follows a thread through history to the present day, picking up accounts of others who have dared to break the boundaries of self-interest.

Full of life and colourful music, “A Different Drum” imagines how different the world could be if we responded unswervingly to the call to 'do unto others as you would have them do unto you.'

Tickets: £10, groups: buy 10 and get the 11th free. Box Office: 01904 613000 or visit online booking.

Praise
Midweek

P r a i s e
Midweek, a time of informal worship, takes place at 8 p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday of each month followed by refreshments and fellowship. Come and join us on February 20th!

Northstead Community Association

from Diane Robinson

On Tuesday, 22nd January, Neil and I will be attending the 2nd meeting of this embryonic group, at Northstead. As I write this on 19th January, I don't know what is going to happen at that meeting (so watch this space) but I do know that there is an increasing buzz of interest amongst the residents of the estate, bounded by Northstead School on Maple Drive to the north, North Leas Avenue and Northstead Manor Drive to the east, Manor Road Cemetery to the south and the old railway line to the west. The estate is quite large, a mixture of rented and privately owned houses and flats, some of them former council properties managed by Yorkshire Coast Homes since 2003. The residents range from young families to the elderly and there is a high proportion of long-term elderly residents. North Leas shops, i.e. the chemist, Nisa supermarket and the Pizza outlet serve as both retail outlets and meeting places for the community, and at present there is no other community meeting place on the estate.

At the first meeting in December were representatives of Yorkshire Coast Homes, Nisa Supermarket and the Northstead Safer Communities Team, who all promised their support. It was decided to work towards the acquisition from the council of the former changing rooms, now derelict, and the triangular piece of land which they occupy, for hopefully eventual conversion into a community hall. The area in question is situated between the fields, the back of the curve of Maple Drive and the houses at the end of Broadway.

As a Church we would like to provide support to the community in any way we can. Please watch the notices for details of future meetings, and how you can help.

Thank you

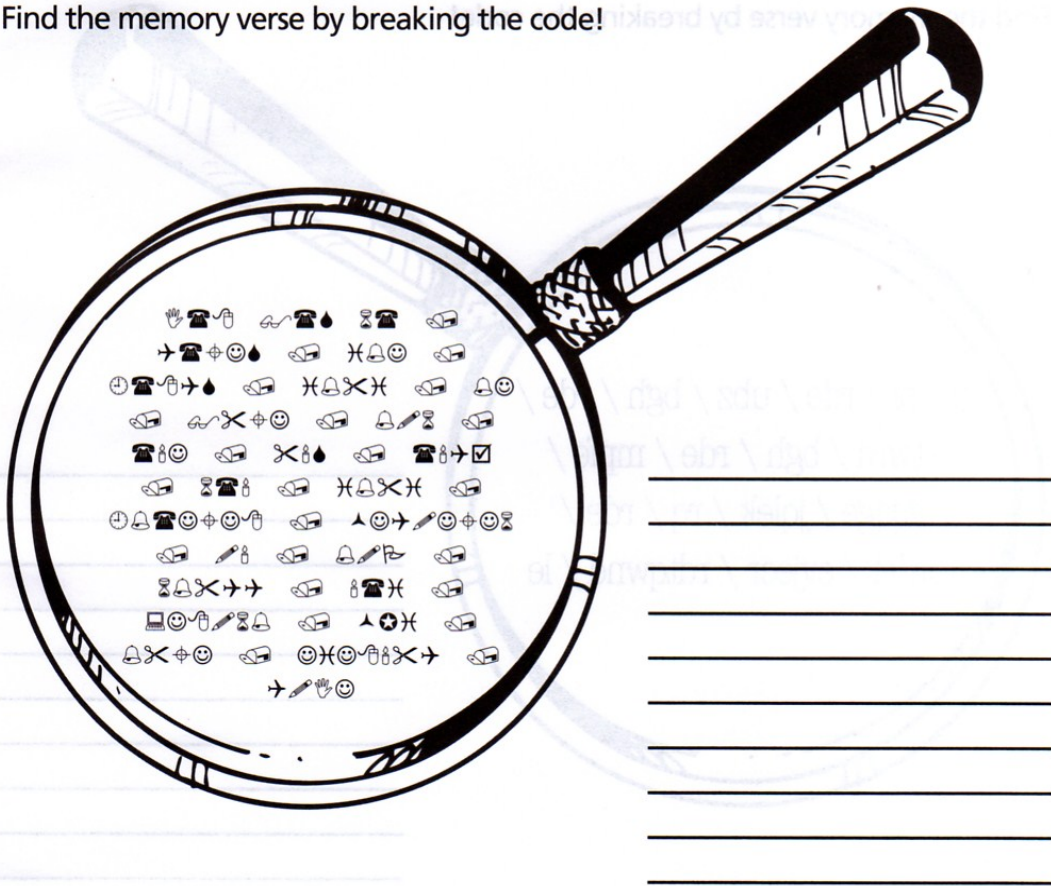
from Anthea Purdy.



A letter of thanks has been received from the Cambridge Centre, who run the Women's Community Project in Scarborough, for our donation of £190. This was the proceeds of the Christmas Flower Arranging demonstration by Jo Purdy. Thank you to all who came and enjoyed the morning, and to others who made donations. Jo is willing to talk about the work of the Project, to any group who may be interested. Thank you for your support.

Children's Corner

Find the memory verse by breaking the code!



This verse
can be found
in John,
chapter 3,
verse 16.

Use the information below to help you!

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
✂	©	®	💧	😊	👉	👓	🔔	✍	❄	⚙	➔	🚩	🕯	☎	📠
			Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z			
			♈	👈	⌚	✂	⊛	⊕	⊖	☒	☑	✖			

P	J	A	D	F	L	R	U	S	C
B	E	G	G	I	N	G	H	J	H
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Q	S	C	U	R	Y	T	I	E	S
G	O	H	K	S	T	H	K	M	T
C	R	I	P	P	L	E	D	T	O
E	P	N	X	Q	J	N	E	L	M
M	O	N	E	Y	B	P	R	F	A
C	V	A	D	T	Z	J	O	H	N

Find the words in capital letters below in the grid. They could be running forwards, backwards, upwards, downwards or diagonally. Then read the story in Acts, chapter 3.

PETER and JOHN saw a CRIPPLED MAN BEGGING. They had no MONEY to give him, but they said to him "IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST of Nazareth, WALK." The man jumped to his FEET and began to walk.

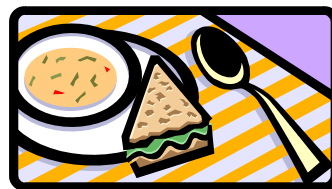
Attention Ladies

Our ladies' meetings have recommenced after the Christmas break. The Ladies' Fellowship meets on Wednesday afternoons at 2.30 p.m. and their meetings this month are:-

- February 6th - Rosie Coles.
- February 13th - Rev. Tanya Brosnan,
Ash Wednesday.
- February 20th - Rev. Ros Walser.
- February 27th - Muriel Rayner.
- March 6th - Ruth and Joyce,
A Trip round Iona.

Our Ladies' Circle meets on alternate Tuesday evenings at 7.30 p.m. On February 5th they will be "Talking and Singing with Clare", and on the 19th, Diane Robinson will talk about the Isle of Mull.

All ladies will be made very welcome at any of these meetings.



Soup & Sandwich lunch

Saturday, February 9th
Coffee served from
10.30 a.m.

Lunches from 11.30 a.m.
Cake and Fairtrade stalls.

Advance notice -
Saturday, March 16th
Spud & Pud lunch
for Gift Day!

Dates for your Diary

Friday, February 1st, 7.30 p.m.	"A Different Drum", Westborough Church.
Saturday, February 2nd, 10 a.m.	Coffee Morning, Scalby Chapel.
Sunday, February 3rd, 10.30 a.m.	All-age worship, Rev. C. Stainsby.
Saturday, February 9th, 10.30 a.m.	Coffee.
11.30 a.m.	Soup and Sandwich lunch.
Sunday, February 10th, 10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion, Rev. P. Cross.
Sunday, February 17th, 10.30 a.m.	Morning worship, Mrs. C. Herbert.
3 p.m.	Bereavement service, St. Mark's Church.
Wednesday, February 20th, 8 p.m.	Praise Midweek.
Sunday, February 24th, 10.30 a.m.	Morning worship, Mrs. M. Dobson.
February 25th to March 10th.	Fairtrade Fortnight.
Saturday, March 16th	Gift Day and Spud and Pud lunch.
Saturday, April 27th, 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m.	District Synod, Caedmon School, Whitby.

Weekly Events

Alternate Mondays, 7.30 p.m.	Singing for Fun.	Thursday, 9.30 a.m.	Parents and Tots
Tuesday, 8.45 to 11.30 a.m.	Pop-in for Coffee.	1.45 p.m.	Keep-fit group
Alternate Tuesdays, 7.30 p.m.	Ladies' Circle.	7.30 p.m.	Badminton club
Wednesday, 2.30 p.m.	Ladies' Fellowship	Friday, 6 p.m.	Rainbows
6 p.m.	Brownies	6.30 p.m.	Brownies.
7.30 p.m.	Guides	All of the above events take place at Northstead, unless otherwise stated. Children's activities take place during term	