

## Around the Circuit

"Beyond a Joke", a comedy by Derek Benfield, will be presented by Queen Street Players in the lower hall at Queen Street Church, at 7.30 p.m. from Wednesday, October 30th to Friday, November 1st. Tickets are £5 each and refreshments will be available during the interval. This is a new venture for the group and should be a really good night's entertainment. The profit from the evening will be split between the group and the Poppy Appeal, an appropriate cause as the town appeal begins on Wednesday, 23rd October with a service at Queen Street at 7.30 p.m.

**Coffee at Scalby** — Our Scalby friends will be holding their regular monthly **Coffee Morning** on Saturday, November 2nd, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. There will be a cake stall, a book stall and a Fairtrade stall. Proceeds this month are for the British Legion Poppy Appeal.

**Snainton shoe-box service** on Sunday, November 17th, led by Mrs. Ros Dyson will be the monthly breakfast service with breakfast from 9.30 a.m. followed at 10.30 a.m. by worship. Please note the service on Sunday, November 3rd will not be a breakfast service as previously advertised.

## Church Anniversary

This year we celebrate our 46th Anniversary on Sunday, November 3rd. At 10.30 a.m. all-age worship will be led by Anthony Dale, Ruth and Pete's son, a former member of Northstead, now a local preacher in the Stalyridge circuit.

We will be serving Sunday lunch in the hall after the service.



## Praise Midweek

The next Praise Midweek will be on Wednesday, November 20th, at 8 p.m. and on December 18th there will be a Christmas Special!

## Autumn Fair

Our **Autumn Fair** this year is on Saturday, November 9th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. **Soup & Sandwich lunches** will be served in the church, and there will be all the usual stalls - cakes and provisions, chocolates, tombola, plants, bric-a-Brac and books, gifts, cards and Fairtrade - so please look out for saleable items, which can be left in the box in the church entrance. If you would like specific boxes of chocolates, please order in advance from Ann.

Help with setting up tables and sorting goods after 7.45 p.m. on the Friday evening would be much appreciated. A special thank you to Wreyfield Boys Brigade who will be setting up the tables in church on Friday evening.

## From our Minister

I can never escape from your Spirit! I can never get away from your presence!

If I go up to heaven, you are there; if I go down to the grave, you are there.

If I ride the wings of the morning, if I dwell by the farthest oceans, even there your hand will guide me, and your strength will support me.

I could ask the darkness to hide me and the light around me to become night – but even in darkness I cannot hide from you.

To you the night shines as bright as day. Darkness and light are the same to you. *From Psalm 139*

I remember the day clearly. It was a Sunday morning, and after church I chose to go for a walk on the nearby hills. It was very dull, with thick low cloud, but the sort of day when you could easily imagine that the sun might break through. As I climbed upwards, the cloud gradually thinned, until I found myself at quite a high point, looking down on a sea of cloud below. The mist was rolling off the hillside, and everywhere were spiders' webs, moist from the recent cloud, glistening in the sunshine. It was a kind of beauty that touched me deeply - it immediately connected me with the Creator God, with a sense of His presence within the moment. And I found the words of a song forming in my mind. I can't remember if I wrote them down there and then - quite possibly!

A week or so later, I was in London, and was gazing at some impressive architecture, which had a certain beauty about it. It was a very different beauty from the misty moorland scene that had previously moved me; almost as different as it was possible to be. And yet I found God there too, among the nameless crowds, and the hurrying, and the majestic buildings.

God is with us! He is closer than the very air we breath. There is nowhere that we can go that takes us out of the

## Operation Christmas Child



We are supporting the **shoebox appeal** again this year. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the involvement of Samaritan's Purse in Operation Christmas Child. Since 1993, more than 100 million children have been touched by the power of a simple gift. Every shoebox is a tool that can be used by God to reach one more child with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Our **shoebox service** will be on Sunday, November 17th.

## Syrian Refugee Appeal

Thank you to all those who gave to the appeal for the Syrian refugees pouring into Lebanon and Jordan.

We are delighted to announce that the total received from two retiring collections, coffee money from two Soup and Sandwich lunches and the collection at the Harvest Concert by the Celebrations Singers amounted to £ 302.87.

## Prayer for Remembrance Sunday

As we remember those who have died in past wars, so we pray too for those still dying today... and for those who grieve...

### **God of the past, be our future peace**

We remember those living in countries where civil war is destroying communities and making enemies of neighbours, where fear and violence dominate every aspect of daily living...

### **God of today, be our future peace**

We remember those who have been injured and traumatised by the brutality of war, especially those robbed of their childhood by what they have seen or been forced to do ...

### **God of tomorrow, be our future peace**

We remember those who are peacemakers, those who negotiate, those who speak out at great cost to themselves and their families

### **God of the future, be our eternal peace**

Amen



## Messy Church

The next **Messy Church** will be on Thursday, November 28th at 3.15 p.m.

Everyone is welcome, but children must be accompanied by a parent or carer. Why not come along, and find out what it's all about?

## Welcome Back, Wreyfield!

We look forward to our joint service at 10.30 a.m. on Sunday, November 10th, when our friends from Wreyfield Drive Church will be once again sharing worship with us at Northstead. The service will be led by our minister, Rev Clare Stainsby.

presence of God. We cannot hide from Him and escape from Him, but more often than not we just ignore Him. Or we connect with Him fleetingly. Most of the time it's easy to ignore Him, because God rarely shouts in our ear, or speaks a clear message into our minds. But now and again, our attention is drawn to His presence. Our senses are awakened to something that moves us to the soul, and we focus our attention on God in that moment. It might be a sight or a sound, even a touch, a taste or a smell that says, God is here, right now in this moment, inviting you to recognise Him and know Him.

Wherever you are right now, take a moment to recognise that God is there. Invite Him to invade your senses, and touch you with His peace. Ask Him into whatever is happening in your day. Discover just how much He loves you - how much He appreciates the person that you are. And recognise that the day is brighter and everything comes into sharper focus, because God is there.

Standing dew on spider's webs carpets the forest floor,  
Creeping mist that makes its way across the distant moor,  
Far off voices murmur within the slightest breeze,  
A startled bird rises up from among the sun-starved trees.

I didn't come here looking for a song but you gave one to me,  
You know this place is beautiful,  
But it's more beautiful because you are here with me.

Faceless traffic rushes down the thought-filled busy street,  
Crowded pavements echo with the voices and the feet,  
Grey stone buildings stand in ancient wisdom looking down,

No one spares a thought for life beyond the hurried town.

I didn't come here looking for a song but you gave one to me,  
You know this place is beautiful,  
But it's more beautiful because you are here with me.

@ C. Stainsby 1996



## Christmas is Coming!

After our Autumn Fair, it will surely be time to think about the coming of Jesus. Advent begins with a **circuit service** at Filey Church on Advent Sunday, December 1st at 6 p.m.

On 8th December at 10.30 a.m. we will be holding our annual **Gift and Parade service**. In the evening at 6.30 p.m. the Churches Together around Barrowcliff will be holding a **Taizé style service** at Wreyfield Drive, and on Sunday, December 15th, you are invited to stay for **Christmas lunch** after the morning service at Northstead.

Our **Praise Midweek service** at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, 18th December will be a **Christmas Special**, and **Christmas Messy Church** is on Thursday, 19th December at 3.15 p.m.

Our ever-popular **Carols by Candlelight** service is on Sunday, 22nd December at 6.30 p.m. followed at 6 p.m. on Monday 23rd by the equally popular **Christingle service**.

**Christmas Eve Communion** this year is at Queen Street Church, as Clare is sharing the work at Queen Street with Mark Haynes and Rosie Coles this year.

Our **Christmas Day service** will be at 10.30 a.m. at Northstead, when we will be sharing worship with Clare's other churches, Scalby and Wreyfield Drive, and on Sunday, December 29th, we will again worship together at Wreyfield.

## Ladies' Circle

Our Ladies' Circle meets at 7.30 p.m. on alternate Tuesday evenings.

On November 5th, they will enjoy "Ramblings" with Bob Whitfield, and on November 19th, Brian Ward will talk about "Street Angels". On December 10th, they have their Buffet Supper and Games before the Christmas break.

## Christmas around Barrowcliff



At 4 p.m. on Monday, 4th November, there will be a meeting at Wreyfield Drive, to discuss how we might celebrate Christmas around the Barrowcliff area this year.

Please come along with your ideas.

## Wednesday Fellowship

Our Wednesday Fellowship, open to men and women, meets on Wednesday afternoons from 2.30 to 4 p.m. for a short time of worship, a talk or entertainment and refreshments. Their programme for November is :-

November 6th - Brian Swiers, Cruising the Caribbean

November 13th - Mandy Clayton entertains with an afternoon of song.

November 20th - Members' Day. Bring your favourite music, poems etc.

November 27th - Rev. Mark Haynes, A toilet-cleaning, bed-changing, housekeeping Sabbathical.