

Northstead News

The magazine of Northstead Methodist Church

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Meeting and Eating!

Our next meal together is the Safari supper on Saturday, June 11th, when we join with friends from Scalby and Wreyfield. A



choice of starters will be served at Scalby at 6 p.m. followed by main courses at Wreyfield at 6.45 p.m. and desserts at Northstead at 7.45 p.m. The evening will finish with a “sing-a-long” entertainment from the Singing for Fun group. Donations will be given to the All We Can (MRDF) Ecuador earthquake appeal. Please sign the list on the noticeboard by June 4th if you wish to attend, and indicate if transport is required.

On Saturday, July 9th, we are holding a Strawberry Coffee Morning from 10 to 11.30 a.m. Come along and enjoy a drink and strawberry cream scone, and support the Cake and Fairtrade stalls.

Our annual Mission Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday, July 23rd at 15 Newlands Park Avenue, to raise funds for JMA, Mission in Britain and the World Church. There will be a Bring & Buy and Cake stall. Come and join us for drinks and bacon sandwiches.

From our Minister

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

You may have noticed that some of our magazine's opening letters have been written by one of our stewards, who work alongside me as we are our church's leadership team. We meet together every other month when we can discuss our church life, look at what's coming up and also have an opportunity to talk about past events. It gives us an opportunity to get to know each other better, and with that enables to us to work better in service to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and hopefully also ensure that our Northstead Methodist Church family feel loved and cared for.

We shall continue to share the writing of letters to you, allowing more of us to share with you something of our own faith journeys. We do hope you will continue to be encouraged in your own journeys of faith with Jesus through this medium.

Thank you to those of you who are willing to share with us a personal account of your own life stories. Lives that you may consider are ordinary we find extra-ordinary and most interesting reading. We are thankful to Miss Margaret Clark's family for their willingness to share something of her remarkable life of faithfulness and service with us. It is a great privilege to serve God in the Methodist Church, not least because of the people we meet along the way.

Thank you to those of you who continue to journey with us.

With love in Christ,

Emma.

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 community 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.
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General Church meeting

Thanks to all those who attended the meeting held after our morning service on May 15th.

After a few years of unsuccessfully appealing for new church stewards, it was great to be able to appoint two new stewards to our team. Elvie Gehrke and Olga Jones will be working with Maurice Macer and Ruth Dale respectively for the next 12 months, so that most Sundays we will have two stewards on duty.

It was also good to fill our quota of Church Council representatives with the addition of Paul Maynard and Janice Disley, and to appoint Diane Robinson as a rep to Circuit Meeting after she finishes her duties as a Circuit steward.

If you haven't already received a copy of the annual reports, please take one from the hall or the church entrance and read about all that is going on in our church. Please also take one for anyone who is unable to get to church. Our thanks to Helen who compiled the report.

Christian Aid News

The Sunday lunch on May 8th was enjoyed by 45 people, including those who had "meals on wheels" delivered! £180 was raised for Christian Aid. Thank you for your support, and an even bigger thank you to the cooks, waiters, washer-uppers and general dogsbodies!

Many thanks to those who sponsored Elizabeth on the Christian Aid walk in May. With Gordon's support, she raised £ 136. The house-to-house collection during Christian Aid Week raised £ 97. There will be a full report about Northstead's contribution to Christian Aid Week in next month's magazine.

Family News

A warm welcome to Andy, Janet and Thomas Lord, who have recently started worshipping with us.

We are sorry to report the death of our friend Gertie Holtby. Our love and prayers go to Lara, Jan and all Gertie's family and friends. You probably remember reading about Gertie's long and full life in our April newsletter.

Methodist Women in Britain

A secretary is needed for Methodist Women in Britain in the York and Hull District. This is not an arduous task as other people help with writing minutes, producing posters etc. If you think that you could volunteer for this role, or would like more information, please contact Joy Coates on 01482 863660, email joy@coates178.karoo.co.uk or Rev. Janet Whelan on 01482 629618, email revjanetwhelan@gmail.com

MWiB York & Hull District Summer Evening Event is at Toll Gavel United Church, Beverley, HU17 9AA, on Friday June 17th. The Buffet begins at 5 p.m. and the After Tea Speaker will be Deacon Jill Taylor from Hull. Tickets are £5, available from Anne Kirkman, tel. 01723 516239.



Messy Church

Messy Church this month is on Thursday, June 30th at 3.15 p.m. The theme is "Jesus said 'I am the Way'".

It starts with drinks and snacks, followed by a short time of worship, and craft work based around the theme for the day. Everyone is welcome—it isn't just for children, so do come along and join the fun!

Miss Margaret Clark

1920 – 2016

Margaret Clark was born in what was then West Hartlepool on September 12th 1920. She was the only child of Robert and Florence Clark. She said that her desire to become a missionary began in childhood, and her mother and father, who was Circuit Secretary for Overseas Missions, willingly and unselfishly supported her in this vocation. During her youth she was a member of the Girls' League, through which she met many missionaries and members of overseas churches.

At the age of 18, she went to St. Hild's College, Durham, to train to be an Infant Teacher. She expressed her wish to train to be a missionary, but the war intervened, so she taught in West Hartlepool, where she also helped to run a canteen for servicemen at Wesley Church. Subsequently, she went to Kingsmead College in Birmingham, for 6 months' training to be a Methodist Missionary.

In 1946, she was posted to Gambia, where she taught at the Bathurst Methodist Girls' High School. In another posting she was the only white woman in the town where she was Principal of a College for girls aged 16-28, the two nearest towns to shop (except for the local market) being 80 or 120 miles away. She transferred to Umuahia Women's Training College in Nigeria in 1953, teaching Infant Method and Needlework, and later as Bursar. She spent six years there, and when she left, the letter of appreciation from the Governors cited her "wisdom and common sense" and her "evangelistic zeal".

While there, she began a Mobile Bookshop, selling Christian books at low cost to outlying areas, and organising audio-visual and literature conferences and workshops, from 1953 to 1962, travelling with a Nigerian driver. She was also involved in various literature campaigns.

Margaret returned to England to spend three years as Secretary to the J.M.A. in London, finally returning to Hartlepool to care for her elderly parents, and to resume teaching in the town. She lodged her papers pertaining to her time in West Africa with the Centre for the Study of World Christianity at the University of Edinburgh.

In 1982, after the death of her mother, Margaret moved to Northallerton, and participated fully in the life of the Methodist Church there, being particularly involved in the Women's Work division of the Overseas Missions.

Her final move, in 2008, was to Priceholme Care Home, where she continued her involvement in fundraising for the Methodist Church and its Overseas Missions with recycling of Christmas and birthday cards. She maintained her connection with colleagues she had met at every stage in her life almost to the end. She must have been very pleased when she eventually possessed a passport which gave her profession as "Missionary" rather than "Teacher".

However, friends and family were far from neglected. She completed two family trees, one for each side of her family, going back more than 200 years, including information about many individuals. She kept up a lively correspondence with contacts old and new. By the end of her life there was hardly any space left in her address book, though sadly many entries had been annotated when the person had died. She also had innumerable photos to remind her of the many members of the family she was in touch with, and also her past experiences and meetings.

In her room, after she died, a bookmark was found with the words "To stay youthful, stay useful", a motto which Margaret had clearly followed during her long and fulfilling life.

Our thanks to Margaret's family for the story of her life.

Encountering Spirituality

from Rev. Emma Morgan

During Lent our Bible Study came under the umbrella of Encountering Spirituality. Those of us who were able to meet grew in our faith together and often had more questions than answers. We had a place, a time and a space to meet which was safe. In this place we had the confidence to ask questions and we didn't always have a complete answer, but we could ask our questions. It was good to share together and to listen to one another.

In June we have a further opportunity for Encountering Spirituality through Sunday worship and Tuesday evenings. We have a number of invited speakers coming to share with us. Sunday worship will include three consecutive afternoon services at 4.30 p.m. followed by faith tea with Northstead, Scalby and Wreyfield Drive hosting one each. Our Sundays are accompanied with a Tuesday evening session, 7 to 8.30 p.m. Refreshments will be served followed by an invited speaker.

The Programme is:

Sunday June 12th, 4.30pm at Northstead – Worship led by Mrs Diane Robinson, speaker Revd. Graham Peacock, Chaplain for Mental Health

Tuesday June 14th, 7 – 8.30 p.m. at Scalby Methodist Church, Mrs Christine Herbert: Encountering Spirituality at St. Catherine's Hospice

Sunday June 19th, 4.30pm at Scalby – Mrs Christine Herbert

Tuesday June 21st, 7 – 8.30 p.m. at Northstead - Rev. Graham Peacock: Encountering Spirituality in Mental Health

Sunday June 26th, 4.30 p.m. at Wreyfield Drive – Rev. Emma Morgan

Tuesday June 28th, 7 – 8.30 p.m. at Wreyfield Drive –
Bernie Brown: Encountering Spirituality through a Dementia
Friendly Awareness Session

We do hope as many of you as possible can join us for some
or all of the sessions.

A Prayer for Dementia Awareness Week

We pray for all whose lives have become a battleground,
fighting against memory loss and the onset of dementia -
struggling to remember loved ones and neighbours,
forgotten names and places, simple words and phrases,
losing awareness of a world of which they no longer feel a part.

And for families who grieve for the loss of one they love -
not the stranger sitting beside them, but the person he or she
once was.

Compassionate God, hold them, shelter them within your
loving arms, until they are finally welcomed into your heavenly
home.

Amen.



Coffee at Scalby

Our Scalby friends invite us to their
monthly Coffee Morning, at 10 a.m. on
Saturday, June 4th. This month they are
supporting Operation Christmas Child
Shoebox Appeal.

As usual, there will be cake, book and
Fairtrade stalls, and a warm welcome, so do
come along and give your support. It's always good to see
plenty of Northstead folk there!

What's the Property Fund for?

At our General Church Meeting, we agreed to give our usual annual donation to the Methodist Church Property Fund. Not being sure what the Property Fund does, I was interested to read items in a recent edition of "One Mission Matters", the Church's Mission magazine, about churches that have used grants from the Fund to good effect.

West End Methodist Church in Stoke-on-Trent converted a derelict pub into a church and community centre. They run a busy food bank, and "Bread Church" meets once a month to bake bread, one loaf to take home and one to give away to a friend or stranger. All sorts of people come in to bake, share stories and learn a new skill. One man was amazed to know that some of those baking and laughing together were Christians, because they were having so much fun!

In December they turned their 27 windows into an Advent calendar with angels and stars, and had families and dog walkers pausing outside each day to see what new image was lit. The art and creativity involved have brought people together in new ways, and the local police have commented on a drop in crime levels since the church opened last January!

The members praise God that they have been plunged into new kinds of ministry and new opportunities.

Members of Welshpool Methodist Church in mid-Wales found that their building was being used by the local community to such an extent that groups had to be turned away for lack of space. In 2012, they embarked on the "Embracing All" project. A new meeting room has been created on the first floor, with a lift for those with mobility problems, using a grant from the Property Fund. A parking bay was created close to a new ramped entrance for wheelchair users.

Catering activities have become a successful means of outreach. Monday coffee mornings, Thursday Open Church, Friday Seniors afternoon tea and Saturday Friendship lunches attract non-churchgoers, especially the elderly, lonely and more vulnerable residents, who appreciate a listening ear, as well as good food, in a safe environment.

Plans for 2016 include extending the café opening hours and introducing a lunchtime drop-in session. They are proud to say that their church is not just for Sundays!

A Snippet from Yorsay

The magazine of the York and Hull Methodist District

I read recently on Social Media an item that got me thinking. You may have seen it?

On Easter Sunday a man was walking through his town and he saw a Hindu lady who regularly sold the Big Issue on that spot. They greeted each other and she said to him “Happy Easter, Happy Easter”. This made him think that towns twin with each other. Why not churches of different denominations and faiths do the same? He put it to his Church Council – he is still waiting for them to look at it, behind how many coat hooks should be installed in the Gents Toilets etc. !!!!!!!

For your Diary!

On Sunday, July 3rd at 3 p.m. there will Circuit Services at Fylingthorpe (all age) and Robin Hoods Bay (Taize style), followed by tea and cakes.

The welcome service for Rev. Jane and Deacon Andrew Carter will take place on Friday, September 2nd at 6.30 p.m. at St. Hilda’s Church, West Cliff, Whitby. Refreshments will be served from 5.30 p.m.

Light Lunches

Churches around Barrowcliff invite you to a Light Lunch on the last Tuesday of the month, 28th June, from 12 noon to 1 p.m. for soup, cake and a short Thought for the Day.

If you are interested in providing soup or serving lunch, please contact Eileen Lane, tel. 374209, or Emma Morgan, tel. 361214.

Films at St Mark's

Film nights continue on a monthly basis at St Mark's Church. The next one is at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, June 14th, when they are showing "Brooklyn". On July 12th, the film will be "The Danish Girl".

A Prayer for Summer

As we rejoice in summer recreation,
bless, loving God, those whose lives feel destroyed.

As we find a stillness for rest and refreshment,
**bless, loving God, those whose lives are defined by
relentless care.**

As we delight in new places visited on holiday,
**bless, loving God, those imprisoned by poverty of
wealth or ambition.**

As we find adventure in activities both fun and frightening,
**bless, loving God, those for whom illness and
incapacity have become barriers.**

As we find refreshment from routines and daily rituals,
**bless, loving God, those whose lives can never find free
space or time.**

Amen.

Praise Midweek

In case you missed it at the General Church Meeting, please note that Praise Midweek is continuing on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at Northstead, organised by Gill, Annie and Sandra from Wreyfield, and Helen from Northstead. We start at 7.45 p.m. with refreshments and worship begins at 8 p.m. and finishes about 9 p.m. Why not take advantage of the light evenings, and join us?

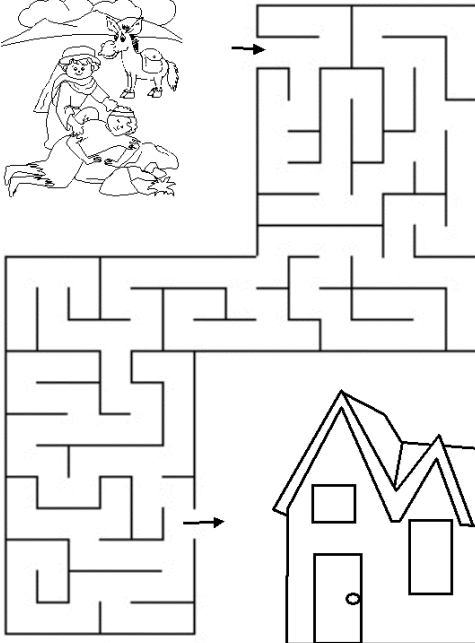
We had a lovely time of worship together on May 18th, on the theme of "Families". The service on June 15th will be around the theme of "Water". There will be a meeting to plan this at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 1st at 132 Briercliffe, the home of Gill Kirby, and any ideas for worship songs or readings on this theme will be very welcome.

Regular Events

Alternate Mondays, 7.30 p.m.	Singing for Fun (6th and 20th June)
Tuesday, 9.30 a.m.	Pop-in for coffee and a chat.
Wednesday, 6.15 p.m. 7.30 p.m.	Brownies. Guides.
Thursday, 9.30 a.m. 1.45 p.m. 3.15 p.m. 7.30 p.m.	Parents and Tots. Keep-fit Group. Messy Church (monthly, 30th June) Badminton Club.
Friday, 6 p.m. 6.30 p.m.	Rainbows. Brownies.

Children's activities take place during term time only.

Children's Page

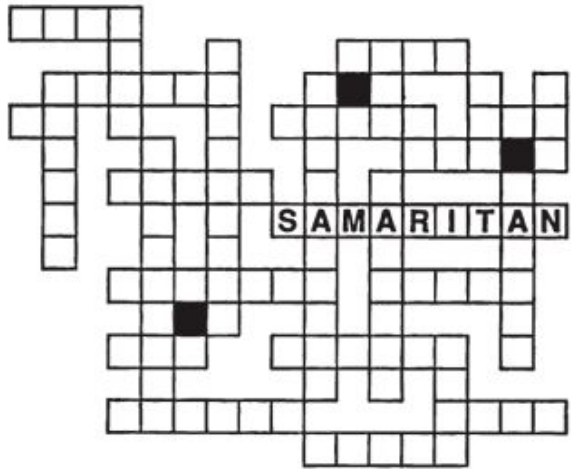


Read the story of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:25—37.

Then help the Samaritan find shelter for the injured man.

Fit these words from the story into the crossword puzzle.

ALL SOUL
 WOUNDS
 LAW DEAD GO
 LOOKED SIDE
 GOD BOUND
 THIEVES LIFE OIL
 BEAST INN MERCY
 TWO PENCE
 RAIMENT LAWYER DO LOVE COMPASSION
 JERUSALEM NEIGHBOUR LEVITE PRIEST



Diary Dates

- Sat. June 4th, 10 a.m. Coffee Morning, Scalby Church.
Sun. June 5th, 10.30 a.m. All-age worship, Rev. E. Morgan.
Sat. June 11th, 6 p.m. Safari Supper,
starting at Scalby Church.
Sun. June 12th, 10.30 a.m. Morning worship, Rev. E. Morgan.
4.30 p.m. Encountering Spirituality,
Northstead Church.
Tues. June 14th, 7 p.m. Encountering Spirituality,
Scalby Church.
Wed. June 15th, 7.45 p.m. Praise Midweek.
Fri. June 17th, 5 p.m. MWiB Summer Evening,
Toll Gavel Church, Beverley.
Sun. June 19th, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion, Rev. B. Russell.
4.30 p.m. Encountering Spirituality,
Scalby Church.
Tues. June 21st, 7 p.m. Encountering Spirituality,
Northstead Church.
Sun. June 26th, 10.30 a.m. Morning worship, Rev. R. Coles.
4.30 p.m. Encountering Spirituality,
Wreyfield Drive Church.
Tues. June 28th, 12 noon Light Lunch,
Wreyfield Drive Church.
7 p.m. Encountering Spirituality,
Wreyfield Drive Church.
Thurs. June 30th, 3.15 p.m. Messy Church.
Sat. July 9th, 10 a.m. Strawberry Coffee Morning.
Sat. July 23rd, 10 a.m. Mission Coffee Morning,
15 Newlands Park Avenue.

All the above events take place at Northstead,
unless otherwise stated

Next News

The next Northstead News will be issued around June 26th. Please pass any items to be included to Ros by June 19th.

Our newsletter costs about 37p per copy to produce. Your gifts to cover this cost are always welcome.