



**Keswick Methodist Church**  
I lift up my eyes to the hills.....

Southey Street, CA12 4HH

# ***NEWSLETTER***



*Photo: Helen North*

# **July & August 2016**

## Minister's Letter



I had a week away in Derbyshire recently, part of it spent with friends and family at the Cliff College Festival enjoying some inspiring bible studies, and preaching and catching up on news.

Following the festival myself and 2 friends remained in Derbyshire touring the area. One of the places we visited was the Heights of Abraham at Matlock Bath. As some of you may know, to get to the Heights of Abraham you either walk up a very steep and long pathway or use the cable car – we chose the cable car!



As we travelled up, the view from the cable car was magnificent, you could see for miles looking out across the

countryside but you could also look down on what was happening on the ground below, people going about their daily business and getting on with their lives oblivious to the fact that they were being watched from up above.

Reflecting on my trip in the cable car and what I could see, caused me to think about how important it is that we sometimes step back and look at what is going on around us and in our personal lives from above (metaphorically speaking of course!) We need to give ourselves time to think about decisions we need to make without being influenced by others. We need to look at the bigger picture to see what is going on.

We live in a world that is increasingly in turmoil. Pressure can come upon us in the family, in marriage relationships, in friendships, in the work place, and even in the church, and from other Christians individually. The world itself is in constant threat of wanting to “self-destruct” because of the hatred (and often it is religious hatred) that abounds. For those of us seeking to trust God and his direction, it is very important that we continually are encouraged to keep our focus and mind on “the bigger picture.”

It is so easy to be influenced by the problem at hand, that nasty piece of criticism, or that well-meaning Christian who cannot see the real desire and motivation of why we want to go down a particular route. If we focus in on the immediate, or that one particular problem, we are likely to become engulfed with a mentality that will eventually make us give up and prevent us from fulfilling the vision which God has given to us.

When we see the bigger picture we need to be realistic enough to know that if we are going to accomplish great things, then we are going to encounter obstacles. These things can affect us in one of two ways. We can either allow them to impact us

in a negative way, or we can learn from them and spur us on to even greater things. When the negatives come we need to recognise that it is God's call and vision we are pursuing, then we can see negative things can be turned into "stepping stones" rather than the bigger picture and those present, temporal, and even than "stumbling blocks".

Romans 8. 28 – 31 states:

*"We know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose . . . What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"*

To know the reality of these verses, we have to be seeing the bigger picture as we move forward in the vision we have for our church here in Keswick

*Every blessing*  
*Sue*

## **SUMMER SONGS OF PRAISE**

*We are invited to join with our friends at*

*Grange* on Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> July at 3pm in the Chapel

*Bassenthwaite* on Sun 7<sup>th</sup> August at 6.00 pm on The Village Green



## Church Family News



Many Congratulations to Helen and Richard North on completing the Coast to Coast Walk from St Bees to Robin Hood's Bay this May. 192 miles. (plus blisters!)

We are pleased to hear that several of our members have now returned to their homes after the flood and trust it will not be too long before those still waiting are also back at home.

Understandably it also takes a little while to have everything up and running as you wish it to, even when you once more take up residence or have necessary work completed.

We wish Margaret Bamber well in her new flat at Homethwaite House after a successful move in June.

There are a few of our members who have hospital appointments at the moment. We send them our love, best wishes and prayers. We remember also in our prayers all those who are generally unable to worship with us at this present time including: Freda and Wilf Chambers (see below), Greta Grave, Olive Holland, Sylvia McNae, Anne Proctor, Cecilia Spencer, Adrian Thwaite, Nora Walton, and Eileen Witherington.

On a personal note, Roy and I celebrate our Golden Wedding Anniversary on 23<sup>rd</sup> July! We give thanks to God for 50 wonderful years in the service on 7<sup>th</sup> August. We are also holding an *At Home* at our house at 38 Briar Rigg on 23<sup>rd</sup> July from 10am to 4pm. Do please drop in at any time if you can, for a cup of tea / coffee and a chat to help us celebrate the day. We would love to see you, at 38 Briar Rigg, (though no presents please, just yourselves!).

*Joyce Ellis*

## Dates for your Diary

**Sun 3 July 3.00pm**

*Songs of Praise* at Grange (this is 1 of 2 services we have in the chapel at Grange each year)

**Sat 16 July 6.00pm**

Doug Horley Children's event at Christ Church Cockermouth

**Sat 23 July 10-4pm**

*At Home* at Roy & Joyce's (38 Briar Rigg)

**Mon 8 – Fri 8 Aug – Sat. 13 Aug**

Knitted Bible Exhibition at Church

**Mon 5 Sept 7.30pm**

Local Preacher's Meeting at Cockermouth

**Sat 10 Sept 10-4pm**

Synod at Cockermouth. Help will be needed with refreshments

**Sun 11 Sept 7.30pm**

*Behind the Mask* – Theatre by Lake

**Thurs 15 Sept 7.30pm**

Circuit Meeting at Bassenthwaite

**Sat 17 Sept 10-4pm**

*Rooted and Grounded in Prayer* – a taster day at Ambleside Church Centre organised by Churches Together in Cumbria  
(see details on Church noticeboard)

**Wed 2 Nov 2.00pm**

Church Council



## **Keswick Convention** **16 July – 5 August**

God has one main purpose for his people: that we should become like his Son.

Christlikeness is something he planned from the beginning and will one day finally complete. But now we are in the process of change, becoming more like Jesus Christ.

Keswick 2016 will inspire us with the goal to become like Christ and to live an authentic Christian life that provides a credible witness to the gospel we proclaim.

There are lots of interesting seminars, bible studies and events over the three weeks. See details on the poster or leaflets in the Grisedale Room. This is a great resource – and it is on our doorstep!

### **SUNDAY EVENING HOUSEGROUP**

We meet on a Sunday evening at 7pm at 38 Briar Rigg. We usually start with one of the group playing a favourite piece of music and another bringing a prayer. We close our evening with tea, coffee and informal chat. New members are always welcome – why not give us a try and come along?

Our programme for the next 2 months is:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> July            ***How my faith has shaped my life***  
                         Sally Lunson
- 17<sup>th</sup> July           **Housegroup Communion**
- 31<sup>st</sup> July           **Summer Barbeque at 6.30pm**
- 7<sup>th</sup> August        **Informal evening**
- 21<sup>st</sup> August       **Informal evening**

If you would like a lift please see Roy or Joyce Ellis (73340)



## Keswick Methodist Church Redevelopment Update



## Keswick Methodist Church Redevelopment and Fundraising

We've recently had a busy few weeks fundraising! On Saturday 21 May 7pm **Penrith Methodist Church Choral Group** performed in our church before a small, but appreciative, audience. This event raised £130 after expenses were taken out.

Then on Saturday 11 June 10am–4pm was our first **Table Top Sale** and part of a very busy day. Refreshments were available all day with the addition of soup at lunchtime. Although few tables were booked by people outside the church we raised £243. In the evening **The Dalesmen Singers** Male Voice Choir sang from 8pm, bringing us a varied programme which the larger audience appreciated. After expenses a total of £447.50 was raised to be split between the Keswick Lions/Rotary Flood Relief Fund (£223.75) and our Vision 21 Project (£223.75).

We'd like to thank all those who gave of their time to organise the arrangements and to bake beforehand and those who were there on the day. Those who helped enjoyed meeting people and working together. Perhaps you'd like to join us to help at our next event – there's room for more!

Our next two exciting events are during the Convention and immediately after. Both events require input from us all. During the **Convention** we're offering **Coffees and refreshments** to all on Monday to Friday of each of the three weeks. The hall will be used during weeks 1 and 3 while we'll be outside the front of the church on Southey Street during week 2 as Prospects are using the hall. Please put your name on the list in the Grisedale Room and come and share your skills.

Immediately after the Convention on 8-13 August 10am-4pm and Tuesday & Thursday evenings, 9 & 11 August 6-8pm we'll be hosting the **Knitted Bible Exhibition**. We need people to set up, supervise the exhibition, provide refreshments and dismantle the exhibition. Again a list will be up in the Grisedale Room for you to sign up.

Then there's another big event on Sunday 11 September at 7.30pm. This one doesn't need us to do anything except buy tickets and encourage others to do the same, then turn up at the Theatre by the Lake and enjoy a first class show! See the separate article about **Behind the Mask**.

As well as volunteering your time to help where appropriate you can also encourage your friends to come along and support us while enjoying the events.

### **STOP PRESS**

You will remember that it was mentioned in the last issue about our grant application having been submitted to the Methodist Church. We have **JUST** heard this week that they have awarded us **£100,000** with the possibility of more if necessary. We praise God for this result and move forward with other grant applications and getting planning permission for the work. Please continue to hold this project before God in prayer.

David Hasson : Chair of Fundraising Group 017687 75818

## *Voices from the Congregation*

**Kim Moses**



### **Can you tell us something about your early life?**

I was born and raised in Lancaster and spent all of my very happy childhood there with my mum, dad and sisters. I am the third of four girls. My dad wasn't yet a Christian when I was young but I remember mum always taking me and my sisters to church. I remember that she made all four of us wear matching dresses and pigtails for church and I hated it because I would much rather wear boy's clothes- which I did the rest of the week! Mum was a local preacher in the Methodist church for many years, and church was always a large part of my life.

### **How and when did you come to faith?**

It's very tricky for me to answer this question because I genuinely can't remember a time when I have ever doubted that God was real and that he loved me, even when I went through hard times as a kid. Although I have always had a faith of some kind, there have been times where I have changed the way I think about certain things or begun to understand things better, those are the big changes I can remember.

### **What was your first job?**

My first job was when I was 16 years old, in a local shop called "Double Two" which rented out video's and DVD's. I remember I earned £25 pounds a week because I used to put £2.50 into the church collection every week and I felt very proud of myself!

## **Tell us something about your family**

My husband is Moses (who you already know!) and we have three children; Joshua (7), Jessica (5) and Jonah (3) who are very lovely and very noisy! Moses and I are both still very close to our extended families in England and in India, and we catch up with them all as much as possible.

## **How has your faith developed?**

As I grew up in the church and began to attend church youth club, my leader really encouraged us all to seek to discover our own gifts or calling. I don't remember how exactly it happened but when I was about 12 years old I was asked to give a 'mini sermon' at one of the youth services that we did for the church. From that time I was always asked to do that job, mostly because other people were generally pleased to not have to do it, I think! Through these services, and also through my own study at home, I realised how much I loved God's Word. I also found that the more that I explored and understood, the more I felt closer to the Lord and felt like I got to know Him better; this intense exploration of the Bible helped my faith to develop and grow like no other time before (or probably since!) I don't remember the thought ever occurring to me, I just remember always wanting to go to a bible college of some sort and continue to learn more about God. I did RE at A Level and then, as soon as school finished, I applied for places at several bible colleges. I liked the feel of Cliff College in Derbyshire best and was accepted straight away, so I ended up there at the age of 18. I began in the September and Moses (who was then in his 4th year studying for an MA) decided (yes, *decided!*) we were an official 'couple' in the November! And the rest is history!

## **When did you first become involved with the Methodist Church at Southey Street?**

I first became involved at Southey Street in September 2014 when Moses started working as the Circuit Church and Family Worker. We have just found out that he has been accepted to train part-time as a student presbyter and that the circuit are happy to keep him working here part-time- so it looks like you're all stuck with us for the next three years!

## **Do you have any particular likes or dislikes?**

I like reading, I like painting and drawing, I like to sing, and I like to write. But to be honest, I have very little time for these things at the moment because life is busy and the kids are young! I dislike scary films and ironing!

## **What do you do in your spare time?**

If the kids are off school, we go to the park, ride bikes, draw or build Lego. If Moses and I have a free evening we usually sit and watch a film together, or if Moses is out I would probably read a book. Maybe that sounds a bit ordinary, but it's lovely doing things like that when you've got three busy children around most of the time, they feel like really precious moments!

## **Do you have a favourite hymn?**

I love 'And can it be' by Charles Wesley because the words still amaze me every time I sing it. I also love 'Because he lives' by Bill and Gloria Gaither, which I chose for my baptism when I was 17, just because I didn't know what my future would bring, but I trusted the Lord. Then it became even more special to us when we were in hospital with Josh a few years later. Especially verse two and the chorus which say

*“How sweet to hold a new-born baby,  
and feel the pride and joy he brings.  
But sweeter still the calm assurance,  
this child can face uncertain days  
because He lives.  
Because He lives I can face tomorrow,  
because He lives all fear is gone,  
because I know He holds the future,  
and life is worth the living just because He lives.”*

## **What are your hopes for the future?**

I hope that my children will come to know the Lord, to really know Him and to want to follow Him, in whatever way is right for them. I also hope that Moses and I will be used by God in the future, to bless people and to show them how much God cares for them.



## Christian Aid Week in Keswick 2016

Several members of our church collected from house to house or in the street while others baked cakes, helped to serve at the coffee morning or counted the money at the end of the week.

The amounts raised (to the nearest £10) this year were:

	£
House to house collection	3300
Street collection	400
Keswick coffee morning	300
Threlkeld ceilidh	490
Braithwaite collection	240
Methodist Jazz service collection	580
St John's Jazz service collection	<u>310</u>
TOTAL	£ <u>5620</u>

Last year the total was £6230. The reduction is mainly because we had fewer collectors for the house to house collection this year.

**Thank you** to everyone who helped. All the money raised will go to help people in 50 of the poorest countries to work their way out of poverty.

*Roy Ellis*



# The Knitted Bible

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> – Sat 13<sup>th</sup> August

Come and meet David and Goliath, Jonah and the Whale, Jacob, Moses, Daniel and many more Bible characters! Find the ladybirds in the Ark, see Lazarus in his grave clothes, marvel at the Golden Calf!



*Moses*

The Knitted Bible has been travelling the UK since 2008! Hartlepool URC started knitting at the end of February 2008 and only intended to create the scene of The Last Supper, but enthusiasm and imagination combined to make them more ambitious! Their hope is that in depicting some of the best-known stories in the Bible, everyone who sees them will be able to understand and enjoy them – and may discover some detail that they had forgotten or never noticed before – whilst learning more about God and his love for this world and its people.

We've been fortunate to book the exhibition for Vision 21 at Keswick Methodist Church early in August. The church will be home to 33 different stories from the Bible, brought to life through three-dimensional knitted figures and models.



*The Last Supper*

The exhibition will be open to the public from Monday 8 August until Saturday 13 August. Opening hours will be 10am-4pm and Tuesday 9 & Thursday 11 August 6-8pm (other times by appointment). Entrance is free but donations will be welcome and printed guides will be available at 50p. And a visit can be rounded off with a cup of tea or coffee and cake!

Well worth a visit – 33 Bible scenes brought to life in wool!

Anne Hasson (017687 75818 or [annehasson@aol.com](mailto:annehasson@aol.com))

***Explore here to catch up with what else is happening in the Circuit or in the town:***

***Churches Together in Keswick  
Website***

**[www.ctik.org.uk](http://www.ctik.org.uk)**

***Circuit Website***

**[www.kcmethodists.org.uk](http://www.kcmethodists.org.uk)**





Our church continues to give good support to the Foodbank. Some people bring an item or a few items of food every week and others have given money to the foodbank. This is useful as the Foodbank can then go and buy any particular items which they are short of.

The Foodbank is still feeding about 500 people a month. At the end of July they will also start their '*Holiday Lunchpacks 4 Kids*' programme. Families whose children get free school meals are given vouchers by the school. They bring those vouchers to the Foodbank each week and collect enough food to feed the kids during the six weeks of the summer holidays.

The Foodbank has just appointed (with funding from a charity) a part time Schools Worker who will go into schools to tell children about the work of the Foodbank.

### ***Testimonials***

#### *From Egremont*

A 31-year-old single female with three children has been finding it hard to find the finance to feed her family, and we have been able to provide her with food parcels, signposting for advice and also a cheery time when she visits.

We have been able to make a 39-year-old single male feel comfortable and welcome in the centre, and have been able to feed him on two occasions when he has had no money or anything to eat.

#### *From Wigton*

A young mum with a 10-year-old has been a frequent visitor to the Foodbank, she brings her younger son who heads straight for the toy box and we all love playing with him, he's a real happy chappy. She really appreciates the school lunch packs. Just before Christmas her partner left and she was left financially destitute. She got help and

advice about benefits from Croftlands and we were able to set her up with Foodbank parcels plus very welcome extras, plus some 'gifts' we managed to conjure up to make Christmas a little more festive.

### *New Life Church*

A young woman who had finished work and was waiting for benefits to be sorted out came in for a food parcel. She was so grateful and insisted on giving a pound towards Foodbank.

A lady who had been helped in the past came in and gave some money asking us to purchase the foods on the appeal that week.

***Don't forget, many items can be purchased from the Traidcraft stall.***

## ***Behind the Mask***

**A Show to remember!**

**Behind the Mask** is a slick professional entertainment providing two hours of classic musical hit songs from favourite shows. Everyone will know something!

The musical theatre quartet performing **Behind the Mask** includes our own *Helen Dalzell's daughter, Katie*, together with three other professional Cumbrian singers Clark Wilkinson, Conor Neaves and Zoe McSorley.

They're coming together for this very special one-off Gala charity performance in the Main House of Theatre by the Lake.

Accompanied by a live on-stage five-piece band, this concert will be a fabulous celebration of the best of musical theatre.

Hailed as "*Stunning*", "*Outstanding*" and "*A Show to Remember!*" by the press, this is one definitely not to miss!

In aid of our **Vision 21 redevelopment** appeal, tickets are on sale now at £12.50. Book your seat from Theatre by the Lake Box Office soon to be sure of a great evening! And bring your family and friends!

## News from the Traidcraft Stall



Many of you will have noticed that we have moved the Traidcraft Stall to a different position in the Grisedale Room and that it is now left out with some stock all the time. This means you can buy the items require whenever you at the church – not just on a designated Sunday morning. Please leave the money in the tin on the stall. We are also hoping to run the stall during Convention on the Sunday mornings when tea and coffee are being served.

Here is an extract from a recent letter from the Chief Director of Traidcraft:

*“This time last year we advised you that we’d suffered another year of trading loss. Our Traidcraft customers got right behind us... and we are confident that this year’s trading result will be much improved. We can tell you, for the first time in many years, we’ve seen Fair trader sales hold steady at £5.3 million. Thank you so much for everything you did during this especially difficult trading year for us.*

*Look out for Traidcraft’s campaign entitled Justice Matters. You know justice matters – that’s why Traidcraft does business differently; paying a fair price, being there for the long-term and helping businesses grow. That’s why Traidcraft works with some of the most marginalised small-scale farmers and artisans, helping them to produce more and feed their families.*

*Once again thank you for everything that you’ve done to help us move forward and making a difference. Together we will continue to make trade fairer for the world’s poorest producers who still desperately need our help.”*      Andy Biggs

*Joyce*

## **Rotas for July & August**

	<b>Preacher</b>	<b>Steward</b>	<b>Welcome</b>
July 3	Edwards (S)	Brian	Joyce E, Margaret
July 10	R.Ellis	Helen N	Kate, Anne
July 17	J.Ellis (Conv)	Sheila	ALL STEWARDS
July 24	Hasson (Conv)	Brian	ALL STEWARDS
July 31	Edwards (Conv)	Richard	ALL STEWARDS
August 7	J.Ellis (S)	Sheila	Joyce G, Margaret
August 14	R.Ellis	Anne	Helen, Richard
August 21	Sharpe	Christine	Kath, Joyce G
August 28	Edwards	Anne	Catherine, Michael

	<b>Tea/Coffee</b>	<b>Traidcraft</b>	<b>Counting</b>
July 3	Kate, David	Christine, Sylvia	Nigel, Anne
July 10	Sheila, Joyce G	---	Dave R, David L
July 17	Maureen B, Hilda, Maureen H, Wendy	Kate	Richard, Sheila
July 24	Kate, David L, Helen D, Maureen H	Joyce E	Dave R, Nigel
July 31	Ted, Jane, Maureen B, Hilda	Helen D	Richard, Joyce
August 7	Wendy M, Helen D	---	Ted, Harry
August 14	Ted, Jane	Joan R	Nigel, David L
August 21	Alan, Kath	---	Dave R, Anne
August 28	Maureen B, Hilda	Sylvia	David H, Joyce E

## **Flower Rota for July & August**

July 3	Helen Dalzell	August 7	Jane & Ted Holt
July 10	M & P Shortland	August 14	Edna Preston
July 17	Sally Lunson	August 21	Brian Moffatt
July 24	<i>Convention</i>	August 28	Hilda Daley
July 31	Margaret Bamber		



**Editor:** Rev Joyce Ellis 017687 73340 [joyce.ellis@zen.co.uk](mailto:joyce.ellis@zen.co.uk)

**The deadline for the September & October Newsletter is Sun Aug 14<sup>th</sup>.**

## Services for July & August

<b>July 3</b>	10.45am	Rev Sue Edwards	<i>Holy Communion</i>
<b>July 10</b>	10.45am 6.00pm	Roy Ellis Rev Joyce Ellis	<i>Morning Worship Healing Service</i>
<b>July 17</b>	10.45am	Rev Joyce Ellis & Jonathan Griffiths	<i>Convention Service</i>
<b>July 24</b>	10.45am	Rev David Hasson & Peter Maiden	<i>Convention Service</i>
<b>July 31<sup>st</sup></b>	10.45am	Rev Sue Edwards & David Jackman	<i>Convention Service</i>
<b>August 7</b>	10.45am	Rev Joyce Ellis	<i>Holy Communion</i>
<b>August 14</b>	10.45am 6.00pm	Roy Ellis Rev Joyce Ellis	<i>Morning Worship Reflective Service</i>
<b>August 21</b>	10.45am	David Sharpe	<i>Morning Worship</i>
<b>August 28</b>	10.45am	Rev Sue Edwards	<i>Morning Worship</i>

### Church Website

[www.keswickmethodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.keswickmethodistchurch.org.uk)

Have you visited the church website yet?  
Lots of information, photos etc  
*Do log on and see for yourself.*

**Minister:** Rev Sue Edwards 01900 823273  
susan\_edwards@hotmail.com

**Circuit Church & Family Worker:**  
Moses John 017687 72379  
mosesuk@hotmail.com

**Senior Steward:** Sheila Files 017687 79253  
sheila.files@btinternet.com