



Keswick Methodist Church

I lift up my eyes to the hills.....

Southey Street, CA12 4HH

NEWSLETTER



Photo: Brian Moffat

May & June
2017

Minister's Letter



Over these last few weeks, as I have been driving up and down the A66, I have been amazed at the number of lambs I have seen in the fields. There seem to be more than ever this year! Maybe it's because we have had some milder weather so the farmers can put the lambs out in the fields sooner, or maybe it's just that I have spent more time looking out for them because I love lambs! One of my aims before I leave Cumbria is to actually watch a lamb being born and I am feeling quite jealous of my daughter in law at the moment as she actually helped to deliver twin lambs last week!

I am writing this on the afternoon of Good Friday and so we haven't reached the joy of Easter Sunday just yet, but lambs in the fields speak to me of the wonder of life and all the possibilities that new life brings and I am grateful that we can draw on this richness of creation as a metaphor of what happens at Easter.



The new life of Easter gives us a hope which is not based on how we feel or what is going on around us but rather it is a hope based on Jesus and all that he accomplished through his death and resurrection. But having said that we do need to recognise that new life, that hope moving among us. So I wonder what new life we can see in our church?

For me personally, I can see new life in the church friends system, people caring for one another in ones and twos or small groups. I can see new life in the singing group where people meet together because they enjoy singing and learning new hymns to introduce to the congregation and enjoy fellowship with one another. I can see new life in the enthusiasm in the Sunday House Group. As well I can see the new life, in the dedication of the fundraising group as the hope for the redevelopment of the church building is coming to fruition, as we plan to start building after the convention. We give thanks to God as the money we needed has come in.

I wonder what signs of new life you can see, perhaps you would like to share them? I hope you all had a blessed Easter and as we approach Pentecost may we all become aware of the Holy Spirit moving amongst us and giving us direction and hope in all that we do.

Every blessing, Sue



Church Family News

We hope that you all enjoyed a Happy and Joyous Easter as we celebrated the Resurrection and that this Easter Season will be a blessed time for you all.

Congratulations to several of our members on recent achievements. Firstly to Kate Norburn and David Low for their magnificent work of raising £674 (including refreshments) with the Jigsaw Sale on 18th April. This of course for Vision 21. Secondly to Ros and Dave Roberts on becoming grandparents again to Anwen Rose and finally to Roy Ellis on completing his 3rd round of Wainwrights – and before his 75th birthday as well.

We were pleased to welcome Poppy Grace Johnson, daughter of Sharon and Paul on the occasion of her Baptism on March 26th, along with her family and friends.

We have also been delighted to welcome Sheila McNab (whom many of you will know as Fiona Overend's mum) into our congregation during the last few months. It is lovely to have her worshipping and sharing fellowship with us.

We hope that you all will enjoy the warmer summer months ahead including those of our members who are not generally able to worship with us. We remember in our prayers and send our best wishes to Freda & Wilf Chambers, Greta Grave, Alison Holden, Olive Holland, Sylvia McNae, Adrian Thwaites, and Eileen Witherington.

Joyce Ellis

Church Friends and Safeguarding:

Richard North is the Safeguarding Officer for the Church, & he will be inviting all Church Friends to attend a training session on Safeguarding. Some Church members who had done the course a few years ago, have already attended a refresher course. Please come along when the course is arranged. It is quite informal, & nothing to be worried about. Learning about issues we need to be sensitive to, when caring for others, is part of our responsibility. There will be coffee, tea & biscuits available. Why not come along with your Church Friends?

Sheila Files

Dates for your diary

Tues	2 nd May	10am	Worship Consultation in Grisedale Room
Sun	7 th May	7pm	Easter Offering Service at Bassenthwaite
Sat	13 th May	10-12noon	Christian Aid Coffee Morning (Parish Rooms)
Sun	14 th May	9.30am	<i>Jazz Service</i>
Tues	16 th May	12noon-4pm	MWiB Lunch & Speaker on Refugee Centre in Newcastle at Brampton Methodist Church
Sat	20 th May	10-1pm	Christian Aid Street Collection
Sun	21 st May	10.45am	Christian Aid Service
Fri	26 th May	7.30pm	<i>Fain in Concert</i> – see below
Fri	16 th June	10am-12 noon & 2-4.30pm	Coffee at Holly Bank in aid of Vision 21
Mon	19 th June	10am-3pm	Quiet day at Bassenthwaite
Sat	1 st July	7.30pm	<i>The Organist Entertains</i> with John Bromley

*** *Fain in Concert*** Friday 26th May at 7.30pm

Fain will perform a programme of Classical Folk and Celtic music.
Tickets £7 including refreshments.

Coming soon

Gordon Pickering is going to be organizing a concert in Bassenthwaite Village Hall sometime in the Autumn so watch out for details.

Concerts by the Wordsworth Singers

I have been asked to advertise the following.
More details on the notice board in the Grisedale Room.

Sunday 14 May, 7.00 pm, St John's Church, Keswick
JS Bach Mass in B minor

Friday 2 - Saturday 3 June

Bassenthwaite Festival with Ensemble Buxtehude, director David Gibbs

Keswick Methodist Church Redevelopment Update



We start again with a great piece of news, even greater than last time! We heard at the beginning of Holy Week that we are to receive a grant of £43,000 from Methodist Insurance. This guarantees that we will have enough money to proceed so long as all promises made are fulfilled and there hasn't been too large of an increase due to inflation. The other uncertainty of course is what the estimates will be once the tenders are received. These cannot be asked for until after a special church council has given the go ahead.

The other piece of good news is that our planning application has been successful. These positive outcomes have led us to provisionally fix the date of the service when we will move from the church into the hall. This is likely to be on Sunday 13 August. We have begun to prepare for worshipping in the hall. You will notice that a projector and monitor have been installed. The two weeks after the 13th will be spent removing pews and anything else we want out of the church and into store which will be like getting 4 litres into a 2 litre container only more difficult. If you can help in any way, even feeding hungry workers, it would be very much appreciated. Please let David know.

Some members of the fund raising group have been visiting other redeveloped churches for ideas. These have been shared with Paul Grout our architect. In response to these, plans have been amended to better reflect our needs. The changes can be seen on the plans on display in the Grisedale Room and the Hall. In brief the doors between the worship space and hall are being replaced by a sliding laminated soundproof partition which is easily handled. When open this is stored in sections against the wall beside the toilet extension. This has meant moving the door from the hall to the corridor more into the middle of the wall and moving the external fire exit to match with this. Therefore the 4 toilets now have two either side of the emergency exit.

We also realized that the existing thoughts about the flooring would leave some of the gratings in the worship area so have decided to replace all the flooring. Most of it was being replaced anyway, and this will allow underfloor heating throughout. The porch where the main entrance is to be will be removed and replaced with a slightly larger one with new external doors and glass inner ones. Directly opposite this will be a new vestry slightly larger than the porch. Between the two will be an area which abuts further into the worship space than the vestry and porch and this will be separated from the worship area by a glass door. A light wood will be used for constructing these which will match the lamination on the partition.

There will, or will have been, depending upon when you read this, a discussion at the Annual Church Meeting about the redevelopment. This will be, or will have been, a chance for you to have an input into what the scheme will finally look like.

Meanwhile fund raising goes ahead unchecked. The Organ Extravaganza was enjoyed by all who attended. Watching Paul's feet and hands operating the keys and pedals was amazing. We raised £138 on the evening. The Big Jigsaw Sale has also taken place raising £505 from Jigsaws, £50.50 from Bric a Brac and £68.85 from refreshments. Of course there have been some publicity costs. Thanks go to all those who helped and particularly to Kate whose idea and organization it was.

We are looking forward to Fain in Concert on 26 May which will be Classical Folk and Celtic music. Then John Bromley will be with us on Saturday 1 July with 'The Organist Entertains'. Both of these start at 7.30pm so please plan to be there and encourage your friends to come as every extra person is another £7 in the pot as tickets for the concerts will be £7 to include light refreshments. Buy your tickets in advance to help us get the catering right!

Another initiative is to distribute jars to all members so that you can collect your change in them. You can then bring them to the final service to add to our fund raising total. NOTE:- you are not limited to one jar please come back for more when the one you have is full.

David Hasson : Chair Fundraising Group

Visiting the Darul Amaan Mosque

On 29th March a group of about 40 people from the Churches Together in Keswick visited a Mosque in Manchester by invitation of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. This Muslim group had helped Keswick residents during the 2015 flood and had also organised a community dinner at St Herbert's School in October 2016.

Prior to the visit we had been invited to a talk by David Marshall at St John's Church 'Towards Understanding Islam'. The hand out gave us much background information about Islam and it was as if a study course had been condensed into 4 pages!

- Prophets are sent by God – Jesus is regarded as a Prophet with Muhammad as the last Prophet.
- Muhammad was born c570 in Mecca and after he moved to Medina Islam spread rapidly. He died in 632.
- Disputed succession to Muhammad led to the origins of the Sunni- Shi'i divide.
- The Qur'an is seen by Muslim's as a compilation of messages revealed by God to Muhammad.
- The messages were memorised and written down about 30 years later. The Qur'an is only the Qur'an in Arabic (in contrast to Bible translations).

The Ahmadiyya movement represents about 1% of the Islamic population – about 10/20 million people. It was founded in 1889 by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad and he was regarded by his followers as the Messiah and a Prophet. The Ahmadis have been relentlessly persecuted in Pakistan and have been under pressure from orthodox Muslim groups.

The Ahmadis have much missionary zeal and have established themselves in many countries. They place a high priority on the building of Mosques. The Darul Amaan Mosque, opened in 2012, is the second largest in Europe and has a capacity for a 1000 people.

We set off for Manchester on a grey day and on our arrival were given a warm welcome over coffee. At our table a young woman answered questions about her faith and told us that she broadcasts on Radio Manchester each month, where she again invited any questions.

We were then shown into a large hall space where there was an exhibition of Qur'ans and the surrounding wall space had modern banners giving information about the Muslim faith.

Lunch was then served in another hall. Preparations had began the previous day and the meal had then been cooked by men who also served the food. The hosts were so hospitable and the meal was delicious curry.



There was then a change to the programme and we all went with our hosts to a bridge over the Salford Quays where there was a minutes silence to remember the people killed in the terrorist attack in Westminster. The Ahmadiyya motto is '**Love for all, Hatred for None**'.

On our return to the Mosque we visited the separate prayer areas for men and women. We were told that members of any faith can pray at the Mosque. We had a question and answer session and were given information about the Ahmadis by the Mosque's Imam.

Canon Michael Webb gave a vote of thanks and the Keswick Mayor presented a slate etching to the Imam. The visit enabled us to learn a great deal about the Muslim faith and about the Ahmadis. They were so generous in their hospitality and made us very welcome and as part of their service to God they had helped our community.

Youth members of the Mosque are planning to hold a sponsored run in Keswick this summer to raise funds for flood relief.

Brian Moffat

Remembering

Ann Porter



Ann Porter and Joan Bailey came from the Wigton circuit and joined our church when they moved to Nether Place in Keswick 2 years ago. Although we have got to know Joan quite well we never really had the opportunity to know Ann due to her developing illness, and were sad to learn of her death at the beginning of the year. Joan, Ann's friend for many years, let me have a copy of the following article which appeared in the Cumberland News, and we reproduce it with permission.

Mother who devoted much of her life to the Guiding movement, reaching out to encourage and support young people

Ann Porter was a committed supporter of Girl Guiding and was instrumental in offering opportunities for development and confidence-building to many girls and young women in north Cumbria.

Ann was born on February 19, 1935 in Birmingham and died peacefully at Nether Place in Keswick on January 23, 2017 aged 81.

Ann grew up in Birmingham through the war years and later went to Roehampton College in London to train as a primary school teacher, before moving to Cumbria to take up her first teaching job. She married and brought up her three daughters Clare, Sarah and Judith in Cumbria and it was through them that she first became involved in Guiding.

Initially, she was a parent helper at the girls' Brownie pack. But her organisational skills and caring nature were quickly recognised and she was invited to train as a Brownie Guider with Welton Brownies. This was a surprise to her, as she had not been a Brownie or Guide herself. But she had attended scripture union camps as a teenager and later used some of the games and activities she learnt there at her own Brownie holidays.

Ann grew in self-confidence during her time in the Girls Guides and was happy to share her many and varied skills as part of her Guiding jobs. She became a trainer of Brownie leaders and through this was asked to take on the role of

region arts advisor for Girl Guiding North West England. During this time she represented the north-west at a conference in New Zealand then stayed on to train New Zealand guide leaders. She felt very honoured to be chosen for this international trip.

But she is best remembered in the north-west for organising an activity called "stagecoached". This was an event run over a weekend that gave hundreds of girls with no stage experience the opportunity to work together and produce a show, under the supervision of professional actors and musicians. The girls had to make the scenery, learn the music and speaking parts and put on the production, all over one weekend.

This seemingly impossible task allowed them to develop communication teamwork, self-confidence and artistic skills. Everyone who attended the weekend, either as a performer or as part of the audience, remembers the success of the production.

On completion of her term as arts advisor, she was invited to become County Commissioner for Girl Guiding Cumbria North. She was an extremely effective county commissioner due to her exceptional management and organisational skills, her sensible and practical approach to decision making and her extraordinary ability to empathise with the guiders and girls in her care. Many guiding friends remember with fondness how Ann invited them to supper, or presented them with a small gift, when they were feeling sad or lonely. When she completed her five year term as county commissioner in 1997 she was presented with the Laurel Award which is the highest award a guide leader can receive.

Soon after she retired from her job teaching adults with special needs, she started to look around for new ways to help those less fortunate than herself. Her deep Christian faith, which was always a key part of her life, then came to the fore, and she travelled to Tanzania for a one year placement teaching English to theological students. When she arrived her students were entirely men but word about the success of her lessons spread through the local community and many young women asked to join her class.

Ann was a truly kind and talented person but was always very private and modest. She made a positive difference to thousands of young people in Cumbria and beyond and will be sadly missed.

A service of thanksgiving attended by Ann's family and friends was held at Keswick Methodist Church on February 6, 2017

published in Cumberland News 3rd March 2017

SUNDAY EVENING HOUSEGROUP

We meet on a Sunday evening at 7pm at 38 Briar Rigg. New members are always welcome – why not give us a try ?

Our programme for the next 3 months is:

- 7th May 6pm We join the Circuit Easter Offering Service at Bassenthwaite
- 14th May ***How My Faith has Shaped my Life***
Rev Richard Teal (our Chair of District)
- 21st May ***John Wesley and his Mission*** - DVD
On Aldersgate Sunday we look at his life and work
- 4th June We join the Churches Together Service for Pentecost
- 18th June ***John Wesley and his Preaching*** - DVD
We look at the message of his sermons
- 2nd July ***Housegroup Communion***
- 16th July ***Summer BBQ***

If you would like more information please see Roy or Joyce Ellis (73340)

Easter Offering



The offerings in the envelopes from each church will be dedicated at a special Circuit Service on Sunday 7 May at 7pm at Bassenthwaite to which everyone is invited.

Easter Offering 2017. It's not too late to donate via the Easter Offering envelopes (available at church) to the Methodist World Mission Fund. Please consider prayerfully if you can donate to the Fund which supports the work of 65 partner churches outside Britain and Ireland.

Calling all Photographers

The I ♥ Keswick 2017 calendars were so successful that we're going to produce another one for 2018!

This one will cover a wider area and have the theme of I ♥ North Lakes. If you have any photos of the North Lakes area that you'd like considered for the calendar, please email them to Helen North. There's no guarantee your photo will be used – last year we had many excellent photos but far more than were needed! The photos should be digital (jpg, tiff, psd or raw) and landscape. The quality needed is at least mm 190 x 119/pixels 2244 x 1406 (300 dpi).

Please email it (them) to helen.north1@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Helen North(78025) & Anne Hasson(75818)

Midweek 'drop in'

Jubi-latte!

Thursdays

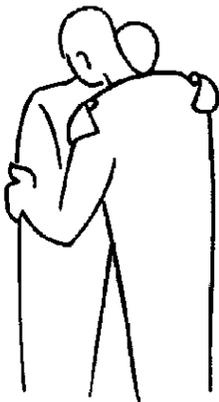
10.15am – 11.30am



***Churches Together in Keswick
Website
www.ctik.org.uk***

**Circuit Website
www.kcmethodists.org.uk**

TOUCHED BY GOD'S LOVE



The kiss of Christian love (1Peter 5.14)

A Quiet Day
At Bassenthwaite Methodist Church
Monday 19th June 2017, 10am – 3.30pm
led by Rev Joyce Ellis

The day will consist of 3 guided sessions of awareness exercises and meditation, with periods of free time for relaxation and quiet. We close with an informal Eucharist. The cost of the day will be £3. Please bring your own lunch; coffee and tea will be provided. If you would like to join us or would like more information please contact Rev Joyce Ellis (73340)



Christian Aid Week in Keswick

- Sat 13th May 10am – 12noon ***Coffee Morning with Cake Stall***
at Crosthwaite Parish Room
- Mon 15th onwards ***House to House Collections***
- Sat 20th May ***Christian Aid Street Collection***
in the town
- Sun 21st May 10.45am ***Christian Aid Sunday Service***

If you are able to:

Bake a cake for the coffee morning

Come to the Coffee morning

Deliver or collect envelopes for the House to House

Shake a tin on Saturday 20th

or help in any other way

please speak to Roy Ellis (73340)

Help at the coffee morning

please contact Margaret Purkiss (72797)

Christian Aid Prayer

Creator God, you loved the world into life.

*Forgive us when our dreams for the future are shaped by anything
other than glimpses of a kingdom of justice, peace
and an end to poverty.*



Christian Aid Week:

Standing with Refugees like Nejebar



Photo credit *Christian Aid*

Nejebar and her husband Noor. They thought they would be in the camp for 10 days, but it's already been six months and there's no end in sight.

Nejebar and her family have fled horrors in Afghanistan, where her husband was threatened with torture and death for being a government worker.

But now they've arrived in Greece, all they have is a tent. They have no other protection against wind and rain. There's no school for their five children. And they have no certainty or clear idea of what will happen to them now. They thought they would stay here for 10 days, but it's already been six months and there's no end in sight.

Nejebar's husband Noor describes their initial reaction to arriving in the camp in Greece: 'It was like suicide for us. But we took the decision that it is better to die here than to die there from war.'

You've helped us be there for refugees since 1945

Thanks to you, Christian Aid has been there for refugees like Nejebar since 1945, providing essential food, shelter and legal assistance for people far from home. And we still believe in life before death.

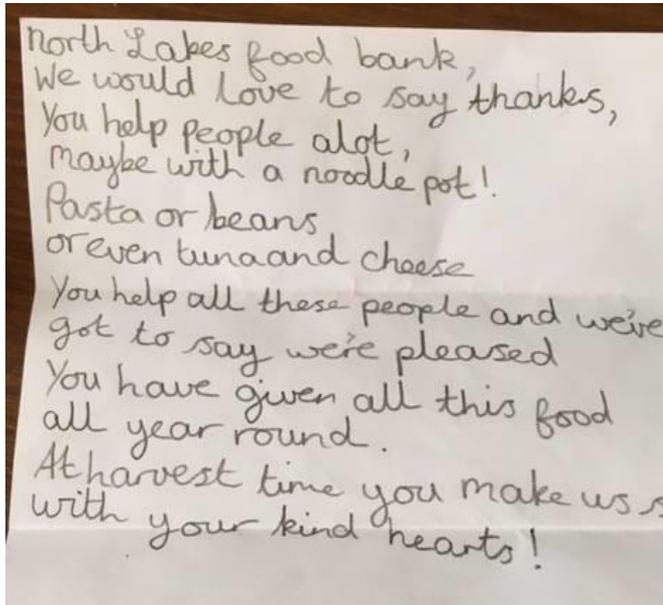
This Christian Aid Week, 14-20 May, our church is continuing to walk with refugees by the events listed elsewhere in the Newsletter. We're not going to turn our backs on refugees now. Please come and join us.

Roy Ellis



Jessie Hendry Gooding
Project
Manager 07502311452

Demonstrating the Christian values
of compassion, love & hope
Supporting our Community since
July 2009



*This was found within one of the amazing Harvest donations
(taken from the Foodbank website)*

We have recently used 10 tonnes of stock to pack our usual food parcels and our **Easter Holiday Lunch Packs 4 kids** to provide 320 families during the Easter holidays and 600 people needing 3 days emergency food during their crisis time.

We still need your help please to replenish the stocks as we are extremely low in our warehouse. The special appeal is for :

- ** Tinned fruit
- ** Tinned veg (especially tinned potatoes)
- ** Jam (not homemade)
- ** Pasta sauce
- ** UHT Milk (not skimmed)

Roy Ellis (73340)

More travels for the bag ...

Helen North reports:

The #lovekeswickbag is still enjoying racing up the Wainwrights! It summited Birkhouse Moor and Catstycam at 2917ft (the highest it has been in 2017 so far). It was very tempted by Swirral Edge to get up to Helvellyn, but chickened out!

Brian Moffat has also been globetrotting with the bag:



*Close encounters with
an American wolf at
Nashville North Carolina*

Photos: Brian Moffat

*And Close encounters
with a fish shoal at
Georgia Aquarium,
atlanta*



Rotas for May & June

	Preacher	Steward	Welcome
May 7	J. Ellis (S)	Richard	David & Anne
May 14	Edwards (Jazz)	Helen	ALL STEWARDS
May 21	R. Ellis (C.Aid)	Sheila	Kate, Anne
May 28	Jones	Anne	Kate & David
June 4	t.b.a.	Christine	Michael, Catherine
June 11	t.b.a.	Brian	Sheila, Helen
June 18	t.b.a.	Richard	Kate & David
June 25	t.b.a.	Helen	Michael, Catherine
	Tea/Coffee	Traidcraft	Counting
May 7	Kate & David	Sylvia	Sheila, David H
May 14	Wendy, Helen D, Sheila	---	Nigel, Dave R
May 21	Alan & Kath	Christine	David L, Joyce
May 28	Wendy, Helen D	---	David H, Dave R
June 4	Maureen B, Hilda	Sylvia	Richard, Dave L
June 11	Maureen H, Sheila	---	Joyce, Helen N
June 18	Kath, Alan	Helen D	Anne, Brian Mon
June 25	Ted & Jane	---	Roy, David L

Flower Rota for May & June

May 7	Margaret & Peter	June 4	Joyce Gray
May 14	<i>Jazz Service</i>	June 11	Harry Reynolds
May 21	Dilys Kennedy	June 18	Joyce Ellis
May 28	Joan Rutherford	June 25	Hilary Baslington



Editor: Rev Joyce Ellis
joyce.ellis@zen.co.uk

017687 73340

**The deadline for the next newsletter, which will be for July & August,
 is Sunday 11th June.**

Services for May and June

May 7	10.45am 7.00pm	Rev Joyce Ellis Easter Offering Service	Holy Communion At Bassenthwaite
May 14	9.30am	Rev Sue Edwards	JAZZ Service <i>Please note there is NO Reflective Service</i>
May 21	10.45am	Roy Ellis	Christian Aid
May 28	10.45am	Tori Jones	Morning Worship
June 4	10.45am	to be announced	Pentecost Holy Communion
June 11	10.45am 6.00pm	to be announced	Morning Worship Reflective Service
June 18	10.45am	to be announced	Morning Worship
June 25	10.45am	to be announced	Morning Worship

Church Website

www.keswickmethodistchurch.org.uk

Have you visited the new 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

