



**Keswick Methodist Church**

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

Southey Street, CA12 4HH

# ***NEWSLETTER***



*Photo: Tony Marsh*

Merganser at Manesty

# **July & August 2017**

## Minister's Letter



I begin this letter by saying a huge thank you to everyone who has sent good wishes and cards, visited me and prayed for me during these last weeks while I have been suffering from Bell's Palsy. I am pleased to say that the visible symptoms have improved immensely but not completely and so I need to be patient!

Because of the viral nature of this illness there are other symptoms which are not visible and one of these is a feeling of fatigue which was really bad for the first 2 weeks. This is greatly improved but I am still not feeling 100% and so I ask for your understanding as I continue to recover.

Being indisposed in this way, drew my thoughts to those words which we as Methodists say every year as part of the Covenant Prayer. – 'let me be employed for you or laid aside for you.' Sometimes through no fault of our own we are forced to stop and sit, to be laid aside.

As Christians that gives us time to focus our thoughts on God. I have found that I had to lay aside everything to do with my ministry for a short while - no thinking about what the next meeting was about, no checking my diary to see where and what I was doing next, no using my lap top for longer than a few minutes because the screen hurt my eye.

In laying all this aside I found that I was much more aware of being drawn closer to God especially through the music I had been listening to. Because the busyness had been taken away, space was made for God to draw close. Perhaps there is a lesson in that for us all – to make sure that we find time to lay everything aside, all the busyness, and turn our eyes and our minds to God and let him come in and fill that space.

*Every blessing,*

*Sue*

## Church Family News

We are so pleased to see increasing number of visitors joining us for worship on a Sunday morning. It is interesting talking to them and discovering where they come from and learning about their churches. And of course there are those who come to visit Keswick regularly and it is always good to welcome them back. This is an important part of our ministry which we have in this tourist town and it is good to see the whole congregation making our visiting friends so welcome.

We are delighted to hear that our minister Sue is gradually improving from her bout of Bell's Palsy. We are aware that this has been a difficult and uncomfortable time for her. We send her our love and pray that she will soon have made a complete recovery – although we know that it is always difficult to predict just how long that it will take to clear.

We offer our congratulations to Roy who will be receiving his certificate to mark 50 years as a local preacher in July. However, I know that many will be sad to learn that Roy now feels it is time for him to retire from taking services. Many of us feel that we have gained so much from his leading of worship and wish him well in his retirement.

Roy and I both became accredited local preachers at the same time, so it is my 50 years of preaching too. However, 30<sup>th</sup> June also marks 30 years since my ordination as a minister, and I feel it is a special time of celebration for me. I certainly feel very privileged in my ministry and thank God for the many blessings he showers on us all.

On 13<sup>th</sup> August we shall be welcoming Laura and David Barnes, their family and friends, as they bring their baby, Teddy James, for baptism by our minister Sue. We pray that it will be a time of blessing for all of 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*



## **Keswick Methodist Church Redevelopment Update – June 2017**

*Richard North*

Many thanks to everyone who has helped us raise over £500,000 towards our Vision 21 redevelopment project. When we launched Vision 21 in October 2015 our total looked a very distant objective but, with a lot of everyone pulling together (and prayer!) we are now nearly at our destination.

Our architect, Paul, updated us all on the latest ideas at the AGM. The Plans have now been agreed by the Church Council and they have now gone “out to tender” and we await the outcome. The final total needed will then be known so we need to keep fundraising to ensure that we can start everything on time. The aim is to start the building work in September so that we finish in June 2018.

The final thanksgiving service for the current church building will therefore be on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August led by Sue.

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*A message from the Leadership Team:*

### **Arrangements for the Preparation of the Church for Work to Begin**

Between our final service and the start of September, we will need to complete the setting up of the hall, which we will be using for worship throughout the building work. In addition, we will need to clear the church ready for the builders to start work.

As Sheila has already said in the weekly notices:

There are some items in church, which have plaques on, as they were given in memory of someone. The items, or the plaques, may have sentimental value for the families, if they can be traced. If anyone has an interest in these, or knows family members, please have a word with me.

- Table at the back of the communion area – In memory of Thomas Hurst.
- Light oak chair to the right of that table – In memory of Sarah Ann Hurst.
- Readers' lectern – In memory of Frank & Emily Hodgson.
- Two wall mounted bookcases – In memory of Mrs Duncan.
- One wall mounted book shelf – in memory of Mr J.W.Slee.
- Small pink quartz font – in memory of Miss Ruth Martin

Two opportunities will arise because of this:

1. There'll be opportunity to purchase items we need to dispose of, things like pews and incidental furniture.
2. The other opportunity will be for volunteers to help clear the body of the church, including any unloved items no one wants, and
3. For volunteers to keep everyone hydrated and full of energy by making tea and coffee and serving nibbles! Watch out for more information about this in the coming weeks!

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## Dance Show – Rising Stars

4.30pm Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July at Keswick School

by the Maria Frances School of Dance & MG Dance Academy



Tickets, £5 are available on a Friday at the Methodist hall between 4pm and 7.30pm or contact Miss Melanie on 07581483606 or [melaniegpreston@gmail.com](mailto:melaniegpreston@gmail.com)

We are very grateful to the Maria Frances School of Dance, who use our premises, for donating funds to Vision 21 from this show.



## *Keswick Convention 2017 Refreshments*

With the Keswick Convention 2017 (17 July -4 August) fast approaching, the time has come to put up the rota requesting your help to serve refreshments.

As well as being a great opportunity to continue our fundraising for Vision 21, it's also a key part of our church's mission to provide hospitality to visitors to Keswick and to show a loving and serving Christian presence in the community.

With that in mind, do please take time to have a look at your calendar /diary and put your name against as many slots as you can to join the team for what will be an enjoyable time of work, fellowship and outreach.

We've taken the 'brave' decision to serve refreshments both inside (in the hall) and outside (on Southey Street) for the whole of the three weeks, so there are even more slots to fill this year!



*Last year's stall outside the Convention*

If you feel unable to take part in the rota, then maybe baking cakes and scones is for you!

Another notice has been put up listing the types of cakes/traybakes that we think will be popular, but of course the choice is yours and all contributions however large or small would be really appreciated.



We also hope to be able to have a good supply of scones this year as they were very popular last year – please have a word with Helen North (78025) if you can make some.

The freezer is always on in the kitchen so baking can start straight away if that's more convenient than waiting until July, and all costs incurred can be reimbursed.

Please speak to Helen Dalzell, Sally Lunson or Helen North if you've any questions about baking, or to any other members of the Fundraising Group (Anne, Brian, David, Richard, Sheila or Sue) if you require more information about the rota.

## *Vision 21 Fundraising Stall:*

NEW!! More keyrings are available at only £1.50 each!  
And don't forget we have

- greetings cards at £2 each or 6 for £10,
- puddings at £5 & £2,
- recipe books £4,
- bags £5 and
- books in the book-box only 50p each!
- We also have 1,000 piece and 500 piece jigsaws for £5 and £3 respectively.

Many thanks in advance for your support and help,  
The Fundraising Group



## **CAPTIVATED** hearing God's Word

In 2017 we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, when Martin Luther asserted that his conscience was 'captive' to that Word. At Keswick 2017 we'll see how this powerful Word brings life, reveals Christ and motivates mission. By God's Spirit it will captivate our hearts and minds, and transform our lives, families and churches.

All three weeks have at their heart the theme of Captivated: Hearing God's Word. In hearing the written word, we meet the living word, Jesus Christ.

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:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> July      **Housegroup Communion**
- 16<sup>th</sup> July     **Summer Barbeque at 6.30pm**
- 6<sup>th</sup> August    **Informal evening**
- 20<sup>th</sup> August   **Informal evening**

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

## Dates for your Diary

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July 7.30pm**  
*The Organist Entertains* with John Bromley

**Sunday 2 July 3.00pm**  
*Songs of Praise* at Grange (this is 1 of 2 services we have to have in the chapel at Grange each year)

**Tuesday 4 July 2.30-9.30pm:**  
*Sustainable Diets* at St John's Church

**17 July – 14 August**  
Convention Refreshments

**Friday 21 July 2.00pm**  
*Mining for God* at Honister Quarry

**Friday 21 July 4.30pm**  
Dance Show by Maria Frances School of Dance & MG Dance Academy at Keswick School (in aid of Vision 21)

**Friday 28 July 2.00pm**  
*Mining for God* at Honister Quarry

**Friday 4 August 2.00pm**  
*Mining for God* at Honister Quarry

**Sunday 13 August 10.45am**  
Celebration Service & Baptism – our final service in the current style church

**Monday 4 September 7.30pm**  
Local Preacher's Meeting at Cockermouth

**Saturday 9 September 10-4pm**  
Synod at North Cumbria Circuit

**Tuesday 26 September 7.30pm**  
Circuit Meeting at Brigham

**Wednesday 1 November 2.00pm**  
Church Council

# Mining for God

For three weeks each year Keswick is filled with thousands of pilgrims attending the Keswick Convention. During these weeks, every church is full on Sundays and many people use the premises during the week. As a result, it's easy to fall into the trap of thinking everything's fine with everyone. However, some businesses are quieter at this time than in weeks running up to or after the Convention. One of these is the Slate Mine at Honister. This is the place where Tori Jones, a local preacher on trial in our Circuit, works part time. Part of her duties is to lead tours underground. Vision 21 at Keswick has challenged us about reaching out in different ways.



These two have come together in the 'Mine for God' project. Using Tori's gifts and skills, we're working with the mine to put on a mine tour with a difference. Fridays are the quiet days there so on each of the Convention Fridays at 2pm Tori will be leading a mine tour

with the help of David Hasson.

As we said, it's a mine tour with a difference! It'll contain not only information about the mine and its workers but also opportunities for singing and elements of worship. The mine lends itself to thinking about God's creation and the environment, and people's difficult working lives. And singing in one of the auditorium-like spaces underground with their amazing acoustics will be an amazing experience. Where



else in the world can you also experience complete darkness, and see the difference that a little light can make? How encouraging to grasp the difference our little light can make in this world as we do God's will.

We're grateful for the co-operation of the management and staff at the slate mine to enable us to plan the event. They've also provided us with these copies of some of their professional photographs (copyright belongs to the mine) which they use for marketing.

There'll be more information coming out nearer the time with costings, etc but we do know that places will be on a first come first served basis. Minimum of 15 and maximum of 40 on each tour.



Please pray that God will bless this project and the participants, and that while we work with people at the mine they'll be able to see Christ's love in us and the concern of the church for them. Please talk to friends and neighbours and encourage them to take part. The dates are Fridays, 21 and 28 July and 4 August at 2pm at Honister.

Leaflets are available in the Grisedale Room. *David Hasson*



## Christian Aid Week in Keswick 2017

Several members of our church collected from house to house or in the street while others attended the coffee morning or the Ceilidh in Threlkeld or helped to count the money at the end of the week.

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

	£
House to house collection	3440
Street collection	280
Keswick coffee morning	200
Threlkeld ceilidh	490
Methodist Jazz service collection	<u>410</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£ <u>4820</u></b>

**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*

## SUMMER SONGS OF PRAISE

*We are invited to join with our friends at*

*Grange* on Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> July at 3pm in the Chapel

*Bassenthwaite* on Sun 6<sup>th</sup> August at 6.00 pm on The Village Green

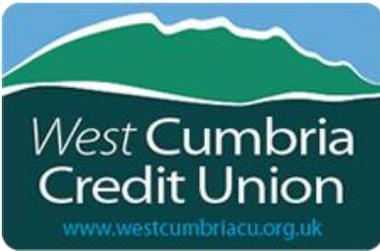


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**Where are these to be found in the Circuit?**

(to see if you are right ask Brian Moffat!)





## Keswick Branch Help needed

Since the Credit Union opened a branch in Keswick over three years ago, many local people have taken advantage of safe, affordable borrowing and been able to improve their financial security and peace-of-mind.

The sessions run on a Wednesday morning 9 - 9.45 am in Crosthwaite Rooms and need two volunteers each week.

We currently have a group of 7 dedicated volunteers, but do need some more help - people willing to either go on the rota, or to help out with occasional emergency cover.

Training will be given and you would be working alongside one of our experienced volunteers - if you are happy to come on the rota your sessions would be no more frequent than once a month.

Please consider helping out with this worthwhile cause.

If you are interested please contact Jackie Knights on [jackiekn17@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jackiekn17@yahoo.co.uk) - or you are welcome to pop down any Wednesday morning to see what's involved.

*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)



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

North Lakes Foodbank We're now preparing to pack around 1,100 Holiday Lunchpacks 4 kids to give out to around 430 kids from 240 families over the 6 week summer holiday.

We're helping families who experience extra financial pressure during the summer when the kids don't receive school lunches. SO! We need an extra 6 tonnes of food (on top of our usual 4 tonnes per month for our crisis food parcels) over this period. Your help with donations over this time would be wonderful!

Jessie Hendry Gooding  
Project Manager  
07502311452

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

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**Midweek 'drop in'**  
***Jubi-latte!***  
**Thursdays**  
**10.15am – 11.30am**



## **Rotas for July & August**

	<b>Preacher</b>	<b>Steward</b>	<b>Welcome</b>
July 2	Edwards (S)	Anne	Kate, Sheila
July 9	Jones	Sheila	Roy, Wendy I
July 16	Hasson (Conv)	Brian	ALL STEWARDS
July 23	Beckham (Conv)	Helen	ALL STEWARDS
July 30	Edwards (Conv)	Richard	ALL STEWARDS
August 6	J. Ellis (S)	Brian	Michael, Catherine
August 13	Edwards	Sheila	Roy, David H
August 20	R. Ellis	Anne	Helen D, Wendy I
August 27	Hasson	Helen	Michael, Catherine

	<b>Tea/Coffee</b>	<b>Traidcraft</b>	<b>Counting</b>
July 2	Maureen B, Wendy M	Christine	Joyce E, Ted
July 9	Helen D, Maureen H	---	Roy, David L
July 16	Kate & David L	Joyce	Richard, Brian
July 23	Ted & Jane	Kate	Dave R, Sheila
July 30	Maureens B & H	Helen D	David H, Joyce
August 6	Ted & Jane	---	Nigel, Brian
August 13	Anne & David	Sylvia	Nigel, Richard
August 20	Ted & Jane	---	Nigel, Dave R
August 27	Helen D, Wendy I	Sylvia	Anne, Richard

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

July 2	Helen Dalzell	August 6	Jane & Ted Holt
July 9	M & P Shortland	August 13	Edna Preston
July 16	Sally Lunson	August 20	Brian Moffatt
July 23	<i>Convention</i>	August 27	Hilda Daley
July 30	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 13<sup>th</sup>.**

## Services for July & August

<b>July 2</b>	10.45am	Rev Sue Edwards	<i>Holy Communion</i>
<b>July 9</b>	10.45am 6.00pm	Tory Jones Rev Joyce Ellis	<i>Morning Worship</i> <i>Healing Service</i>
<b>July 16</b>	10.45am	Rev David Hasson & John Risbridger	<i>Convention Service</i>
<b>July 23</b>	10.45am	Marion Beckham Paul Keays	<i>Convention Service</i>
<b>July 30</b>	10.45am	Rev Sue Edwards Peter Maiden	<i>Convention Service</i>
<b>August 6</b>	10.45am	Rev Joyce Ellis	<i>Holy Communion</i>
<b>August 13</b>	10.45am	Rev Sue Edwards	<i>Morning Worship</i>
<b>Our final service in the church before its refurbishment</b>			
	6.00pm	<i>no service</i>	
<b>August 20</b>	10.45am	Roy Ellis To be held in the hall	<i>Morning Worship</i>
<b>August 27</b>	10.45am	Rev David Hasson	<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

