



Group News

Minister

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** April * 2009 * April **

www.eastclevelandurc.org.uk

Part of the URC Northern Synod – www.urc-northernsynod.org.uk

Dear Friends,

Being in the middle of our AGM season and having the opportunity to look back over the work of our churches over the last year, I began to think about what we really spend our time doing as churches. I discovered that in just one of our churches, for example, over the course of the last twelve months, there were 53 midday prayer meetings, 53 church services, 2 prayer breakfasts, 1 agape service/meal, 4 elders meetings, 3 Church Meetings, 2 Finance and Property Meetings, 1 Junior Church Prize-giving, 1 Baptism, 1 Memorial Service of Thanksgiving, 12 Open Church mornings, 7 services at Residential Homes (not including additional communion services), 1 Harvest Lunch, 5 Church social events, and 2 fire drills!

And, additionally, as a church we had also been involved in a whole host of ecumenical events and services, including 1 Christmas Day Meal, 2 Women's World Day of Prayer Services, 1 week of prayer meetings for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, 1 series of Churches Together Lent Meetings, 1 Good Friday Walk of Witness, 1 Hope08 Event, 1 week-long Summer Holiday Club, 10 monthly prayer breakfasts and a multitude of coffee mornings and general goodwill towards one another in our different churches!

And then at the Group and Mission Partnership level we had in addition taken part in 2 Wheelie Bin Pushes (well 1 Wheelie Bin push, but with 2 bins with 2 ministers in) to raise money for Mozambique, 1 Group Anniversary Service in July,

1 Group trip to Lindisfarne in September, 1 Group Advent Service in late November, 1 Mission Partnership Advent Prayer Day in November, 1 Children's Sleepover and 1 New Year Children's Bowling event.

And this still didn't take account of the school assemblies and countless pastoral visits and other miscellaneous meetings and services, within the Synod and nationally, which also took place!

This all led me to think firstly wow, what a lot, haven't we done well?! For it is truly amazing how much we actually achieve in our churches if we stop to think about it, and this exercise could have been done for any one of our 5 churches! But it also leads my thoughts to questioning is this how God wants us to be using our time? Further more it leads to the question, what has been left out that we have been too busy to notice of?

So while I think that we are probably on the right track, it does not mean we should get complacent! If we are truly interested in seeking God's vision for our church, of catching God's Vision for the world today, then we need to keep on growing as a church, as a community and as Christians open to His leading! And what better time to begin again in seeking God's vision for us than at Easter! So let us go with Jesus to the cross and see what sacrifice God desires from us in order that his vision may be brought to shine out from our churches!

God bless! Rev Catey Morrison



Vision4Life: Bible Page

As part of Year 1 of Vision4Life focuses on the bible perhaps this page will help you to find different ways into the bible... and maybe you'll even enjoy doing so!!!

Easter Story - Word Search

A word search with a twist! First search for the words in the following verses and then find them on the grid... or find them on the grid and match them to the verses!! Use the Good News version of the bible.

R	E	P	T	I	H	O	S	T	E	B	Y
I	E	A	P	I	L	A	T	E	C	A	C
S	M	S	U	G	P	J	O	F	O	D	O
E	M	S	U	G	A	T	M	O	C	J	C
P	A	O	R	R	I	H	B	I	K	U	K
A	U	V	G	A	R	D	E	N	C	D	C
L	S	E	P	M	P	E	T	U	R	A	R
H	R	R	A	D	I	C	R	O	S	S	O
G	E	T	H	O	E	B	A	T	W	H	W
E	V	B	A	R	A	B	B	A	S	T	E
G	E	T	H	S	E	M	E	N	E	O	D
C	R	U	C	I	F	I	E	D	T	I	N

1. Matthew 27:16
2. Mark 14:72
3. Luke 23:26
4. Luke 23:33
5. Luke 24:13
6. John 19:41
7. Mark 14:32
8. Matthew 26:47
9. Mark 14:1
10. Mark 15:1
11. Luke 24:1
12. Philippians 3:10

April Quiz

1. Which king of Israel was the great-grandson of Ruth and Boaz?
2. Who were the only people of Jericho to be saved when the Israelites attacked and conquered the town?
3. Who was the first person to see Jesus after the resurrection?

Answers from March edition

Match the Couples

Sarai & Abram (Genesis 11:31), Rebekah & Isaac (Genesis 24:67), Rachel & Jacob (Genesis 29:28), Zipporah and Moses (Exodus 2:21), Naomi & Elimelech (Ruth 1:2), Ruth & Boaz (Ruth 4:13), Esther & Xerxes (Esther 2:16-17), Gomer & Hosea (Hosea 1:3), Elizabeth & Zechariah (Luke 1:5), Priscilla & Aquila (Acts 18:18-19 & 26; 1 Cor. 16:19),

The Foremothers of Jesus

Tamar (Genesis + Matt 1:3), **Rahab**, (Joshua 2:1-2 & 6:17-25 + Matt 1:5), **Ruth** (Ruth + Matt 1:5), **Bathsheba** (2 Samuel 11 & 12 + Matt 1:6) See separate article about the foremothers of Jesus.

The Foremothers Of Jesus

Matthew's gospel begins with a genealogy which is included to show that Jesus was not only from the line of King David but also that his ancestry goes back to Abraham who was to be the father, not only of the Jewish nation, but of many nations. (*Genesis 12:2*)

Most genealogies of that time trace the ancestry through the male line, the forefathers, only but Matthew includes four women, known as the foremothers of Jesus. This is unusual also in respect of the fact that these women are ones that would normally be overlooked since their backgrounds and origins would be construed as dubious for various reasons.

The first to be mentioned is **Tamar** (*Matt 1:3*), who was the daughter-in-law of Judah. Her husband died and Judah did not intervene when his second son would not fulfil the law of the day and give her children (especially sons) in his dead brother's name. Without a male relative to care for her she had no provision for life and would be left destitute. So Tamar tricked her father-in-law by posing as a prostitute and she lay with him. The result was her pregnancy and, when he demanded to know who the father was, Tamar was able to prove that he was! So he was forced to concede his lack of justice and adherence to the law and thus he took Tamar and her twin boys under his care. (*Genesis 38*)

The second woman is **Rahab** (*Matt 1:5*), who was not Jewish. A prostitute living in Jericho, she helped the spies who were sent by Joshua to assess the situation in the Promised Land when the Israelites were about to cross the River Jordan. In return she was saved when Jericho fell and she married into the nation of Israel. She became a foremother of King David and so deserves a place in the ancestry of Jesus. (*Joshua 2:1-2 & 6:17-25*)

The next woman is **Ruth** (*Matt 1:5*), also a Gen-

tile, since she was a Moabitess. She married one of Naomi's sons when Naomi and her family had come to Moab from Bethlehem during a famine. Her commitment to the God of the Jews is seen in the choice she made when determining to remain with her Jewish mother-in-law who was returning home now that her husband and sons had died. Ruth subsequently married Boaz and was the great-grandmother of David. (*Ruth 1:16-17 & Ruth 4:18-22*)

The fourth woman is not named but she is clearly **Bathsheba** (*Matt 1:6*), wife of Uriah the Hittite, so she, too, comes from outside the family of Israel. She is the woman with whom David committed adultery. Her son, Solomon, succeeded David as king of Israel. Perhaps she is not mentioned by name because Matthew wanted us to dwell more on the crimes of David, firstly his adultery and secondly his subsequent plotting of Uriah's murder, in order to pave the way to marry Bathsheba? The forefathers, including David, were not without flaws! (*2 Samuel 11 & 12*)

Matthew wrote his gospel mainly for a Gentile readership. It seems that, even at the beginning, he was setting out that Jesus did not come exclusively for the Jews or for that matter only from the Jews! Here in his genealogy there is the inclusion of women whose origins were from outside Israel. Matthew links Jesus to David showing his credentials as the Messiah and also to Abraham who was the father of many nations. Jesus, the Messiah, came for all people of every race. And Jesus accepted people from all walks of life and would, no doubt, be pleased with Matthew's inclusion in his genealogy of these women whose conduct was somewhat dubious. Jesus came for all, for male and female, young and old of every race and nation. And most of all he came for sinners... and we are all sinners.

Meg Robb - June 2008

Quiz

1. How many books are there in the Bible? **66**
2. Which gospel ends with the words, 'I am with you always to the close of the age'? **Matthew**
3. Which king put Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the fiery furnace? **Nebuchadnezzar** (*Daniel 3*)

Synod Prayers

Week beginning 5th April

St George's, Morpeth; Great Bavington; Widdrington: Rev Ron Forster

Week beginning 12th April (Easter Sunday)

The worship of the Church

Week beginning 19th April

Synod Office staff: Andrew Atkinson, Wendy Watson, Helen Hogg

Week beginning 26th April

Those working with children and young people

Ecumenical Church leaders: Mark Bonnington & Brian Howell (Independent Free Churches)

Vision4life: Bible Book Club

If you weren't aware, we, in the East Cleveland Group, are now in the process of launching our very own Vision4Life Book Club. We would like to invite you to read just ONE BOOK of the Bible each month and this book of the Bible will be the theme of worship on the fourth Sunday of each month.

For April you are invited to read the book of JAMES and here is a little background information and some guidelines for your reading...

The book of JAMES is one that those of us in the Reformed tradition have steered clear of in the past!!! It seems to veer away from Luther's 'salvation by grace alone!'

But... it actually has a tremendous amount to say to today's world and in very practical terms.

You could ask yourself some questions like...

How would JAMES address the global recession we find ourselves in?

How ought I to live my life as a Christian and relate every day life to faith?

What would JAMES say about the church fellowship I belong to?

... and many, many more. (*I'm sure you can think of your own!!!*)

and who was JAMES?

Well, it is thought that he was the brother of Jesus (*Matthew 13:55; Mark 6:3*). If so, he wasn't a real disciple until after the resurrection but he was the JAMES who eventually became the head of the early Church in Jerusalem.

Try reading the whole book through in one go. Then read a little each day.

Why not note down questions or comments? Your questions can then be placed, anonymously if you'd prefer, in the box that will appear shortly at church, to help those preparing worship for the fourth Sunday.

And don't worry if you don't have the time to read each month's book, as the service on the fourth Sunday in the month will be designed to ensure that everyone can learn and take part, young and not so young, and regardless of whether or not you have had time that month to read it!

Pastoral Committee Highlights

Presidency at the Sacraments. March Synod will be asked to approve a list of names of individuals who have been commended by their Mission Partnerships to be given authorisation to preside at the sacraments in cases of pastoral necessity. Everyone on this list will have undertaken a preparation course, either this winter or at some point in the past, and will be ready to preside where required at any church within their Mission Partnership. Synod is being asked to allow Pastoral Committee to deal with annual requests for reauthorisation – but names coming for the first time will always be brought to a full meeting of synod. Guidelines for authorisation will be found in the members’ area of the synod website.

Local Mission and Ministry Reviews will soon be becoming a regular feature of church life, incorporating some of the agenda of the old pastoral visits, and linking up in some way with the ministers’ accompanied self-appraisal scheme. Designated Group has started work on a programme to roll out this new approach across the Synod: detailed proposals will be brought first to Pastoral Committee, and eventually to Synod – we hope in the autumn.

Churches in Vacancy can feel bereft and unsupported. The February Committee meeting received a paper on the subject prepared by the Designated Group, but also a submission by a church in vacancy spelling out some of the problems. We agreed that there was no way of going back to the full engagement of an interim moderator: we simply don’t have the people to do all that used to be done. But ways were suggested of helping ministers within the Mission Partnership to become more involved and perhaps earlier on, and thought was given to appointing a “pastoral visitor” who would play a part in keeping communications open between the church and synod.

We have welcomed into Synod Ann Honey, as the Church Related Community Worker at Robert Stewart Memorial Church in Newcastle; and we have inducted Ron Forster to the charge of Widdrington, alongside his other pastoral responsibilities at St George’s Morpeth and Great Bavington. Leaving the Synod in the coming months are Nigel Watson, who will be moving from Jesmond to a Church of Scotland post in East Kilbride, and Andy Coyne, who will be moving in the summer from Sunderland and Boldon to St Mary Cray and St Paul’s Cray in Kent.

Challenge to the Church is the significant paper about ministry that came to last year’s General Assembly. Pastoral Committee intends to do some work on it in the coming months – and would welcome input from local churches. (The text can be found on pp 225ff of last year’s Book of Reports – also downloadable from the URC website.) The Moderator and Lay Preaching Commissioner Jan Harper are due to represent us at a one day consultation on the report in the summer.

From the various Mission Partnerships news at recent meeting has included:

- ◆ The Keld Centre manse is nearly completed: the end of Stage 1!
- ◆ Blyth are leaving their building in the summer, but looking at possibilities of meeting in the Catholic convent across the road
- ◆ Brighton Road, Gateshead have a final celebration service on 15th March, and Haltwhistle on Pentecost Sunday, 31st May.

And finally... We are concerned at the difficulty of getting ministers to come to the North East. Anticipating more vacancies in the near future, we are setting up a working group to address this.

East Cleveland Group Accounts for 2008

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 December 2008

	General Fund £	Manse Fund £	Total Funds £	2007 Total £
Income:				
Contributions from Churches note 2	14418	-	14418	13760
Group News Contributions note 2	455	-	455	837
Grant URC Northern Synod	-	10000	10000	-
Mozambique Fund (wheeled bin push)	394	-	394	-
Interest on investment*	-	153	153	705
	<u>15267</u>	<u>10153</u>	<u>25420</u>	<u>15302</u>
Expenditure:				
Ministers' Expenses				
Rev. Meg Robb	1917	-	1917	2387
Rev. Catey Morrison	3007	-	3007	2506
Computer and Printer	487	-	487	-
Fixed Car Allowances	2707	-	2707	2707
Pulpit Supply note 2	1694	-	1694	2547
Expenses - Rev. Ken Harris	641	-	641	288
Group News costs	455	-	455	686
Manse Costs note 3	4072	-	4072	4621
Speaker at Mission Partnership	-	-	-	50
Refurbishment Marton Manse note 6	-	21097	21097	-
Mozambique Fund	394	-	394	-
Postage, Copying and sundries	29	-	29	38
	<u>15403</u>	<u>21097</u>	<u>36500</u>	<u>15830</u>
(Deficit) for year	(136)	(10944)	(11080)	(528)
Gain on revaluation of Investment	-	*	-	822
Fund balances at 1 January 2008	<u>2511</u>	<u>23230</u>	<u>25741</u>	<u>25447</u>
Fund balances carried forward	<u>2375</u>	<u>12286</u>	<u>14661</u>	<u>25741</u>

* The amount of interest for the half year to 31 December 2008 is not yet known.
The value of the investment in the Northern Synod Trust Pool is not available but it will be lower than in 2007.

Balance Sheet - 31 December 2008

	£	£ 2008	£ 2007
Assets:			
Cash at Bank	4012		5105
URC North Prov Trust Invest Pool	11984		21331
Debtors note 4	56		104
	<u>16052</u>		<u>26540</u>
Less Creditors note 5	<u>(1391)</u>		<u>(799)</u>
		<u>14661</u>	<u>25741</u>
Funds:			
General Fund	2375		2511
Manse Fund	<u>12286</u>		<u>23230</u>
		<u>14661</u>	<u>25741</u>

Notes to the accounts

1. These accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis

2. Church Contributions, Group News received and Pulpit Supply Fees reimbursed

	Contri	G News	P Fees
St Andrews	3933	455	1694
Linthorpe	3933	105	259
Redcar	2622	88	250
Guisborough	2622	94	525
Lingdale	1308	71	200
Refund		-135	
Totals	14418	455	1694

The Pulpit Supply Refund came from central funds to cover Rev. Meg Robb's Sabbatical

3. Manse Costs:

	Marton	Redcar	
Insurance	236	203	
Council Tax	1287	1473	
Water (Meter)	239	505	
Repairs	-	25	
Boiler contract	104	-	
	1866	2206	£4072

4. Debtors:

Amounts owing to the Group			
Group News - Redcar	31		
Lingdale	25		£56

5. Creditors:

Amounts owed by the Group:			
Pulpit Supply	383		
Rev. Meg Robb	178		
Rev. Catey Morrison	560		
Rev. Ken Harris	270		£1391

6. These accounts have not yet been examined

Jane Tomlin
Group Treasurer
18 February 2008

Manse Prayers

Manse Prayers are held every Tuesday at 8.45am and everyone is welcome to attend. Venues are as follows:

7 th April	Marton	(prayers for Linthorpe)
14 th April	Guisborough	(prayers for Redcar)
21 st April	Redcar	(prayers for Guisborough)
28 th April	Marton	(prayers for St. Andrew's)
5 th May	Guisborough	(prayers for Lingdale)

Guisborough	31 Oakley Close
Marton	10 Farington Drive
Redcar	31 Torcross Way

Children's Sleepover (FUN ALERT!!)

The next Mission Partnership Children's Event is a sleepover at our Redcar Church on 4th to 5th April. The event will begin at 6pm on the Saturday and finish after the morning service at 12noon on the Sunday. Parents and other family members are welcome to join us for the 11am Sunday Service in which the children will be taking part in leading us all in worship. Activities will include games, baking and watching a movie, and of course SLEEP!!! Well hopefully, or so the leaders think!

Guisborough

Before I start, I owe Ernest a big grovel! Last month I wrote about the musical evening he gave us. I waxed lyrical about an opera he played where the Lead singer was in a beach robe and the chorus in swimming costumes. I said it was from Dido and Aneas - which earned me a big red X and a 'Must try harder!' from Sir. How could I? It was Offenbach's La Belle Hellene! Anyway it was great fun.

I'm on safer ground saying the March get-together was devoted to the wildflowers and mountain ranges that have drawn D and I back to the Montafon valley in the Alps for the last thirty years. Putting it all together brought back many happy memories and we hope others could sense our feeling for the place. The Psalmist says The Heavens declare the Glory of God, but the Montafon runs them a pretty close second. Sitting on a mountain top gazing into the blue distance always leaves me feeling close to God. Ray T is the Impresario who puts all these events together and looking at the forward programme I think a very successful one.

March the First was St David's Day. It was also St Ernest's Day when we all celebrated his eightieth birthday. Mary Sollett baked some wonderful cakes for the occasion and everyone abandoned their diets for the duration. D says he hopes his dietician reads this and accepts that Eightieths don't occur that often.

Today March 15th was Gift Day. Ken asked the Children what they thought it was all about. I am old enough to know. About forty years ago our people raised a sizeable part of the money need to run the church through a big Christmas Fair. The ladies worked for months making soft toys, decorations and baking cakes. It was a lot of work and often cost the members more than it benefitted the Church. Maybe us incomers were just lazy, but it was decided to hold a Gift Day instead and of course we could get the Government to chip, in with some tax relief.

Hopefully by the time you read this Barbara will have worked out how much we have raised. More worryingly we'll see if the credit crunch has started to make a difference.

The Women's World Day of Prayer has just gone by. The service this year was produced by the women of Papua New Guinea. It's a long way from here and people live very different lives. But their Faith shone through. And Nancy Webb gave us an enlightening talk about their hopes and dreams and the problems they face. Some years ago I met one of the last Australian District Officers in that country. He told us of the difficulties they had coming to terms with our western world. The Authorities had done a survey of what people wanted 'Where will the money come from?' 'The Government' 'Where do they get money from?' 'The Queen - and

before you ask - She has a money factory – See her picture is on every piece!’

It was nice to see Norma Johnson in church this morning. It was the first time most of us have seen her since she retired back here. It must be strange for her to sit in the pews where she once stood in the pulpit. We all wish her and George a happy and fulfilling retirement. Perhaps occasionally we will see her in the pulpit again, and take some of the pressure off Catey and Meg.

With the return of warmer weather the church garden is coming back to life. I know D was very concerned when Ken’s Fusiliers took half the area back to bare earth. But it gave Moira and her gang the chance to start again. After a couple of years it’s starting to look like a garden again, and you can read the word ‘HOPE’ picked out in tiny tête à tête daffodils under the notice board. Now all we need is to do is the other half.

The URC here is more than just our church, or even our Group. The other Saturday we went to our sister church A & G in Stockton. The occasion was a concert to celebrate the 250th

anniversary of the birthday of Robert Burns. The last time I was there it was all a bit cold and grey. But now it was ablaze with light, warm and packed. I know they’d sold 240 tickets and there were about 60 singers and other entertainers. The place overflowed with music and fun. It was a little sad when the children’s choir left, but it was already past their bed-time. To complete my happiness there were many people I knew. After all the URC hereabouts is at least half Scots

The AGM will happen in a few days time. Various officers will look back on a year when quite a lot has happened. And we will have to elect those who will guide us through the year to come. A few will step down to give way to the next generation.

That includes me. I have written this column for exactly twelve years – since Ernest had his heart

Guisborough URC Rotas

Date	Vestry	Communion	Door	Flowers
5th Apr	M Baird	M Robson	D Beattie	H Burrows
12th Apr	D Moore	R Tunnicliffe	J Bulmer	D Moore
19th Apr	J Reynolds		M Burrows	B Ward
26th Apr	D Cross		J Basham	S Verrill

Guisborough Calendar

Wed 1 Apr	7.30pm	Guisborough Churches Together – Lent Bible Study Course – at St Nicholas’ Church
Sat 4 Apr	8.00am	Prayer Breakfast – at the Salvation Army, Westgate.
Mon - Thu 6 - 9 April	12noon	Holy Week Prayers at Guisborough URC.
Thu 9 Apr	7.00pm	Maundy Thursday Agape Supper.
Fri 10 Apr	10.00am	Procession of Witness starting at the Salvation Army Citadel, Westgate.
Sat 11 Apr	10am – 12noon	Farmers’ Market – Church Open Day - volunteers welcome.
Sun 19 Apr	10.00am	Guiz Kids – Guisbro’ Churches JC’s joining together at Prior Purseglove Sports Centre.
Tue 21 Apr	7.15pm	Elders Meeting

Weekly

Tuesdays	12noon	Bible Study
Thursdays	9.30am – 11.45am	Coffee Morning
Thursdays	11.30am	Prayers and reflections with Catey, Meg, Ken and some of us

bypass operation. It's been a lot of fun. Whenever I'm on holiday I watch out for things I can write to you about. I can remember the Aga Kahn? He runs the most effective aid programme in the far north of Pakistan among the Ismailis – the most open and friendly Muslim sect I know. Then our old Church in Kuala Lumpur now bulging at the seams and as multi-racial as you can imagine. And much else beside. I even hear whispers that the magazine reaches not just the East Cleveland Churches, but even some other denominations.

But from now on I can hand the baton on to Donna Moore and, like Norma, sit back, enjoy what she has to say – and resist the temptation to interfere!

God Bless, Maureen

Guisborough Choral Society

Conductor - Michael Summers

presents

Durufle Requiem Four Motets by Durufle

Saturday 25th April 2009 - 7.30pm

St Nicholas Parish Church, Guisborough

Guests

Gillian Plummer (Mezzo-soprano)

Robert O'Connell (Baritone)

Trevor Blease (Organ)

Tickets £9, (£8 concessions, £1 under19)

from Greensleeves and The Bookshop, Chaloner St

Lingdale

Congratulations

We are delighted to look forward to a very special occasion, to be taking place on Saturday 18th April at our church, when Jacquie and Antony Coulthard, will be renewing their vows of marriage ten years on from their wedding!

Family News

It is with sadness we note the death of Elijah Wedgewood.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife and family.

Flower Rota

5th April	Mr A Thompson
12th April	Mrs H Dunstan
19th April	Mrs P Griffiths
26th April	Miss S Griffiths
3rd May	Mrs J Coulthard

Although planned to be a relatively small celebration with friends, we are sure that you will join us in congratulating Jacquie and Antony on their special day, and we hope for them many more years of happiness together.'

Fun Time Craft Club

Fun Time Craft Club followed by family worship on 19th April 5.00 - 6.30pm (this replaces messy church/kids club etc)

Lingdale Calendar

Sun	5 Apr	4.45pm	Annual General Meeting - All welcome to attend.
Thu	9 Apr	7.00pm	Maundy Thursday Agape Supper at Guisborough URC, for a lift see Catey'.
Fri	10Apr	11.15am	A Service of quiet reflection for Good Friday

Weekly

3 rd	Sunday of month	5.00pm	Fun Time Craft Club followed by Family Worship
4 th	Wednesday of month	2.00pm	Worship at Prospect Place

Linthorpe

Thank You All

I would like to thank all my Church friends, for all the attention they have given me, after my accident. There were hospital visits from, Ministers, Meg and Catey, and many friends. There were many gifts of flowers, cards and goodies. The kindness has brought many tears to my eyes. I'm now at home, and have plenty of support from my family and friends.

Thank you all once again. God bless you all.

Gladys Williams

Easter Coffee Morning

Saturday 4th April

10am – 12 pm

Linthorpe Church Halls.

Cake Stall: Fancy Goods:

Easter Egg Tombola: etc;

Tickets: 50p & 20p

Coffee After Morning Worship

22nd Feb - £13.00

1st Mar - £20.00

15th Mar - £21.00

Macmillan Nurses - H. Kettlewell

Many thanks to those who give to this and other worthy causes. Thanks also to those who provide this service each and every Sunday.

Group Scout Report

Cubs took part in the district five a side football competition they all have a great time but unfortunately just got beaten in the semi finals by the eventual winners.

Scouts and Explorer Scouts spent a weekend at the County camp site (Ravengill) in Commondale during the February half term holiday. We used the new centenary centre for the first time which was an experience with all the new regulations on gas cookers.

One Beaver Nathan Harris has advanced into the Cub Scouts section. Two Cub Scouts Luck Henderson-Thynne and Patrick Seven advanced into the Scouts section.

Our Group Executive committee are organising a jumble sale to raise money towards our group funds the date of the Jumble sale is on Saturday 9th May setting up on the Friday 8th May. If you have anything to donate to the Jumble sale and need help in getting it to the church please contact, myself 01642 827114 or Peter Bradley 01642 828707

Scout Group Open Night including the AGM will be held in May. All are welcome to see displays of activities and entertainment from all sections.

Look out for our Spring Draw tickets coming soon available from Peter and any Leader.

May thanks to both Gillian Rathbone and Amy Power for there time in making the Coffee and Tea after Church Parades. This has raised £46 towards group funds over the last four Church Parades. Thank you to all that contributed.

Ivor Huskinson (Group Scout Leader)

Linthorpe Calendar

Tue 14th April

7.30pm

Elders Meeting and Training. Jameson Lounge Led by Janet Turner.

Redcar

Churches Together in Redcar

A group of Redcar Clergy and friends meet regularly to plan how to further Christians working together in Redcar. Rev Catey has taken over from Rev John Wheatman as leader of this group.

Churches Together in Redcar

SANDCASTLE BUILDING COMPETITION

To celebrate the Year of the Child

Sunday 3rd May 2009

at 2pm

Meet next to the slipway in front of the town centre. All ages can join in and prizes will be awarded for the best Sandcastle built on the day.

Registration from 2pm, building will commence at 2.30pm!

Bring your own buckets and spades!

Good Friday Worship

Two alternatives for Good Friday.

Firstly at 9.30am, a service at Zetland Park (in the Park) at 9.30am to be held by the Methodists and to include the stations of the cross and the nailing of the nails.

And then at 11am, a service of quiet reflection to be held at our church.

All are welcome to both services.

Thank you

On Sunday 3rd March about 25 members and friends stayed for a light lunch after Church. We had a choice of three delicious soups prepared by John with home made sweets to follow.

Many thanks to John and his helpers.

Easter Baptism

Our Easter Day Family Service, will include the baptism of **Myrian Eugenie Gaultier**

Redcar Calendar

Thu 9 Apr	7.00pm	Maundy Thursday Agape Supper at Guisborough URC, for a lift see Catey'.
Wed 29 Apr	7.30pm	Elders Meeting at the Redcar manse, 31, Torcross Way
Sun 10 May	11.45am	Annual General Church Meeting after the morning service. All welcome to stay for this meeting.

Weekly

Thursday	9.30am	Prayers
	10.00-11.30am	Pop-in Centre

Ancient

By the cross we know the gravity of sin and the greatness of God's love towards us.

John Chrysostom Archbishop of Constantinople Church Father (4th Century)

Theory and Practice of Baptism

Last Saturday, 7th March, around 25 people from around the Synod arrived at Trinity Church, Gosforth, to take part in the above course, run by Rev. Dr. David Peel.

Catey, Dorothy Harris and I went from the East Cleveland Group, and after a slightly fraught journey, in which we had to find another way through because the A19 was blocked by an accident, we duly arrived at his newly refurbished church.

The course was excellent, with lots of time for discussion, group work (yes, I even enjoyed that!), a first class lunch and a tour of the building.

If you've ever half thought of joining such a

course but have been daunted by the prospect, maybe thinking it would be dull, or over your head....be reassured....there was nothing dull about this one, and there was much laughter; neither was it too hard to follow.

We looked at the biblical reasons for baptism, the history and theory of it, and discussed what we might do and/or say when people come to have their child baptized.

And if you've ever wondered what to do with your church building, I cannot recommend a visit to Trinity highly enough. It's part of a Local Ecumenical Project, and the first thing you see when you get there is the very efficient café, which, when we went, was really busy, and is apparently so every day.

Maybe a group outing.....??

Jan Harper.

Rotas

	Vestry	Porch
5 th Apr	R Harris	E Williams
12 th Apr	H Kettlewell	S Mapplebeck G Kettlewell
19 th Apr	J Harper	M Tilley
26 th Apr	J Haverson	H Kettlewell

Communion Preparation

12 th Apr	Easter Sunday	J Haverson M Gilmour
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Coffee/Tea Rota

5 th Apr	Macmillan Nurses	H Kettlewell
12 th Apr	Scouts	G Rathbone
19 th Apr	Children With Liver Disease	S & D Knox
26 th Apr	Guide Dogs For The Blind	P & J Horbury

Scripture Readers

5 th Apr	F Rowe
12 th Apr	M Gilmour
19 th Apr	Parade
26 th Apr	M Warren

Church Flowers

5 th Apr	R Gascoigne
12 th Apr	J Rutherford
19 th Apr	F Rix
26 th Apr	TBA

St Andrew's

Ladies Fellowship

At our meeting on the 4th March Beryl came along from Coatham House and gave us a very interesting talk on how Coatham House operates. It certainly gave us all something to think about.

We also found out that they would be very grateful for bed linen and towels as well as the usual toiletries, tinned and packaged food.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 1st April 2009 at 7.30pm when Joan Burton will be giving us a talk on her "Wartime Experiences".

Modern

The essential fact of Christianity is that God thought all men worth the sacrifice of His Son.

William Barclay Scottish theologian, writer and broadcaster (2nd half 20th century)

Congratulations

Congratulations to Eleanor and Roger Wheeler who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 17th March.

Require Help?

Do you require help with any of the following...

- Gardening?
- Decorating?
- Housework?

St Andrew's Boys Brigade can help!!

As part of working towards their service awards the boys are available for any of the above... and more. They can come as a team with one of their leaders. And they'll not only be helping you but you will be helping them to learn and to serve.

Please give this some consideration and, if you would like to avail yourself of this help, please see Meg, Catey or one of the St. Andrew's elders.

News from Rosemary

My thanks for contributing the financial resources which helped to meet part of the girls' school fees. May God bless and reward you abundantly for your continued support for the orphans and other members of my family....Would you believe my birthday card from St Andrews URC, sent in October (airmail), was received in January this year!....In the city the cost of foodstuffs has hiked so are not affordable by ordinary citizens...Greetings to my brothers and sisters in Nunthorpe and Marton - "Let us with a gladsome mind praise the Lord for He is kind, for His mercies endure ever faithful ever sure" Psalm 145

Rosemary

Excerpts from her February letter (Please ask Shirley if you would like to read the entire letter)

Churches Together Prayers

Instead of First Friday Prayers the new pattern of prayer is as follows. Each week one of the churches on our Churches Together patch will be the prayer focus. Please use the list below in your own prayers.

Week beginning 5th April

St Andrew's U.R.C., Marton

Week beginning 12th April

Marton Methodist Church)

Week beginning 19th April

St Cuthbert's, Church of England, Marton

Week beginning 26th April

Pioneering ministry in Coulby Newham

(part of St. Cuthbert's parish)

A Time to Heal

Last month four of us from Marton set off to Durham on pilgrimage - a journey to draw closer to God - heading for "A Time to Heal" at St. John's Church, Neville Cross. The Park and Ride bus into Durham was followed by a steep then steady climb out of the city but a welcome cup of coffee awaited us.

Around 10.30am those in the already packed church were 'called to order' to hear about the outline for the day. In his introductory address Canon Roy Lawrence of the Acorn Christian Healing Foundation considered What is Christian healing, emphasising it's the difference Jesus makes to body, mind, attitudes, relationships (the whole person); by whose authority it happens; the resources; the channels; and the expectations. This was followed by a choice of groups including quiet reflections, art workshops, discussion or prayer walks for us to reflect on Roy's teaching. After a superb bread and cheese lunch the day closed with a memorable healing service during which laying-on-of-hands for ourselves or on behalf of another was offered; this was conducted by Revd Rowena Francis, our Synod Moderator. We feel sure everyone came away feeling considerably restored, replenished and 'whole'.

Pam, Jean, John and Shirley.

Fund Raising

The Quiz with Pie and Pea Supper held on Saturday 28th February made a total of £310.00 for church funds. Many thanks to the Quiz Compiler, Question Master, helpers and everyone who came along. We had a great evening.

Doreen's (Difficult?) Quiz also raised £35.00 for church funds. Thanks Doreen. Could you please make the next one just a little bit easier!

Loose Change

One of the ways to get rid of your loose change and help church funds is to save it up in a coffee or jam jar. A few of us do this but Joan McKendrick says not many of us are. Joan will gratefully count all you can save to boost our church funds.

St Andrew's Calendar

Thu 9 th April	6.30pm	Maundy Thursday Service
Fri 10 th April	2.30pm	Good Friday Worship at Kirkley Lodge
Wed 22 nd April	2.30pm	Communion Service at Kirkley Lodge
Mon 27 th April	3.00pm	Worship at Elmridge

Weekly

Wednesday	9.30am	Prayers
Sunday	After Worship	Traid Craft Stall (Last Sunday in month)
Boys Brigade		Details available from ministers and church elders

Preachers

	5-Apr	Easter Day	19-Apr	26-Apr	3-May
Marton	9.30am K Harris	M Robb Communion	L Bustard	M Robb Family Serv	C Morrison
	6.30pm			M Robb Communion	
Lintho	11.00am K Harris	M Robb Communion	J Harper	M Robb	C Morrison
Guisbo	9.30am M Robb	C Morrison Communion	C Morrison	K Harris	M Robb Communion
Redcar	11.00am C Morrison	C Morrison Communion	C Morrison	J Harper	K Harris Communion
Lingdale	6.00pm C Morrison AGM	K Harris Communion	C Morrison Craft & Family	K Martin	M Robb

Material for the Magazine to church editors by Sunday 12th April please

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