

PEWS NEWS .314.

Guisborough United Reformed Church

1811

Ministers: *Rev Catey Morrison* *Rev Margaret Robb*

Sunday, 8th, March, 2009. The Service is at 9.30am.

Lent 2.

Worship is led this morning by Guisfolk

Northern Synod's Prayer Cycle for 2009. Each day we are asked to pray for specific people, activities and fellowships within the Northern Province. *Thought for the month: There are many people who think that Sunday is a sponge to wipe out all the sins of the week. Henry Ward Beecher. Today we pray for the fellowships of: Trinity Ashington LEP; Rev'd Barry Welsh; Trinity Bedlington LEP; Rev'd John Touehin*

Vision 4Life – Bible Year: Our journey through the Bible Year began last Sunday with us looking at Mark's Gospel. During the course of this month members are asked to read the book in full and then we will spend time, during the service of the 29th, March, reflecting on what we have read – and working on the process of unpacking the meaning for ourselves, in our lives in the 21st, century.

THANKS: Many thanks from Ernest for the cards and greetings on March 1st. In particular to Mary Sollett for two luscious cakes, which the organist of course studiously avoided on medical grounds ! (Joke!)

Tuesday: Lunchtime Discussion Group - The Discussion Group will be meeting in the home of Maureen and David Houston, 30, Thames Ave, at 12.30pm. This week's topic is the Women of the Bible.

Wednesday - Lent Group Discussions: This year's ecumenical discussions are being held on Wednesday evenings at St Nicholas Church from Wednesday, 4th March for five weeks. The discussions will follow the 'York' Course entitled '*These three.....Faith, Hope, Love.*' This week's topic is: '*The peace of God.*' There is a booklet to accompany the course to guide the discussions and to aid personal study and prayer – cost £3. See Ray.

Thursday: Quiet Time at 11.30am, with *Catey, Meg, Ken* and others.

Saturday, Farmers Market - Church Open Day from 10.00am to 12 noon. Volunteers needed to act as stewards.

A.G.M. The Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 17th, March at 7.15pm. Please collect your copy of the report and agenda from the table at the back of the church.

Gift Day: Gift Day is on Sunday, 15th, March. Envelopes for gifts can be found in the pews

Town Fair Planning Meeting: Catey is asking for a volunteer to attend the Town Fair Planning meeting, as our church representative, on Thursday 12th March at 7.30pm. The town fair will be taking place again on Sunday 7th June which is when

she is on holiday. If anyone is interested in attending this meeting on behalf of the church please could you inform Catey. This meeting also clashes with a prayer meeting that will be taking place that evening at Ken and Dorothy's house to pray our way into the Vision4Life year of the Bible. You are also welcome to attend that meeting.

Synod E-News: Printed copies of the March Synod E-news are now available for members, who are not online, and can be found on the table at the back of the church.

Bridge March 2009 News

Guiz Kidz at the **Pursglove Centre:** Sunday 15th March, 10-noon.

A huge thank-you to all those who supported our **Valentine coffee morning** – the heart-shaped cakes were *amazing!* We made the princely sum of **£190** – a brilliant achievement.

Saturday 7th March – 7.30pm - the Guisborough Methodist Worship group are doing a **Sanctuary** event at Saltburn Methodist church. Do come along and help us reach out to the rural community in contemporary worship.

Rev Isabel Stuart of the Methodist church has approached us about a new project called **Street Angels** which apparently has proved extremely effective in Halifax where the project has helped to reduce crime by 42%. She feels it would be a good ecumenical project here in Guisborough. There is to be a meeting about it at Sedgfield Methodist church on 16th March; we're hoping to arrange some car-sharing to get there, so if you're interested in finding out more, let us know. Visit www.streetangels.org.uk to find out more. This project is linked to Hope08.

In June we are planning to take a group of young people from Chatroom and Bridge2Youth away to '**Fort Rocky**'; a YFC [Youth for Christ] activity weekend to explore faith and allow more time to build relationships with the young people we work with. We are exploring funding from different avenues but felt it was important to take a step of faith and book it – donations would be welcome to help with travel costs and materials to continue the work after. Do ask if you want to know more and pray that the right young people will come along.

A possible new project that we are exploring is a '**Bumps and Babies**' group. We are currently looking at a group for expectant mums, and mums with young babies, that would run on a Thursday afternoon after Soup and Roll. It was felt that pregnant women leaving the work environment often feel a bit lost and struggle to adjust, so having an informal group where they can chat and meet other new mums and mums-to-be would be beneficial. If you have ideas to contribute or want to get involved in a group when it is running please contact Shona on the usual numbers or via email.

Thanks to all who bought our desk-top **calendars** this year. We'd appreciate any ideas for the 2009 calendar (or something different? A diary was suggested). Do send us any **bridge photos** you may have taken over the last few months - my family is beginning to accuse me of being obsessed with going to sometimes quite dangerous lengths to photograph every bridge I come across!

The **Kemplah Day Centre Wednesday lunch** continues to thrive with several new guests now attending. We'd love to hear from you if you'd like to be on the volunteers' rota once a month, as some of the more long-standing volunteers (who in some cases have been doing it for 20 years!) would like to take a break. With every blessing, Jenny Tyrie and Shona Joselin

LATE NOTICES: Your notes (*Only late notices - for events in the following week - and urgent matters will be announced*)

Sunday, 15th, March at 9.30am: Rev. Ken Harris **Guiz Kids at 10.00am in the Prior Pursglove Sports Centre. No Junior Church..**

Coffee after the service in the hall.

Any news to Ray T on 01287 637318 or email: raytunnicliffe@yahoo.co.uk by Thursdays.

East Cleveland website at: www.eastclevelandurc.org.uk Message board at: www.eastclevelandurc.org.uk/message_boards.htm