

Guisborough United Reformed Church

Founded 1811

Ministers: Rev Catey Morrison Rev Margaret Robb

PEWS NEWS .256.

Sunday, 27th, January 2008. Service at 9.30am.

Epiphany 3.

Homelessness Sunday

Worship is led this morning by the Rev. Ken Harris

Northern Synod's Prayer Cycle for 2008. Each day we are asked to pray for specific people, activities and fellowships within the Northern Province. Thought for the month: *We find not in the Gospel, that Christ hath anywhere provided for the uniformity of the churches, but only for their unity.* Roger Williams.

Today we pray for: Our Moderator, Rowena Francis, for our Synod Clerk and Ecumenical Officer, John Durrel and for a new Synod Treasurer. We also remember Ecumenical Church Leaders and this week focus on Mark Bryant, Bishop of Jarrow.

Today: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: Dedication Service in the Methodist Church at 6.15 pm.

Poverty and Homelessness Action Week: 26 January - 3February:

See the poster on the notice board. Homelessness Sunday, 27th, January
Poverty Sunday is on the 3rd, February.

Tuesday: Bible Study Group will be holding their meeting at noon. See Maureen, Ernest, Donna or Dorothy Harris for details of venues.

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

Saturday: The Prayer Breakfast hosted by the Methodist Church, in the home of Jason Griffith, 11, Swallow Close, for the Bridge Association and the Churches in Guisborough, is at 8.00am

Exploring Modern Spirituality: This is a course of study involving five two hour workshops - linking into the Vision 4Life programme. It will be run by Barry Hutchinson of the Holy Island Project. The venue is at Queens Park Centre, Alma Street, in Stockton from Tuesday, 4th, March, Wednesday, 12th, March and other Wednesdays until the 26th, March. Times are from 7 – 9 pm.

A poster giving details is on the notice board and there application forms on the table at the back of the church.

Mission Partnerships; A Synod leaflet explaining how the new organisation of Mission Partnerships work can be found on the table at the back of the church. This local church structure has been in place for three years and a recent Synod review, of their operation, has encapsulated new ideas as to their practical function. *Please take a copy.*

Church Meal Out: This event will now take place on Friday, 11th, February, in the Marton Hotel and Country Club, Stokesley Road, Marton, Middlesbrough, at (provisionally 7.30pm?). Please note your choice of meal on the menu and give the completed form to Ray or Dorothy Harris **after the service today.** Thank you.

Bridge Association News Letter – and Hope 08 in Guisborough: Copies of the Jan News Letter along with details of Hope 08 in Guisborough can be found on the

table at the back of the church. *May I draw your attention to the Bridge appeal for help in its funding raising activities and also Hope 08 to which we, as a Church, have agreed to do something in this area of faith at some point during the year.*

The Wedding of Fiona and Stephen: Doreen and Tom Cross wish to offer an invitation, to members of the church, to attend the wedding of their daughter, Fiona, in our church on Saturday, 16th, February at 1.30pm. This invitation also extends to the reception in Gisborough Hall – starting with drinks at 2.30pm, meal 4 – 4.30pm and Evening Party 7.30 pm to Midnight. As seating, in the church, is limited, a pew will be reserved for up to six people. If you wish to attend please inform Ray.

Bridge Association – Parenting Group Idea: here is a message from Shona Joselin., the new Bridge Development Worker. If you have any views on this proposed project please contact Shona on 07890 228851. *It is important that the Bridge gets feedback on new initiatives – so that their viability can be assessed. So please make your views known to Shona, or myself.* Thanks. Ray.

Hi all, One of the ideas that I mentioned in my job interview was possible parent support work and parenting groups. I thought it might be an idea to float the idea through the different Church newsletters [and through the Bridge contacts] to see what interest and take up there might be. The long term aim would be: to provide new parent support [both with practical and be-friending/emotional support]; to enable parenting skills training/small groups to be offered widely throughout the community; and to maybe use those who engage with leading and developing this work to set up a parent 'drop in' or listening service to run alongside or as part of the Listening group.

I already had a brief meeting with Ruth Todd who has felt this was something she was called to get involved with and a couple of others have expressed interest; so are you all happy for me to explore this and look to starting something later in the Spring. I feel we could start this with very little financial layout and it could have knock on benefits for our youth work. There are also a couple of funding sources who may see this work as something they would support financially so I would investigate this further.

With regard to the new parent support work I will try to explore these ideas with Surestart and the local PCT to assess the need and whether it would be an appropriate community project for us. It is something that seems to be much in the news with post-natal depression and press coverage of a new mum taking tragic drastic action. With our skilled team of listeners the be-friending seems a natural development and our wonderful cooks always seem willing to bake and prepare food!! ... thus we have some of the basics to begin to develop this area.

Please let me know your thoughts, God bless, Shona

LATE NOTICES: Your notes (Only late notices - for events in the following week -and urgent matters will be announced) APOLOGIES FOR AMOUNT OF INFO THIS WEEK

Sunday, February at 9.30am: Rev. - Ray T Sec.

Coffee after the service in the hall.

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