



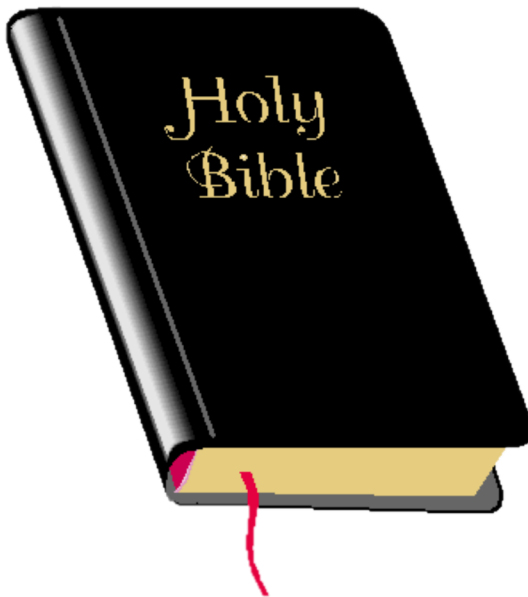
St. Andrew's URC
Monkseaton, Whitley Bay

NEWSTAND

Volume 84, Issue 2

February 2018

Tools for



our Future

NEWSTAND is the church magazine of
St Andrew's United Reformed Church, Eastfield Avenue,
Monkseaton, Whitley Bay. NE25 8LU
Church Payphone: 0191 297 1184

<http://standrewsmonkseatonurc.org.uk>



monkseatonurc

Features and Regulars in this issue of NEWSTAND

Musings from the Manse	3
Film Club — <i>Their Finest</i>	5
Prayers & Praying — <i>join the prayer group</i>	6
Lent Groups — <i>focused on the topic of prayer</i>	7
Collecting for St. Oswald's Hospice — <i>thanks given</i>	8
58 Society review and upcoming events	9
Ecumenical Coffee Morning	10
Activities Team update	11
Thanks from: the Bay Food Bank	11
Thanks for Great North Air Ambulance	12
Pancake Tea — <i>food, games and friendship</i>	12
Thanks from DePaul UK	13
100 Club — <i>December Draw</i>	15
Church Register & Prayer Diary	16
Book of Remembrance	17
Monthly & Weekly Duties and Newstand Dates	18
Church Contacts	19
Church Calendar	Back Page

If you would like NEWSTAND in larger print
please contact Carole Mallett or Tim Cooke.
You can also download it from the website.



Dear friends,

As I write to you this month, I'm looking out of the window over a snow covered garden. Winter has definitely been present with us the last few weeks, and the cold days and nights have made it difficult for a number of our members. Not only is the cold more challenging, icy days bring with them risk of falls. It's definitely the kind of weather where we all need to be careful.

Understandably, then, I've spent a few mornings recently needing to scrape the ice from my car windscreen. It's fascinating seeing how the ice forms on the glass – sometimes like a smooth layer on top of the glass, and other times with a swirly pattern, with a look that has matt and gloss among it. Sometimes it can be frosty and white, other times cloudy.

If you sit inside the car, waiting for the screen to clear, it can be frustrating. If you use the heater, the screen will begin to defrost, giving gentle glimpses of what lies ahead, but with most of the screen still obscured. It takes the effort of scraping the screen, or a period of time waiting for the ice to clear, before it is possible to see what lies ahead and to be able to safely drive. We need the tools – the scraper (even if that's just a card from a wallet!) or the heater – to help us to see.

Being able to see ahead is so important to help us keep on the right path, and to be able to make a journey or do things easily. Those of us who wear glasses, and those with more limited eyesight, know what it can be like to struggle to make out where we're going, or what we're reading. We can still

manage without our vision, but it is definitely more difficult, more isolating, and more risky.

We find that this is certainly the case in our day-to-day lives, but I often wonder if we have the same perspective of our faith vision. Do we recognise when our faith is becoming a bit blurry, or when the windows in front of us are iced over and unable to be seen through? Do we recognise when we need to scrape off the ice that's formed in front of us, or find a pair of spectacles that will help us view the world of faith with fresh, crisp eyes? Sometimes the ice is pretty and creative and different, but it still obscures our view.

As we work on our '2020 Hopes', we need to be sure that we've got our '2020 vision' sorted too – able to look ahead to what is coming, able to see where God is leading us, able to steer ourselves as a Church in the right direction, and keep our eyes out for obstacles or difficulties. What tools or equipment might we need as a Church to help us discern this direction, or steer a course? Do we need some bible reading guides? Or some prayer guides? Or something that can help us be energised and connected through our worship?

Our Lent groups this year are on the theme of Prayer – with three opportunities each week to connect with and explore prayer. Details can be found on page 7. I would encourage you to think about attending at least one of the sessions per week through Lent, to strengthen this part of your Christian life, and to encourage others in theirs. As we pray together through Lent, we can help to defrost those windscreens before us, and better connect with one another and with God on our journey.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew". The script is cursive and fluid, with a large 'M' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'w'.

If some people lived up to their ideals
they would be stooping

Friday 23rd February 2.00pm

"A TOP NOTCH BRITISH COMEDY."

THE TIMES

"RELENTLESSLY CHARMING."

VARIETY

GEMMA
ARTERTON

SAM
CLAFLIN

BILL
AND NIGHY

THEIR FINEST

THE SPIRIT OF THE NATION IS IN HER HANDS



Starring Bill Nighy and described as "smart, witty ... a top notch British movie".

Set in wartime Britain and with the country's morale at stake, an inexperienced screenwriter and a makeshift cast and crew work under fire to make a film to lift the country's flagging spirits and inspire America to join the war.

A LONE SCHERFIG FILM
ACCLAIMED DIRECTOR OF AN EDUCATION

**All profits from the Film Club are in aid of
church funds and charitable works.**

Prayers & Praying

Is it important to pray? Do you believe in the power of prayer? Do we need to pray on a regular basis?

In Mark's Gospel, Chapter 4, Jesus had had a busy day - meeting and talking to lots of people. He was asked to help and heal all day. Jesus, the Son of God, was exhausted. But in Verse 35, and I quote "In the morning while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed." So how much more then should we pray, in our busy lives, if the Son of God needed comfort and strength from God for him to pray?

Our Prayer Group has been going for about two years now. Have you ever thought about coming? It's only 30 minutes before the service on the first Sunday of every month. But

what does it involve?

We first gather together a list of names for pastoral care given to us by members of the congregation. Then we check the Prayer Tree! When was the last time you left a 'message for concern' on the Prayer Tree? We begin our session with a prayer, followed by a topical Bible reading. The group then has an opportunity to give any contributions they have found during the month. We then finish with a prayer. In that 25 minutes we gain the peace and the comfort to recharge our batteries, to deal with whatever 'life throws at us'!

Ironically this Lent, we are dealing with all aspects of Prayer in our Friday lunchtime sessions. It's an ecumenical meeting - five in all - 30 minutes in length - followed by our delightful homemade soup! (Feed the flesh and feed the soul!!!) The first Lenten session is on Friday, 23rd February at 12.30 pm in the Church. Please come, all are welcome!

Valerie Taylor

Everything you always wanted to know about Heaven and Hell
but were afraid to ask



This year our Lent Groups are focused on the topic of prayer. We are running three sessions per week – each with a different take on prayer:

Tuesday, 19.30 – 20.30 – we will think about different types of prayer and then use them to explore our prayer life (first session, Tuesday 20th February, Meeting Room).

Wednesday, 14.00 – 14.45 – this will be a prayer group, where we will spend time in prayer, using a different focus for prayer each week (first session, Wednesday 21st February, around the prayer table in Church).

Friday, 12.30 followed by soup lunch – a short act of worship and reflection on prayer followed by soup lunch (first session, Friday 23rd February, in Church).

Everyone is encouraged to attend one or more of the Lent groups. It would be a good opportunity, for a few weeks, to try something you perhaps haven't done for a while (or ever) and to give it a go. You might not find prayer easy, or you might find it comes naturally, but either way we can share together and learn and build up one another in faith this Lent.

Matthew

It is more blessed to give than to receive
Besides—you don't have to write thank-you notes

USED STAMPS / OLD & FOREIGN COINS FOR ST. OSWALD'S HOSPICE

Recently I have been asked by several people if I am still collecting stamps and coins. The short answer is emphatically YES !!!

I am very interested in collecting used stamps, old coins, postcards, redundant mobile phones, medals – in fact any collectable memorabilia that is saleable or auctionable in order to secure funds for St. Oswald's Hospice.

There is a plastic receptacle for this purpose in the passage towards the Church kitchen. If this is not large enough please contact me and I will gladly collect any contributions personally !!

In December I managed to donate to the Hospice a cheque for £1150 (2016 £1099) for which they were truly grateful, as they always are !



St. Oswald's relies on various voluntary contributions and my involvement with stamps and coins has stretched over the last 30 years. Many organisations and personal friends provide me with the

“raw” material which after sorting and grading is sold to several trade organisations .

Thank you to all who have contributed with donations, in one form or another, over the last year and I look forward to receiving more in the months to come.

My thanks once again.

Neil Cockburn

How will you spend eternity –
Smoking or non-smoking?

FROM CRISIS TO VICTORY !

The mind-chilling days of the First World War when in 100 days of 1918 the Allies gained victory when many people thought us to be heading for defeat, were described in Professor John Derry's easily understood and wonderfully descriptive style.

On January 8th the much loved Professor Derry, took us through these 100 days which turned the result of the war through 180 degrees.

He described the flaws in the German plans, from the early days of their success to where it went wrong and gave the Allies the road to victory, even though the Germans had got far enough to bombard Paris.

The entry of the Americans into the war was covered, along with the difficulty the British had in dealing with some of their allies. He also touched on the failure of the German U Boats to blockade the UK from receiving food, which led the British troops to have better food supplies in the field than their German counterparts.

A very interesting talk from a very popular speaker, who told me how much he enjoyed talking to the 58 Society every year and surprised me with his knowledge of the URC happenings at the coast.

DAFT AS A BRUSH

The next talk overlaps with the publication of Newstand, so the talk by DAFT AS A BRUSH - on January 22nd at 7:30 will have passed by the time you read this. This organisation was thought up and funded by Brian Burnie to buy and run mini buses which collect cancer patients from all over our region

The best vitamin for a Christian is B1

and take them to and from hospitals for treatment. A highly valued service, taken from nothing by a very far-sighted man – Brian Burnie.

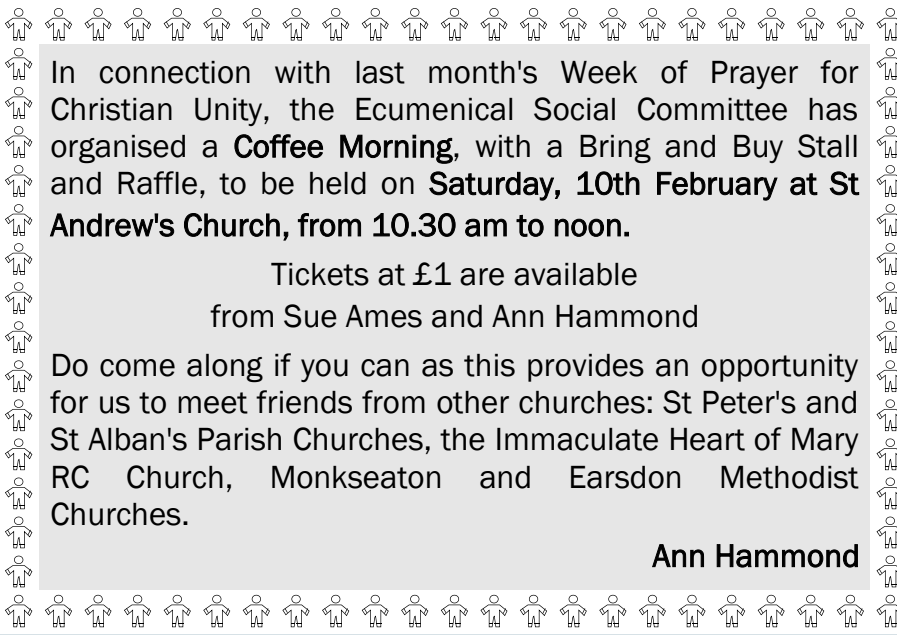
Forthcoming Events

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - on **Monday 5th February** at 7:30. It is important to attend as important decisions have to be made.

PLEASURES OF GENTLEMEN – Christian Clubbers in Victorian London – on **Monday 19th February** at 7:30. This intriguing subject is tackled by our own Revd Dr. Matthew Prevett.

We look forward to welcoming members and extending an especially warm welcome to guests.

Richard Varley



In connection with last month's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, the Ecumenical Social Committee has organised a **Coffee Morning**, with a Bring and Buy Stall and Raffle, to be held on **Saturday, 10th February at St Andrew's Church, from 10.30 am to noon.**

Tickets at £1 are available
from Sue Ames and Ann Hammond

Do come along if you can as this provides an opportunity for us to meet friends from other churches: St Peter's and St Alban's Parish Churches, the Immaculate Heart of Mary RC Church, Monkseaton and Earsdon Methodist Churches.

Ann Hammond

Under the same management for more than 2000 years



Thank you!

Thank you to all who supported St Andrew's Carol Singers before Christmas, including the patrons of Omni Restaurant and the Red House Pub Restaurant.

A grand total of £245 was raised for the Great North Air Ambulance.

2017/18 Charity Cheque Presentation

At Coffee after Morning Worship on Sunday 18th February we will be presenting cheques to the three charities selected by church members for the year 2017, namely Daft as a Brush, Marie Curie Palliative Care and the Elsdon Unit at Redesdale Court.

Date for the Diary

Saturday 24th March, 10 am - 2 pm - **Craft Fair.**

Ann Hammond

Bay Food Bank says "Thank You!"

On behalf of Jackie and Alan, the Bay Food Bank would like to say a very big Thank You for the wonderful Christmas contribution made by the congregation of St. Andrew's Church. Every item will be put to very welcome use.

We were able to help so many more people over the Christmas period and will be able to carry on providing the much needed help well into the coming year.

We hope you will all have a very happy and peaceful New Year. Thank you so very much.

Joan Blanchfield

Soul food served here

Dear Mr Hammond

Thank you for choosing to support the Great North Air Ambulance Service with your generous donation from members of St Andrew's Church carol singing event.



Last year, we flew 1042 missions across our region. We were there when those people needed us most. To enable us to continue to provide this service, we must raise £5.1m every year. We can only achieve this with the generous support of people like you.

Your donation of £245.00 will help toward the continued funding of life-saving services.

Best wishes,

Joanna Bell

On behalf of Great North Air Ambulance

Pancakes!



St Andrew's Pancake Tea
Tuesday 13th February 2018

4pm onwards

Come along and enjoy our delicious, gluten free pancakes, with a variety of savoury and sweet toppings.

What will you put on yours?

Games and activities to enjoy too!

Beat the Christmas rush —
Come to church this Sunday

Dear Michael [Spicer],

Once again, we have packed the bags full of your very generous contributions. They

[were] at Depaul Offices and [were] distributed by the staff as near as possible to Christmas Day.

We ask about the response of the young people and it is usually amazement and delight.

We place a Christmas card in each bag, from the Whitley Bay Churches, and ask the staff to put the young person's name on the envelope.

We packed 120 bags and where your generosity gave us more than requested we were able to add something extra to each bag.

Ann Garland and I thank you on behalf of Depaul who are so grateful for the help in making Christmas a bit happier for those who are unable to be with their families.



Sheila

[on behalf of Depaul UK]

Don't give up,
Moses was once a basket case

Festival of Remembrance & Reconciliation 2018

We need your help!



As part of our festival this October, we will be creating an art installation in the church containing hundreds of hand made poppies. Details of how you can get involved will be available later in the year but right now we need donations of the following items to help get our plans underway. We will place a box in the reception area or your donations can be handed directly to **Una Ketteridge**. Thank you!

Double knitting or 4 ply wool (Red, Black & White)

Felt (any size appreciated, Red, Black & White)

Plain or patterned red cotton or poly cotton fabric (small pieces)

Black buttons

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD

THAT HE GAVE

HIS ONLY

BEGOTTEN

SON

THAT WHOSOEVER

BELIEVETH IN HIM

SHOULD NOT PERISH

BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE

John 3:16

Submitted by Margaret Park

Life has many choices; Eternity has two.
What's yours?

ST. ANDREW'S 100 CLUB

December Draw

92 numbers went into the draw on 31st December.

The Winners were:

1st	No. 1	Liz Fletcher	£138.00
2nd	No. 4	Douglas McFarlane	£69.00
3rd	No. 71	Betty Hall	£23.00

£230 was given to Church funds.

The "100 Club" is a fund raising activity for Church funds. Each member pays £5 per month and the money is allocated as follows:

50% to Church funds
50% towards prize money

A monthly draw is held at a Church event or on the last Sunday of the month during morning coffee.

If you are interested in joining the "100 Club",
please contact:

Kathleen Hopper (2522345)

Worry is interest paid on trouble before it is warranted

DEATHS

SMITH Elizabeth Stark (Betty), aged 86 years,
on 24 December 2017.

Service and committal
at Whitley Bay on 10 January 2018
conducted by Revd Dr Matthew Prevett.

EASSON Jean, aged 90 years,
on 1 January 2018.

Service and committal
at Whitley Bay on 19 January 2018
conducted by Revd Dr Matthew Prevett.

Northern Synod Prayer Diary

4	Christ Church LEP (Methodist/URC), North Broomhill; Revd Linda Coulthard (Methodist); Synod Mission Enabler, Revd Jane Rowell.
11	Spring Synod Retreat at Shepherds Dene from 13 th – 15 th . Trinity LEP (Methodist/URC), Ashington; St Andrew's & St Mark's LEP (Methodist/URC), Newbiggin-by-the-Sea; Revd Marie Attwood (Methodist).
18	Waddington Street URC., Durham; St Andrew's, Dawson Street, Crook LEP (Methodist/URC); Revd Ray Anglesea; Revd Christopher Humble (Methodist).
25	PCM, the four Presbyterian Societies: Men's, Women's, Youth and Activists Group (young marrieds) and for our own fundraising for PCM; Fair Trade Fortnight: 26 th Feb – 11 th March; The Anglican Bishop of Newcastle Diocese, The Rt Revd Christine Hardman. Women's World Day of Prayer, Friday 2 nd March, when the theme is 'All God's Creation is Very Good' and material has been prepared by women of Suriname who focus on creation and our responsibility to care and look after it.

Preach the Gospel at all times
Use words if necessary



Book of Remembrance

The names of those we remember this month are

Peter Mallett

Sylvia Sadler Laws

Leslie C. Heighton

Fred Philipson Dodsworth

Beatrice Mary Dodsworth

Kenneth Roy Dodsworth

Margaret McDonald Waugh

Elsie Isobel Russell

William Mackay Adamson

George Duncan Winton

Norma Ridley

Helen Doo

St. Andrew's Book of Remembrance is open to all who wish to be remembered in the prayers of those in the church, be they former members or adherents, relatives, loved ones or friends, or just someone who had a connection with the life of the church.

To have a name entered, please complete a form available on the table at the rear of the church or email Tim Cooke.

Prevent truth decay
Brush up on your Bible

Monthly Duties

Vestry Elder	M. Varley
Vestibule Elders	S. Ames, J. Blanchfield
Stewards	Una Ketteridge, Joy Campbell
Flowers	Jenny & Hazel

Weekly Duties

Sun 04-Feb-18	Readers: G & J Yarrow Prayers of Concern: P. Hartley	Organ: Paul
Tues 06-Feb-18	Prayers: S. Ames	
Sun 11-Feb-18	Readers: H. Hall, V. Taylor Prayers of Concern: H. Hall	Organ: Helen
Tues 13-Feb-18	Prayers: D. McFarlane	
Sun 18-Feb-18	Readers: Junior Church, A. Cockburn Prayers of Concern: M. Prevett	Organ: Pete
Tues 20-Feb-18	Prayers: K. Hopper	
Sun 25-Feb-18	Readers: C. Hales, D. McFarlane Prayers of Concern: J. Hooper	Organ: Alex
Tues 27-Feb-18	Prayers: C. Mallett	

Newstand Dates

March edition published	Sunday 25 Feb 2018
Hardcopy contributions in Editor's box	Sunday 18 Feb 2018
Email copy to standrewsnewstand@gmail.com	Monday 19 Feb 2018
Earlier contributions are appreciated!	

Church Contacts

Minister	The Revd Dr Matthew Prevett revdmatthewprevett@gmail.com	253 2562
Associate Minister	The Revd Douglas McFarlane 4 Hamilton Way, Whitley Bay, NE26 1JN	252 6925
Secretary	Mr Raymond Hammond, annray@talktalk.net 3 Cauldwell Close, Whitley Bay, NE25 8LP	252 3319
Assistant Secretaries	Mrs Ann Hammond 3 Cauldwell Close, Whitley Bay, NE25 8LP	252 3319
	Miss Carole Mallett 54 Brantwood Avenue, Whitley Bay, NE25 8NJ	252 1723
Treasurer and Gift Aid Secretary	Mr Kevin Ames 17 Kelso Drive, North Shields, NE29 9NS	251 3016
Assistant Treasurer	Mrs Jenny Hooper 15 Brislee Ave, Tynemouth, NE30 2SQ	—
Community Elder & Hall Lettings	Ray & Ann Hammond, annray@talktalk.net 3 Cauldwell Close, Whitley Bay, NE25 8LP	252 3319
Newstand Business Manager	Miss Carole Mallett 54 Brantwood Avenue, Whitley Bay, NE25 8NJ	252 1723
Newstand, Website and Social Media	Tim Cooke, standrewsnewstand@gmail.com 4, Kingfisher Way, Blyth, NE24 3QR	01670 354834

Disclaimer: Details of events, contacts and other material were correct at time of publication based on information received by the Newstand publishing team.

The views expressed are those of the individual contributors and may not represent the view of the URC, St Andrew's Church Meeting or its Elders.

Photographs and other clipart used under Creative Commons licencing, or taken/created by Church members, unless otherwise indicated.

Open Door Coffee Mornings
every Tuesday and Thursday
from 10am to Noon

CHURCH CALENDAR

Feb / Mar 2018

A short Act of Worship is
held in the Church Foyer
every Tuesday at 9.30am

Friday	2	Friendship Club	2.00 pm
Sunday	4	Prayer Group	10.30 am
		Communion Service; Revd Dr Matthew Prevett & Revd Douglas McFarlane	11.00 am
		Messy Church	3.30 pm
Monday	5	Fifty Eight Society Annual General Meeting	7.30 pm
Tuesday	6	Executive Team Meeting	10.00 am
Saturday	10	Ecumenical Coffee Morning	10.30 am
Sunday	11	Morning Worship; Worship Group	11.00 am
Tuesday	13	Pancake Tea	4.00 pm
Thursday	15	Pastoral Team Meeting	7.30 pm
Friday	16	Friendship Club	2.00 pm
Sunday (Lent 1)	18	Communion Service; Revd Dr Matthew Prevett	9.30 am
		Morning Worship; Revd Dr Matthew Prevett	11.00 am
Monday	19	Fifty Eight Society – ‘Pleasures of Gentlemen: Christian Clubbers in Victorian London’	7.30 pm
Friday	23	Film Club – ‘Their Finest’	2.00 pm
Saturday	24	Open Meeting – Hope 6: Sustainable breakeven budget	10.00 am
Sunday (Lent 2)	25	Morning Worship; Revd Dr Matthew Prevett	11.00 am
MARCH 2018			
Friday	2	Friendship Club	2.00 pm
		Women’s World Day of Prayer Service at St. Edwards URC	3.00 pm
Saturday	3	Open Meeting - Hope 2: Families & children in worshipping life of the Church	10.00 am
Sunday (Lent 3)	4	Prayer Group	10.30 am
		Communion Service; Revd Dr M Prevett & Revd K Watson (Assembly Moderator)	11.00 am
		Messy Church	3.30 pm