



St. Andrew's URC
Monkseaton, Whitley Bay

NEWSTAND

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March 2020

LENT:
GIVE UP
TAKE ON
OR BOTH
YOUR CHOICE

NEWSTAND is the church magazine of
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monkseatonurc

Features and Regulars in this issue of NEWSTAND

Minister's Musings	3
Café Church <i>is coming again!</i>	5
Film Club — <i>Downton Abbey</i>	6
Transitional Working Group Update	7
Sex and Faith — <i>What does the bible really say?</i>	11
Lent Ecumenical Services — "At home in Lent"	12
Activities Team — <i>Upcoming events</i>	13
Hope 6 — Budget update	14
Church AGM — <i>Sunday 22 March, 12 noon</i>	15
Find silent and listen — <i>Thoughts from the Hope 4 team</i>	16
Week of prayer for Christian unity & Churches Together	19
100 Club	23
Prayer Diary	24
Book of Remembrance & Church Register	25
Monthly & Weekly Duties and Newstand Dates	26
Church Contacts	27
Church Calendar	Back Page

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please contact Carole Mallett or Tim Cooke.
You can also download it from the website.



The season of Lent issues an annual invitation for us to deepen our walk with God.

We begin on Ash Wednesday (23 Feb), with the reminder that Dust we are and to dust we will return. Life is short. Are we living the life God has for us? Have we opened our hands to receive grace upon grace?

Lent is a season of honest self-examination that prepares us for the Great Alleluia that is Easter. We are reminded that little deaths lead to new life. Nothing is lost in the ecology of God. Mistakes morph into wisdom. Hurt and disappointment, engaged truthfully, become soil which nourishes hope and possibility. Small triumphs of love become seeds that grow into great bushes of sheltering love. Life in all its terror and wonder goes on. The paschal mystery of death and resurrection enables us to stand in grace. We learn to let go of that which does not lead to flourishing. We learn the art of forgiveness, accepting and extending the love that will not let us go.

Throughout Lent Jesus looks at us with love and invites us into the time and space in which to consider the one thing that is needful (Luke 10:42). He is inviting us simply to be in his presence for a while and to draw from the deep well that he is. He wants to slake our thirst and renew our spirits.

I am grateful for this invitation. It is an opportunity to clear the decks, choose activities by whether they foster intimacy with God and others, and examine how I am stewarding the

More random lines of thought

precious gift that is my life. Am I using my gifts and talents as God might wish? Are my relationships honest and nourishing? What might I be avoiding in my busyness that may be important? Are there things to repair or risk as I seek to live out the love that gives us all life?

Lenten disciplines traditionally are taken on to facilitate the process. They range from giving things up to taking things on (or both). In these pages you will find invitations to Friday Lent services and a Sunday afternoon study group. The key is to listen for the divine nudge: what might the Spirit be prompting you to do or not do this season? One year I gave up the little voice in my head that said I am inadequate – that was a terrific Lenten discipline that freed me simply to be and give what I am with less worry. Another year I gave up using private motor vehicles (I lived in Oxford; I could use my bike or take the bus everywhere I needed to be). This year I am taking a good look at my prayer, noticing. I ask myself: What helps me to draw from the deep well? What helps me to live out my most deeply held values?

Some approach Lent with a sense of duty, but I see it as opportunity – an opportunity to realign and readjust where I've gotten off track or forgotten the most important thing and a chance to drink deeply and joyfully the water that gushes up to abundant life.

In Christian love and friendship,

Carla

No relationship, whether in marriage or in any other context,
flourishes without commitment.



As you know, we have been working on making our worship services accessible and meaningful to a wider set of people. Café style worship is a more relaxed and informal style of service, taking place around tables in the sanctuary, that is particularly appreciated by younger people. In early February Andrew Cooke told us about how the URC Youth Assembly worshipped around tables, providing opportunities for sharing thoughts and insights and building relationships. From our past experience at St Andrew's, we have discovered that many of us oldies find café worship pleasurable and meaningful! Indeed, our Monday afternoon worship services are café style, to great appreciation.

The real gift of café worship to my mind is that it enables us to share our insights about the day's Bible readings, rather than just listening to me share my thoughts. I find it thrilling to look out on people gathered at tables around the open Bible. On **Sunday 8 March** we will worship this way. I will provide some background to the day's Bible readings, but most of the wrestling and wisdom-gathering will be from you. You know much more than you realise.

We at St Andrew's seek to meet the spiritual needs of every member and to support one another in our faith journeys. If you think café worship is not your cup of tea, consider coming along anyway. New experiences can surprise us and you may have something to offer to the conversation that will help another, as we seek to walk God's way together.

Future dates of Café Church: 8 March, 12 July and 11 October.

Carla

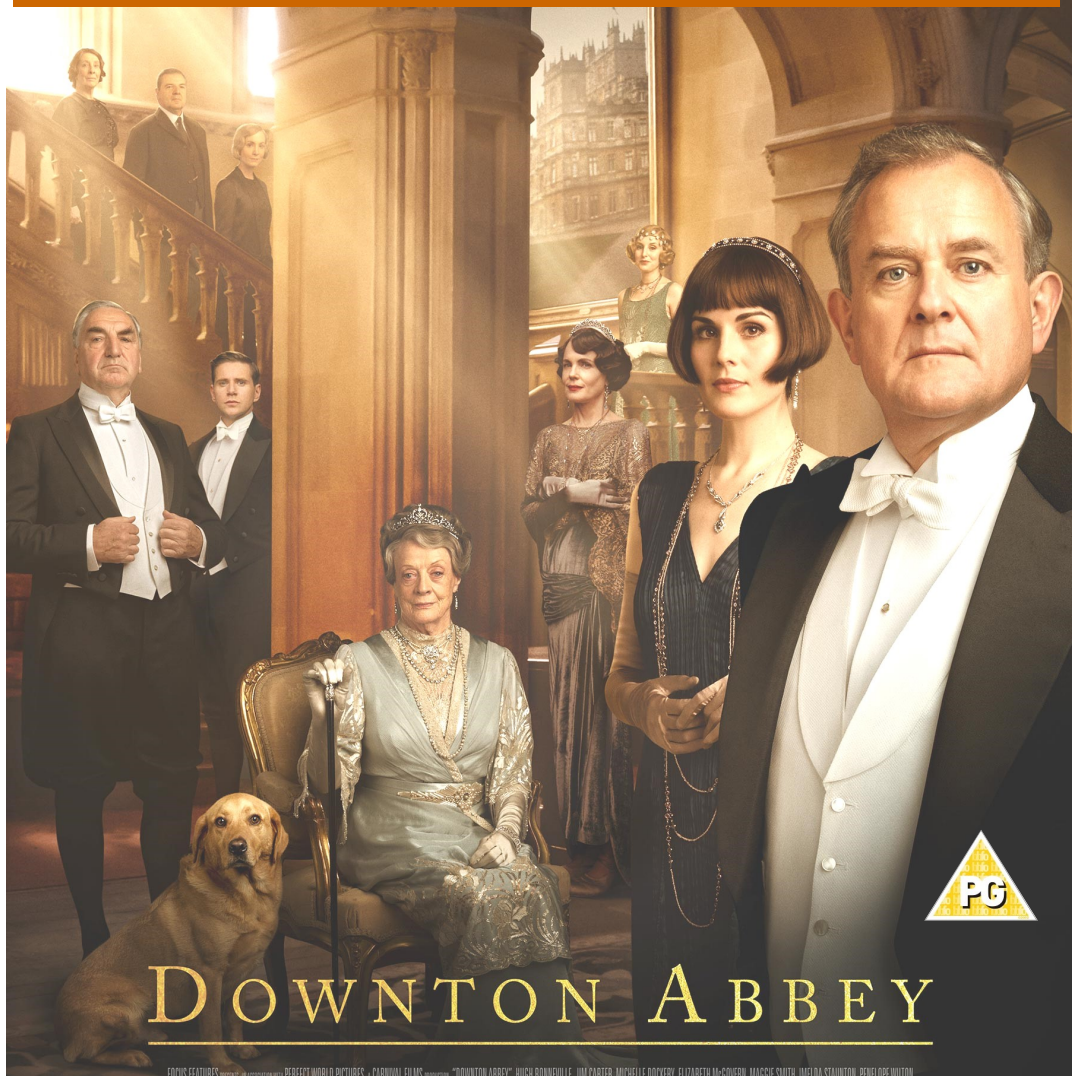
No-one is useless in this world who lightens the burden of another.
(Charles Dickens)

Film Club

We've been expecting you

Friday 20 March, 2.00pm

The continuing story of the Crawley family, wealthy owners of a large estate in the English countryside in the early 20th century.



FOCUS FEATURES PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH PERFECT WORLD PICTURES A CARIVIAL FILMS PRODUCTION "DOWNTON ABBEY" HUGH BONNEVILLE JIM CARTER MICHELLE DOCKERY ELIZABETH MCGOVERN MAGGIE SMITH IMELDA STAUNTON PENELOPE WILTON
CASTING BY MARK HILLGROB MUSIC BY JUDAH L. LIND COSTUME DESIGNER ANNA RICHMOND EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS MARK ROY PRODUCED BY DONALD WOODS WRITTEN BY BEN SHATTHART DIRECTED BY NICHOLAS MARSHALLANT BRIAN PERKINS BASED UPON THE TV SERIES BY JANE MURFIN PRODUCED BY JULIAN FELLOWS & JEFF HARRISON

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



We are heading towards the culmination of our work. Our last church lunch discussion will be **Sunday 1 March**, when we will look at our **2020**

Hopes and ask where we are now and where do we sense the Spirit is moving us? The table discussions will give us a chance to look at the specific Hopes and also to ask whether there are other Hopes, not yet articulated, that are bubbling up. This is very appropriate for the season of Lent. ***If you haven't yet attended one of our Sunday lunch discussions, please consider coming to this one.*** Everyone's input is valued, and people have generally really enjoyed the conversations around the tables. We are particularly interested in prioritising our Hopes as we can't do everything and want to focus our energies to do the most important things well.

The **2 Feb church lunch discussion** was about **reasonable expectations of a minister**. Given that so much has changed around us, our expectations of what a minister can do for and with us need some adjustment. First, we are currently scoped for 75% of a minister. That means 30-36 hours a week flexibly under URC guidelines. Our new permanent minister, whenever she or he is called, will most likely be younger than many of us as the URC retirement age is 68 and our average age is older than that. Their social lives will not necessarily revolve around the church the way it did when we were young and middle-aged. They may have a family or a partner to care for, and the Church now encourages ministers to be faithful to those responsibilities. We can no longer expect ministers to be available 24/7. We can expect, though, that our pastoral care

The lives of many well-known Christians have shown that ordinary people are capable of doing extraordinary things.

system of Elders + Pastoral Visitors will alert the minister to when one of us requires a ministerial visit.

Our discussions around the tables produced a list of expectations that we would like to see fulfilled. Some of these expectations may not be reasonable. **What will be important is that we will have open and honest conversations with our next minister about our expectations and their expectations** so that we can find a way together to meet our needs, their needs, and the purposes of God for St Andrew's. It is also important that we work in partnership with our minister, and take seriously our need to support one another in fulfilling St Andrews' ministry and mission. Here is the summary of our table conversations, which will go to the Vacancy Committee when it is formed:

Reasonable expectations

- Pastoral care if needed – as an elder may alert the minister
- Support the elders in pastoral care, especially in sensitive situations
- To get to know members by name and their family circumstances
- Good social skills – can talk to anyone; approachable
- Able to make changes gradually and with good reason
- Able to interact with all ages and with groups outside of the church
- To take care of themselves and their family; not to be available 24/7
- To be a good leader, not a dictator

Today's heavenly forecast: God will reign for ever.

- To be able to use modern technology for outreach and communication
- To explore alternative musical accompaniment
- To explore different worship times and types – seeking to reach more people
- To have a positive and supportive outlook
- To lead worship
- Awareness of the 75% time limit on the post
- Meeting and greeting
- Outreach with senior and junior schools through RE curriculum
- Communicator
- Wear a clerical collar

[Carla added on the day: Biblical knowledge, theological knowledge and awareness of world events]

How we can support a minister in our work together:

- A pastoral support team chosen by the minister who monitors work load and confidentially supports the minister
- An administrative secretary
- By volunteering
- By reducing our expectations; the minister is human
- By being adaptable to change and to have the future in mind
- By turning up and not staying away if not particularly interested in what's going on
- By seeking to understand ourselves and others

When I admire the wonders of a sunset or the beauty of the moon, my soul expands in the worship of the creator (Mahatma Gandhi)

- By not muttering, but suggesting improvements or solutions to difficulties

Finally, St Andrew's **Annual General Meeting** will take place on **Sunday 23 March** during a church lunch after worship (our new not-secret weapon for building our community!). At the AGM we will have the opportunity to review our period of transitional ministry with Carla, which will come to an end on 19 April. We hope everyone – church members and friends – will attend (**all** are welcome to attend, though only St. Andrew's Members will be able to vote on any matters). More details on the AGM elsewhere in Newstand.

As always, please don't hesitate to talk to any of us about our work. We are: Sue Ames, Robin Christopher, Catriona Fenwick, Chris Hales, Hazel Hall, Ray Hammond, Jenny Hooper, Una Ketteridge, Rhoda Lee, Alison Mood, Celia Purves, Eddie Thompson, John Thorpe and Joan Yarrow.

Thank You!

Many thanks for the delightful gift delivered for my significant birthday. No prizes for guessing which one, but an underestimate would be welcome!!

Robin C.

When people say religion and politics don't mix, I ask them which Bible they are reading. (Archbishop Desmond Tutu)



**“You shall not lie with a male as with a woman;
it is an abomination”. Leviticus 18:22**

Pretty clear cut... or is it?

Sunday afternoons in March from 3-4:30pm, Carla will lead a series on sex and faith. For the last ten years she has taught short courses for ordinands preparing for ministry on the subject in Cambridge, Oxford and elsewhere. She'll adapt the material and give us a chance to see what the Bible and Christian tradition have to say about sex, the big ideas and development in the human sciences, and the link between sexuality and spirituality (hint: they are both about love). There will be space for questions and conversations.

Here are the dates:

- 1 March Sex and the Bible
- 8 March Sex and Christian tradition
- 15 March Sex and the sciences
- 22 March Sexuality and spirituality
- 29 March A Christian sexual ethic for
the 21st century?

All are welcome.

If you have any questions, contact Carla by email at cagroschmiller@yahoo.co.uk or telephone on 07427 838 370.

Sex and Faith — What does the bible really say?

Life isn't a race. It's a journey to be savoured each step of the way.

St Andrew's United Reformed Church
Eastfield Avenue, Monkseaton

Lent Ecumenical Services

every Friday at 12.30pm

followed by soup at 1pm

commencing on March 13 for 4 weeks





On **Sunday 8 March** after the service we will be presenting cheques to the three charities chosen by church members for 2019 which were Bloodwise, North of England Children's Cancer Research and Hearing Dogs for the Deaf.

On **Saturday 14 March at 7.00 pm** a **Poetry and Plonk Evening** is being held. This provides an opportunity for people to listen and/or share their favourite poems with others while enjoying a glass of wine (or soft drink). When we held such an evening last year it proved popular and very entertaining with a variety of poems ranging from Spike Milligan to Shakespeare. Tickets at £5 will be available soon.

Just prior to Easter we will be holding the **Annual Craft Fair** on **Saturday 4 April**. This provides an opportunity to buy Easter cards and gifts and enjoy coffee and light lunches. Please come along if you can and give your support.

Dates for the Diary

Table Top Sale (in aid of Christian Aid) –

Saturday 9 May, 10 am – 2.00 pm

To book a table please contact Ray Hammond, telephone: 252 3319

Scones of Praise (in aid of Christian Aid) -

Sunday 17 May, 3.30 pm

Looking even further ahead, the **Annual Church Fair** will take place on **Saturday 21 November**.

Ann Hammond

Youth would be great if it came a bit later in life.



Hope 6 - Budget

Month	December	Year to date
Income	£9,503	£92,842
Expenditure	£12,648	£97,976
Surplus/Deficit	-£3,145	-£5,134

The above is typical for the time of year. Further details of the budget will be in the Treasurer's report at the AGM.

From an Unknown Soldier in the 19th Century

I asked God for strength that I might achieve;
I was made weak that I might learn humbly to obey.
I asked for help that I might do greater things;
I was given infirmity that I might do better things.
I asked for riches that I might be happy;
I was given poverty that I might be wise.
I asked for power that I might have the praise of others;
I was given weakness that I might feel the need of God.
I asked for all things that I might enjoy life;
I was given life that I might enjoy all things.
I got nothing that I asked for, but everything I hoped for.
My unspoken prayers were answered.
I am, among all people, most richly blessed.

You will never see a rainbow, with all its promise,
if you are looking down.



Annual Church Meeting Sunday 22 March at 12 noon.

This is the meeting at which the various officers and Teams that run the church on a day to day basis are elected.

Details of the current Teams and their membership are posted up in the church vestibule on the notice board adjacent to the Flower Room door, along with all official lists, duty rotas etc.

Notices seeking nominations of people to serve as officers or on the Teams will be posted up shortly on the church notice board in the Reception Area and the Agenda and the Annual Report will be circulated by your Elder nearer the day.

A sandwich lunch will be available. Looking forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Ray Hammond
Church Secretary

A Morning Prayer

So far today God, I have done all right. I haven't gossiped, I haven't lost my temper and I haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or over-indulgent. And I haven't told anyone to mind their own business and stay out of mine. I'm really glad about all that. But in a few minutes, God, I'm going to get out of bed and from then on I'm probably going to need a lot of help.

Wisdom comes with age,
but sometimes it appears that age comes alone.

Find silence and listen



There are many times in the New Testament where the Gospels tell the stories of how Jesus went up 'on to a mountain' or where Jesus 'withdrew to lonely places to pray', for example Matthew 14:23; Matthew 14:22; Mark 1:35; Mark 6: 45; Luke 5:16; Luke 6:12; Luke 9: 28-29. With the crowds following him wherever he went during his healing and teaching, Jesus often stepped back away from people, at times even away from his disciples. Jesus took himself away from the busyness that was his life to have time to be at peace, to find rest, to find time to pray and in that time to listen to God.

In what would seem our increasingly busy lives, dealing with the simple necessities of life, the ordinary things of life such as household chores, shopping, attending appointments or perhaps necessary interruptions to our lives do you sometimes feel that you would like time just to be? Time just to have quiet moments. Do you sometimes think in our multi-tasking society that perhaps we have lost the art of just stepping back as Jesus did, to be away from the busyness of daily life? Do you sometimes think we have perhaps lost the ability to move away from the noise and bustle that can surround us and find silence, to be at peace and to have that space, time and silence to listen for the voice of God? External silence fosters internal silence.

Listening is a natural part of our human make-up; how much more can we gain by listening to the voice of God?

They say that Heck is the place people go to
if they don't believe in Gosh!

We don't have to climb mountains but just find space and time, to find quiet and peace, to have time out, and to focus on the Lord. And while we step back and stop, God doesn't, God keeps on working and, in that space and time, in that time of peace, God will speak to us...just listen.

In Prayer, the Hymn:

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Fill me with life anew,
that I may love what Thou dost love,
and do what Thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Until my heart is pure,
Until with Thee I will one will,
To do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Till I am wholly Thine,
Until this earthly part of me
Glows with Thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
So shall I never die,
But live with Thee the perfect life
Of Thine eternity.

Amen

Edwin Hatch 1878

Submitted by the Hope 4 Team

There are some things we can never recover: the stone after it has been thrown, the word after it is spoken and time after it has been spent.

A “Thank You” from Florence

Florence Burnett-White would like to extend her sincere thanks to friends at St Andrew’s for all the cards, flowers, gifts and good wishes which she received on the occasion of her 100th birthday (27th January).

Florence’s deteriorating eyesight prevents her from sending individual thank you cards, but she was overwhelmed and humbled by all the greetings which people had sent to her. She had a small celebration in Eastbourne House on the Saturday afternoon, which was attended by close friends and members of her family from far and wide, including her granddaughter from Australia and grandson from Germany. Florence is a very good conversationalist, being extremely alert and interested in current affairs and happenings around the world, as well as at St Andrew’s. During the afternoon, therefore, she was able to give a delightful speech.

A photograph of Florence, wearing the ‘100’ tiara given to her by the staff at Eastbourne House, is pinned up on the church notice board.

Carole Mallett
(on behalf of Florence)

If you could kick the backside of the person who has hurt you the most, you wouldn’t be able to sit down for weeks.



The theme, universally, for this week was entitled “Unusual Kindness”. The service was put together by the Churches of Malta and Gozo, inspired by the arrival of Paul on the island (the whole story can be read in Acts Chapter 27) where he was shipwrecked and met with “unusual kindness” by the people of Malta.

The service, held on Wednesday 22nd January, was at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in West Monkseaton, a beautiful modern Roman Catholic Church. The 14 stations of the cross and the carving of the Last Supper on the front of the altar are truly breath-taking; they were carved by a member of the congregation a few years ago.

One of the prayers which we would call the “Prayer of Concern” was very moving so I would like to quote just a few lines from it:

“We cannot face the storms of life alone. A boat moves forward when all row together. In the face of difficulties we recognise the need to pull together and to unite our efforts.

Gracious God, strengthen our confidence in your providence when we feel overwhelmed by the storms of life.

Gracious God, teach us to fix our course on Christ, the True Light who brings us to safe harbour.”

Alleluia!!

This short service was followed by a Churches Together meeting where 14 people attended.

1. Father Andrew Faley is standing down as Chairman and will be replaced by the Revd Alan Dickinson, the pastor at the Bay Church.

Common sense is a flower that doesn't grow in everyone's garden.

2. We intend to hold meetings more frequently.
3. Easter Services – The churches are holding several services through Holy Week, including several ecumenical services:
 - Four Lenten services on Fridays at 12.30 pm followed by soup – held at St Andrew’s commencing 13th March 2020.
 - Good Friday at 12 noon in the middle of Monkseaton (outdoors)
 - Sunrise services:
 - ♦ Cullercoats Bay
 - ♦ Whitley Bay Promenade opposite the Beefeater/ Premier Inn (followed by breakfast at the Beefeater).
4. Sunday 31st May – Sites along the Northumbrian Coast – prayers for 30 minutes followed by the lighting of a Beacon (details to be finalised).
5. Community Day organised by North Tyneside Council in the Whitley Bay Library on Thursday 20th February between 2.30 pm – 5.00 pm. Churches Together will be taking a table.
6. Financial report – Healthy! 2020 will be a FREE year – no subscription will be required.
7. DePaul organises Gift Bags for Christmas (St Andrew’s contributes) but volunteers for next December are required to put them together.

We then finished with the saying of the Grace.

Val Taylor

If you can tell the truth, you don’t have to remember anything.
(Mark Twain)

Have you been there?

I like to travel, but I've never been in Kahoots
because you can't go there alone.

But I've been in Cognito. and no one recognized me.

I have often been in Sane
and I was driven there each time by my family.

I refused to go to Conclusions because
they like you to jump all the time and I'm not fit.

I've been in Flexible,
but only when it was very important to stand firm.

Sometimes I find myself in Capable
and I expect to go there more often as I get older.

A great place to be is in Suspense
because you feel you are living life on the edge
and at my age I need all the stimulus I can get.

A retired vicar and his wife were feeling their age but managed to struggle by with their various ailments. One morning, before getting out of bed, the vicar heard his wife say, "I think I am dead." Not unnaturally the vicar was concerned about this remark and he said to his wife, "What on earth makes you think you are dead?" His wife replied, "I am absolutely sure I must be dead." The vicar thought he would play along with this, so he said, "Give me one good reason why you think you are dead." His wife said, "Because I have woken up this morning and nothing hurts".



You should never regret growing old –
it's a privilege denied to many

Serenity – another version

God, grant me the serenity to accept the people I cannot change, which is pretty much everyone, since I'm clearly not you, God. At least not the last time I checked. And while you're at it, God, please give me the courage to change what I need to change about myself, which is frankly a lot since, once again, I'm not you, which means I'm not perfect. It's better for me to focus on changing myself than to worry about changing other people who, as you'll no doubt remember me saying, I can't change anyway. Finally, give me the wisdom to just shut up whenever I think that I'm clearly smarter than anyone else in the room, or that no-one knows what they're talking about except me, or that I alone have all the answers. Basically, God, grant me the wisdom to remember that I'm not you.

Amen

Awesome
Wonder

I understand Heaven is a place
where life never sleeps.
Still, is there a little resting place for me?
Will Earth's weights be done with,
when my Spirit is released
and the Light of Heaven reflects me in Eternity?
Will these thoughts then be forgotten,
of need to rest and refresh for this Soul
that has breathed the human breath?

©Ruthie Thomas 2019

Worrying doesn't take away tomorrow's troubles;
it takes away today's peace of mind

ST. ANDREW'S 100 CLUB

January Draw

90 numbers went into the draw on 26 January.

The Winners were:

1st	No. 71	Betty Hall	£135.00
2nd	No. 42	Dorothy Postle	£67.00
3rd	No. 83	John MacLennan	£22.00

£225.00 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 (split 30% / 15% / 5%)

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)

Sign in a cemetery: People are prohibited from picking flowers
from any but their own grave.

We remember in our prayers week by week the churches of the Synod, Synod officers, groups and committees. We also remember significant dates in the church and world calendars.



1	Trinity LEP (Methodist/URC), Bedlington; Elsdon Avenue LEP (Meth/URC), Seaton Delaval; Blyth URC; World Day of Prayer at St Andrew's, Monkseaton (6 th March), theme 'Rise! Take your mat and walk'.
8	Synod Meeting at Roker URC, Sunderland (14 March). Our Synod Moderator, Revd Dave Herbert; Synod Clerk, Mrs Melanie Campbell; Synod Treasurer, Mr Gordon Wanless; Spring Synod Retreat at Shepherd's Dene, Riding Mill (10-12 March).
15	St Cuthbert's Centre, Holy Island; Revd Rachel Poolman (Warden).
22	Waddington Street URC, Durham; Bethel URC, Chester-le-Street; Christ Church URC, Stanley; Denewell Avenue and Cromer Avenue URC's, Gateshead; Revd Marcus Hargis.
29	Mothering Sunday. PCM, its congregations in and around the capital, Maputo. Chair of the Darlington Methodist District, Revd Richard Andrew.

Our days will be that much better if, instead of giving people a piece of our mind, we give them a bit of our heart



*The names of those we remember
this month are*

*Baby Holborn
Stuart Mackay Adamson
Jenny Evelyn Merrick
Edna Thwaites
Ann Mitchell Young
James Alexander Murphy
Arthur Parr
Constance Mary Lisle*

If you live a good, honest, righteous life,
when you get older you will be able to look back
and enjoy it all over again

DEATHS

BARNES William Edward,
on 15th January 2020, aged 92 years.
Service at St Andrew's on 7th February,
followed by committal at Whitley Bay,
conducted by Dr Ann Sinclair.

In those churches where vagueness regarding the true Christian message
is the vogue, all they will have is the courage of their confusions

Monthly Duties

Elders	Vestry: Carole Mallett Reception: Barbara Watson Communion: Paul Hartley
Stewards	Eddie and Beryl Thompson
Flowers	01-Jenny, rest TBC after AGM on 24th Feb

Weekly Duties

Sun 01-Mar-2020	Readers: Gordon and Joan Yarrow Prayers of Concern: Una Ketteridge	Organ: Helen
Tue 03-Mar-2020	Prayers: Una Ketteridge	
Sun 08-Mar-2020	Readers: J Blanchfield and A Cooke Prayers of Concern: Chris Hales	Organ: Pete
Tue 10-Mar-2020	Prayers: Carole Mallett	
Sun 15-Mar-2020	Readers: Geoff Mills and Carole Mallett Prayers of Concern: Barbara Burgess	Organ: Paul
Tue 17-Mar-2020	Prayers: Ray Hammond	
Sun 22-Mar-2020	Readers: Chris Hales and Jenny Hooper Prayers of Concern: Andrew Cooke	Organ: Pete
Tue 24-Mar-2020	Prayers: Barbara Burgess	
Sun 29-Mar-2020	Readers: Alison Mood & Anne Cockburn Prayers of Concern: Chris Taylor	Organ: Alex
Tue 31-Mar-2020	Prayers: Una Ketteridge	

Newstand Dates

Next edition, published last Sunday of month:	Sunday 29 Mar 2020
Hardcopy contributions in Editor's box by	Sunday 22 Mar 2020
Email copy to standrewsnewstand@gmail.com	Monday 23 Mar 2020
Earlier contributions are appreciated!	

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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.

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

CHURCH CALENDAR

Mar / Apr2020

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

Sunday	1	(Lent 1) Communion Service; Revd Dr Carla Grosch-Miller. Followed by Church Lunch and Discussion	11.00 am
Monday	2	Fifty Eight Society – 'Strange Tales of Old Newcastle'	7.30 pm
Tuesday	3	Executive Team Meeting	10.00 am
Friday	6	World Day of Prayer Service at St Andrew's	2.00 pm
Saturday	7	Fifty Eight Society Coffee Morning	10.00 am
Sunday	8	Praise Service; Praise Team	9.30 am
		Prayer Group	10.15 am
		(Lent 2) Cafe Church; Revd Dr Carla Grosch-Miller	11.00 am
Monday	9	Afternoon service hosted and led by the Worship Group	2.00 pm
Thursday	12	Elders' Meeting	7.30 pm
Friday	13	Lent Service followed by soup	12.30 pm
		Friendship Club	2.00 pm
Saturday	14	Poetry and Plonk Evening	7.00 pm
Sunday	15	Communion Service; Revd Douglas McFarlane	9.30 am
		(Lent 3) Morning Worship; Revd Ted Marley	11.00 am
Monday	16	Activities Team Meeting	2.00 pm
		Fifty Eight Society – 'Wooden Boats and Iron Men'	7.30 pm
Tuesday	17	Worship Group Meeting	6.30 pm
Friday	20	Lent Service followed by soup	12.30 pm
		Film Club – 'Downton Abbey'	2.00 pm
Sunday	22	(Lent 4) Morning Worship; Revd Dave Herbert (Northern Synod Moderator)	11.00 am
		Annual Church Meeting	12.00 pm
Friday	27	Lent Service followed by soup	12.30 pm
		Friendship Club Easter Lunch 1.00 FOR	1.30 pm
Sunday	29	(Lent 5) Morning Worship; Revd Dr Carla Grosch-Miller (Mothering Sunday)	11.00 am
		Messy Church	3.30 pm
Monday	30	Fifty Eight Society – end of session meal NOTE EARLIER TIME	7.00 pm
APRIL 2020			
Thursday	2	Elders' Meeting	7.30 pm
Friday	3	Lent Service followed by soup	12.30 pm
Saturday	4	Craft Fair	10.00 am