

# *Group News*



**\* 2022 \* *September* \* 2022 \***

The monthly magazine for:

**Guisborough URC**

56 Westgate, Guisborough, TS14 6AY: Church Secretary 01287 637273

**Redcar URC**

Station Road, Redcar, TS10 1RQ: Contact 07742 720090

**St Andrew's URC, Nunthorpe and Marton**

Cypress Road, Marton, TS7 8PD: Church Secretary 01642 550854

Our churches are members of the Cleveland Joint Pastorate

Part of the URC Northern Synod – [www.urch-northernsynod.org.uk](http://www.urch-northernsynod.org.uk)

[www.eastclevelandurc.org.uk](http://www.eastclevelandurc.org.uk)



# Pastoral Letter

*The woman left her water jar and returned to the city. She said to the people there, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I had ever done. He cannot be the Messiah can he?'*

*John 4 28-29*

We will all at some time or other have been in a situation when a friend or acquaintance says to us, 'Let me introduce you to so-and-so.' This can, of course be nothing more than a formality, an expected social nicety, but it can mean a great deal more. A simple introduction can lead to a fascinating encounter and even a lasting friendship as two people move from being complete strangers towards getting to know each other.

If we consider that in relation to the words of the Samaritan woman in John's gospel, we might see a parallel. It may not have been an introduction in the strict sense of the word but it had much the same effect, persuading those to whom she was speaking to meet Jesus for themselves, - to talk with Him and enter into a personal encounter. And the result? 'Many Samaritans from that city believed in Him because of the woman's testimony.' (John 3 v. 39)

There is an important lesson here when it comes to Christian testimony. We might sometimes try to argue people into faith, imagining that we need to answer all their questions before they can come to believe. What is actually required, however is something far simpler, - merely to introduce people to Jesus, - to ensure that they know of Him and about Him. we can do our part....the rest is up to Him!

Shalom

Jan

# *Synod Prayers*

## **4 September:- Climate Sunday**

Green Apostle Revd Trevor Jamison and the congregation he serves – St Columba's North Shields.

## **11 September:- Education Sunday.**

Racial Justice Sunday. Revd Ryan Sirmons; St James's URC, Newcastle; St Andrew's URC, Kenton; Jesmond URC, West End URC.

## **18 September:**

Longframlington URC; Rothbury URC; St Andrew's URC, Glanton; Revd Ed Butlin.

## **25 September:- Peacemaking Sunday.**

PCM, Lay training and evening classes at Khovo in Maputo. Northern Baptist Regional Minister, Revd Paul Revill.

# *Vacancy*

Behind the scenes our Church Secretaries are continuing to work on plans for the ongoing vacancy. We will continue to be supported by Jane Rowell until she leaves her current post in the spring. We have also accepted an offer from Synod to appoint Rev Sue Walker as a Pastoral Friend. Sue is an established minister who has recently moved into the area but is not looking for a charge at the current time. The church secretaries and elders look forward to her guidance as we continue to develop arrangements for the Cleveland Joint Pastorate. The current focus of work is to write a meaning unified single Profile for the Joint Pastorate that adequately reflects our churches but yet remains brief enough to be readable and fit for purpose. Alongside this work is a need to plan for how a minister could successfully support all our churches and have a professionally fulfilling job.

# Guisborough

## Let Us Pray

I have heard friends in conversations recently, make the same comment. Yes they too have broken a previously regular habit.

They no longer watch television news.

They add similar reasons saying they can do nothing to prevent or influence what they see and hear – so much that is upsetting and depressing. However responsible they feel to keep abreast of world affairs, they are left feeling helpless and burdened when the media colourfully bring so much trouble to our screen.

In one or 2 cases, I have felt able to respond recognising those feelings too.

I suppose it was a result of the various lockdown experiences when we had time to worry that I found my way to cope with this feeling of helplessness. Like so many of us, I prayed.

I ask/beg God to be in these parts of the world where there is killing and fear, in family tragedies, in medical emergencies. Wherever and whatever the story highlighted, in joy and sorrow.

I know prayer is a positive response to negativity. God's presence, working through human hands and inspired influencers, is a mighty force - the mightiest force indeed.

As people of faith, what we can do is pray.

ALL MIGHTY GOD - let us always pray and keep praying.

*Joyce*

	<b>Door</b>	<b>Vestry</b>	<b>Communion</b>
4th Sept	Peter	Joyce	
11th Sept	Darren	Barbara	
18th Sept	Barbara	Ray	
25th Sept	Ray	Jenny	Jenny



# Redcar

## Andy McSherry

In August we lost one of our Elders, **Andy McSherry**. He had only been an Elder for a short while but his contribution to the church over the years in terms of cleaning and caretaking was priceless. He had been unwell for over a year and finally lost his battle with ill health in August. He will be greatly missed.

Our condolences go to his wife Dot, his daughter Kate and his grandchildren Brian, Jamiee-Leigh and Ellie-May.

## Win Cordiner

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of our oldest member. Win died in June at the grand old age of 99. Although we had not seen her in church for a while due to ill health, she was always in our thoughts and prayers.

Our condolences go to Elaine, our Church Secretary, and her family for their loss.

## MacMillan Coffee Morning - Friday 30th September

I am once again hoping to have a MacMillan Coffee Morning on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September from 10 – 12 am.

All are welcome and if you don't know where I live you can contact me on 01642 288048 or 07986 202004. I am hoping to make this year a bumper year as the last 2 years have obviously been affected by Covid. In 2020 I made £50 just from contributions and then last year I had a coffee afternoon and made £142, so hopefully we can beat it this year.

*June Haverson*

## Redcar Calendar

### Weekly

Thursday

9.30am Prayers

10.00-11.30 Pop in Centre

# *Preachers*

	<b>Marthon</b> <b>10.00am</b>	<b>Guisborough</b> <b>10.00am</b>	<b>Redcar</b> <b>11.00am</b>
4-Sep	Dave Elliott	Norma Johnson	K & M Harris Communion
11-Sep	K & M Harris Parade	Guisborough Folk Church meeting	Redcar Baptist 10.30am Service
18-Sep	Jan Harper Communion	R Taylor/B Stephenson Harvest	Norma Johnson
25-Sep	Jan Harper Church Meeting	Maranny Jones	Redcar Baptist 10.30am Service

Material for the October Magazine to church editors by Sunday 11th  
September please

Group Editor – R Wheeler, 2C Gypsy Lane, Nunthorpe,  
Middlesbrough, TS7 0DX.

Telephone: 01642 300546.

Email: roger.wheeler5@virginmedia.com