PARISH MAGAZINE OF ST. GEORGE, KENDAL ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, GRAYRIGG www.beaconteam.org.uk AND

SANDYLANDS CORNERSTONE CHURCH www.sandylandschurch.com



December 2023 and January 2024



Free

Donations welcome

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Letter from Rev Melanie Greenall, Minister at Sandylands and Stricklandgate Methodist Churches

Dear Friends

'I'm a celebrity....get me out of here' will soon have the nation gripped in gleeful horror as the latest batch of celebrities are put through various claustrophobic and traumatic challenges. Perhaps like me you wish some would not get out of there!

Spending time in the middle of the hot, steamy Australian jungle is definitely not one of my top 10 places to visit. All those terrifying sounds of rustling in the night: is it just a breeze or a poisonous snake slithering by? Imagine the sensation of swallowing such delicacies as baked spider, camel's toe and fish eyes! Imagine the feel of thousands of cockroaches crawling all over your face. What must it be like to be so far beyond your comfort zone?

Soon we will be celebrating Christmas, with all its joys and stresses. I'm sure the nativity scenes and cards will look lovely but they paint a rather sanitised view of what must have been a mess; a mix of animal noises and shouts from the crowd pressing through the streets; the stench of animals; panic and anxiety, a knot in the pit of your stomach fuzzing the brain, making it impossible to think straight: wanting only the very best for your child. Mary and Joseph were definitely beyond their comfort zone.

Into all that, God in Jesus chose to entrust his most precious gift, himself, as a vulnerable baby, crossing a huge chasm to move into our neighbourhood or as a modern song describes it stepping down into our darkness, yours and mine; opening our eyes letting us see.

At times we can all be beyond our comfort zones, maybe looking for work where there is none, trying to turn your hand to anything just to make ends meet. In Jesus God chose to enter our discomfort zones, not just our comfort ones, revealing His presence right there with us. That gives us hope that whatever we have to face, someone understands when we struggle at the boundaries of our comfort zones but I am really glad that does not mean I have to get up close and personal with rats or snakes!

Grace and Peace

Melanie

From The Registers

Baptisms

26th November -St George's Kendal Teddy-Rae Steven Rigg



3rd November: St George's Kendal

Jean Gibson

24th November: -St George's Kendal

Ken Mason





St John the Baptist, Skelsmergh:.

Sunday 3rd December Advent 1 Year -B Morning Worship 11.00 am

Sunday 10th December Advent 2 Holy Communion 11.00am

Sunday 17th December Advent 3 Morning Worship 11.00am

Sunday 24th December Advent 4 Carol Service 6.30pm Monday 25th December Christmas Day No Service

Sunday 31st December Christmas 1 Team Service St George's

St John the Evangelist, Grayrigg

Sunday 3rd December Advent 1 Year B BCP Communion 9.30am

Sunday 10th December Advent 2 Carol Service 2.30pm

Sunday 17th December Advent 3 Holy Communion 9.30 am

Sunday 24th December Advent 4 Midnight Communion. Monday 25th December Christmas Day No Service

Sunday 31st December Christmas 1 Team Service St George's

St George, Kendal

Sunday 3rd December Advent 1 Year -B Holy Communion 11.00am

Sunday 10th December Advent 2 Morning Worship 11.00 am

Sunday 17th December Advent 3 Holy Communion 9.30am

Wednesday 20th December Carol Service 4pm

Sunday 24th December Advent 4 Morning Worship 11.00am Monday 25th December Christmas Day Holy Communion

Sunday 31st December Christmas 1 Team Service St George's



St Mary's Longsleddale

Sunday 3rd December Advent 1 Year –B Abbey Service 10.30am
Thursday 21st December Carol Service 6.30pm
Sunday 31st December Christmas 1 Team Service St George's

St Oswald, Burneside

Sunday 3rd December Advent 1 –Year B Evening Worship 4.00pm
Sunday 10th December Advent 2 Holy Communion 11.00am
Sunday 17th December Advent 3 Carol Service 4.00pm
Sunday 24th December Advent 4 Morning Worship 11am
Monday 25th Christmas Day Holy Communion

Sunday 31st December Christmas 1 Team Service St George's

St Thomas, Selside

Sunday 3rd December Advent 1—Year B Morning Worship
Sunday 10th December Advent 2 with Skelsmergh
Sunday 17th December Advent 3 Light up a life 4pm
Sunday 24th December Advent 4 Holy Communion 9.30am
Monday 25th December Christmas Day No Service
Sunday 31st December Team Service St George's

Every TUESDAY 6.00pm Short Evening Prayer at St. Oswald Burneside

Every WEDNESDAY 9.30am: BCP Holy Communion at St. Oswald, Burneside

Online: Worship is available throughout the week via Zoom

Access: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87329356785

Meeting ID: 873 2935 6785

Regular weekday Zoom services include :

* Mondays 8.30pm : Compline

* **Fridays** 8.30pm : Celtic Evening Prayer

A weekly email with news and updates on services is available - please contact jean.radley@outlook.com if you would like to be added to the list.

ONLINE WORSHIP TOGETHER

Do join us on Monday for Compline at 8.30pm and Friday at 8.30pm for a short service of Celtic Evening Worship

The access: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/867455327

Meeting ID: 867 4553 5327 join by phone on any of the

following numbers : 44 203 481 523 or 44 203 901 7895

Readings for December 2023 & January 2024

First Sunday of Advent

1st Reading Isaiah 64:1-9

2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Pecember 3, 2023

Psalm 80:1-8, 18-20

Gospel Mark 13:24-37

Second Sunday of Advent

1st Reading Isaiah 40:1-11

2nd Reading 2 Peter 3:8-15a

December 10, 2023

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Gospel Mark 1:1-8

Third Sunday of Advent

1st Reading Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
2nd Reading 1 Thess. 5:16-24

December 17, 2023

Psalm 126
Gospel John 1:6-8, 19-28

Fourth Sunday of Advent
1st Reading 2 Samuel 7:1-11,16
2nd Reading Romans 16:25-27

December 24, 2023
Psalm 89 1-4 19-26
Gospel Luke 1:26-38

First Sunday of Christmas

1st Reading Isaiah 61:10-62:3

2nd Reading Galatians 4:4-7

December 31, 2023

Psalm 148

Gospel Luke 2:15-21

Celebrating The Epiphany1st Reading Isaiah 60:1-6
2nd Reading Ephesians 3:1-12

Panuary 7, 2024
Psalm 72:1-9, 10-15
Gospel Matthew 2:1-12

Second Sunday of Epiphany
1st Reading 1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20)
2nd Reading Revelation 5:1-10

January 14, 2024
Psalm 139:1-5, 12-18
Gospel John 1:43-51

Third Sunday of Epiphany January 21 2024

1st Reading Genesis 14:17-20 Psalm 128

2nd Reading Revelations 19:6-10 Gospel: John 2: 1-11

The Presentation of Christ January 28, 2024

1st Reading Malachi 3:1-5 Psalm 24: (1-6)7-end 2nd Reading Hebrews 2:14-end Gospel Luke 2:22-40



Sandylands Methodist Church

Sunday 3rd December: Morning Worship 10.30am Causeway Service 3.15pm

Sunday 10th December Morning Worship with Communion 10.30 am

Sunday 17th December All Age Nativity 10.30am

Followed by Sunday Club Christmas Party

Community Carols with Burneside Brass Band 6.30pm

Sunday 24th December morning Worship 10.30am

Midnight in Bethleham 9.30pm Midnight Mass timed to coincide with midnight in the Middle East

Christmas Day family worship 10.30am

Sunday 31st December Joint Service at Stricklandgate 10.30am

Sunday 7th January Covenant Service 10.30am

Causeway Service 10.30am

Sunday 14th January Morning Worship 10.30am

Sunday 21st January All age Worship 10.30am

Sunday 28th January Morning Worship 10.30am



MOTHERS' UNION Article for Church Magazine October 2023. (written November 2023)

Kendal St. George with St. John the Evangelist, Grayrigg.

Our branch meeting on the last Wednesday of the month took place on 25th October at 2pm, not in the Radley Room at St. George's, our usual venue, but in the village hall at Grayrigg.

Our speaker was David Last and he gave us a most

interesting talk accompanied by film describing his walk, Spain's Camino De Santiago an ancient pilgrimage trail originating in medieval times. As well as a mine of information David accompanied his talk with some excellent pictures, the first of which was an informative map of the whole area enabling us to follow his route. We hope David will give us a further talk in 2024.

At our branch committee meeting on 30th October the coming year's programme was arranged including the AGM which is to take place on 31st January, however all others proposed need to be verified.

We look forward to our Christmas Lunch at the Crooklands Hotel on Wednesday 6th December.

Sending best wishes from Mary and myself,

Jennie.

Sandylands Cornerstone Church and Community News

Totters and Bumps and Babies

Totters

A very lively popular and friendly group which attracts between 40-50 toddlers plus adults every Monday 9 - 11am. It runs in term time only. The group is run primarily by a team of 5 volunteers. We provide support for the adults as well as activities for the children. Drinks for adults included in the fee. There are plenty of toys (large

and small), sit and ride toys, art and crafts, tuff tray messy activities, play dough, sand and sometimes a bouncy castle etc. We also have a quieter room for adults and children who find the other rooms too noisy and busy. The session ends with a healthy snack and a singing time.

Cornerstone Bumps and Babies (CBBs)

This small and friendly group runs in term time only on a Monday afternoon from 1.30 - 3pm. It is run by 2 volunteers. We have between 6 - 14 babies from birth to 1 year old plus adults attend on a regular basis. We offer friendship, advice and support to the adults. This is a safe place to come and experience the highs and lows of being a new parent. We attract mums, couples, dads and grandparents (and particularly when mum returns to work) We have play mats, rugs etc for the tiny babies and good quality, safe and stimulating toys and a ball pool for the babies to play with as they begin to sit up, move and eventually walk. There is opportunity to weigh the babies as well. Included in the low price is a choice of hot and cold drinks and a selection of lovely homemade cakes or biscuits.

Some of our Groups

Causeway

First Sunday of Every Month

3.15pm for Chat and Coffee, Service begins at 4pm

Friendship and praise with our friends in the community with supporting needs, to come together for chat and worship

Sandylands Friendship Group

14th December : Joint Carol Service followed by Christmas Lunch (fully booked)

Friendship Group January

New Year Catch up with Nibbles . Everyone welcome £2 per meeting .

Wendy Thomas

Sandylands Seniors 1st and 3rd Thursdays 10am

Games can be played, scrabble, dominoes, uno etc.

Not into games just come and chat.

11th January to be followed by cooked lunch .Must be prebooked:

mellor.family@tiscali.co.uk

25th January with coffee tea and cakes .

Donations are accepted towards the food and fuel costs.



1st Kendal Girls Brigade s for all girls and women. Aged 4 plus (girls must be at school).

We meet at Sandylands Methodist Church on Mondays (term time only) from 6pm to 7-30pm.

Sometimes our very youngest members leave after a drink and biscuit at 7.15pm Our n'vestigate group is 4-7years olds, n'gauge for

8-10's. n'counta for 11-13yrs old and the 14 plus organise themselves , and an n'spire group.

We play games. listen to stories,, be creative, and discuss life issues, all with a Christian ethos underpinning it.

Our motto is "Seek, Serve, and Follow Christ" but fun and friendship is important.

We look forward to meeting you .For more information contact Karen at 1stkendalgb@gmail.com or just pop down on a Monday night.



Letter from Rev. Jean Radley Associate Priest – Beacon Team

Dear Friends

We're at that time of year again! But is Christmas just about the shopping, tree or presents? One of the decorations I always put onto my Christmas tree is a polo mint. To me this is a reminder not to squeeze out the real meaning of Christmas so that my celebrations become all sweet on the outside and empty in the middle. Some of our Primary School children sing a song written by Captain Alan of the Church Army which begins, 'Christmas without Jesus doesn't make much sense at all'. But that's the Christmas that many people do have!

Every year we sing carols and retell the same story of the donkey, innkeeper, stable, angels, shepherds, star, wise men, gifts and Mary and Joseph with baby! We do this to remind us of the real message of Christmas - all about a God who has showed up on earth. The Creator of the universe, whose hands flung stars into space, cared enough to come to earth as a tiny baby. The Word (that is Jesus) became flesh and made His dwelling among us.' (John 1:14) God deals with the mess of our world by sending His Son to die in our place. This makes it possible for us to have a relationship with Him. When the time came, He "did not consider equality with God something to be used to His own advantage; rather, He made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death - even death on a cross! (Philippians 2:6-8)

Reflecting on Jesus in the manger is a great place to start understanding the heart of the Christmas message. However, it's so much more than simply a cute baby lying in the bed of straw. I love the statement below that I read recently:

If our greatest need had been information, God would have sent us an

If our greatest need had been technology, God would have sent us a scientist;

If our greatest need had been money, God would have sent us an economist;

If our greatest need had been pleasure, God would have sent us an entertainer;

But our greatest need was forgiveness, so God sent us a Saviour.

May you all have a blessed Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

With love and prayers. Jean



Grayrigg Church and Community News

St John The Evangelist, Grayrigg

Church Cleaning Rota

Dec.3rd Gill Yates

Dec 10th Carol Service

Dec17th Sally and Wendy

24th January –Sally and Wendy

4th February Mary Kendal

18th February –Sally and Wendy

The rota will be published in the magazine each month

Coronation Hall Pub Night

December 1st: Italian Evening

December 15th Christmas pub night with pool darts and Domino

Competition

All enquires and bookings for Hall contact: Sue Harper

07917840538

Friday 2nf Feb. 2024 7.30pm

Pie and Peas Supper:

Deep filled Steak Pies £4, Chicken Pie £3

Minced Beef Pie £3, Steak Pie £3

Steak Pie £3, Cheese and Onion Pasty £3 (v)

Gluten Free options available (please enquire)

Place orders by 29 January 2024 enquires to Bob Barnes

On 01539824536 or email chartybob@gmail.com

Firbank Dominoes

Tuesday 12th December Tuesday 9th January 2024



Church Hall 7.30pm

18th December: Community Carol Singing in St John's Church 7.30pm

This is to raise funds for the over 60's. There will be a variety of traditional carols and other Christmas themed songs. There will also be refreshments and a raffle, so why not come along and get into the sprit of Christmas. Everyone who came last year enjoyed it very much.

January 27th 2024 – Soupa Saturday – Starting at 11.30am. There will be a choice of a bowl of soupwith a roll or soup and sandwiches. It is an iudeal time to chat with your friends and neighbours and catch up with local news. There will also be a raffle and proceeds will go to St. John's Church.

March 9th 2024– Grayrigg Variety Concert. This will be held on Saturday starting at 7.30pm. It is hoped that the concert will be the usual mix of songs and sketches, and the moneyt raised will go to a local charity. There will be a raffle and ice cream for sale at the interval.

David Last



Sandylands Drop In

Every Wednesday from 10.00 till noon Why not join us for coffee cake and chat Everybody is made welcome

9999999999999999999999999999999

St George's Church Chatter and Natter

Come and Join us on the last Friday of Every month in the Radley Room



January 26th 2024 From 10am until 11.30am

For Tea/coffee, cake and meet up with friends.

All are welcome For further information ring

Sue Whittaker 07866341554 Look forward to seeing you all!



St George's Community Hub

Soup, sandwiches, cake and fruit, tea, coffee and squash are available between 11.45am and 1pm on Thursdays.

There is a listening ear available for anyone who would find that helpful.

DO COME AND JOIN US -ALL ARE WELCOME

Grayrigg Rainfall



The rainfall in October 2023 was 99.7mm or 3.93 inches The rainfall in October 2022 was 239.3mm or 5.59 inches The average October rainfall over the last 31 years is 156.7mm or 6.17 inches.



Manna House Needs You This Winter!

In previous winters Manna House organised a Winter Shelter in cooperation with churches in the area and with the support of over a hundred volunteers such as yourself. With the onset of the pandemic, this shelter model was no longer seen as safe. We lost both the benefits to our community of cross collaboration and the secure accommodation for those rough sleeping in the area. Now, as another Winter begins, we at Manna House find we have only one emergency homeless pod to accommodate one person rough sleeping and the good will of those in the area gifting us toiletries, warm clothing and coats, flasks and food.

Our own home at the Stephenson Centre continues to be a warm spot for the public and a resource to all for showers, laundry, hot food and drink, food parcels, telephones, computers, skills workshops, housing and benefits advice, health surgeries and so much more! Funding is tighter than ever and we thought we would reach out to friends we may not have seen or heard from in a while to ask for support this cold Christmas. Could you do one or more of the following?

Become a member of Friends of Manna House; for a minimum donation of £10 per annum you can join the hundreds of other members who make up a strong fundraising community on behalf of Manna House each year. Here's a link to our membership form or find it on our website: https://www.manna-house.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/FOM-membership-leaflet-2021.pdf

Should you be lucky enough not to need it, consider donating your Winter Fuel allowance to Manna House: Cumberland Bank Sort Code: 16-52-21 Account Number 53190423

At a loss for a good Christmas present for those in your life who lack for nothing? What about a donation to Manna House in their name? Along with our specially made cards, this year Manna House will be thanking all those who have been sent gifts in their name individually on our website.

Please contact us if any of the above appeals to you! info@manna-house.org.uk or 01539725534

Angel Advocates is a new Christian based independent and legal advocacy charity launching later this year.

Advocacy builds bridges, builds community, builds trust, and builds confidence. It can change lives. Can you help us build that mission? We are looking for volunteers and supporters across Cumbria. We would love to come and speak to your congregation or group about advocacy and the differences it can make to the most vulnerable in society.

Be an angel?

Email: info@angeladvocates.co.uk Call: 07760 987908



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4c's coffee Morning at Sandylands Church 2nd December

In aid of Shelter Box. Most people in Kendal say what is that ,so I thought I would write a piece to let you know.

Shelter Box provides temporary accommodation for people who have lost their homes either by natural disaster or through war.

It consists of a large green box filled with a tent, blankets, mats, cooking utensils, mosquito nets, water filters etc.

It was started by the rotary Club of Helston Cornwall in the year 2000, they adopted it as their millennium project

They set up a warehouse, purchased the contents then packed the boxes in the warehouse.

In fact my husband along with other Rotarians from Cornwall would go down to Helston to help pack boxes.

Over the years the charity has grown. Its main headquarters are in Truro. Its patron is the Queen. She became its patron in 2007 when she was Duchess of Cornwall.

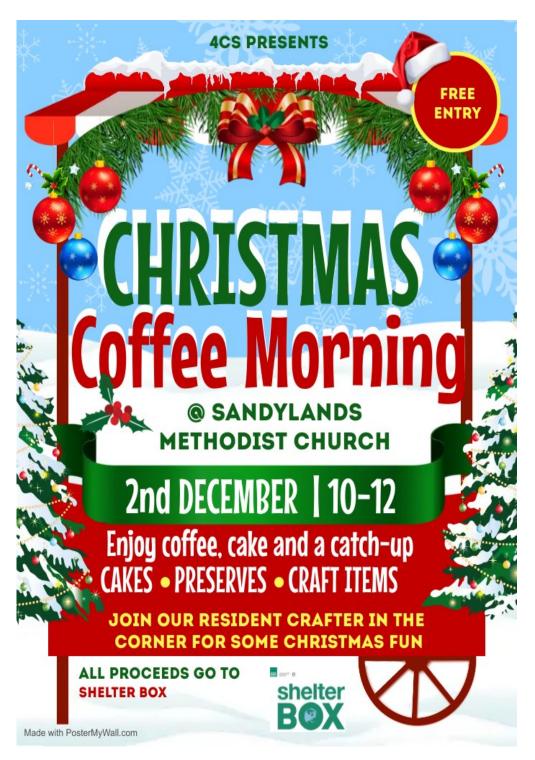
Through Rotary International, monies are donated from across the world. However half of all monies comes from the UK.

To date £54 million has been raised by this charity.

We are hoping to have a demonstration box at the coffee morning so you can see it for yourselves.

Hope to see you there.

Jenny Mellor



Kendal Young Farmers

We started back in September with a new top table, Joseph Moorhouse was acting as Chair as Matthew King was harvesting down country, Lucy Gibson is Secretary, Hannah Dodgson is still the treasurer, Martha Galbraith is Minutes Secretary, Hannah Sowerby is Social Secretary, David Knowles is still the President and Michael Todd is Club Leader. Joseph's now headed to New Zealand and Matthew has returned back to his role as Chairman. We have entered Pool, Darts and Dominoes at Sedbergh, winning the Southern District Walling Competition, Quizes, County Sports and Situations Vacant competitions so far. We've had a great varied Club programme, we've been to Walby Farm for a night on the slides, joint sports with Eden Valley, a farm tour at Bridge End Farm, Kirkby Thore, a farm visit to the Abbotts Lodge Jersey Ice Cream farm at Hackthorpe. A trip ice skating with Sedbergh, Kent Estuary, Lowick, Crook and Cartmel which was well attended during half term, no broken bones so all was well! We've been Stock Judging at Stephen and Janet Procter's where they judged Belgium blue cattle and eggs. Meetings in the hall have been well attended, we've had a membership and games nights, a Competitions Practice night organised by our retiring County Chair, Robbie Tuer. Halloween Bingo which was kindly organised by Evonne Sowerby and coming up we've a talk from Mind -Yellow Wellies. By kind permission of the Ellis Family in New Hutton we once again hosted our Annual Bonfire, a brilliant display of fire works and thanks to everyone who donated wood and timber for the bonfire it was most appreciated, members from other clubs also supported our event – so again a great night thanks again. Elizabeth - Chairperson, Elisha - Speaker, her talk on her Tug of War season going to Germany and Ruby - Vote of Thanks entered into the Junior Public Speaking for the 1st time, there was strong competition in the preliminary round and were placed 2nd so they go through to the Southern District Final which is tremendous achievement, good luck girls. 2 junior and 1 senior team of Quiz competitors got through to the Semi Final round, the questions were really quite hard but they all did well in taking part. Lucy once again entered the Situation Vacant competitions and came 3rd so she will go through to the Southern District Final, good luck Lucy. Members enjoyed the Junior and Senior rallies held over 2 nights at Junction 36 auction, lots of different competitions and a fun night was had by all.

We have a talk at the rugby club on Drugs and Alcohol Awareness, Stock Judging at Cragg Farm by kind permission of David our President and then Eden Valley Domino Drive on Tuesday 12th December followed by our very own Christmas Domino Drive on Tuesday 19th December at the Coronation Hall, Grayrigg, 7.30 start. It would be great to see you all there

As I write this report today we have just found out that Cumbria YFC has been awarded the Royal Approval - "they are absolutely delighted and honoured to share with you that the Cumbria Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs (Cumbria YFC) has received the King's Award for Voluntary Service 2023. This is the highest accolade that a voluntary organisation can receive and is the equivalent to an MBE. The Award recognises the incredible contribution and impact that all those who are and have been involved with Cumbria YFC have made to the lives of thousands of our young farmers over the last 86 years. Thank you to you all, you are officially amazing"

Don't forget Grayrigg YFC Domino Drive, Tuesday 19th December, 7.30 at Grayrigg Coronation Hall

Matthew King - Chairman 07484169713 Lucy Gibson - 07796397771





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Prepayment Funeral Plans Arranged

