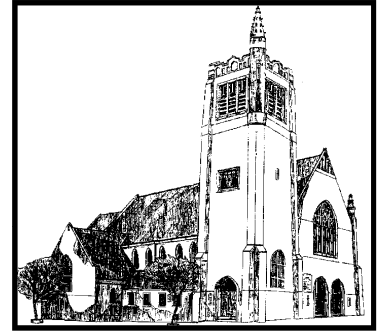




Newsletter of St. George's URC Hartlepool Oct-Nov 2017



A MESSAGE FROM THE NEW INTERIM MODERATOR

Hello! My name is Julie Martin and I have recently been appointed by Synod to be your new Interim Moderator. It was good to meet some of you on September 24th when I came over to St George's with my husband Peter for the lunch after the Harvest Festival service. It was a lovely lunch, and we were made to feel very welcome. I look forward to getting to know more about the church during my time as Interim Moderator.

The role of Interim Moderator has changed over the years, and those appointed now are not expected to be as involved with the life of the church as they were in the past. During a vacancy the responsibility for maintaining the worship and witness of a church lies with the elders, church members, and others who consider that they belong to the congregation. My main function will be to liaise between the church, the Synod, and any prospective new minister.

I am a retired URC minister and we now live in Saltburn, where we are involved in various activities and organisations. Before retirement I was the minister of Barnard Castle, Low Row and Keld, having previously ministered in St Helens (Merseyside) and Leeds. We have three children. Two of them live in Leeds and the other one lives in Shropshire. We also have two grandsons and two granddaughters.

with best wishes

Julie Martin

Harvest Sunday

What a lovely day! Worship was led by our Junior Worship Team— and very well too. It is wonderful to see our young people— some of them really young— growing in confidence and maturity as they lead us in worship. The Foodbank will be happy to receive the goods and Commitment for Life will receive the money offerings.

Thank you to all those who helped in anyway with the lunch, particularly Betty and the catering corps and the washers-up.

We welcome Rev Julie Martin and her husband and Rev Barry Hutochinson and his wife who will be helping us in the vacancy.

Dates for your Diaries

October

- Sun 1st Church Meeting following worship
 Sat 7th Synod Meeting at Hexham
 Mon 9th First Aid Course in St George's 2pm – 4pm. More details from Margaret
 Sat 14th Constance Coltman service 2.30pm Cromer Avenue URC, Gateshead
 Mon 16th Elders' Meeting 10am
 Mon 23rd Pie and Peas Supper at the Mission Thornaby at 7pm.
 Sat 28th Leaders Safeguarding Course.

November

- Sat 11th Thornaby Mission Christmas Fayre
 Sat 18th St George's Christmas Fayre

CHURCHES TOGETHER

8am Prayer Meetings:	11 October	College of Further Education
	25 October	15 Mitchell Street
	8 November	College of Further Education
	22 November	Church of the Nazarene

All are welcome to attend these prayer meetings.

Christian Vision for Men - will meet in the Duke of Cleveland on 16 October for a meal followed by a talk by Clive Hall.

Coffee Rota

OCTOBER	-	1 st	Margaret Fraser, Sandra Hindmarch
		8 th	Service at Grange Road
		15 th	Chris and Cathie Eddowes
		22 nd	Janet White, Dick Fletcher
		29 th	Brian Carter, Margaret Welford

NOVEMBER	-	5 th	Gail, Tarryn and Ashley Hoad
		12 th	Alistair and Enid Bushnell
		19 th	Robert and Sheila Harrison
		26 th	Gillian Cartman, Elma Welsh

DECEMBER	-	3 rd	Val Rigg, Rose Hastings
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.Please make sure you are in Church early enough to set out the tea and coffee things and get everything ready before service starts. Please use Fair Trade goods. Tea, Coffee and Sugar are provided. Bring milk (2 litres) and biscuits.

If you cannot do your turn please swap with someone else on the list. There is no need to leave your seat before the end of the service to make tea and coffee. There is plenty of time for everyone to get to the hall area and the boiler is ready to use.

The Cornerstone is open 6 days a week for your refreshment and for Traidcraft supplies, cards, books etc.
 Call in for a real homemade welcome



PROJECT AFRICA - "FARM AFRICA"

The total for the Samaritan's Purse "Turn on the Tap" appeal now stands at £133.81p. Thank you to everyone who is supporting our appeal and please keep saving your coppers etc.

Wyn Parkinson

Prayer Time

Prayer is part of our Christian life and is extremely important in the life and witness of any church, and this is so in St George's. However, for many reasons the number of people who can attend the monthly prayer meeting on a Tuesday is very small. The church meeting agreed that we should introduce a specific time each week when we could all pray for our church, our town and any specific areas of concern. We agreed that we would do this each Tuesday, either in the morning from 9am – 9.30am or in the evening from 9pm – 9.30pm. While we pray we will be aware that others from our church family are praying alongside us. Please do become part of this prayer time.

Pilots and Shoeboxes

Due to falling numbers, the Pilot Company has reluctantly decided to close. We offer our thanks to Paul Humberston, Kevin Hoad and their helper Rita Whascoe who have worked hard over the years, and more particularly over recent months to keep the company open.

Usually the shoeboxes are covered and filled on a Thursday evening, with the help of the pilots.

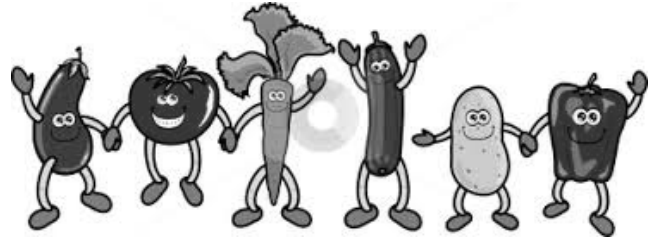
However, help will still be required and sessions have been arranged for Thursday 12th and Thursday 19th October from 6pm – 7.30pm.

Please do come and help with this worthy cause and have fun at the same time.



Healthy Eating

Many thanks to those who gave gifts when taking fruit and vegetables. £70 has been added to church funds.
.Aileen and Frank.



Shoeboxes.

A lot of hard work has been completed so far: knitting, buying gifts and covering boxes. Please continue and help us cover more boxes on 12th OCTOBER 6PM and enjoy packing them on Thursday 19th OCTOBER at 6pm. This is a really fun packed night so please come and join in. Donations to help send them will be very welcome. Our boxes are the first to be collected to start the Sunderland collection point and are very valued.
Thank you Aileen

Thank you

Many thanks to all our friends at St. George's for their concern, prayers and cards during Betty's brother, Keith's, illness and passing. A special thank you to Chris for a very apt Thanksgiving Service.
Betty & Alan

I was completely overwhelmed with the gifts, cards, flowers and good wishes I received on my 50th birthday – a big thank you to you all. Gillian x

Not our church notice we hope!

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hospitality.

Advent and Christmas

Over recent years The Posada has proved popular and I intend to continue with that this year. Please look out for the list to sign if you would like to host Mary and Joseph for a night. This will be available from the beginning of November.



Hartlepool Football Club is holding a Carol Concert on Sunday 10th December at 6pm, and the churches are invited to take part. I hope that we will be able to support this. More details will be available later.

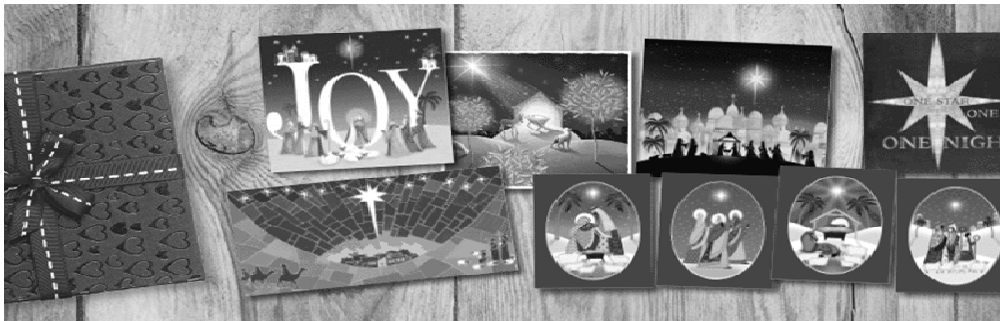
Following on from the success of the concert last year given by the former members of the Hartlepool Youth Choir, another concert is planned for 4pm on Sunday 17th December. This concert will celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the choirs visit to the Holy Land, when they sang in Manger Square on Christmas Eve. Further details will be available later, but please put the date in your diaries now.

Margaret

Christmas cards

I have sample packs of Traidcraft's Christmas Cards. If you would like to order yours, please see me or ask in the Cornerstone. Also please let me know if you want any Real Advent Calendars— chocolate but with the Christmas story.

Chris



Saturday 18th November 9.30 – 12 noon – Christmas Fayre

Stalls will be set up on Thursday evening ready for stallholders to decorate on Friday afternoon.

As ever we are always looking for donations; cakes, bottles, Christmas gifts, tombola and raffle prizes, unwanted household gifts and children's games and toys. Please let me know if you need anything collecting by car.

Gillian



ZIMBABWE – A family business

A loan of just US\$200 from her village bank gave Tendani Masendu the chance of security and confidence for her family's future. Like many in Masendu ward, Tendani is the head of the household, as her husband lives and works permanently in South Africa. With many children to look after, the irregular monies from her husband means she needs extra income.

Through Christian Aid partner, Institute of Rural Technologies (IRT), Tendani trained in retailing and was given a loan to start a shop, selling clothes and other goods she bought in Botswana. She was determined to make this work, so was delighted to expand into the shop next door and increase her stock. At one point, she even sold car tyres.

"I used the loan to start selling second hand clothes. With 6 children, 1 orphan and 12 grandchildren, I needed the money. I bought small things at first and resold. My brother gave me a small space where I could sell children's books, salt and other things. I make enough money to pay for school fees and food."

Tendani is part of a village bank. Village banks started helping small businesses in 2008 with contributions from women. At that time, there was no money. The village bank started as a means of pooling money together for people to go to workshops. This changed when IRT, with funding from CA, started lending to the women's groups. The system is credit union style money lending with the village group having responsibility for the fund. They were taught how to identify good projects and monitor progress, so when people come to the committee with a proposal, they can decide if this is a worthwhile project. If approved by the group, then IRT will match fund the local offer and give appropriate training.

If someone defaults on a loan, they are taken to the traditional court. If they have not paid because their circumstances have changed and they are vulnerable, then the debt will be cancelled. If they have not paid because of lack of effort or they have used the money for other purposes, then they are asked to work off the amount owed in community service.

Today, Tendani employs two people and her standard of living has increased. Her daughter has received training in marketing and booking, so it can now be called a family business.

"I feel I am free in life because I can feed myself. I am self-sufficient. I am not going to lose sleep thinking." What a wonderful testament to the work of IRT.



Hartlepool Special Needs Group.

Following our Go Western evening in June signatures were gathered to support the group in their appeal to secure funding from the Masonic Charities. I am delighted to report that they have been awarded £25,000! I would like to think that in some small way we contributed to this fantastic result. The money is going to be used to update their current accommodation in Park Road which will include a new office space and light therapy room.

Thank You



The Northern Synod of the United Reformed
Church

Constance Coltman

a service
celebrating the centenary of her
ordination



Saturday 14th October 2.30 pm

at
Cromer Avenue URC
Gateshead
NE9 6UL

A celebration of women's service in the church

Refreshments after the service

Constance Coltman was the first woman to be ordained into the Congregational Church on 17th September 1917. She applied to study theology at Mansfield in 1913. It was an entirely male institution at the time, and there was no provision for a woman to study there, nor any expectation that a woman could be ordained and enter ministry. However, then as now, the call to ministry, in congregational churches, was entirely in the hands of the local church meeting. And four years later, on completion of her theological training, she received a call. The way was not always smooth, and Constance retained her radical edge, as a pacifist, supporter of women's suffrage, and with a passionate care for the poorest and most disadvantaged of her church members. This service celebrates women's service in the church before and since.

I am one of the people leading this service, so do come!

Chris

Church Register

Funeral Sept 5th

Keith Hewitson

News of People

Since the last newsletter Betty Woodhall's brother Keith has died. We remember Alan and Betty in our prayers as they mourn his loss.

We pray especially at this time for our Synod Moderator Rev David Herbert, who is currently on sick leave after suffering heart attack. We wish him a speedy return to health and strength.

We remember those of our church family who have health concerns at the moment. They include Anne Foster, Cathie Eddowes, Valerie Waite, Moyra Mudd, Kaye Barlow and Janet White.

We rejoice with Abi (Sandra Twist's Granddaughter who has begun her studies at Aberystwyth University. And with Lewis Muldown who has started a new job.



Flower Donors

October 1	
October 8	Mrs E Welsh
October 15	Mrs S Twist
October 22	Mrs S Hindmarch
October 29	Mrs M Welford
November 5	Mr and Mrs A Bushnell
November 12	
November 19	Mr and Mrs P Humberston
November 26	Mr and Mrs F Whittaker
December 3	Mrs M Mudd



The Flower Ladies are arranging deliveries on each Sunday morning. If you would like to help on any particular day— just offer.

Stewards Rota

Date		Stewards	Keys
OCTOBER	-	1 st - Kevin Hoad, Dick Fletcher	Brian Carter
		8 th - Service at Grange Road	
		15 th - Gail and Ashley Hoad	Bill White
		22 nd - Frank and Aileen Whittaker	Frank Whittaker
		29 th - Paul Humberston, Kevin Hoad	Paul Humberston
NOVEMBER		5 th - Alistair and Enid Bushnell	Alistair Bushnell
		12 th - Frank and Aileen Whittaker	Frank Whittaker
		19 th - Kevin Hoad, Dick Fletcher	Brian Carter
		26 th - Gail and Ashley Hoad	Alan Woodhall
DECEMBER		3 rd - Alistair and Enid Bushnell	Alistair Bushnell

I
f you are unable to do your turn, please arrange your own substitute

Worship in St George's

October

1 st	10.30am	Mrs C Eddowes & Mr Brian Carter	– Communion Service
8 th	10.30am	United Service – at Grange Road	
15 th	10.30am	Mrs Maranny Jones	
22 nd	10.30am	Mr John Drew	
29 th	10.30am	The Worship Team – including dedication of the Shoeboxes.	

November

5 th	10.30am	Mrs C Eddowes – Communion Service	
12 th	10.30am	Mr B Johnson – Remembrance Sunday- United Service with Grange Road	
19 th	10.30am	Rev. David Herbert (Synod Moderator)	
26 th	10.30am	Mrs J Winn – Parade and Family Service	

December

3 rd	10.30am	Rev B Hutchinson – Communion Service	
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We are now recording our services whenever possible, and thanks go to Paul Rodgers for doing this for us. If any of our housebound members and friends, or those who are unable to be present on a particular Sunday, would like to listen to the service, please let me know and I will arrange for the CD to be loaned to you. Margaret



From the editor

Copy for the next issue to be with me by lunchtime **Nov 26th** please (or earlier)

Reach me by e-mail on:

chris.richard.eddowes @ntlworld.com

St George's Regular Activities

Sun	10.30am	Family Worship
Mon	2.00pm	Monday Meeting at Grange Road
	6.00pm	Beavers
	6.30pm	Cub Scouts
	7.0pm	Scouts
3rd Tuesday	in month Prayer meeting 11.00am	
Thur	10am	Hobbies Club

Newsletter Editor

Mrs C Eddowes
65 Hutton Ave
TS26 9PP
(269412)



Communion Rota

Nov	Bill White	Janet White
Dec	May Ord	Brian Carter

All elders to help with clearing and washing up

Church Officers

MINISTER– vacancy

CHURCH SECRETARY

Mrs M Humberston 25 Belmont Gdns
TS26 9LS tel 425847

CHURCH TREASURER

Mrs Sandra Twist, 17, Granville Ave
tel 273447

FREEWILL OFFERING TREASURER

Mr W White 43 Grosmont Road Seaton Carew
Hartlepool TS25 1EP tel. 280986

HALL BOOKINGS STEWARD

Mrs J White 43 Grosmont Road Seaton Carew
Hartlepool TS25 1EP tel.: 280986



Church office

Mr P Humberston
25 Belmont Gardens
TS26 9LS
(425847)

Creche Rota

Oct	1	Mrs G Cartman	Mrs E S Welsh
	8	Mrs S Harrison	Mrs E S Welsh
	15	Mrs T Kirkpatrick	Mrs E S Welsh
	22	Mrs G Cartman	Mrs E S Welsh
	29	Mrs M Ord	Mrs S Harrison
Nov	5	Mrs T Kirkpatrick	Mrs E S Welsh
	12	Mrs G Cartman	Mrs E S Welsh
	19	Mrs S Harrison	Mrs E S Welsh
	26	Mrs M Ord	Mrs E S Welsh
Dec	3	Mrs G Cartman	Mrs E S Welsh
	10	Mrs S Harrison	Mrs E S Welsh

Please arrange own substitute if unable to attend
E S Welsh