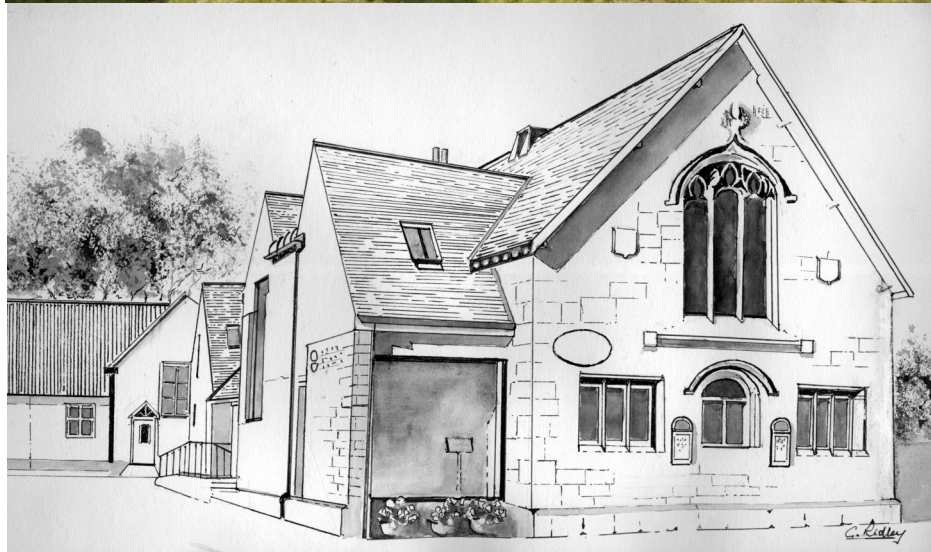


Ponteland Methodist Church Cornerstone

PARTY IN THE PARK - Sunday 9th June



June 2019

REGULAR CHURCH ACTIVITIES

The regular weekly activities within the church are outlined below.
There are phone numbers given to ring if you need further information.

SUNDAY

10.00am The Bridge
10.00am Morning Service and Sunday Club
6.30pm Evening Service
Holy Communion, morning and evening as announced

MONDAY

1.15pm Prayers
1.30pm Carpet Bowls
2.00pm Open Door
2.00pm Open Door Bible Study (2nd & 4th Monday)

TUESDAY

2.30pm Women's Fellowship (fortnightly)
7.00pm Boys' Brigade - Junior/Company sections

WEDNESDAY

5.45pm Girls' Brigade - Explorers (term time only)
6.00pm Girls' Brigade - Junior/Company sections

THURSDAY

9.30am Toddler Thursday (term time only)
7.30pm Women's Focus (fortnightly)
7.30pm Men's Forum (monthly)

FRIDAY

7.30pm Bridge Prayer meeting (monthly)
7.30pm Carpet Bowls

SATURDAY

9.30am Meanders (fortnightly, tel: 871844)
10.00am Mini-Meanders (monthly, tel: 821845)
For details of House groups phone Chris Cogan on 0191 271 2637

Minister: Rev Jona Sewell

61 Cheviot View, Ponteland, NE20 9BH. Tel: 822057

E-mail: revjsewell@gmail.com

Church website <http://www.ponteland-methodist-church.org.uk/>

MINISTER'S LETTER

I recently did a walk from Haughton in Ribblesdale to Hawes, a beautiful stretch of the Pennine Way. The weather that day varied from brilliant sunshine, to strong winds and even some hailstones. The terrain had everything from steep, uneven inclines, to smooth level paths, to mud and tricky descents.

As I enjoyed the walk, it struck me that the experience reminded me a lot of the journey and experience of faith and of Church. Although we can't always see our destination, we have a purpose and direction of travel and walk with that destination in mind. For us the destination, I hope, is greater unity, a greater sense of who we are and what we are about. A greater sense of our purpose and mission and the desire to serve God. But of course, our ultimate destination is God's eternal love and care that we call Heaven.

Sometimes, when out hiking, you're so focused on what's right in front of you, the potential obstacles that might cause a stumble, that you forget to lift your head up and look around you and appreciate the beauty and majesty of the view and the experience. It's really important in faith and Church life that we stop and look around and appreciate the beauty of what is going on, of who God is and what God is doing and the wonder of each other and how God is using us together.

I always enjoy looking back on a walk to see how far I've gone, how high I've climbed, how much ground has been covered and it's important that we do that also in faith in Church to remind ourselves where we have come from, our background, those who have journeyed with us, those who have shaped our journey and to be thankful for all that has gone before, the experiences, the people and the views we have encountered. And, of course, I didn't walk alone. I walk with friends beside me. Friends who are there for me, friends who I don't always agree with but who I love, nonetheless. We don't walk faith or Church alone, but with friends, friends who love us and are there for us, in thick and thin, who share the journey, the cause and the destination.

Let's give thanks for the journey we are on, for how far we have come and for where we are going.

God Bless



JUNE IN THE BRIDGE

The Bridge is a contemporary and informal gathering for worship that meets in the Church hall at 10am on Sunday mornings. All are welcome, including children, and there is opportunity for refreshments and fellowship both before and after the worship.

June Services are:

2nd June - Alison Maynard

9th June - *Joint service*

16th June— Jona Sewell

23rd June— Steve Small

30th June - *Joint service*



A prayer evening is held on the second Friday monthly at Sue and Abraham Matthews's house. All are welcome. This month it will be Friday 14th June meeting at 7.30pm.

The Bridge is appropriate for the seekers, the questioners, the new to faith, the established in faith, the uncertain about faith, the doubters and the certain. Come along and find a welcome.

Nigel Bates

HOW LONG

How long is a piece of string ?
Long, short, could be anything
How long is God's love for us
It can't be measured, He gives without fuss
Kind and loving; I'd sum it up this way
From early morn till the end of the day.

Noreen Green

HOW WAS IT?

This is the most common question following our return from teaching a month-long intensive English course to 34 young Indian women (17/18 years old) brought up and educated in Reaching the Unreached (RTU). This charity is in rural Tamil Nadu – the southernmost state of India - and is home to over 800 youngsters rescued from abject poverty. In a phrase it was “Challenging, but rewarding, hard work”. Here in a few more words is a glimpse of what it was like.

LIVING

Hot: At first light (5.30 am) it was 27-29⁰C and got hotter to 38-42⁰C. **Humidity:** very low so heat bearable until pre-monsoon started in week 3 with fog at dawn and steamy during day. **Rain:** not a cloud until pre-monsoon then cloud building in late afternoon with thunder and lightening most evenings; light rain a few evenings but torrential rain (2-3 ins in hour) one evening. **No air conditioners:** just ceiling fans. **Spicy:** so lots of taste in food but not too hot for us. **Diet:** healthy but similar at every meal. **Lunch:** main meal – a banquet with 4-6 different spicy dishes, often vegetarian. When fish stew, always some fish in separate dish heavily spiced and fried like Creole cooking in southern USA. **Drinking water:** purified by reverse osmosis and we drank gallons. **Accommodation:** basic with cold water only (just what we needed for our handful of showers each day); a metal sheet for the bed base with a 2 ins. apology for a mattress – good for the spine. We did have a veranda overlooking the garden.

WORKING

“Mission Accomplished” according to the care and teaching staff as well as the students. **Prayerful:** Every day started with prayers – usually sung in English then Tamil (local language). A couple of students wrote English prayers for all to recite. **Intense:** formally 6 hrs. for 5 days plus 3 hrs. on Saturday; informally an extra hour or two most days since we were living on site. **Rote Learning:** the normal way so good vocabulary but poor grammar and punctuation including little idea about sentence construction. **Prepared work paid off:** without this it would have been a disaster – no time or energy to do around course. **Flexibility:** as per “The king and I” we were taught by

our pupils and had to adapt our material as we progressed to meet their needs. **Maintaining interest:** from our own student experience of intensive language learning the background subject material has to be engaging to distract from the pain of learning the language. We had daily sessions on foreign travel, music, fruits and vegetables with episodic sessions on such topics as the five senses (both paintings from Brueghel, with Rubens and human physiology); what we are made of (from Babylonian thinking through Hindu writing to Greek philosophy, the early science of atomic and molecular structure through to DNA, chromosomes and mitochondrial DNA; famous people. **Craft work:** this was hugely successful and included art, box making, origami, reassembling pictures (as we studied shapes). **Computer technology:** we had a special course on the English of Microsoft Office programmes; we used audio-visual material such as streamed music and PowerPoint slides. At every break students would use our iPhones and iPads especially for taking and editing photographs and playing pop videos (this was their first opportunity to handle such equipment and they taught themselves beyond our knowledge). **Noise:** a huge challenge with whirring ceiling fans, moving air and chattering students – often trying to help each other. Isobel needed a microphone; only hand-helds available and speakers were of modest quality (to be polite).

REFLECTIONS

Confirmation: one, that she missed teaching; one, that he was right not to have entered the profession. **Privilege:** Every student passed her State Highers Certificate and will go on to further education in English. We rejoiced for and with them and are delighted we could help them be prepared. **Again?** We would love to but nearer the time need to consider family commitments and personal health. We know how we could do a better job and the sense of accomplishment is very high.

Peter & Isobel Hindle

P.S. Our 6th Annual BBQ on Saturday July 13 (Food served from noon to 7 pm) will raise money for RTU and Unique (for rare chromosome disorders). Please join us if you can; full details coming shortly.

HELLO FROM ALISON

Since I last wrote I have been kept very busy with various projects and exciting things coming up.



The BACKPACKERS Holiday Club will be here before we know it and to successfully run such an event needs time, energy and help from others. I have received offers of help but we still have room for many, more, so don't be shy and if you can offer in any way to help, either text /call me on 07772 482036 or email me at ali-sonmaynard1@hotmail.com . I really would appreciate the help. Here is a list of the jobs I need help with but this is not exhaustive so please ask if there is something you feel you can offer but don't see here.

Roles - Up Front Leaders including myself

- Administration/ Registration (this can be hectic as they all tend to arrive together)
- Guide – small group leader
- Travel rep – small group helper
- Refreshment Coordinator
- Games Coordinator
- Craft Coordinator
- Tech People for music/singing projector etc...
- Scene creators – each day has a different destination ie. Day 1 Eiffel Tower etc....
- Badge Makers
- Advertising

I am also looking to help you recycle your rubbish!!!! If you have any corner yoghurt pots (the ones with 2 compartments), kitchen roll tubes (sorry we are no longer allowed to use the toilet roll ones), any old dried pasta, spaghetti etc.. you know the stuff that ends up in the back of the cupboard and out of date!!! (don't worry we are not feeding it to the children we are going to craft with it!!) or if you have an abundance of greenery in your garden that we could have, we need some for our corner yoghurt pot gardens.

I continue to be involved in the week-to-week regular activities of BB and GB plus schools work. I have been into both Richard Coates and Pont Primary for assemblies as well as the lunch club at the High School. I would very much appreciate your on-

going prayers especially for the High School as there is a pretty erratic attendance of the kids that come. However when they do we have some very good conversations about who God is and what is He about. They are going through their exams at the moment so please pray for them at this time.

So busy times ahead which God is blessing and I am so grateful for all your prayers, love and support.

Blessings, love and prayers

Alison Maynard



Newcastle District



World Church Day

Saturday 8th June

Brunswick Methodist Church

Speaker: Barbara Dickinson,

Formerly of Maua Methodist Hospital, Kenya



**Coffee 10 am, Worship at 10.30 am
followed by a faith lunch.**

**Envelopes with gifts for the
World Mission Fund
will be received with the offering.**

ALL WELCOME

Pentecost Word Search

R E W O P C S M P M T F E S S
 B V S E L P I C S I D I C E Y
 T O N G U E S I G N S F N G M
 D N I W Z F I L L E D T E A B
 P E N T E C O S T X B I S U O
 F I R S T F R U I T S E E G L
 G N I R E F F O B U S T R N I
 H C R U H C N E V A E H P A Z
 Y R A N I D R O A R T X E L E
 D N U O S P I R I T F I R E D

CHURCH
 DISCIPLES
 EXTRAORDINARY
 FIFTIETH
 FILLED
 FIRE
 FIRSTFRUITS
 HEAVEN
 LANGUAGES



OFFERING
 PENTECOST
 POWER
 PRESENCE
 SIGNS
 SOUND
 SPIRIT
 SYMBOLIZED
 TONGUES
 WIND

What is Pentecost? This is a very special time in the Bible when the disciples and other Christians received the Holy Spirit. Pentecost happened 50 days after Easter Sunday or 50 days after Jesus rose from the dead. Jesus had already gone back to Heaven so the disciples and new believers of Jesus were waiting to receive the Holy Spirit because that's what Jesus told them would happen. Plus, since Jesus wasn't with them any more the Holy Spirit would help bring them closer to God.

THURSDAY FOCUS AGM

Summer is truly on its way with some beautiful warm sunny days in May and glorious tree and garden blossom. Also with so many Annual Meetings to attend, we are aware that many activities take a break until September.

We had an exceptionally interesting “Focus” group meeting to conclude our Autumn/Winter/Spring session. Our minister Jona chaired the meeting and Chris led the proceedings. After the “business” was dealt with Jona then presented a quiz. One section was based on the Bible and one question was “To whom did Luke address his Gospel?”.

The answer to this question is Theophilus and at the end of a delicious faith supper, Maurice came to collect Pat and some of us were still practising the word “Theophilus” when Maurice spoke the following tongue twister at very high speed. We were highly amused because of our own difficulty in pronouncing the name far less coping with what followed!!

Maurice and Pat entertained me to a beautiful afternoon tea so that I had an opportunity to commit this rhyme to share – he had learned it at school and was just so proficient at rattling it off so amazingly fast. So here below I have written it out for you to try! “ Timothy Theophilus Thistle Way Thackem thrust his two thick thumbs through three thousand, three hundred and thirty three thick and thin thistles. Where is the three thousand, three hundred and thirty three thick and thin thistles that Timothy Theophilus Thistle Way Thackem thrust his two thick thumbs through?” This would certainly be a very certain way for schoolchildren always to remember this particular name from the Bible!

To recap on the Focus AGM, it really was one of the most interesting and enjoyable ones we have held and we were so delighted to have Jona with us. We now look forward to our summer outing to Alnmouth Friary. We reconvene on Thursday September 12th when Helle will speak to us on “Listening Post”. Our meetings start at 7.30pm in the Upper room.

Programmes are to hand for the following fortnightly meetings and we would happily welcome new members, so ladies please consider joining this friendly group.

Jean Tweedie

Ponteland Methodist Church
Saturday 15th June Doors Open 6.30pm



Coming to Pilot Something New and Exciting
Entrance Free of Charge – Donations being taken



TRAIDCRAFT

Traidcraft are the original fair trade pioneers in the UK, fighting for social economic and trade justice, since way back in 1979. In the 1980s they brought the first fairtrade tea to the UK from Africa, as well as coffee and sugar. In 1991 it was fairtrade chocolate, in 2001 wine, cotton in 2006 and the first fairtrade cleaning range went on sale in 2014.

Traidcraft believes the artisans and farmers who make and grow the food and products that we use every day should be paid and treated fairly and equally at all times, regardless of characteristics such as race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation and age. Traidcraft was instrumental in the establishment of the now widely recognisable Fairtrade Mark. In recent years, Traidcraft has placed growing importance on looking after our planet, protecting our fragile environment and using ingredients that are produced organically.

To celebrate Traidcraft's 40th birthday, why not sit down with a cup of fair trade tea or coffee and have a go at this wordsearch?

Bev

Traidcraft Week Wordsearch

There are 12 words relating to Traidcraft Week in this wordsearch – can you find them all? The words you're looking for can go up and down, backwards and forwards and diagonally. Good luck!

E	C	O	F	R	I	E	N	D	L	Y	U	Q	Q	U
E	J	L	A	E	T	H	I	C	A	L	F	F	L	T
L	P	S	R	Q	Q	A	H	J	Z	O	Y	A	B	R
B	D	C	T	O	G	O	X	F	Q	D	T	R	N	A
A	I	W	I	C	I	N	A	G	R	O	N	M	A	I
N	T	B	S	L	M	X	U	P	F	N	E	E	D	D
I	Y	B	A	J	N	L	Z	K	B	X	M	R	Y	C
A	X	E	N	Z	E	U	I	J	K	K	N	A	H	R
T	L	I	F	I	W	C	N	X	K	I	O	N	H	A
S	R	E	C	Y	C	L	E	D	F	Q	R	D	F	F
U	D	F	X	J	P	G	D	K	K	P	I	O	X	T
S	E	Q	U	A	L	I	T	Y	P	H	V	V	C	P
H	K	X	C	L	K	U	T	W	D	U	N	I	P	F
B	S	X	F	A	I	R	T	R	A	D	E	N	A	A
C	J	U	S	T	I	C	E	Z	C	T	T	Y	H	D

TRAIDCRAFT
FAIRTRADE
ARTISAN
FARMER

EQUALITY
JUSTICE
ENVIRONMENT
ORGANIC

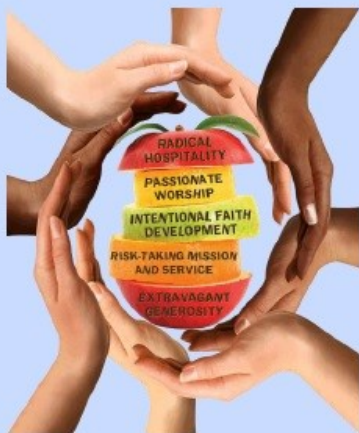
ETHICAL
RECYCLED
ECOFRIENDLY
SUSTAINABLE



Newcastle West
Methodist Circuit Events
2019

worship teaching discussion together

- Engaging as a circuit together
- Worship, discussion, fellowship, growing as disciples of Jesus
- An informal evening of worship and discussion together



Wesley Tree Service & themed **engage** event:

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE?

Risk taking mission and service in our time and place

Monday 17th June 2019, 7pm
Scots Gap Methodist Church



SIMON BAR JONAS TESTIFIES

I remember the last time my brother Simon came to see me. Andrew was with him, too. Simon (they call him Peter now) went all over the world after that, on the Lord's mission. They came to say good-bye to the family; it was in the early summer and all the Eleven had been sent by the Lord to meet him here in Galilee.

They were changed men, I can tell you. Though what they'd been through was awful and amazing – the arrest, the trial the crucifixion had horrified and scared them all, and then His Rising! They were in a daze for weeks after: exhilarated, puzzled, joyful, dazzled – can you imagine it! They had found our beloved friend again, but so different! Not now just the Rabbi, but, as He had told them 'One with the Father', Lord, the Christ! Eating with friends on this Lake shore, teaching holy things, seen and often unseen!

"Did you know he was really still with you even when he was unseen?" I asked my brothers.

"We never really knew when next he would reveal himself," Andrew said. "He told us to watch and obey and go on praying. He showed himself to one or two or even to a great gathering of the faithful; but, only yesterday, we all met him on the mountain. He was with us, blessing us and saying he was now going to the Father."

"That must have been a sad day for you all." I said.

"Not at all! A time of rejoicing! We'd learnt that He is always with us, to the end of the Age, even though out of our sight. We were promised some great Gift from the Father very soon. We are sure that gift will unite us with Jesus for ever. Only we have to wait and see and believe. We are being sent back to Jerusalem to wait for whatever the Lord will send us. Jesus gave us His blessing there on the mountain, then He went."

"Where did He go?" I asked, "Was it like Elijah and a fiery chariot taking Him to heaven?"

"Nothing like that. Some said He just went up to the clouds, some said He just vanished from sight, some that He just wasn't seen again, like so many times since his Rising. Whatever we saw or didn't see just wasn't important. We just believe He is in Glory with the Father and that is enough for us. We aren't weeping and wailing about a loss, for we don't believe we have

lost Him at all. We have gained. We are His people, we will go on worshipping Him as we did when He rose from the grave. Just as we know God's presence and power, so we know the Lord's presence. And He has told us to wait for something else. We'll be at Jerusalem for Pentecost."

John Gill

VILLAGE NEWS

Police Neighbourhood Office

PC Lee Davison has become the Neighbourhood Officer for Ponteland again. He has been in this role before, but has had a spell covering other duties.

Health Walk 10.30am Tuesdays from the Leisure Centre

The walks are being well supported.

Athol House, Callerton Lane

The 29 residents of Athol House have now been rehoused. Karbon Homes have made a planning application to demolish the existing building and construct a new-build, three-storey development. There will be 28 two-bedroom apartments and six one-bedroom ones. Information can be found at publicaccess.northumberland.gov.uk .

Jennifer Hardy

HEALTHY LIFESTYLE INITIATIVE "PILOT SCHEME"

This is a new Community Partnership Project to improve general health and the quality of life linking into the "Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy" between Northumberland County Council & NHS Clinical Commissioning Group. This drop in facility organised by the Community Partnership and hosted at Ponteland Primary Care Medical Centre where a medical professional will check BP, Weight and BMI. You will be given a record card which you will be responsible for keeping and bringing with you when attending future sessions. It should be pointed out this is not an alternative for a medical appointment.

Drop In details:

Venue Ponteland Primary Care Medical Centre

Every second Friday of the month

Times 2-4pm

Report to reception area at main entrance

Hope this is helpful

Alma Dunigan

FELLOWSHIP OF PRAYER - PART4

In Part 3 of the study of prayer we reflected on the quotation of "What is prayer?" We turn now to the scriptures to enable us, through the Holy Spirit, to develop a greater prowess in prayer.

Humble Prayer - Luke 18:10-14

Throughout His public ministry, Jesus exposed the self-righteousness and unbelief of the Pharisees (Luke 11:39-54). He pictured them as guests fighting for the best seats (Luke 14:7-14) and sons, proud of their obedience but unconcerned about the needs of others (Luke 15:25-32).

The sad thing is, that the Pharisees are completely deluded and thought that Jesus was wrong. This is illustrated in this parable. The people who lived in Jerusalem often went to the temple to pray. The temple was the centre of their worship (Isaiah 56:7). The Pharisee did not go to the temple to pray to God but to announce to all who could hear, how good he was. The Pharisee used prayer as a means of getting public recognition and not as a spiritual exercise to glorify God (Matthew 6:5,23:14). The Pharisee deceived himself, for he thought he was accepted by God on the basis of what he did or did not do. The Jews were required to fast only once a year, on the Day of Atonement (Leviticus 16:2) but he fasted twice a week. He tithed everything that came into his possession, even the tiny herbs from his garden (Matthew 23:23). He was deluded about the tax collector who was also in the temple praying. The Pharisee thought that the tax collector was a great sinner but the tax collector went home justified by God. The proud Pharisee went home only self-satisfied. To be justified, means to be declared righteous by God on the basis of the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross (Romans 3:19-4:25). The tax collector repeatedly beat his chest in anguish, for he knew where his greatest problem was and he called out to God for mercy. He was aware of the enormity of his sins. The Pharisee, however, was fatally ignorant of his own heart and his pride condemned him. The tax collector's humble faith saved him (Luke 14:11 and Isaiah 57:15). It is the prodigal son and the elder brother over again (Luke 15:11).

Prayer Produces Peace - Philippians 4:6-7

Paul uses three different words to describe "right praying": prayer, supplication and thanksgiving. All three are involved.

The word prayer is the general word for making requests known

to God. It carries the idea of adoration, devotion and worship. When we find ourselves worrying, our first action should be to get alone with God and worship Him. Adoration is needed and we must see the greatness and majesty of God. He is big enough to solve all of our problems. We ought to approach His throne calmly and in deepest reverence. The first step to "right praying" is "adoration". The second is "supplication", an earnest sharing of our needs and problems.

The two top subjects of interest to Christians are, how to discover the will of God and how to develop greater prowess in prayer. If you examine the biography of those whose lives have made a great impact for God (John Wesley, Martin Luther, Mother Teresa, to name just a few) you will find, in every case, that they were people of prayer. To neglect prayer is to miss the prize of the glory of God in one's life and to practise it is the chief way to experience it. Considering the greatness and immensity of God and how majestic is our creator, it is indeed a mystery that He deigns to listen to us when we pray.

No serious treatment of the subject of prayer can be undertaken without some reference to the matter of confession. As C S Lewis puts it "To lay before God what is in us, not what ought to be in us". We must be careful not to subject ourselves to an unhealthy preoccupation with our sinfulness but we should be ready and willing at certain times in our spiritual life to open our hearts to the Holy Spirit and voluntarily confess any known sin. Ursula W Neibuhr said, "The final contribution of religious faith to freedom is the freedom to confess our sins; the freedom to admit that we sit under the ultimate judgment of God".

Confessing the Scriptures in prayer is also very powerful, for when we do that, we are establishing things in the spiritual realm by the words we are speaking in the physical realm. We should be constantly confessing the Word of God, believing in our heart and confessing with our mouth what God has said about us in His Word. We will be looking more deeply into the subject of confession in a later study.

While we know we are not heard for our "much speaking" (Matthew 6:7-8), nevertheless, God does want us to be earnest in our asking (Matthew 7:1-11). Jesus prayed this way in the Garden (Hebrews 5:7). Supplication is a matter of spiritual intensity (Romans 15:30, Colossians 4:12).

Now "appreciation" - giving thanks to God (Ephesians 5:20, Colossians 3:15-17). We read that our Father enjoys His children saying "thank you". When Jesus healed ten lepers, only one of them returned to give thanks (Luke 17:11-19). Are we eager to ask but slow to appreciate?

"Right praying" is not necessarily something every one of us can do immediately. It depends on the right kind of mind. This is why Paul's formula for peace is to be found at the end of Philippians and not at the beginning. If we have the "single mind" of Philippians 1, then we can give "adoration". If we have the "submissive mind" of Philippians 2, we can approach God with "supplication". If we have the "spiritual mind" of Philippians 3, we can show our "appreciation". In other words, we must practise Philippians 1, 2 & 3 if we are going to experience the "secure mind" of Philippians 4. Paul counsels us to take "everything to God in prayer", "don't worry about anything", "pray about everything".

Are we not prone to pray about the "big things" in life and forget to pray about the so-called "little things" - until they grow and become "big things"? Talking to God about everything that concerns us and Him, is the first step towards victory over worry. The result is that the "Peace of God" guards the heart and mind. The "Peace of God" stands guard over the two areas that create worry - the heart (wrong feeling) and the mind (wrong thinking). When we give our hearts to Jesus in salvation, we experience the "Peace of God" (Romans 5:1).

This takes us a step further into God's blessings. Of course, this does not mean the absence of trials on the outside but it does mean a quiet confidence within, regardless of circumstances, people or things.

Daniel gives us a wonderful illustration of peace through prayer (Daniel 6:1-10). He prayed, giving thanks to God (Daniel 6:10). He made supplication (Daniel 6:11). The result :- perfect peace in the midst of difficulty. The first condition for the secure mind and victory over worry is right praying.

Philippians 4:6,7 "do not be anxious about anything but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God and the peace of God, which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus".



THE OPEN DOOR

Delicious with a cup of tea or as a dessert.

Judith

Blueberry Cake

100g ground almonds
110g SR flour
1 tsp baking powder
1tsp ground cinnamon
165g margarine
115g soft brown sugar
55g granulated sugar
2 eggs
1 tsp vanilla essence
300g blueberries
3 tbsp demerara sugar



Preheat the oven to 180°C/160°C fan.
Prepare 23cm/9in cake tin
Mix together the flour, baking powder and cinnamon.
Cream together the margarine, brown sugar and granulated sugar until light.
Beat in the eggs. Then add the vanilla.
Beat the mixture until it has nearly doubled in volume.
Fold in the flour and almond mixture.
Gently stir in 225g of blueberries.
Spoon the mixture into the tin.
Sprinkle the remaining blueberries and the demerara sugar over the top.
Bake for 30 to 35 mins until golden brown and the top is starting to crackle.
Cool before slicing.

GARDENING FOR JUNE 2019

Thank you to everyone who attended the Plant Sale and particularly to those who brought plants. The growers will be pleased to have reports back of how the plants have established in this particularly dry spring when lots of water is needed. I trust you have been watching the many programmes on BBC on the Chelsea Flower Show which ended on the Saturday with plenty of specimens for sale as the stands were cleared. We went a couple of years ago and can identify with the location of the various gardens and some of the many stalls and displays. The BBC programme each day has been of particular interest to us. The Rich brothers are grandsons of very good friends we had in Brecon when we were welcomed to Dr Coke Memorial Methodist Church (burnt down and converted to a supermarket after we left). The Rich brothers are also involved in garden design and installation on BBC Garden Rescue programmes – look out for them on BBC 1, shown on a weekday afternoon.

Without checking all the monthly rain records I think we have been having one of the driest springs since we came to Ponteland. This has made the soil particularly dry – recently established gardens will have been worse as the clay is so difficult to break down. The other weather item that has caused delay has been cold nights – and these are still occurring – no frost but soil temperatures dipping well below optimum growing levels. This has delayed getting some tender plants outdoors and hardened off. By the time you read this the risk of late frosts should be about past but there is no harm in having a supply of fleece available to cover if the weather forecast gives a warning. Our potatoes are earthed up and about six inches above the soil so I will be very aware of any changes that might affect them.

As more and more people go towards perennials in their flower borders there may be less planting out to do in the spring. That doesn't mean that the perennials will happily thrive without your help. They need feeding and weeding and some will need support if they are going to give the display that you desire. Our Hostas are coming into full leaf (all in planters) after being well fed and every attempt made to keep slugs and snails off them. Hydrangeas have suffered from frost in April. I am waiting to see if they are going to recover to flower satisfactorily, otherwise I will cut them back hoping for new growth which will not flower until

next year. When you see the gardens and displays at Chelsea you will notice the compactness of the plantings – some are still in pots having come from temperature- and light-conditioned greenhouses. We must remember that there are only three weeks given for the building and setting up of the displays. When we plant it is important to give reasonable spacing to plants so that they can reach their full potential which in many cases will mean some weeding until intervening soil is covered by the growth of the leaves. Feeding can be by incorporated “Growmore” (7:7:7) or fish blood and bone fertilizers and/or by adding and mixing in some chicken manure pellets at the bottom of the plant hole. After establishment feeding should be liq-



uid. The commonest product is tomato feed which is high in potash and only needs diluting to the same strength as would be used on tomatoes. Other soluble products are available for feeding either high in nitrogen (not advised for the flower garden), evenly balanced or high in potash. In the mix for planters (mostly recycled “compost”) I am adding continuous release plant fertilizer. Water retaining granules are helpful in composts for hanging baskets.

You will find great selection at garden centres and nurseries. Choose specimens that are only showing flower initials or are still even in the vegetative state. You have missed the best if you choose specimens which are in full flower. You need to select to keep your display going from now until the early frosts when planting frost tender/bedding plants. Plants give you more flowers if you regularly deadhead – obvious some do not need it, but many perennials do. Some perennials only produce one “crop” of flowers in the season but they still need deadheading after the flowers start to die back. Watching Chelsea, you will have noted the wonderful shows of Alliums – they only have one flower per season. If you want to collect the heads to dry for indoor displays they should be cut before the seed pods mature or otherwise they will just disintegrate.

As a postscript may I mention that Dobbies have now become the largest garden centre group in the British Isles after buying a number of sites from Wyevale. They also won the “Best Trade Stand” award of Chelsea.

Good gardening in June.

Syd Cowan

FAMILY NEWS

David Macdonald has moved to 9 Meadowfield Park.

The Thanksgiving Service for **David Penry** was held on Friday 31st May. Our thoughts are with his family at this sad time.

Congratulations to **Andrew Gonnet** on a significant birthday.

Joe Shea has died at 98 and his funeral is on Monday 3rd June 2.45pm at the West Road Crematorium. We will miss his stories and singing at Open Door.

Best wishes to **Marjorie Scarlett** on her recent birthday. It is good to see her out and about again.

Please remember **Noreen Green** and **Jenny Lewis** who have not been able to come to church for a while. They are always pleased to hear from church friends.

Please pray for **Brian Lumsden** who is unwell. He is retiring from preaching after 59 years.

Congratulations to **Joyce Davis** on becoming a Great-grandmother to Leo Williams.

Ponteland Party in the Park

Sunday 9th June

Help is needed on the day to run this event. We will be erecting tents at 9am. The gates from the Memorial Hall and Millennium Bridge will need manning from 12.30am as the event starts at 1pm this year. Servers are need to help on the BBQ. Please come and help us with the 17th running of the event.

Contact **Andy Anderson** or Geoff Lisle.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

June

Saturday 8th	10.00am Mini Meander - Druridge Bay
Sunday 9th	1-5pm Party in the Park
Thursday 13th	9.00am Focus Outing to Alnmouth and Beadnell
Saturday 15th	9.30am Meander led by Lorna Paterson 1.30pm The Wedding of Jackie Park and Richard Harris
Monday 17th	7.00pm Engage Event - Scots Gap
Tuesday 18th	2.30pm Women's Fellowship - Afternoon tea
Thursday 20th	7.30pm Church Council
Saturday 22nd	10.00am Mini Meander
Monday 24th	Minister meets with Pastoral visitors.
Saturday 29th	9.30am Meanders led by Geoff Lisle

July

Tuesday 2nd	5.00pm Meanders Treasure Hunt
Saturday 13th	12.00noon BBQ at the Hindles, Thropton
Monday 29th—Saturday 3rd August	Holiday Club

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP GARDEN PARTIES

We are pleased to confirm the following dates and venues for our Summer Garden Parties; time 2.30 - 4.00pm.

18th June - In **Church**-Stobert Room and Foyer.

16th July- **Rosemary Gray**, 24 The Rise.

6th August - **Val Michell**, 18 Pinegarth.

20th August - **Ann Cooper**, 15 Guardians Court.

We shall continue to bring a faith tea for everyone to share. Could you please bring a cup, saucer, plate and, if possible, a garden chair (tea will be provided). If the weather is inclement the events will be held indoors. Many, many thanks to our hosts for their kind hospitality and we look forward very much to seeing you all.

Joyce Davis

**Preachers
June**

2nd 10.00am Maynard
10.00am Forrester
6.30pm LA
9th 10.00am Sewell
6.30pm No Service
16th 10.00am Sewell
10.00am R Brooks
6.30pm Woolley
23rd 10.00am Small
10.00am Woolley
6.30pm Sewell (S)
30th 10.00am Sewell (S)
6.30pm Woolley



**Where everyone's welcome,
because nobody's perfect,
and anything's possible.**

**Upbeat music : kids activities
Bible based : full of good stuff
t: 01661 598 978 Find us on Facebook**



Ponteland Party in the Park

**SUNDAY 9TH JUNE 2019
FROM 1.00 pm**

Entertainment for all the family

Hope to see you there

ADMISSION ONLY £1

Children under 5 free

From The Editors

*Don't forget that copy for the July/August edition of Cornerstone should be with the editor by **Friday 28th June 2019**. The editor's email address is andrew73anderson@gmail.com . The editorial committee is Andy Anderson, Jennifer Hardy, Jona Sewell and Viv Whyte.*