



Actively Promoting God's Love for everyone

**Churches
Together in
Cumbria**
February
2021



Churches Together in Cumbria February Newsletter

Welcome to our first Newsletter of 2021, and here we are in a new year. I'm sure that you are with us in hoping that 2021 proves to be better than 2020.

Thankfully, some things are unchanging, the Bible claims that God is unchanging, in character, purpose and, above all God's mercy - His steadfast love. God's love endures forever and that is great news today! Despite the adversities we may face in this coming year, it is reassuring to take comfort in the assurance that God's love will cover, strengthen, and comfort us all.

Have a great and God blessed Year!!!





Did Unity Week Pass You By?

Well, it nearly did for some of us in the Central Lakes. But a 'God-prompt' set things in motion just 10 days before the start of the 'week', and with the benefit of zoom and email, meditations were quickly planned for each morning of Unity week. Four Christian traditions were represented by the leaders for the 5 days, bringing variety and richness to the experience. In the end, the half hour of meditation was experienced by between 30 and 45 people each day (with visitors from Cornwall and Florida), and these were drawn from CT in Hawkshead, CT in Ambleside and District, the Central Lakes Mission Community and Christians in Coniston.



But if Unity week DID pass you by, then it's not too late to take advantage of this opportunity to meet together, and to use the excellent resources provided online. This year the theme was prepared by the Monastic Community of Grandchamp in Switzerland. They chose a theme based on **John 15:1-17: Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit**, and this expresses Grandchamp Community's vocation to prayer, reconciliation and unity in the church and the human family.

These resources can be used at any time, but you might like to consider using them in the lead up to Pentecost. Don't miss this opportunity to share together in prayer, reflection and fellowship!!

Kath Dodd (CT in Hawkshead, Central Lakes Mission Community)



Rejoice Always!
Pray without ceasing, give thanks in all
circumstances; for this is the will of God
in Jesus Christ for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:16 - 18





Anna Chaplaincy Cumbria Update



Cumbria

The Anna Chaplaincy project in Cumbria continues to grow. I held an information event on-line in November and I have been holding meetings with interested Missions Communities and parishes over the last few weeks.

This month I would like to introduce you to our newest Anna Chaplain. Wendy Wilson is beginning her ministry in the East of Eden Mission Community, initially based in the benefice of Kirkoswald, Lazonby, Renwick, and Great Salkeld, she is working alongside the Rev'd Katherine Butterfield

Wendy introduces herself:



"I am an older person living in the beautiful Eden Valley. I have 19 fantastic grandchildren, so retirement so far has not been dull! I had a long career in Health Visiting until 2014 and I have also worked as a live-in carer and companion for older people in different parts of the country. In both these jobs, it was a great privilege to be able to serve the community and I never stopped being impressed by people's uniqueness and the wealth of their experiences gained during the years of a long life.

I came to a faith in God during the middle years of my life and this led me to become involved in my local Anglican Church. The links with our community hospital gave me the opportunity to take part in delivering worship services to residents, some of whom were living with dementia.

In 2013, my husband and I moved to the Eden Valley; I became a Church Warden and after this, a Worship Leader in Kirkoswald Church. I also got involved in helping with 'Godly Play' in our local Church of England primary schools and anticipate doing some training in this later in the year.

I feel called to Anna Chaplaincy, in part because it brings together the experiences gained in my professional life with my wish to share the comfort of God's love with older people in the community, wherever it is wanted and needed.

The COVID-19 pandemic means that I cannot dive too fast into this role and perhaps this is a blessing, in that I am able to spend time in prayerful planning, learning and reflection. I am enjoying what I can do by having telephone conversations with a few older people who are living on their own during this lonely, sometimes sad and challenging time. Together with Reverend Katherine, Vicar and Mission Community Lead, we have taken steps to inform older people of the Anna Chaplaincy ministry by sending out Christmas greeting cards to those who receive the Mission Community newsletter. I look forward to the development of Anna Chaplaincy with the support of a team of Anna Friends whenever this can become a reality."





Anna Chaplaincy Cumbria Update Continued....

Meanwhile, the ministry continues in Barrow and Kendal. In Barrow, Babs Lowe knitted and distributed 1000 knitted crosses to residents of care homes, assisted living facilities, hospitals and beyond across the whole of Low Furness. She was helped by over 50 volunteers (aged 5 to 75+). A Recorded Christmas service was also delivered to all care homes in Barrow.

(Right: Crosses Knitted, packaged and ready for distribution)



Beverly Moore in Kendal provided Advent and Christmas resources for the three care homes she is currently supporting. This took the form of Advent calendars and a Christmas focused Tea Service recorded and distributed via YouTube.

(Left: Beverley holding her certificate and an Advent Calendar)

Advance Notice

Dementia Awareness training will be offered online on March 24th 14.00-15.00. Details to follow next month

There is much already happening in Cumbria. Do get in contact if you have any questions or suggestions for this work.

Katherine Froggatt
Anna Chaplaincy Lead
acctic@outlook.com





The Bereavement Journey, Cumbria.



The first Bereavement Journey Cumbria course started in September, delivered via Zoom. 17 guests are attending this first course, and it is being well received.

The Bereavement Journey was written and developed by Holy Trinity Brompton 25 years ago, and is now available as online course: www.thebereavementjourney.org

The course comprises of five two hour sessions with discussion around two talks. There is an optional sixth session which deals with questions on faith.

Our next course begins on 2nd February 2021

To book a place, please contact:

Shelagh Goldie

shelagh.goldie@gmail.com

www.churchestogethercumbria.co.uk





Christian Meditation Cumbria



Turned by Divine Love

Starting out again with God and with others

Led by Bishop John Stroyan

Private or Online Retreat

26th & 27th February 2021

Our Lenten retreat is to be led in three recording talks by
John Stroyan,
author of 'Turned by Divine Love'.

John Stroyan is the Bishop of Warwick. He is the UK President of the Community of the Cross of Nails, Co-Chair of the Reuilly Contact Group and President of the Association for Promoting Retreats. The theme of the retreat is hope, encouraging us all to make a fresh start with God and entering more fully into the relationship of love to which he invites us, to go out and to witness to this love. Drawing on the rich Christian traditions of both east and west, the theme of the retreat and the book speaks of theology and spirituality, to the head and to the heart.

Please sign up for the retreat by booking a place with Cameron Butland by

21st February via his email cdsa03@gmail.com

The cost will be £5 for a couple or £3 per person.

Please contact Bob Morley to arrange payment via bank transfer or cheque via his email rgm1@live.co.uk

Details of the programme and how to access the material for a private home retreat or online together is available from Cameron on Monday 22nd February.

Thank you for your support and interest, Cameron Butland

'Turned by Dive Love' by John Stroyan is published by BRF, 2019

ISBN 9780857467508





The Methodist Church Cumbria District

The Methodist Districts of Cumbria and Lancashire are looking to appoint a joint

DISTRICT PROPERTY SECRETARY

**Are you passionate about using the Church's property for mission?
Do you have a heart for supporting lay and ordained with property matters?**

The role replaces two volunteer posts for a **two year fixed term pilot project** (with the possibility of continuing thereafter if successful and subject to funding).

Working flexibly and collaboratively with lay and ordained colleagues locally, regionally, nationally and ecumenically, the postholder will offer support and oversight for property matters within the two Districts (without directly managing property themselves), with a mandate to help churches better utilise, develop or dispose of their properties in accordance with national and local policies.

Salary: £33 - £38,000 pa

Start date: As soon as possible

Work base: Home-based, with travel required

A genuine occupational requirement exists for the post holder to be sympathetic to the aims and principles of the Methodist Church in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

Closing date for applications: - 5th February 2021

Interviews (probably via Zoom) : - 24/25th February 2021

The successful applicant will require a successful Enhanced DBS disclosure

For further details and application form: Mrs Carolyn Dickinson,
Cumbria Methodist District Administrator – 07727 415400 or

cumbriamethodistdistrict@outlook.com





The Second Monday Seminars in 2021

Do Not Be Afraid:

Christian Hope in Today's World



7.30 pm on Zoom – book on the website

Engaging-theology-in-cumbria.org

The Cumbria Theology Society began in 1994, providing an annual series of four to six well-attended lectures by prominent theologians. In 2019 it evolved into **Engaging Theology in Cumbria**, which offers to anyone interested in exciting ways to reflect theologically in different formats on a range of topics.

ETC is delighted to launch a series of seminars for 2021 on Zoom, to which all are welcome!

2020 taught us that we could all use a little less fear and a little more hope. How do Christians live between fear, despair and hope? How do we do mission in a world of denialism, despair, hedonistic panic, bland optimism? In this series, eight theologians explore hope and fear in mission, theological education, the arts, the climate crisis, education, and more, in a zoom-based series of talks and group discussions that are inclusive, accessible, mission-focused, and, above all, hopeful.

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| 8 February | Theology, Formation, and Living Hopefully
Dr Michael Leyden, Principal of Emmanuel Theological College: |
| 8 March | 'This metaphor is no way out': Some Poetry of Hope, drawing on Norman Nicholson and others
The Revd Canon Dr Edmund Newey, Rector of Rugby |
| 10 May | And the Stillness the Dancing
Mark Cazalet, British Painter, https://www.markcazalet.co.uk/ |
| 14 June | Christian Ambition and Confidence in a Fearful World
The Rt Revd Dr Emma Ineson, The Bishop of Penrith |
| 12 July | Fear, Lament and Hope in the face of Climate Crisis
The Very Revd Dr Frankie Ward, parish priest, Workington, Cumbria |
| 13 September | Do not be afraid of learning!
Dr Mark Chater, Author of <i>Jesus Christ, Learning Teacher</i> (SCM, 2020) |
| 11 October | Facing the Fears of Unemployment: Christian hope for working life
Dr Helen Cameron: Research Associate, Centre for Baptist Studies |
| 8 November | Presence and Absence: Looking for God in Contemporary Fiction
The Revd. Jane Maycock |

The ecumenical steering group is John Baron, Mark Chater, Shelagh Goldie, Valerie Hallard, Glynn Jones, Yvette Ladds, Jane Maycock, Karl Moeller, Andrew Norman, Nicki Pennington, Alistair Smeaton and Frankie Ward.

Any questions? Please contact Frankie on fefward@gmail.com





‘I will show you the path of life,
I will fill you with joy in My presence
And with eternal pleasures at My right hand.’

Psalm 16:11





O give thanks
unto the LORD
for He is good;
for His mercy
endures forever.

Psalm 136:1

Reminder

Please remember to keep looking at the CTiC events page which is regularly updated with all the events October we are notified about. Please send information before 15th February for our March newsletter: ebctic@outlook.com

Find out more about the work of CTiC on our website:

[https://www.churchestogethercumbria.org.uk/Groups/318434/About Us.aspx](https://www.churchestogethercumbria.org.uk/Groups/318434/About%20Us.aspx)

All the information in this newsletter is published in good faith and for general information purpose only. Churches Together in Cumbria does not make any guarantee about the completeness, reliability and accuracy of this information. Nor does inclusion herein imply our endorsement of events or organisations.

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www.churchestogethercumbria.org.uk



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