

The
Magazine of the
Church of England in
Great Ayton with
Easby & Newton
under Roseberry
Parishes

Spire

FEBRUARY 2021



Lockdown Sky Over Christ Church

Taken by Jim Miller

One of the positives of this last year have been the clearer skies. No clouds there to make a sailor a pair of trousers!

www.christchurchgreatayton.org.uk

Contents

Page 2
February Services
Page 3
Vicar's Letter
Page 5
No Room at the Inn
Page 5
Toilet Twinning
Page 6
Lent 2021
Page 7
Together at Lent
Page 8
Books and Courses
Page 9
Goals for 2021
Page 10
Memories of Christmas
Page 12
News
Page 14
The Right Use of Wealth
Page 16
Leven Valley Youthworkers
Page 17
A New Look for an old Firm
Page 18
Registers
Page 19
Malcolm's Musings

FEBRUARY

Sunday Morning Worship Sundays at 9.30am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89511024740>

Meeting ID: 895 1102 4740
Password: 450872

Sunday Communion at 5pm
Live Service at Stokesley Church
on 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays
No Zoom/FB

Service for Saint Oswald's at 11am (1st & 3rd Sundays)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89376005713>

Meeting ID: 893 7600 5713
Password: 969354

Prayer for the Day Monday to Saturday at 8.45am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84024175583>

Meeting ID: 840 2417 5583
Password: 974982

SERVICES IN CHURCH

During January, due to the very high number of Covid cases in the Great Ayton & Stokesley area and the anxiety of many older people to come out, Great Ayton PCC took the decision to move services onto Zoom for the remainder of the month and review on the 1st February. Please watch the website for announcements.

Newton under Roseberry PCC also reluctantly made a similar decision but for different reasons, for the congregation is drawn from a very wide area around Teesside/ North Yorkshire and advice is that you shouldn't move areas to go to Church. Only 3 of our regulars are without Internet so can't join in that way, and they are not coming at the moment. Newton PCC have therefore decided to extend the closure until March and open as soon as it is safe to do so, so services remain on Zoom.

Stokesley & Seamer PCC have decided that they wish to remain open and have tightened protocols accordingly. They are still open as before.

I believe Churches to be amongst some of the safest places to be, due to space and knowing everyone there will be taking precautions too. I would certainly prefer to take services in Church than other places I am required to be that are used far more often. We will open again for worship as soon as we feel its safe to do so. **Paul**

New Beginnings Ahead



As Frank Sinatra sang, “And now, the end is near ...”, but it’s not a final curtain that awaits, but the arrival of Rev’d Ben Gunter on 3rd March who will be the new Priest in Charge of Stokesley, so bringing to an end my support for them in the second time of Vacancy whilst I have been here - which is pretty good going as Nunthorpe have had five periods of vacancy, but Kirkby in Cleveland only one!

Times of vacancy can be good times for a Church as without the Vicar or Rector it brings people forward to do tasks that they may not have volunteered for otherwise. This year, however, has been very different from any before it, and the Churchwardens at Stokesley have had to cope with all the issues surrounding Covid-19, Risk Assessments and generally keeping people together and upbeat - and they have done an excellent job. They have also been incredibly supportive to Geoff, Jon, Jane and I when we have gone there for services.

Unlike with Nunthorpe Parish in 2017 when I formally became Priest in Charge, I have simply supported Stokesley by arranging all their Sunday Services and taking care of all their baptisms, weddings and funerals. To be fair, the first two of these haven’t presented any problem as all baptisms were postponed, and only two weddings took place of those planned. Funerals have been very different with very busy times in both Parishes over the Christmas/New Year period, as you can see from the Register Page, and many families being unable to remember their loved ones with friends and family present. We have done our best with a warm welcome, services zoomed out of church and also relayed with loudspeaker on several occasions. All has continued as well as it could and Ben will inherit a Parish in good heart, despite the pandemic.

Sundays have been a real pleasure, both before, during and after Lockdowns. We were just beginning to see a little growth with the family service when Lockdown came for 3 months, but that brought Stokesley and Great Ayton together on Zoom. It has been lovely hearing the conversations as people greeted folk they knew across parishes, and when the Church buildings re-opened, we have had folk travel to the other Church for worship.

Christ Church is fortunate in having a screen and projector fitted, so a big thank you to Martin Simmons and Vicki Nath who saw this done as part of the Organ Restoration Project, and with Broadband already installed it has been a doddle. Stokesley Church hasn't yet got the technology plumbed in, so each Sunday I have had to arrive early to set up screen, projector, microphones and speakers, arriving at 8am just to make sure all is well, for over the time we have had technological issues at both Churches and only managed to get online with seconds to go. I am sure that if Ben asks for screen, broadband and projector to be fitted that he will now be pushing at an open door. That's the main reason why we have had to cancel the 8am at both Churches to give me time to set up, but at Christ Church we have transferred the BCP Communion service to 5pm and it was going well.

Over the last four years I have spent 2 years and 4 months also looking after neighbouring Parishes and it has made me realise how much we all have in common, and what a great resource we have in our Churches, and how we all could benefit by experiencing a bit more of each other. There are lovely committed people both at St Mary's Nunthorpe and over at Stokesley - and I am sure in all other Parishes too. If we could find a way of sharing that commitment and enthusiasm and bringing folk closer together it could be to the benefit of all. The Mothers Union used to do this brilliantly across the Deanery and Diocese, but sadly we lost our branch many years ago.

Ben Gunter will arrive on 3rd March to take over Stokesley and we don't know yet what pattern worship will take. One thing is sure is that the Zoom screen will feel very empty if we no longer see friends from Stokesley anymore whom we have shared this very strange and challenging year with.



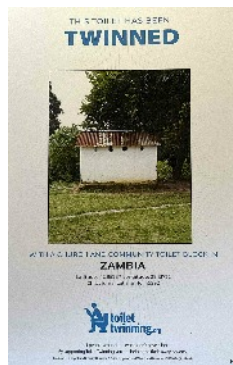
Keep safe and well, everyone. Darkness doesn't last forever, for dawn arrives, but it's in the darkness that we can see the stars.

Paul

Toilet Twinning

One of the projects the PCC chose to support last Christmas was “Toilet Twinning”. This is a scheme run by TearFund that helps to provide safe water and sanitation to poor communities.

- Without proper toilets and clean water, people are trapped in a vicious circle.
- They’re likely to become sick through sanitation related diseases (900 children die each day from diseases linked to dirty water and unsafe toilets)
- Children miss school because they are sick or busy collecting water
- Illness means they cannot work or farm the land, so they earn less or grow less food
- Parents have to pay for medicines or food, so they may fall into debt
- Women and girls risk being attacked or bitten by snakes as they go to the toilet in the open, especially if the culture dictates that they have to go out at night.



TearFund’s partners work with communities, building up trust and focusing on issues that concern them, such as farming. Women carry the heavier burden in terms of collecting water and caring for the family, but often have no voice. So gradually, partners encourage the men to allow women to have a say in household matters and decisions. Small committees of both men and women are set up to look at the link between open defecation and ill health, and for many, this is a revelation. Then they are keen to have a latrine. People generally build their own latrine, and this means they are much more likely to continue using it and maintain it, ensuring the project is sustainable.

All of Christ Church’s seven toilets are now twinned with other toilets in poor countries. TearFund has also expanded the scheme to include twinning taps (to help stop the spread of coronavirus as well), and twinning bins (preventing disease, protecting the environment and creating jobs). We have also twinned our taps and bins.

We can all play a role in this, helping save lives and restoring dignity - have you considered twinning your own toilet? To twin a toilet costs £60, as does twinning a tap. Twinning a bin costs £45. For more information look up www.toilettwinning.org

Helen Land

LENT 2021

This Lent we will be running the York Course, "Caring for Creation" every Monday in Lent on Zoom from 1.30pm - 3pm.

Meeting ID: 848 5992 8814

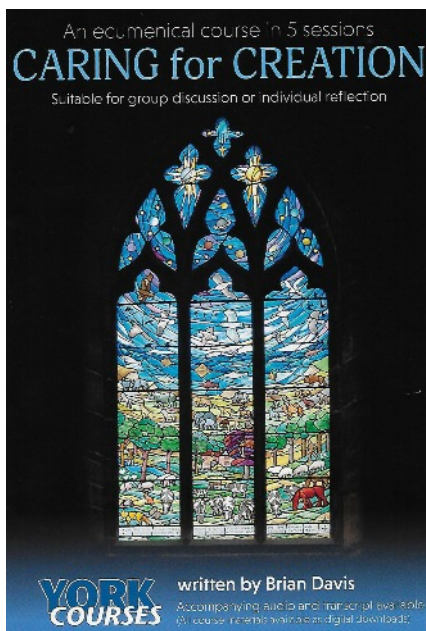
Passcode: 061774

After the recorded input, which is always excellent, we will go into groups in the Breakout Rooms to have a chat. We will all have something of value to say for the Lockdowns have made us appreciate the environment even more.

Topics are

- The Environment
- Global Warming & Climate Change
- The Age of Humans - The Anthropocene Era (*No, I haven't a clue what that is either.*)
- Coming out of Denial and Facing Crisis
- Faith, Hope and Love

There is an introductory booklet available from the Churches or from Jean Cumbor tel 01642 724899 or email anjecrumbo@btinternet.com



Ash Wednesday

As we don't yet know what restrictions may or may not be in place, there will be a streamed & Zoomed Service for Ash Wednesday 17th February at 7.30pm.

Meeting ID: 883 4325 3097

Passcode: 762129

Dial by your location

0203 481 5240 United Kingdom

0203 901 7895 United Kingdom

T ogether @ Lent

It is traditional to give something up for Lent. This year why not take something up instead with our Together at Lent challenge. Take on one of these challenges for each of the 40 days of Lent (take a day off each Sunday!) and commit to spending time together as a family with God.

You can complete them in any order and cross them off as you go.

Read a favourite Bible story.

Look through family photos together. Thank God for the happy memories.

Encourage one another with kind words.

Phone a family friend and remind them they are loved!

Pray for your friends.

Play a board game together.

Write a letter of encouragement to somebody in your church.

Be still before God.

Pray for your teachers.

Plant some seeds together.

Spend some time waiting and listening to God together.

Pray for another country.

Wash one another's feet

Build a den together and hang out with God.

Dance to a favourite worship song.

Use toys to act out a story from the Bible.

Sing a favourite worship song together.

Pray for your neighbours.

Give a gift to bless somebody.

Have a Bible race - who can find John 3:16 the fastest?

Draw a picture of a perfect world.

Pray for keyworkers.

Play hide and seek together.

Go for a walk in God's wonderful creation.

Draw a picture of Jesus.

Act out a story from the Bible together.

Memorise a Bible verse together.

Pray for the government and those in power.

Put an encouraging message for others in your window.

Encourage one another with words of truth.

Donate to and pray for your local food bank.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

Share your hopes and dreams for 2021.

Pray for your church leaders.

Pray with another family via video call.

Give to and pray for the work of a charity.

Read a Psalm.

Write a letter of encouragement to someone who blesses you.

Pray for one another.

Write a song together.

MOVING ON



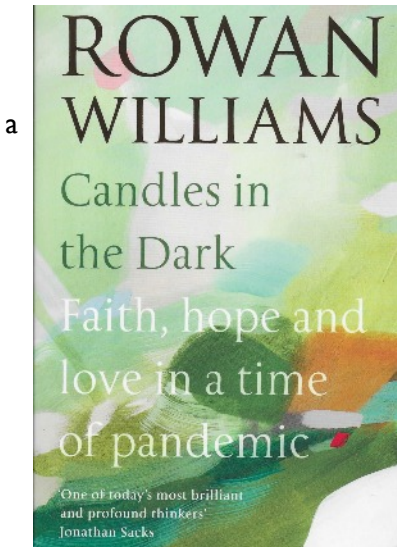
Following the start up of the Moving On Courses, Jane and Paul will be starting another on Thursday evenings 7.30pm - 8.30pm.

It will begin on Thursday 11th March due to previous commitments, and run 18th, 25th March - take a week's break for Maundy Thursday, 1st April, and then continue 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Jane revjanerob@gmail.com or Paul revpev@btinternet.com. We hope the course will be a positive experience for all as we explore faith together.

A Book For Lent

If you want an easy to read book for Lent with a relevant message of hope for this time of Pandemic, let me recommend Candles in the Dark by Rowan Williams.



Rowan Williams was the former Archbishop of Canterbury and he wrote a collection of meditations for the Parish Church he now attends from March to September last year, as means of showing where the hope was in the darkness. These have been collected into a book and is available for £7.69 from Amazon - even less if you get the Kindle version.

All royalties from the sale of the book are going to support the Good Chance Theatre Company which has done outstanding work with vulnerable communities, especially amongst migrants, and its current work concentrates on the challenges and risks faced by child migrants www.goodchance.org.uk

Goals For 2021 - to bring a smile in difficult times

My goal for 2020 was to lose 10 pounds. Only have 14 to go.

Ate salad for dinner. Mostly croutons and tomatoes. Really just one big round crouton covered with tomato sauce, and cheese. FINE, it was a pizza....OK, I ate a pizza! Are you happy now?

A recent study has found women who carry a little extra weight live longer than men who mention it.

Senility has been a smooth transition for me.

Remember back when we were kids and every time it was below zero outside they closed school? Yeah, Me neither.

I may not be that funny or athletic or good looking or smart or talented. I forgot where I was going with this.

I love approaching 80, I learn something new every day and forget 5 other things.

A thief broke into my house last night. He started searching for money so I got up and searched with him.

I think I'll just put an "Out of Order" sticker on my forehead and call it a day.

Just remember, once you're over the hill you begin to pick up speed.

It's weird being the same age as old people.

When I was a kid I wanted to be older... This is not what I expected.

Chocolate is God's way of telling us he likes us a little bit chubby.

It's probably my age that tricks people into thinking I'm an adult.

Marriage Counsellor: Your wife says you never buy her flowers. Is that true?

Him: To be honest, I never knew she sold flowers.

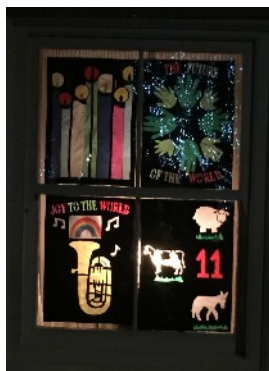
I see people about my age mountain climbing. I feel good getting my leg through my underwear without losing my balance.

Memories of Christmas 2020

A very different Christmas to any we have had before, so what happened.

ADVENT WINDOWS

The Village came alive with anticipation as 24 willing volunteers revealed a new window each day of December telling the story of the season with imagination and colour. Once all were in place it gave a lovely walk around the village to see them all, so many thanks to all who participated. It is certainly something that we will repeat next year.



Tim & Petula Hall's window had a reminder of Carols on the Green that couldn't take place, but instead we had Carols on your Doorstep organised by Alison Dumphy-Brook and Dan Brooks, which was very well received. Tim also got a few friends together on a Sunday afternoon for an impromptu playing of carol tunes on High Green.

Mary & Joseph started their virtual journey around the village using Inboxes so as not to be Super Spreaders as they came from Tier 3 up North, but this didn't quite catch the imagination and they only managed just over a week before the No Room signs were up. Better luck next year!

High Green looked the best that I can remember, so many thanks to the Parish Council and all who put in many hours of work, not just decorating the Christmas tree, but other trees on the Green to make a fantastic display. In fact many villagers had really pulled out the stops this year to add colour to brighten the season. Thank you.



Can I also say a huge Thank You here to all the Traders who worked so hard over a very difficult season, and all done with oodles of Christmas Spirit. It has been a very hard time and we hope and pray things get better.



The Memory Tree

We started the Memory Tree as a means of folk remembering loved ones at Christmas who have died. Many come into Church to have a quiet moment and leave a prayer. They can, if they wish, also leave a donation to Herriot Hospice Homecare and this year we sent off £132.75.

In a year when people were denied the chance to grieve as we normally have, this was especially welcome. Thanks to the Flower Guild who provide the tree and cards.

CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2020

We have given all our collections away from our Christmas Carol Services for many years now to support some of the worlds poorest in honour of the season. This year we sent money to *The Barnabas Fund* who are feeding very malnourished children in Matabeleland in Zimbabwe, but how would the appeal go when we had lost all our physical Carol Services and just had one joint Online Service? We are delighted to say that we broke all records and sent £4,204.48 which came in cash donations in Church, Bank Transfers, our GiveALittle Button and from friends at Stokesley Church too. They can now feed 250+ children for 4 months with a special nutrient filled porridge - ePap. It literally is life saving. Thank You.



Christmas Services were primarily Online, as anxiety was there with rising rates of C-19. We just had 9 people in Church for our Christmas Carol Service where all the songs had been pre-recorded by both Christ Church and Stokesley Choirs.

Midnight Mass also had just 40 people in Church but was live streamed through Zoom and Facebook. Both of these services have had 1.5k views on Facebook and I have been stopped down the village and thanked for them from folk who may never have come inside the Church.

Throughout the Christmas run up we kept Christ Church open and the Flower Guild still decorated the windows and altar to mark the season, with a Christmas tree and Crib also adding to the setting. A very different Christmas. We lost some things but gained others.

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

ADVENT/CHRISTINGLE

Although this service was not like our usual Christingle, Christ Church congregation raised a collection of £585.54.

I understand that £720 + Gift Aid was donated to The Children's Society direct through the JustGiving site.

The committee thank everyone very much for their generosity in supporting The Society.

(If you didn't see Big Kids video *The Story of Christingle* you can watch it here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9tRhh8NN9v4> Ed)



BOX OPENING

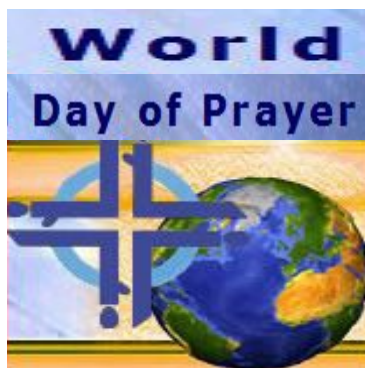
Due to the current restrictions we are unable to arrange for the collection of your boxes at the present time, but we'll try to organise something later on and will be in touch with you again.

Jancie Brown

The World Day of Prayer takes place on Friday 5th March. This year It is the turn of Christ Church to act as hosts. The theme is "Build on a Strong Foundation", taken from Matthew chapter 7 and the focus is on living wisely. The service has been devised by the women of Vanuatu, a group of eighty islands in the southwest Pacific Ocean.

More details to follow on what form this will take.

Angela Jaques 01642 722979



Thank You

Our thanks for a faithful and longstanding reader of our electronic pdf edition of *Spire* who has once again sent a donation of £25 to help pay for the paper editions as gratitude for receiving his. This is extremely kind and much appreciated. You can help spread the word with *Spire* by forwarding your email notification to others and encouraging them to sign up themselves. Be careful though, as one person did this and the recipient unsubscribed them.



NEWS

Congratulations to Dick Stainsby

who raised £2,769 for the Beruit Red Cross Emergency Appeal to support them after the devastating explosion a while ago. He did this as a way of marking his 90th Birthday by getting sponsored to walk each day with his Nordic walking sticks. As it was for his 90th birthday, he invited amounts with a 9 in them and had an initial target of £500. (Should have been £499!) He has well and truly gone beyond that target figure.

Well done Dick.



*Dick Stainsby
pictured in 2005*

Christian Book Club

Did you know that a group comprised of people from the local Churches meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 2.30pm - 3.30pm to study a book together? At the moment they are looking at Marcus Borg's book, Meeting Jesus for the First Time.

Meetings are now on Zoom and if you would like to know more, please contact Dick Stainsby stainsby.taylor@btinternet.com for details of the Zoom link



Clay's Moving On

It has just been announced that Rev'd Clay Roundtree, the Vicar of Ingleby Barwick and Area Dean of Stokesley, has been appointed as the Associate Rector of St Wulfram's Church in Grantham, a newly designated resource Church for the Diocese. He will have lots to share.

Clay has been Vicar at St Francis of Assisi since 2007 and formerly Curate at Yarm, so this will be a big change for him and his family. They plan to stay for Easter and move sometime afterwards. We wish them all well.

The Right Use of Wealth

In January Nick Land gave an excellent talk on Prayer for the Day on how to use our wealth, having been given Ecclesiastes 5: 13 - 16 as a text. This is what he said.



Last year I was at a City of London dinner and after finding out that I was training as a reader the man next to me asked me what I was next preaching about. I told him that it was Jesus's parable about the rich man and Lazarus – the man then told me he had inherited £100M and asked me whether Jesus hated rich people and I told him absolutely not, Jesus loved rich people, but that he did have a lot to say about what they should do with their money! It turned into a very interesting conversation.

Of course, Jesus tells us a lot of parables about the potential dangers of being rich – you will remember the story about the rich young ruler who asked what he should do to have eternal life.

Jesus told him “If you want to be perfect, go and sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

But When the man heard this, he went away very sad, because he was very rich.

23 Then Jesus said to his disciples, “You know it’s easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” 25 When the disciples heard this, they were really surprised and asked, “Well Who on earth can be saved then?”

You see the disciples thought that riches were a sign of blessing from God – but the writer of Ecclesiastes is not so sure. He says “*There is a grievous ill that I have seen under the sun: riches were kept by their owners to their hurt*”.

So how could being rich hurt you – well Ecclesiastes 5.10 gives the answer – “*Whoever loves money never has money enough, whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income*”. Money takes you over.

When the multi-millionaire John D Rockefeller was asked how much money is enough? His answer said it all - just a little bit more. Money so easily becomes our master, and then we look to it for our worth and our security – but Jesus says you can only serve one master – you cannot serve both God and Money.

If we choose to serve money rather than God, then we are going to harm ourselves physically spiritually and emotionally

The man in our reading had toiled for his money, probably at the expense of time with his family, and then he lost it all and so had neither money nor time for the ones he loved. Because,

Money can buy comfort, but not contentment.

Money can buy medicine, but not health.

Money can buy a house, but not a home.

Money can buy companionship, but not friends.

Money can buy entertainment, but not happiness.

Money can buy food, but not an appetite.

Money can buy a crucifix, but not a Savior.

Money can buy the good life, but not eternal life.

(Adapted from Arne Garborg)

Money we hoard will never make us happy. Which is why giving is so important. It was Winston Churchill who said – We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give!

And Health researchers agree they've looked at the Benefits of giving – and found that giving leads to increased happiness, increased life satisfaction, reduced stress, lower BP, less depression and longer life.

As Jesus says in Luke 6.38 *Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.*"

It is in giving that we get to enjoy life to the full. It is in giving that we most closely resemble our Father God in showing his love to his world.

For God so loved the world that he gave, he gave his only son – so that whosoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life
In giving we show God's love.

As today's passage reminds us, we brought nothing into the world, and we will take nothing out – so we can hoard all our wealth and die rich – and have nothing. Or by giving we can store up for ourselves treasures in heaven where moth and vermin cannot destroy and where thieves cannot break in and steal – and where our treasure is there our heart will be also.

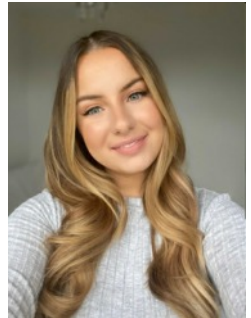
Nick Land

Leven Valley Youthworkers

Tees Valley Youth for Christ, who used to manage the Stokesley School Youthworker Project, have appointed two bright and cheerful youthworkers for the Leven Valley to try and encourage our Christian young people across the Churches. They are starting at a very difficult time when people can't meet, so are using Youtube. You can see their welcome video here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eNpXazL8nPs>

For Spire Readers, here is a more traditional introduction.

Hi, I'm Bethan! I'm 21 years old and live in Hartlepool. I've been a Christian since I was 13 years old I have faithfully served and been apart of the same church since. In January of 2018, I felt led to travel to Los Angeles to be apart of a Christian non-profit organisation known as 'The Dream Centre'. During this time I was given the opportunity to serve the local community through helping out with food deliveries as well as serving the church. Within the 16 months I got to spend there, my heart grew for the youth as I saw first hand the importance of pouring into the next generation in a positive way, leading them to a life with Jesus. This is where I believe my passion for working with youth was elevated. I am excited to to get to know the youth in the Leven Valley area, and to fully dive into what God has planned for this ministry. Hope to see you all soon!



Hi! My name is Madi Wachepa I am 22 and recently just got married in October. I am originally from Texas and moved to Stockton in 2016 to do a gap year with Tees Valley Youth for Christ. I only had the intention of staying one year but God had other plans for me. I instead stayed a second year volunteering as the Youth Pastor at the same church and then got hired as their part-time Youth Pastor. I have also been on the leadership team for Tees Valley Youth for Christ for a little over a year. I stayed at my old church for a total for 4 years until I felt God calling me to somewhere new. Which lead me here to work as a youth worker in Stokesley, Great Ayton & Hutton Rudby.

We welcome them to the area and hope they can meet up with our young people.

A New Name For Ayton Funeral Service



After 10 years serving our village as Ayton Funeral Service, Michael and Barbara Rea have grown the business with branches in Stokesley and Darlington, so to bring all the branches together have decided to use the family name, which is very well known in Teesside.

His grandfather, Thomas Rea, started a Funeral Directors in Thornaby back in 1928. His father Vincent then took over, working together with Mr Carter from Swainby sharing cars and men. Michael, now the 3rd generation of Funeral Directors began his own well respected business here in Great Ayton and has seen it grow and flourish from the personal attention given. Michael's Grandfather and Father would be very proud to see the family name above his businesses today. We wish him and Barbara continued success.



From the Registers

Holy Matrimony



Lucy Mann & Tobi Ripley married at Stokesley on 30th November

Christian Burial and Cremation

16 December	Gladys Clayton
22 December	Joyce Brown
23 December	Brian Reynolds
23 December	Brian Bartram
30 December	Rose Bulmer
30 December	Percy Walker
31 December	Britt West
4 January	Joan Porritt
11 January	Elizabeth Hawkins
13 January	Susan Pybus
20 January	Vincent Foster
21 January	Ron Nutsford
28 January	Beryl Dack
28 January	Tom Maddison
29 January	George Saunders

Entries in Black from Great Ayton

Entries in Magenta from Newton under Roseberry

Entries in Blue from Stokesley

Parish website	www.christchurchgreatayton.org.uk
Church Office e-mail	gapo1876@outlook.com
Diocese of York	www.dioceseofyork.org.uk
Stokesley Deanery	www.stokesleydeanery.org.uk
A Church Near You	www.acny.org.uk

Malcolm's Musings



Annoyed that no-one answered his knocking when he could hear music playing inside the home, a vicar left his visiting card. On the back he had written: "Revelations 3:20 Behold I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him"

As the congregation was filing out after the service, one of his lady parishioners handed him an envelope and hurried away. Inside he found a card on which was written: "Genesis 3:10 I heard thy voice in the garden and I was afraid, because I was naked and I hid myself."

The little girl in Sunday school was paying close attention to her teacher's talk about the power of prayer. "And what must we do before God forgives us?" asked the teacher. Replied the girl brightly! "Sin"

A recent obituary of a former rather flamboyant football agent recalled that on one occasion he emerged triumphantly from negotiations with a club to tell his client he had secured for him a bonus of £100,000 if he scored 10 goals. Only then did he realise that his client was a goalkeeper.

"Go to work for God" was the thought for the week on a church notice board. Underneath someone had added: "The fringe benefits are out of this world."

From a parish magazine; "Special service June 13, mating at 11.15a.m."

Sign outside a pub in the West Midlands: "Good clean entertainment every night except Monday."

A notice issues by a Church in Hampshire observed "Churchyard maintenance is becoming increasingly difficult and it would be appreciated if Parishioners will cut the grass around their own graves."

Malcolm Race

Editor of Spire

Paul Peverell revpev@btinternet.com

If you would like a paper copy of Spire delivering to your door, please contact Jean Goat on 01642 723274.

The Parishes of Great Ayton with Easby and Newton under Roseberry

Services

Christ Church, Great Ayton

Sunday 9.30am Morning Worship 1st & 3rd Sundays of month in Christ Church
and Live on Zoom & Facebook Live: 2nd & 4th Sundays in Stokes-
ley Parish Church and Live on Zoom & Facebook Live.

4.00pm Come & Praise (2nd Sunday of month on Zoom)
5.00pm Holy Communion in Church that doesn't have Morning Service

At St Oswald's, Newton under Roseberry

Sunday 11.00am Services on 1st, 3rd Sundays of the month only
Hopefully resuming in August. Check website or Facebook Page for confirmation

Contacts

Vicar	Rev'd Paul Peverell	The Vicarage	01642 722333
Curate	Rev'd Jane Robson		revjanerob@gmail.com
	Rev'd Geoff Jaques		01642 722979
	Rev'd Jon Dean		01642 722649
Readers	Margaret Lewis		01642 722628
	Peter Titchmarsh		01642 724153
Organist			
Pastoral Ass't	Rosemary Wheway		01642 722451
Churchwardens	Helen Land		01642 778076
	Jonathan Winterschladen		01642 723576
PCC Treasurer	Ken Taylor		01642 722400
Safeguarding	David Fox		07595 898844
Gift Aid Sec.	Ynez Clarke		01642 723181

Church Hall Office

For **Church Hall bookings**, please contact the Church Office Tel 01642 722333

Email. gap01876@outlook.com (For services or pastoral matters, please contact the vicar as this phone isn't manned every day)