



Church



The magazine of **A**llen Memorial
and **T**rinity Methodist Churches



April 2018

Ministers Muse

Dear Friends,
you are all invited to come and share again in the Easter story.

The Easter season begins on the high of Palm Sunday with shouts of exaltation and the waving of palms. We are always eager to join with our friends in celebration, living for the moment. How many of us think beyond that? Jesus did. As he travelled to Jerusalem he knew what would greet him there. It would be hard, but he set his mind resolutely on the future.

Sometimes it's hard being a Christian. At times our friends or members of our family don't seem to understand us. Sometimes we even doubt ourselves. Can we really do what God wants? Can we fulfil the calling we hear? It may amaze you to realize that Jesus felt like this too. Matthew's gospel tells us that Jesus went to Gethsemane with his disciples and went off to a quiet place to converse with God. Jesus prayed: "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want".

Jesus trusted in his father. He knew his father's love for him would bring him through the trials that were to follow. We too have to trust in God's love for us. When times are difficult and we lose hope or faith let us remember the Easter story. The pain of Good Friday gave way to the joy of Easter Day.

Fred Pratt Green puts it like this:

Then put your trust in Christ,
in waking and in sleeping,
his grace on earth sufficed,
he'll never quit his keeping.

Come share our Easter joy,
that death could not imprison,
nor any power destroy,
our Christ who is arisen.

With blessings for an eventful and moving Easter as we share together, your friend and minister, *Janet.*



Costs of AT Church Magazine

We hope that everyone likes our new "AT Church" magazine. Please let us know if you think there are other things we could include or omit or do differently. You will notice that we have dropped the Circuit News Sheets from the back the magazine in an attempt to reduce the cost.

Our first 2 editions this year have cost 50p and 56p per magazine.

We try not to have to charge for the magazine's as we hope that they are a good way of spreading the gospel but usually about once a year we ask for donations towards its creation.

As it will be costing each church somewhere between £20 to £40 per month we hope you can be generous with your donation in the enclosed envelope.

Please place the envelope in the Sunday offering or pass to Bill or Shirley Filmer or Alan Barker at Trinity, or Anne Gallagher or Martin Edworthy at Allen Memorial.

Alan Barker Editor

Deacons Muse

Dear Friends

Hallelujah Christ is risen. He is risen indeed

Well it has been quite a challenging Lent season with the amount of snow that has fallen. I give thanks to God for all of you as you have looked after each other over the last weeks. How wonderful to be able to show God's abundant love for each of us through acts of kindness.

I pray that through Lent you have been able to draw on God's abundant, extravagant love for you in order that we might know 'life in all its fullness.'

.....

It's Easter Sunday and we celebrate this resurrection morning meeting together for Holy Communion followed by breakfast. We hear the familiar story and pause to take in the events of that day that Jesus is alive! The angels at the tomb give a message that we are to go and tell others the good news. Just when it seemed that Good Friday was the end of something, we discover it's the beginning.

What does this mean for us today? What is God saying to us today? Are we prepared to take risks for the sake of the kingdom?

The period from Easter Sunday to Pentecost is fifty days. As we journey through this 'new beginning' let us pray to our loving God to show us the way forward to spread the good news.

Grace and peace to you in this Easter Season

Deacon Gail

High Sheriffs Award

Congratulations to Pamela Fender who was awarded the Sir Roger Spoor Unsung Hero Award at the High Sheriff of Tyne and Wear awards on Tuesday 13th March. This is awarded in recognition of the unpaid time and effort a person puts into their group.

Pamela has been involved in 1st Wallsend Girls' Brigade for a grand total of 52 years. She joined at the tender age of 8, took over at 18 and officially became Captain (now called Team Leader) at 18.

In May this year she will celebrate 40 years. Well done Pamela.



Trinity Shoe Box Appeal 2018

Each month we are asking for donations of items to go in our Shoe Boxes. This month we are asking for Tooth Paste, Face Cloths, Soap and Small Colouring Books. Our continued thanks to everyone who contributes to this very worthy cause.

Prayers for the world

Risen Lord Jesus, present in your risen power today, may we see you transforming our daily life and worship. Glimpsing you in unexpected places, in unexpected people, may we be inspired to share the life that you bring. May that life invade our worship and infuse our praise as we gather to celebrate your love. And here, in the light of the resurrection, reveal to us where we fall short in proclaiming your glory: those times we choose to live in darkness; those places we fail to see your light; those opportunities we miss to breathe life into our communities. Reveal to us our failings along with the possibility of forgiveness, and lead us back into your incredible light as we worship you. Amen.

Church of Scotland, Starters for Sunday.

A prayer of the church

*These are they who have come out of the great ordeal;
They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.
Revelation 7, v 14-17, NRSV.*

This is a vision of how the prayer of Psalm 23 will be fulfilled- the psalmists prayer to dwell in the house of the Lord forever. It should remind us that the church is not a place of solitary retreat, somewhere to escape from the so-called real world outside: it is a place to be reminded that the battle for the souls of the world is real. Pray that you will find peace, not through avoiding conflict, but by listening always for the voice of God, calling you to serve in his name.

Prayers for Allen Memorial and Trinity

Lord Jesus,

We give you thanks for the members of our congregations who continue to serve you despite the limitations imposed by age, ill health, heavy workloads and family commitments. We pray that you will continue to support them as they work for the advancement of your kingdom.

Lord, you often call us to service in the quiet of the night or with a whisper. Help us to recognise this call and offer ourselves in your service.

May you feel the compassion of Christ in your life.

May he give you his strength to do his will.

May you feel safe in his arms.

And the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. Amen.

Bible a Month: Malawi

“Do not let anyone make fun of you, just because you are young. Set an example for other followers by what you say and do, as well as by your love, faith and purity.” 1 Timothy 4. 12 (CEV)

Malawi is a country in South Central Africa; it has borders with Tanzania, Mozambique, and Zambia and its east coast borders the Sea. It covers an area of 118,000 sq km, approximately 49% of the UK. It has a population of 19.2 million, which is around 30% of the UK. The literacy rate- people who can read and write- is 62%. Languages include English, Chichewa and other local dialects.

Malawi has one of the highest prevalence rates of HIV in Africa with 12% of the population diagnosed with the virus. Many children have been orphaned. In fact, 46% of the population is under the age of 15.

That’s why reaching out to children and young people is a top priority for our team in Malawi. Children receive a Bible they can understand, helping them to develop a relationship with Jesus.

Your support enables the continuation of this good work as the children grow older. The Stepping Stone youth engagement project is finding innovative ways to put Bible teaching right at the heart of the topics which matter most to young people.

TV talk shows exploring what the Bible says about issues like injustice, and events where youth Bibles and booklets are distributed, aim to deepen the faith of young people. The hope is to see them applying the word of God in their lives as a result.

Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks for the children of Malawi. May they grow to love and serve the Lord.
- Pray for the work being done to fight HIV as well as those who are looking after children orphaned by the virus.
- Pray that the generation of children who have received Bibles will have a much deeper faith and understanding which will transform their lives and society for good.
- Pray that the Stepping Stone youth engagement project will be bold in addressing what the Bible says about tough issues.

Thank you so much for your support which is bringing the Bible to life at home and around the world.

Eyewitness Report from Malawi

By Alan Kember

I'm in Malawi, driving into a slum. The team are nervous about taking me here. All around are shacks made of breeze blocks with tin roofs. There's no electricity or running water. The stream we cross is full of rubbish and smells foul.

But in the church, a number of children are waiting for us, looking immaculate in their Sunday best. It was here that I met Tadala, whose name means "blessed". I was certainly blessed by what she said. Tadala is 10 years old and is one of the 110 children in this slum church. She told me she always came faithfully to Sunday school lessons, but struggled to understand what the teachers were talking about. Then, Tadala received a children's Bible costing £5. It's something her family would never be able to afford themselves, and it's so precious she doesn't take it home. Instead, it's kept safely at church so she can read it at Sunday school.

"Now I really understand what it means to know Jesus" she said, "I enjoy reading it so much. Without the Bible I couldn't have known God. Thank you..... I don't know the words to express how much I can thank you".

As Tadala went back home into the slum streets, I prayed for her future. She wants to be a doctor and a Sunday school teacher when she grows up. Most of all, I pray that she'll know the joy and purpose of life with Jesus.

Providing Bibles to children in Sunday schools across Malawi is a key project for us. This year we'd like to provide 2000 English and 8000 local language illustrated children's Bibles, as well as train Sunday school teachers across the country.

Why is this work necessary when 80% of people here are Christian? What I discovered during my visit is that the Church in Malawi is 10 miles wide and two inches deep. People say they are Christians, but many don't really understand what that means. And in most churches, Sunday school teaches are massively over-stretched as they try to teach God's word to classes of 100 children or more every week.

The Bible is the key to people really embracing their faith, and it's vital for people to own and engage with God's word. As Malawi has such a young population, with 67% under 25, it makes sense to provide the Bible to children first.

The project, which has been running since 2013, is hugely successful. Not only are children like Tadala coming to know Jesus for themselves, but more and more children are being drawn to church. One pastor told me that a year ago, 18 children came to his Sunday school. Then he received Bibles and training on how to run proper sessions, and numbers have swelled to 170 children. I went to another church which attracts 600 children each week. They have to meet outside in the shade of a tree because there's no longer room for them indoors. Before they received Bibles a year ago, less than half that number of children came to church.

Currently, only around a third of children in each Sunday school we work with receive children's Bibles and with growing attendance the demand is increasing. It is an outstanding project. Thank you for making this work possible.

From Bible a Month newsletter, issue 187.

Ministry in the midst of danger

By Claire Smith, Freelance Writer, Bible Society

Anthony Lamuel arrives at the office. He passes the steel reinforced concrete planters, which prevent cars ramming the building. He notes the 16 CCTV cameras circling the building and walks through an airport-style scanner and down a narrow 10 ft long corridor lined with steel reinforced doors. In the reception area he greets security staff, who have guns slung over their shoulders, and stretches out his arms to be frisked while someone searches his bag.

This is Bible Society in Pakistan. This is what ministry looks like in one of the most dangerous countries in the world in which to be a Christian.

There is always fear. Christians are in the tiny minority in this country - some 2.5 million people, around 1.6 % of the population. Most are rural people, and 80% live below the poverty line. They are the cotton pickers, the factory workers, the cleaners and labourers. In the city they live in the slums and shanty towns. Most face exploitation, prejudice and oppression. Since the 9/11 attacks in America, pressure on Christians has intensified. Anthony says, "The problem is that we are identified as Westerners. At the same time, radicals label every non-Muslim as an infidel, - and killing them is a big honour. There has been a spate of deadly assaults in recent years. Back in 2009, a church and homes were torched, and 8 people were burnt alive. In 2013, 18 people were killed in a twin-suicide bombing at a Peshawar church. Two blasts at churches in March 2015 killed 14 people and injured more than 70. And last Easter Sunday, 75 people, including many children, were murdered when a suicide bomber targeted a Lahore park.

Bible Society's bookshop in Karachi was attacked too, just over 10 years ago. But Anthony is a high-profile figure in Pakistan and his reputation affords a level of protection. "Many Muslim groups take out magazine ads to try to discredit us, but we are a respected organisation" he said. "The government wants to protect freedom of worship and needs to show it is taking action against terrorists."

As well as helping to install the security measures at our head office, the authorities dispatch two police officers every week to stand guard over Anthony's church. The armed officers sit in the tower of St Andrew's in Lahore, during services and visitors are questioned before entering.

So, what is Bible Society doing in the face of such tremendous challenges? Anthony has two key aims: to strengthen the Church and share God's word. "This is a marginalised Church", said Anthony, "so when Christians meet with others in open society, their beliefs are challenged. If they are well equipped, they can withstand the pressure"

In the two decades since he's been in charge, Anthony has produced two children's Bibles, two study Bibles, one New Testament with notes, a full Sunday school curriculum for children and has equipped seminary students. He focuses on young people because a staggering 46% of Pakistan's population is under 15 and a further 22% is aged 16 to 30.

“The Church here is one generation away from extinction” he says. Anthony has also launched a Bible-based literacy programme because so many women and girls are illiterate. Only half of school age children go to school and half of those drop out within three years. “We focus on women because mothers are pivotal in Pakistani culture; a mother who reads the Bible to her children will bring light into the whole family.

Anthony’s other key aim- to share God’s word in this difficult context, is the work that puts him in real danger. “Constitutionally, I have a right to worship, evangelise and buy and sell Bibles- but it’s not wise to do some things.”

More than 40,000 Bibles a year are sold from Bible Society’s shop in Lahore, to anyone who wants to buy one. And we are constantly replacing the stock of New Testaments in hospitals as so many are pocketed and taken home by patients. “For every Bible which goes out, it’s my vision and prayer that the Holy Spirit will speak to the reader” says Anthony. “I could have left Pakistan many years ago, but this work is a commitment, a calling. It’s not easy, but if we leave, what will happen? Christians are fearful and need support. And for those who are seeking out the truth, we must be here to serve them”

N.B. Pakistan is sixth in the world with “extreme levels of persecution” against Christians. It comes behind North Korea, Iraq, Eritrea, Afghanistan and Syria.

From Word in Action, the magazine of the Bible Society

Stories of Hymns: I know that my Redeemer lives

Every once in a while, a verse jumps out of the Old Testament and takes on a new meaning. Job lost his fortune, family and much of his health. In a remarkable display of faith, he expresses his only remaining hope- “I know that my Redeemer lives, and he will stand upon the earth at last.” (Job 19 v 25.) The words find an uncanny fulfilment in Jesus.

Jesus gave his life to redeem us, to buy us back from our slavery to sin. His death was the price for our freedom. But that’s not the bottom line, thank God. As the sun rises on Easter morning, we can say with Job, “I know that my Redeemer lives” He lives! Death could not hold him. He lives, to finish salvation’s work in me.

Hymnwriter Samuel Medley often repeats words and phrases. Here, what’s repeated in the most important concept: “He lives.....He lives.....He lives”

***I know that my Redeemer lives:
What joy the blest assurance gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my everlasting Head!***

Hymns and Psalms no 196. Tune- Torquay.

From the Complete Book of Hymns by William and Ardythe Petersen.

How well do you know Northumberland?

Northumberland is the most sparsely populated county in England with only 62 people per sq km. It's a county, not a region, but it's huge, has a fantastic history and it's a great place to visit!

1. The residents of which North Northumberland town with impressive defensive walls occasionally claim to be, on a technicality, at war with Russia?
2. Which ruined castle sits on raised ground within a loop of the river Coquet near the north sea port of Amble?
3. Close to the pretty fishing village of Craster, the skyline of this part of the Northumberland coast is dominated by the dramatic ruins of Dunstanburgh castle. On which famous local natural geological feature is the castle built?
4. Which photogenic castle, restored during the 19th century by the Victorian industrialist Sir William Armstrong, sits on a rocky outcrop overlooking Holy Island to the north and Dunstanburgh to the south?
5. Which Northumbrian village has on its outskirts the magnificent mansion known as Cragside?
6. Alnwick Castle is the seat of the Dukes of Northumberland. What famous name is borne by this family?
7. What is the name of the unspoilt bay with seven miles of beach between Blyth and Amble and is set within a country park and nature reserve?
8. Many Northumbrians built fortified houses to protect themselves and their animals from the border reivers(brigands). What were they called?
9. In a ceremony dating back to 1858 which Tyne valley town hosts a New Years Eve festival with lighted tar barrels atop the carriers heads?
10. Just north of Wooler is the largest and most impressive prehistoric iron age fort in the region. What is it called?

With thanks to LIVERNEWS, the national support newsletter for liver patients, their carers and families.

Answers further on.

Messy Church at Allen Memorial

Messy Church on Thursday 22nd March 2018

This was another busy event telling all about Easter. With craft making of Palms, Prayers and building the entrance into Jerusalem.

There is always a meal which is always appreciated.

All the children went home with a small Easter Egg and a booklet of the Easter Story.

The next Messy Church: Thursday 3rd May 3:30-5:30pm

We always need helpers so if you can spare a couple of hours we would love to see you.

Nicaragua News

Hello everyone. Greetings from a very hot Nicaragua!

This is the story of the missing suitcase - but it doesn't have an ending yet!

I had four good flights and arrived safe, though somewhat very tired- and minus one of my three large suitcases. It was after my third flight, where in the capital Managua, I had to retrieve my cases. It was then that I discovered one was missing. I went through the usual procedure of describing the case grey, hard bodied with a broad green belt around the middle and naming three items that were in it. I was given a copy of the form and told the bag would probably be on the plane the following day, so I was ring the number they gave me and it would be sent on to Bluefields for me. The result of the phone call was to be told it had been left behind in Amsterdam along with another 7 cases. It would make the journey to Panama and then Managua. I was to describe it again and answer more questions.

Did it have a thick black winter coat in?”No”

Did it have a beige toilet bag in!”No”

Did it have candies in it?”Yes, quite a few bags”

They then sent me photos of the case asking if it was mine. I said that it wasn't- mine didn't have green laces tied on the handle, mine had a broad green belt around the middle.

I was then told it **was** mine as it had my name on it and it was the only one of the eight that had not been claimed, so they sent it!

Pastor Ed went to the Bluefields airport to pick it up - this was then the 13th day and as soon as he brought it into the house, I knew it wasn't mine. I opened it and sure enough there was a black winter coat in along with more thick men's clothes, the beige toilet bag and two lollipops! Pastor Ed took it straight back to the airport for it to be sent to Managua. We then got in touch with the airline I travelled with from Amsterdam to tell them the bag wasn't mine and that we had sent it back. Three days later, they got in touch to say it hadn't arrived in Managua, so another trip to the Bluefields airport to ask what had happen to it. They admitted it had been forgotten about and it had lain in the store room for those three days! It has now been sent, but as yet I have heard nothing more.

There are very few personal items in, as the case was crammed with gifts that sponsors had given me for their children and items that many people had donated for me to hand out , as well as baby items for the maternity home.

I still have hopes of it being returned, but if not, I'm sure people will understand that their items might be among those things which have not been found.

In the meantime, I hope the man is not too cold without his winter coat!!

Hopefully my next newsletter will be better news.

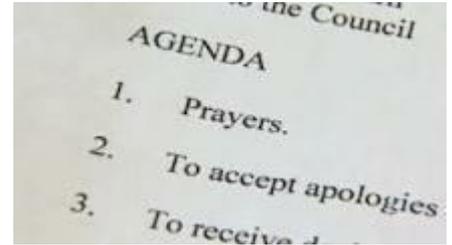
I wish you all a blessed Easter.

Love Margaret.



One Way or Another

Lately we have been aware of much discussion over the rights of Christians to wear a cross at work and also for a particular council to pray before a council meeting. There have been arguments both for and against. I do not intend to discuss those matters here as they have already been talked about at length and I'm sure we all have our own point of view. It seems at times that the Church is being targeted from all sides, whether it be about being open about our faith as in the cases above or about our stance on things like abortion, and same sex marriage.



I have been watching a programme lately about doing up the house of someone who has worked for some deserving cause without thinking about themselves. In one of these programmes, one young girl wanted to help decorate a lady's house as in her words 'she introduced me to church and bought me my first Bible and for that I'll always be grateful'. The presenter of that programme on another occasion when they were having difficulties getting a hot tub in situ and when it was safely put in place, clasped her hands together and looking upwards saying, 'Thank you Lord'.



This morning on the news about the footballer Fabrice Muamba who suffered cardiac arrest on Saturday on the pitch while the game was in progress, they showed that over the weekend many had shown their support for him in various ways as he lies in intensive care . One footballer had the words 'Pray for Muamba' on his football shirt.

Today Catherine, wife of prince William wore a cross when on an official engagement! I wonder if she will be told that she can't wear it when she's working?



I thought that was all very interesting. There are those who try to eliminate talk of Christianity and try to pass laws to stop Christians from living out their faith in the way that they feel they should. But GOD WILL NOT BE SILENCED! He will find ways of letting His name be heard and bringing people's attention to Him and often does it in the most unconventional and unexpected ways! What a great God!

From the blog of Mavis Andradez

Saving lives in South Sudan

Dr Roslyn Brooks is in South Sudan working at a hospital in Lankien, an area badly affected by the ongoing conflict.

“I love being in the wards, getting to know individual patients and becoming familiar with the most common conditions- malaria, kala azar, brucellosis, typhoid fever and tuberculosis. There are many children with malnutrition, diarrhoea, and dehydration.

One morning I was called to the emergency room to see a four year old boy. He was sitting up, mouth half open, drooling, spitting saliva and struggling to breathe. His throat and upper airway were almost completely obstructed, and he had spasms of a barking, seal-like cough. This is the typical picture of acute epiglottitis, a life threatening medical emergency in which there is fever and massive swelling of the throat, which can completely block the airway.

The boy’s father was wonderful. He sat supporting his child for several days and nights while we treated the boy with intravenous antibiotics, corticosteroids and fluids. After about a week, the little boy recovered and went home, still with a barking-seal like cough, but breathing and eating easily.

I have seen many other conditions that are rare or non-existent back home. In several cases children have had a developmental delay, or a history of illness with fever and convulsions in infancy- very likely due to meningitis.

South Sudan is in the “meningitis belt” – it is a common childhood illness here. It can be treated with high-dose antibiotics, but many children live far from health facilities and do not receive treatment. Many die or survive with permanent brain damage and developmental delay. Severe intellectual impairment and spastic paralysis are common outcomes. Many strains of meningitis are preventable by immunisation.

People are living in dire poverty here, made worse by the lack of access to healthcare and the ongoing conflict. There has been a severe food shortage for years due to drought and crop failure. Despite the difficult lives many people lead, they are generally smiling and laughing.”

Dr Brooks volunteers for Medecins Sans Frontieres- MSF - “Doctors without Borders”. MSF goes where it is needed most- Conflict, Hunger, Disease, Disaster. They can only help if they have training and resources. If you wish to support them, visit: www.msf.org.uk/support or phone 0800 408 3894.

From “Without Borders”, the newsletter of MSF.

Trinity’s Growth in Wallsend

At 10.15 a.m. on Saturday 14th April there will be a meeting for everyone that is interested in planning the future of Trinity in Wallsend. The church will be open for prayer, preceding the meeting at **9.45 a.m.**

We invite all members and friends to come and share their ideas of how we can go forward and grow both the church and the spread of the gospel in Wallsend. Even if you think you have nothing to offer, your thoughts and imagination may be sparked off by someone else’s comments. Come and share coffee/tea and fellowship.

Doctor's elective with a difference

Every year, medical students studying at UK universities travel to Leprosy Mission hospitals to complete their medical elective, a placement undertaken in their final year of study. The newly qualified Dr Cajetan Skowronski is currently working in general surgery in Hastings, after recently graduating from university Hospital London. Cajetan, 26, spent four weeks working at Anandaban Hospital in Nepal last spring, which he describes as an “unforgettable experience”. He writes...

“I have always thought about leprosy but wrongly assumed it was a dead disease. When I was in my third year at university, however, I studied the history of medicine and leprosy came up. I was horrified to learn it is still a huge problem in the world today and not just an ancient Biblical disease. And this is despite there being a cure.

So, I looked for a placement to help people with leprosy and then started looking into the work of The Leprosy Mission. As a Christian, I was attracted to working in a Christian hospital. When I eventually travelled to Anandaban Hospital I was genuinely blown away by the staff who demonstrated the love of Christ in everything they did. They didn't just look at a patient's physical pain but saw them as a complete person made in the image of God. These are broken people, rejected by society and their families. But at Anandaban, for the first time, they were treated as human beings who are cherished.

Each day began with morning prayer which was a great joy to me to be able to join in as I am used to practising medicine in a secular environment. Sometimes I find myself forgetting the reason I went into medicine in the first place - Christ's command to serve others. Although I could not understand the prayers or the readings I was filled with a deep sense of the Holy Spirit.

I spent time in the physiotherapy, dermatology and surgery departments as well as in the general clinic. But even more important than the surgery and medical care patients were given, was the regaining of their human dignity.

In many cases, Anandaban was the only place where they were treated as human beings. I spent a lot of time with Mahendra, a 16 year old boy who was having a prosthetic leg fitted. Mahendra first showed signs of leprosy aged six but did not receive treatment until many years later. Because of the terrible effects of leprosy, he had to have his leg amputated due to severe ulcers. He was clearly also traumatised by his father and sisters rejecting him when they first heard he had leprosy. They threw him out of the family home and wouldn't give him any food. But Mahendra is happy at Anandaban. It is his safe haven where he is loved and accepted. He has received counselling and for the first time, has hope for his future with plans to open a small shop.

I still pray for that young man's future and thank God for the love that he and so many others have received at Anandaban.”

“The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made” Psalm 145, v 9 (NIV)

Children say the funniest things

- Two little girls were chatting. “So, why don’t you come to the same Sunday school as me?” said the first. “Because I belong to a different abomination” replied the second.
- A Sunday school teacher was questioning her group. “If I sell everything I have and give the money to the poor, will that get me into heaven?” “No,” said her group. “What about if I’m kind to animals and my neighbours?” “No” said her group. “And if I clean the church and help local charities, will that get me into heaven?” “No” said the earnest little girl, “You have to be dead!”
- One Sunday after church, a young boy announced to his mother, “Mum, I’m going to be a minister when I grow up”. “Great. What made you decide that?” “Well” said the little boy, “I have to go to church anyway, and I think it will be more fun to stand up and shout than to sit still and listen”
- A father was at the beach with his children when his 4 year old son ran up to him, grabbed his hand and led him to the shore, where a seagull lay dead in the sand. “Daddy, what happened to him?” the son said. “He died and went to heaven” the father replied. The boy thought for a moment and then said, “Did God throw him back down?”
- On a walkabout in Chichester, a few days before this enthronement, Archbishop Justin Welby was greeted with a party of smiling, waving schoolchildren. “Do you really know my name?” he asked. “Justin Bieber” piped up an enthusiastic 7 year old.
- At Sunday school, Tom had heard the story of how Eve was created out of one of Adam’s ribs. Later in the week, he didn’t feel at all well...”I have a pain in my side and I think I’m going to have a wife!”
- In the early 80’s when “wicked” and “well wicked” meant something truly amazing, one little girl at a London holiday club drew a wonderful picture of Jesus. Under her picture she wrote, “Jesus is Wicked!”.

From Bloopers and Blessings, printed by the Leprosy Mission.

And finally.....A Prayer for (London) Commuters

Our Father who art in Hendon, Harrow be thy name,
They Kingston come, thy Wimbledon, in Erith as it is in Hendon.
Give us this day our daily Brent, and forgive us our Westminster,
As we forgive those who Westminster against us.
Lead us not into Temple Station, but deliver us from Ealing,
For thine is the Kingston, the Purley and the Crawley,
For Esher and Esher, Crouch End. *Anon*

Smile!

- A man is walking along a beach when he comes across a lamp partially buried in the sand. He picks up the lamp and gives it a rub. A genie appears and tells him he was being granted one wish. The man thinks for a moment and says, “I want to live forever”. “Sorry” said the genie, “I’m not allowed to grant eternal life” “OK then, I want to die after a British government balances its budget and eliminates the UK debt”. “You crafty so-and-so!” said the genie.
- A teacher was reading the story of the Three Little Pigs to her class. She came to the part of the story where the first pig was trying to gather the building materials for his home. She read ‘and so the pig went up to the man with the wheelbarrow full of straw and said: ‘Pardon me sir, but may I have some straw to build my house?’. The teacher paused then asked the class, “What do you think the man said?” One little boy raised his hand and said very matter-of-factly.... ”I think the man would have said...Well blow me! A talking pig” . The teacher had to leave the room.
- A woman is on trial for beating her husband to death with his guitar collection. The judge says, “First offender?” She says, “No, first a Gibson, then a Fender!”
- Met this girl at a party. She said people called her Vivaldi. I asked, “Is that because you’re a brilliant violinist?” She said, “No, it’s because my name is Viv and I work at Aldi.”
- Witnessed an accident today. Guy turned off the roundabout and went straight into a load of trees. I hung around to make sure he was okay. I asked the guy from the ambulance if he was okay once they had been there a while. He said he’s turned a corner but he’s not out of the woods yet....
- I miss my last job as a council leaf clearer....drat! I was simply raking it in.
- I’ve just been attacked by a little ginger boy doing martial arts.....must have been the carrot kid.
- I am a self made man. I started out with nothing and still have most of it left.
- Ganna make a St Stephen pizza this afternoon.....it’s gonna be deep and crisp and even.....
- Anyone want two tickets to the 2018 gymnastics? We can’t go now. I wouldn’t care, I had to bend over backwards to get them.
- I’m hoping to find a cure for my hiccups but I’m not holding my breath.

With thanks to LIVERNEWS, the Liver Patient Support Newsletter.

Food for The Needy

The Trinity BOGOF (Buy One Get One Free) Box seems to be getting ignored these days. Most of the time the contents go to Walking With and these days they need even more food than usual to try and alleviate the hungry people in our area. It's no longer just asylum seekers who need their help. Lots of people who have been part of our local society for many years are now experiencing food poverty.

Our Churches in Wallsend set up Walking With to help the asylum seekers who seemed to be getting a very strange kind of unfeeling welcome from our government departments.

It now seems that those same feelings are being felt by anyone on hard times whether asylum seeker or born and bred in the UK.

We used to think that lack of food was just something that happened overseas, in countries where there was war or drought. Unfortunately, even in our So Called 21st century, modern, rich society, we don't seem to be able to look after our own neighbours in the United Kingdom.

Please help Walking With to help those people in our society who need food. If you stock the box, we'll get it to Walking With.

Alan Barker

Points to Ponder

- A moment of patience in a moment of anger saves you a hundred moments of regret.
- Of all the people on the planet, you talk to yourself more than anyone. Make sure you are saying the right things.
- A single sunbeam is enough to drive away many shadows.
- The process of finding happiness within one's own self may be difficult and slow but it cannot be found anywhere else.
- Health is not just about what you're eating. It's also about what you're thinking and saying.
- Every day is a sacred gift and a miracle.
- Some people will stay longer on your mind, than in your life.
- A little progress each day adds to big results.
- Balance in life is the key to everything. *Bryant McGill*
- Letting go is not always about the Past.
- The sun will rise and set regardless. What we choose to do with the light, while it's here is up to us. Journey wisely. *Alex Elle*
- Realise deeply that the present moment is all you have. *Make the **now*** the primary focus of your life.
- It is during the worst times of your life that you will get to see the true colours of the people who say they care for you.
- If you're helping someone and expecting something in return, you're doing business, not kindness.

The Light

When everything was dark
and it seemed that the sun would never shine
again,
your love broke through.

Your love was too strong,
too wide,
too deep
for death to hold.

The sparks cast by your love
dance and spread
and burst forth
with resurrection light.

Gracious God,
We praise you for the light of new life
made possible through Jesus.
We praise you for the light of new life
that shone on the first witnesses of
resurrection.
We praise you for the light of new life
that continues to shine in our hearts today.

We pray that the Easter light of life, hope
and joy,
will live in us each day;
and that we will be bearers of that light
into the lives of others.
Amen.

The Emmaus Road

Father, we praise you for every opportunity we are given to meet together for worship, fellowship and praise. We praise you for your promise that whenever we meet in the name of Christ, you will be in the midst of us, and that your almighty presence will make us whole.

We praise you for the way you came to the disciples when they most needed your presence and when they least expected it; when they had locked themselves in behind the closed door of the upper room you came and gave them your peace; when they walked on the road to Emmaus you came and gave them burning hearts in place of their despair; when they returned to their fishing, uncertain of what the future held, you came and shared their meal.

Father, we praise you for your promise to be with us always, even to the end and beyond. We praise you for those times when we have been lost and alone, when we have been uncertain and afraid, when we have felt imprisoned and filled with despair and you have come to us.

You have come to us when we most needed your presence and when we least expected it.

You have come and given us new hope, peace and joy.

You have not promised that you will always remove every problem or take away every pain. But you have promised to be with us and to share our journey of life and faith, and for this we praise you.

We praise you for the new life that Christ has made possible and for his coming to live in our hearts and lives.

We ask that you will so fill us with the Holy Spirit that our worship may be worthy of you, filled with power and may bring you glory. Amen

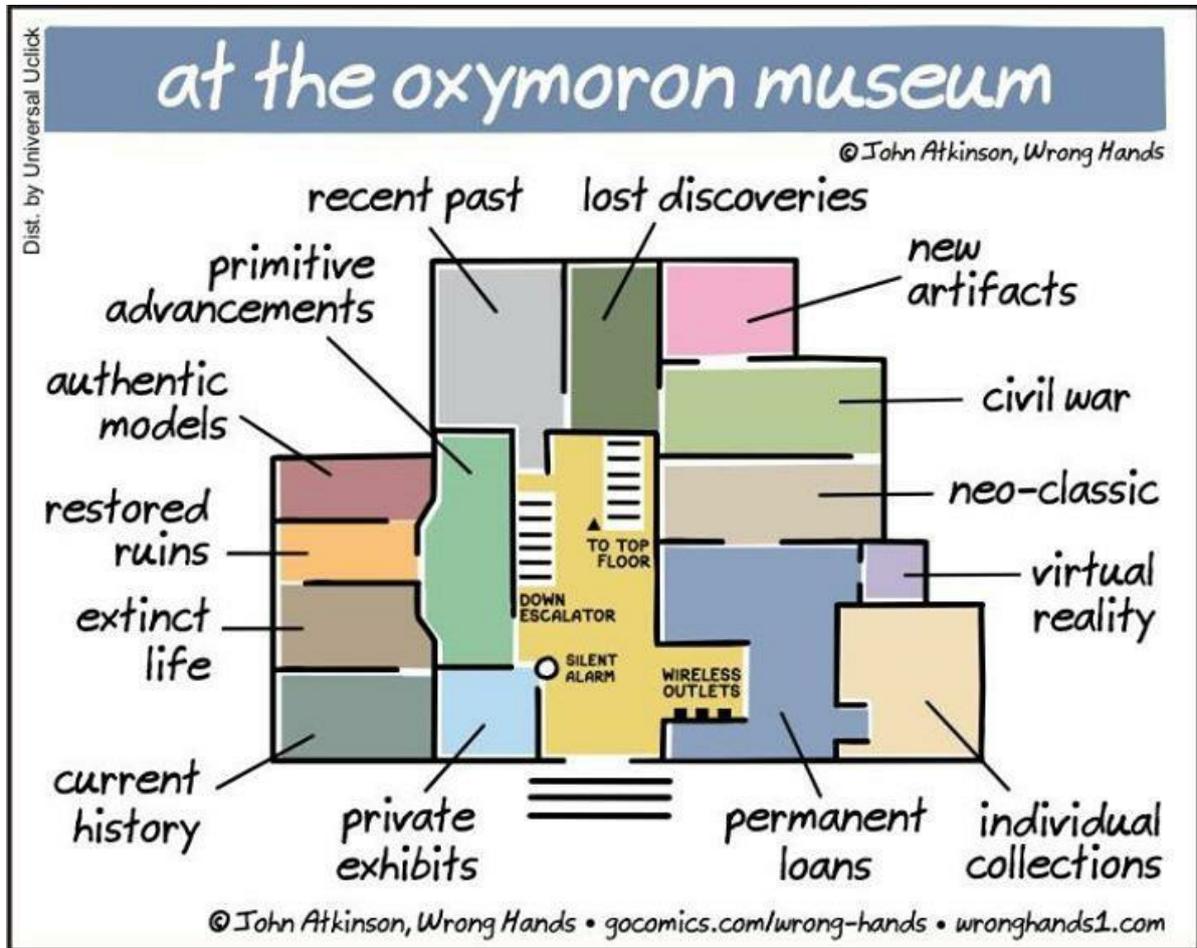
From "500 prayers for all occasions" by David Clowes. Published by David C Cook

Open the Book:

26th April 2:00pm Richardson Dees School.

This is a Bible Story telling for the pupils where they can dress up and help tell the story. It is a 15 minute session and is led by Deacon Gail with three helpers.

It is a great success and the pupils look forward to it.



Northumberland Quiz Answers

1. Berwick upon Tweed
2. Warkworth
3. The Whin Sill
4. Bamburgh
5. Rothbury
6. Percy
7. Druridge Bay
8. Bastles
9. Allendale
10. Yeavinging Bell

How did you do???

- 9-10 right. Northumberland born and bred.
- 7-8 right You know a lot about it.
- 5-6 right. You visit Northumberland quite a lot.
- 3-4 right You hardly ever go there.
- 1-2 You need to visit Northumberland more!
- 0 right. Northumberland is the northernmost county on England!





Preachers and Services

Allen Memorial

Trinity

April

1 st	10.45 a.m.	Rev Malcolm Newman Communion Service united with Trinity.	8 a.m.	Rev Janet Jackson Early Easter Communion joint with Allen Memorial
	6 p.m.	No Service		
8 th	10.45 a.m.	Pastor Tom Leighton	10.45 a.m.	Deacon Gail Morgan
	6 p.m.	Rev Julie Mooney.		
15 th	10.45 a.m.	Mr Keith Jones	10.45 a.m.	Mr David Stabler.
	6 p.m.	Local Arrangement		
22 nd	10.45 a.m.	Mr Michael Ball	10.45 a.m.	Mrs Emma-Jane Phillips
	6 p.m.	Rev Paul Cleever-Thorpe		
29 th	10.45 a.m.	Mr Ken McKenzie	10.45 a.m.	Rev Malcolm Newman Communion Service.
	6 p.m.	Mr Tim Rogers		
May				
6 th	10.45 a.m.	Canon Peter Dodd	10.45 a.m.	Deacon Gail Morgan
	6 p.m.	Rev Gordon Wynne		

Prayer Corner at Allen Memorial

18th April 6:00-7:00pm All Welcome

Toddlers at Allen Memorial

Wednesdays 9.30 to 11.30 a.m.

Messy Church at Allen Memorial

Thursday 3rd May 3:30-5:30pm

Allen Memorial Church Door Stewards

April		
1 st	Anne Gallagher	Ann Humphries
8 th	Martin Edworthy	Ann Humphries
15 th	Alan Emery	Ann Humphries
22 nd	Anne Gallagher	Ann Humphries
29 th	Martin Edworthy	Ann Humphries
May		
6 th	Alan Emery	Ann Humphries

Trinity Saturday Coffee Morning Rota

April 7 th	Susan Bewley & Lynda McQuillan
14 th	Maureen Mills & Lorna Morgan
21 st	Sylvia Aston & Janis Duff
28 th	Mick & Zoe Watson
May 5 th	Susan Bewley & Lynda McQuillan

Door Stewards Rota

(All 10-45 a.m. unless otherwise noted)

April 1 st	Mrs L Morgan. 8 a.m.
8 th	Mrs D Kirkley
15 th	Mrs M Mills
22 nd	Mrs M McCullough.
29 th	Mr R Falcus.
May 6 th	Mr L Lawson

Articles By?

All articles for the May issue of AT Church MUST be handed in by Sunday 22nd April.

Trinity Audio Visual Operators

April 1 st 8am	Alan Barker	Susan Bewley
8 th	Susan / Lynda	Mark Burdon
15 th	Alan Barker	Bill Filmer
22 nd	Mark Burdon	Alan Barker
29 th	Alan Barker	Susan Bewley
May 6 th	Susan / Lynda	Mark Burdon

Church Steward

Trinity Flower Rota

Sunday 1st April
Bill & Shirley Filmer

Sunday 8th April
Lorna Morgan

Sunday 15th April
Alan & Dorothy Barker

Sunday 22nd April
No donor at time of printing

Sunday 29th April
Margaret Storey

Sunday 6th May
No donor at time of printing.

During the last month our Communion Table Flowers have brought their beauty and our thoughts and prayers to Janis Duff, Mark Burdon, Lynda McQuillan and Lorna Morgan.