



Gablesby Methodist Chapel Newsletter

No 12: March 2019

www.eastofedenmc.org.uk

Spring: New life and preparing for change

Spring is bursting into life, albeit after a false start in an unseasonably mild February which means it is unlikely that we will have daffodils at Easter this year.

A lot has happened through the winter as our Ecumenical East of Eden Mission Community becomes further established. This partnership between the Church of England and Methodist Church seeks to encourage closer collaboration in order to deliver our 'God for All' mission to ensure that everybody in the County of Cumbria has a chance to encounter the love of God in their lives.

In January, we launched the first ever joint plan of services and events. This is trail blazing stuff and as far as we are aware the first such three monthly plan in the country. As well as detailing all services in the Mission Community, it allows us to plan together to avoid duplication and to encourage shared worship. Whilst we have different traditions, we worship the same God so it makes sense to share resources and work together to spread the gospel and plan for a sustainable future.

In August our Superintendent minister Les Wallace retires. For a while, with a national shortage of ministers, we were uncertain as to whether he would be replaced but, due to the ground-breaking ecumenical work being done by the Mission Community, we were given priority status. We are therefore pleased to announce that from September the new Superintendent minister will be the Rev Colin Marchment, who with his wife Helen joins us from East Yorkshire.

Retuning to spring and the lead up to the most important Christian celebration of Easter, our Mothering Sunday Service at Gablesby is on 31st March at 10 am with a family celebration involving our Little Acorns (see below).

We are also delighted to have been chosen to host the Mission Community celebration of the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday 18 April. This short service at 7pm will be fitting start to the Easter weekend.

Do come and share with us on that special day and support the other services/events we are organising. Details of the many services and activities in Lent and beyond are given overleaf.

We also have some special news to share overleaf about our re-development works which are due to start in May.

May God continue to bless our work in this community.

The Members and Little Acorns invite you to join them for a

Family Mothering Sunday Service

Led by the Rev Mark Houston

31 March at 10.a.m

Everyone welcome, followed by coffee



Mothering Sunday

CHAPEL RE-DEVELOPMENT STARTS IN MAY

We are delighted to announce that Phase 1 of the works are due to start soon. Planning permission has been obtained and tenders were sought just before Christmas whilst fund raising has continued. Through grants, support from the Methodist Circuit and local fund raising/donations we now have £89k pledged which is a tremendous effort for a small community. A very big thank you for your continued support.

Whilst the total project cost is now likely to be £170,000 (as we would also like to re-roof the building), we have sufficient funds to start on Phase 1. This will include re-roofing and re-pointing the rear section of the chapel which is in particularly poor condition as well as redeveloping the Sunday School Room. This will provide a modern warm and inviting space for our Little Acorns and community use as well as having a new kitchen and disabled toilet with hot water.

Subject to final approvals within the Methodist Church, we hope to commence work in May. **This will mean the chapel will be closed for a couple of months** with worship taking place either at other churches or in the community centre as detailed below.

If further grants are secured in the next few months work may continue, otherwise we hope to complete Phase 2 next summer.

Whilst safety will be our prime concern when work starts, please remind children of the dangers of building sites and the likelihood of increased traffic from contractors and delivery vehicles.

We hope you will join us for the following

Forthcoming events and Sunday services

Every Tuesday during Lent at Langwathby Chapel at 7:30pm 'A Disciplining Presence' – A course to help promote and sustain an effective Christian presence in rural communities.

Thursday 11th April Bridge Farm Gamblesby Lent
Lunch from 12pm – 2pm - Contact Dori on 881369

14 April - Palm Sunday in Gamblesby Chapel at 2 pm

Thursday 18 April - Last Supper at Gamblesby Chapel at 7pm

21st April - Easter Sunday at Salkeld Dykes Chapel at 6:15pm

Friday 26th April – Circuit Event at Langwathby Village Hall from 7pm with Fish & Chip Supper and presentations from each chapel about their past, present and future.

28th April in Gamblesby Chapel at 2pm

5th May at Renwick Chapel at 6pm

19th May in Ainstable Methodist Church at 6pm - Easter offering

Sat 8th June Gamblesby Summer Craft Fair and Strawberry teas in aid of and in the Community Centre from 10am to 4pm
Contact Dori Henderson on 881369 to book a table

9 June in Renwick Methodist Church at 6pm

23 June in Gamblesby Community Centre at 2pm

30 June United Mission Service in St Nicholas Church Lazonby at 10.30am for the priesting of Mark Houston



ENJOY RETIREMENT LES

The Rev Les Wallace and his wife Di retire to Norfolk at the end of July. They came to Alston Moor in 2007 and led the amalgamation with the Kirkoswald Circuit in 2014. Since then they have lived in Langwathby Manse and been responsible for our pastoral care in Gamblesby.

We wish to thank Les and Di for their service to this community. We will particularly miss their excellent musical skills but wish them a long and happy retirement.

A farewell service to say our 'goodbyes' will be held at Langwathby Village Hall on Sunday 21 July at 11am. All welcome.

In the meantime, if you need a minister contact Les on 01768 881720 or email: les.wallace11@btinternet.com



CREATIVE, CHRISTIAN, CHILDREN'S CLUB (Aged 0 - 11)

The Little Acorns continue to grow with up to 20 children now attending. If not already involved do come along and join in.

We next meet at 10am on:

Sunday 28th April at Chapel

Sunday 19th May at Com Centre

Sunday 23rd June 2018 at Com Centre

Sunday 21st July 2018 Venue TBC

All Welcome

For further information please contact Claire Slee on 01768 890536 or email: claire.slee@btinternet.com