

Stranton and Burbank Community Church

SIGNPOST



**Rooted in God's love
Growing together with Jesus
Branching out in the
Power of the Holy Spirit**

40p

July 2018

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, STRANTON CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday

8.30am. Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10.30am. Service (with children's groups for 3-14s)

1st Sunday of the month will be Holy Communion

2nd Sunday of the month will be Morning Worship

3rd Sunday of the month will be Holy Communion

4th Sunday of the month will be Lighthouse Service

11.00am. Morning Worship at Burbank Community Church,
at Ward Jackson School.

7.30pm Youth Fellowship (14 years +)

On the Third Sunday of each month, **Messy Church** takes place at St Matthew's Community Centre at 4.00pm. This is a time for parents/ carers and children to have fun together, doing crafts and various activities, based on a bible theme.

Occasionally, (2 or 3 times a year) the congregations at Stranton and Burbank all come together for the 10.30am service, and this is followed by a bring and share meal.

Wednesday Morning

10.00am. Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
at St Matthew's Community Centre.

Please note that the next **Messy Church** will be on **15th July 2018** and will continue to take place on the **Third Sunday of each Month**

The Lord's Prayer: the "Our Father"; or "the prayer Jesus taught us" is the universal Christian prayer, used nearly every time Christians come together to worship God. Most people, even if they have not been to church for decades, know it by heart.

According to Luke (Chapter 11), Jesus gave his disciples the Lord's Prayer when they asked him for a lesson in praying. I don't think he intended for us to use the Lord's Prayer as a prayer to recite. I think this was a framework or a checklist: here are the things you should pray for – you don't need lots of words. In a way, also, the Lord's Prayer mirrors the 10 commandments – the first and most important parts are all about God and our relationship with him, like the first 4 commandments. Then there is a very brief sentence that asks for what we need – but even this isn't a list of things we want God to give us or to put right. Such a list is quite absent. Instead we are invited to trust in God for what we need and to be content that what we have now is sufficient (usually more than sufficient). Don't worry about the future.

Following this is a phrase about forgiveness. I used to wonder about this because it seemed to take up a lot of the Lord's Prayer – nearly a quarter of it. Although forgiveness is important – it is the reason Jesus died on the cross – there seemed to me to be a lot of other things that we should be concerned to pray for as well. Nowadays I understand better why forgiveness is so high in God's priorities. It is easy to say and sort of believe that God has forgiven "me". Alternatively it can be hard to believe that we will be forgiven when we have been "found out" doing something embarrassingly wrong. But it is about far more than that. Forgiveness is about not only understanding but also truly believing in God's grace and his all-encompassing love. Jesus gave some parables that help us understand this (for example in Luke 7:37ff) that say as much: Only if you realise that you have been forgiven a great deal can you love a great deal. Have you ever met someone who has been wronged but who has become stuck in anger, bitterness and self-righteousness because an acknowledgement or an apology was never forthcoming? Psychologically he/she who was wronged suffers far more than the offender. Relationships break down and may never recover.

Jesus forgave even when those who should have known better hated him to death. "Forgive us our trespasses (or sins) as we forgive those who trespass (or sin) against us" is asking for God's healing and reconciling love to change us and make us more like Jesus so that we can become agents of God's love and his healing power. It is, or should be, impossible to pray that part of the prayer and think about someone else being in the wrong.

Next time you use the Lord's Prayer, reflect on what forgiveness means for you and, maybe, what it means for someone who has wronged you or let you down. Could this be the start of a new journey of healing and reconciliation?

May you "have power to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God ." (Ephesians 3: 18-19)

Andrew

MOTHER'S UNION

I've just been reading through the latest Durham Diocese MU Newsround, which I hope to distribute at our Strawberry Tea on July 9th. Changes are on the way. Lynne Tenbey – our Worldwide President – completes her term of office at the end of 2018 and soon we will be choosing her successor. One of Lynne's recent official duties was to sign (with other Board Members) the official document for Privy Council acceptance of our new Constitution.

M.U.L.O.A. – has entered our area now – **M**other's **U**nion **L**istens **O**bserves and **A**cts. We'll be hearing about this in the Autumn and having training too!

Personal Data - We will be brought up to date by changing the way our personal MU details will be protected by the MU – again in the Autumn.

Deanery Elections – not just for Presidents but at our local level we need to put forward candidates for Vice Presidents to represent our local Deaneries. Once again voting is in the Autumn.

The Festival Service – was on June 4th and was a lovely occasion with 58 Banners being paraded at the end of the Service. Many of the branches were unable to carry their Banners without press-ganging people from the congregation to help. Joyce Dryden faithfully steered me as we processed to the Galilee Chapel. Putting the Banner away I was asked why we had only one outrider. I replied we were doing a missing person manoeuvre like the RAF after losing a pilot in action – remembering Kathy Webster and Frances London.

Jill Barrett – was unable to speak at our June meeting due to work commitments.. She very kindly sent a report about the Burns Unit and a patient treated at the local hospital near Kilimatinde. Please remember to pray for Jill as she visits Kilimatinde soon.

Families First – our MU magazine is another thing that is changing. Don't worry if you are expecting to get a copy soon. The next issue will be in September – the format will change slightly with more articles of interest to MU members.

The Strawberry Tea – is on Monday July 9th at 2pm till 3.30pm, price £2 and will be held in the Small Hall at St Matthew's Community Centre. Do bring your friends and neighbours. Hope to see you there.

Mary Sumner Celebration – this is on Thursday 9th August at St Nicholas Church Durham at 2pm so please put this date in your diaries and try to come.

Autumn sessions – early warning – will start on Monday 10th September at 2pm in Asda Room at St Matthew's Community Centre.

Please remember each other, MU members around the World and within our own church here. Have a peaceful and restful start to the Summer Pray for those recovering from hospital treatment. Continue to follow in Mary Sumner's Footprints.

God Bless

Ann Courtenay

From the Home Front

At times we find ourselves in unexpected situations and rising to the challenges can be hard, but valuable lessons are learnt during such times.

I recently returned from holiday and went straight into hospital for a replacement knee operation. Both my knees had degenerated drastically after the severe cold weather at the start of the year giving continuous pain and limiting my mobility.

On my return home complications in my 'non-op' knee meant that I was confined to bed for three days unable to stand or walk even with my sticks. I found it incredibly hard to be totally beholden on other people for every aspect of my day to day existence. I soon realised how hard it must be for older folk to lose their independence and to become increasingly reliant on care agencies – at least it was my family who were around me!

When I finally was able to walk again it was frustrating not to have even my previous poor mobility. Also I had lost confidence in myself and felt unable to try things unsupervised in case my legs gave out. So I had to use my Dad's three wheeled walking trolley before some confidence returned. I was unable to descend my deep front doorstep – fortuitously my house has a side entrance which I was better able to navigate, so I have managed to get out with family at the weekend.

Yesterday, as I was unable to go to church, I sat out in the sun in my garden. The phrase 'What is life if full of care we have no time to stand and stare...', came to mind. So as I just sat I became aware of so much activity. A family of fledged long tailed tits were hopping about and playing in the tree – I have never seen this variety of bird in my garden in all the years I have lived here! I watched a fat wood pigeon deciding to gather twigs to build a nest. Chaffinches bobbing around the branches of the apple tree. High in the sky gulls were swirling in the hot thermal currents. Bees buzzed around and I could appreciate all the flowers blooming and growing after my frantic planting efforts before my holiday...

I haven't been able to sit still for this long for months!

I have also been able to catch up with many friends via texts, emails and phone. Plus visits from friends have lit up my long lonely days.

There is still a long way to go in my recovery but I have felt surrounded in prayer and know that God is using this experience to move me on in my Christian life and understanding. God is Good All the Time....

J.A.R.

Update from Grace and Festo Kanungha Visit to Hartlepool Wednesday 13th June



Festo, Grace, Zephaniah and William



Natalie and Grace



Pam, Angela and Mary chatting with Festo and Grace at The Vicarage

Grace and Festo, our link missionaries with CMS, who work at St John's School in Kilimatinde, visited us in Hartlepool on Wednesday 13th June. The day time was spent in Ward Jackson Church of England Primary School. The school held a 'Tanzania day' exploring different aspects of life in Africa. As part of the day Grace and Festo spent time with every class in the school talking about life in Kilimatinde. Some of the staff remembered Bishop John visiting 5 years ago, but life in Tanzania was new to most of the children. From this visit we hope to forge a more permanent link between the two schools.

In the evening members of the Church had a great opportunity to catch up with Grace and Festo. The good news is the St John's school is thriving and continuing to expand. The primary school is growing and the new school bus is now able to bring children into school from neighbouring villages. Grace also talked about a project with the Mother's Union called Zumm. This project is encouraging parents to talk with their children from birth. This is completely normal for us in Britain, but is not part of the culture in rural Tanzania. There is very good evidence that this helps child development. Some parents are already seeing an impact.

Looking to the future Grace and Festo return to Tanzania in July as full CMS partners. By mid-June they had raised 80% of the support they need. This includes £1500 a year from our mission support. Festo asked us to pray for the registration of the Primary School with the government. For this to happen the school will need to build 4 extra class rooms to house the children. The school are also planning to register to deliver A' levels. All A' level students will need to board, so this will require the building of further dormitories.

If you want to hear more about Grace and Festo you can register for their prayer letter from CMS. Grace also produces a regular Blog by email if you are interested. Have a chat with Norman if you want to know more.

Bishop Mark



Bishop Mark, the Bishop of Jarrow, has announced that he is retiring at the end of September. Bishop Mark has given a great deal to the diocese over the last 11 years including holding the reins in two interregnums. Many of us have benefitted directly from his ministry. In July there will be an opportunity for any that wish to make a contribution to his leaving gift.

Ordinations

Our prayers are with Clive Hall and Michelle Delves as they are ordained in Durham Cathedral on Sunday 1st July. We give thanks to God for His love during their studies and for bringing them to this place through faith and trust. We ask for their curacies in Stranton to be blessed and for them to grow in the Lord's wisdom and love over the next year as they start this new mission. Prayers also for Angela, Benjamin and Joseph Hall and Trinity Delves as they too enter a time of change and adjustment in their families.

Ward Jackson School Update

Y6 Leavers Service at Durham Cathedral

On Thursday the children from Year 6 attended Durham Cathedral for their Leavers' Service. They all had a great time and they also had a picnic lunch in the grounds of the Cathedral. Danny and Paige proudly carried the Ward Jackson Flag down the aisle.



‘Resource Churches’

Both in the Deanery and Diocesan synods in the last week we have heard about ‘Resource Churches’. This is a new phrase in church parlance, so I thought it might be helpful to explain a little bit about what is happening. Some of the Church Commissioners money, the central pot, is now available on a bidding basis to each diocese, to invest in Church growth. Durham diocese has decided to seek funding to establish Churches that are resourced for growth. There was some excitement at Diocesan Synod on Saturday 23rd June because we heard the day before that the first stage of the bid had been accepted by the Church Commissioners and that if all goes well, the funds will be available from 1st January 2019. All the identified churches are in other parts of the diocese (Gateshead, Washington, Darlington, Stockton, Durham and Bishop Auckland).

The plan is to bid for a second tranche of money in 2019. There is a long road ahead, but one of the places identified for the second round of bidding is Hartlepool. It is possible that this could mean significant investment in the central grouping of churches in Hartlepool with a focus on St Aidan’s. The aim will be to grow Christian Community amongst the existing ministries including those to the marginalised and also to families and children. Watch this space for more news as it develops.

August and September Signpost

Due to holidays, could all magazine articles be in by the 12th July , please.

Thank you

Strantonians and the Great War

Pte Edwin Harold (Harry) Calderwood

He served in the 7th Battalion of the Kings Own Scottish Borderers who were involved in the Second Battle of the Marne July 15th – August 6th.

He is buried at Buzancy Military Cemetery and the inscription on his gravestone says “Ever remembered by Father, Mother, Sisters and Brothers”.

He was born in Stranton parish, but was living in Wingate, whilst working as a general labourer above ground at Easington Colliery. He was 23 years old when he died.

Buzancy Commonwealth Cemetery



Pte William Tindall

He lived at 10 Ellison Street with his parents Joseph and Barbara. He served initially with the Royal Scots, but was transferred to the Royal Defence Corps.

This indicates that William must have been too badly injured to serve at the front (over 18 battalions had been formed). William died on 28th July 1918 and is buried at Stranton Cemetery. The inscription on his grave reads “Until the day dawns”. William was 26 years old.

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Boys Brigade News



Summer Fayre: Many thanks to everyone who supported us - we raised £650.07p which will be spent on our planned Summer Activities.

Summer Activities: The Anchor Boys have celebrated the Royal Wedding and visited Stranton Church - thanks to Pat –also they have also taken part in a sandcastle building competition.

The final activity is a Super Heroes Party night at St Matthew's. The Juniors have visited the Blue Lagoon, Crimdon, discussed England's World Cup chances at McDonalds, built sandcastles, held Beach Olympics and finished off with a visit to Stranton Church.

The Company have visited the swimming baths, Castle Eden, Blackhall Rocks, the Blue Lagoon and are now looking forward to our camp at Thornthwaite Scout Centre near Harrogate.

And finally a big thankyou to all my leaders who have helped to grow our activities and numbers this Boys Brigade session.

George Bainbridge

A Blast from the Past! Recipes from Mary Baines

Mary Baines' Summer Recipes

Boozy Trifle

12 small Amaretto biscuits
1 can/box Devon cream custard
100ml whipping cream
250g fresh or frozen fruits
A little Amaretto liqueur if desired



Use individual servings – either in a wine glass or small juice glasses.
Put 3 Amaretto biscuits in the bottom of each glass
Sprinkle with Amaretto liqueur if desired
Cover with a good layer of fruit, reserving some for decoration.
Spoon over custard until glass is $\frac{3}{4}$ full
Whip the cream until stiff
Put layer of cream on top of custard
Place in fridge to chill & just before serving decorate with reserved fruit.

Grilled ginger Pineapple

1 ripe pineapple
1 level teaspoon ground ginger
1 level teaspoon light soft brown sugar



Cut the pineapple into quarters lengthways if possible keep the leaves on.
Run a knife between the flesh & the skin to separate – leave the flesh sitting on the skin.
Make vertical cuts in the flesh to make bite size pieces – again don't separate. Wrap the green leaves in in foil so they don't burn when grilling.
Mix sugar and ginger & sprinkle over the top of each prepared pineapple wedge.
Place wedges on foil lined baking sheet & cook under a preheated grill for about 10 minutes until sugar is caramelised & golden
Serve with natural yoghurt (mixed with runny honey if desired).

CELEBRATE!

**July
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
to**



Maureen Anderson
Faith Barton
Stephen Bell
Barbara Butcher
Jean Connell
Hilary Harkness
Mary Robinson
Norman Shave
Max Spoor
Jenny Tones
Geoffrey Webster
Diana Wanduragala

**Congratulations
on your
Wedding Anniversary**

Faith & Adam Barton
Malinee & Aga
Andrew & Elspeth Craig
Julie & Norman Shave



If you have something to celebrate we would love to share it - email
admin@stranton-church.org.uk
or phone 864006.

All entries to be in by the 16th of the month.

Dates for the Diary

Dates for July 2018

Sun 1 st	Ordinations in Durham & Nassau Bay Team arrive	
Mon 2 nd – Thus 5 th		
Sun 8 th	Mission Team in School and Burbank Community Centre Open Air Service in Burbank, followed by shared lunch (No 10.30am service at Stranton)	11.00am
Mon 9 th	Lighthouse Planning, 40 Browning Ave	7.30pm
Tues 10 th	PCC, Fulthorpe Chapel	7.30pm
Wed 11 th	Three Parish Meeting for Standing Committee, St Columba's church	7.00pm
Sun 15 th	Messy Church, St Matthew's	4.00pm.
Sun 22 nd	Lighthouse service	10.30am

Please note that there will be no children's groups from Sunday 29th July until September.

Burbank Community Church will be worshipping with Stranton Church at 10.30am from 29th July and throughout August.



Sidespersons

	8.30am	10.30am
1 July	I Walker	N Proffitt A Craig
8 July	B Butcher	No Service
15 July	M Hutchinson	S Shepherd K Shepherd
22 July	P Porritt	D Greenwood B Greenwood
29 July	P Thompson	J Lawson K Lawson



Baptisms

3rd June	Arthur Morley Armstrong Baye Florence Ann Neville
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Funerals

22nd June	Beryl May Hope
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Who's Who

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