

BRIDGE

September 2021



**For the United Reformed Churches in
Bewcastle and Carlisle**

**Part of the
Cumbria URC Missional Partnership**

Contacts and Sunday Service Pattern

THE MINISTER

Following the retirement of Rev Nick Mark

We are in a period of Vacancy.

Enquiries should initially be directed
to the principal contact of
one of the two churches
as appropriate.

THE KNOWE CHURCH

BEWCASTLE

Services: 1.45pm on the first Sunday in the month

Contact: Mrs Doreen Telford

Telephone: 016977 48447

ST. GEORGE'S UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

WEST WALLS

CARLISLE

CA3 8UF

www.urccarlisle.org

Services: 10.30am every Sunday

Contact: Mrs Rosalind Fearon

Telephone: 016973 44892

Email: rosrayfearon@talktalk.net

When there is a fifth Sunday in the month
the Service is for both Churches
usually at 10.30am at St George's

**ST GEORGE'S REOPENED WITH
A SERVICE AT 10.30am ON SUNDAY 16th MAY
WE CONTINUE TO HOLD SERVICES
EVERY SUNDAY AT 10.30am**

From Rev Dave Harkison

Dear Friends,

"On your marks ... Get Set ... Go'. Words which we have heard all too often over the summer if we have tuned into the Olympic Games and will again if we tune into the Paralympic Games. Words which each one of us ought to heed as we set off on another year of church activity, and for me in particular that will be a very different year to those I have experienced over the last 30 years.

St Paul in writing to the Church of God at Philippi, encourages us to run a straight race 'in order to win the prize, which is God's call through Christ Jesus to the life above.' (GNB: Phil 3:14).

It seems to me that Paul is suggesting that we should be like any athlete. No athlete gets to the starting block without preparing themselves. Months if not years of training lead to the starting point. And just prior to the race, time is spent on the warm up track, on the physio's bench and stretching to make sure the muscles are properly warmed up and won't pull with the exertion put into them as soon as the starting gun goes.

We too need to prepare ourselves for the Christian life we are to lead if we want to get to heaven. Yes, we are saved by faith, but we need to work for God. Many non-Christians seem to think that the main idea about Christianity is that if we are good enough, one day God will let us into heaven. It is in fact quite the reverse. Having been granted a place in heaven, we need to respond by attempting (with the help of the Holy Spirit) to be worthy of that place.

I pray that you will not sit back and bask in the glory of your place in heaven. Rather work for God to show that you are worthy of His gift.

Every blessing to you all.

Your friend and servant in Christ,
Dave Harkison

From St George's Secretary

Once again it is time to write 'something for the Bridge'. How time flies!

I am sorry to report the sad news that Irene Paterson died peacefully on 29th July at Holmehurst Care Home where she had been living in recent years. Iain Mackenzie conducted the funeral service which was well attended by church members and Irene's family. Irene was a very kind and loyal church member who had lived a long and interesting life. There is so much we don't know about our friends until they are no longer with us. Perhaps we should all write our own obituaries now so that we can share them and answer questions?

We remember and pray for all those members and friends who are facing challenging health problems, some of whom we have not seen in church for a while, but they are not forgotten.

AGM and Church meeting 8th August

We are grateful to Martyn Coe for chairing our meeting after the Sunday service. The minutes are in the book at the back of the church. We noted the Annual Reports and Accounts and adopted a tentative Budget for 2021. All the elders who had reached the end of their 3-year terms and were willing to continue, were re-elected.

Communion: We will revert to our normal practice in September.

Coffee mornings: It was decided just to serve drinks and biscuits and that there was no need for the volunteers to feel obliged to bake. We hope to recommence on Saturday 19th September provided Jessie can get a rota organised.

Harvest Supper: Moira has very kindly offered to provide a Harvest Supper on Monday 11th October, 4.30pm for 5pm. Tickets £5 from Moira.

St Cuthbert's Harvest Lunch: We have been invited to join with the congregation of St Cuthbert's after their morning service on Sunday 17th October when they will be serving drinks and people will bring their own food. This will be a good opportunity to get to know them better, and I hope some of us will attend.

Dave Harkison's retirement service: Sunday 26th September at Whitehaven URC 3pm. As our lead minister Dave has been very helpful and I hope some of us will attend this service. Numbers are requested by 30th August, but it may not be too late to give your name when you read this.

Camino to COP26 accommodation: A lady of 70 who no longer feels comfortable sleeping on the floor would like a bed in Carlisle for 2 nights 14th and 15th October. Please let me know if you can help.

Church Directory: This will be published shortly, so if you do not want your contact details to appear please let Peter know as soon as possible.

Rosalind

St George's Autumn Gift Day

We are delighted our Autumn Gift Day is able to proceed this year on Sunday 19th September.

It is hoped that Members may once again feel able to support this fund-raising event, for which Envelopes are enclosed. If those who are registered under the Gift Aid Scheme could contribute by cheque, this would be much appreciated.

Thank you.

Pamela Martin

Gift Aid Secretary

Irene Paterson

The address at Irene's funeral

11th August 2021

Irene Paterson was born in Enniskillen, Northern Ireland in April 1926, the youngest of the six children of Margaret and Robert Newett - Sophie, Willy, Alec, Ossie, Dudley and Irene.

Sophie and her mother, Margaret, died of Tuberculosis and the children were sent to live with their Granny Burns in Cootehill over the border in Southern Ireland. Not long after, tragically, their father also died.

In time, Ossie and Dudley left for England to join the forces - Ossie in the army and Dudley in the air force.

Eventually, they were all left some money from relatives in America, and Irene, Ossie, Dudley and Alec bought a house together in Parkstone in Dorset, to be their family home. Irene shared that home for many years with Alec and his wife, Joan.

Irene and Joan both worked in the china department in Beales in Bournemouth. Later on Irene would hold a similar post in Bulloughs in Carlisle. That was after she'd met and married George Paterson, and become the step-mother of his young son, William, and his older sister, Dorothy, and granny to Dorothy's small children.

Irene and George loved to travel - to Europe and Hawaii and Canada, and to visit family in New Zealand and Australia, as well as heading down to Dorset to visit friends and family, where they would often meet up with Ossie and Aylvia for evenings together.

Irene always stayed close to her family and loved being an auntie and a granny. Irene's niece, Suzanne, recalls how she loved her granny's visits, and her Irish accent which she never

lost, and her tales from the family history, and of how she tried to teach her a few words of Irish Gaelic.

Irene was always generous, never missing a birthday, and after her husband George's death, she would often travel up to Scotland to babysit for William's daughter Helen, often bringing a beautiful hand-knitted garment.

William is a cellist, and Irene loved going to concerts, not just for the music, but over the years she got to know many of his musician friends and enjoyed seeing them on stage.

Irene was a popular person and had very many friends, both through her work and through the Church. She was always willing to help, whether it was washing up after a coffee morning, or arranging the flowers in the Church. She just wanted to be helpful and to spend time with her friends. She also did valuable work as a volunteer at the Eden Valley Hospice shop for several years.

As her niece Suzanne says "Irene was a very sweet person and I loved her to bits, she was soft and kind. She could strike up a conversation with anyone, and everyone who met her loved her."

I'm sure that all of us can echo these sentiments. Irene Paterson was indeed a lovely person, and a real Christian. She has lived a long life and a good life, and she will be greatly missed by the many people who held her in great esteem and affection.

We can only be grateful that we have had the privilege of having known her and been her friend.

Thanks be to God.

Iain Mackenzie

Church Flowers

It is so nice to get back to a bit of normality and Pamela and I are enjoying arranging the flowers for Sunday Service.

I have placed a notice on the back table for anyone to put their names on a particular week that may be special to them for an anniversary or to remember someone.

I know that some churches leave the flowers until they are ready for replacement, but I always think it is nice that we pass on the flowers to others so that they may have the benefit. So often a church member has said how much they have enjoyed the flowers which have usually lasted through the week. It's amazing how uplifting a bright bloom can be. Thank you to all who have so far contributed to this service.

I hope everyone stays well and I'm sure many of you like me can't wait for the day we can remove our masks.

Kathleen Harris



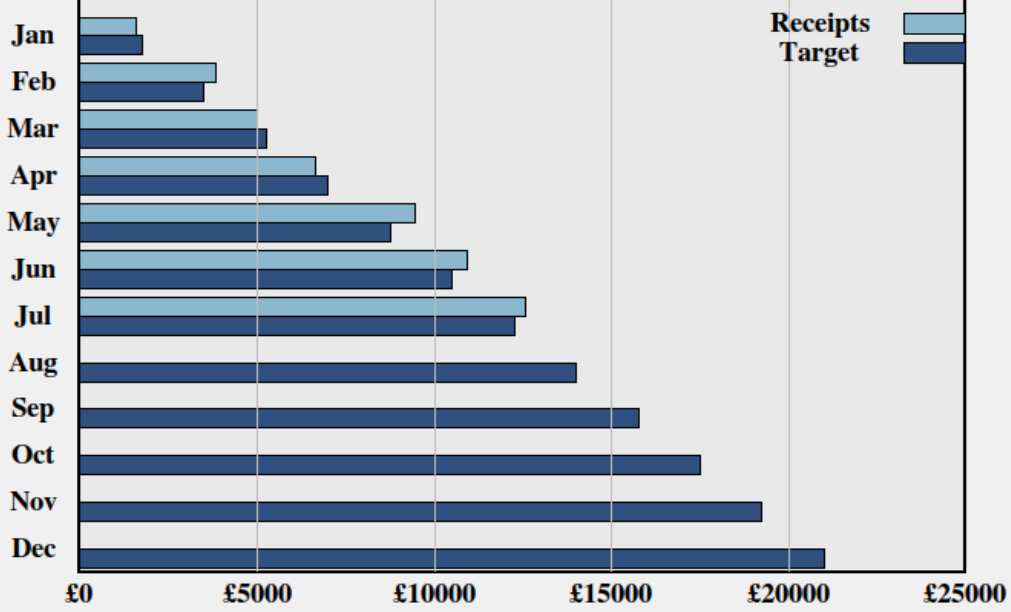
The Guild

Autumn Programme

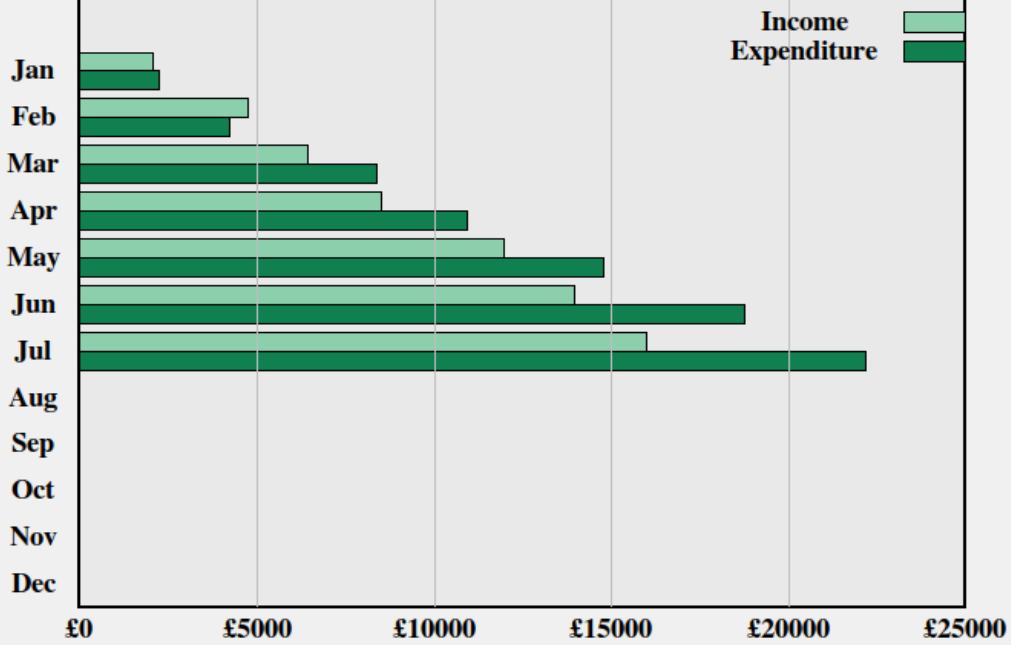
6th September	Afternoon Tea at 3.00pm
4th October	A talk by a representative from the Great North Air Ambulance Service
1st November	The Dalston Hand-Bell Ringers
6th December	Paul Moffat The future of TARU, a town in Kenya

Elizabeth

St. George's United Reformed Church 2021 Cumulative Weekly Offerings



2021 Cumulative Total Income / Expenditure



Commitment for Life

Central America

Why Poverty

It is important to understand the context that fosters inequality in Central America. The poorest are embedded in systems of governance that are repressive and violent, fostering a growing divide between rich and poor. The space for civil society to address these issues is shrinking. In El Salvador and Guatemala, says a Christian Aid Ireland report on adaptive programme management, the focus is on mitigating the effects of gang violence, especially on women and children, against a background of extreme inequality and high-level corruption.

The primary goal of our partners in the region is to help remove barriers to the full realisation of the human rights of poor and marginalised groups. They pay particular attention to reducing gender inequality, and your support for Commitment for Life plays a vital role in achieving these aims. Thank you!



Photo by Max Panamá

Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories

Ecumenical Accompaniers from the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel (WCC-EAPPI) have joined residents, international non-governmental organizations, media, politicians and Israeli peace activists in protesting demolition actions by Israeli forces in the Khan al Ahmar Bedouin community.

Khan al Ahmar is a Bedouin community located in East Jerusalem, in the E1 area. It is home to 32 families, 173 people, including 92 children and youths. The community has a mosque and a (very famous) school, which was built in 2009 and serves more than 150 children.

On 24th May last year, the Israel High Court approved the Israeli Defense Minister's order to demolish Khan Al-Ahmar village.

The High Court has since issued a temporary restraining order freezing the demolition and ordered the state to respond to the Palestinians' claims.

A spokesperson from Khan Al Ahmar community, Abu Khamis, expressed his hope for solidarity from the international community. "A large majority of Palestinian refugees have very few sources of income left. They live without basic infrastructure. Demolishing their homes and school would deprive them of all they have left."

Commitment for Life and the URC Mission Team continue to support the work of EAPPI, which was created in 2002 by the WCC based on a letter and an appeal from local church leaders to create an international presence in the country.

Thank you for your ongoing support of some of the most vulnerable communities in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory.

Commitment
for Life

Preachers Leading Services at St George's

5th	Sept	Mrs Rosalind Fearon
12th	Sept	Archdeacon Lee Townend
19th	Sept	Rev Nicola Reynolds
26th	Sept	(Communion) Rev Iain Mackenzie
3rd	Oct	Mr John Collins (Commitment for Life Advocate for Scotland)
10th	Oct	Miss Betty Jagger
17th	Oct	Rev Alistair Smeaton

St George's Door Duty Rota

5th	Sept	Marjorie Lawson, Michael Overs
12th	Sept	Tony Wiseman, Pamela Martin
19th	Sept	Rosalind Fearon, Jessie Overs
26th	Sept	Moira Wales, Michael Overs
3rd	Oct	Marjorie Lawson, Pamela Martin
10th	Oct	Tony Wiseman, Jessie Overs
17th	Oct	Rosalind Fearon, Michael Overs

Attending Church

If you are attending Sunday Services regularly there is no need to let us know if you will be coming on a particular Sunday. If, however, you will not be coming on a particular Sunday, then please let Tony (01228 531355) know so that a place may be allocated to someone else.

If you are not attending regularly but would like to come on a particular Sunday, then, again, please let Tony know so that a place may be found.

Tony