THE CHURCH OF LOW FURNESS NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2024



SEPT /OCTOBER 2024

Headlines

Church Commissioners proposal for St. Matthew's Dendron see p3 for where to access. **Any response to Church Commissioners by 23:59 16th Sept 2024**

Urswick Rushbearing 29th Sept meeting at Low Furness School at **10:30am**

Harvest at Holy Trinity Bardsea 11:00am 8th Sept 2024

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Articles / Events / updates for inclusion in the Nov/Dec edition

to the editor Rev. Graham Tate by 21st Oct 24

Email - revdgrahamtate@gmail.com

CHURCH SERVICES

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER

Date	Church	Service	Time
Sunday 1st Sept 2024	St. Mary & St. Michael, Urswick	Holy Communion	11:00am
Sunday 8th Sept 2024	Holy Trinity Church, Bardsea St. Cuthbert's, Aldingham	Holy Communion & Harvest Sung Evening Prayer (BCP)	11:00am 2.30pm
Sunday 15th Sept 2024	Rampside Village Hall	Holy Communion	11:00am
Sunday 22nd Sept 2024	Furness Footsteps St. Cuthbert's, Aldingham Holy Trinity Church, Bardsea St. Mary & St. Michael, Urswick	 Holy Communion Family Service Healing Service	10:00am 11:00am 11:00am 6:00pm
Sunday 29th Sept 2024	St. Mary & St. Michael, Urswick	Rushbearing & Praise service	1:00pm
Sunday 6th Oct 2024	St. Mary & St. Michael, Urswick	Holy Communion	11:00am
Sunday 13th Oct 2024	Holy Trinity Church, Bardsea St. Cuthbert's, Aldingham	Holy Communion & Harvest Sung Evening Prayer (BCP)	11:00am 2.30pm
Sunday 20th Oct 2024	Rampside Village Hall	Holy Communion	11:00am
Sunday 27th Oct 2024	Furness Footsteps St. Cuthbert's, Aldingham Holy Trinity Church, Bardsea St. Mary & St. Michael, Urswick	 Holy Communion (BCP) Family Service Healing Service	10:00am 11:00am 11:00am 6:00pm

Every Wednesday 10.30am
Mid-week Communion service in Urswick Parish Room
Refreshments are served after the service

Morning Prayer

from the Church of Low Furness is posted on our Facebook page every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 9:00am when you can join live or watch later.

Healing Service 6:00 pm Sunday 22nd Sept & 27th Oct 2024

A service of prayer, contemplation, and healing at Urswick Church

Deacon's Deliberations

Revd Graham Tate

tel: 07579 798481 email: revdgrahamtate@gmail.com

This edition is more about buildings than anything spiritual. But then buildings have featured a lot in discussions and meetings over the last few months.
Almost every one of the buildings we use for worship across Low Furness has been the subject of significant discussions. So in no particular order :-

St. Michael's Rampside

Anyone travelling along Rampside road may well have noticed the 'For Sale' sign outside the church. A quick look at the Corries website will show a price of "Offers in the region of £150,000", although the Diocese may amenable to offers that include some community use. It also tells any prospective purchaser that the burials and monuments are to remain in place.
There has been some interest, but at the time of writing this no firm offers.

St. Matthew's Dendron - This is important

The building remains closed on the advice of the architects due to the unsafe conditions within the building.
We are in a key phase of considering the future of the building. Under the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 Draft Pastoral Church Buildings, the Church Commissioners have prepared a draft Scheme in respect of proposals sent to them by the Bishop for the parish church of Saint Matthew, Dendron, being one of the parish churches of the parish of Aldingham, Dendron and Rampside to be declared closed for regular public worship.
The copies of draft scheme are available at **Aldingham Church; Urswick Church; Bardsea Church; Rampside Village Hall; Gleaston Village Hall.**
Alternatively, it can be viewed on line at –
www.churchofengland.org/consultation or www.churchoflowfurness.org.uk/consultation
Representations for or against all or any part or parts of the draft Scheme (please include the reasons for your views) by post or, preferably, by email to reach Joanna Chandler-Clarke at joanna.chandler-clarke@churchofengland.org **no later than midnight on Monday 16 September 2024.**

St Cuthbert's Aldingham

The Quinquennial Inspection report for St.Cuthbert's has been issued by the inspecting architects. At the last PCC meeting (25th July) the architect came to the meeting and we were able to discuss the report in detail. The building is generally in good condition but anyone who has been in the church will realise that some maintenance is required around some of the windows. There is also damp ingress in few places which can be cleaned up easily. However, the underlying cause of the damp ingress is the failure of the cement rendering applied to the outside of the building in the 1930's. This type of render is used to provide a waterproof 'skin' over the walls of the building, and is effective until it weathers and cracks – which is what has happened at St .Cuthbert's. When this happens water is trapped between the render and the stone of the wall. Its only escape route is then though the wall into the building – hence the damp patches we are seeing. We can clean up and make good the damaged patches, but that will only be a temporary solution. In the long term the cement render will have to be removed and replaced with a porous lime render that will let the walls 'breathe'.
So the strategy being proposed is to carry out the essential maintenance and focus fund raising efforts on the long term solution recommended by the architects. An initial estimate for that work is £300,000 (at 2023 prices). A lot of money. St. Cuthbert's is a Grade II* listed building and so there is a reasonable probability of securing grants for the works, but grants will normally cover an maximum of 50% of the cost, leaving the community and the Friends of Aldingham Church to raise the rest over the coming years.

St. Mary & St.Michael's Urswick

Again we have recently received the Quinquennial report. There is ongoing maintenance as one would expect from a very old building, but it is in generally a good state. Most of the works proposed by the report relate to roof slate repairs and ensuring the guttering and drainage is maintained or refurbished. In the longer term removal of the cement mortar pointing and replacement with softer lime mortar more compatible with the sand stone in the walls. Some preservation work on the stained glass is also proposed. Urswick church is a Grade 1 listed building so some grant contribution to the cost is probable.

Holy Trinity Bardsea

Although the Quinquennial Inspection has yet to be undertaken, Holy Trinity appears to be in a sound condition. Like the other building there is evidence of water ingress in places that will require investigation. We await the inspection.
God bless
Graham

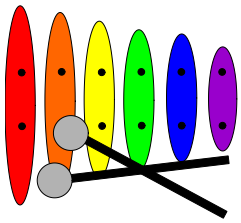
COMMUNITY NEWS & GROUPS

URSWICK POST OFFICE OUTREACH – URSWICK PARISH ROOM

Thank you to everyone who has supported the village Post Office and Coffee Morning. We are grateful for this service which is being used and hopefully will continue with a regular service.

Fridays 9.30-11.30am

Urswick Toddlers Group



Music and Play for 0-3yrs

Our popular Toddler Group is held on Tuesdays!

9.30-11am

Come and join us for play, snacks, and singing at Urswick Parish Room

Contact Julie Charnley on 07709341047

Urswick Parish Room – Room Hire

Urswick Parish Room is open and taking bookings.

Please do get in touch if the space can support your group or community venture. The hall includes toilet and full kitchen facilities. Heating by meter. For bookings and enquiries please contact Linda on
armstronglinda680@gmail.com
tel. 07856107256

CHURCH GROUPS AND EVENTS

CCArtT



Cumbria Craft & Art Therapy

Cumbria Craft & Art Therapy is open to individuals with any mental health or fellowship need, including those affected by bereavement and loss, stress and anxiety or isolation and loneliness. Meeting and working together, we use a variety of crafts and art to offer a safe space and understanding

Fortnightly 1-4pm Thurs at Urswick Parish Room

Contact Linda 07856107256 for more information and to book a place.

FURNESS FOOTSTEPS
Stepping Beyond the View

What about a walk in the countryside?

What do you see?

Maybe there's more than meets the eye

Join us on the 4th Sunday of each month

Contact Graham

Revdgrahamtate@gmail.com

Or mob : 07579 798481

Next Meeting 22nd Sept 2024

Meeting at 10 am at Urswick Church

please contact Graham; FB page or website

Mental Health Fellowship Group

Essential to know who intends to come along **before** the date, please ring Sonjie 07710254123

Meeting in the Urswick Parish room. A time to chat, seek advice, advocacy or help with form filling are all available. This will be a safe space for anyone who attends.
If you feel that this would be beneficial to yourself or someone you know please contact Community Pastor : Sonjie Marshall Tel :07710254123 for further details.

PCC Meetings

Urswick : Tuesday 17th Sept Urswick Parish Room at 13:00pm

Aldingham; Dendron and Rampside : Wed 11th Sept Urswick Parish Room at 13:00pm

CHURCH GROUPS AND EVENTS

Knead to Chat?



Please contact Maggie for details of our Bread Therapy sessions.

These take place once a month and are a safe and peaceful space for those who are experiencing isolation, bereavement, stress or any struggle.

A great way to spend a few hours with company, good food (a soup and bread lunch is provided) and some good fun.

Urswick Parish Room

Booking essential Contact Maggie 835606

Donations (£4) please to cover cost of ingredients and heating



LADIES LUNCH GROUP

The Ladies Lunch

TBA - contact Maggie for details

Booking Essential - contact Maggie : tel. 01229 835606.

Churchyard maintenance

We have been fortunate that the grass in Urswick and Dendron churchyards has been cut by community workers at no cost to the church.

However there are still some costs that the churches will incur in maintaining the churchyards. Any one who would like to make a contribution to the churchyard fund can leave a donation at the church.

All contributions are greatly appreciated.

EVENTS AND DATES





Medieval Fair at Furness Abbey

31st August 2024 10:00am - 5:00pm

Details on Furness Abbey Fellowship website

https://www.furnessabbeyfellowship



The Knitted Bible Exhibition

36 scenes from the Bible re-imagined using knitted characters

The exhibition will take you through the Bible from the Creation to Jesus' breakfast on the beach after his resurrection

Favourites from the Old Testament and New, including Noahs Ark and Jesus' Parable of the Lost Sheep have been created by the congregation of St. George's United Reformed Church, Hartlepool.

MISSION AND PIONEERING



Rev Graham Tate

Email : revdgrahamtate@gmail.com

Mob : 07579 798481

Furness Footsteps

Have continued to meet monthly - almost

We met in July but due to holidays the August meeting was cancelled. September's is planned though.

July we met at Gleaston Water Mill. The day was fine which was a relief given the 'summer' we have had this year.

Our route took us south from the village along the path between the fields passed Deep Meadow Beck and as far as the field where a herd of young bullocks were grazing. We had planned on going further BUT discretion is better than valour as the saying goes. So we turned round and retraced our steps back to the Water Mill. At least the cafe is now open and serving very nice cakes as well as coffee and tea. It was a short walk on that occasion but probably ended better than being chased by a herd of bullocks!

One thing I have noticed over the last few years of walking around the local area is the number of by-ways that are getting seriously overgrown with weeds and brambles. The byway that runs from the end of Bracken Bed Lane to just outside Gleaston is impassible even with a machete!

September meeting at Urswick Church at 10:00am on 22nd Sept.

Graham

Webster's Waffle



We have a hymn book older even than 'Hymns, Ancient and Modern'. We have the Psalms. Some of them are a fair age, the 23rd psalm, written by King David, would have been written at some point around 1000BC. So it's over 3000 years old. Given its popularity at funerals even now, it may well be one of the 'best sellers of all time'.
The psalms express the fears, the hopes, the joys and the certainties of their writers. Some manage to still work as songs, the Townend version of the 23rd psalm (I will trust in you alone) is popular. There is a beautiful version of psalm 139, 'O God, You search Me and You Know Me' by Bernadette Farrell
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mEGc3_D19Vo
We rarely hear it or sing it because it's on a different licence. But rather than looking at psalms that, as hymns, can still speak to us, what about looking at hymns that speak to us now. It is surprising how profound some of the sentiments expressed are. How about the second verse of 'When I survey the wondrous cross?'
"Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them through his blood."
Sing that and mean it!

But there are other hymns which capture some of the promise we have in Christ.

Take the verse 'In Christ Alone' that says,
"No power of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand,
Till He returns or calls me home here in the power of Christ I'll stand."

Some hymns remind us of the stance we should take. Take the line from 'Be though my vision.'
"Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, be Thou mine inheritance, now and always."
If you ever wonder what is important, just remember those words.

Other hymns carry encouragement and remind us of what we have been promised. There is the verse from 'You Are My All In All.'
When I fall down You pick me up,
When I run dry You fill my cup
You are my all in all

I remember Ian Honeyman once telling us at Rampside that the hymn chosen had four excellent tunes so we could sing a verse to each tune. It worked really well. The twiddles between each verse were the intro to the next hymn tune. But what worked even better was you couldn't just get lost in the music, you had to stay alert and suddenly we were hearing the words we were singing.
That is both a good thing and a challenging thing. Do you actually mean what you're singing? I leave you with a verse from 'Thank You for the cross, my friend.'

"And once again I look upon the cross where you died,
Jesus, I'm humbled by Your mercy, I'm broken inside.
Once again I thank You,
Once again I pour out my life."
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RcOEIM7sths

CHURCH OF LOW FURNESS ONLINE

Date	Platform	Service	Time
Every Mon/Tues/Thurs	Facebook Live	Morning Prayer	9:00am

ONLINE LINKS AND RESOURCES

The Church of Low Furness is the collective name for the churches serving the parishes of Aldingham, Dendron, Rampside and Urswick with Bardsea, a Church of England united benefice in the Diocese of Carlisle.

Please see our **Church of Low Furness website** for up to date information about our services and news: http://churchoflowfurness.org.uk/

Minutes of pubic domain meetings can be accessed via our website
http://www.churchoflowfurness.org.uk/meetingminutes.html

We deliver regular live weekday services and prayer sessions on Facebook. Live on our **Facebook group**, the **Church of Low Furness**:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/578956609372390/about/

You can find the Common Worship Liturgy we use on the **Church of England website**, along with many other resources including information on weddings, baptisms and funerals:
https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer

The **God for All** website has news from churches around the County of Cumbria and many faith resources:
https://www.godforall.org.uk/
You can also sign up for a regular news bulletin from Carlisle Diocese:
https://www.carlislediocese.org.uk/news-and-events/

Contacts

Rev Graham Tate : revdgrahamtate@gmail.com

Rev Martin Williams : sweccsuper@outlook.com

Parish Room booking Mrs L Armstrong : armstronglinda680@gmail.com