



Welcome

What does the future church look like? The present one looks significantly different than it did just a few years ago. In Kendal we are in a new space, and at both Carver and Kendal we are fewer in number. Some friends have died, and we miss them; some have moved away, and we miss them; some cannot attend but wish they could, and we miss them; some have realised during closedown that what we do is not for them, often retaining faith but not needing to come on a Sunday anymore, and we miss them.



The church of the present is different from the church of the past, and we can name our present challenges, but we sometimes look at the past with rose-tinted glasses. There may well be things we miss or lament that have changed, but how much would you really like to go back to the church of your youth? Those who have served on elders will know that there have always been strong opinions about the life of the church. I have never sat in an elders' meeting where after five minutes we realised everything was going so well we might as well go home.

We are not like the church of the past, and the church of the future will be at least as different from us as we are from the church of our youth. That might be a joy as well as a sorrow.

Every church in every generation faces challenges, and many churches have faced challenges they were not sure they could get past. Some have not and they have closed (we could name many in Cumbria) but the church of Christ in every age has found new ways to share the Gospel: in every age the Holy Spirit has stirred up enough people so that the Good News remains alive. The course I had hoped to do would have looked at how faith might continue even as the church institutions struggle. We might be in a time of great change, and maybe the church of the future we will be as unrecognisable as the church of the middle ages seems to us—but that's OK. I hope and pray that the church of the future will look back and give thanks, as we do, for the faithful saints who kept the faith alive. It is not our job to worry whether any one sort of church will keep going, or even if our building will stay open, but we are charged with listening to the movement of the Spirit so that we can share the Good News of Jesus with everyone we can.

Yours

Martyn



A Service of Thanksgiving
for Mission and Ministry in the
Helm Mission Community
including the Ordination
to the Priesthood of
Rev Lucy Foster

St. Thomas' Church, Crosscrake
Monday 4 July 2022 at 7.00 pm
followed by refreshments

All are welcome



&

present



Manna House Midsummer Music
18 June 2022
St George's Church, Kendal
7.00 pm (Doors open 6.30 pm)
Tickets £10 cash on the door
All profits to Manna House



Worship With Us

Sunday Morning at 10.30 am

29 May	John Costello
5 June	Revd Pam Noonan (Communion Service) followed by church lunch
12 June	Revd Martyn Coe
19 June	Dr Michael Pickles
26 June	Revd Pam Noonan
3 July	Revd Martyn Coe (Communion Service)
10 July	David Lamb
17 July	Mark Hamblett
24 July	Revd Pam Noonan
31 July	Brian Stabler
7 August	Revd Martyn Coe (Communion Service)
14 August	Ralph Penny-Larter
21 August	Major Lynne Davis
28 August	David Lamb

Ukraine appeal

Please don't forget the collecting box in Kendal URC for personal items such as babies' nappies and sanitary wear, wipes, toothpaste and brushes and soap. Just the basics.

Thank you.



From the Secretary

Hello again everyone.

As I write in Natland, the mist is right down on the Scar, and we were glad of some heating in church this morning. Summer will arrive eventually. Fortunately, however, yesterday was dry and mild. In the afternoon, 106 hosted the Pet Blessing service organised by the Helm Mission Community. We had six dogs and fifteen humans, all very well behaved.



Below you will find a few dates for your diaries, though exact dates of some things will be confirmed nearer the time.

The reading group will meet on Monday 30 May to talk about 'The Salt Path'. Further books and dates have yet to be decided, so watch this space.

Prayer Shawl and Craft group meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 10.00 am.

Drop-in is the last Wednesday of the month at 2.00 pm.

Martyn's monthly Communion service is the third Thursday of the month at 2.00pm.

As you will know by now, there will not be any more coffee mornings till September at least. It was encouraging to see a good number at the Christian Aid Coffee Morning on 18 May; but, in general, attendance has been disappointing. It is hoped that by September people will be more willing to come out and those who have been catching up on cancelled holidays will be back home. If you have any suggestions for charities to benefit from the proceeds, please let one of the Elders know.

We look forward to seeing some of you at the church lunch at Carus Green on 5 June. I hope that you all enjoy whatever you have planned to do to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee.

You should find elsewhere in this edition information about a special service at St Thomas' Church, Crosscrake, and a Manna House event. All are very welcome to attend.

I hope you continue to keep well and enjoy whatever you have planned over the next few weeks.

Best wishes.

Anne

Next issue of Embracing Life

The next issue of Embracing Life will include information about events in the church and the local community during August and September. It will be distributed in the week ending 29 July 2022.

Please send any contributions by Monday 25 July, either by post to John Costello, 2 Hawesmead Drive, Kendal LA9 5HD, or email johnxcostello@btinternet.com.

Jubilee

Because KURC is part of the community, it seemed right and proper to interject a jubilee display between the poster for the Ascension and the birds representing Whit.

Like all the window displays in 106 there were a lot of constraints. Firstly, the design had to include items relevant to the Queen and the seventy year jubilee. Secondly, if it were to hang on the screen in the window of 106 it has to be long and thin but also have impact. Thirdly, having spent my first eighty years acquiring fabric which might come in useful I am now spending the next decade restricting my activities to using up this hoard of treasure in my stash. Fourthly, as its life span will be about a week, it was not worth producing a beautifully finished item.

Putting all this together resulted in the following design. A large piece of **red** material, bought in excess for a cycling cape, formed the back ground. A small offcut of **blue** waterproof material, an unwanted donation to CTiKD, made blue stripes. Good strips from worn out **white** cotton sheets were a stable, easy to sew, basis for white stripes. The gold material for the "70" was given by someone sometime in the past. After a lot of experimenting the font for the numbers was chosen, and then manipulated to make them longer. An initial idea to use the Union Jack as a background was rejected as too complicated and too restrictive with the materials available; instead parallel stripes of different widths were used, angled as the reflection of the slope of the 7.

If it were a jubilee à la Leviticus it would need to show slaves being freed, prisoners released and debts forgiven - now how would you put that up as a display?

Anne D Wilson



Eco Church Awards

Our Church Caring for God's Earth

A Rocha UK developed the scheme in 2016 based on a scheme in Portugal. Eco Church accreditation (Bronze, Silver or Gold Award) is encouraged by the URC's Environmental Task Group and by all the Synods in England (and Wales).

Awards are made according to the responses in questionnaires addressing five areas of church life:

- Worship and teaching
- Buildings
- Land
- Community global engagement
- Lifestyle

This breakdown makes it easier to assess how our church is caring for God's earth. Advice is given as to what we can do to improve our environmental impact. I shall be attending an inter-denominational workshop later this month to gain information and to help understand the scheme in more depth.

Pauline Goodridge

Ordinations and Inductions

Lisa Wilson will be ordained and inducted to the Cumbria Partnership - to serve mainly in Carlisle and Bewcastle - in Carlisle Cathedral on Saturday 30 July at 11.00 am.

Kate Hunt will be ordained and inducted into the Cumbria Partnership and the United Area of SW Cumbria at Beacon Hill Methodist Church, Barrow-in-Furness, on Saturday 20 August at 2.00 pm.

You are very welcome to take part in either of these events. If you would like to attend, please let Revd Lis Mullen know by mid-July.

Use of the Front Room in 106

It would be helpful if all those wishing to use the Front Room in any way would notify Jenny of the date and approximate time (am or pm) when they would like sole access to the room to set it out or tidy away goods. These tasks need co-ordination and co-operation.

Read what Paul has to say to the Church in Corinth about church order and one body but many parts:
1 Corinthians: 12-31.

Pauline Goodridge



General Assembly

The United Reformed Church General Assembly takes place this year at the Hayes, Swanwick, from 8 to 11 July.

Congratulations



Mark and Neil were married recently in Kendal Unitarian Chapel. We send them both our congratulations and very best wishes for the future.



Pet Blessing Service on 21 May



The decorated Easter cross outside 106

Church Contacts

Martyn Coe (07973 359882) unitedchurch@btinternet.com
Anne Morrison (015395 60849) kurc106secretary@outlook.com
Jenny Andrews (01539 727812) kurc106ad@outlook.com
Nick Andrews (015395 61988) kurc106treasurer@outlook.com

We're on the web:

find us on Facebook and Twitter and on our website: kendalurc.org.uk