

Egremont **Methodist** Church 

www.egremontmethodist.org.uk

Find us on 

Sunday Service: 11am



Quarterly Newsletter

June - August 2019

Minister: Revd Dr Wendy Kilworth-Mason

01946 822380

wkilworthmason@gmail.com

What Ministers Do When They Are Not Leading Worship

Do you ever wonder what it is that ministers do when they're not either leading worship (or preparing services)?

Part of what fill my diary are various and sundry meetings. (They can be very time-consuming: if they happen to be District meetings they will almost always be somewhere inaccessible). Two recent meetings are, to some extent, exercising my mind: District Synod (Penrith) and the Superintendents' Conference (Thame, Oxfordshire).

I'm sure that members and friends of the Meeting Place will be pleased to hear that they have been declared Cumbria's first Church of Sanctuary. How did this come about?

As part of the agenda for Synod, I (as the only person present from Egremont) was asked to bring a good news story from the Church—the story of Sanaz and Sedigheh (incidentally, it is featured on p.13 of the Spring edition of *The Way*, so please pick up a free copy if you've not already done so).

The next item on the agenda was a presentation by Revd Dr Inderjit Bhogal, a former President of the Methodist Conference, on the City of Sanctuary movement that he established (go to www.cityofsanctuary.org), which is now looking not just for cities but for churches that will make the effort to welcome the vulnerable who have come to our country. Inderjit declared to the Synod that, having heard Egremont's story of welcoming Sanaz and Sedigheh, he was going to declare that the Meeting Place was a Church of Sanctuary. He'd like to come and make the presentation personally, so, hopefully that can be arranged for the future. (Just to warn you, we will have to fill in an application form first.)

As for the Superintendents' Conference, I have just returned therefrom. Teddy, who was a student of mine in 1987 says that he tells his wife that he's going to see his tutor! I enjoyed speaking with him and hearing of how his wife and 4 sons are faring (school or University for his wife and 3 sons, the eldest son is now launched into the world of work). I also caught up with another 2 former students from my years in the South West, (many of my students surpass me). The theme of the Conference was 'Talking of God' and it struck me that our faith, and commitment to God and the Church, was the foundation of all our conversations.

I came away from both these meetings with ideas and understandings that will filter into the life of this Circuit. Maybe meetings are not a waste of a minister's time?

Whenever we meet together in the life of the Church, may we do so in Jesus' name and to his glory.

Wendy Kilworth-Mason

Mothering Sunday Crafts and Afternoon Tea

On Saturday 30th March the building was alive with the sound of children's voices and the rattle of cups and saucers as we opened the doors for an afternoon of crafts and refreshments.



We estimate that at least 80 people responded to personal invitations and Facebook messages to come and join in the fun. The children made cards, coloured bouquets of flowers, decorated butterflies, created butterflies from clothes pegs and cake cases, painted sun

catchers, coloured key rings, fingerprinted flowers and glued mobile phone holders for their Mothers, Grans, Aunts and carers. While all that was going on the adults enjoyed an afternoon tea of sandwiches, cream scones and cakes.

All the helpers were kept extremely busy working at the craft tables and there was a constant queue at the hatch for afternoon teas. For many who come the craft afternoons are their only contact with the church and yet when they arrive they immediately feel very much at home settling to talk with friends as the children move around the different activities. Then, at the end people help clear tables and want to do anything else they can to help. There are always questions as to when the next event will be and the speed with which the invitations are shared on social media is amazing.



These sessions are certainly hard work to prepare for and deliver but are obviously very much appreciated and very well supported. Thank you to all who give of their time and energy to make the craft afternoons possible and to all who come and support them.

Until the next one...

Gillian Bounds



Quiz Night

Our Quiz Night with Pie, Peas and Puddings on Saturday 16 February was another very successful event. It has become a regular feature on our church calendar and is enjoyed by people from around the Circuit – 8 from Seascale! – as well as friends and neighbours and some whose organizations meet in our hall.



We have had to restrict numbers because of space, but each time the evening is a sell-out and all 60 tickets are sold. Everyone chips in with the food. We buy the meat and potato pie which makes life a lot easier than when we used to do all the cooking ourselves and even offer a main course choice! We cook the peas and make the gravy ourselves and everyone who can, supplies a pudding.

The selection of wonderful puddings is astonishing. Katie and Alistair are Quizmasters and 'Techies' and the rest of our members both men and women, work hard getting the food dished out and then clearing away afterwards. All this is very good fun.

The icing on the cake is the money raised for the Circuit Charity. This year we raised £491.50 for Hospice at Home. If you have never been to our Quiz Night, do give it a try. It's all very light-hearted and 'unserious'. Mind you, remember to get your ticket early – they are at a premium!

Linda McDevitte

Edna Jenkinson and Palm Sunday

My Mam, Edna Jenkinson, wanted me to ask if you could pass on thanks to all the congregation for such love and kindness shown to her at the service on Palm Sunday. Because of ill-health she is an infrequent visitor to chapel these days, but she made a huge effort to get there as it was her birthday that day and she was also born on Palm Sunday in 1935. Palm Sunday was also her late sister's birthday that day and last weekend also marked the anniversary of the deaths of both her Mam and Dad (exactly 10 years apart) and also Edna's and her late brother's wedding anniversaries.

To cap a very emotional day, the minister then mentioned MAYC weekends in London which brings back very special memories for Mam (and me also) dating back more than 40 years.

Mark Jenkinson

Walk with the Cross – Egremont and District Churches Together

In 1979 representatives from eleven churches in the Egremont and surrounding area got together to do things ecumenically. They formed what is now Egremont and District Churches Together. One activity they planned was to invite people from all these churches to perform walks of Christian witness during five days of Holy Week following a large cross carried from one of the churches to another. This started on Palm Sunday 1980, continuing on the Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Good Friday. Since then this has continued every year, so when it processed into Egremont Methodist church this Good Friday it completed forty uninterrupted years – 200 separate walks.



This year the five walks covered the southern end of the group, starting at Egremont Parish Church, on to Thornhill Mission, St John's Beckermest, Calderbridge and Haile before arriving at Egremont Methodist. It is not possible to visit every church every year: those not walked to this year were Egremont St Mary's Roman Catholic, Emmanuel at Moor Row, St John's Bigrigg, St Bees Priory and St Bees Methodist. On Palm Sunday and Good Friday over twenty people took part – a

few less on the weekdays due to other commitments. With all of us growing older the combined total age of those walking has probably not decreased with time – this year several people were over 80. One 85 year old and one 91 year old walked every step of the way every day - well done to those two especially. We will resume next Palm Sunday at 3pm from The Meeting Place (Egremont Methodist church) and hope to have another good turnout.

Doug McDevitte



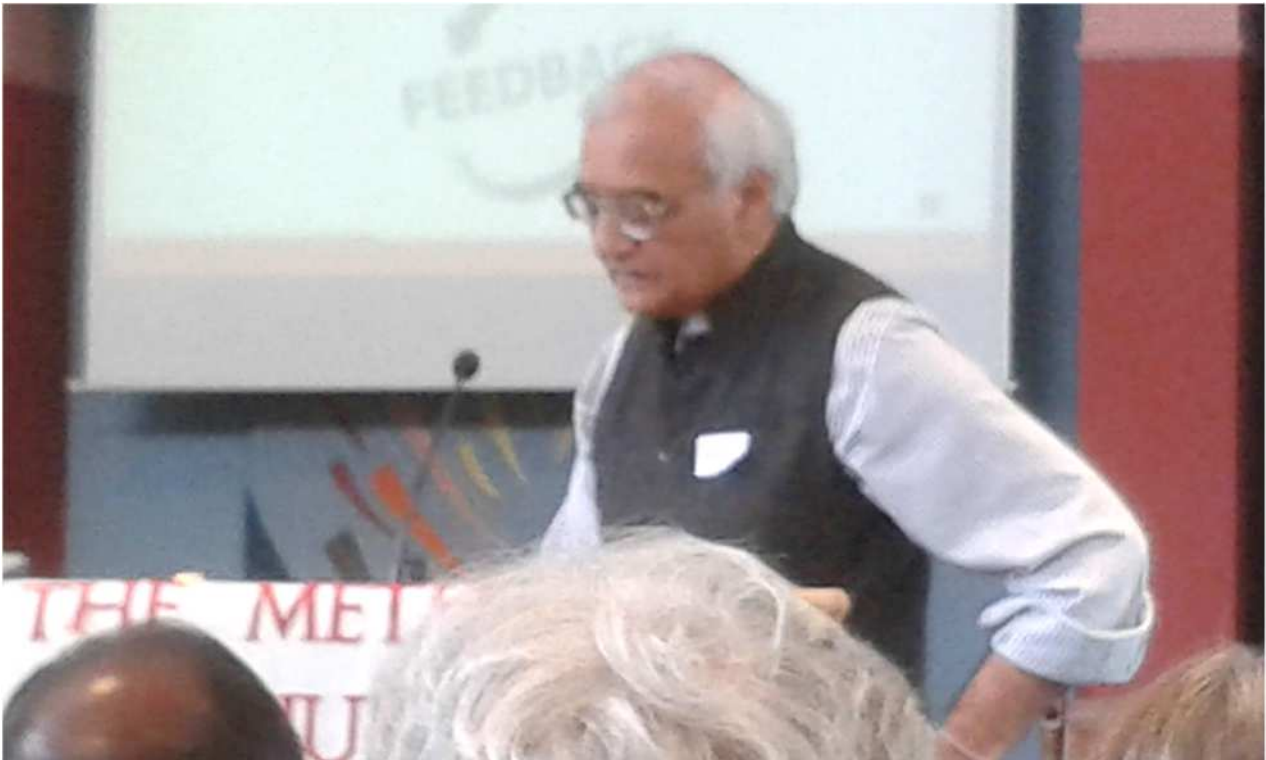
Gift Day

A big thank you to everyone who has contributed so generously to our funds towards employing a Church Outreach Worker. £13,414 new money has been donated or pledged (including Gift Aid) which is a fantastic sum.

If anyone has not yet had the opportunity to contribute, but would like to do so, please put an envelope into the collection marked Outreach Worker, or contact Katie Bell (tel. 693298).

Katie Bell

Egremont Methodist Church – Church of Sanctuary



Rev Dr Inderjit Bhogal, leading Theologian and former President of Conference speaking to the Cumbria May Synod at Penrith Methodist Church.

Inderjit, who is founder and President of the City of Sanctuary movement, spoke to the meeting about churches being places of sanctuary. The objective of the City of Sanctuary movement is to create a culture of welcome and hospitality for those seeking sanctuary. Sheffield was the first city to achieve City of Sanctuary status.

His talk prepared us for workshops where we considered “Can your Church be a Church of Sanctuary?”

I was in a group led by Deacon Maggie Patchett who is Chaplain to workers in the tourist industry who come from many places to work in the Lake District.

As part of the theme of the day, Rev Dr Wendy Kilworth-Mason talked about the welcome and support that the Egremont congregation had given to two ladies who had arrived from Iran.

Their story was recently told in Cumbria’s The Way magazine

After hearing this story, Inderjit announced that he would like to award the Egremont congregation with the status of being a Church of Sanctuary.

Additional Information taken from www.inderjitbhogal.com.

Jackie Davies

PS Jackie also wanted to say ‘Well Done’ to everyone at church for this award from her and many others who were at Synod.

Highlights of the Annual General Meeting

The 2019 AGM took place on Sunday 5 May in The Meeting Place.

We noted that St Bees Methodist Church is closing, with a final service in September. The current intention of the members there is to all come to Egremont, so we should give them a warm Egremont welcome.

The amount raised at the Gift Day (see separate article) was announced and greeted with pleasant surprise. The Mission subgroup are taking steps towards recruiting an outreach worker based in our church.

There was a discussion about the relationship between our church and the circuit leadership team, which is currently not as good as it should be.

We heard some positive comments that had been made by people who aren't church members about our church and about The Meeting Place.

Full minutes of the AGM are available from Jean Millie.

Alec Bounds

Farewell to Castle Mount Residential Home

I have represented our Church at Castle Mount for over fifty years. Initially it was in 1964 that the three Churches in Egremont served afternoon tea on a three-monthly rotating basis. This was much appreciated by the residents to see different faces and talk to the volunteers. Over the years I have visited many of our own church members who were resident there and I was always made welcome. We did a service with holy communion, the first and third Monday of the month, and we got to know quite a few of the residents well. I am sure this meant a lot to them as it was obvious that many of them had a church background.



Because of a move to the new premises in Hensingham, over the last few months the numbers have gradually gone down and latterly at our last service on Monday 6th May we only had two of our regular attenders. This was a sad time for us all when we said our fond farewells and wished them all the very best in their move to the new home. We hope they will be as happy there as they have been in Castle Mount where they received good care.

Margaret Hargreaves

Outreach Worker Update

With the Gift Day, and with our grant application to the Henry Smith Charity due to be decided in June, we will hopefully have the funding in place to advertise the post in the summer.

The current work involves finalising the job description ready to advertise and the more boring but no less important task of pulling together all the various policies that make up the terms and conditions of employment. Once all that is in place we will be down to prayer that the right person for the role can be found, and everyone can help with that!

Alistair Bell

Big Brekkie for Christian Aid

On Saturday 12th May Alistair and Katie arrived at The Meeting Place at 7am with 8 big bags of shopping. Along with Gillian and Alec, they put out posters, blew up balloons, and set out tables with a big breakfast buffet banquet. This was our Big Brekkie for Christian Aid.



Before 8am, the first guests were arriving. Wearing Linda's flowery apron, Alistair got to work grilling bacon, frying eggs and heating beans, while Katie cooked and tossed a pile of pancakes. There was cereal, fruit juice, yoghurt, fresh fruit, dried fruit, croissants, grapefruit, pains au chocolat, and bread for toasting with jam, marmalade and honey. Tea and coffee were poured, and many plates

of cooked breakfasts and bacon butties made their way through the hatch and onto the tables where hungry guests were waiting.

Eating and conversations continued. By 9.30am, appetites were satisfied, the dishwasher was busy, and donations to Christian Aid filled the collecting box. Everything was provided without charge so that people could donate whatever they wished. A total of £225 was raised to help Christian Aid fight global poverty.

At the same time, we were also helping farmers and workers in developing countries by supporting Fairtrade. The muesli, bananas, tea, coffee, sugar, marmalade and honey were all Fairtrade certified.

Thank you to everyone who supported the event, see you next time!

Katie Bell



Pentecost Praise



Organised by Churches Together, this is planned to be an informal cafe-style service, led by Duncan Jackson on the theme of Clouds, and the Scouts have volunteered to serve the refreshments during the service.

Katie Bell

June Picnic

On the 5th Sunday in December we had an evening of Christmas nibbles and games in The Meeting Place. On the 5th Sunday in March Keith and Jill Hudson, along with Phoenix Praise, taught us some new songs for Passiontide and Easter. Keith then brought those new worship songs together in a short and moving service. So what for the 5th Sunday in June?

The details are yet to be sorted but we are planning on a church picnic down at St Bees. At this time I would suggest we meet down at St Bees car park at 5pm, have a walk along the shore or sit in the sun (hopefully) or if there are any younger ones amongst us play on the play park and then share our picnics together. Perhaps we should all bring our own food rather than having a bring and share tea and then some willing runners could be sent off for some ice creams? How does that sound? If it is raining we could improvise either at The Meeting Place or in St Bees Church. At the moment the main thing is to save the date and share any ideas you may have.

Gillian Bounds

From the Editor

Thank you to all those who have submitted articles for this bumper edition.

Articles do not necessarily represent the official views of Egremont Methodist Church.

The deadline for the next newsletter is Sunday 11 August, but feel free to give me an article now. My email address is boundsuk@gmail.com.

Alec Bounds

Egremont Methodist Church Dates

Regular events

Thursdays during school term time, 7-30pm: **Open House Fellowship** at Emmaus, Wodow Rd, Thornhill. Includes worship, discussion of text in the Bible, refreshments, prayer. Phone Alec or Gillian Bounds, 01946 823659.

Saturdays, 10am – 12 noon, **Coffee Morning** at The Meeting Place.

The Meeting Place is used by several community groups during the week – see the poster on the Information board in the Meeting Place.

Other church events in June, July and August

Sunday 2 June, 11am, **Sunday service led by Keith Hudson** at The Meeting Place.

Sunday 9 June, 11am, **Sunday service led by Barbara Hunter** at The Meeting Place.

Sunday 9 June, 3pm, **Pentecost Praise** in Egremont Market Hall.

Sunday 16 June, 11am, **Sunday service led by Jean Millie** at The Meeting Place.

Sunday 23 June, 11am, **Sunday service led by Doug McDevitte** at The Meeting Place.

Sunday 30 June, 11am, **Sunday service led by Tori Jones** at The Meeting Place.

Sunday 30 June, 5pm, **Picnic (5th Sunday event)**, meet at St Bees car park.

Tuesday 2 July, 7-30pm, **Mission Meeting** at Emmaus, Thornhill.

Sunday 7 July, 10am, **Circuit Service led by Richard Teal and Wendy Kilworth-Mason** at Seascale Methodist Church.

Saturday 13 July, 4pm, **Richard Teal's leaving service** at Penrith Methodist Church.

Sunday 14 July, 11am, **Sunday service led by Martyn Evans** at The Meeting Place.

Sunday 21 July, 11am, **Sunday service led by Wendy Kilworth-Mason** at The Meeting Place.

Sunday 28 July, 11am, **Sunday service led by Lilian Dixon** at The Meeting Place.

Saturdays in August, 10am, **Coffee Mornings in the Parish Church Hall**, not in The Meeting Place.

Sunday 4 August, 11am, **Sunday service led by Jackie Davies** at The Meeting Place.

Sunday 11 August, 11am, **Sunday service led by Tori Jones** at The Meeting Place.

Sunday 11 August, **Deadline for articles for the next newsletter.**

Sunday 18 August, 11am, **Sunday service led by Jean Millie** at The Meeting Place.

Sunday 25 August, 11am, **Sunday service with Holy Communion led by David Hasson** at The Meeting Place.

Saturday 31 August, 7pm, **Welcome Service for James Tebbutt, new Chair of the Cumbria District** at Penrith Methodist Church.

Future Dates

Sunday 1 September, 3pm, **Welcome Service for Rev Paul and Deacon Kina Saunders** at Lorton St Methodist Church, Cockermouth.