

CHURCH SERVICES IN MAY & JUNE

MAY

Sun 1st	10.15am Cranstoun
	4.30pm Fellowship Evening in North Middleton Village Hall
Weds 4th	2.00pm Midweek Service at Fala
Sun 8th	10.15am Family Celebration in North Middleton Village Hall
	7.30pm Evening Communion in Fala
Sun 15th	10.15am Fala
Sun 22nd	10.15am Cranstoun
Sun 29th	10.15am North Middleton Village Hall
	4.00pm Messy Church in Pathhead Village Hall

JUNE

Weds 1st	2.00pm Midweek Service at Fala
Sun 5th	10.15am Cranstoun
	4.30pm Fellowship Evening in North Middleton Village Hall
Sun 12th	10.15am Family Celebration in North Middleton Village Hall
	7.30pm Evening Communion in North Middleton Village Hall
Sun 19th	10.15am Cranstoun
Sun 26th	10.15am Communion in Crichton led by Rev Dale London
	4.00pm Messy Church in North Middleton Village Hall

Are you a friend? Why not become a friend of the TVP Facebook page and better still tell your friends. As well as alerts about what is happening in Tyne Valley Parish Church there are also frequent posts with Christian content to stimulate your mind. There is also a special Messy Church Facebook page, which you can request to join.

TVP Monthly Newsletter and Web Pages We aim to bring you in the TVP Newsletter the latest news of what is happening in your local church, but it is only as good as the news that Julia Baker receives from members. Do you have some news of events to share? If you get it to Julia by the 20th of the month it really helps her to produce a lively newsletter.

Also Sana Forrest is pleased to get items to keep the Web pages fresh and relevant. You can email her on sforrest.edin@gmail.com It also helps if you spot any mistakes to let her know. The web pages are only as good as the information that she receives, although she does create a lot of content herself.

Thank you to everyone who helps in every type of communication.

Pastoral Care

Contact: Rev Dale K London Tel: 01875 321329 email: dlondon1144@hotmail.com
or Aileen Blackwood, Pastoral Care Team Co-ordinator
Tel: 01875 320744 email: chesterhill44@gmail.com



MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

For the longest time I have been convinced that Christianity is not so much about church as it is about relationship. Granted, the most apparent and obvious function of our church is our weekly gathering to worship the Lord. But I submit that this is possible solely because we have built or are in the process of building a solid relationship with God and with each other. A good illustration of this can be found in Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4: 1-26). I invite you to read it and then consider the rest of my message. Biblegateway.com is a good place to start... Go ahead. I'll wait.

In that encounter, Jesus outlines to the woman her own failed relationships. She's had five husbands and now she's living with a man she hasn't married. She has tried to meet her relational needs by repeatedly going to human sources rather than the Divine source. As a result she's crashed five marriages, is now living adulterously, and is so shunned by her community that she has to go to the well alone to draw water. No woman in the village will go with her, despite the fact that going alone is terribly dangerous. It was Jesus at the well that day but it could have been any manner of man she met.

Jesus discusses this with her in the context of water drawn either from the physical well where they met or from the Living God. He says, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." (John 4:13-14)

Jesus is not speaking of physical water – he's speaking about relationship. And that is what I believe we as a church need to be about: building a relationship with Jesus. This should naturally flow over into our relationships with each other and the Love of God will guide and nurture us. As we pass from the season of Easter into the Season of Pentecost, which will start in a few weeks, let us make every effort to bring Jesus into our interactions with each other; remembering the command Jesus gave to the apostles: 'A new command I give you: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.' (John 13:34-35)

God bless you. Rev Dale London



UKRAINE APPEAL

During the period of Lent, leading up to Easter, there have been collections in TVP for Ukraine. Money has been donated at the Sunday Morning Services, and at TVP events, and the total raised has exceeded £900. In addition, there has been a collection tin in the Post Office and this has raised nearly £170.

The money raised in TVP will be match-funded from church funds. In addition we will be able to claim Gift Aid, which will bring our total to over £2000. This is a fantastic sum of money which will go to the Disaster Emergency Committee.

Though our appeal here in TVP has come to an end, the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine is ongoing, and will continue for months and years to come. Please continue to donate in whatever way you can.

Thank you.



Pray for the country of Ukraine.

Ukraine 23

God is our boon companion,
we are never alone.
placing strollers and prams
at the train stations,
for mothers and children,
setting up tents,
handing out hot coffee for weary adults
and stuffed animals for kids,
holding their hands as
they continue on that
unknown path to hope.



Even if we walk rubble-strewn streets
or ride on crammed trains,
we don't need to fear,
for God is with us,
cradling a crying baby,
comforting a weary mother,
singing songs in a familiar language.

Taking the bounty of donations
from all over the world,
using kitchens thrown up
by unpaid helpers and friends,
you feed folks around the clock,
even offering hot tea and sandwiches
to those who are in a strange land
themselves.

We are baptized by the tears
of strangers, even as we
drench them with ours.
without a doubt,
peace and justice will not
stop being friends with us
until they help us to find
our way back home.

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Iona Community

EASTER at TVP

We are lucky to have such talent in TVP to lead our Easter services this year!

The Maundy Thursday Meal was hosted by Rev John Hunter from Ormiston and Rev June Johnson and followed a Christian Passover Seder, which took us through the elements of a passover meal in the Jewish tradition. We had salted parsley, bitter herbs, sweet haroseth, red juice and matzoh. Our catering team did not let us starve and we also had shepherd's pie and some sumptuous sweets. Our friends from St Mary's Church in Pathhead joined us and we had a great evening of fellowship and friendship.

Thank you to all concerned.

Easter Hope in North Middleton was held on Good Friday afternoon, and 45 people enjoyed a trail around the park, crafts in the hall and some hospitality. Louise led a short service at the end with the theme of the hope of Easter and everyone helped to decorate a cross with blue ribbons and yellow flowers to remember the crucifixion of Christ and the suffering of the people of Ukraine. It was displayed outside the village hall over Easter weekend. The West Area Team organised the event, but



Sunrise Service at Soutra Aisle For some of us Easter Sunday began at 7.00am at the top of Soutra Hill where a short service was led by Allister Crompton, ably assisted by Christine, and followed by delicious bacon rolls in Fala Session House provided by Jenny and Colin Grahame. It was a beautiful sunny morning and well worth the effort of getting up that bit earlier!

Easter Morning Service in Cranstoun

Our main Easter Service was at 10.15am and led by Ray Christie, standing in at short notice for Catherine Leitch who had caught Covid! It was well attended by about 60 folk, including some of our young families. All agreed it was a great service with an amazing atmosphere.



TVP Future Vision 2022

We have held conversations with members before Easter at two different times to accommodate those who are working or have children at the weekends. 28 people attended. Both meetings came up with a wide variety of opinions and ideas, and these are currently being organised into a format which we hope will aid the second part of our discussions. We will be holding further sessions in May to decide what our priorities should be. Please feel free to come along even if you didn't make the first sessions. The results of the conversations and the survey will be circulated to all who submitted thoughts, but you can still request a copy if you are interested.