

Dear Friends

Autumn is well established now with the leaves falling rapidly, changing the landscape and our perspectives.

Do we just see the absence of the lush growth on plants and shrubs, or do we see that their barrenness reveals intricate structures and interconnectedness.



Do we dread the damp and dark of winter days and nights or do we rejoice in the incredible array of fungi, beech nuts, acorns and bright shiny conkers that cover the ground. The berries that deepen in colour, ready to ripen and provide food for the birds and other creatures.

Do we see the fallen leaves as an end to summer glory or do we see the glorious technicolour carpet they make for us to walk upon. And who doesn't enjoy kicking up leaves when no one is

looking!!!

Do we see the dark nights, offering the opportunity to curl up under a duvet, perhaps with a hot water bottle and enjoy a good book, film or catch up on writing to family and friends. The opportunity for quiet and prayer time, a time to study and reflect upon God's word. Or do we long for Spring.

How we view any aspect of our lives depends upon our perspective – a glass half full or half empty or as some would see it a glass that needs refilled! But more importantly we need to see ourselves, other people and the world from God's perspective.

As the church's New Year begins with Advent – let us pray to be given God's perspective and God's hope now, in the New Year and into our future.

Dear Lord,

Give me a new perspective and blow away the cobwebs that keep cluttering my mind and my vision. Every time I'm tempted to become discouraged or depressed because of negative events or situations, help me turn my eyes on you. Help me to remember all the times you've been there for me, and all the ways you have brought me through difficult times. I forget to thank you sometimes, but I am so grateful for your faithfulness.

When things look hopeless, I will hope in you. You died to give us hope, not only eternally, so we could live forever with you, forgiven and free. But you also provide a way daily for us to live above the cares of this world. Thank you for understanding me and loving me, just as I am.

And thank you for accepting me even when I was a hopeless case—just as we all were at one time. Perfect people in a perfect world would have no need of your gift of hope. With my eyes on you, I want to see life as you see it. I don't want to waste time being negative or withdrawn from others, focusing only on what can't be or what might never change. Teach me how to find contentment even if my circumstances remain the same. With your perspective, I can push past the impossible and find the strength and courage to believe that no matter what happens, your hope will lift me to a higher plane—where joy and purpose reign again.

Amen.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 13th November – 10 am Mitford and 11 am Hebron

Christian Aid Ceilidh

Saturday 19th November – 7.30 pm St George's Church Morpeth (see later in the Newsletter for further details)

Service of Worship and Fellowship

Thursday 24th November – 2 pm Hebron Church – Preparing for Advent

This is primarily for our older members of the church family who find it difficult to access an early morning service, but of course all are welcome. The service will be followed by a short time of fellowship.

Music with Phoenix Folk

Saturday 26th November – Hebron Church (see later in the Newsletter for further details)

Licensing Service

Monday 28th November – 7.30 pm Hartburn Church (see later in the Newsletter for further details)

SERVICES

Sunday 13th November – Remembrance Sunday

Services will be held at both Mitford Church – 10 am and Hebron Church 11 am.

Licensing Service

Reverend Elaine Jones will be licensed by the Bishop of Berwick on Monday 28 November at 7.30 pm in Hartburn Church. (Refreshments will be served after the service)

Elaine will be appointed as Priest in Charge to both our benefice and to the group of Upper Wansbeck parishes to the west of us. Andy, her husband and Elaine will reside in the vicarage at Mitford.

Everyone is welcome to attend the service but in view of limited car parking at Hartburn **please car share where possible.**

Please continue to pray for Elaine and Andy as they prepare to join our church family.



Christmas Craft Fair – Saturday 5th November 10- 2

17 Abbeygate Kirkhill

The steady and incessant rain of the day did not deter a stream of eager visitors to the Fugill home. Once inside they received a warm welcome, together with a warm cuppa and the opportunity to browse, purchase and catch up with friends as well as making new acquaintances. The house echoed to the chatter of people reconnecting and sharing. After an absence of two years, it was a delight to be able to meet again. It would

appear that people really appreciated this opportunity, and this was evidenced in their incredible generosity. At the end of the day, we counted just under £1000, (with a few still to pay their debts!).

What remained was taken to the Stable Room on Sunday morning and those who had not been able to attend had the chance to snap up a bargain or two.

The final total is yet to be established and we will hopefully be able to advise you of this in the next Newsletter. The amount raised will be divided between our



partners, Childrens Vision, WERS and Wansbeck Valley Food Bank.

We can however advise the Raffle Prize winners are as below.

Prize Number	Prize	Ticket Number	Prize Winner
1	Hamper	20	Janice Robinson
2	Quilt	67	Jan Wicoxson
3	Picture	156	Sheila Rowley
4	Picture	58	Clive & Anna Caisley
5	Cushion	112	Sue Marshall
6	Chocolates	153	Jackie Gebhard
7	Shortbread	175	Helen McCabe
8	Chocolate Biscuits	19	Janice Robinson
9	Wine	140	Janet Robinson
10	Wine/Beer	159	Sheila Rowley
11	Candle	64	Sue Mathieson
12	Preserve Selection	98	Pete Cryer
13	Chocolates	133	Margaret Oliver
14	Plant	9	Lesley Robson



With many many thanks to all who came and spent their money so generously.

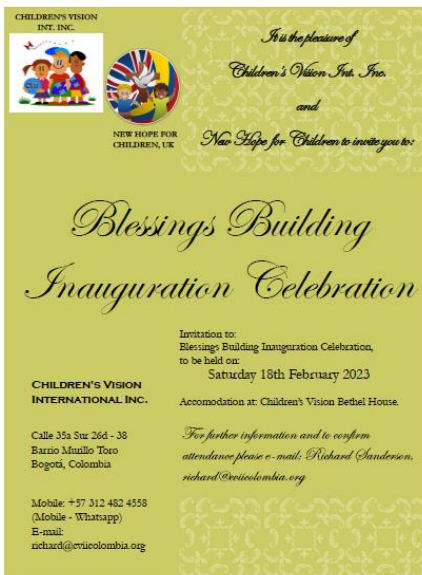
Thanks to the crafters who contributed to the sale in addition to Linda and Sheila, namely and in no particular order.

- Margaret Burnell
- Jane Massey
- Ann Attwood
- Wendy Laverick
- Liz Hawkins

Lastly and not least thanks to Sean and Linda Fugill for throwing their home open and hosting the event.

News from our Mission Partners

Children's Vision



We have received this invitation. While we are sure some people would love to be able to visit and see the work of Richard and Janine at first hand, it is not practical or possible. However, we can keep them in our prayers and note the special date in the life and development of their mission.

ANNA CHAPLAINCY BLOG

Anna Chaplaincy News



Remembrance



Poppies will be displayed on the gates at both Mitford and Hebron. There will be a place for people to place their own poppies in both churchyards. There will also be a peace tree in both churches for people to place a prayer for peace. White poppies and doves will be provided.

Advent

The Fellowship service on 24th November will focus on preparing for Advent – all are welcome.

Memory Garden

Thank you to Malcolm Thompson (and other members of the Church Yard Group) for all the hard work in preparing the ground. Also, a big thank you to those who have already supplied spring flowering bulbs. If you would like to donate more or provide a rose bush, please contact Janice.



Home Communion

Please let us know if you require a Home Communion.

Janice and Mary

PASTORAL CARE

“A new commandment I give unto you that you love one another as I have loved you”

We must indeed care for each other as he commands us.
If you need help, support, advice, or prayer, or know someone who does.

PLEASE know that you can contact the Pastoral Care Team.

Dick Quinby 07960792198

Mary Dowswell 07890269028



FAMILY NEWS

Baptisms

Theo Hadden

Theo, a recent addition to the Mitford community, was baptised at St Mary Magdalene on 9th October. As you can see from the photograph, he very much enjoyed the event and was quite vocal and lively in his appreciation. He was joined and supported by his family and friends, who all enjoyed and appreciated the service. Theo left the church with his memory box and continued to enjoy his special day.



Thank you and goodbye to.....

Barbara Gibson – Barbara Gibson was a member of the church family for many years.

She had a strong faith which sustained her throughout her life, she knew the light of Christ accompanied her in every circumstance. She struggled for a long term with her MS which resulted in her losing her ability to walk and yet she found life in a wheelchair did not prevent her from accessing the places she wanted to go, from art galleries, music events at the Sage and on holiday. Her strength of character and positive attitude was an inspiration to all who knew her, even in the dark times when she lost her beloved Tony and found herself more and more limited in being able to do what she enjoyed. She loved a good debate about theological matters and had a special affinity with the Gospel of John and it was so apt that the reading at her funeral was the first chapters of this book. Barbara knew she was going home at the end of her earthly life, so we say rest in peace Barbara and rise in glory.

Leslie Ford (1924-2022)

Leslie died one day before Queen Elizabeth. She was just over a year older than the queen. At Leslie's funeral I spoke words that are equally appropriate for both women:

"She was always there, throughout our lives. Present at all our celebrations and comings together. She was a sign of continuity and steadfast love in all the challenges and changes of our lives. Now she is gone and we miss her." Leslie was not a public figure but, in her family, and amongst her friends was deeply loved.

A formidable and forthright former Head Almoner in Newcastle, she was also devoted to every member of her ever-increasing family. I remember her hospitality when visiting her husband Eric in Rectory Park, shortly before his death, and on many family occasions thereafter. I also remember her appreciation of the Alpha Course she attended in my early days as Vicar of Mitford: how the love of God, whom she had always trusted, became closer and more personal for her. We welcomed her family at Mitford for many, many special occasions: family baptisms, weddings, funerals and more. As Leslie became less mobile in her latter years she moved into Silvas Court in Morpeth but never stopped welcoming family and friends. At her funeral and in the celebration afterwards she continued to unite and inspire us to be "looking forward not back", giving thanks and trusting the promises of Jesus not just for the past but for the future too.

Contributed by David Mayhew who presided at Leslie's funeral.

Bryan Davison – A service of Thanksgiving will be held at Mitford Church on Monday 7th November following a private cremation. Bryan, a resident of Tritlington, had a long active life – keen sportsman/lover of the natural world, sailor and much-loved member of Morpeth Pantomime Society. We pray for Annette and all his family.

Hazel Brown – her funeral was held at Bockenfield Crematorium on 26th October. Hazel and Malcolm having been involved in the hospitality trade for many years in Seahouses eventually made their way towards retirement in the parish. She was well known in the community and well recognized on the school run behind the wheel of her red sportscar as she performed her Grandma duties. Hazel was first and foremost dedicated to Malcolm and her family and her untimely death come as a huge loss to all.

Brian Priestley - his funeral and service of celebration was held at Mitford church 4th November. For all their married life Brian and Mary have lived in the Morpeth area. Brian, a former teacher was well known and widely respected in the community and beyond. Brian always ranked family and friendship among his top priorities followed by sport, the natural world, music and his faith. With an irrepressible nature combined with a larger than life personality he put his fine tenor voice to very good use, entertaining people and singing the praises of his saviour.

Above all he possessed a caring - generous and hospitable nature as many of his friends will testify. He had the ability to relate to people across a broad spectrum of background and ages and this was clearly evidenced by the people who attended his funeral. All with a tale to tell and a smile on their face as they recounted these.

We will all greatly miss Brian and convey our thoughts and prayers to Mary and their family.

HELPFUL ADVICE FROM ROGER BAGNALL

Book Search

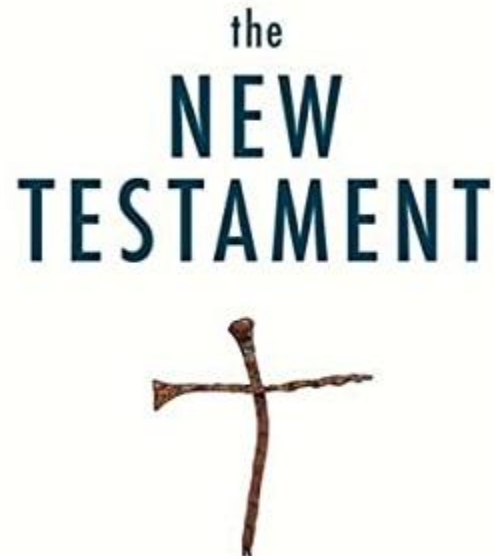
Do you ever have trouble finding your way round the Bible? Wondered if Corinthians comes before or after Thesalonians? Where on earth does Titus hide itself? Where can I find 2 John? If you do, there's help available – at least for the New Testament! So, if you like, sit up, and pay attention in the back row. Here goes!

I assume that everyone knows that the New Testament starts with the four Gospels – 'MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE and JOHN, /Bless the bed that I lie on' - and that REVELATION (not Revelations!) is the last book of the New Testament, and therefore of the whole Bible.

After the Gospels (the 'Good News') comes ACTS – the Acts of the Apostles. It might help to think of the Gospels as the 'Acts of Jesus' and Acts as the 'Acts of the Infant Church', or ' Acts of the Holy Spirit' one naturally follows the other.

Now it might come as a surprise, but all the other books in the NT (other than Revelation) are letters, or Epistles, to give them their posh name. Some of those letters were written by Paul, and some weren't. I think that will be easy to grasp! Fortunately, all the letters written by Paul are grouped together. It follows that all the ones not written by Paul are also grouped together and are placed after those by Paul. Now there's one letter, that to the HEBREWS, and no-one knows by whom it was written. It was probably Paul, but there are other possibilities, and no-one is certain. It seems very logical, therefore, that Hebrews is placed between the Paul group and the 'others' group of letters, to separate the two.

Of the 'Paul' group, the longest, and arguably the most theologically significant letter, is that to the ROMANS, AND equally long are the two letters to the Corinthians -1 CORINTHIANS and 2 CORINTHIANS. Acts, Romans, Corinthians - ARC, if that helps you remember the order.



Then come the letters to the Churches – Galatia (an area in the middle part of modern Turkey with churches in a number of places, e.g. Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, Derbe), Ephesus (an important sea port on the western coast of Turkey, although now, due to silting of the river, some six or so miles inland), Philippi, a Roman colony in the North Eastern corner of Greece, where the first Christian Church in Europe was formed, Colossae, also in modern Turkey, but in biblical Asia, (not the same as our understanding of Asia; it was between Galatia and the western coast), and Thessalonica (stress on the ‘ni’, not the ‘lon’!), again in the North East corner of Greece, but West of Philippi.

The biblical books are named, not after the towns or cities, but after their inhabitants, and the order in which they come can be easily remembered because their vowels are conveniently in alphabetical order – a e i o u; GALATIANS, EPHESIANS, PHILIPPIANS, COLOSSSIANS AND THUSSALONIANS; (sorry about that one!) Paul wrote two letters to the Thessalonians, so 1 Thessalonians and 2 Thessalonians. (The Galatians, by the way, were a Celtic nation, so they would have been related to the ancient Britons who became the Cornishmen, the Bretons in France, and the Welsh nation.)

Paul also wrote four personal letters, but only to three different people – Timothy, Titus and Philemon. Again, there’s a help available. We finished the Church letters with Thessalonians, which begins with a T, and so do the next three, and they are all again in alphabetical order – but the whole name, not the vowels. THESALONIANS, (1 and 2), TIMOTHY (1 and 2) and TITUS; TH, Tim, Tit. PHILEMON is a tiny little very personal letter and is tucked away at the end of the list. You just have to remember that it is there, and that it was written by Paul.

Then we come to the divide – the anonymous letter, HEBREWS, and then seven more letters, written by four different people – Peter wrote two and John wrote three. But we are back to vowels again – a e i o u , except there is no i this time.

There’s not much rhyme or reason in the order of the NT books; if anything, they’re listed by length - long to short – and the order we have wasn’t really fixed until the Bible started to be printed rather than copied out by hand. It’s probably fortuitous rather than by design that we are able to use this helpful vowel aide memoire, but once again, A – JAMES; E - 1 PETER & 2 PETER; O - 1 JOHN, 2 JOHN & 3 JOHN ; U – JUDE. And then REVELATION finishes everything off.

I’ve found these hints to be of use for many years, and I hope that you will find them of use as well as you search the Scriptures

Matthew, Mark, Luke, John /Acts, Romans, Corinthians /Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians

Bless the bed, etc / ARC / A E I O

Thussalonians: Timothy, Titus, /Philemon, /Hebrews /James, Peter, John, Jude /Revelation.

U \ Th TIM TIT / Little one /Unknown/ A E O U / The End

Hints for the Old Testament books are harder to come by, but I’ll try to give a few next time!

ADVICE FROM THE CHURCH ECO GROUP



Eco tip for the month



REDUCE and REUSE your plastic bottles rather than recycling. Recycling uses energy and is often transported many miles to be recycled.

HOW?

- Use your own water bottle or flask and don't buy water in plastic bottles.
- Refill your cleaning bottles with eco friendly products at The Market Place shop in Morpeth.
- Ask your milkman to deliver your milk in glass bottles.
- Buy food in glass bottles/jars instead e.g. mayonnaise.
- If you must use plastic bottles, reuse or recycle them.

We hope to put an "Eco tip" in the newsletter each month. Hope these are helpful and give you food for thought.

The Church Eco Group (Janet, Lutz and Ann)

SOCIAL EVENTS

CHRISTIAN AID CEILIDH



Tickets available from Carol Napper

07732223117

HEBRON VILLAGE ASSOCIATION EVENTS

Saturday 26th November “Music with Phoenix Folk”

DIOCESAN AND DEANERY NEWS

New Bishop Helen-Ann Hartley who will take up her position in early January - there will be a service in the Cathedral - details to follow.

Farewell service for **Geoff Miller**, Dean of the Cathedral on Sunday 20th November 4pm in the Cathedral - everyone welcome.

Morpeth Deanery News - There will be a Deanery Healing Service on Wednesday 9th November 7pm in St. John's Church, Seaton Hirst - everyone welcome.

CONTACT DETAILS

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Sunday Service Pattern

The ministry team have ensured our services of worship have been maintained during the time of vacancy and appreciate very much the support and prayers of the church family in all they do.

The team have recently met and planned a pattern of services up until Christmas; however, all our services are subject to change once our new Priest In Charge comes into post.

Sunday	Service
Sunday 1	9.30 am Morning Praise and Holy Communion MITFORD
Sunday 2	9.30 am Morning Praise MITFORD 11.00 am Contemplative Worship HEBRON
Sunday 3	9.30 am Morning Praise MITFORD
Sunday 4	9.30 am Café Church HEBRON* 9.30 am BCP Service MITFORD
Sunday 5	9.30 am Morning Praise MITFORD

*Café Church – Breakfast at 9.15 sharp for worship at 9.30 am. A family friendly informal style of worship.

Service Times in the West

Date	Location	Service	Time
November 13 th Remembrance	Hartburn – please meet at 10.45 at the War Memorial		
November 20 th	Netherwitton	Holy Communion	10.30 am
November 27 th	Bolam	Holy Communion	10.30 am
December Services	To Be Confirmed		