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December, 2017

Dear friends,

My Dad was a genius at cryptic crosswords and had an extraordinary gift for numbers. I too love number and word puzzles but am not so good when it comes to cryptic ones!

Acrostic poems and puzzles are an ancient literary device in which the first letter of each line spells out a word or phrase. Acrostics were used in the Bible's Old Testament particularly in the Psalms and remain today a useful way of remembering something important.

The most famous acrostic used in the church is **ICHTHUS** which in Greek means 'fish', but also uses the initial Greek letters to spell out 'Jesus Christ, Son of God, Saviour'.

Below is a Christmas Acrostic I have found particularly helpful:

Celebrating Christ's birth
Hope for the world
Reconciliation and peace between peoples and nations
Immanuel, God with us
Sharing the Good News of God's love for the world
Thankfulness for family and friends
Memories of Christmas past and those we have loved
Anticipation of what the future holds
Shining Christ's light in the darkness

Why not have a go at your own acrostic, spelling out what Christmas means to you? Try to think of the positives rather than the negatives, just one word for each is sufficient or be more creative if you prefer.

We are looking forward to celebrating once again the birth of Jesus at Norley Methodist Church and invite you to join us for our Christmas events and services of worship, details of which you will find on pages 15 & 16.

We'd love to see you there!

Happy Christmas

Every Blessing

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sue".

Craft Club News

Craft Club continues to meet at 10.00am each Tuesday morning, or slightly earlier, as we are an enthusiastic bunch!

There is a warm welcome to be found for all established members and new members. We meet to enjoy a diverse range of crafts - tatting, beading, cross stitch, soft toy making, dressmaking, patchwork, sewing, knitting -as well as a full range of chat, serious and light-hearted, and always plenty of laughs!

This quarter has seen a very successful stall at the Norley Garden Show on 2nd September which raised a large sum for the Petty Pool Trust - an educational charity for young adults with learning disabilities, that was followed by another successful stall at the Macmillan coffee morning in Kingsley enabling us to make a significant donation to Macmillan and a larger one of £600 to Petty Pool.

We were invited to Petty Pool to meet the young people and enjoy some lovely tea and coffee together with decidedly moreish bacon sandwiches! We were made very welcome by everyone at Petty Pool who are clearly very appreciative of all support they receive - a most worthwhile charity and it is so heart-warming to see the difference they make to these young people's lives in helping to train them for employment and then helping them find jobs.

Our current project is to make and sort out our own handmade Christmas decorations for the Christmas Tree Festival being held at Norley Methodist Church in early December. We are now looking forward to our Christmas meal which this year will be at the Plough in Whitegate and thus another year draws to a close. I for one remain very grateful and appreciative of the friendship and fellowship to be found at the Craft Club. We are always very happy to welcome new members!

Eve Sherlock

A thought from the Family Worker.

What's changed for you this year? Has it changed for the better? Life doesn't stay the same does it. At the beginning of the year the word 'Change' came into my mind and hasn't left me. (Was it God given, perhaps?)

Looking back over this year the young people of Norley took part in 'Life Together', living at church for four nights and going to school/college during the day, starting and finishing each day in prayer, a considerable change from their usual weekly routine. They then went to Greenbelt at the end of August, camping at the festival over the weekend on what was the hottest bank holiday weekend for many years. This certainly was a holiday with a difference.

As always, it's a privilege to go into Norley Primary School throughout the year, to see the children grow and change and spend time using both my and their hands to create and talk about Christianity.

Looking forwards we don't know what life may throw at us, but we can be certain that wherever we are or whatever life brings our way the Bible tells us that Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever (Hebrew 13:8). God is, and can be, a constant presence in our lives urging, comforting, reforming and through his power enabling us to show his love to others. I pray that you know God's presence today and in the year ahead.

Andrea

Pastoral Piece

P..... Prayer. Praying for peace throughout the world.
A..... Amazement at God's wonders and provision.
S..... Seasons. Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter
T..... Time to listen. Think of others.
O..... Overcome your difficulties, reach out and share.
R..... Roses. Their beauty, colour, fragrance
A..... Achievements. Being proud of what you have achieved
L..... Love. For without love there is nothing.

I sincerely hope that as we go forward to Christmas and a New Year you and yours have a peaceful, joyous & festive season. We are always near if you need us, friendly, good listeners and helpful. This time of year everyone is busy with preparations, and we are certainly in the midst of preparations for our grand Christmas Tree Festival. Do try and come along. It's on the 1st 2nd & 3rd December (see page 16). I am sure you will enjoy it.

Meanwhile I leave you with these words (by Patience Strong):-

Look at Roses

*If your faith has faltered and God seems unreal to you
Look at roses and you'll know that everything is true...
In park or garden take a walk and you will surely find
A lovely and a living proof of the creative Mind...
Of Him who made the sun, the moon, the water, and the land.
Look at roses freshly come from the Creator's hand...
White and crimson, gold and lemon, apricot and flame.
Every fragrant bud and bloom outbreathes His Holy name.
Look at roses when oppressed by weariness of grief,
Look at roses and restore spent hope and lost belief...
In the meaning of this life and of Heaven above
Look at roses if you ever doubt that God is love.*

May God Bless you all and keep you safe and well

Margaret Hogan

Foodbank update

The days of Advent calendars which gave you a daily 'surprise' of a picture of the shepherds, angels, the wise men, a Christmas tree and so on seem to be long gone! This year's array of Advent calendars seem to be more diverse than ever – so far I've seen calendars with chocolates, drinks, beauty products, scented candles and even mini packs of breakfast cereals hiding behind the doors! For a really special Advent calendar this year you might want to consider supporting The Food Bank 'Reverse Advent Calendar' appeal. The idea behind a Reverse Advent Calendar is that every day during Advent you put an item of food in a box and then early in the New Year the contents of boxes are distributed to those in need. Copies of the details for anyone who might be interested in supporting this appeal (as below) will be in the porch during December. We will take all donated boxes from Chapel to the depot at the end of the first week of January.

Any donations for the Christmas period will be taken on Wednesday 20th December.

A big 'thank you' for your continuing support.

Lesley Gough

First Wednesday Walks

In a departure from the norm September's venture was not an extended walk, as such, but a visit to Biddulph Grange. In past Septembers, turnout for the first Wednesday walk has been much reduced as many of our regular participants have been away on holiday. It was decided this time to substitute a visit to a 'local' Hall and Gardens instead.

Biddulph is a survivor of the great age of Victorian gardening, the vision of James Bateman who from 1841 spent 20 years collecting the plants, gathered by plant hunters, from all over the world.

Nine of us made the journey and enjoyed a day touring the formal topiaries and landscaped gardens, through the Japanese garden, the stumpy and spectacular rockeries as well as the landscaped lake and woodland. Although the end of the flowering season was approaching the dahlia beds were stunning. Swapping the normal route march for this casual peaceful wandering was enjoyed by all.

Garry Wynne

Having found the secluded car park opposite the derelict pub, 12 members set off around the hamlets of Stoneley Green, Swanley along the Llangollen branch of the Shropshire Union Canal & returning to Acton via The Two Saints Way.

We were treated to good weather, company & scenery. It was really great to be joined for lunch by Sylvia & John, after John's recent hip replacement. We will look forward to having both of them joining us soon on the walks. We received good hospitality at Ye Olde Barbridge Inn & enjoyed watching the passing narrow boats on the adjacent canal.

Anthony Davies

November's walk was led by Peter, and was a four mile saunter around the lanes near Beeston. 10 of us started from the Shady Oak, following the Shropshire Union Canal to Wharton's Lock. There we joined the Sandstone Trail, following it past Beeston Castle down to the northern edge of the Peckforton Hills. Here we doubled back in a north westerly direction across the fields, with good views of Beeston Castle, to Back Lane and a short section of the Bishop Bennet Way along Crimes Lane. From here we headed back across the fields to Dale's Bridge, where another short section of canal tow-path brought us back to the Shady Oak. Here we were joined by two of our number who were unable to walk with us that day, for an enjoyable lunch. Once again we were fortunate with the weather, and all appeared to enjoy themselves.

Peter Hills

Future walks are planned for

Wednesday December 6th

Wednesday January 3rd

Wednesday February 7th

The December walk will be around Cuddington with lunch at the Hanging Gate followed by mince pies at John and Sylvia Lynch's new home.

Meet at church at 9.45 for a 10.00 am departure each month – we hope to see you there.

Bruce Lane

Beth Eden 2017

This October 16 of us went to Beth Eden for a most enjoyable weekend of good fun, laughter and fellowship. The Dimelows came to Llandudno on Saturday and although they are missing in the above photograph, the other photos show that they were with us on the invalids path and on the 'magnificent seven's' walk in high winds and drenching rain on the Saturday afternoon as we seemed to be following goat tracks off the wet, slippery and treacherous Great Orme. Many thanks to the Dimelow males for ensuring we descended safely.

On Sunday morning after the service a walk along the West Shore in beautiful weather was a good appetite developer before our roast dinner.

As usual the food all weekend was excellent, the retail therapy was greatly enjoyed and the relaxed Friday evening and our own 'Norley's Got Talent' on Saturday evening were appreciated by all.

Many thanks to are due to Alison for the programme, Sue for organising transport and Bruce for the walks. Prologues and Epilogues were led by Philip, Ruth and Rajan and the Sunday morning service was led by Sue & Peter.

All in all a most memorable weekend.

Ruth

The Choir at Norley Church

The Band of Hope and Joy contributed to the morning worship on Harvest Sunday. They sang a song entitled "The Earth is the Lord's and everything in it"

Thanks to Alison who read the words of the first verse and the chorus to the music played in the background. It is a difficult task to do and she did it beautifully.

Thanks also to our young favourites, Lewis and Oliver who sang the second verse with confidence, beautifully in tune and with clear diction.

We all contributed to worship to glorify God and His manifold blessings.

Saro Jesudason

Diary

Unless otherwise stated in the notices the following group meets weekly at Norley

Craft Club Tuesdays 10.00am – noon in the Norley Open Door Room

December 2017

Friday 1 st – Sunday 3 rd			Norley Christmas Tree Festival –see Ad for details
Friday	1 st	6.00pm	Christmas Tree Festival Lighting Up Ceremony, closes 8pm
	2 nd	11.00am	Christmas Tree Festival until 5pm (Big Sing 4pm – 5pm)
Advent Sunday	3 rd	10.45am	Rev'd Christine Dutton (Christmas Tree festival from 12 noon)
		4.00pm	Rev'd Sue Levitt with Sian Williams Christmas Tree Festival Closing Service
Monday	4 th	4.00pm	Kelsall Messy Church
Wednesday	6 th	9.45am	First Wednesday Walk - Cuddington
Thursday	7 th	10.00am	Spiritual Committee at 3 The Orchard Cuddington
		4.30pm	The Hurst Kingsley Messy Church
Saturday	9 th	9.30am	until 12.30 Ready Steady Christmas at The Hurst (for children)
Sunday (Advent 2)	10 th	10.45am	Rev'd Sue Levitt – Sacrament
		6.30pm	No Service at Norley
Monday	11 th	12 noon	The Hurst Christmas Soup Lunch (in aid of Homeless appeal)
Thursday	14 th	12 noon	Open Door Room Christmas Lunch
		7.00pm	Tarvin Carol Service with the Salvation Army Chester Corps
Saturday	16 th	8.00am	until 6pm The Hurst 'Too Busy to Stop?' Stop & meditate
Sunday (Advent 3)	17 th	9.00am	Norley@9
		10.45am	Mr Matthew Barnard of Frodsham
		6.30pm	Rev'd Sue Levitt – Sacrament
Monday	18 th	6.30pm	Tesco Helsby Carols (until 7.30)
Wednesday	20 th	5.00pm	Tarvin Messy Church
Thursday	21 st	6.00pm	Carol Singing until 9pm
Saturday	23 rd	6.00pm	Carol Singing until 9pm
Christmas Eve	24 th	10.45am	Mr Edgar Gregory of Frodsham
		4.00pm	Rev'd Sue Levitt - Candlelit Carol Service
		4.00pm	The Hurst Christingle Service - Rev'd Anne Gibson
		11.15pm	The Hurst Rev'd David Blintliff - Sacrament
		11.15pm	Tarporley Pastor Nic Willis - Sacrament

Christmas Day 10.00am Mr John Bell of Cuddington
 11.00am Tarvin – Rev'd Sue Levitt
 Sunday 31st 10.45am Mr John Bell of Cuddington
 6.30pm No Service at Norley

January 2018

Wednesday 3rd 9.45am First Wednesday Walk
 Sunday 7th 10.45am Dr Ruth Lane of Norley
 6.30pm Blakelees Christmas Songs of Praise led by John & Joan Bell
 No Service at Norley
 Monday 8th 12 noon The Hurst Soup Lunch (in aid of Mission Aviation Fellowship)
 2.00pm Pastoral Committee meeting at Hatchmere
 4.00pm Kelsall Messy Church
 Wednesday 10th 12 noon Open Door Room Lunch
 Thursday 11th 4.30pm The Hurst Kingsley Messy Church
 Sunday 14th 10.45am Rev'd Sue Levitt – Covenant Service - Sacrament
 6.30pm No Service at Norley

January 2018 (continued)

Wednesday 17th 5.00pm Tarvin Messy Church
 7.30pm Café Church – Bruce Lane
 7,30pm Local Preachers meeting at Saltney
 8.00pm The Hurst Kingsley Café Church
 Saturday 20th Concert at Christleton in aid of CSAR Circuit Project
 Sunday 21st 9.00am Norley@9
 10.45am Mr Malcolm Pearson of Chester
 6.30pm Mr Ian Johnson of Tarporley
 Thursday 25th 12 noon Open Door Room Lunch
 1.15pm Thursday Club
 Sunday 28th 10.45am Mrs Janet Batey of Kingsley
 6.30pm Rev'd Sue Levitt – Sacrament

February 2018

Thursday 1st 4.30pm The Hurst Kingsley Messy Church
 Sunday 4th 10.45am Rev'd Anne Gibson of Tarporley
 6.30pm Mr Andrew Ellams of Frodsham
 Monday 5th 4.00pm Kelsall Messy Church
 Wednesday 7th 9.45am First Wednesday Walk
 Sunday 11th 10.30am Visit of Methodist Vice President (Jill Baker) to Wesley

		10.45am	Rev'd Sue Levitt - Sacramento
		4.30pm	Halton Trinity (Runcorn) Joint Circuit event – VP Jill Baker
		6.30pm	No service at Norley
Monday	12 th	12 noon	The Hurst Soup Lunch (in aid of Maggie's Centres)
Ash Wednesday	14 th	12 noon	Open Door Room Lunch
Sunday (Lent 1)	18 th	9.00am	Norley@9
		10.45am	Mr Philip Morrey of Chester
		6.30pm	Mr Philip Garner of Norley
Wednesday	21 st	2.30pm	Oakmere Chapel Anniversary Rev'd Andrew Emison (and tea)
		5.00pm	Tarvin Messy Church
		7.30pm	Café Church
		8.00pm	The Hurst Kingsley Café Church
Thursday	22 nd	12 noon	Open Door Room Lunch
		1.15pm	Thursday Club
Sunday (Lent 2)	25 th	10.45am	Mr Mike Ridley of Bunbury
		6.30pm	Rev'd Sue Levitt - Sacramento
Monday 26 th Feb – Sunday 11 th March			Fair Trade Fortnight
Wednesday	28 th	7.30pm	Circuit Meeting at Wesley

March 2018

Wednesday	7 th	9.45am	First Wednesday Walk
Thursday	8 th	7.00pm	Church Council
Wednesday	14 th	12 noon	Open Door Room Lunch
Sunday	18 th	9.00am	Norley@9
Wednesday	21 st	7.30pm	Café Church
Thursday	22 nd	12 noon	Open Door Room Lunch
		1.15pm	Thursday Club

Carol Singing Dates and Routes 2017

Thursday Dec 21st	Car route starting at Chapel singing at selected houses	Meet 6.00pm at the Church for a prompt start. Finish at 9pm.
Saturday Dec 24th	Car Route starting at the James' on Gallowsclough, and ending at the Town Farm Lane barn conversions.	6.00pm at the James' on Gallowsclough. Finish around 9pm.

Norley Craft Club's 20th Anniversary Celebrations

Norley Craft Club is 20 years old this year and this was celebrated in fine style with an exhibition of crafts over the weekend of 27th - 28th September. The wide range of crafts on display showed people's creativity – such as knitting, lace making, beading, sewing, caning of chairs,

patchwork, tapestry, ceramics, banner and toy making, woodwork, and painted, embroidered, and cross stitch pictures.

The Craft Club meets on Tuesdays from 10.00am to noon at Norley Methodist Church. If you are interested in joining either phone Alison Twinn (01829 741658) for more information, or turn up on a Tuesday and receive a warm welcome from the members

The Church Council

The October church council approved the audited accounts for the year presented by John Bell. Thanks were recorded to the Craft Club for their generous donation of £288 during the year

Bruce Lane presented the Online Property Returns and the Church Property Checklist for Annual Inspections by the Property Stewards which were approved by the Church Council.

The Church Weekend Away in 2018 is booked for October 5th – 7th at Abbot Hall, Grange-over-Sands. Any decision about 2019 was left to the next Church Council..

Currently the church has 50 members.

Two letters were read out - the first from John Hindley, Jean Dunning's brother, who offered his electric organ to the church as a gift and the second from Jean supporting accepting his offer. After a long and careful discussion it was regretfully decided to refuse the offer.

There was a lengthy debate about how to respond to the circuit's concern that in 2019 we have four ministers up for re-invitation or moving on, and are likely to lose at least 1 perhaps 2. All churches were asked to consider the future. The meeting decided that Sue and Simon should ask Neil for a paper giving the options currently under consideration and once that is received there should be a Church Council meeting to which all the congregation is invited where a full discussion can take place on Norley's vision for its and the Circuit's future.

Harvest 2017

This year both the creativity of the earth and of human beings was celebrated at Harvest, with a beautiful porch display of the fruits of the earth whilst in the main body of the church there was a display of a wide variety of crafts to celebrate the Craft Club's 20th Anniversary.

Hazel and James Dale with many willing helpers and advice-givers created the beautiful porch displays shown hear.

At the Sunday morning service many generous donations for the West Cheshire Foodbank were received. The foodbank was delighted to receive such bounty – the Foodbank measures incoming gifts by weight, and our harvest donation weighed 103.2Kgs. Amazing!!!

Donations of non-perishable items for the Foodbank can be made at any time of the year – there is a box in the porch to receive donations and these are regularly taken to the Foodbank.

Christmas Day

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Co



Times for your diary

Christmas Tree Festival



at Norley Methodist Church

Friday December 1st
Grand Lighting Up Ceremony at 6pm
Festival remains open until 8pm

Saturday December 2nd
Festival open from 11am - 5pm, ending with
4pm - 5pm A Big Christmas Sing



Sunday December 3rd
10.45am Service Rev'd Christine Dutton
Festival open from 12 noon - 4pm
4pm Closing Service - Rev'd Sue Levitt



Admission free, Refreshments, Programmes £2 donation requested

Spiritual Committee

The period of Advent and New Year beckons. During Advent and on Christmas Day we shall share in the liturgy prepared by 'All We Can' (formerly the Methodist Relief and Development Fund) as we look to the birth of Jesus and the renewal of hope and light for the world.

December begins with the Christmas Tree Festival weekend, with worship led by the Rev'ds Christine Dutton and Sue Levitt on December 3rd.

We shall sing carols in and around Norley on the evenings of December 21st and 23rd. The Carol Service, crafted by Sue with the Spiritual Committee, will be held at 4.00 pm on Christmas Eve, December 24th. The service on Christmas Day will be all-age worship led by John Bell, commencing at 10.00 am. There will be no evening services at Norley on December 31st, January 7th or 14th.

The annual Covenant Service – that distinctive Methodist commitment to discipleship – will be led by the Revd Sue Levitt on January 14th. When the time comes, take a moment to read the

introduction to the Service in the Methodist Worship Book (page 281). As ever, the quarterly Circuit Preaching Plan will give details of all services and preachers.

In order that Café Church does not coincide with the day of the Wednesday Walk, we have decided to move the Café Church date to the 3rd Wednesday in the month, but skip December as being too near to Christmas this year. Café Church will meet on January 17th, led by Bruce Lane, and on February 21st, led by Eve Sherlock. We are grateful to all who lead our stimulating discussions as well as those who kindly offer us refreshments. Everyone is welcome to come along, to listen, reflect and participate as they wish.

Norley@9 will meet on the 3rd Sunday of each month, December 17th, January 21st and February 18th. All are welcome there too.

As Easter is rather earlier in 2018, the first Sunday in Lent is on February 18th and we shall have a liturgy to guide our thoughts during this important period of Christian reflection leading up to the most important event of our faith – the resurrection of Jesus.

Finally, the promised booklet entitled 'In God's house – what do you see?', prepared by John Bell, about the artefacts in the church has been published and will be available from December 1st onwards, at the Christmas Tree Festival. A donation of £5 will be appreciated (all proceeds for Church funds) and a copy of the 1982 Centenary booklet which gives the earlier history, will be freely offered along with the new one.

John Bell, Chair of Spiritual Committee.



Café Church

- now on the third Wednesday of the month

Come and enjoy
fellowship, worship and refreshments
in a café atmosphere in the church
at 7.30pm on

Wednesday 17th January led by Bruce Lane
Wednesday 21st February led by Eve Sherlock

The poster features images of a three-tiered cake stand with various cakes, a plate of bread and butter, and a smiling mug of coffee.



December 24th

Candlelit Carol Service

4.00pm

Everyone Welcome

The poster features two lit red candles with green holly leaves and red berries.



Covenant Service

January 14th at 10.45am

The poster features a chalice with bread, a wooden cross, and an open book labeled 'Holy Bible'.

Norley @ 9

Join us for an informal time of worship
and praise on



December 17th

January 21st

February 18th

March 18th



Open Door Christmas Lunch

Thursday December 14th

at noon



Reserve your place with Ruth (788071)

An invitation to you to come



to the



Thursday Club

1.15pm – 2.30pm
in the
Open Door Room on



January 25th

February 22nd

March 22nd



OPEN DOOR LUNCHES

I do hope you have given in your name for our Christmas lunch and that you are looking forward to it as much as we are. It has been another really enjoyable year at "lunches" and we have welcomed some new faces which we are very excited about. We look forward now to a new year and more great times together. Our dates for next quarter are:

Christmas lunch on Thursday December 14th

Wednesday January 10th.

Thursday January 25th.

Wednesday February 14th.

Thursday February 22nd.

Happy Christmas to you all and Best Wishes for 2018

Joan Bell

The Church Weekend Away in 2018

The dates for your diary are 5-7 October 2018 at Abbot Hall, Grange-over-Sands. Booking forms will be available from mid-January from the porch. Bruce would like your deposits and booking forms by the end of February.

Finance Matters

The October Church Council received and adopted the accounts for the year 2016-17, with grateful thanks to Richard Ramsbottom who very kindly audited them. Income of £27,308 and expenditure of £24,236 gave a surplus of £3072 but £2000 of this was earmarked for the renewal of the church internal lighting carried out since the year-end (August 31st) and none of the £500 property emergency cover was spent. Also, the second half of the loan, amounting to £1250, from the Chester and Stoke District is due to be repaid in March 2018. The balance as at August 31st held in the deposit account at the Methodist Church Central Finance Board was £16,219, but this has already been dipped into to pay for the lighting.

During 2016-17, donations were made from church funds as follows: Englesea Brook Museum £100, Connexional Fund for the Support of Presbyters and Deacons £100, Norley News £100, the Circuit Project £300, Connexional Property Fund £100, the Chester Parkinsons Society £200 and the Northwich Samaritans £200, making £1100 in all. Collections were made for the Methodist World Church Fund (Easter Offering) of £204, for Action for Children of £270, for Methodist Homes of £108 and for Christian Aid of £420. This all adds up to a remarkable £1994 donated to external charitable bodies and funds.

The Church is required to maintain a reasonable level of financial reserve – which we regard as about 6 months' expenditure, or about £12,000. However, we are also gradually building up a reserve to pay for the external painting of the church building which will be required within the next 3 to 5 years.

At the time of writing, we are nearly three months into 2017-18. The main call on our funds – the circuit assessment – increased by 2.2% and is now £15,216 per year, or £293 per week. Our actual Sunday offerings in the year are likely to be £14,000 which demonstrates how much we rely on other income sources to cover all other expenses – heating, lighting, insurance, organ and piano tuning, cleaning, property upkeep, donations, printing and publicity and so on – and donations made.

However, we are able to maintain a steady balance of income and expenditure as things are, and are most appreciative of the gift-aid scheme which now generates nearly £5000 per year. As has been noted on previous occasions, we continue to be dependent on special events such as the annual Safari Supper and the periodic Flower and Christmas Tree Festivals. The response to the invitation to give a donation for refreshments at coffee-time after Sunday morning worship has been good, enabling about £37 to be raised every month – it all adds up!

The church is immensely grateful for the generosity of people who all give as they are able, but we must bear in mind that our costs do gently increase and, as this column has reminded readers before, weekly offerings don't have to be in round numbers – an extra 50p or £1 per week would be most welcome, especially if it is gift-aided!

John Bell, Treasurer

Rotas Page		Morning Door Stewards Rota	
Flowers Rota		The December to February rota is published below. Please ensure that you find a substitute if you're unable to fulfil your duty.	
Dec 3	All	Dec 3	Oliver Dimelow & Alison Penny
Dec 10	Mrs H Dale	Dec 10	Bruce Lane & Yvonne Roughsedge
Dec 17	Mrs P Gates	Dec 17	Hazel & James Dale
Dec 24	Mrs M Harrington	Dec 24	Ken & Jean Dunning
Dec 31	Mrs S Grindley	Dec 24	(4pm Carol Service) John Dimelow & Bruce Lane
Jan 7	Mrs A Twinn	Dec 25	Ruth & Bruce Lane
Jan 14	Mrs H Davies	Dec 31	Pauline Gates & Mary Dimelow
Jan 21	Mrs B Garner	Jan 7	Margaret Hogan & June Fay
Jan 28	Mrs J Barclay	Jan 14	Alison Twinn & Rajan Jesudason
Feb 4	Mrs L Gough	Jan 21	Hazel & James Dale
Feb 11	Mrs M Hogan	Jan 28	Pauline Gates & Mary Dimelow
Feb 18	Mrs V Wynne	Feb 4	Oliver Dimelow & Alison Penny
Feb 25	Mrs J Dunning	Feb 11	Alison Twinn & Rajan Jesudason
Mar 4	Mrs R Lane	Feb 18	Heather & Anthony Davies
Mar 11	Mrs H Dale	Feb 25	Philip Garner & Yvonne Roughsedge
Mar 18	Mrs P Gates	With thanks, as ever, to you all. Your welcomes are much appreciated. <i>The Stewards</i>	
Mar 25	Mrs S Grindley		
Coffee Rota			
Dec 3	Hazel & James		
Dec 10	Richard & Di		
Dec 17	Heather & Anthony		
Dec 24	Ruth & Bruce		
Dec 24	Carol Service pm Joan Barclay & Vaughan Wynne		
Dec 25	Hazel & James		
Dec 31	Alison T & Yvonne		
Jan 7	Vaughan & Yvonne		
Jan 14	Mary & Alison P		

Jan 21	Richard & Di
Jan 28	Hazel & James
Feb 4	Heather & Anthony
Feb 11	Alison T & Yvonne
Feb 18	Margaret & June
Feb 25	Vaughan & Yvonne

**Café Church
refreshment rota**

Jan 17	Mary & John
Feb 21	Bruce & Ruth

Di; 788091 Mary & Alison P; 787196 Alison T & Yvonne;
788071 for Ruth & Bruce and 01606 888896 for Heather & Anthony.