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Dear Friends,

A recent conversation went something like this: -

'What are you giving up for Lent?' 'Lent? What's that? What are you talking about?'
The puzzle deepened as a voice piped up....'And what on earth is a Lent lunch?'
Is Lent something rather 'churchy' which only the 'in' crowd understands?

Lent is a period of 40 days which comes before Easter in the Christian calendar.
Beginning on Ash Wednesday, this year the 26th February, Lent is a season of
reflection and preparation before the celebrations of Easter.

Why 40 days?

Well, 40 is a significant number in Christian scripture:

In Genesis, the first book of the Bible, the flood which
destroyed the earth was brought about by 40 days and nights
of rain.

The Hebrew people spent 40 years in the wilderness before
reaching the land promised to them by God.

Moses fasted for 40 days before receiving the Ten
Commandments on Mount Sinai.

Jesus spent 40 days fasting in the wilderness in preparation
for his ministry.

Most Christians regard Jesus' time in the wilderness as the key event for the duration
of Lent.

One dictionary says that 'Lent is normally observed as a time of fasting and
abstinence'. Hence the question, 'What are you giving up for Lent?'

Some folk set themselves the challenge of giving up chocolates, or alcohol, or smoking
during Lent, and it seems a good idea to turn this into a positive exercise by giving
away the money saved. Others, instead of giving something up, try to add something
into their lives, eg helping someone each day, buying Fair Trade food or spending a
few extra minutes in quiet with God each day.

We may think that trying to give up a habit, even for six weeks, is as futile as making a
New Year Resolution, and we are too busy to take on any more activities, so we'll
leave it to the people who like that sort of thing. However, any resolutions to give up
something, or to do something positive, which we might make on Ash Wednesday
(February 26th), can be made in secret – no one else need know!

Whatever we decide can make a difference to our own or others' lives.

I hope this Lent is a very special time in your life!

Every blessing,

Revd Sue

ST PAUL'S MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to **build confidence in Jesus Christ**
in the **heart of the community** through **prayer,**
worship and learning, in joy and practical service
to the wider world.



If any local residents require advice or support Age UK are there to provide information and advice that cover every facet of later life, from helping people find out the benefits they are entitled to claim, to discussing options that help make later life at home more manageable. Our aim is to be the first port of call – the first place that people turn to when they have an age-related need.

HELPLINE 03030030003 for any advice and practical support.

If you are interested in being a volunteer - for info on volunteering 01539728118

www.agesouthlakeland.org.uk

2020 MAGAZINES

Payment for 2020 magazines is now due.

If you have your magazines delivered, please pay your distributor. If your magazines are reserved and you collect them from the back of church, please pay Susan Jackson.

- The cost is £ 7.00 for the year.

WATERAID

Penny and I would like to express our thanks to all of you who supported our alternative Christmas Card again this year for WaterAid. We will be sending £374, which, with gift aid, amounts to £461.25: a very substantial amount although a little less than last year. However, the sale of our bottles with lights raised £117, so our contribution this year will be £491 plus gift aid.

As you know, half of the proceeds from our Christmas Tree festival is also going to WaterAid, so many, many thanks on behalf of all those people in foreign lands who will benefit from your generosity.

Sue Fleetwood

* I have just received confirmation from Water Aid that our total donation this year was £1091.

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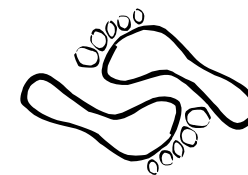
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Home Visits Tues—Fri
REFLEXOLOGY AVAILABLE

GRANGE OVER SANDS MONTHLY RAINFALL (MM) - ANDREW LITTLE

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
January	122	78	163	154	141	98	142	73
February	62	45	115	76	125	91	69	99
March	4	55	61	110	107	162	60	182
April	78	40	58	46	72	15	98	39
May	98	55	62	165	32	75	37	52
June	208	68	28	34	185	135	19	91
July	142	164	70	69	113	126	33	134
August	125	152	124	112	168	86	108	180
September	216	98	6	29	118	177	133	177
October	136	173	156	60	31	172	131	160
November	165	118	97	246	118	189	62	85*
December	194	131	103	352	65	109	160	
Annual total	1,570	1,177	1,043	1,453	1,275	1,435	1,052	1,273

SINGING FOR MEMORY

Aims to strengthen memory and language through singing in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

Run by Grange Soroptimists.

Do you or someone you know have mild to moderate dementia, memory or speech problems? Come and join us at Allithwaite, Community Centre.

Thursdays 10.30 am—12 noon - including time for refreshments

Dates for the 20120 winter sessions are as follows:

February- 6th, 13th & 27th

March - 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th

Ring Janice - 58001 or Isabel - 36378 to book or for further information



COFFEE CLUB

3rd Tuesday each month at **Fell Church, Grange-over-Sands.**

10 am for 10.20 am,

with a speaker and friendly chat.

Everybody welcome.

Enquiries to Keith Buckler:

Tel: 015395 30359

AN EASY SOURCE OF FUNDING

Don't forget when ordering goods or booking rail tickets or holidays on-line to use **EASYFUNDRAISING** -

a clever website that turns everyday on-line shopping into free donations to a chosen cause

There are so many High Street stores that will give us a donation (**Marks and**

Spencer, Travelodge, Argos, Next, etc) . If you are interested in helping

church in this way just click on **EASY-FUNDRAISING** and name St Paul's

Grange as your chosen charity.

CO-WORKERS FOR MOTHER TERESA

4th Monday each month in St Charles'

Father Magner Room, Grange

7.15 pm - 8.30 pm

NOTICE

Please be aware that photographs may be taken at events and services, and a selection will be published on our web site. If you have any strong objections to being included, please have a word with the Churchwardens

PAYMENT BY CHEQUE

In the next few months the bank is adopting an electronic system for clearing cheques and the **ONLY** wording that will be accepted for payment will be "PCC of

St Paul's Grange". If you want your cheque to go for a specific fund please attach a note to that effect but do not write it on the cheque.

PEWS

If anyone finds our pews uncomfortable, there is now a basket of cushions in front of the pews opposite the lectern, either for sitting on or for using as a back support. Please help yourself if you have need of them - we would appreciate any feedback

SUNDAY, 29TH MARCH

Please note that the Rt Revd Dr Emma Ineson, Bishop of Penrith, will be taking the morning service in St Paul's on this Sunday. This follows our invitation to her when she came to Grange last Autumn to address the meeting of the Retired Clergy Association.

It is a 5th Sunday so we look forward to welcoming our friends from the Fell Church. We are inviting our friends at Allithwaite and Flookburgh to come along too, and we shall be pleased to see them with us. They also normally have a joint service on the 5th Sundays so this one is becoming a **'Super-joint'**. Please make a note in your diaries now.

CHURCH DIARY FEBRUARY 2020

Saturday	1 st	8.30 am	Grange Men's Prayer Breakfast, Methodist Hall
PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE—CANDLEMAS			
Sunday	2 nd	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP) - St Mary's, Allithwaite
		9.30 am	Matins (BCP) - Fell Church, Grange
		11.00 am	Parish Eucharist - St Paul's, Grange
Monday	3 rd	12.15 pm	Lunchtime Club, Grange Primary School
Wednesday	5 th	10.00 am	Holy Communion – St Paul's, Grange
		12 noon	Funeral—Dennis Whittaker

THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Sunday	9 th	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP) - St Mary's, Allithwaite
		9.30 am	Holy Communion (BCP) - Fell Church, Grange
		11.00 am	Parish Eucharist - St Paul's, Grange
Monday	10 th	12.15 pm	Lunchtime Club, Grange Primary School
Tuesday	11 th	2.00 pm	Worship Meeting, Stoneleigh, Highfield Road, Grange
Wednesday	12 th	10.00 am	Holy Communion – St Paul's, Grange
		1.30 pm	School Baptism Visit – Rev'd Dr Jim Bruce, St Paul's, Grange
		7.00 pm	Standing Committee Meeting, Fell Church

SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Sunday	16 th	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP) - St Mary's, Allithwaite
		9.30 am	Lay-led Matins (BCP) - Fell Church, Grange
		11.00 am	Parish Eucharist - St Paul's, Grange

SCHOOL HALF TERM BREAK 1 WEEK

Tuesday	18 th	10 am	Coffee Club, Fell Church
		2.00 pm	Christian Meditation at Boarbank Hall
Wednesday	19 th	10.00 am	Holy Communion – St Paul's, Grange

SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT

Sunday	23 rd	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP) - St Mary's, Allithwaite
		9.30 am	Holy Communion (BCP) - Fell Church, Grange
		11.00 am	Parish Eucharist - St Paul's, Grange
Monday	24 th	12.15 pm	Lunchtime Club, Grange Primary School
		7.15 pm	Mother Teresa, Meeting in Father Magner Room, St Charles, Grange
Tuesday	25 th	SHROVE TUESDAY	
ASH WEDNESDAY			
Wednesday	26 th	10.00 am	Holy Communion – St Paul's, Grange
		7.30 pm	Team Service & Imposition of Ashes, St Paul's, Grg
Friday	28 th	12 noon	Lent Lunch, St Mary's, Allithwaite
Saturday	29 th	All day	PCC Away Day



**The Local Group of Co-Workers
for Mother Teresa**
is appealing for goods for the
Food Banks at Ulverston, Barrow and Millom

Items particularly requested this time

*UHT milk
Tinned spaghetti
Rice pudding
Custard
Toilet rolls*

Father Magner Room, St Charles RC Church
1 - 3 pm

Sunday, 2nd February

**PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY TO HELP THOSE
LESS FORTUNATE THAN OURSELVES**

Date of next appeal Sunday, 5th April

**Our Christmas appeal created
918 meals + £70 in cash
Thank you!**



Grange United Reformed and Methodist Churches working together

Stillness & Song

Grange Methodist Church Hall

Sundays 6-7pm

2020 dates: 5th Jan, 1st Mar,
3rd May, 5th Jul, 6th Sep, 1st Nov

Quiet, reflection and song
in the style of the Taizé community
Music led by local musicians



CHURCH DIARY MARCH

FIRST OF LENT

Sunday	1 st	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP) - St Mary's, Allithwaite
		9.30 am	Lay-led Matins (BCP) - Fell Church, Grange
		11.00 am	Parish Eucharist - St Paul's, Grange
		2.15 pm	PCC Short Meeting, St Paul's, Grange
Monday	2 nd	12.15 pm	Lunchtime Club, Grange Primary School
Tuesday	3 rd		
Wednesday	4 th	10.00 am	Holy Communion - St Paul's, Grange
		2.00 pm	Events Committee Meeting
Friday	6 th	12 noon	Lent Lunch, St John's, Flookburgh

SECOND OF LENT

Sunday	8 th	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP) - St Mary's, Allithwaite
		9.30 am	Holy Communion (BCP) - Fell Church, Grange
		11.00 am	Parish Eucharist - St Paul's, Grange



TO WARDENS, PCC S AND CHURCH MEMBERS OF THE CPTM

For the last two years, on each of the 40 days of Lent a passage of scripture has been read from the lectern in Cartmel Priory at 12 noon. Visitors are invited to pause and reflect during the reading, which is followed by a short prayer.

Several of the Cartmel congregation who do not usually read regularly in church have appreciated the opportunity to read from the lectern and have enjoyed being part of this programme of readings which are selected from the Lectionary.

Whilst appreciating that this is only likely to be of limited appeal, we would like to invite any of your church members who might also appreciate such an opportunity the chance to do so.

The programme of readings and readers is organised for Cartmel Priory by Dorothy Baxter and anyone wishing to participate should contact her by **email:** selecteduc@aol.com giving dates/days of possible availability or, if generally available, dates of non-availability.

For purposes of rota organisation, it would be helpful for contact to be made before 19th February as it would be hoped to include all who might wish to read, but late slots may still be available up to the beginning of April.

Dorothy Baxter - 27th January 2020

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES - FEBRUARY

25th February 2018	Braxton Murphy
24th February 2019	Brodie Porter

*“Born of Water
and the Spirit”*

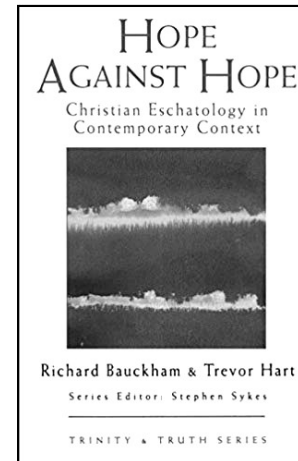
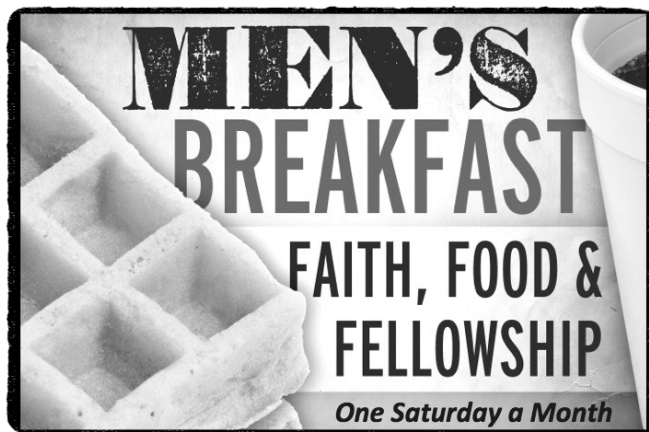
YEARS MIND - FEBRUARY

Myrtle Helen Blenheim Griffiths	2015	<i>“In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ”</i>
Derek Christopher Neville Jones-Darlington	2015	
Gwendoline Leadbetter	2015	
Elizabeth Foster	2016	
Robert Chadwick	2018	<i>“God is love and those who live in love, live in God”</i>
Robert Leach	2018	
Frances Limbrey	2018	
John Barry Lord	2018	
Colin Paterson	2019	

GRANGE MEN’S PRAYER BREAKFAST

The next Men’s Breakfast is in the Methodist Church Hall, Grange, on Saturday, 1st February at 8.30 am when David Tomison of Hope Church will speak about his service in Peru. All are welcome.

For more information please contact Doug Ratcliffe (Tel: 35587)



Bauckham and Hart, *Hope Against Hope*, (DLT 1999).

“In the face of the failure of secular hope...radical faith in a future for the world that is in God’s hands.” A more academic approach.

The hopes by which the modern West has lived are widely understood to have failed. We recognise the ideology of historical progress for what it is - a myth, which no longer provides humanity with grounds for hope. In the face of the failure of secular hope, the authors present us with a way forward - a radical faith in a future for the world that is in God's hands.

A Call for Brexit Prayers

Mission communities are being encouraged to come together for prayer on 31 January as the UK prepares to leave the EU. The Cumbria Ecumenical Spirituality Group has prepared a special prayer.

Creator God, help us to remember that we are all your children. Show us the way to respect each other.

Lord Jesus, you taught us to treat each other in the same way as we would want to be treated. Give us an understanding of those with different views.

Holy Spirit, we ask you to heal the wounds of our divided society and to guide us into the paths of peace.

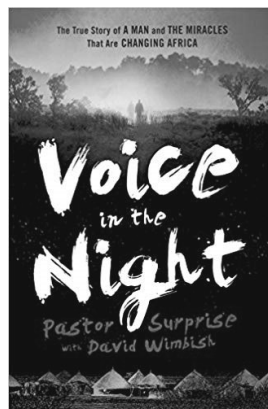
Holy Trinity be with us at this time of change for our nation, our communities and our own lives, that we may trust you and your goodness above everything else.

Amen

Stinkyinks.com—supply toner and ink cartridges for every make and model of printer – that’s over 4200 products! We’ve been doing this since 2002 so we know a thing or three about printers. They will also *Recycle Empty Ink and Toner Cartridges*. Every cartridge kept away from landfill is a step in the right direction. Stinkyink.com provide free recycling bags with all their orders and meet with recyclers around the country to discuss best practices. All this to ensure the greenest practices which are free to use and have a “zero-landfill” policy.

BOOKS TO BUY

Recommended dood reads by our own Rev'd Dr James Bruce



Pastor Surprise *Voice in the Night*,
(Chosen Books 2012).

Not new, but full of amazing stories of God in action.

The amazing true story of the miracles transforming Africa, starting with how the son of two witch doctors became God's chosen agent of hope and change.



Tom Wright, *Simply Good News:*
why the gospel is news and what makes it good,
(SPCK 2015).

Rowan Williams says, "Tom Wright is, as always, brilliant..."

At last! A new book by our most popular theologian written for anyone interested in popular theology - whether believer, agnostic or atheist. Confronts head-on the most common objections to belief. Compelling answers to FAQs about the gospel: Why is it 'good news'? Who did Jesus think he was? And who is 'God', anyway? Written by a world-renowned scholar and communicator, hailed by

Newsweek as 'the world's leading New Testament scholar'. Ideal for all who want to reaffirm their faith, as well as finding more convincing ways of commending it to others. The Gospel means good news, but what makes it news? If the message has been around for 2,000 years, what could possibly be newsworthy about it? And what makes it good? Surely not the stories we hear of damnation, violence, and an angry God. Tom Wright believes many Christians have lost sight of what the 'good news' of the gospel really is. In *Simply Good News*, he shows how a first-century audience would have received the gospel message, what the 'good news' means for us today and how it can transform our lives.

CHRISTMAS - A SUMMING UP

THANK YOU to Venerable Penny, Canon Derek and Reverend Sue for taking our Christmas services and keeping an eye on our spiritual welfare over this busy period. Sue and Derek also reworked our Christmas services liturgy. Charles had pre-recorded the music for two of our services and this was played with great success by his assistants, Bill and Tony, through the new equipment installed on our organ. Joan temporarily deserted her family to play for us on Christmas Day morning. Susan and Bill acted again as wardens. Thank you to everyone.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL (CTF) Congratulations to Margaret Ratcliffe and Gill Webster on organizing and master-minding our very successful CTF held during the month of December and opened by Pete Endors, Mayor of Grange-over-Sands. Footfall was less than in previous years but generosity even higher so £600 was donated to each of WaterAid and North West Air Ambulance. Thank you to everyone who helped and worked on this project, especially Margaret and Gill who devoted many hours during the year.

CHRISTINGLE This service was again an unqualified success with over 200 adults and children present. The Rev'd Sue Wilson updated the words and led the service with tenderness and charm – all those present were spell-bound. The pupils of Grange Church of England Primary School had collected for The Children's Society in their special cardboard "candles" and along with generous donations on Christmas Eve the Society benefited by over £340 for their work with under-privileged and disadvantaged children. Thank you to everyone who organized and to the children who took part.

CHARITABLE GIVING

In line with Jesus' teaching, the PCC gives away a percentage of its income each year to deserving charitable causes. In recent years, we have tried to split these donations in a "local, national and international" manner. The local charities have included Springfield – the refuge home for ill-treated women in Kendal, and Manna House. Our gifts are appreciated and always acknowledged. The national charity in the last two years has been The Church Army.

We have also given away £2,000 in 2019 to the Churches Together Youth Trust which encourages youth work in the Grange and district area and this will continue in 2020.

The PCC will be considering our gifts in respect of 2019, 2020 and beyond at the Away Day to be held towards the end of February. If you have any particular charity which you feel should receive our support, please talk to the wardens or the PCC Secretary. Our thinking is moving towards trying to be more "local" in our giving, to benefit Grange particularly where there is a real need, and also trying to help the more elderly spectrum of our population which is where we feel that we have a particular strength.

A PROJECT FOR LENT

When we look out of the window, what do we see?

The world around us here in this part of Britain is one of beauty and relative safety and it would be only too easy to shut our eyes to what is happening in the wider world because it doesn't seem to affect us directly.

However, we do all live in the same world and, as Christians, we're taught to love God with all of our being and love our neighbours as ourselves. Our neighbours, of course are not just the people who live down our road, but they are people, human beings like us, who live very different and often difficult lives.

As we journey through Lent to Easter this year, we have the opportunity as a worshipping community at St. Paul's to make a big difference to the lives of children who have so much less than young children in our own families, or whom we know.

Canon Amiel Osmaston, the Support Minister for St. Mary's Allithwaite, is a trustee of the Julius and Dora Children's Centre, in Maseno, North West Kenya. She has been very involved in the work there, in a hands-on way, for many years and on the 16th February is coming to St. Paul's to share with us a little about its work, in our Sunday service.

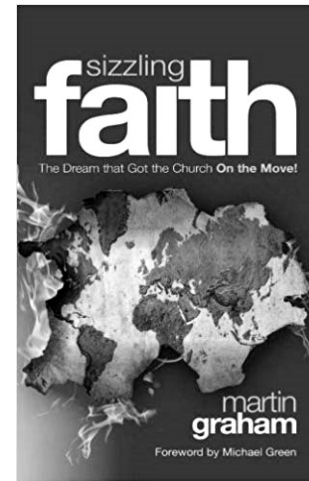
We have the opportunity to help!

Will you join me this Lent in supporting this worthwhile project which seeks to help provide rescue and a loving home for abandoned babies, through the work of the Julius and Dora Children's Centre (J&D) in Maseno. This Children's Centre has, for many years, been providing a loving, Christian home for these children. The Centre has been assessed as 'Excellent', but recently many 'failing' Kenyan orphanages have been closed down and 20 boys from those have, without consultation, been sent to The Julius and Dora Centre, but there is no accommodation at the centre for these extra children. They are currently having to sleep on floors and in an outside shed. The Centre wants to give these children a secure and loving Christian home, so that they can be brought up in the Christian faith and grow up prepared for employment and to live as independent Christian adults.

At the beginning of Lent we will be able to take home a small brown envelope and each week put £1, or whatever we would like to give, in the envelope and then on Easter Day our envelopes will be collected and the offerings blessed. All the money raised will go to the Friends of Julius and Dora Children's Centre, Maseno.

If each of us who worship regularly at St. Paul's give even £1 each week, we could collect at least £300. What a huge difference that would make to the lives of the children at the Centre. If the giving is gift aided, then the extra that can be reclaimed from the government would add another £60+.

Rev'd Sue

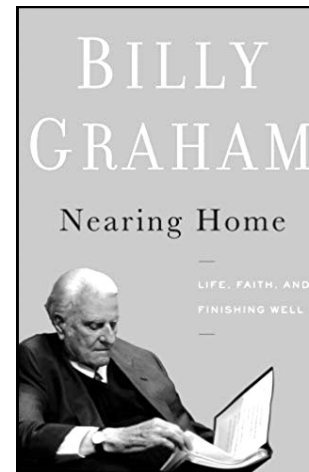


SIZZLING FAITH

The Dream that Got the Church **On the Move!**

By Martin Graham

The story of Martin and Gina's journey of faith will take you through heart-stopping moments, from times when Martin's life was threatened and his spirit about as low as his bank account, through to amazing fulfilment of his God-given vision on a worldwide scale. Let his faith-building account encourage you to lift your sights and dare great things for God.



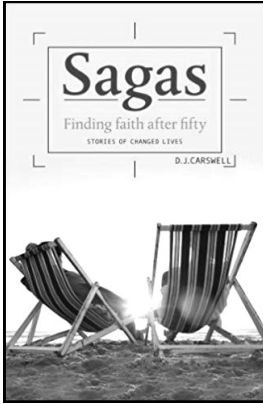
NEARING HOME - Life, Faith and Finishing Well

By Billy Graham

"I never thought I would live to be this old". In this moving narrative, Billy Graham once again takes up the pen not only to share his personal experience of growing older but also teach us some important lessons on how to view our time here on Earth. He says that the Bible makes it clear that God has a specific reason for keeping us here. So what is His purpose for these years, and how can we align our lives with it? How can we not only learn to cope with the fears and struggles and growing limitations we face but actually grow stronger inwardly in the midst of these difficulties? In what may be his most powerful

message of the last decade, Billy Graham speaks to all on this side of Heaven as he covers the importance of four key areas: - Building strong foundations and understanding the gift of years - Facing life's transitions, including the passing of years, retirement, and when loved ones die - Making wise decisions - Understanding our glorious hope. In this book I invite you to explore with me not only the realities of life as we grow older but the hope and fulfillment and even joy that can be ours once we learn to look at these years from God's point of view and discover His strength to sustain us every day. I pray that you and I may learn what it means not only to grow older, but, with God's help, to grow older with grace.

LIBRARY CORNER



SAGAS - Finding Faith after Fifty

By D. J. Carswell

To realise that I was born in the last century makes me feel positively ancient. My grandmother never visited London. My father never flew in an aeroplane. Middle age for him was his thirties as he died before he could enjoy retirement years having suffered most of his life from chronic lung disease. My generation, however, has seen some of the most amazing advances in science, technology and social development. It is no longer unusual for people to live until they are a hundred years old, often enjoying fairly good health until their nineties.

It is no longer expected that a person dresses or behaves as previous generations did on reaching retirement years. Indeed, the newspapers regularly record achievements and, often outrageous, behaviour, or life style of the third generation or even the fourth generation. And we over 50's are positively swarming all over the place. But ski lift or stair lift, being over fifty can be scary. Sagas is a collection of short real life stories of mature people who have experienced something that has changed their outlook on life and death. Their honest, yet differing, accounts offer very personal insights into finding faith after fifty. Everyone who has managed to clock up half a century, naturally will have formed opinions on most things, including faith and God. Of course we are always right...aren't we? And yet...? What do we believe? Does it matter? Fingers crossed...I wish I had your faith...I'll think about God later...It's too late now... This book could answer some of your questions, doubts, or even help you to re-affirm your faith. Each chapter stands alone so you can start at the beginning or pick random chapters. So let me introduce you to a few people whose lives have been challenged or changed in later years.



WHAT WOULD YOU DO.....

.....if you were out walking and found, under a bush, a new-born baby, who had been deliberately abandoned to starve to death?

Tragically in Western Kenya, it's a common occurrence. Children who are born as a result of rape, or because there may be a family connection, however distant, are believed to be cursed and likely to bring a curse on anyone who looks after them. So, many young unmarried mothers are forced by their families to expose their babies at birth and leave them to die.

The trustees of the Julius and Dora Children's Centre say, 'The Kenyan government makes no provision for abandoned babies. Our numbers at (J&D) have more than doubled in the past year, as we've been forced to take on children who have nowhere else to go, but we do not have enough funding to cover the extra costs in food, clothing, healthcare and school fees. Also, we now have 32 children and their adult carers squeezed into a house designed for 14.'

The Centre desperately needs to build an extra house for the children and are praying for the money to start building, so that these extra children can have sleeping, washing and a social gathering space.

Look out for a display, photos and more information about the J&D children in St. Paul's church during Lent. Also, Canon Amiel Osmaston (who is a co-founder and Trustee of the J&D Children's Centre), will be preaching about it on Sunday 16th February.

STEWARDSHIP AND STANDING ORDERS

The switching of monthly stewardship standing orders from our "old" account with Lloyds Bank to favour our "new" account has not been without its perils and frustrations, largely caused by the paying banks who manage to match the closing of convenient branches with a significant growth in incomprehension of their customers' requirements.

Two of our members saw their standing order paid twice during January – once to each of our accounts – and, to add insult to injury, one paying bank blocked and suspended the account until the member made an unnecessary visit into Kendal to carry out the required remonstrations, explanations and request to renew former activity. We have made repayment of such double payments so that no financial harm is suffered and similar action will be taken if any other member of our congregations suffers a similar error.

Meanwhile we urge friends to make the change (Account – PCC of St. Paul's Grange; Sort Code – 30 90 89; Account No. 48579968). And we ask those who still pay their stewardship in cash to consider establishing a standing order, as our friendly bankers will shortly be charging us for their receiving your cash that we deposit with them.

THE ORGAN AT ST PAUL'S

Our refurbished instrument made its formal entry into service last December with a Celebratory Concert in honour of the 80th birthday of our Director of Music, Charles Edmondson. This was a gilded occasion before a large audience of invited guests, friends, Charles's relations and members of our congregations. Those attending included Charles's wife, Eileen, and son, Richard (who spoke to us about the work of the Emma Gyles Bursary Fund for Ovarian Cancer Research), the Diocesan Organ Adviser, John Scott, and Mr & Mrs Malcolm Spink of JM Spink Ltd, the Leeds-based company who carried out the work on the organ, and many others.

The very varied and carefully crafted programme combined works to show something of the organ's range and depth of tone, with songs sung by Wendy Sharrock, the noted local mezzo soprano who has also performed at many of the lunch-time concerts for which St Paul's is now enjoying a strong reputation. The theme chosen for the concert was "The Ages of Man."

With coffee and tea available beforehand and champagne served with cake afterwards, it was a gilded and most enjoyable morning. Those present showed their appreciation by generous (and largely gift-aided) donations to the Emma Gyles Bursary Fund and our own Organ Fund, which both benefitted by some £500. Our thanks go to all who worked so hard to make the morning a success, especially Charles and his family, and our Catering Team who dispensed the refreshments with such charm and efficiency.

A final thank you goes to all, including the PCC, who contributed over the last 12 months to the funding of the refurbishment work. As recorded earlier, the funds raised were considerably more than we had hoped for, and so were the costs of the work, but fortunately the former exceeded the latter and the PCC's contribution was thus lower than we had anticipated. All in all, a "win win" situation for everyone. Now let's enjoy the music.



SOLO LUNCHES

On Sunday, 12th January, 22 of us set off for lunch at Newby Bridge Hotel after the morning service at St Paul's.

The menu was varied and the food was displayed most attractively. Everyone enjoyed a well-cooked meal in very pleasant surroundings, and the fellowship with others living on their own.

When we came out of the hotel we were treated to a wonderful view of Lake Windermere and a drive home in bright, winter sunshine.

Thanks are due, as ever, to Sue Fleetwood for arranging the lunch and transport.

Josie



THE FELL CHURCH



After the recent quinquennial inspection of the Fell Church (a survey of the fabric required by Church law every 5 years), we have been advised of some fairly major repairs that need to be made. As a result, various rumours appear to have been circulating that there is a move to close the church. Please be assured that no decision has been taken.

Before the PCC is asked to authorise any expenditure we need to certain of the building's future role. We are, therefore, investigating, together with the regular congregation, just what measures we can take to improve facilities and to increase its usage. We believe that the Fell Church has a particular mission, unique to itself; a number of suggestions have already been made, and we shall be pleased to hear of any other ideas. For a start, it has been pointed out that there is nothing on the building to identify it as a church, so we are now investigating the erection of a cross, either on the top or the side. We are also looking to repair the present noticeboard, and to re-site it nearer to the roadside.

Mike Hill

COFFEE CLUB AT THE FELL CHURCH

This month the Coffee Club, which has been held on the third Tuesday morning at the former Abbot Hall for as long as I can remember, found itself homeless when the company running the hotel suddenly went into liquidation. We had just over one week's notice before the January meeting and when someone suggested the Fell Church as a possible venue we didn't hesitate! Within 48 hours posters advertising our January meeting at its new venue had been printed and distributed throughout the town.

Despite the short notice and the fact that some people didn't even know where the Fell Church was, we were delighted that well over half of our regular members managed to find us. Those who did were treated to a most interesting and at times moving presentation by Juliet Burd and her team about their work to help the Children of Hope and their families in Uganda. We were left in no doubt about how important their work is to the people they are helping, and their Christian ethos, which underpins everything they do, was self evident. They deserve all the financial help and support through prayer that we can give them. The testimony of their words seemed to be enhanced somehow by their surroundings in the Fell Church.

At the end of the meeting everyone was asked two simple questions. Firstly, did they want the Coffee Club to continue and, secondly, if so, did they want it to continue at the Fell Church? I am happy to report that both questions received a resounding thumbs up!

At the time of writing, arrangements for next month's speaker have not yet been finalised but details will be published as soon as they become available. However, I can tell you that the next Coffee Club will be on Tuesday 18th February at 10am and again we look forward to hosting it at the Fell Church.

Doug Ratcliffe



A BIG "THANK YOU LETTER"

Now is the time to reflect on the completion of the refurbishment of the Hill & Sons Organ built in 1873 at St Paul's.

Firstly, I would like to thank Malcolm Spink, his son and grandson for carrying out the work. So many of you have told me how much the tone of the organ has been improved and, from my point of view, the console is now so much easier to manipulate. This is all the more remarkable when one realises that these craftsmen have been restoring an organ which was originally built very nearly 150 years ago.

Secondly, I'd like to thank the PCC for initially agreeing to the work being carried out and offering to contribute almost half of the cost.

Thirdly, I'd like to thank members of the congregation for giving so generously to the organ fund, the target of which was reached incredibly quickly through donations, as well as members supporting the concerts and other fund-raising functions throughout the year.

Fourthly, I would like to thank John Scott, the diocesan organ adviser, for all his help and support. He gave unstintingly of his time to us and showed so much interest in the work being carried out.

Fifthly, I would like to offer a huge thanks to Mike Hill, our Churchwarden, for the part he played in the proceedings. He masterminded the whole project so efficiently and successfully, coordinating the work of the organ builders with the day-to-day running of the church as well as procuring a grant of £10,000 from the Pilling Trust, as well as supervising all the costs entailed. I am extremely grateful to him for the hours he spent on the various aspects of the project. He tells me that he now knows considerably more about the workings of a pipe organ than he did eighteen months ago.

I am very proud to be the curator of our restored organ which I am confident will give us valiant service for many years to come.

Charles Edmondson



MADDY IN GHANA

Maddy has been in Ghana now since the beginning of September. She is volunteering with Project Trust at Anlo Awomefia Senior High School. She is teaching maths, IT subjects and English. Her classes have up to fifty pupils ranging in age from 12 to 22 years, many of them older than she is. Since 2017 education has been free. There are very few resources: books and paper are in short supply, and chalk and talk seem to be the main teaching aids. There is no half term, so each term is quite long. Most of the pupils speak a little English but not all. The language in the area where she is based is Ewe. Just before Christmas, exam week was delayed because the teachers were on strike - many of them hadn't been paid for several months.

She is staying in Anyako, a small island by the Keta Lagoon. Her partner is Ruby from Merseyside. Their accommodation is basic but adequate. The cooking facilities consist of a single gas ring and cooking is mainly done outside. She has learnt to cook the traditional rice dish of Ghana which is called 'Jollof'. This is tomato based.



Both she and Ruby each bought a bike soon after arriving, which makes getting to and from school much easier. The capital of Ghana is Accra, which is a three hour journey by Trotro. This is a mini-bus of sorts that usually has to wait until it is full before setting off.

One of the main problems for Maddy has been the heat. Temperatures of 31 degrees are normal. It is also very humid and there seem to be quite frequent heavy rain storms when their rooms can become flooded.

She and Ruby are starting to explore a bit in their free time and to meet up with some of the other volunteers in the area. Christmas has been a challenging time, being 4,000 miles away from family and friends, but apart from a bad attack of sand fly bites they have coped well.

We have several teachers in our family, but I have to say none of us would have been brave enough to do what she is doing. We are very proud of her and of all the young people, at least another one from the Grange area, working to make the world a better place.

Sandra