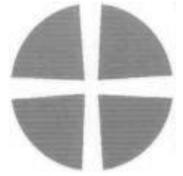


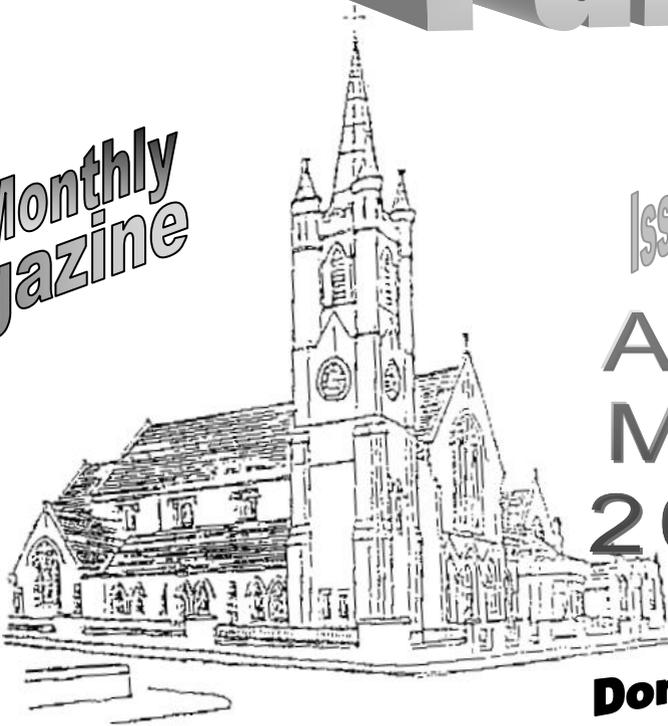
News on



THE Park

**BI-Monthly
Magazine**

Issue No. 69



**April
May
2018**

**Burn Park
Methodist Church**

Burn Park Road, Sunderland, SR2 7JH

<http://burnparkmethodistchurch.weebly.com/>

**Donations
for Charity
please**

Rev. Rosemary Nash

From the Minister's Study

Dear Friends,

Happy Easter to you all.

I must admit that I am not good with deadlines, which is why I found myself on Maundy Thursday, wrestling with my contribution for this edition of our magazine. Imagine my surprise then to hear the voice of a familiar friend coming from the radio. It was none other than our very own Leslie Griffiths who was sharing his "Pause for thought". His words, spoken with his soft welsh accent, struck a chord with me. So, I hope that you do not mind if I borrow the words of another, but here are some of his thoughts:

"It's the MOT season, but it's not my car, it's me that needs checking out. The four days that begin today encompass all the values against which I pitch my entire life. Everything I consider most sacred can be squeezed out of what happened in this period. Though, admittedly the original events took place thousands of years ago. Even so they contain a dynamic energy which continues to hold me and millions like me to account and send me on my way equipped to live the kind of life that seems most meaningful to me. Today is the day when we remember how my very special, special friend shared a meal with his followers knowing it was going to be the last time he would do that. He had preached and practiced a life centred on love. Love for God and love for neighbour. But this teaching was about to be tested in the most radical way. The following day he was going to die for his cause and 3 days after would come the vindication of everything he stood for."

And I replied AMEN!

Friends, we have walked through Holy Week and celebrated Easter, and we have seen for ourselves, the courage that it takes to live a life based on love. I find it both humbling and awesome to follow someone who not only said it but did it. I think that is just one of the reasons why I am so drawn to Jesus. He not only preached the message of love he put it into practice. He was someone who not only spoke of God's grace, he offered it. A man who walked the talk and never turned away from his path or those who turned against him. He was the

only person in all of history to defeat the power of death and offer us that same resurrection promise.

That's the way I would like to live my life. And that's why the season of Easter is for me, a time to review, repair and renew my walk with God, just like a well-worn car going for its MOT.

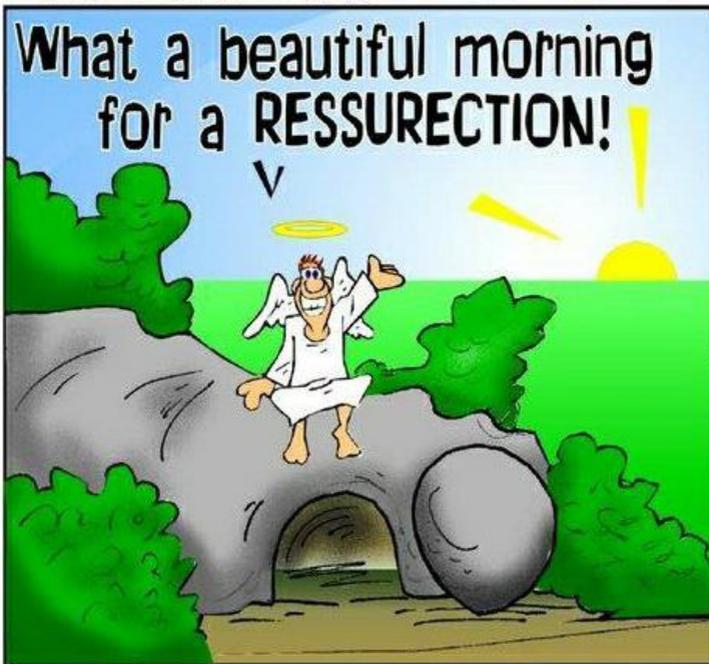
All I can hope is that it will return me to the road, fit for purpose and ready to face the challenge of another year. Happy Easter everyone and safe travelling.

God Bless,

Rosemary X



The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



That First Easter Morning.. HE IS RISEN!

April May



**Spring in the air at last,
The earth awakes anew.
Rejoice, for Christ is risen from death
New life freely given to you.**

Prayer Time



On Good Friday, we placed a labyrinth in the hall to help us reflect on the journey Jesus took to the cross. We hope that those who came along found this helpful to their spiritual journey. If you did not make it, please feel free to pick up a leaflet which gives an idea of what each prayer station was about, and gives you an internet link to help you find the videos and songs so you can take part at your leisure at home.

Don't forget there is also a prayer station set up in the meeting room, beside the ramp. At the moment, it is based on the sense of Touch. Cuddle the bear, and feel the furry cushion, taking comfort from them, and remembering how God comforts us through His love. Using a pencil, sign your name on one of the slips of paper on the table. As you write it, ask the Spirit to help you open yourself, who you really are, sins and all, to God. Tuck this paper into the cushion, and imagine the comfort of hiding in God's grace. There are copies of Psalm 32 for you to take away to remind you that confessing our sins to God is not a fearful thing. In fact, we waste away when we don't confess. But when we finally open up about who we are, God is a comfort to us. God covers us and hides us.



10 SECOND SERMONS:

until you make peace with who you are,
you'll never be content with what you have.

Doris Mortman

Pause for Thought ..

Potatoes, Eggs, and Coffee Beans

Once upon a time a daughter complained to her father that her life was miserable and that she didn't know how she was going to make it. She was tired of fighting and struggling all the time. It seemed just as one problem was solved, another one soon followed.

Her father, a chef, took her to the kitchen. He filled three pots with water and placed each on a high fire. Once the three pots began to boil, he placed potatoes in one pot, eggs in the second pot, and ground coffee beans in the third pot.

He then let them sit and boil, without saying a word to his daughter. The daughter, moaned and impatiently waited, wondering what he was doing.

After twenty minutes he turned off the burners. He took the potatoes out of the pot and placed them in a bowl. He pulled the eggs out and placed them in a bowl.

He then ladled the coffee out and placed it in a cup. Turning to her he asked. "Daughter, what do you see?"

"Potatoes, eggs, and coffee," she hastily replied.

"Look closer," he said, "and touch the potatoes." She did and noted that they were soft. He then asked her to take an egg and break it. After pulling off the shell, she observed the hard-boiled egg. Finally, he asked her to sip the coffee. Its rich aroma brought a smile to her face.

"Father, what does this mean?" she asked.

He then explained that the potatoes, the eggs and coffee beans had each faced the same adversity - the boiling water.

However, each one reacted differently.

The potato went in strong, hard, and unrelenting, but in boiling water, it became soft and weak.

The egg was fragile, with the thin outer shell protecting its liquid interior until it was put in the boiling water. Then the inside of the egg became hard.

However, the ground coffee beans were unique. After they were exposed to the boiling water, they changed the water and created something new.

“Which are you,” he asked his daughter. “When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a potato, an egg, or a coffee bean? “

Moral: In life, things happen around us, things happen to us, but the only thing that truly matters is what happens within us.

Which one are you?



No candle loses its light
while lighting another candle.

So never stop sharing
and helping others because
it makes your life more meaningful.



Letter to Mary

17th March 2018

Hi everyone,

Well I'm feeling elated after being to Southmoor School last night to see Les Miserables. I had a very good seat and was able to sit still and really get into the story, the costumes and scenery. The music and singing, oh! The talent of the pupils is tremendous. They didn't just stay on stage, they came in from the back of the hall and used the centre aisle as an extension and from time to time there were people running out that way when they had finished their songs. It made the place seem bigger when the barricade was on the stage. When the shooting was happening you really felt involved and by the time the principles had sang their songs there was hardly a dry eye in the hall. We gave them all an enthusiastic standing ovation and after all the thanks had been done, we gave them another standing ovation for luck. Talking about luck, I came away with a raffle prize of a bottle of chocolate mint Irish Cream.

We haven't got long now before our panto. Five more scheduled rehearsals before the shows. I do hope we have all attending the practices so we all have a chance to make the best of it.

We've had a full week of things to do at home. We can visit Mam again at the Highcliffe, now that she is out of her latest stay in hospital. The diabetic nurse wants to ask the doctor about Mam's sugar levels because they are creeping up again. Yesterday she wasn't very well and Peter had phoned the home to see how she was. Her sugar levels had been up to 21 instead of round about her normal 10. She's different today with her levels coming down

again. When I visited today, she was upstairs being entertained by a puppet show. She had her hair cut and permed on Wednesday and she was taking notice and full of smiles for everyone.

Well I'll have to finish this letter and get some sleep tonight. Till the next time.

Bye for now,

Love from,

June

xxxxx



Celebrations

Those people celebrating during the months of April and May include:

Birthdays

April

7th Pam Waistall

8th Hugh Bevan

May:

23rd Katrina Wake (18th)

Wedding Anniversaries

April

17th Rob & June Whitfield

May

None Known



Can we celebrate your special day too? All you have to do is fill in the form and place them in the gold box at the back of the Church; spare forms to fill in are on the side of the box.

Poetry Corner

Easter Love

*On Easter we celebrate love,
love coming down from heaven,
love blanketing the earth
in a transforming embrace;
unique and infinite love,
giving more than we can imagine
for us, to cleanse our sin,
a perfect sacrifice, Lamb of God,
the walking, talking Word.
He is teacher, role model, friend,
this God in human form,
dying, then rising from the dead,
proving all who believe
will also rise
to have eternal life, with Him,
Lord of all.
Oh, Happy, Happy Easter!*

by Joanna Fuchs

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John Chapter 3	T	L	E				
	N	A	V				
	O	O	H	N			
	T	O	L				
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Time for Reflection

The Elephant Rope

As a man was passing the elephants, he suddenly stopped, confused by the fact that these huge creatures were being held by only a small rope tied to their front leg. No chains, no cages. It was obvious that the elephants could, at any time, break away from their bonds but for some reason, they did not.



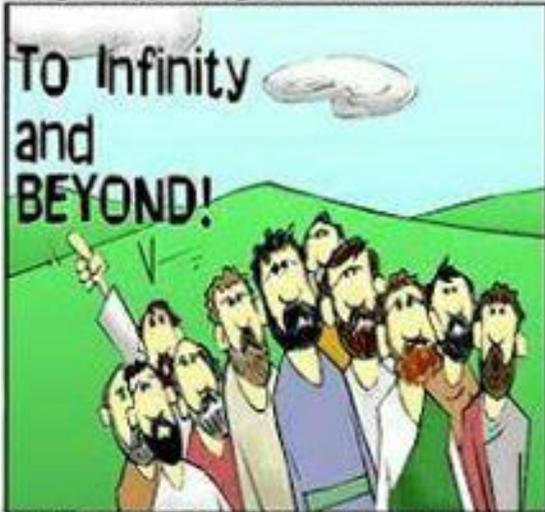
He saw a trainer nearby and asked why these animals just stood there and made no attempt to get away. “Well,” trainer said, “when they are very young and much smaller we use the same size rope to tie them and, at that age, it’s enough to hold them. As they grow up, they are conditioned to believe they cannot break away. They believe the rope can still hold them, so they never try to break free.”

The man was amazed. These animals could at any time break free from their bonds but because they believed they couldn’t, they were stuck right where they were.

Like the elephants, how many of us go through life hanging onto a belief that we cannot do something, simply because we failed at it once before?

Now for some funnies ...

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



and the Lord after speaking to them was taken up into Heaven to the Father.. to which one of the disciples in a nervous outburst shouted words not uttered again until Buzz LightYear. **16:19, 14 24:50**

A smile is a curve that can set a lot of things straight!



CLASSIC:

A book which people praise, but never read.



Why is lemon squash made with artificial flavour, while washing-up liquid is made with real lemons?



Funny, I don't remember being absent minded.



If all is not lost, where is it?



If at first you do succeed, try not to look too astonished.



It's not hard to meet expenses...they're everywhere.



Out of the mouths of babes ...

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to 'Honour thy father and thy mother,' she asked, 'Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?'

Without missing a beat, one little boy answered, 'Thou shall not kill.'



A three-year-old put his shoes on by himself. His mother noticed the left was on the right foot. She said, "Son, your shoes are on the wrong feet." He looked up at her with a raised brow and said, "Don't kid me, Mum. I KNOW they're my feet."



Diary Dates

Preachers at Burn Park for April & May:

April		May	
1 st	9 a.m. Rev. Rosemary Nash: <i>Sacrament</i>	6 th	Rev. Rosemary Nash: <i>Sacrament</i>
	11:15 a.m. Mrs. Suzy Wake	13 th	Mr. Jim Kirkland
8 th	Mr. Chris Dawson	20 th	Mr. Malcolm Muir
15 th	Rev. Rosemary Nash	27 th	Mr. Reginald Thompson
22 nd	Rev. Michael Holland		
29 th	Mr. Bob Howarth		



Important Dates to note around and about:

Sun 1 Apr: 6:30 a.m.: Tunstall Hill: Circuit Easter Day Sunrise Service led by Rev. Kathryn Stephens

Thu 12 & Fri 13 Apr at 7:15 p.m. & Sat 14 Apr at 3:30 p.m.: Burn Park: "Aladdin" by Park Productions: £5 & £3

Sat 21 Apr: 10 a.m. – 12 noon: Burn Park: Coffee Morning

Sun 29 Apr: 6 p.m.: St. John's: Circuit Service: MWiB Easter Offering Service

Tue 1 May – Fri 4 May: 7:15 p.m.: Glebe Centre, Murton: Murton Theatre Group presents "Brassed Off": £10: tickets from Suzy or Nick

Sun 6 May: time TBC: Burn Park: General Church Meeting

Wed & Thu 16 & 17 May: 7:15 p.m.: Seaham Town Hall: Vane Tempest Theatre Group: "Gone but not forgotten" concert: £6

Sat 19 May: 10 a.m. – 12 noon: Coffee Morning for Christian Aid

Sun 27 May: 3 p.m.: East Boldon: Circuit Service to say farewell to Rev. Joe Daley: speaker Rev. Joe Daley: followed by a tea

*For more details about these and other events,
please see your weekly printed notices or Circuit Plan*



If you have any notices to be published,
or articles for the next magazine,
please contact Suzy Wake at Church,
Tel: **5226257**, by e-mail on WaSus654@aol.com,
or at 119, Tunstall Rd, by 9 p.m. Thursday.

BURN PARK CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

Burn Park Methodist Church exists to worship God,
and make the Love of Jesus known, in our welcome,
outreach, and care for all.

Minister: Rev. Rosemary Nash: Tel: 0191 5652221
93, Dunelm, SR2 7QX
email: revnash@hotmail.com

Regular Events at this Church:

Sunday

10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship & Sunday Club
6.00 p.m.	Churches Together Drop-In for Homeless people

Tuesday

11.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m.	Lunch Club
1.30 p.m. - 3.00 p.m. (1 st & 3 rd weeks in the month only)	Women Together
7.30 p.m. - 9.00 p.m.	Park Productions

Thursday

10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Coffee@Burn Park
1.00 p.m. - 3.45 p.m.	Stroke Club
6.00 p.m. - 8.00 p.m.	Beavers, Cubs, & Scouts

Friday

9.30 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.	Toddlers Group
7 p.m.	Young Asian Voices

Saturday

10.00 a.m. - 12 noon	Coffee Mornings (3 rd week of month)
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To book rooms for an event,
please contact Melvyn Morgan on Tel: 5251930.

