




# The Benefice of Upper Wensleydale 'Church in the Home'

May 8th – 21st



Tel: 01969 667553 Email: [office@upperwenben.org](mailto:office@upperwenben.org)

 [www.upperwensleydalechurch.org](http://www.upperwensleydalechurch.org)

Edition Number 79

## The Lord is my Shepherd

It was so encouraging to see the church from across the Benefice unite together once more on Sunday for the first '**Gathering**' service since March 2020. Our theme was God as caring Shepherd. Our memory verse took the promises of God from Ezekiel chapter 34: *'I myself will search for my sheep ... I will rescue them from the places where they were scattered ... I will bring them into their own land ... I will tend them in a good pasture.'* The children present were given the opportunity to hold and feed some lambs whilst hearing about how a Shepherd cares for them and how that reflects the care and love that God has for each and every one of us.

We have certainly experienced being scattered over the last 26 months and as we learn to live our lives around the presence of the virus and the challenges that this continues to bring to us all, many are still cautious around others as they endeavour to keep clear from infection before important and long awaited medical appointments. For the majority of us who are not in this position, the opportunity to gather together as a combined church once more is an exciting, encouraging and liberating experience.

One of the reasons behind the PCC's decision to revise the structure of the pattern of worship across the Benefice was to create new & different opportunities for ourselves and our communities to discover and to engage with the message of God's love. Our newly formed Home Groups, family events, services of communion and prayer in person or by telephone, all play a part in this. God as Shepherd calls us to listen and to *follow* his voice and our Bible readings over the next two weeks continue to draw upon this invitation and imagery. There is hope, there is purpose and there is a commandment to respond in love to one another, our communities and to God himself. As we gather in worship we bless the Lord and in turn we receive *His* blessing and encourage one another.

Isn't it lovely to see the fruit of the fields at this time of the year? Lambs and calves enjoying life together and displaying their individual characters, yet when the shepherd and cowherd appears, no matter where the animals are in the field, young or old, fit or lame, they gather together and look to them for help and care.

We all have our own particular ways and preferences but as followers of Jesus Christ we are called to follow the one shepherd; to unite around him and to be encouraged by doing so. I hope and pray that this year would see us as a church grow bolder in our ministry of **invitation** as we encourage one another and those who do not yet know the love and life of Jesus for themselves, to come along to the different opportunities for worship and discovery that you feel would be appropriate for them.

A closer translation of the final verse of our psalm this Sunday speaks of God's love pursuing us. It's a wonderful image to hold onto but for that love to catch us up we need to slow down or stop and face it. The call of Jesus is that we do this for ourselves but also help others to do the same.

*Let's be encouraged – Let's encourage one another – Let's be Church*

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peter Jones'.



# 'Praise in the Pen'

Our popular family event is moving from St Oswald's in Askrigg to **St Margaret's in Hawes** on **Sunday May 15<sup>th</sup>**.

The format will remain the same, as will the time of 10:30 – 11:30 ... just a different venue ...

We hope to welcome you there!



# 'Pathfinders'

New Group for our  
9-13yr olds

**Beginning Sunday May 22<sup>nd</sup>**

An opportunity for our children to meet, eat, walk, play, have fun and explore what God has to say to them about issues affecting *them*.

Our primary heart is to create a space where friendships can continue to grow and that our young folk can enjoy being together and encourage one another.

What we do and how we do it will grow out of the ideas of those who gather together.

We will meet at **St Matthew's Church** in **Stalling Busk** at 3:15 for an hour.

Parents who bring their children to Stalling Busk can stay in the School Room and have tea and coffee and there will be a place for younger children to play if this is needed.

Any questions please contact Dave on 667553 or [davejclark61@gmail.com](mailto:davejclark61@gmail.com)



**Join us for a Soup lunch**  
at St Matthew's, Stalling Busk  
**1-2pm Sunday May 8<sup>th</sup>**  
followed by Holy Communion



**Wensleydale Filling Station**  
**Thornborough Hall, Moor Rd, Leyburn DL8 5AB**

**May 13<sup>th</sup> - Refreshed and Renewed**  
**Speaker: Philip Ireson**

The **'Filling Station'** continues to grow in strength and number since its reintroduction this year in Thornborough Hall in Leyburn. If you have never been before, why not come along on the evening of Friday May 13<sup>th</sup> and experience something new and listen to Philip Ireson speak on being **'Refreshed and Renewed'**.

Philip is married to Frances and they have three grown up children. He was Vicar of two rural groups of parishes in the Sheffield Diocese before becoming Senior Chaplain at HMP Doncaster. He then moved on to be a Vicar of an inner-city church in Sheffield before retiring. He has close links with South Sudanese refugees in north Uganda and has helped to develop a prison project in Malawi for young offenders which he continues to support. Philip is passionate about helping fellow believers to remember who they are in Christ through the work of the Holy Spirit.

If you would like to be there and need a lift, please let Dave know: 667553



The Wedding of  
**Jessica Beresford and Joel Emery**  
will be held at 1pm on May 14<sup>th</sup> at St Oswald's, Askrigg

The funeral of Jean Parry of Appersett will be held  
at St Mary and St John's Church, Hardraw  
on May 16<sup>th</sup> at 1.00pm.



# Upper Wensleydale Benefice Services

## May 2022



	<b>St Mary &amp; St John's, Hardraw 9.00am</b>	<b>St Margaret's, Hawes 10.30am</b>	<b>St Oswald's, Askrigg 10.30am</b>	<b>St Matthew's, Stalling Busk- 2.30pm</b>	<b>Evening Prayer</b>
May 8th	Morning Prayer	Ecumenical Service	Holy Communion	Soup Lunch 1-2pm followed by Holy Communion	4pm Evening prayer by telephone
May 15th	Holy Communion	Family Service Praise in the Pen	Morning Prayer		4pm Evening prayer by telephone
May 22nd	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion	Café Style Outreach	Pathfinders Young People aged 10+ Activity Friendship Discovery	4pm Evening prayer by telephone
May 29th	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion	Morning Prayer		4pm Evening prayer by telephone

*Let's be encouraged and encourage one another. Let's be Church.*



**Come and join us from the comfort of your own home**

**Evening Prayer** on Sundays at 4pm

As 4pm approaches call this number: **03330 164757** you will then be asked to enter the Room Number: **893 277 00#** and the PIN:

**2772#** And then you're in ... say 'Hello' or sit quietly and enter into a short service of prayer and reflection

**Rev Dave Clark:** The Vicarage, Burtsett Road, Hawes. DL8 3NP, 01969 667553, office@upperwenben.org



Upper Wensleydale Church – CofE

[www.upperwensleydalechurch.org](http://www.upperwensleydalechurch.org)