



The Benefice of Upper Wensleydale

'Church in the Home'

July 2023

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Edition Number 94

From the Vicarage:

Operating from a place of Rest

I love the different ways in which the Lord gets our attention.

I'm sure you have experienced moments in your life when a particular message, phrase or word keeps crossing your path. Recently, Sarah and I have both been experiencing this with certain scriptures being brought to our attention in different ways. People we have met, books we are reading, Bible podcasts we are listening to have all been drawing our attention to the Godly principle of holding things gently and working from a place of rest.

Now; those of you who know me a little better will have noticed that I can easily find things to keep me occupied and so this essential state of grace can, at times, seem rather elusive even when I know I need it. There is the challenge. We know what is good for us but 'life' and all its activity can so easily become greater than it should be and we can find ourselves losing out on the everyday joy of living. That's why it's so important to keep regular appointments with the Lord to 'breathe in' & receive from him, enabling us to walk more closely and in harmony with Him.

John Ortberg in his book '**Soul Keeping**' points out that the world teaches us to be more concerned about the condition of our cars and careers than our souls. Perhaps because a dented soul is easier to keep hidden than a dented car, but if our souls become unhealthy then it's certainly bad news for us but it can be even worse news for everyone else around us! Spending time with the Lord is essential. As Disciples of Christ we are light carriers and the world is in desperate need for this light so we must do all we can to preserve it and allow it to shine brightly. This, as I have been reminded of on numerous occasions recently, works best when my 'inner tempo' is slower and my soul is operating from a place of godly rest. Then, 'things' just *seem* to happen and I'm in a better place to respond to them like the wonderful time spent chatting with a young farmer on a quiet roadside early one morning resulting in a time of prayer together, or the timely unplanned meeting and prayer with two special people in St Margaret's one evening or the 'coincidental' encounter with a grieving husband allowing time to listen to his heart and to share God's love for him.

As the dale begins to receive its summer visitors seeking rest and refreshing, many of you will be busier than ever as you facilitate their recreation or respond to the never ending demands of the land and its livestock. I encourage you, all the more, to join with me in a desire to do things differently this month. Start the day with a quiet time of prayerful preparation, take a few moments out with the Lord when the pressure is building and learn Christ's 'unforced rhythms of grace'

"Walk with me and work with me ... Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."

Matthew 11:28ff (Message Bible)

Per Dave.

Try downloading the
'Lectio365' App. Very helpful.



The next 'Gathering' will be on **Sunday 2 July**
10:30am at St Margaret's in Hawes

'Operating from a place of Rest'

We look forward to welcoming you there!

Be a Blessing – Be Encouraged – Be Church



Wensleydale Filling Station



Thornborough Hall, Leyburn

Friday July 14th 7-9pm

Speaker:

Speaker: Sebastian Rab

**'Peace with God', 'Hope through suffering' and Love
in our hearts'. Romans 5**



Sebastian and Rachael Rab moved to the Dales in 2022 to take on the leadership of the Jonas Centre, a Christian residential centre and holiday venue. Currently living in Reeth, they are part of Reeth Evangelical Congregational Church and contribute to church life around the Dales. Seb has worked with different churches across North Yorkshire and as a UCCF staff worker with the university Christian Unions in York. He is just finishing an MA in Theology and Ministry at Cranmer Hall, St John's College, Durham.

If you would like to come along and need transport there, please let Dave know.

Come and watch the first-ever multi-season series about the life of Christ - from the beginning!

Chantry Hall, Bedale @ 1.30pm starting 6th July



The Chosen is an historical drama of the life of Jesus. Come and experience his life and the Bible in a new and inspiring way.

Each episode lasts about 30-40 minutes and offers us the opportunity to see Jesus' life and the bible in a new way. We meet each Thursday afternoon from 1.30pm, watch an episode and then spend a little time talking about what we have seen. It has been moving, thought provoking and inspirational, so from 6th July, we are starting again, from Season 1, Episode 1. We would love more people to come and experience this remarkable series. It has proved to be a time to get to know one another better whilst exploring our faith. Come and join us!



Baptism

If anyone would like to be Baptised, or knows of anyone who would like to be baptised, or would like to re-affirm their baptismal vows as a part of the open air event at Semerwater on August Bank Holiday Sunday, then please let Dave know by contacting the office.

Join our Prayer Meetings

Did you know that the Benefice holds regular prayer meetings? Everyone welcome.

St Margaret's, Hawes

Every Tuesday 9.15-10am

St Oswald's, Askrigg

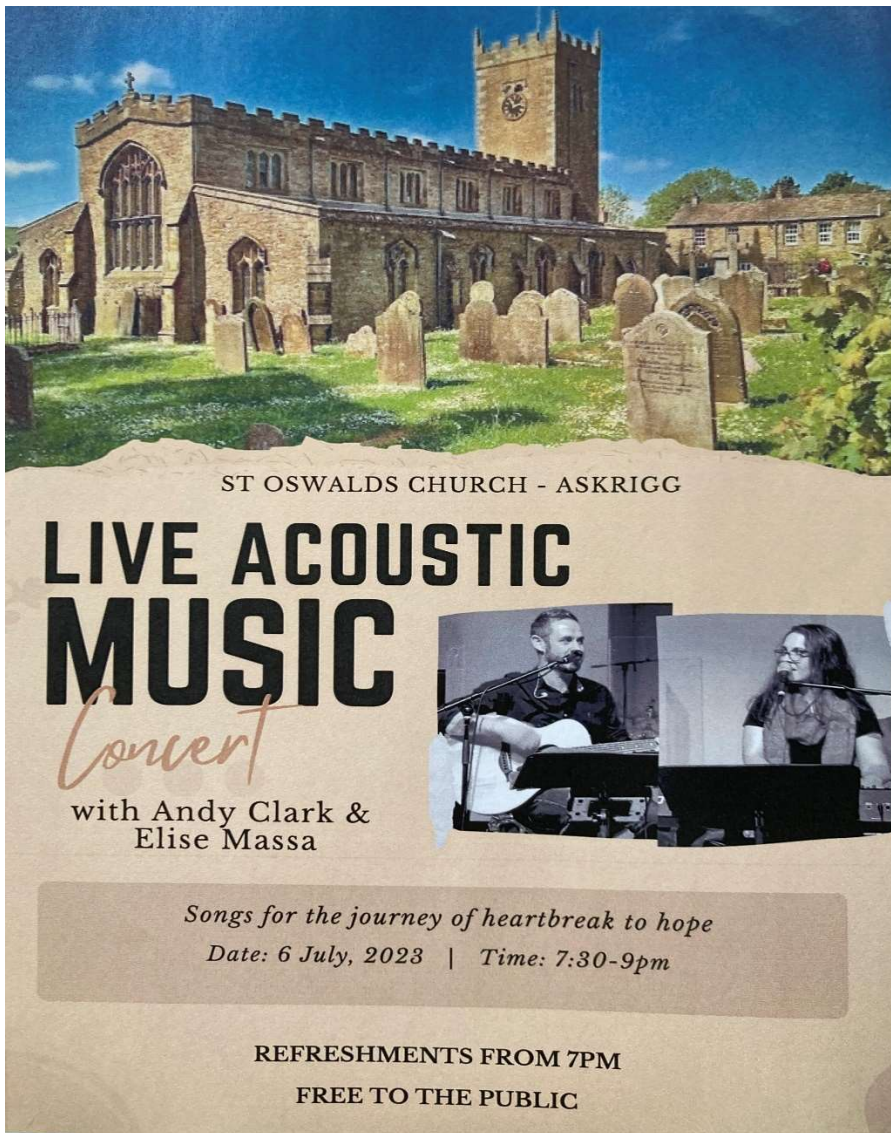
Every other Tuesday, 11am -12 noon
(11th and 25th July)

Have you visited the Benefice website yet?

Click on to the Benefice website:

<http://upperwensleydalechurch.org/>

If you've been unable to attend a particular Sunday service and would like to know what the teaching and reflection was on that particular day, then audio recordings (under 'Services') and transcripts (under 'resources' – 'From the Rev') are available on the website.



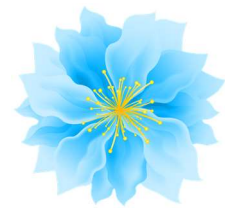
Thursday 6th July

Come and enjoy an evening of live acoustic music in the company of

Andy Clark

&

Elise Massa



'Songs for the Journey'

Doors open at 7pm at St Oswald's Church when refreshments will be served.

How often have you heard a hymn, a reading or a poem that you think you would like to have at your funeral? Did you do anything about it? We have had a number of funerals in recent years where family members have found it very easy to arrange, as there had been clear instructions left, including the service plan. However, there have also been a number where the family were completely unsure of what their loved one wanted and have gone ahead and planned services without this information, which can add extra stress to an already difficult time. So we would encourage you to discuss your thoughts with your family, or write down your wishes and leave them with your important papers or lodge them at the vicarage.



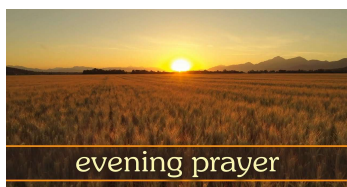


Upper Wensleydale Benefice Services

July 2023



	St Mary & St John's, Hardraw 9.00am	St Margaret's, Hawes 10.30am	St Oswald's, Askrigg 10.30am	St Matthew's, Stalling Busk	Evening Prayer 4pm
July 2nd	The Gathering - Benefice Family Communion St Margaret's Church 10.30am				
July 7th	Sycamore Hall – Communion Service in the long Lounge – 10am				
July 9th	Morning Prayer	Ecumenical Gayle	Holy Communion	12.30 Soup & Communion	Evening prayer by telephone
July 16th	Holy Communion	Praise in the Pen	Morning Prayer		Evening prayer by telephone
July 23rd	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion	Café Style	2.30 Afternoon Prayer 3.15 Pathfinders	Evening prayer by telephone
July 30th	Songs of Praise	Morning Prayer	Forest Church		



Evening Prayer on a Sunday

For some time now we have been offering the opportunity of sharing in a service of Afternoon/Evening prayer by telephone from your own home. It is very simple to join in. I am confident that there are many more people in the upper dale who would benefit from joining with us. You may be one of them or you may know of someone who would appreciate the chance to do so. If that is the case, then follow the instructions below and we look forward to welcoming you at 4pm on a Sunday afternoon.

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 are in...

say 'Hello' or sit quietly and join a short service of prayer and reflection