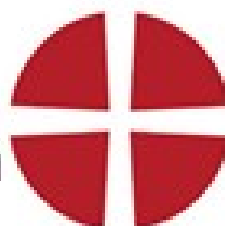




Whitehall Road Methodist Church Gateshead Newsletter



Rev. Brigitta Steele

Telephone : 0191 6607091

www.whitehallrdmethodist.org.uk

www.swtyneside.org.uk

**Sunday July 6th 2025
10.30 am**

Preacher

Mr Simon Zwolinsky



Bible Month

The Gospel of John is different from the other three Gospels in content and style.

It focuses on the miracles and teachings of Jesus that reveal his divine nature and identity as the Son of God.

Sunday July 13th 2025
10.30 am

Mrs April Lancaster

From our Prayer Book please pray for

David Cranston
Auriel Crocker
Audrey Noble
Bob Noble
Elizabeth Obasa
Don Bertram

Sylvia Smith
Carol Thorpe
Sheila Whitehouse
Muriel Williamson
John Wilson
Barbara Wilson

Prayer for the week

Lord our God, we cannot grasp the full measure of your glory, but we thank you that so often in the quiet, unexpected places, you make your treasures known and reveal depths of meaning and compassion or heights of possibility and hope.

For a gentle smile or kindly act, we thank you. For loving care and generosity of spirit, we thank you. For justice and reconciliation, we thank you. For all that illuminates the darkness in our own and in others' lives, we thank you.

Lord of Light, help us to share your treasures with others, guiding and upholding into love and life for all. Amen

A moment for humour



Don't look back The Sunday School teacher was telling the story of how when Lot's wife looked back at Sodom and Gomorrah, she turned into a pillar of salt. One youngster nodded in a knowing fashion. "My mummy looked back once while she was driving," he confided, "and she turned into a lamp post."

FAITH
is not a movement.

FAITH
is not how God
operates and lives...
it's how He wants
you to live.

KENNETH COPELAND

You can keep in touch on the
Church Whats App group using
this QR code

or on Facebook by searching for
Whitehall Road Methodist Church,
Gateshead



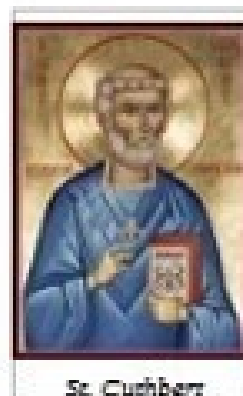
If you have any items to be included in the Newsletter
please contact Ian by Wednesday.

phone: 0191 4884037 or email: isoulsby@blueyonder.co.uk

Saints Of Northumbria 5

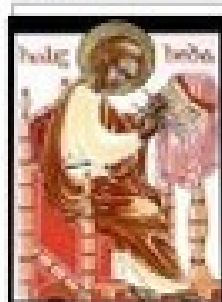
Saint Cuthbert (634-687) Part 1

Cuthbert was one of Northumbria's best known saints. He travelled a great deal during his life, and even more so after death. His journey started in 875 AD, when the increasing number of Viking raids made it too dangerous for the monks to remain on Lindisfarne and they decided to flee.



St. Cuthbert

They packed up their treasures, including St Cuthbert's remains and set off on the road looking for a safe place to settle. They stayed on the road, moving from place to place for over a century, and Cuthbert stayed with them, until they finally settled down in Durham one hundred years later.



Bede

We know a lot about Cuthbert through the writings of the Venerable Bede (672-735), the prominent Anglo-Saxon scholar, who wrote two detailed records of his life. Cuthbert was a monk, and later became prior of Melrose Abbey. He came to Lindisfarne after the Synod of Whitby brought about significant changes in the Northumbrian churches which saw the church move away from Celtic traditions to embrace those of Roman Christianity.

During his time at Lindisfarne, Cuthbert became famous for his commitment and devotion to the church, and especially for his gift for spiritual healing – the gift that would later form the foundation of his cult following.

After some time spent in positions of power within the church, Cuthbert wanted a quieter life and was granted leave to become a hermit. He retired to a small islet adjoining Lindisfarne, now known as St. Cuthbert's Isle. Even then, Cuthbert enjoyed very little peace, as pilgrims continued to visit the islet to plead with him to heal them.

In fact, he was so popular that his followers begged him to come out of retirement. He was made bishop of Lindisfarne, but it was not a position that he really wanted.

Having briefly served as bishop, Cuthbert once again isolated himself in a hermitage on the island of Inner Farne, where he stayed until his death in 687 AD.



Cuthbert was already considered a miracle-worker in life and his tomb at Lindisfarne quickly gained a reputation as a place of miraculous power. His good deeds and list of reported miracles (which continued to increase after his death) speedily made Saint Cuthbert one of the most venerated saints in Britain.



His sainthood was declared only eleven years after his burial. In 698 AD, the monks exhumed his body and to their surprise found it hadn't decayed; even going so far as to describe him as 'as flexible as a living man'. This miracle was later witnessed on many occasions and was deemed to signify his great holiness and worthiness to become a saint.

The top corners of the flyer are decorated with stylized floral illustrations. The top-left corner features a branch with small, light pink buds. The top-right corner features a branch with dark pink leaves and a large, solid pink circular shape behind it.

Thanksgiving & Sending Service for Rev Ann Varker

Sunday 27th July 2025 at 4pm

Strathmore Methodist Church,
Rowlands Gill

Preacher: Gary Hopkins,
Connexional MinistriesTeam

The bottom corners of the flyer are decorated with stylized floral illustrations. The bottom-left corner features a branch with dark pink leaves. The bottom-right corner features a branch with small, light pink buds.

Refreshments will be
provided after the service

Why are we called Methodists?



John & Charles Wesley

Aldersgate Day, or Wesley Day is an anniversary observed by Methodists on 24 May.

It recalls the day in 1738 when John Wesley attended a meeting in Aldersgate, London, where he had a conversion experience.

The brothers John and Charles Wesley were sons of an Anglican clergyman. In 1728 John became a priest, and the following year he and Charles both went to Oxford University. The brothers led a reform movement within the Church of England that prioritised prayer and bible study. They placed an emphasis on social justice, ending poverty and working among marginalised people, including prisoners. They became members of a club of devout students who pledged themselves to regular Bible reading, attendance at Holy Communion, and visiting prisoners in the local jails. Their fellow students poked fun at them because of their self-disciplined way of life and gave them the name of 'Methodists'. The name stuck and we still bear it today.

John Wesley tried to create a place within the Church of England for his approach to the Christian faith, but eventually the Methodists split away and formed their own denomination. Today the various Methodist churches around the world claim a membership of more than 22 million.

Peace of Mind, the charity that operates from our premises, has been honoured with an invitation to Buckingham Palace.

Below, is an article from *Gateshead Now*, the Council's newsletter.

Peace of Mind attended a prestigious humanitarian reception hosted by Their Majesties The King and Queen at Buckingham Palace.



Volunteers and trustees from Peace of Mind

It is believed that Peace of Mind CIO is one of the first refugee-led organisations to receive such an invitation from the British monarchy.

Founder Sara Muzaffar, said: "It was a profound privilege to attend the reception where Peace of Mind and the invaluable contributions of our volunteers, partners, and the resilient refugee community were recognised. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Gateshead Council for their support, which has been

instrumental in our mission to foster a welcoming environment for refugees in Gateshead."

Peace of Mind's work includes emergency food parcels, providing warm spaces during winter, leading children's activities, and equipping refugees with language skills and advocacy tools.

More information about Peace of Mind can be found at www.peaceofmindnortheast.org.uk



Every donation means:

A child doesn't go to bed hungry.

A family feels supported.

Hope is restored.

Our Promise: 100% of donations go directly to supporting vulnerable families in our community.

Peace of Mind is looking for help.

Yesterday, our charity faced one of the most devastating moments of 2024 - above 40 families left our food bank empty-handed and with heavy hearts. As Refugee led charity our recourses are already very limited and currently we are struggling to keep up with the need and demand for food support.

Why We're Reaching Out:

We're not just asking for donations; we're pleading for hope. Each contribution can transform a family's desperate situation and provide immediate relief.

What We Urgently Need:

- Tinned chickpeas
- Chopped tomatoes
- Milk
- Basmati Rice
- Dried lentils
- Chili flakes
- Cumin seeds
- Ground paprika
- Ground coriander
- Cooking oil
- Salt

- Tea / Coffee
- Sugar
- Biscuits
- Cereals

Dignity Supplies:

- Personal hygiene products
- Soap
- Toothpaste
- Sanitary items

How You Can Help:

1. Food Donations: Bring items Wednesday mornings before 11am

**2. Financial Support: Contribute through
<https://gofund.me/62e51de7>**