

Link

www.whitehaven-methodist-circuit.org.uk

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Westfield Drive
Egremont

Dear follower of Jesus,

I recently read something of the early life of the Spanish painter Bartolomé Esteban Murillo. He was the youngest of fourteen children of a Sevillian barber. After his elder sisters and brothers had left home, his father and mother died in consecutive years. Aged ten, Murillo was adopted by an aunt and uncle. The uncle was a wealthy doctor and a very pious Catholic.

In pride of place in the sitting room of his adoptive home was a large picture of *Jesus the Shepherd Boy*. Murillo said that the picture dominated the family and reflected their devout nature. However, he found that the portrait in its gilt frame haunted him. The shepherd boy stood up straight and tall, with his shepherd's crook like a sentry's bayonet. His eyes were dull and averted, his unblemished face enhanced by rosy cheeks, his hair unruffled, and his head encircled by a halo. For Murillo, nothing could have been further from how he imagined a young Judean shepherd to be.

One day, when his adoptive family were out, he took the picture off the wall and set about changing the image of the shepherd boy with his paints. The stern face was given a lively grin, the eyes livened up, and the hair made unruly. The halo became a battered straw hat and the crook a gnarled walking stick.

When his uncle and aunt returned and saw the defaced painting, they sought to shame Murillo by making him carry it through the streets of Seville. However, this resulted in a local religious icon painter seeing his work, being impressed by its style, and taking Murillo into his home. There he apprenticed Murillo and Murillo became one of Spain's great religious artists.

I wonder what sort of image of Jesus the Church gives to people today. Is it one that is rather unreal, or stern, or insipid? Is it one that speaks more of a divine remote Jesus than an earthy human one? Is it one that is more informed by two-thousand years of religious art than by the pages of the New Testament? If so, is this the kind of person to whom people can relate and whom people might feel inclined to follow?

It seems to me that our emphasis today needs to be more upon a Jesus who was truly human: a Jesus who was part of a poor family; a Jesus who laboured in a carpenter's shop; a Jesus who was moved by those in need around him; a Jesus who enjoyed sharing meals in the homes of others; a Jesus who told stories and taught profound truths about God; a Jesus who suffered injustice; a Jesus who knew what it meant to be let down by his friends. This Jesus, a down-to-earth God, is the one who understands our human experience and frailty. This Jesus is the one whom we might want to call a friend. The life and teaching of this Jesus can inspire us and excite us to follow him.

It is time to follow Murillo's example and get out the palette and brushes, so that a Jesus who is real might inhabit our world, our churches and our lives.

Happy restoring,

Philip Peacock.

Prayer to Nourish the Soul - St Bees, Saturday 22nd May

Supernumerary Methodist minister Rev Jeff Thomas from Kendal really inspiring the seven people from the Circuit who attended this one day course.

For the last 15 years Rev. Thomas has been consciously developing his own spirituality, aided by the writings of the saints down the ages - Augustine, Ignatius Loyola, Therese of Avila and others; also by Celtic spirituality. Now he gives courses on it, some of six weeks.

We were treated to three sessions: Desire in Prayer; Praying the Scriptures; An Encounter with Jesus. Within a short time we had been shown new ways of praying.

In 'Desire in Prayer' he invited us to pray for what we really really deeply wanted - the thing we wanted most of all. The concept idea is that if we take our very deepest desires to God and reflect on them with Him He will purify those desires and feed them back to us so that eventually what we want is the same as what God wants.

In 'Praying the Scriptures' we were encouraged to take a bible passage: READ it, slowly, listening for a word or phrase; REFLECT on it - meditating, thinking, pondering, ruminating; RESPOND to it - praying the 'Word', talking with Jesus about the issues; REST in God - be silent and let it all sink into the depths of our being.

In 'An Encounter with Jesus' we were invited to use our imaginations in prayer. Imagine ourselves in the bible passage, for example a story of Jesus - living it, looking at others, feeling, smelling, hearing, experiencing anything and everything about it. Ponder about that and let it grow within us.

Rev. Thomas thought there was to be too little spirituality in many churches but that was starting to change. For the seven who came it was a really worthwhile few hours, well worth the time spent. Like many things it cannot be told second hand - you had to experience it to gain from it. If you ever get the chance to attend a similar event by Jeff Thomas, grab it with both hands - you will be the richer for it.

Douglas McDevitte

“Called to Serve” course 2010-11

“Called to Serve” course: Would you like to explore God’s special calling to you? Grow to serve God more fully and confidently? Discover what God wants for his church and world?

Join the “Called to Serve” course – it’s enjoyable, friendly, stimulating and practical! There are 3 Saturdays and 15 evenings (fortnightly, in term time), spread over Sept. 2010 to July 2011.

Choose between: Carlisle on Mondays, Maryport on Wednesdays, Kendal on Thursdays.

Apply now! Places are limited.

For information, contact:

Canon Amiel Osmaston, Church House, West Walls, Carlisle CA3 8UE.

Tel: 01228 815406.

Email: ministry.dev@carlisle-diocese.org.uk

Whitehaven cafechurch

So what do people make of the cafechurch at Costa Coffee in Whitehaven? Here are some comments from people who attend:

- “It’s not at all like church – you’re talking about issues that relate to everybody.”
- “It’s a fun way to do church.”
- “You have an opportunity to say what you feel – which you do not have at church.”
- “It’s a good way of meeting new people in the area.”
- “It’s easier to invite someone along than to other churches.”

From Costa’s perspective, Karl, the manager, observes: ‘It’s pretty enjoyable for the staff as well – they like to get involved in the quizzes.’

**METHODIST CHURCH
WHITEHAVEN CIRCUIT PLAN 9/4
JULY-SEPTEMBER 2010**

CHAIR OF THE DISTRICT

Rev Richard J Teal, 14 Monnington Way, Penrith CA11 8QJ, 01768 866342,
richard.teal@methodist.org.uk

MINISTERS

Rev Philip N Peacock (Superintendent), 11 Westfield Drive, Egremont, CA22 2JJ, 01946 822380,
philip.peacock@methodist.org.uk (Day off: Saturday)

Rev Gerald E Wilson, Tillydrine, Todholes Road, Cleator Moor, CA25 5PL, 01946 810428,
gerald.wilson@methodist.org.uk (Day off: Monday)

Rev Herbert W Clark (Supernumerary), Roselea, 15 Coronation Drive, Whitehaven,
CA28 6JN, 01946 691772

Rev Nan Pryde (Supernumerary), 7 Rowantree Close, Rannerdale Drive, Whitehaven, CA28 6LB,
01946 696667, rev.nan@btinternet.com

Rev Jim Marshall (Authorised Minister), The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Ennerdale, Cleator, CA23 3BE,
01946 861310, Revjimmarshall@googlemail.com

SELLAFIELD CHAPLAIN

Deacon Tom Luke, 41 Riverside Gardens, Barrow-in-Furness, LA13 0DD, 01229 832263,
tomandjanluke@btinternet.com (until July 31st)

CIRCUIT STEWARDS

Mavis Moore, 10 Crossings Close, Cleator Moor, CA25 5QH, 01946 810475 (until Aug 31st)

Keith Bradshaw, 39 Wasdale Park, Seascale, CA20 1PB, 019467 28724,
keithbradshaw@tiscali.co.uk

Philip Adamson, 5 Wordsworth Road, Whitehaven, CA28 6UA, 01946 695267

Financial Steward: Barbara Coyles, 66 Victoria Road, Whitehaven, CA28 6JU, 01946 693646,
barbara.coyles@btopenworld.com

LOCAL PREACHERS

*not currently available to conduct services

1952* Mavis Clark, Roselea, 15 Coronation Drive, Whitehaven, CA28 6JN, 01946 691772

1963 Alan Moore, 10 Crossings Close, Cleator Moor, CA25 5QH, 01946 810475

1971 Keith Bradshaw, 39 Wasdale Park, Seascale, CA20 1PB, 019467 28724

1977 David Andrews, 12 Lonsdale Place, Whitehaven, CA28 6DX, 01946 695373

1977 Barbara Hunter, 1 Goldsmith Road, Egremont, CA22 2HL, 01946 823211

1980* Graham Worsnop, 3 Gosforth Road, Seascale, CA20 1PU, 019467 28296

1987 Alec Bounds, Emmaus, Wodow Road, Thornhill, CA22 2SD, 01946 823659

1988* Jill Greenshaw, Comfrey, Calder Avenue, Whitehaven, CA28 8AR, 01946 692026

1995 Douglas McDevitte, 9 Kirkbeck Drive, Beckermeth, CA21 2YT, 01946 841567

1996 Jackie Davies, 2 Threaplunds, Cleator Moor, CA25 5HA, 01946 814714

1997 Hilary Wilson, Tillydrine, Todholes Road, Cleator Moor, CA25 5PL, 01946 810428

2008 Gillian Bounds, Emmaus, Wodow Rd, Thornhill, CA22 2SD, 01946 823659

2009 Keith Hudson, Mountain View, Drigg, Holmrook, CA19 1XS, 019467 21592

2010 Jean Millie, 6 Longcroft, Egremont, CA22 2PT, 01946 825593

2010		July 4th		July 11th		July 18th		July 25th		Aug 1st		Aug 8th	
CHURCH Minister/Members 287	Time	14 in Ordinary Time		Action for Children Sunday		16 in Ordinary Time		17 in Ordinary Time		18 in Ordinary Time		19 in Ordinary Time	
CLEATOR MOOR GW 48	11.00 6.00	Peacock	HC	Andrews		Moore		Solway Supply		A Bounds		G Wilson	HC
FRIZINGTON GW 18	9.45 3.00	Peacock	HC	Andrews		Moore		Davies		A Bounds		G Wilson	HC
KIRKLAND GW/JM 3	10.30	Anglican	HC	Anglican	HC	Anglican	HC	Andrews		Anglican	HC	Anglican	HC
HENSINGHAM GW 58	11.00 6.00	A Bounds		Luke	HC	Pryde	B	Bradshaw		WL		Andrews	
WHITEHAVEN St Nicholas	9.45			Hunter	T							Moore	
MORESBYPARKS GW 18	9.30	A Bounds		Luke	HC	Griffiths		Bradshaw		Reynolds		Andrews	
EGREMONT PP 60	11.00 6.00	Hudson	SP	Millie		Peacock	B	Hunter		Pryde	HC	LA	
ST BEES PP 16	11.00	McDevitte		LA	AAW	Andrews		Marshall	HC	Solway Supply		G Bounds	AAW
GOSFORTH PP 16	10.00 6.30	McDevitte/WL		Gray		WL		Andrews		Pryde		Walker	
SEASCALE PP 50	10.00 6.30	LA		Peacock	HC	Teal	A	Solway Supply		Andrews		McDevitte	
		Woolcock	M	Andrews	M	Peacock	A HC M	Woolcock	M	Woolcock	M	G Wilson	A

COSTA COFFEE FX King Street, Whitehaven Sunday - 4.30-6pm	July 11 th 'Fly the flag'	August 8 th 'LoveSongs@Costa'
MORESBY PARKS Wednesday - 1pm	August 18 th G Wilson	
SEASCALE Wednesday - 2pm	July 28 th Bradshaw	August 25 th G Wilson HC
INFORMAL WORSHIP Saturday - 7.30pm	July 3 rd Seascale	

REFERENCES			
A	Anniversary	FX	Fresh Expression
AAW	All Age Worship	H	Harvest
B	Baptism	HC	Holy Communion
F	Family Service	HP	Harvest Praise

Aug 15th	Aug 22nd	Aug 29th	Sept 5th	Sept 12th	Sept 19th	Sept 26th
20 in Ordinary Time	21 in Ordinary Time	22 in Ordinary Time	23 in Ordinary Time	Racial Justice Sunday	25 in Ordinary Time	26 in Ordinary Time
Pryde	McDevitte	LA	Bradshaw	Brennand	G Bounds	Pryde H G & H Wilson H
LA	McDevitte	Davies	Bradshaw	Hunter T	G Wilson H	Millie
Anglican HC	Anglican HC	LA at Lamplugh	Anglican HC	Anglican HC	Anglican HC	G Wilson H
Hunter T	Moore	G Wilson HC	G Bounds	H Wilson	G Wilson F P H	LA
				G Wilson HC		
Griffiths	Moore	G Wilson B	G Wilson HC	Millie/Griffiths H	LA	<i>Fishing Stone</i>
McDevitte	G Wilson	Gray	Moore Youth Bite HC	A Bounds	Andrews	Peacock AAW H
Peacock HC	Millie	Bradshaw	Pryde	Andrews AAW	Peacock HC	Hunter T
Peacock HC	Bradshaw/WL	A Bounds	G Wilson	Peacock/Falkner AAW M	Peacock HC	LA HP
LA Woolcock ^{OA}	Bradshaw Woolcock ^A	A Bounds McDevitte ^A	Peacock H Wilson ^A	HC Moore H Woolcock ^M	Hudson Woolcock ^M	LA AAW H Peacock H ^M

September 12th Theme to be decided
September 15th Griffiths
September 29th Moore
September 4th Frizington

REFERENCES			
LA	Local Arrangement	WL	Worship Leader(s)
P	Parade Service	A	United Service in Anglican Church
SP	Songs of Praise	M	United Service in Methodist Church
T	Transport required both ways	OA	Open Air Service

WORSHIP LEADERS

These are listed under their churches in the Circuit Directory
Waymark, c/o Keith & Jill Hudson, Mountain View, Drigg, Holmrook, CA19 1XS, 019467 21592

PREACHERS FROM OTHER CIRCUITS

Mr Eric Brennand, Beulahland, Berry Bank Road, Grange-over-Sands, LA11 7EJ, 01539 535862
Rev Nicola Reynolds, 13 Stainburn Road, Workington, 01900 602214
Solway Supply c/o Rev Nicola Reynolds (details above)

PREACHERS FROM OTHER CHURCHES

Rev Jonathan Falkner, The Rectory, Gosforth, Seascale, CA20 1AZ, 019467 25251
Fishing Stone, c/o Mrs Liz Bailey, Hall Bolton, Gosforth, Seascale, CA20 1JD, 019467 24130
Rev Lindsay Gray, 1 Bridge End Park, Egremont, CA22 2RH, 01946 822051
Rev Stephen Griffiths, The Rectory, Low Moresby, Whitehaven, CA28 6RR, 01946 693970
Rev Gavin Walker, 4 South Parade, Seascale, CA20 1PZ, 019467 29463
Rev John Woolcock, The Vicarage, The Banks, Seascale, CA20 1QT, 019467 28217

CIRCUIT DIARY

July

11th All details for next plan from Preachers, Worship Leaders and Churches
to Rev Philip Peacock

September

1st 7.30pm Leaders of Worship and Preachers' Meeting -
Cleator Moor Methodist Church
11th District Synod - Kendal
15th 7.30pm Circuit Meeting – Egremont Methodist Church

Egremont Methodist Church - Music Festival

All members of the Circuit are invited to attend the varied programme of
music at this year's festival:

Monday 28th June 7:30pm - ROSELYN SINGERS

Tuesday 29th June 7:30pm - WESTLAKES MUSIC CENTRE BIG BAND

Thursday 1st July 7:30pm - MUSIC MAKERS BIG BAND

Friday 2nd July 7:30pm - WHITEHAVEN MALE VOICE CHOIR

Sunday 4th July 11:00am - SONGS OF PRAISE

Entry to these events is FREE, but donations are welcome!
Refreshments will be available after the evening events.

Circuit Diary

Please keep the diary up to date by giving details of your events to Maureen Pyke (01946 812586), and check with her for other events on at the same time to avoid a clash where possible.

Get your event and dates in early.

Also, if you want your events put on the Circuit Website, send details to andy.lennox@btinternet.com for publication.

Sabbatical Notice

I will be on sabbatical for three months this year, i.e. May, June and July. Mrs Mavis Moore is the co-coordinator of my Sabbatical Support Group, so any queries, phone calls, etc you would normally direct to me, should be directed to her on 810475. Mavis then will contact any third party if that is needed.

Thank you for your help and co-operation

Gerry Wilson

Fresh Expressions Vision Day

'A place to discover more about fresh expressions of church'
Saturday 19th June at Whitehaven United Reformed Church
10.00am-4.00pm

For booking details please contact Gillian Bounds (bounds@tesco.net/
[01946 823659](tel:01946823659))
or Philip Peacock (philip.peacock@methodist.org.uk/01946 822380)

Cost: £5 per person.
Please bring a packed lunch (drinks provided).

Going for Growth

Rev'd Steve Wild, Chair of the Cornwall District who stated that if we as churches are serious about 'going for growth' then there are 6 ways which should help us to achieve this.

1. **We must be ready for a challenge** – for example, we can worship somewhere else other than a church building
2. **We must take spirituality seriously** - We must be a praying church, spending time in prayer together, praying for the church, the community and the town. We must let God do the leading – remember the Covenant prayer
3. **Learn a lesson from the Society of Friends** - Have a welcoming friend – someone who doesn't just welcome at the door but sits and gets alongside a 'new' person in what might be looked on as an alien environment. Have nurturing friends – who invite people for coffee – not just after the service, ask them about their life story, tell them yours – story telling is important. Have a spiritual friend – who will pray for and with them.
4. **Take up the challenge of Back to Church Sunday – but not just one day a year.** Ask the question – 'Would you like to come to church with me?' Established church goes very rarely bring new people with them. Statistics state that 86% of people would go to church if someone invited them. People who know us will trust us and will be willing to experience something new so begin by inviting them to special occasions – Harvest, Christmas, Easter, Mother's Day, Church Anniversary.
5. **Does the church reflect the community it finds itself in?** Look at what is going on around us in our community. Look at the demographics – ask what are the needs of the people?
6. **Ask the question - are we as a church ready for change?** Consider other ways of being church? Look at projects like the Bread Church, Messy Church.

Remember that the greatest sermon anyone can give is the story of their life because people recognise some of their story in what you are saying to them.

Rev'd Sue Edwards, Cokermonth and Keswick Circuit

Review of Circuit Objectives for 2009-10

Below is a list of this year's Circuit objectives and how they have been followed up.

1. To support and become more informed about Lebone House, South Africa.

Tom Luke spoke at Egremont Methodist Church on October 7th 2009 about Lebone House. It was an informative evening but only attended by 14 people. In the light of this, Tom wrote an article for the January 'Link' magazine. Churches have been raising money for Lebone House and at the time of writing the total stands at £407.55. It would be helpful if any further monies were sent to Alec and Gillian Bounds by July 31st.

2. To try to establish a cafechurch in Costa Coffee in Whitehaven.

In September, a monthly cafechurch was launched in Whitehaven in partnership with Elim Pentecostal Church. Attendance has generally been about 25-30, with those with no church connection varying between 1 and 8. A third block of four sessions has been planned to take us to the end of a first year, including '21st century families' and 'LoveSongs@Costa'.

3. To hold a Fresh Expressions Vision Day for West Cumbria.

This has yet to take place but it is programmed for Saturday 19th June 2010 at the United Reformed Church in Whitehaven from 10am-4pm. Publicity has gone out to neighbouring Methodist Circuits and through ecumenical networks. Please book via Gillian Bounds or Philip Peacock (cost £5).

4. To seek to avoid clashes of local church events (where possible) and publicise them more effectively through the *Link* magazine.

Few events have been recorded in the Circuit Diary and, therefore, little has been passed on to 'Link' for publication. This means that generally churches are not seeking to avoid any clashes. Maureen Pyke (01946 812586) maintains the Circuit Diary, so please liaise with her.

5. To enrich vision through attendance at the District 'Going for Growth' day.

A coach-load of 23 people travelled to Penrith Methodist Church on Saturday 30th January 2010 for 'Wild about Jesus'. The speaker was the Revd Steve Wild, the Chair of the Cornwall District, who enthused us with entertaining stories and insights about mission. Different groups led worship at points throughout the day and there was a parallel children's and youth programme.

6. To organise some Circuit event(s) to bring people together.

These have included 1 and 5 above. Additionally, there have been two Local Preacher Admission Services, for Keith Hudson at Gosforth on November 29th 2009 and for Jean Millie on May 15th 2010 at Moresby Parks. It is still hoped that local churches might take the initiative to plan events that could be put on for the Circuit (something that was suggested as part of the internal Circuit Review).

7. To put on a course/some courses for learning/nurturing faith.

Gerry Wilson ran an Emmaus Growth Course on the Scriptures on Wednesday afternoons in Lent at Cleator Moor Methodist Church. This involved a nucleus of 8 people with some others attending occasionally.

A quiet day on prayer entitled 'Prayer to Nourish the Soul' was led by the Revd Jeff Thomas at St. Bees Methodist Church on May 22nd 2010 and was attended by 7 people. It included input on desire in prayer, praying the Scriptures ('Lectio Divina') and Ignatian prayer. Considerable space was provided for trying out the different prayer methods.

There are other bits and pieces in this edition of the *Link* which supply further information about some of these objectives.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to all contributors for their work, and for the prayers.

Contributions - to Sally Lennox please - sally.lennox@btinternet.com