

# THE REVIEW

## JULY 2021



*THE WALLACE MONUMENT AND HISTORIC STIRLING BRIDGE, STIRLING.*

**WADDINGTON STREET UNITED REFORMED CHURCH,  
DURHAM CITY DH1 4BG**

**Church Website: [www.durhamurc.org.uk](http://www.durhamurc.org.uk)**



**Dear Friends,**

On Father's Day I was passing some time, looking through some funny videos on Facebook. One of them made me laugh out loud, so I shared it with the family who wondered why I'd suddenly chuckled:-

A spoof news report had a journalist talking about the roll-out of the False Hope Vaccine. Pictures showed football fans queuing to receive it, chanting 'it's coming home' while they waited. A fictitious doctor talked seriously about the worrying warning signs of infection, for instance: babies named Phil (explanation: current England manager is Phil Neville). However, as the False Hope Vaccine was not completely effective, the clip ends with fans cheering on regardless.

Enough of football, let's talk about hope!

Christians certainly do not have false hope: our way of life has endured and thrived for over two thousand years, often despite persecution and attempts to extinguish the flame of faith. We have a track record, a good and true one which is at its best when we are *not* powerful and in control. In our own lives also, if we bring to mind the times that our worship, faith, and prayer has helped us, then we can see that the difference Jesus makes is positive. But that's not to say that we win all the time.

It is false to think that trials and troubles will no longer come our way. Hope, on the other hand, sees God in the bad as well as the good—helping us to keep running towards the goal even when we're down. It's realistic to expect that, and hope based on reality is healthy. It's also important to realise that hope is not a belief but an action: we keep going, staying positive, stilling the storm around us because we have Christian hope—that the end is never the end because of God's resurrection power, which is hope that is true.

So, may we never need a False Hope Vaccine (not that one exists!) because our hope is realistic and robust.

Regards,  
**Marcus**

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## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY AND CHURCH NEWS**



**A very special date for your Diary ... Marcus' Induction is on Saturday 31st July 2021 in Denewell Avenue URC Gateshead at 3 p.m.**

The induction will take place despite COVID-19 restrictions and will comply with them. Please contact Marcus via telephone or email if you wish to be there. This will not be a guarantee of a place, but will help Marcus in planning invitations and keeping to the numbers allowed to gather.



**Waddington Street Centre** is trying to raise **£40,000** for a new minibus as part of our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations in November 2021. We are going to have a pre-loved sale in Waddington Street United Reformed Church on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2021 between 10.30 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. Further details on pages 8 and 9 of The Review.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY AND CHURCH NEWS

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**Ministerial Services** – Revd. Marcus Hargis is contactable in the following ways:-

Phone: 0776 949 2629 and 0191 366 4930 (messages can be left on either).

Email: [marcushargis@outlook.com](mailto:marcushargis@outlook.com) For routine pastoral matters, please first approach your Elder.

**Time of Sunday Services – 10.45 a.m.**

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**COPY DATE FOR THE AUGUST REVIEW IS – SUNDAY 18TH JULY 2021.**

**Please be aware when submitting articles that our Church Magazine goes on the website and is available for anyone anywhere in the world to read.**

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Dear Lucille,

I enclose a revised Flower Rota from July to December 2021.\* This list shows seven vacancies which anyone can fill if they are willing to do so. A further list can be compiled from January next year perhaps. I am hoping to give up my role as “Flower Rota Supervisor” and will discuss what the role entails with anyone who is interested in taking responsibility for the Church flowers. Please don’t hesitate to get in touch with me if you feel you could take this task on. Some people on the Rota do the flowers themselves on their assigned Sunday while others donate money for the flowers and will ask you to arrange to put them in Church. I hope to hear from YOU soon – that is - anyone who wishes to volunteer to fill this rôle!

**Jean Graham**

(\*All Rotas appear towards the back of The Review.)

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### **A message from our Elders:**

“At their June meeting the Elders approved the Church accounts for the year ending December 2020. If any member would like a copy of those accounts would they please contact Sandy Ogilvie.”

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**Michèle Woods** has successfully completed her Post Graduate Certificate in Education and is now qualified to teach in a school. We wish her well in her new work path. Michèle is our Treasurer.

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**... WELL DONE JIHEE.**

For those of us who know Brian, Jihee and Isaac, our South Korean family who worshipped with us a few years ago before moving to London and now live in Cardiff, we share good news.

Jihee is now Dr. Jihee Kim having gained her PhD. Her area of research was Humanitarian logistics and supply chain management and her thesis was about supplier integration of an international humanitarian organisation.

Great news after lots of hard work while also bringing up a family. You made it Jihee and we send our congratulations from all your friends in Durham.





### **Notes from Elders' Meeting on Wednesday 2nd June 2021 (held on ZOOM on line)**

Present – Janet Thornborrow (Chair), Doris Jackson, Sandy Ogilvie, Kath Ogilvie, Helen Cockburn, Kathleen Clasper, Janet Sarsfield, and Richard Phua. Reverend Marcus Hargis joined the end of the meeting. Janet Thornborrow welcomed all to the meeting, especially our new Elders. She opened the meeting with a reading based on Psalm 40, followed by prayer.

Apologies for Absence: Ruth Cranfield, Yvonne Melville, Val Hodgson

1. Minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday 5 May 2021 were accepted as a true record; to be signed and filed when appropriate.
2. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of 5 May 2021
  - 4a) We will need to check with Marcus as to whether he has made contact with Sanctuary 21.
  - 9) Esther Bailey has been appointed as a Pioneer Youth Worker within the Durham and Gateshead Group. She is currently working in a church in Low Fell and will bring a wealth of experience to the role.
3. Website and Eco Church Updates
 

Douglas Melville will be a huge miss, not least for his huge personality, but also for his excellent IT skills which he so readily shared with our church. Douglas was going to be involved in the website redesign, so just for now, that has been put on hold until we determine how to proceed. Reverend John Durell has been doing an excellent job of maintaining our current website at the moment.

Helen gave a brief update on Eco Church.
4. Acquiring Zoom Licence for Sunday Worship
 

Since the church re-opened, we have been Zooming our Sunday services for folk who have been unable to attend church for whatever reason. This has proved to be very successful. However, as we are using a free version of Zoom it cuts out after 40 minutes. It was agreed that we should purchase a proper licence for Zoom, which will cost about £100, to alleviate this problem. We discussed the possibility of purchasing a new laptop too, as we are borrowing a laptop at the moment.
5. Plans for future Elders' Meetings
 

It was agreed that we would have our first Elders' Meeting in church on 8 September 2021 and would continue using Zoom until then. We are aiming to have a Church Meeting on 3 October 2021, after the church service, all being well.
6. Cleaning Responsibilities of Groups using our Premises
 

Since the pandemic the only organisations using our church premises have been the Foodbank and Waddington Street Resource Centre. Assuming all the restrictions of the Lockdown are lifted soon, we should be able to welcome back other groups to the building. We will be asking all those using our premises to carry out a risk assessment and to be prepared to clean up after themselves. We have lost some regular bookings as they have found alternative premises while we have been closed.
7. Medium Term Plans of the Foodbank and Waddington Street Centre for the use of our Premises
 

It was agreed to pencil this in as a July agenda topic as it is too soon for these organisations to say at the moment what their medium term plans are.
8. District Reports
 

Reports were given with those mentioned to be remembered in prayer.

### 9. Safekeeping of the Registers of Marriage

Since 4 May 2021 the recording of marriages has gone digital, so there is no longer a need to maintain the current register we have in the safe. It was agreed to send it and 3 earlier registers to the County Archivist.

### 10. Church Flowers

Now that the church has re-opened, the subject of church flowers was discussed with huge praise for Jean Graham who has overseen the organisation of the flowers so conscientiously over such a long period of time.

### 11. Approval of Church Accounts

The church accounts were approved, with much praise for Michèle Woods, our Treasurer, for her diligence.

### 12. Correspondence - None.

### 13. Group News

A group meeting has been arranged for 11 June 2021 which Les Thomson and Janet Thornborrow will attend. It would be good to promote our Zoom services as others in the group might benefit from them if they are unable to attend their normal church service.

### 14. A.O.B.

Kath Ogilvie mentioned that it would be good to include an offertory prayer in the church service even though we are not undertaking a collection during it.

### 15. Arrangements for the next Elders' Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 7 July 2021 at 7 p.m., Kath Ogilvie will chair, and Val will take the minutes.

The meeting closed with saying 'The Grace' to each other.



*Friends of Ian Graham will be delighted to hear that while on his way out to the garden of his Care Home, Ian discovered the piano and sat down to play it.*

It is Ian's hope that he can get a regular sing-a-long going with the other residents. His daughter, Gill, has taken in his music for his favourite songs and hopefully the piano will be a source of enjoyment for anyone who wants to join in.

Some Church members will remember being entertained by Ian and the late Harry Chester at Harvest Suppers when they specialised in North East dialect and songs.

Last one says: My doctor said now that I'm older,  
An American look at Love. I need to install a bar in the shower!



My doctor said now that I'm older  
I need to install a bar in the shower





### ***From our Lockdown Kitchen ...***

It is not too late to join those receiving weekly emails from John and Hillian Durell with a recipe and a memory it invokes. Just contact John and Hillian to be added to the list. Janet Thornborrow has kindly sent a photograph of the result of her following one of the recipes.



Janet says:

I have mouth watering memories of the Ploughman's Cheese and Pickle Tart from Hillian and John's last afternoon tea.

It was a beautiful sunny day and the backdrop to the tart was the bright colours of the garden and fantastic views over The Sands. You could even see the odd train in the distance.

Nostalgically all rooms downstairs were brimming with people happily conversing.

Although my attempt at the recipe from week 1 of 'From our Lockdown Kitchen' was not as tasty and crispy as the tart of that day, making and tasting this one stimulated this extremely happy memory of the excellent food and great company then.

*Thank  
you*

**Ron Todd** wishes to thank all his friends at Church who sent him their congratulations regarding his 80th birthday in early June.

He adds his awareness of the fact that he will now be becoming increasingly dim-witted in the future, and hastens to thank his friends in advance should they decide to maintain a diplomatic silence on its development!

### **News of Arthur Banister ...**

It was announced at Church on 20th June that Arthur, who is in hospital in Aberdeen, is improving after suffering an abscess on his spine. Our love and best wishes go to Arthur and Judy.

### **TRUE WORDS ...**

Some people come into our lives and quickly go.  
Some stay a while and leave footprints on our hearts, and we are never, ever the same.



## EDITOR'S LETTER

### DEAR READERS,



Jean Graham has stood down as Flower Rota Supervisor after many years of devoted service during which the Church flowers have been a source of wonder and delight to many, if not all, of us. Jean's artistry with the flowers has meant we have enjoyed many beautiful arrangements which later were given to visiting preachers or our elderly or sick members. Jean is asking that someone volunteer to take on this responsibility and that someone could be you! If so, please speak to Jean about what the task entails. It would be a great shame if this tradition of colourful flowers delighting our eyes was to end. For many Sundays the people donating the flowers will themselves arrange them in Church. Someone is needed to arrange the Rota from January 2022 and to put the flowers in Church for the people who are happy to donate money to cover the cost of flowers but can not themselves arrange the flowers in Church. In the meantime, Jean, our heartfelt gratitude for all your work over the years in ensuring the Church always had lovely flowers in it.

This next item was sent to me from America.

### “Keeper

I grew up with practical parents. A mother, God love her, who washed aluminium foil after she cooked in it, then reused it. She was the original recycle queen, before they had a name for it. A father who was happier getting old shoes fixed than buying new ones. Their marriage was good, their dreams focused. Their best friends lived barely a wave away. I can see them now, Dad in trousers, tee shirt and a hat and Mom in a house dress, lawn mower in one hand, and dish-towel in the other. It was the time for fixing things. A curtain rod, the kitchen radio, screen door, the oven door, the hem in a dress. Things we keep. It was a way of life, and sometimes it made me crazy. All that re-fixing, eating, renewing, I wanted just once to be wasteful. Waste meant affluence. Throwing things away meant you knew there'd always be more.

But then my mother died, and on that clear summer's night, in the warmth of the hospital room, I was struck with the pain of learning that sometimes there isn't any more. Sometimes, what we care about most gets all used up and goes away ... never to return. So, while we have it, it's best we love it and care for it and fix it when it's broken and heal it when it's sick. This is true, for marriage and old cars and children with bad report cards and dogs with bad hips and ageing parents and grandparents. We keep them because they are worth it, because we are worth it. Some things we keep. Like a best friend that moved away or a classmate we grew up with. There are just some things that make life important, like people we know who are special and so, we keep them close. Good friends are like stars - you don't always see them, but you know they are always there. Keep them close!”

My thanks go to Angus and Jan Robson for sharing with us their impressions of Wallington Hall and for the beautiful photographs which accompanied their article.

My thanks also to anyone who has contributed to this month's Review and, please, keep on sending your articles in to me - it is very much appreciated.

**Lucille Thomson**

The next issue of The Review will be published on **Sunday 1st August 2021**.  
Contributions please to Lucille Thomson at church or BY POST or **Tel. 0191-3861052**  
or e-mail **lesthomson@talktalk.net** – no later than **NOON on Sunday 18th July 2021**.



**Waddington Street Centre is trying to raise £40,000 for a new minibus as part of our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations in November 2021.**

Hello, we are Waddington Street Centre (WSC) or 'Waddy' to our friends. We are an independent Mental Health Charity based in Durham City. In November 2021 we will be 40 years old. We are proud of this achievement but there is still much to do.

We are passionate about supporting people to have better mental health and helping people to live life to the full rather than merely existing. It is believed that those living with serious mental illness have a life expectancy of 15 years less than the general population. We think this is unacceptable and are driven to ensure our community have the very best opportunities and experiences.

Perhaps now, more than ever, we all know how important our mental health is. The pandemic has impacted hugely on us with many devastating consequences. Being removed from our family, friends and daily routines has been challenging, isolating and frightening.

Due to the pandemic we anticipate that more people in County Durham will need help and support. It may take many years for people to recover from this traumatic experience. As a local Charity we feel a responsibility to support anyone who needs help. In our 40<sup>th</sup> year we want to ensure that our services and our ability to make a positive impact on people's lives is stronger than ever.

### **Why a Minibus?**

Many of the people who attend WSC are socially isolated and struggle to use public transport or travel to interesting or educational locations because of issues such as social anxiety and poverty. Getting out and about with like minded people gives members something to look forward to, increases confidence and social inclusion and generally contributes to better mental wellbeing. Our regular trips and holidays give people something to look forward to.

We also offer something called the Waddy Feel Good Service (WFGS). It is recognised globally that people with poor mental health are more inclined to have poor physical health too. We provide a range of physical activities which include; Gym, Football, Badminton and walking groups. We rely on our current bus to transport people to these activities which have huge physical benefits for our members. Medication and sedentary lifestyles mean that our members are at greater risk of conditions such as Diabetes and Heart Disease. Supporting people to keep active and make better lifestyle choices is another important feature of our work. Sadly, our faithful minibus is also not in the greatest health.



Getting people out and about on a daily basis is at the core of what we do. Having a new bus means that we can keep this important work going for many more years to come.

**As part of our fundraising activities we are going to have a pre-loved sale in the United Reformed Church on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> August between 10.30 a.m. and 3.30 p.m.**

We'd be so very grateful for any donations of books, clothing, toys, bric-a-brac or any other saleable items which could help us to raise a few pounds. Donations can be dropped at our resource centre, Monday – Friday between 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Due to us having very limited storage space we would be grateful if they were donated no earlier than August.

**Please also pop along to the sale and bring a friend – everyone loves a bargain!**

Cakes and refreshments will also be available.

You can find out more about our other fundraising efforts and how to donate at

[www.waddingtoncentre.co.uk](http://www.waddingtoncentre.co.uk)

Thank you so much.

Best wishes,

Ali Lee

Centre Manager.



*Friends of Ian Graham will be delighted to hear that while on his way out to the garden of his Care Home, Ian discovered the piano and sat down to play it.*

It is Ian's hope that he can get a regular sing-a-long going with the other residents. His daughter, Gill, has taken in his music for his favourite songs and hopefully the piano will be a source of enjoyment for anyone who wants to join in.

Some Church members will remember being entertained by Ian and the late Harry Chester at Harvest Suppers when they specialised in North East dialect and songs.

## WHY?

Why do supermarkets make the sick walk all the way to the back of the store to get their prescriptions while healthy people can buy cigarettes at the front?

Why do banks leave vault doors open and then chain the pens to the counters?

Why do we leave cars worth thousands of dollars in our driveways and put our useless junk in the garage?

**EVER WONDER...** Why the sun lightens our hair, but darkens our skin?

Why can't women put on mascara with their mouths closed?

Why don't you ever see the headline 'Psychic Wins Lottery'?

Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavouring, and dish washing liquid made with real lemons?

Why is the man who invests all your money called a broker?

Why is the time of day with the slowest traffic called rush hour?

Why isn't there mouse-flavoured cat food?

Why didn't Noah swat those two mosquitoes?

You know that indestructible black box that is used on airplanes? Why don't they make the whole plane out of that stuff? Also, if flying is so safe, why do they call the airport the terminal?

Why don't sheep shrink when it rains?

Why are they called apartments when they are all stuck together?



## **Wallington Hall Walk**

Our plan was to travel by Corbridge and have an early lunch at Errington Coffee House at Stagshaw Roundabout, then drive over to Rothbury for tea, cake and scones. After an excellent light lunch, we set off North, passing Kirkharle Courtyard, crossed the A696 and headed towards Rothbury. We passed Wallington Hall and as we had not visited before, decided to explore the house and grounds instead of going to Rothbury.



The hall was quite interesting, with limited numbers of visitors allowed through to allow for distancing. We thought the Walled Garden would be worth visiting so we crossed the main road into the East Wood to follow the signposted path.



As we walked away from the main road, the traffic noise was deadened by the trees. They also provided welcome shade from the hot sun. We could only hear the bird song as we passed near a small tree-lined lake with lily pads on the water and Rhododendrons on the banks.



We passed some artwork made from branches and nearby, there was a small deer grazing in among the trees. The walled garden was bigger than we expected and very colourful.





On another pond there was a female duck and her ducklings feeding and exploring. We reckoned that we must have walked about two miles and we even had time for tea and cakes in the café there. A very relaxing few hours on a sunny day. **Angus and Jan Robson.**





***The mustard seed ...***

A man was asked to paint a boat. He brought his paint and brushes and began to paint the boat a bright red, as the owner asked him. While painting, he noticed a small hole in the hull, and quietly repaired it. When he finished painting, he received his money and left.

The next day, the owner of the boat came to the painter and presented him with a nice cheque, much higher than the payment for painting. The painter was surprised and said "You've already paid me for painting the boat Sir!" "But this is not for the paint job. It's for repairing the hole in the boat."

"Ah! But it was such a small service ... certainly it's not worth paying me such a high amount for something so insignificant." "My dear friend, you do not understand. Let me tell you what happened: "When I asked you to paint the boat, I forgot to mention the hole."

"When the boat dried, my kids took the boat and went on a fishing trip. They did not know that there was a hole. I was not at home at that time. When I returned and noticed they had taken the boat, I was desperate because I remembered that the boat had a hole."

"Imagine my relief and joy when I saw them returning from fishing. Then, I examined the boat and found that you had repaired the hole! You see, now, what you did? You saved the life of my children! I do not have enough money to pay your 'small' good deed."

*We read in our gospel today that "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field, it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."*

The smallest of all seeds. I am reminded of the much-quoted saying uttered by St David, the patron saint of Wales. 'Do ye the little things in life,'

As we cautiously and slowly move out of this cruel pandemic which has claimed hundreds and thousands of lives the pandemic has shown us again and again the transformative power of little things. Like the man who painted a boat, repaired a hole and saved lives. Or a war veteran, a centenarian walking round his garden who raised £32.8 million for the NHS; later knighted by the Queen. Or the 18<sup>th</sup> century physician Edward Jenner who having noticed a milkmaid's small cowpox sore on her hand pioneered the concept of vaccines including creating the smallpox vaccine, the world's first vaccine. Or a footballer keen to feed hungry schoolchildren during the school holidays found he not only overturned Government policy but a couple of weeks ago had a phone conversation with the former President of the United States, Barak Obama. These people didn't seek fame. They just did the little things and brought such inspiration and compassion. And here in our own church we recognise and applaud the little things that members and elders have carried out during the last 16 months, the phone call, David and Val's zoom chats, the food bags for the homeless, Ruth's weekly reflections, Sandy and Kath's compassionate leadership and oversight, acts of kindness that have not gone unnoticed by the convenor of the synod's pastoral care committee, in a letter of thanks and appreciation published in the current church magazine. There is a rich wisdom in St. David's advice. Unseen gestures of affection, pedestrian acts of love, sustained compassion for the suffering, a quiet determination for justice – these things may be unspectacular but they have an equal power to change lives.

We find ourselves in difficult and demanding times. Covid 19 was not a moment in history any of us expected nor a challenge any of us would have asked for. But it has been our time. How then shall we live, how then shall we move forward? Churches in the synod are about to enter a new crisis, as our attention turns to the vast numbers of bereaved, the lonely, many in society with mental health issues, the poor and the jobless. We may have done well in our church communities to deliver engaging worship 'remotely' and developed on-line networks for pastoral care and prayer. However, in the immediate years out of lockdown a new synod mission strategy and model will certainly be required.

As we look forward to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our church, clearly the present model is not working as numbers continue to decline and more churches close, as Willie Duncan, the URC Northern Synod Trust Secretary pointed out at the Spring Synod and recently in a weekly synod newsletter. It is sobering to note that all it took to blow the current vision statements and targets out of the water was a virus that is smaller than the size of a pinprick. Tiny things - as the parable of the mustard seed remind us can make a substantial and global differences.

Crises are of course opportunities. So can a new, more open church emerge out of lockdown, with an altogether new mission strategy which John V Taylor describes in his classic book *The Go-between God*. Such a strategy would mean looking to find out where God is at work in a post pandemic world and then trying to cooperate in it. For those like me in the town planning and regeneration business, who have worked outside the church working for the transformation of the world often with other people of different faiths or with similar planning and community ideals, I am increasingly aware of God being at work in such people who work outside the church and yet unknown to them are building his kingdom. As Christians we work with those who seek to build a world where there is freedom for the oppressed, food for the hungry, welcome for the stranger and justice for all who suffer at the hands of misguided human power. It is my understanding that Jesus values such people as these. This is kingdom work. Of course, Waddington Street is already doing this with its Mission to those with mental health problems next door.

Small acts of kindness then, as small as a mustard seed, are to my mind significant signs of the work set before the church in the years to come. They are signs too of a humble, attentive and more authentic church. As Mother Teresa once said, not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love. **Amen**

Mark 4 v26-34

[Sermon preached by Reverend Ray Anglesea during the Communion Service on 13th June 2021]

## COMMANDMENTS

Above all else love God alone;  
Bow down to neither wood nor stone.

God's name refuse to take in vain;  
The Sabbath rest with care maintain.

Respect your parents all your days;  
Hold sacred human life always.

Be loyal to your chosen mate;  
Steal nothing, neither small nor great.

Report, with truth, your neighbour's deed;  
And rid your mind of selfish greed.

[Elton Trueblood]

## COMMITMENT

A prayer of John Wesley

I am no longer my own but yours,  
Put me to what you will.  
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.  
Let me be employed for you, or laid  
aside for you.  
Let me be full, let me be empty.  
Let me have all things, let me have  
nothing.  
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all  
things to  
Your pleasure and disposal.  
And now glorious and blessed God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
You are mine and I am yours. So be it.  
And this covenant now made on earth,  
Let it be satisfied in heaven.  
Amen

## NEGATIVE PEOPLE ...

**This is something to think about when negative people are doing their best to rain on your parade.**



A woman was at her hairdresser's getting her hair styled for a trip to Rome with her husband. She mentioned the trip to the hairdresser, who responded:  
 "Rome? Why would anyone want to go there? It's crowded and dirty. You're crazy to go to Rome. So, how are you getting there?"

"We're taking British Airways." was the reply. "We got a great rate!"

"British Airways?" exclaimed the hairdresser. "That's a terrible airline. Their planes are old, their flight attendants are ugly, and they're always late. So, where are you staying in Rome?"

"We'll be at this exclusive little place over on Rome's Tiber River called Teste."

"Don't go any further. I know that place. Everybody thinks it's gonna be something special and exclusive, but it's really a dump."

"We're going to go to see the Vatican and maybe get to see the Pope."

"That's rich," laughed the hairdresser. "You and a million other people trying to see him. He'll look the size of an ant. Boy, good luck on this lousy trip of yours. You're going to need it ....."

A month later, the woman again came in to the hairdressing shop. The hairdresser asked her about her trip to Rome. "It was wonderful," explained the woman, "not only were we on time in one of B.A.'s brand new planes, but it was overbooked, and they bumped us up to first class. The food and wine were wonderful, and I had a handsome 28-year-old steward who waited on me hand and foot. And the hotel was great! They'd just finished a \$5 million remodelling job, and now it's a jewel, the finest hotel in the city. They too, were overbooked, so they apologised and gave us their owner's suite at no extra charge!"

"Well," muttered the hairdresser, "that's all well and good, but I bet you didn't get to see the Pope."

"Actually, we were quite lucky, because as we toured the Vatican, a Swiss Guard tapped me on the shoulder, and explained that the Pope likes to meet some of the visitors, and if I'd be so kind as to step into his private room and wait, the Pope would personally greet me. Sure enough, five minutes later, the Pope walked through the door and shook my hand! I knelt down and he spoke a few words to me."

"Oh, really! What'd he say?"

"He said: 'Who the hell did your hair?'"





**ROTAS ... SUNDAYS 2021 ...****PREACHERS**

**JULY** 4th Revd Marcus Hargis  
**JULY** 11th Revd Ray Anglesea  
**JULY** 18th Maranny Jones  
**JULY** 25th Mary Tribe

**AUGUST** 1st Pauline James  
 8th Revd Ruth Crofton  
 15th Revd Marcus Hargis  
 22nd Bernard Lee  
 29th Revd Alan Middleton

<b>Date</b>	<b>Elders</b>	<b>Door Duty</b>
<b>July</b> 4th	Mr. S. Ogilvie Mr. R. Phua	Mrs. H. Cockburn
11th	Mr. D. Shirer Mrs. J. Sarsfield	Mrs. K. Ogilvie
18th	Mrs. K. Ogilvie Mrs. Y. Melville	Mr. and Mrs. R. Todd
25th	Mrs. D. Jackson Mrs. V. Hodgson	Mr. M. Reay
<b>August</b> 1st	Mr. R. Todd Mrs. K. Clasper	Mrs. V. Hodgson
8th	Mrs. J. Thornborrow Mrs. H. Cockburn	Mrs. D. Jackson
15th	Mrs. J. Sarsfield Mr. D. Shirer	Mrs. W. Surtees
22nd	Mr. R. Phua Mr. S. Ogilvie	Miss B. Tinsley
29th	Mrs. K. Ogilvie Mrs. Y. Melville	Mrs. K. Clasper

Please arrange your own replacement if unable to carry out your duty on the given date.

**FLOWER ROTA – July and August 2021**

<b>July</b> 4th	VACANCY	<b>August</b> 1st	Mrs. Y. Melville
11th	Mrs. J. Harling	8th	Mr. Ian Graham
18th	Mrs. W. Surtees	15th	VACANCY
25th	VACANCY	22nd	Mrs. K. Clasper
		29th	VACANCY



### ***PLEASE BELIEVE THESE DAYS WILL PASS ...***

A major art installation has recently been installed in Southwark Cathedral, London, entitled ... **'Please believe these days will pass'** by Mark Titchner.

The installation measuring at 9.23 x 6.3 metres partially veils the Cathedral's altar, imposing its message upon the Gothic architecture of the building and placing it within the context of faith and contemplation.

*Please Believe* artwork has appeared on posters and billboards across the country during the early stages of lockdown and was widely shared on social media. "I had no idea then how this artwork would connect itself to the terrible days that followed and how far it would ultimately travel. Something about that message seemed to connect with the need for hope that was felt so keenly by us all," said Mark. The installation was originally supposed to be for the Cathedral's annual Lent Art Installation, but was pushed back because of the pandemic.

The Very Revd Andrew Nunn, Dean of Southwark, said,

"As we move as a nation through the various stages of the roadmap leading to the complete relaxation of the Coronavirus restrictions, it is easy to believe that it is all behind us. But the world is still in the grip of a pandemic. Mark Titchner's monumental installation in Southwark Cathedral will be a stark reminder that we need to look beyond these islands to a world still suffering. But it is also a message of hope, because the truth is 'these days will pass' and we must hold on to that belief, that hope".

*[With thanks to Reverend Ray Anglesea who submitted this article.]*