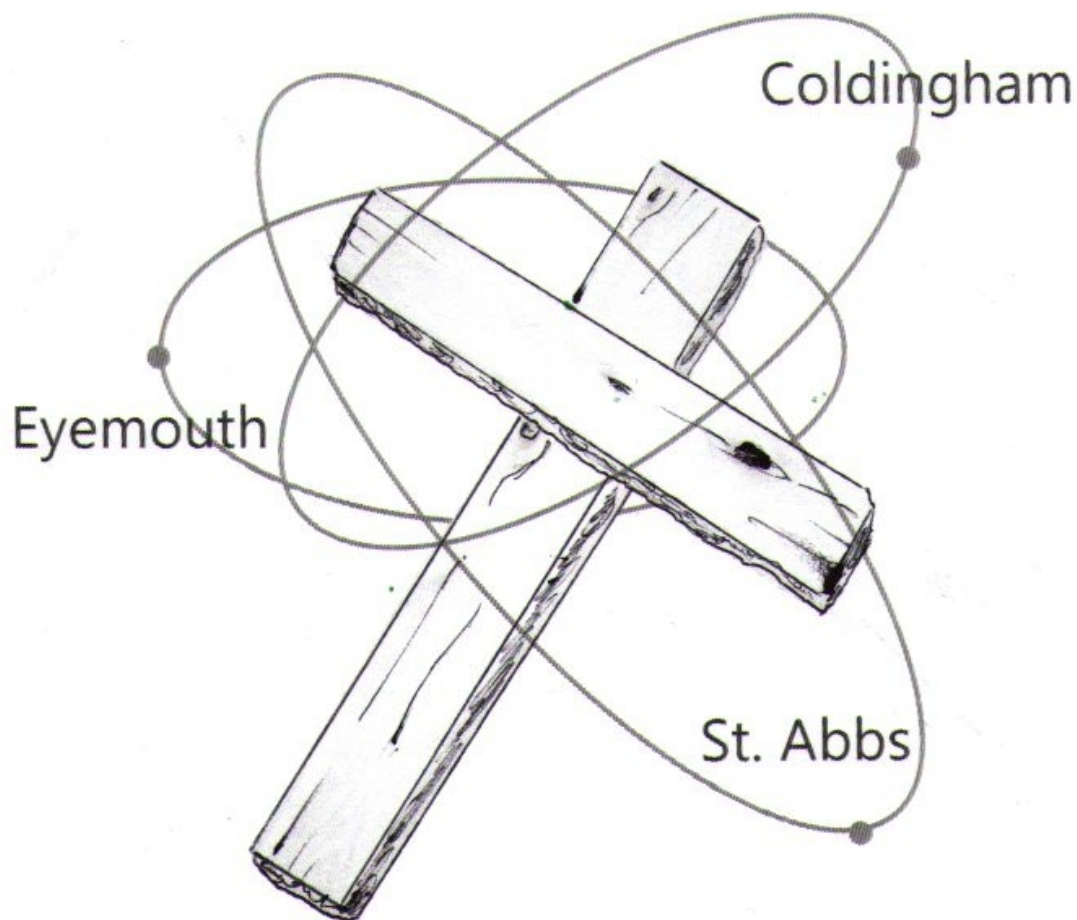


UNITED UPDATE

Easter 2022 Edition



Newsletter of the Parish Church of Coldingham &
St. Abbs linked with Eyemouth Parish Church

But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. – Isaiah 40:31

Resurrection Hope

“If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.” (1 Corinthians 15v19)

Dear friends,

as we have celebrated another Easter Sunday, another moment of resurrection made true, I hope you have sensed that Easter Sunday is not a one off event. Just about every story and event we read about in the Bible can be thought of in how it effects and informs our own daily lives. For instance I love crème eggs (other Easter chocolates are available!) and I like to joke that I’m happy to eat them any day of the year as according to my faith every day can be Easter day! Yet if everyday can be Easter Sunday, every day can have elements of Holy Saturday, that day when the disciples thought that Jesus was dead and the authorities had won. Yet with their loss, with the sense of desolation and doubt that pervaded them, they had no idea that Sunday was coming. In our current season, not just in the church, with presbytery planning, or nationally with the ever rising fear of price rises and cost of living going up and internationally with war seeming to escalate in Eastern Europe, we may struggle to see the hope on the horizon. But like those disciples we cannot grasp the simple truth that Sunday is coming.

Yet when Paul wrote those words to the church in Corinth that we are to be pitied if our hope is only for this life reminds us that hope on the horizon is not a quick fix, we have a hope that may take a lifetime to come to fruition. All we are called to do is be faithful, to try and live out of that resurrection hope in our daily lives, as Paul puts it later in that chapter: “Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain.”

May God Bless you this Easter time with a sense of God’s Resurrection Hope.

Andy

Easter Hope

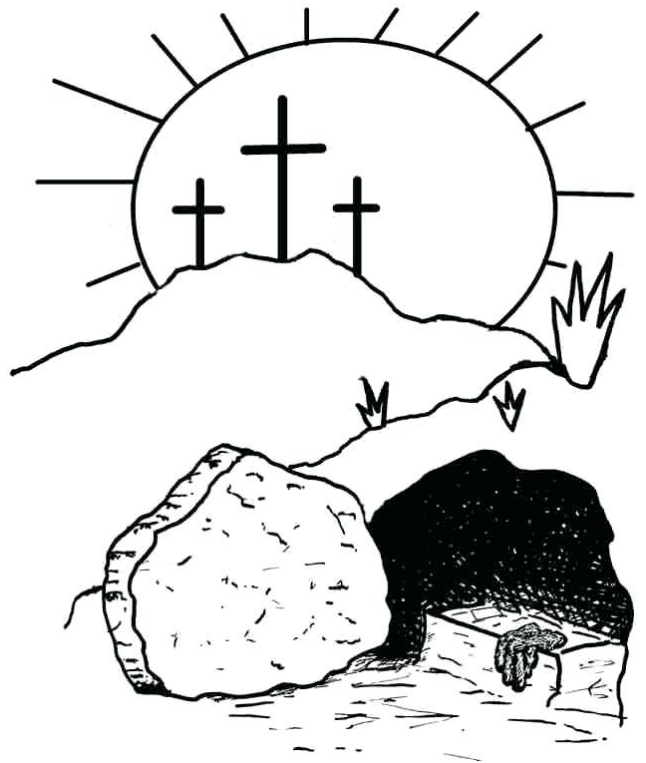
We read newspapers, watch our screens
tanks rolling deliberately crushing
missiles fall lighting up the sky
men fight women and children flee

Where are you God?

We read newspapers, watch our screens
inflation is rising, covid cases rising
climate change is escalating;
telephone rings, loss of a dear friend

Where are you God?

I look out of my window
daffodils and primroses bloom
buds appear on tree and bush
a blackbird gathers sticks.



Be still and know that I am God.

For the disciples the Saturday before Easter would have been a day of despair, desolation and the end of all their hopes. But what a difference a day makes. With the news and realization of the resurrection that Jesus was alive, he had risen, they were filled with joy. It may feel we are going through Good Friday times – but by clinging to our faith Easter Sunday with the resurrection of Jesus follows. His sacrificial death has made a way back to God for us giving us hope for the future. Hope here on earth that in all these chaotic times the certainty that God is in control, hope too for the promise of eternal life with him. The Lord is risen – he is risen indeed.

Wishing you all love, hope and peace this Easter.

Heather

Away Day to North Berwick, Saturday 30th April

After a gap of 2 years we are looking forward to the opportunity for members of both congregations to spend time together. We will be going to St Baldred's church hall, North Berwick where as well as worship and time to relax, Jeliase will be telling us about life in Zimbabwe and what church is like there. Sign up sheets are available in both churches or you can email jidorward@gmail.com. The numbers are needed so that we can cater for a simple lunch together.

THE GUILD

The Guild will be restarting on April 5th at 7pm in the Church Hall.

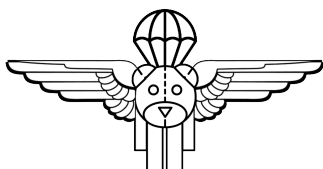
Since we meet every week we have a very varied syllabus.

We will learn about and discuss many aspects of the Church and church life – in particular the projects which the Guild is supporting.

The strategy for the 3 year period 2021–2024 is 'Look Forward in Faith' and this year's theme is 'Lights and Bushels' when we will be asking ourselves – do we let our light shine? But we also have many light-hearted evenings full of fun and fellowship.

Remember this organisation is no longer just for women – there are many men members nationwide, and some hold office bearing positions. We look forward to seeing 'old' friends again but welcome any new members into our 'family'

Audrey, Carole, Elizabeth, Jean and Margaret (Joint leaders)



Teddy Bear Parachute Jump and Afternoon Tea

As part of fundraising for the Renew project it is planned to have another teddy bear parachute jump on the afternoon of Sunday 12th June so now is the time to look out your teddy bear and start designing a parachute.

Berwickshire Christian Youth Trust (BCYT)

It is hoped that after Easter, Mark and Stuart the two youth workers with the trust will be able once again to have face to face contact with children in the schools. Over the past 2 years they have produced videos for use in schools. They have also run Home Together which is video and craft sessions of bible stories for families with primary school age children. It is planned to continue this so if you have children or grandchildren of primary school age and would like to receive the Home Together videos and craft packs email bcyt.mark@gmail.com

Once again it is possible to have a weekend camp for children in P5-7. This year it is being run in conjunction with Borders Scripture Union and will be at Scoughall near North Berwick from 22nd -24th April. The camp gives children from all over the Borders the opportunity to have fun together and to learn more about Jesus and what it means to follow him.

Priory Live



On Tuesday 7th June Coldingham Priory will be buzzing with activity as all the children in P6 from Coldingham, Eyemouth, Cockburnspath, Ayton and Reston schools come to learn a bit about life in a 13th Century monastery. This is a joint venture with Berwickshire Christian Youth Trust.

On the day the children will learn something about St Ebba and what life was like for the monks. They will have the opportunity to take part in a range of activities which include bread making, script writing, music making, willow weaving, herb growing, bee keeping and pressing apples. They will also hear the same stories about Jesus that the monks would have been familiar with as well as learning about prayer which was such a feature of the monks' day.

supporting



Christian Aid Week 15th – 22nd May

This year's focus for Christian Aid Week is on projects giving hope to people who are often hungry through improved farming practices, better water supply and providing

drought resistant seeds. Our first fundraising activity will be a sponsored walk from Berwick to St Abbs along the coastal path on Saturday 7th May. As in previous years there is no requirement to walk the whole distance as there will be a car available at Marshal Meadows, Burnmouth and Eyemouth as well as St Abbs to take people home or back to their car. For further information please contact Audrey (71429) or Ishbel (51732)

On Sunday 14th May there will be a soup and sandwich lunch in the church hall in Eyemouth and on Saturday 20th May there will be a coffee morning. During the week there will also be a coffee afternoon/evening in Coldingham Priory.

AMAZON SMILE

If you use Amazon for your shopping you can also persuade them to donate on your behalf by signing up for Amazon Smile. Simply go to smile.amazon.co.uk from your web browser on your computer or mobile device. This will allow you to connect your Amazon account and select a charity to receive donations, both congregations are registered (The Church of Scotland, Eyemouth Parish Church or The Parish Church of Coldingham & St. Abbs) with Amazon and once linked when you shop on Amazon Smile, donations will be made automatically with no cost to yourself!

Presbytery Planning

In February presbytery met to agree the framework of the new presbytery plan. This framework envisions multiple congregation across the area taking full responsibility for their worship, pastoral care, discipleship and mission with the support of a team ministry of four ministers, each with a speciality in one of those areas. Those four ministers would also be inducted into a 20% post in a single congregation. Much of the detail of this plan is still to be worked out and Presbytery is planning to visit congregations again before the June meeting to finalise details.

However the new plan operates it will necessitate a huge change for how individual congregations operate as ministry resources become scarcer. Across the country a 40% reduction in ministers is being planned. This may seem like a huge cut in numbers, but the reality of the situation is that we may struggle to have enough minister to fill the reduced posts due to retirements and fewer ministers coming forward for training.

In our own congregations this will mean folk taking on more of the things we might normally associate with being the “ministers job”. Already we have folk taking on pastoral work visiting those who maybe need more contact than their elder’s visits give. We have folk trained to lead worship and lead prayers to facilitate worship and we’ve even begun to look at alternative ways to fill the “sermon” slot on a Sunday morning using pre-recorded material, dramatic readings or even discussion style presentations to help us engage with the biblical text or theme of the service.

Change is never easy and unfortunately, within the current national situation, inevitable. However the reality is that all we are called to do is continue to be faithful to God. As we do this we will discover God equips His people for His work and although the future of the Church of Scotland might be very different from the church we grew up with it will be the right shape for the people of Scotland that we are called to serve.

Eyemouth Foodbank

With the ongoing rise in the cost of living the foodbank continues to be needed and well used. The foodbank covers the East Coast of Berwickshire and inland towards Ayton, Foulden and Grantshouse. The numbers for each month have remained fairly steady and in the first three months of the year the foodbank has delivered 122 food parcels feeding around 255 people.

DONATIONS NEEDED

**EYEMOUTH
FOOD BANK**



The two biggest needs for the foodbank is volunteers to help with organising the foodstore and for money to pay for the fresh produce that goes into each parcel. If you can help please speak to Andy. Also due to the pandemic the quantity of donations of food has gone down and this means the foodbank is required to purchase food that would normally come from donations (or from the food larder and community fridge). So do remember we continue to collect food on a Sunday for the foodbank. Once again, if you would be interested in helping out with food parcel deliveries, or taking collected food to the Foodbank store then please contact Andy.

The Food List

Tins or packets of Soup

Tins of mince, stew, meat balls, curry pies in tins

Corned beef, spam, ham, tuna, sardines, pilchards, baked beans

Tinned veg and potatoes

Pasta

Pasta sauce

Tea & Coffee

Breakfast cereal

Dried or UHT milk

Custard

Tinned fruit

The following items are added when the parcel is made up and delivered, so donations of money are always accepted: bread, margarine, fresh milk, fresh potatoes (nappies and baby food, if required)

Eyemouth RE:NEW Project Update

Work progresses in the background over much of the RE:NEW project, although at this time for the organising group it is all about getting funding applications filled in and submitted for the project. Since our last newsletter we have received further funding of £8,000 from the Benefact Trust, funding of £10,000 from Eccles Parish Church, £20,000 from the Congregational & Charitable Trust and £5,000 from Beatrice Lang Trust. This is great, although there is still a way to go.

The architect has been busy applying for a building warrant and extended planning permission and these have both been approved. Our heating engineer is currently in the process of designing our new heating system and we hope this will reduce our heating bills considerably being more efficient and thus also greener.

We are also looking forward to restarting some fundraising events, so please look out for them, bring your friends and neighbours and raise money for the project. In May we will be having a family friendly quiz night in the church hall, something we were doing during the lockdown that was quite successful. Come along and join in the fun on the 28th May in the church hall. We will also be repeating our very successful teddy bear parachute jump. So if you know of a brave teddy ready to get their wings, make sure they know to turn up at the church in the afternoon of Sunday 12th June.

If you have any questions about the project or ideas for fundraising, then please feel free to speak to any member of the project group.

Ishbel Dorward, Pete Gage, Andy Haddow, Carrie Haddow, Ian Hankinson, Andy Leach, Dixie Scott & Donald Wood

Help While You Shop

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be collecting free donations for the Church?

There are over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, thetrainline and Sainsbury's – it doesn't cost you a penny extra!

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

1. Head to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/coldinghamstabbs/> or <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/eyemouthparishchurch/> and join for free.

2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping, or download the easyfundraising donation reminder for your web browser.

3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and the Church will be really grateful for your donations.

You can now even download a handy reminder that reminds you to activate your donation when shopping on participating webpages.

SUDUKO

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Hard

PUZZLE PAGE

The road to Emmaus, read about it in the Bible in Luke Chapter 24 verses 13–35

Sadly they told
the traveller all about Jesus
of Nazareth, and how he had
been put to death

Use the code to see who the traveller
was and what he talked about

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	
H	I	O	R	X	E	K	H
J	C	A	L	N	P	D	I
M	T	B	U	S	F	W	J

A,I F,H E,J D,J E,J F,H E,H F,I D,I C,I B,H E,I F,H G,I

C,I D,I D,I B,J A,H F,H

E,J B,I D,H B,H F,I B,J D,J D,H F,H E,J

C,I C,J C,H D,J B,J A,H B,H A,J E,J F,H D,I F,J

Directory

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Regular Events

Sundays	Morning Worship, Eyemouth, 10.15am Morning Worship, Coldingham, 10.15am
Mondays	Busy Bees, Coldingham, 9–10.30am
Tuesdays	Prayer time on ZOOM, 9am Guild in Eyemouth Hall, 7pm
Wednesdays	Busy Bees, Eyemouth, 10.30am–12noon Busy Bees, Eyemouth, 1.30–3pm
Thursdays	Vestry Hour, Eyemouth, 10.30–11am
Fridays	Busy Bees, Eyemouth, 10.30am–12noon