

Dear Friends

Where do you fit in? Where do you feel right at home? Where do you feel that you belong?

The Church is a place where everyone can feel that there is room for them. The message of Christmas is that God is Love. He so loved the whole world that he gave us his Son. Whoever you are, wherever you are, whatever you've done, God loves you and welcomes you home. There is room for you.

In her book "Star of Wonder", author Pat Alexander tells the story of a nativity play in a school in the US Midwest. There was a nine-year old boy called Wallace Purling who had learning difficulties. However, he had learnt his part well as the innkeeper, so that when Joseph knocked on the door, Wallace opened it wide.

"What do you want?" Wallace asked. And Joseph replied, "My wife is expecting a baby. Do you have a room where she can bring him to birth, and where we can put the baby to sleep?"

"No room, sorry," replied Wallace the innkeeper. "Try next door." So far, so good; word perfect. Parents and teachers all smiled as they watched on.

Just as they had been taught, Mary and Joseph looked appropriately sad. Sticking to the script Joseph asked a second time, "But please can we come in?"

"Sorry, no room," Wallace again replied.

Joseph, using all his acting skills, looked and sounded even sadder. "Are you sure that you have nowhere for us?"

A tear came to Wallace's eye. He looked at Joseph and Mary.

"We really are full up. But, I tell you what," Wallace said, "You could always have my room if you'd like..."

Revd Dave

PRAYER DIARY



The December prayer Diary is now available and can be found on the EEMC website:

<https://eastofedenmc.org.uk/worship-resources/>

A hard copy is attached for those who receive the Newsletter through the post

DONATIONS TO THE FOOD BANK



Within our EEMC there are a number of Food Bank “drop off” points:-

The following churches are always open and there is a clearly labelled box at the back of the church: **St Cuthbert’s, Great Salkeld: All Saints, Renwick;**

St Nicholas, Lazonby, open during the day – clearly labelled box at back of church;

St Peter’s, Langwathby, always open, clearly labelled box in front porch;

Langwathby Methodist Church, always open, basket just inside inner door.

THE CHAT ROOM, ALSTON – A warm and welcoming space



The long awaited Chat Room on Front Street, Alston has opened!!! We have registered with the Warm Welcome Campaign – a nationwide initiative to encourage warm spaces to be set up, where people can gather for company and to keep warm www.warmwelcome.uk

EVERYONE IS VERY WELCOME – everything is free and it is a cosy space to pass the time of day. The venue will be staffed by volunteers who would love to welcome you with a cuppa and a smile. We are open Monday to Friday, 10.00am- 12noon and 2.00pm- 4.00pm We look forward to seeing you 😊

BISHOP’S TEACHING DAYS 2022 – What is the Holy Spirit?



This year Bishop James will continue the “What is?” series with an depth look at the Holy Spirit. “What is the Holy Spirit?” will be offered in three locations, and each day will last from 9.30am-2.30pm. Its aim is to build confidence in the Christian faith, and it is intended to complement the teaching that already goes on so faithfully in our Parishes and Deaneries. **EVERYONE WILL BE MOST WELCOME**

VENUES: 26th November – St Andrew’s Penrith; 3rd December – St James’ Carlisle; 10th December St Thomas’ Kendal

More information can be found on the EEMC website.

LIVING STONES – KIRKOSWALD METHODIST CHAPEL



On Wednesday, 21st December between 10.00-12noon. Refreshments will be provided from 10.00am. This is a monthly get together for mutual support and spiritual nourishment