



Happy New Year Everybody!

Monthly Letter

Did you know that 2020 is the Year of Evangelism?

Many individuals and ministries are sensing that 2020 is a significant year in which we will see the church in the UK grow. In 2020 churches and ministries are working together for an intentional, strategic and Spirit-filled year of mission across the UK called Advance 2020.

The campaign Advance 2020 was launched at a conference in Lambeth Palace in 2018 with over a hundred leaders present. Those involved in the campaign include Hope, the Evangelical Alliance (EA) and the Church of England.

Their inspiration was Isaiah 60:1, 'Arise, shine, for your light has come.'

It is hoped that a united approach will lead to "the gospel being taken to the nation on an unprecedented scale".

There is a definite wind of change coming for our churches. If you talk with Christians in our deanery, this is true for them too.

For instance, in our three churches, we saw this momentum grow throughout last year as we all shared in the experience of LYCiG. We became a little braver and tried new ways of sharing the good news of Jesus with our community. And our prayer is that we will continue to do so into 2020.

As our churches grow and shape themselves to the opportunities we are presented with, it would be easy to think growth can be achieved through our imaginative ideas and in our own strength. However, it is only as we allow God to lead us and inspire us that lives will be transformed.

To this end, as we begin 2020, let us commit ourselves to asking Jesus to breathe the breath of evangelism into our lives and the breath of Jesus, the Lion of Judah, into our hearts. I am reminded of C.S. Lewis' great Lion who represents Jesus in 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'. When she is told Aslan is coming, Susan doubtfully asks, 'Is he quite safe? I shall feel rather nervous about meeting a lion'. Mr Beaver confidently answers, "Safe? Who said anything about safe? 'Course he isn't safe. But he's good. He's the King, I tell you."

So, let's make 2020 about Jesus and join in with Christians across the country, proclaiming aloud the Good News of Christ.

Jesus isn't safe, but He is good! The voice that our communities need to hear is the voice of Jesus. We often let Him whisper but we need to set Him free and let him roar about his power to save, about the love of God and how He wants to make a real difference in our lives.

Andrew

New Service Starts at Crossgates!

When I arrived at St Martin's 5 years ago, I was asked 'When will we be starting something at Crossgates?' The time was not right then but during LYCiG last year, the desire to reach out to Crossgates started to increase. The momentum gathered since our Awayday and after much prayer we believe the time is right to 'Go for it!' On the 2nd Sunday of every month, starting on January 12th, we will be holding a new Outreach Service at Crossgates Community Centre at 10.45am. The 9.30am service at St. Martin's will continue as normal but there will be NO 11am service at St. Martin's on those Sundays. Members of both congregations will be supporting this new service and welcoming anyone, of any age, from Crossgates who would like to come. Please pray for this new service. We look forward to seeing you there.

Contacts

Vicar: Revd Andrew Moreland, 866284
'The Vicarage', 3 Stockshill, Seamer, YO12 4QG
Email: andrew.moreland@btinternet.com
If you would like a personal visit from the vicar, please get in touch by phone or email, or chat to him after one of the services.
Andrew's day off is Friday. Please respect that he and Elizabeth are unavailable on that day

Retired Minister: Revd Richard Firth 867957
Churchwardens: Jean Donovan 865279
Marlene Parnell 867954

Media and Web Site: Andy Hewitt
Email: stmartins.seamer@gmail.com

Sunday Worship

- 5th **Epiphany**
9.30am BCP Holy Communion
11.00am Modern Worship Service
- 12th **Baptism of Jesus**
9.30am Common Worship Communion Service
10.45am New Service at Crossgates Community Centre
So **NO 11.00am Service** at St Martin's
- 19th **Epiphany 2**
9.30am Common Worship Communion Service with children's activities
11.00am Shorter Modern Worship Service
6.00pm Worship@6
- 27th **Epiphany 3**
9.30am Common Worship Communion Service
11.00am Modern Worship Service with Communion and Sunday Club

Scriptures

- 5th **Epiphany**
Isaiah 60: 1-6; Ephesians 3: 1-12; Matthew 2: 1-12
- 12th **Baptism of Jesus**
Isaiah 42: 1-9; Acts 10: 34-43 Matthew 3: 13-17
- 19th **Epiphany 2**
Isaiah 49: 1-7; 1 **Corinthians 1: 1-9**; John 1: 29-42
- 26th **Epiphany 3**
Isaiah 9: 1-4; 1 **Corinthians 1: 10-18**; Matthew 4: 12-23

Wise Words for the New Year

"I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year, 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.' And he replied, 'Go out into the darkness, and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be better than light, and safer than a known way.'"

Minnie Haskins—quoted by King George VI in his Christmas message on radio in 1939, soon after the outbreak of World War 2.

Funeral of Captain John France MBE BEM

Friday 10th January at 2.00pm

John's funeral service will be held in church and because of his long army career it will be a military funeral to honour the service he has given. All are welcome to attend and afterwards at the Olde Forge Inn in West Ayton. There will be a collection for Macmillan Cancer Care.

Epiphany Party

On **Saturday 25th January 4.00pm to 6.00pm** in the Church Rooms we have our annual party and everyone is invited to come and join the fun! We will have the usual games, and if anyone has a good party game to share with us please let Richard Firth know! If anyone has a song or something to share, again, let Richard know. The more participants the better! Otherwise come along and please bring party food to share (finger food please as it is easier to eat without spoons or forks!) as this helps the preparations.

Youth Club Dates for 2020

Alternate Fridays in the Church Room—come and join us!

6.30-7.30pm for children years 4,5 and 6

7.15-8.30pm for young people year 7 and above

17th & 31st January, 14th & 28th February, 13th & 27th March

Mission Statement

“St Martin's seeks to be a welcoming church, open to people of all backgrounds, nationalities and ages. We make a genuine effort to express, in our life and worship, the joy of an awareness of the love of God alive in the world. Our mission is:”

- To proclaim the Gospel Message
- To be Kingdom minded people actively involved in the mission of Jesus in the community
- To be people who are disciples transformed by the power of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- To be a prophetic people who worship in Spirit and truth.



Regular Activities

Monday to Thursday: 8.30am–9.00am. *Morning prayers* are held in church every day. All welcome.

Tuesdays: 10.30am. *Bell Close Service*. Every third Tuesday in the month, come along and join us (Methodist and Anglican) in the Bell Close Community Centre 10am–12noon. *Knit and Natter* at Irton Garden Centre. 6.00pm. *Danceforce* in the church room. Everyone is welcome to come along either frequently or just every now and again. A lighthearted way of exercising in good company. A small charge of £1 is made.

Wednesdays: 1.00–3.00pm. *Open Church*. Come in for a coffee or a cuppa soup, bring your lunch and have a chat, find out more about the church or just enjoy the peace and quiet.

5.15pm. *Recorder Group*, at Jenny Bland's House.

7.30pm. *Prayer Group*, Church Rooms

Thursdays: 10.00am–12noon *Coffee morning* in the Church Room. All welcome
'Get Along' lunch: for anyone who wants to 'do lunch', visiting local eating establishments every second Thursday of the month.

7.00–9.00pm. *Seamer Stitches* at the Mayfield.

Fridays: 9.30am. *'Brushstrokes'*—£2 per person towards expenses—please see Jean Fiedler first if you want to join.

Saturdays: 10.00am–12noon. *Open Church*, chat, prayer, refreshments, book stall, all welcome.

9.00am–9.30am. *Morning prayers* held in church. All welcome.

Other Information

House Groups: at various homes every two weeks. A great time of fellowship, prayer and learning together. If you want to join one, have a word with Jean Donovan, Andrew or Elizabeth.

Tea/Coffee: between the 9.30am and 11.00am to meet with each other between services.

Facebook page: This is a closed group so please just ask to join.

Sunday Club is open to all under 14. We have toilets and baby changing facilities in the church. For those with toddlers there is a play corner, all children are welcome.

Our web site: <http://stmartinsseamer.wordpress.com>

Calendar

Tuesday 7th

6.00–6.45pm Dance Force starts again

Wednesday 8th

2.30pm MU meeting in the Church Room

Thursday 9th and every Thursday

10.00am–12noon coffee morning in the Church Room

NB: **NO** Getalong Lunch this month

Friday 10th

2.00pm Funeral of John France

Saturday 18th

10.00am–12noon Saturday Open Church starts again

Tuesday 21st

7.30pm PCC in the Church Room

Saturday 25th

10.00am–12noon Open Church

4.00pm–6.00pm Epiphany party in the Church Room. All welcome, come and join in the fun!

Friday 31st

10.00am–12noon Crossgates coffee morning at the Community Centre. All welcome

Open Church

Saturday Open Church starts again on **18th January, 10.00am–12noon**

Wednesday Open Church on **February 19th, 1.00pm–3.00pm.**

Do take these opportunities to come along for a cuppa and a chat, or a quiet prayer, or a leisurely look at our interesting old building.



Jesus Makes The Difference