

A message from Si, our vicar:

Dear Friends,

I hope you are having a wonderful and refreshing summer.

This Sunday we begin a mini-series on hope. It is a good one to invite a friend to as we consider 'Hope through Fears', 'Hope through Tears' and 'Hope that Appears'.

I'm so grateful to the Lord that we are children of hope as believers. In a world where people are ravaged by fears and tears and we are not immune also, we need to have this precious hope. Now, I want to say a bit on how I'm going to approach this. The talks will be a bit longer than normal (about 30 minutes) because there is so much to say, but I think it will be easy listening as it is very applicable to life as we know it. I'll be giving practical suggestions for 'Monday morning' when we're embattled.

Also, I'm going to be doing things a bit differently than you expect with regard to any non-believers among us. Rather than beginning with how to become a Christian, I'm going to spend time showing them what the Christian life looks like. Think of it as a 'try before you buy' approach! The beauty of problems being common to all people in a fallen world, the need to listen should be obvious. With regard to Christians, I'm going to assume that we want to honour the Lord, but that many of us don't know how to fight back; leading to feelings of defeat and disconnection from Jesus. So, may God win hearts and also help us to overcome our fears and tears as the people of God.

This Week's Bible Reading:

Hope through the fears [People of hope mini series] Psalm 27

Page 557 in the pew bibles

The Collect:

Almighty God,
who sent your Holy Spirit
to be the life and light of your Church:
Open our hearts to the riches of his grace,
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit
in love and joy and peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

What's On This Week:

Saturday 11am: Chinese Bible Study

Sunday 9.00am: Holy Communion Service (& refreshments in the lounge afterwards)

Sunday 11.00am: Morning Service (& refreshments in the hall afterwards)

Children's activities will be available at the back of church - please supervise your children.

Sunday 8.30pm Zoom Prayer Meeting for half an hour. Everyone is welcome to join us for this; there is no pressure to pray out loud. The zoom meeting link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85963653180>

Catch Up:

If you miss the Sunday sermon, you can watch a video of it on the St Johns YouTube Channel. It's usually uploaded on a Monday.

Dates for your Diary:

August 2nd, 9th, 16th: Mini Series on Hope

16th August - Bring and Share lunch

1st & 8th September CAP money course

29th September: Safeguarding training

3rd October: Women's Day

News:

On the 16th August we sadly say farewell to three of our church families, as they move to Canada. It will be the last day at St John's for Oluchi, Lola, Winnie and their families. It has been a great joy to have them as part of our family and we will miss them greatly. Please join us for a bring and share lunch on the 16th.

Pat Smith will be hosting a 2 week CAP money course on the 1st and 8th September in the church hall. The course will start at 10am with tea and coffee and will conclude at approx 12.30pm each week. The course is a great help for learning how to budget and is suitable for all - not just those in poverty. Please contact Pat to express your interest in attending.

During the month of August our children's groups will be having a break to give our leaders a much needed rest. During August, we will have craft and activity tables set up at the back of church for you to take your children to if you would like - we ask that you supervise your children at the tables please.

Cumbria Christian Youth Camp 2026

- Thursday 30th July, if you are available to join us in building the camp (putting the tents up, washing all the cups, plates etc) that would be greatly appreciated. We meet from 10.30 onwards and you will be fed and watered.

- We would value you supporting us in prayer during the week. [Attached](#) is a list of things to pray for. Firstly, as a church could you pray for us on the first Saturday (1st August) as we all arrive and settle in. This is covered on the first table. The second one covers a general day for the rest of the week to continue in prayer. Thanks in anticipation.

Neil Baxter

Please pray for:

- The family and friends of Mary Fox, whose funeral was held at St John's on Monday 27th July.
- The marriage of Jodie Maudling and Liam Cordin, whose wedding is taking place at St John's on the 1st August.
- Wendy Fender, Helen Stoker, Tony Pang, Jenny Wong, Jean Mainey and Mei Lan Benn
- The Keswick Convention
- The Walker family as they serve in Argentina.

Pastoral Visits

Si and the pastoral visiting team are available to visit you at home, or elsewhere if you prefer. Pastoral care is very important to us, so please don't be afraid to ask for a visit. To organise a visit, please get in touch with Sue on 07563473620 or office@stjohnshensingham.org.uk

Useful contact details:

Sue Lane, Church Coordinator, office@stjohnshensingham.org.uk, 07563473620

Si Walker, Vicar, simon@stjohnshensingham.org.uk, 0194663797

Heather Naylor, safeguarding

officer, safeguarding@stjohnshensingham.org.uk, 07718961077

Tim Naylor, treasurer, treasurer@stjohnshensingham.org.uk

Ann Christian, warden, ann@stjohnshensingham.org.uk

Rich Davey, warden, rich@stjohnshensingham.org.uk

Our Mission Community partner churches:

Church on the Moor (Cleator Moor): www.churchonthemoor.com

St Andrew's Church (Mirehouse): www.standrewsmirehouse.co.uk

St Bridget's Church (Moresby): www.stbridgetsmoresby.com

Mission Community Events website:

<https://www.churchonthemoor.com/mc-events>