



The ^{New} Link

News from Low Row and Keld
United Reformed Churches in Swaledale,
Part of the Tees Swale Pastorate.

October November 2021

With grateful thanks to our ministers in residence in August for the following two articles.

Baptisms at Keld - "You wait for ages for a bus", they say, "then they all come at once!" Well, baptisms at Keld chapel are a bit like that. One baptism just before lockdown, then 5 more in 2 months! All live locally in the village or its local communities, and all have families working in Upper Swaledale. It was my privilege to conduct the first 2 of these in August. The children were toddlers and had young siblings, cousins and friends which always makes for a lively time! Together we were able to remember the love of God which brought us into being and supports us our life long, and to respond with our promises as parents, God-parents and congregation. On August 8th we had an "Olympic" celebration, remembering that this year the word "Together" had been added to the Olympic motto. We thought about working together with each other and together with God. On August 15th we considered that planted into the church, we don't need soil, water, sun and fertiliser to grow as Christians, but fellowship, worship, Bible study and prayer. Both services celebrated God's joy, love and presence for us and with us.

Rev Kathleen Wood - retired Methodist Minister living in Richmond

Ministers in Residence - Then, in August Bank holiday week, Kathleen and I were privileged to be ministers in residence at Keld. We stayed in the old manse. The week was most interesting and rewarding. We engaged in a number of different activities. On the Sunday, Kathleen led the morning service at Low Row on the theme of the Book of James, especially the need to listen to God. In the afternoon, David led a service at Keld, celebrating creation. The story of creation in Genesis 1 became the focus of morning and evening prayers each weekday. During the week, we held two craft sessions for local families. Great fun was had glueing, colouring, sticking, making and icing biscuits! We also offered an opportunity for people to come and talk about the Lord's Prayer, a most fruitful discussion. Alongside all this, we spent time in the village just chatting to locals and visitors alike. This minister in residence scheme has now been going for ten years and is a most important aspect of church life in Keld. Long may it continue!

Rev David Wood - retired Methodist Minister living in Richmond

In September there were two more baptism services at Keld and both included the use of modern technology - the first with a link to New Zealand and the second a link with The Terrace Care Home in Richmond for Marina Whitehead to see the baptism of her twin grandchildren.

Harvest Festival is at 2.00 pm on 26th September and led by the minister in residence Rev Richard Lewis. The Auction of produce will again take place at Keld Lodge on the Monday at 7.00 pm.

WORSHIP OCTOBER - NOVEMBER

Low Row (10.30 am) Keld (usually 2.00 pm)

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| Oct | 3rd | Revd Alan Coustick |
| | 10th | Bishop John Pritchard HARVEST |
| | 17th | Revd David Herbert |
| | 24th | Ms Dot Thomson |
| | 31st | James Mawdsley |
| Nov | 7th | Mrs Maranny Jones |
| | 14th | Remembrance at Keld 10.50 am Revd D. Wood |
| | 21st | John & Jo Lloyd |
| | 28th | TBA |

From the beginning of October, Low Row is going back to holding weekly services with many of the preachers making return visits. The theme for Harvest will be 'Bread' and the preacher Bishop John Pritchard. The following week we welcome our Synod Moderator for his second visit to the dale in 4 weeks. Because Low Row has no war memorial, the Remembrance service is always held at Keld and this year will be led by Rev David Wood. Weather permitting the service starts at the war memorial then moves into the church.

Our churches are gradually getting back to some form of normality - it is lovely to be able to sing again but we struggle at times when our small congregation is further reduced when people take the opportunity to go on holiday.

Neither of our churches has gone back to 24 hour opening yet, Keld is open every day for visitors to pop in but is locked at night; Low

Row is just open for services. In October surveyors will be carrying out quinquennial inspections on both church buildings - we hope for good reports!

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