Meissen Commission Conference
The Abbey is honoured to be hosting the Meissen Commission this weekend. It is named after the Meissen Declaration (1991) in which the Protestant Church in Germany and the Church of England recognized each other as churches belonging to the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ, and committed themselves to taking all possible steps to closer fellowship in as many areas of Christian life and witness as possible, as well as to strive together for full, visible unity. The German and English Co-Chairs will be leading our worship at 10am, with the Bishop of Hanover, Ralf Meister, preaching and the Bishop of Huddersfield, Jonathan Gibbs, presiding. We are grateful to all Commission members for joining us.

Music Grant
Last Sunday we had a fantastic Choral Evensong with combined boys and girls choirs, celebrating not only the Hexham Abbey Festival, but also the award of a substantial grant from the Friends of Cathedral Music. The grant will contribute to the purchase of new music, new robes, and will support young singers in choral training.

Harvest Time - 6th October
Please bring harvest non perishable donations to the 10am service and we will ensure all food is taken to the West Northumberland Food Bank to help our local community. WNFB have suggested that tinned meat, tinned fish, UHT long life milk, biscuits, jam, tinned desserts and fruit squash are very helpful at this time.

We are looking forward to the harvest lunch, which will take place in the Great Hall after the service. This is a shared lunch, so please bring a contribution to the meal - savoury or sweet - and also consider if there is someone who would appreciate an invitation. If you are able to help with setting things up or clearing up afterwards please speak to Steph after the service today or email sjbingham45@gmail.com.

Dinner and Observatory Trip
Vivien Drydon is organising a trip to the Battlesteads Hotel in Wark to enjoy food and a visit to the Observatory. There are currently 18 people signed up to go and if you are interested in joining the group going on 8th November 2019 please contact Esther in the Parish Office as soon as possible.

Knit a Poppy, Have a Coffee
Come, sip a coffee, knit a poppy. Pop along to one or more of the informal poppy making sessions to knit poppies for the park railings in November for Remembrance. Join us on 1st, 15th and 29th Oct between 1.30-3.30pm in the Etheldreda Room. Enquiries via June on 07791 884725. Should you not be able to come to any of the sessions and would like to knit at home then poppy patterns can be found on the table to the right of the Crossing. Please take the pattern to your friends & family for them to knit too!

Should you wish to make a donation towards the Abbey you are welcome to use the contactless machine near the Welcome Desk.
NEWS

We Need You...

We have an urgent plea for help in the following areas:

Harvest Lunch - We are looking for help with setting up and clearing down around the harvest shared lunch. Please email Steph Bingham via sjbingham45@gmail.com if you are able to help.

Sunday Elevenses - We are looking for regular or occasional helpers who can help once a month or less. Please see Fiona Finnon if you are able to offer your help to the Abbey team.

Children & Young People - If you enjoy working with children and young people, you could be perfect for helping out with school visits and community events. Please contact Zoë via zoe.robinson@hexhamabbey.org.uk to find out more.

Week for Peace in Palestine & Israel

A reflective celebration of water, earth, fire, and the olive tree on Friday 4th October at 3.30pm in the Walled Garden, Minsteracres, DH8 9RU. At different places in the garden, we will reflect on the environmental degradation caused by the occupation in Gaza and the West Bank and celebrate initiatives which respect, both culture and the natural world in the Holy Land and the beauty and power of nature through time. We will be planting an olive tree in the garden in memory of Susannah Crump.

Antiques Road Trip

The BBC were filming in the Abbey recently and Hexham Abbey will be featured on the Antiques Road Trip on Friday 4th October at 3.45pm on BBC One.

Old Jewellery Needed

Do you have any old jewellery that you would be happy to donate to the Abbey Christmas Fair? Please bring all donations to the Parish Office.

Messy Church

Messy Church will take place at 3pm on Sunday 13th October. Please do invite young people to come and be creative in the Abbey.

Silver Screen

Silver Screen will be back on 31st October in the North Transept with the American musical ‘Calamity Jane’ starring Doris Day. Make it a date!

Monday Afternoon House Group

Monday house group have started a study of the Gospel of Mark on Mondays between 2.15pm & 3.45pm at Ryé Terrace, Hexham alternating with Stable Cottage, Riding Mill. Please call 07866 600904 for more information.

Wednesday Evening House Group

Our Elvaston Road house group is studying the book of Galatians, but we will also spend time learning more about biblical prayer and how to practise it. Anybody who is interested would be very welcome. Call Rachael on 07984 398113.

Friday Afternoon House Group

The homegroup meet every Friday in term time, usually at one of three addresses. This term we are looking at the story of Joshua. If you’d like to join us, please phone Tony or Margi on 609074 to find out the venue. It would be good to see you!
**EVENTS**

**Bible Society Quiz Night**, 4th October, 7.30pm

A fun evening to raise funds for Bible Society at Hexham Community Church on Friday 4th October at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £5 and include refreshments. Pay on the door or ring Sandra on 673845. Why not bring a team from your church? Sandra Innes, Bible Society, Hexham.

**Humours and Delights**, 5th October, 7.30pm

A fundraising concert in aid of Hexham Abbey Roof Appeal will take place on Saturday 5th October in the Great Hall. With music from 17th century England, France and Germany and featuring Michael Ronan - bass baritone, Sergio Bucheli - lute & theorbo, Jacob Garside - bass viol and John Green - chamber organ. Tickets cost £12 (including refreshments) and are on sale now via the Abbey Gift Shop. Free admission for under 18's and children accompanied by a ticket holder (up to 3 people per ticket holder).

**Greenman & Other Poems, Stan Beckensall**

A recital will be given by members of Hexham Abbey on 8th October at 7.30pm in the Priors’ Hall. Tickets cost £5 and are available to buy from Cogito Books, Hexham. All monies to be donated by Stan to the restoration of the Abbey roof. This collection of poems in book form is available to buy from the Gift Shop.

**The Birth of God in the Soul**, 19th October

The Birth of God in the Soul: how does the medieval mystic Meister Eckhart speak to the 21st Century? Bridget Hewitt will be leading this day at the Church of the Holy Nativity, Chapel House on 19th October between 10am & 4pm. Cost £10. Bridget would happily answer any questions that you may have about the day and can be contacted via bridget.hewitt@btinternet.com.

**Mahler One ‘Titan’, Sunday 20 October, 3pm**

Royal Northern Sinfonia play a romantic programme including a special ensemble arrangement of Mahler’s ‘Titan’ symphony. Feel the full force and energy of this mighty symphony from just fifteen players. Wagner’s intensely personal *Siegfried Idyll* and Strauss’ opulent *Capriccio Sextet* complete this programme of three greats. Tickets £15, under 18s, £5 and available from Sage Gateshead Box Office on 0191 443 4661 or via www.sagegateshead.com.

**Skeletons in the Abbey**, 26th October, 2-4pm

For the last few years, the Abbey has opened its doors to the public on Spook Night to show a Christian presence and share some aspects of the Christian faith. We show the Christian heritage behind All Hallows and the idea of Jesus bringing light to darkness. It has been a popular event in the past, welcoming many into the Abbey who may not normally come inside. It is a fun afternoon where we do crafts and activities with families. If this sounds like something you would like to help with or would like to know more about what’s involved please contact Zoe Robinson zoe.robinson@hexhamabbey.org.uk.

**Now is the Time to Worship**

The next Now is the Time to Worship event will take place at Hexham Mart on Saturday 9th November at 7.30pm. More details to follow.

**Lunchtime Live, November**

Lunchtime Live returns to the Abbey in November, on Tuesdays between 1pm and 1.45pm with free admission and retiring collection. A full programme will be publicised soon.

**The Pastoral Visiting Group** is always happy to hear from a Church Member, perhaps housebound, who would like a visit. Please contact Margaret Meade via the Office.
For your prayers

We pray for those who are unwell or who have asked for our prayers:
Edna O’Neil, Christopher Brown, Gordon Rowell, Doreen Beniams, Jill Eltringham, Ralph Mayland, Tom Samwell, Annie Halliday.

We pray for all those who have died and all those who mourn:
Colin Wilson, Barbara Grainger, Amy Pick.

Parish Office: 01434 602031 or admin@hexhamabbey.org.uk. Opening hours: 9am - 3pm. In the case of a pastoral emergency please contact Rev. Jeremy Thompson, Area Dean on 600268.