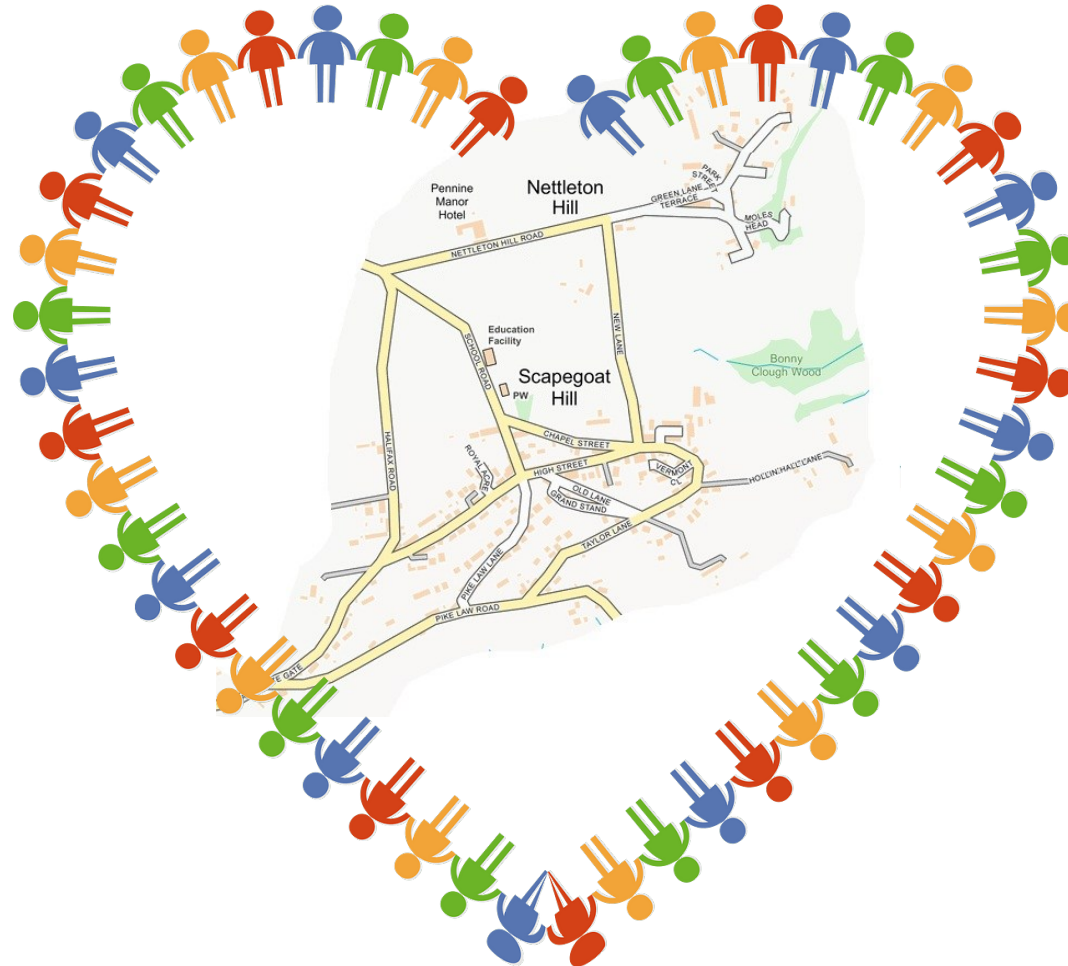
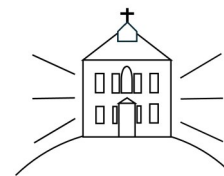
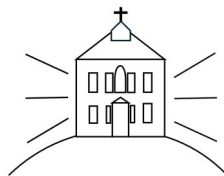


Scapegoat Hill & Nettleton Hill Church & Community Newsletter March 2026



Community is much more than belonging to something;
it's about doing something together that makes belonging matter

Hebrews 13:16—"And do not forget to do good and to share with
others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased"



Scapegoat Hill Baptist Church

Our Vision

As a family of believers, we aim to bring the message of Jesus to our community in a relevant, meaningful and friendly way, building bridges of faith and hope on the journey of life.

Secretary—John Stephenson— 655615 / 07908 340697

Treasurer—Frances Brown—07828 611002

Caretaker—Danielle Rushworth

Prayer Chain/Craft&Chat/Prayer Breakfast/Ladies Fellowship

Email Frances : hello@scape.church



www.scape.church



Follow us on Facebook



Scape School—Outside on school wall
Nettleton Hill—Outside at triangle in middle of village
Liberal Club—Outside the club
Scape Church - Inside church in the Deacons Room -
front right



To request including anything in a future edition or give feedback or if you wish to advertise and help fund the publication please email news@scape.church

Church Chatter

Have you given up anything for Lent? Are you even familiar with Lent? This year I have given up sugary foods for Lent but when do the 40 days start and finish? You'll not be surprised to hear many churches can't even agree on that! And come to think about it why is it 40 days? Let's have a look at Lent...

Lent is a shortened form of an old English word, 'lencten', which meant 'spring season.'

Why 40 days? Well, if you've read the Bible, you'll know that 40 days is a very frequently occurring amount of time.

How long did it rain in Noah's season on the ark? 40 days and 40 nights.

How long was Moses on Mount Sinai? 40 days and 40 nights.

How long did Elijah fast after fleeing from Jezebel? 40 days and 40 nights.

But then Jesus is on the scene, and after he's baptized, he goes into the wilderness for how long? 40 days and 40 nights. As Jesus fasts, he faces Satan's tempting. It is this 40-day period that sets the rationale for our practice of Lent. Lets also try and forget its probably rained for the past 40 days and nights as well!

So Lent is the 40 days leading up to Easter. That said, various denominations have slightly different practices with how they calculate those days. Many start on Ash Wednesday and end on Holy Saturday. If you were to count each day, you'd realize that is actually 46 days; however, the practice discounts the Sundays – 6 of them – arriving at 40 days. Other denominations or traditions, begin on Ash Wednesday and end on Holy Thursday. Some have extended fasting for up to 55 days! All that to say, "Lent" doesn't have a completely set 40 days for all Christians.

What kinds of things? Well, some choose to fast – that means going without something, usually food, for that time. But fasting isn't always about food. Some people choose to fast from technology or an activity that takes up too much time, so that they can focus that time on praying and reading the Bible more. Some people also choose to give more during Lent. That could be money that they give to the church or to those in need or giving of their time to help serve the church or serve the community.

Lent is all about preparing our hearts to remember Jesus' death on the cross and his coming back from the dead – we call that resurrection – to show that he saved us from our sins, and he defeated death!

Scape Nature Group—Grow your own!

Getting outside and cultivating your own vegetable garden is a rewarding experience that benefits both body and mind. Whether you've got a spacious plot or just a few pots on a balcony, growing your own produce provides fresh, nutritious food and an opportunity to connect with nature. Gardening encourages physical activity, boosts mood, and offers a chance to learn new skills while enjoying the fresh air.



There's endless advice online about what to grow and how to do it, and growing your own vegetables is both simple and cost-effective. Even with limited space, container gardening can yield impressive results. Start by choosing vegetables you enjoy and focus on those that are pricey in shops or crops like salad potatoes, that taste amazing picked fresh from the garden. Homegrown veg is not only more nutritious, as it avoids long transport and preservatives, but also helps cut down on plastic waste.

There are so many benefits to growing your own vegetables. Growing produce, particularly expensive items like cherry tomatoes, can significantly reduce grocery bills. Homegrown produce is fresher, picked at peak ripeness, and lacks preservatives, providing better flavour and higher nutrient value.

Also gardening offers exercise, reduces stress, and provides a sense of accomplishment. You're also helping the environment by minimising waste by picking only what you need, and reducing transport emissions.

Top beginner-friendly, low-maintenance veg, include radishes, courgettes, lettuce, spinach, carrots, potatoes, and green beans.

These vegetables are also the easiest to grow and are generally disease-resistant producing high yields, making them perfect for new gardeners:



Radishes are one of the fastest crops often ready to harvest in 3-4 weeks.

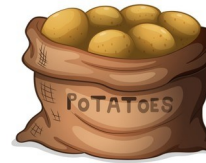
Courgettes are highly productive and resilient, with a single plant often producing more than a family can eat.

Lettuce and salad leaves are ideal for beginners because they can be grown in containers in a small garden. The cut and come again varieties re grow after cutting.

Spinach is extremely hardy, low maintenance and also grows well in containers.

Green beans are easy to grow in most soil types and produce good yields.

Potatoes are also easy to grow and can be grown in pots bags or planters with very little maintenance. You can buy the first early seed potatoes now and 'chit' them.



This involves cutting the seed potatoes in half and placing them in egg boxes in a windowsill with the shoot facing up. They should be ready to plant out on St Patrick's day March 17th if the soil is workable and frost free. Good varieties include Charlotte and Anya.

Carrots can be grown in pots but need a sandy soil and need covering with a fine mesh to avoid carrot fly active in May.

Cherry tomatoes are simple to grow in containers or hanging baskets and are much tastier than shop bought varieties. Tumbler is a variety suitable for hanging baskets.

Tips for Success—Start small and with just a few crops to start with.

Use containers if you're stuck for room. Many vegetables like tomatoes peppers and salad leaves thrive in containers and can be grown on a small balcony or patio. Location is key. Ensure plants have enough sunshine water and support such as trellis if needed.

Getting Children involved

Scape School has a great little community garden and is looking for volunteers to get involved in growing vegetables with the children.

Getting children involved in growing fruit vegetables and flowers helps them learn about plant life cycles, photosynthesis, soil health and the environment.

Growing food increases children's willingness to eat vegetables and understand where their food comes from. Other parts of the curriculum can be introduced as well, as gardening can involve measuring, counting, labelling and problem solving for instance when they have to deal with pests or the weather.

Being in the fresh air is a stress relieving, mindful activity that improves physical health through digging and planting and improves children's wellbeing.

When gardening with children the best vegetables plants to grow are fast growing ones such as radishes, and lettuce, which helps children maintain interest. Also cooking what you've grown with children makes the experience more exciting.

If you'd like to spend an hour or two at lunchtime or after school helping in the school gardens please contact Claire Lodge at clairelodge41@gmail.com

Email news@scape.church to join the Scape Nature WhatsApp group and get involved

MARCH

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THUR

2 Ladies Fellowship 2pm	3	4	5
9	10 Deacons Meeting 6pm	11 Craft & Chat 2pm ESCAPE 1-2-3 	12 ESCAPADE 7pm
16	17	18	19
23	24 Deacons Only Prayer Meeting 6pm	25 Craft & Chat 2pm ESCAPE 1-2-3 	26 School Easter Performance 2 ESCAPADE 7pm

Contact news@scape.church to include a community date in a future calendar / To



CH 2026

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

			<p>1 Family Service 10.30am Steve Daniel</p> <p><i>Church Flowers</i> Nicky Hall in loving memory of mum and Dad</p>
	6	7	<p>8 Communion Service 10.30am Frances Brown</p> <p><i>Church Flowers</i> In loving memory of Jack and Joan Robinson from Carol</p>
<p>7pm—9pm</p> 	13	14	<p>15 Mothers Day Family Service 10.30am Chris Baskerville</p> <p><i>Church Flowers</i> In loving memory of Stewart from Anne, Mandy, Dave and Grandchildren</p>
	20 PRAISE EVENING (To be confirmed)	21	<p>22 Sunday Service 10.30am Rev Glenn Cannon</p> <p><i>Church Flowers</i> In loving memory of Duncan Gledhill. Love Molly</p>
<p>Service commence 2.30pm</p> <p>7pm—9pm</p> 	27	28	<p>29 Palm Sunday Service Wear a Hat Day 10.30am River & Helen</p> <p><i>Church Flowers</i> In loving memory of Dale from Mum with love</p>

To donate flowers in church to remember a loved one contact news@scape.church



Kirklees has seen an increase in jewellery-related burglaries.

Offenders are targeting homes for high-value gold jewellery, often referred to as “family gold”, which has become more desirable due to the current high price of gold.

Suspects are mainly entering through rear doors and windows and completing quick searches of upstairs rooms.

Advice to help protect your home:

- Store jewellery in a properly secured, insurance-approved safe.
- If possible, keep high-value jewellery away from the home, e.g. in a deposit facility.
- Strengthen your home security with alarms, CCTV, and door/window lock upgrades.
- Leave lights on or use timers when you are out.
- Don't show off any jewellery in social media posts.
- Report suspicious behaviour or vehicles
- Please report concerns via 101, or 999 in an emergency.

Please be on the lookout for any suspicious strangers wandering or driving round the village. We have had an increasing number of house burglaries and car thefts over the dark winter months. As above report it straight away either by dialling 101 or 999.

SCARECROW FESTIVAL

Be prepared for a very busy village over the Easter Weekend (3rd to 6th April) as the Scarecrow Festival returns again! Buy your map in advance here:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/scape-scarecrow-festival--2026>

Or scan the QR code on the back cover of this newsletter

More information on the weekend will be included in next months edition

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

If you would like to volunteer to help in any way over the Scarecrow weekend and you don't know who to contact just email news@scape.church and we will pass your details onto the team.

*Email news@scape.church to join the Neighbourhood Watch WhatsApp group
Find more information at wypcommunityalert.co.uk*



Our Spring 1 term has been full of fun, excitement and rich learning opportunities. We were lucky enough to enjoy a few snowy days, during which the children made the most of our wonderful school grounds—playing in the snow, exploring outdoors and using the winter weather to support their learning in subjects such as science and geography.

A major focus this term has been the performing arts. The children have worked incredibly hard learning the songs for the Young Voices concert, where they performed sea shanties, pop medleys and more alongside thousands of other children from across the North at Co-op Live. It was an amazing evening, with many parents joining us for the live performance. The children absolutely sang their hearts out!

We have also been preparing a performance for the Lawrence Batley Theatre, inspired by the musical Cats. The children delivered a fantastic rendition of Jellicle Cats, complete with feline costumes and face paint—they looked phenomenal and performed brilliantly.

Looking ahead, we are now busy preparing our Easter performance, based on the folk tale The Three Little Trees. We are excited to share this with you. It carries a beautiful message, exploring the journey of three trees and linking symbolically to the life and death of Jesus.

As the weather brightens and becomes warmer, we have been thoroughly enjoying our new playground, which was generously supported by our brilliant PTA (FOSS). We also have the Scarecrow Festival coming up—always a fantastic event that provides invaluable support for our school.

We are now aiming to enhance our EYFS outdoor provision by adding new storage for outdoor resources as well as a protective canopy to provide shade and shelter during warmer days.

It has been a busy, joyful and memorable term. We look forward to sharing many more exciting moments with you over the coming weeks.

Miss Shackleton

01484 647008 / office@scapegoathill.co.uk / www.scapegoat-hill.kirklees.sch.uk



ESCAPE 1 · 2 · 3

After a trial run last year we have decided from 2026,
ESCAPE 1,2 & 3 will all meet together from 6pm to 7.15pm
and each age group will have its own specific activities.

Every other Wednesday—See Calendar for dates

See you there!

Email escape@scape.church for more information

pool table
table tennis
air hockey



Don't

let kids have all the fun

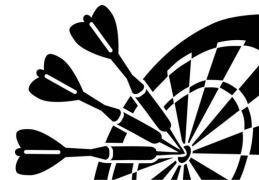
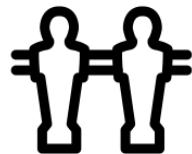
Calling all adults and over 15's!

(Under 18's must be accompanied by a responsible adult)

Every other Thursday—See calendar for dates

Pool table, table tennis, air hockey, foosball, darts,
Xbox FIFA football and much more

(Alcohol in moderation allowed downstairs in the church)



SCARECROW FESTIVAL



3RD - 6TH APRIL 2026

Scapegoat Hill Village

Everyone welcome • Parking • Refreshments • Toilets
★ Activities • Entertainment ★

Fundraising for
Scapegoat Hill Junior
& Infant School

£4 per map



Join the fun!