## **Supported Charities**

In 2020 St James Fundraising included Betel House as one of their nominated charities until 2022. Betel UK is an independent Christian charity for men, women and families affected by



the hardships that lead to social exclusion, especially homelessness, drug and alcohol abuse and long-term unemployment. It opened its doors in 1996 and provides an alternative model of recovery which has made a radical difference to many lives that were formerly in chaos.

Betel's objective is to help residents rebuild their own lives through community responsibility and through their charitable businesses where they offer a range of services:

- Furniture repair, Restoration and Upholstery
- House Removals and Clearances
- Garden Maintenance, Landscaping and Tree Surgery
- Painting and Decorating
- Charity Shop Retail Sales
- Vehicle Repair
- Catering



If anyone is interested in contacting Betel to use any of the services they offer, leaflets are available on the notice board. They have already submitted quotes for tidying the church graveyard.

To help raise funds for this deserving charity in October donations of furniture and clothes, amounting to £200 - £300, were collected for their shop in Benwell; a £60 donation from our Parish Council; a number of donated toys and knitted items from Jen Larkin to be distributed in the Benwell area. All of which have been gratefully received by Betel.

It is also hoped that the postponed talk on 'The Camino de Santiago Walk' by John Caine will be able to go ahead sometime this year (Covid permitting).



Other charities we continue to support are:

- Hexham Food Bank
- Walking With
- Cornerstone
- Oxfam