

Ponteland Methodist Church

Notices for Sunday 17th ,24th ,31st December 2023

Minister – Rev Jona Sewell (Tel 822057)

'Transforming lives through God's love'

3rd of Advent // The Lord is Near

Sun 10.00am Handel's Messiah - See page 2
17th 4.00pm Candlelight Carol Service - Rev Jona Sewell
Wed 2.30pm Grange Lea Carol Service led by Ann Cooper
20th
Thurs 9.30am Toddler Thursdays - toys, activities, refreshments
21st 2.00pm Women Together - Informal Gathering

4th of Advent // Saviour and Lord

Sun 10.00am Geoff Orrock NO EVENING SERVICE here.
24th 3pm/5pm/7pm at St. Mary's - see page 2
Mon 10.00am Christmas Family Service - Rev Jona Sewell
25th

1st of Christmas // Glory to God

Sun 31st 10.00am Rachel Wood 6.30pm NO SERVICE
Sat 6th 7pm for 7.30pm - Meanders AGM and meal at the Golf Club
Sun from 9am Bouncy Church - Steve Small
7th 6.30pm Rev Jona Sewell

LECTIONARY

17th :-Isaiah 35:1-10, Psalm 146:5-10, James 5:7-10, Matthew 11:2-11.
24th :-Isaiah 7:10-16, Psalm 80:1-7,17-19, Romans 1:1-7, Matt 1:18-25.
25th :-Isaiah 52:7-10, Psalm 98, Hebrews 1:1-4,(5-10), John 1:1-14.
31st :-Isaiah 63:7-9, Psalm 148, Hebrews 2:10-18, Matthew 2:13-23.

PRAY FOR OUR OWN PREACHERS ELSEWHERE

17th Dec - Rev Jona Sewell at Blucher, 10.45am.

24th Dec - Rev Jona Sewell at Stamfordham, 10am.

31st Dec - Rosemary Gray at Scots Gap, 10.15am.

HANDEL'S MESSIAH – HERE AT 10am ON SUNDAY 17th DEC

On Sunday 17th December at 10am, instead of normal worship, we are going to play a live recording of Handel's beloved oratorio performed in King's College Chapel, Cambridge, by Voices8 and Academy of Ancient Music. The performance will not end till about **11.30am** so we will bring refreshments to your seat during the performance. This will be a chance to be quietly reflective before our main Carol Service at 4pm. Ann Cooper has programmes if you would like one in advance. Just turn up and enjoy.....bringing others if you can.

Ann Cooper

CHRISTMAS EVE at ST. MARY'S

3pm & 5pm - Dressing the Crib services. (led by Rev Paul & Jona)

7pm - Readings and Carols.

CAROL SERVICE AT GRANGE LEA CARE HOME

On Wednesday Dec 20th at 2.30 pm, Ann Cooper and Rev Christine Brown (St Mary's) will lead this service. Please come and swell the singing, then enjoy refreshments and a chat. It's always a lovely occasion and much appreciated by staff, residents and relatives. You are welcome to wear your party hat, flashing ear-rings or?! Please let me know if you can come. Many thanks. *Ann* - 01661 613502 - anncooperx@gmail.com

USED POSTAGE STAMPS FOR MARIE CURIE

We have a plastic box for them in the Church foyer on the bookcase which *Joan Teasdale* looks after. It would be good to have Christmas stamps put in. Please save and put in the box to raise money for **Marie Curie**.

COMPUTER HACK -SCAMS : SEVERAL ALERTS

At the end of last week, my computer was hacked and many emails were sent out to addresses in my address book, all unknown to me. I had a number of phone calls enquiring what this email was all about to which I could only reply that it is a **SCAM**. If you received an email, I am sorry; if you did not identify it as a Scam I am very sorry. I had no part in the process. John Gill's email was also targeted. *Syd Cowan*

So as a general warning for people to be on their guard and if they get such a request, to contact the alleged sender separately if they want to check out the validity of the message, never to click unrecognised links, and never to give money through unsolicited emails - even if they claim to be from someone they know, or to alert that person to their emails having been hacked *Bev/Jona*

RESTART DATES IN JANUARY

Mon 8th Open Door, Open Door Bible Study and the Prayer Meeting
Tues 9th Boys' Brigade/Girls' Association
Thurs 11th Thurs Toddlers, Women Together and Men's Forum
Sat 13th Meanders

CIRCUIT NOTICES

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|------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Mon 18th | Westerhope | 10am. | Oasis coffee morning. |
| Mon 18th | Westerhope | 1pm. | Little Treasures |
| Tues 19th | Lemington | 9.30am. | Clothes Bar |
| Tues 19th | Denton Burn | 7.30pm. | Tuesday Fellowship Carol service |
| Sat 6th | Lemington | 10am. | Craft and Chat. |
| Mon 8th | Westerhope | 10am. | Oasis coffee morning. |
| Tues 9th | Denton Burn | 2pm. | Tuesday Fellowship. Rev Tim Woolley |
| Tues 9th | Lemington | 9.30am. | Clothes Bar. |
| Wed 10th | Denton Burn | 10am. | Beans and Banter |
| Thurs 11th | Westerhope | 1.30 - 3.15pm. | Carpet bowls. |

POSITIVELY RURAL EVENT

Hear about the “Spirituality of older people” on 10th January at 7:30pm. We will be considering the spirituality of older people in a rural context with input from the organisation 'Anna Chaplaincy'. Register your place here: <https://240110-OlderSpirituality.eventbrite.co.uk> Booking closes 3 days beforehand. Positively Rural is an online community hosted by the Methodist Church, but open to anyone of any denomination involved in rural ministry, including volunteers, lay workers and clergy.

PRAYERS

We turn to you, O Crucified Redeemer, converted through your cross, conquering in its sign, transformed by its grace and at peace within its shadow.

Amen

Everywhere and always, O Christ, let us feel your presence, the gift of grace upholding us, the gift of faith strengthening us, our hope fortified and our love reborn.

Amen

Loving God, help us to see the hidden treasure in our communities. People who quietly go about doing wonderful things that make a difference, yet not seeking the limelight. Our churches are made up of individuals who tirelessly try to show your love to others, and so bring hope and help to people in need. Often these ‘hidden treasures’ are the catalyst behind a new project that encourages others to try something different. We bring them to you in gratitude for their selfless giving of themselves, emotionally, physically and spiritually.

Amen

Lord, you are always working even though we might not see it, in difficult times of suffering and pain, walking next to us. You are the light in the darkest of times; the hope when all is lost and the strength when we fall. Help us to trust in your plan and see your treasures in those around us

Amen

Please send your notices to Geoff Lisle by next Friday, 12noon, Either by phone:- 01661 822532, by post:- 42, Ridgely Drive. NE20 9BL or by E-mail :- Geoffandangela@btinternet.com