

Notices for Sunday 7th February 2021
Ponteland Methodist Church
Minister – Rev Jona Sewell (Tel. 822057)

LET THE LOVE OF JESUS BE KNOWN

5th in Ordinary Time /// Forgiveness and Reconciliation

MESSAGE FROM REV PAT BROOKS

As you can see, this week we have no letter from Jona as he is on Sabbatical for the month, and we wish him a time of relaxation, time to read and walk, and to re-charge his batteries. So if you have things you need to discuss during February then do get in touch with either Robin or myself.

Because of the weather, which is thick snow today as I look out of my study window, but also because of Covid, we are unlikely to be knocking on your door, but I hope to phone you over the month, just for a brief chat to see how you are managing during Lockdown.

For me, this last year has provided extra time to read, in fact I have now read all my books and will try to buy some new ones. I have also started a new patchwork piece as you will see if you watched the Circuit service on 7th February. But in that service, I also talk about starting something afresh with God, and my plan is to start a diary noting down what I feel God is saying to me. That way I can go back and check up on what I have achieved.

Maybe you could do something similar. So find a note book of some sort, sit and be still as you wait to hear God's voice telling you what to write. Maybe you could write a hymn, something for us all to sing when are back together.

I close by quoting from a hymn by Jan Berry

“Still in the darkness we search for your healing,
Hoping for meaning to comfort our fear.
God of the silence, of unspoken feeling,
Teach us the wisdom to make your truth clear.”

STF No 625

LECTIONARY

**Isaiah 40 : 21-31, Psalm 147 : 1-11, 20c,
1 Corinthians 9 : 16-23, Mark 1 : 29-39.**

The following questions are from today's Lectionary using the NIV version:-

- 1) Who went to look for Jesus when he went off to pray in a solitary place?
- 2) Add the missing words to this verse "He brings to naught and reduces the of this world to" You will find the answers on the back page.

NEWCASTLE WEST METHODIST SERVICE

This Sunday's service is led by **Rev Pat Brooks** with the theme "**Starting from Scratch!**" The Bible readings are from **Isaiah 40:21-31** and **Mark 1:29-39**.

ANITA ANDERSON

It is with great sadness and a heavy heart that I have to inform you that Anita was called to Higher Service on Thursday 4th February. Our thoughts and prayers are with Andy, Andrea and Mike, Alan and Sophie and all the 5 Grandchildren. *Geoff*

CORNERSTONE

The February edition has just been issued and should be available online shortly. Check www.ponteland-methodist-church.org.uk

DISTRICT NOTICES

Mission Hub Webinar 6 February.

Tracey Hume and *Elaine Lindridge* invite you to this webinar focused on the Digital Presence element of the Evangelism and Growth Strategy particularly around digital worship and church planting. There will be two keynote addresses with time for Q and A.

Follow this link to Eventbrite to book your place - log in details will be sent nearer the time. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mission-hub-webinar-tickets-128138173727>

Thy Kingdom Come invite you, once again, to join in #PrayerfortheNation Every day we will pause and pray at 6pm for those impacted by the pandemic. You can set an alarm, light a candle or use a light on your mobile phone as a prompt to pray, or you may even hear a church or cathedral bell ring as a reminder. You can explore the Church of England's website for further resources.

Is it true that there are more foodbanks than MacDonaldis outlets in the UK??

From the early origins of Methodism, Methodists have tried to stand up for justice and have spoken out for those who do not have a voice in our society. We live in one of the richest 5 nations in the world and yet the demand for help from foodbanks is growing. What can we do? As a first step we can care enough to find out the truth. Here are two ways to make a start:

Check out numbers behind the above headline;

Come and learn the stories and the truths of pandemic poverty in the UK with ***Paul Morrissey and Hannah Brown*** from the Joint Public Issues Team.

Wednesday 17th February 2pm on zoom. Hannah and Paul are leading this session especially for the North East region. They will share research carried out during the pandemic and news of the ***Reset the Debt*** campaign. Don't miss this opportunity to hear first-hand what is happening in communities across our land.

Faith after Doubt with Brian McLaren, 23 February 6pm.

Brian McLaren is an author and speaker. In his latest book 'Faith after Doubt' he describes a journey from simple faith through doubt, complexity and finally to harmony. We are delighted that he has offered Darlington District a date on his virtual book tour [people in Newcastle District are very welcome to join the conversation]. Brian will answer questions about what it means to grow and learn through our doubts and what it means to live in communities of harmony. Places are restricted so that all present have the opportunity to ask questions. Don't miss out, book here to reserve a place <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/136011316509>

Hazel Sargeant Circuit Administrator

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Takes place on the **5th March**. Although we can't meet in person this year, we are encouraged to access the content via the PMC website. The content should be on there by next week. If you can't access the website, you can request a service booklet from ***Angela Lisle*** (822532) or ***Christine Pay***.

HEDDON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

This Saturday we have Rev Tim Thorpe as our guest speaker. Unfortunately, the advertised speaker has had to postpone speaking due to another engagement, he sends his apologies. Tim's subject – "We are His chosen generation and it is in us He has faith to tell others about Him." Please feel free to forward this to anyone you believe would be blessed this Saturday.

Steve Philipson is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Men's Fellowship Time: **Feb 6th, 2020 10:00 am**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86960526947?pwd=WWZMTENoQVN1eXM4dWgwMTArY3FZUT09>

Meeting ID: 869 6052 6947 Passcode: 2Tim1:7

God Bless Steve

PRAYERS

We bring to you, O Lord, our poverty of soul to be transformed by your beauty; the waywardness of our passion to be tamed by your love; the stubbornness of our will to be conformed to your commandments and our coldness of our heart to be enkindled by your grace. *Amen*

Lord, we are in awe of our planet and all around us there is beauty and wonder. Yet we also know the daily toll of our 21st-century lifestyles on our towns and cities, mountains and beaches and we know that we must change our ways. Help us to find the wisdom and courage as individuals, as congregations and as nations to take the steps that are needed to save the planet for future generations. *Amen*

Each day and each night, each shade and each light, we bend our knee in the eye of the Father who has created us, in the eye of the Son who has redeemed us, in the eye of the Spirit who has cleansed us; in love and affection, in wisdom and grace, in faith and in fear, for ever and ever. *Amen*

Based on traditional Gaelic prayers to the Trinity Loving God, all the world belongs to you. Forgive us that we so often live as if the world belongs to us. Help us to learn how to use the things of your world with wisdom and humility and to be aware of the needs of others, not just our own desires. When we are daunted by fear of the future, inspire us by your Spirit to learn how to live hopefully. Move us through the beauty that we encounter in your world to creative ways of working with you for its sustainable future. Loving God, all the world belongs to you. *Amen*

Please send your notices to Geoff Lisle by next Friday, 1pm.
Either by phone:- 01661 822532, by post:- 42, Ridgely Drive. NE20 9BL
or by E-mail :- Geoffandangela@btinternet.com

Bible Quiz Answers:- 1) Simon and his companions (Mark 1:36)
2) princes, rulers, nothing (Isaiah 40:23)