

# **Ponteland Methodist Church**

## **Notices for Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

**Minister – Rev Jona Sewell (Tel 822057)**

**‘Transforming lives through God’s love’**

### **Week after Epiphany // The Waters of Salvation**

<b>Sun</b>	<b>from 9am</b>	<b>Bouncy Church - Steve Small - ‘Epiphany, we’ve only just begun.’ Bible reading :- Matthew 2 : 1-12.</b>
<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>		
<b>.</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Rev Jona Sewell - ‘ Fleeing to Egypt!’</b>
<b>.</b>		<b>Bible Reading :- Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23.</b>
<b>Mon</b>	<b>12noon</b>	<b>Ecumenical Prayer Meeting at St Matthew's Church</b>
<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>1.00pm</b>	<b>Open Door - Soup, cakes, scones, drinks in the hall</b>
<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>2.00pm</b>	<b>Open Door Bible Study - see next page</b>
<b>.</b>	<b>3.30pm</b>	<b>Prayer Meeting in the Lounge</b>
<b>Tues</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Boys’ Brigade/ Girls’ Association - Anchors</b>
<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7.15pm</b>	<b>Boys’ Brigade/GA - Juniors/Company/Seniors</b>
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Toddler Thursdays - toys, activities, refreshments</b>
<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>2.00pm</b>	<b>Women Together - Rev Maureen Lloyd</b>
<b>.</b>	<b><u>7.00pm</u></b>	<b>Men’s Forum - Meal at Rialtos</b>
<b>Fri</b>	<b>2.30pm</b>	<b>DOMUS Bible Study at John Gill’s (10 Darras Rd)</b>
<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>		
<b>Sat</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Meander - meet in car park</b>
<b>13<sup>th</sup></b>		
<b>Sun</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Rev Jona Sewell - Covenant Sunday, Communion</b>
<b>14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>David Forrester</b>

### **LECTIONARY**

**Genesis 1 : 1-5, Psalm 29, Acts 19 : 1-7, Mark 1 : 4-11.**

## **PRAY FOR OUR OWN PREACHERS ELSEWHERE**

**Rev Jona Sewell at Stamfordham, 10am**

### **OPEN DOOR BIBLE STUDY**

Our next meeting is on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January at 2pm** to continue our study on **David**. It is themed '**Jerusalem, the Centre of Worship**'. Bible references are:- **2 Samuel 5: 1-10, Exodus 25:10-15 & 2 Samuel 6: 12-19**  
There is also the opportunity to partake in a bowl of soup at Open Door, prior to meeting.  
*Chris Cogan*

### **THANK YOU**

Bryan Ashford would like to express his thanks and appreciation to so many people for all their thoughts and prayers during his recent illness. It has been a great help and support to both Margaret and myself. *Bryan*

### **MEN'S FORUM**

The first meeting of 2024 is our Annual Meal which this year will be at **Rialtos** at **7pm** on **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January**. Please contact **Andy Anderson** to advise attendance and to find out menu choices. Contact details :- [andrew73anderson@gmail.com](mailto:andrew73anderson@gmail.com) or Tel 01661 871844.

### **WOMEN TOGETHER**

Our first meeting of the year on **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January** at **2pm** will be led by **Rev Maureen Lloyd** on the topic '**Journeying into the New Year**'

### **ANDREW SHAW**

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of Andrew last Tuesday - beloved husband of Fiona and son-in-law of Albert and Margit. The family have asked for privacy during this time so please do not contact them during their time of grieving.

## **CIRCUIT NOTICES**

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.
Mon 15th	Westerhope.	10am.	Oasis coffee morning.
Tues 16th	Lemington.	9.30am.	Clothes Bar.
Thurs 18th	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.

## **MEN'S FELLOWSHIP**

Can you believe another year has been left behind.! Why not kick off the New Year with Fellowship at Heddon? This **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup>, Colin Barrick** will be speaking from **10am at Heddon Methodist Chapel**. Why not put it in your diary, come along, enjoy a bacon sandwich and fellowship with folk you may well have not seen in a good while! We pray you will be with us Have a blessed day, God bless,

*Steve & Jim*

**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**

## **PRAYERS**

We are yours, O God, for you have made us and loved us. We are yours, O God, for you have saved us and called us. Being yours, O God, let us eternally rejoice your presence. *Amen*

Gracious God, in Jesus we see your image, in all its wonder and beauty, majesty and splendour. In ourselves and in each other we reflect your image and mirror your glory, like an image in a reflecting pool. But too often we distort your image in us. We do not see you in the wonder of the people all around us or your creation. We are blinded to the treasure within us and about us. When we do not see your glory or do not celebrate the treasure of your generous love in the wonder of our neighbours and the delight of your creation, have mercy we pray. And help us to see. Help us to mirror your glory. Help us to treasure the gifts and graces you lavish on us and on all creation. Help us to see you in refugees, migrants and displaced people, as we see you when we look in the mirror, or in the still, calm waters. And help us to be thankful. *Amen*

With all the citizens of earth, O Christ, we rejoice in the glory of your divinity. With all the citizens of heaven, O Christ, we rejoice in the glory of your humanity. *Amen*

God the Holy Spirit, through the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. Strengthen and deepen our commitment to revealing your kingdom through our lives and by our prayers. Grant us, we pray, wisdom to discern signs of your kingdom in the world around us, wherever grace, mercy and truth are present. Enable us to discover, even in unexpected places, the beauty of holiness revealed in personal acts of compassion and sacrifice. Empower all people of goodwill to work towards establishing social structures and relationships that embody justice and peace. Through the faithful endeavour of us and all your people, may your kingdom come your will be done. *Amen*