

Notices for Sunday 7th June 2020
Ponteland Methodist Church
Minister – Rev Jona Sewell (Tel. 822057)
LET THE LOVE OF JESUS BE KNOWN

Trinity // Holy, Holy, Holy

MESSAGE FROM JONA

I wanted to say something about the current protests going on in the world. Racism and inequality are very real. I have struggled to find the words without sounding too angry / preachy / condescending / white, so I've decided to use someone else's. I will say this though: the church, with its message of God's radical love and inclusion for ALL must be at the forefront of setting right that which is wrong, hearing stories of injustice and pain, and seeking reconciliation, justice and healing.

I share this statement from the president of the Methodist Conference, **Revd Dr Barbara Glasson**:

"It is with outrage and deep sorrow that we have witnessed the recent brutal killing of George Floyd in the United States.

But outrage and sorrow are not a sufficient response to racism and inequality in society. How to begin a process of change? It starts with self-examination and listening to the people whose lives are affected by discrimination and hate.

This week I received these words from a Methodist living in south London: "The young people whom I have worked with for over the last 15 years have felt the impact of racism in every institution they have been part of from schools, to university, to various workplaces, and other than local support and informal church networks they have not found the Methodist Church as a place that speaks up for them."

As your President, I start by saying I am sorry. Sorry for being silent when we should have spoken out against the everyday injustices that affect BAME communities. I am sorry that, despite our efforts, we have not done enough for those who feel excluded and we need to do better. We know this includes people of all ages from the Windrush generation to the very young. I am sorry when we have not listened carefully enough and not challenged the assumptions of white privilege and bias. Repentance can lead us to change, to embody a gracious, loving spirit of inclusion and understanding. There is no excuse for racism. All people are made in God's image. We are one body in Christ Jesus.

I hope we can listen more carefully to the voices of BAME members, especially younger people, who face racism, discrimination and violence on a daily basis. Then our Church must be brave, speak out, speak up and challenge racism wherever we find it, especially

when we find it in ourselves. I have been in contact with the Vice-President who joins me in supporting this statement."

The Revd Dr Barbara Glasson, President of the Methodist Conference

Prayers

A reminder of the invitation to join me in daily prayer at 1:30pm, or whenever works for you. This week we pray:

Continual Prayers for:

An outpouring of God's Spirit on the Church, our communities and wider.

Those suffering with Covid-19 and their families and friends

The NHS staff and all who are responding.

Those struggling with loneliness.

Our own church community that we may show Christ in our response to those around us and each other.

Weekly Prayers for:

Those who suffer discrimination for their skin colour or nationality.

For an open and listening spirit.

The courage to examine our own hearts and lives, and change where needed.

For a more inclusive and just society, and a willingness to change.

The work of the Methodist Church, including the president and vice-president of Conference.

Please don't allow this list to be prescriptive, pray as the Spirit leads.

I've been really challenged and encouraged by this short prayer which I pray daily and share with you with encouragement to make your own:

To You, O Lord, I surrender my life.

I pray to be Your servant.

I pray to be aligned with Your will.

I pray to fulfil divine potential for your glory.

Amen.

Jona

LECTIONARY

Genesis 1 : 1 > 2 : 4a, Psalm 8, 2 Corinthians 13 : 11-13, Matthew 28 : 16-20.

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

1) In the beginning, what was created on the third day?

2) On which day was the sky created?

You will find the answers on the back page.

MHA Virtual MHA Sunday service . This year our service will be a memorial and remembrance to those we have lost within our MHA family and the many thousands worldwide who have been affected by this tragedy.

Virtual MHA Sunday will be broadcast on YouTube at 3pm on Sunday 14th June. The service will feature hymns, prayers and readings from our MHA family and special guest speakers. There will be an option to donate online and to digitally apply Gift Aid. A youtube link will be in next week's notices or on the MHA Website.

GREETING CARDS FOR SALE

I have been selling Bible text cards in aid of SHADE, our Kenyan charity, for many years now. If you would like to buy any, just give me a ring and I will deliver them. They are mainly £1 each and I have Birthday, New Home, New Baby, Get well, Just to say, Thinking of You, Sympathy, Wedding Blessing, Happy Anniversary and 80th Birthday. I also have packs of 10 Bible text notelets @ £4.99 - Plain or Thank you. They are all lovely Leonard Smith photo cards with flowers, views, animals, birds etc. My contact details - **Ann Cooper 824347** or email anncooperx@gmail.com

OUR STREET CAN INITIATIVE

There continues to be a great need for food and other items for those people who are vulnerable due to Covid 19. Throughout Northumberland the Community Response teams are getting referrals of those affected. This initiative called "**Our Street Can**" has so far sent over 6,000 items to people in need. So, if you would like to help by giving any of the following items, you may well discover there is a collector on your street. If you have access to the internet, you can check this website www.ponteland.co/our-street-can where you will be able to check to see if there is a donation point nearby? If not, you can either give them to me or I will collect them.

This is what they need:-

FOOD DONATIONS - Non perishable and wrapped unused food

CLEANING PRODUCTS AND NAPPIES

TOILETRY DONATIONS

Unused items including Shower Gel, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Hair brushes, Deodorant, Sanitary Towels, Body Lotion, Shampoo.

Please contact me, **Rosemary Gray** tel. 822493 or email rosemary.gray19@gmail.com

For further information about the initiative, you can also contact Ela Akay, email address:- ela.akay@doctors.org.uk

HEDDON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

We want to continue our monthly circuit men's fellowship and although we missed April and May, we have someone available for 6th June. Normally we start at 10am and this person has agreed to come online at that time. We've been using 'Zoom' to keep the church going and Tim Thorpe has agreed to be our speaker in June!

Here's the link for Zoom. If people haven't used this before the link should start up and download the required platform to their chosen device!

Steven Philipson is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Men's fellowship Time: Jun 6, 2020 10:00am

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86960526947>

Meeting ID: 869 6052 6947 Password 2Tim1:7

I hope you can 'Zoom in' and enjoy Tim's talk. Any problems, please contact me at
admin@heddonmethodists.org.uk

Steve Phillipson

PRAYERS

Support us, O Lord, all the day long until the shadows lengthen, the evening comes, the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over and our work is done. Then in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging, a holy rest and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Thank you, Lord, for your reckless love that heals the brokenness within us, gives us the strength to live another day and forgives us our sins.

Help us to live out your reckless love, so that through the power of the Holy Spirit we will be able to love you, love our neighbours and forgive other people.

We receive Jesus as our Lord and Saviour and surrender our lives to the power of the Holy Spirit to be used for your glory alone. In Jesus' mighty name we pray. *Amen*

God the Father, eternally mysterious, we worship you. God the Son, eternally giving, we bless you. God the Holy Spirit, eternally witnessing, we adore you. Holy and glorious Trinity, three persons and one God, we magnify you, now and for ever. *Amen*

Loving God, you show yourself to us in so many different ways:
in times of joy and of sorrow, in experiences of beauty and of challenge,
in periods of rest and of activity. In whatever state we find ourselves in,
help us to be open to experience your presence as good news,
and help us to respond by sharing that good news in word and action,
that others may know the wonder of your love. *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) land (Genesis 1:13)

2) the second day (Genesis 1:8)