

Notices for Sunday 10th December 2017

Ponteland Methodist Church

Minister – Rev Jona Sewell Tel 822057

LET THE LOVE OF JESUS BE KNOWN

*There is a valued informal atmosphere at our Church and it would be appreciated if conversations in the main Church are **held quietly 5 minutes before Worship** to give you time to talk to God. You are most welcome to have tea or coffee with us before and after the Morning Services and tea after the Evening Service.*

2nd of Advent – The Return of Christ

Sun 10 th	10.00am 6.30pm	Rev Tim Woolley – ‘Christmas Lights’ - Brigade’s Carol Service. including Toy Service followed by Brigade’s Christmas Fayre Rev Jona Sewell – ‘God of the in-between’
Mon 11 th	12.15pm 1 - 4pm 1.30pm 2.00pm	Ponteland Churches Together joint prayer meeting at St. Mary’s . All welcome or let us have a prayer request. The Open Door :- Soup, refreshments and fellowship -last one till 8 th Jan Last Monday Carpet Bowls till 8 th Jan Open Door Bible Study – continuing the story of Esther.
Tues 12 th	2.30pm 6.00pm 7.00pm	DOMUS Bible Study Group at the Gill’s – 10, Darras Road. Boys’ Brigade - Anchor Boys Christmas Party Boys’ Brigade – Junior/Company/Senior boys outing - ‘Clip and Climb’.
Wed 13 th	5.45pm 7.00pm	Girls’ Brigade – Explorers/Juniors Christmas Party Girls’ Brigade – Seniors and Brigaders Christmas Party
Thurs 14 th	9.30am	Toddler Thursdays – toys, activities and refreshments till 11 am (Toddlers will be meeting next week)
Fri 15 th	7.30pm	Last Friday Carpet Bowls till 12 th Jan
Sat 16 th	7.00pm	Care and Share Christmas Concert with the Lemington Male Voice Choir – Seasonal refreshments follow.
Sun 17 th	10.00am 10.00am 6.30pm	The Bridge Christmas Service – Rev Tim Woolley Rosie Prudhoe Rev Jona Sewell – Candlelight Carol Service

CHURCH STEWARDS

(am) Andrew Pay, Pete Cowey, Peter Michell.
(pm) Angela Lisle, Peter Michell.

PRAY FOR OUR PREACHERS TODAY:- Rev Jona Sewell and Rev Tim Woolley.

We also pray for those of our number who today are preaching elsewhere:-

Rev Jona Sewell, Denton Burn 10.30am; **Rev Pat Brooks**, Stamfordham 10am;

Rev Tim Thorpe, Heddon 10.30am and Milbourne 6.30pm and

Rev Gordon Wynne, Lemington 10.30am and Westerhope 6pm.

BIBLE READINGS IN TODAY'S SERVICES

10am : Isaiah 9 : 6-7, John 1 : 1-9. 6.30pm : Mark 1 : 1-8

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

1) What did John the Baptist eat by the Jordan river whilst he was baptizing the Judeans?

2) Whose throne will the Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace reign on?

You will find the answers on the back page.

LECTIONARY

Isaiah 40 : 1-11, Psalm 85 : 1-2, 8-13, 2 Peter 3 : 8-15a, Mark 1 : 1-8.

YOUTH and FAMILY CO-ORDINATOR - PONTELAND METHODIST CHURCH.

The circuit has placed an 'ad' as follows for the above position :- 16 hrs/week (flexible hrs, some weekend working) Salary: £9000 - £9984 per annum (+ optional 6% contributory pension scheme). Initial contract: 3 years. We are looking for someone to help us build on the existing children's, youth and family ministry within the Church at Ponteland. The successful candidate will help develop our vision & strategy in this work, oversee & coordinate its implementation & develop the church's links with local schools & the community. To request further information and an application form, email:

tim.woolley1@googlemail.com or Tel: 07899 896673. Applications to be received by 31st Dec 2017. Interviews will take place during week commencing Monday 15th Jan 2018.

Please show this to anyone you know who may be interested. Thanks.

Ann Cooper

CHURCH FLOWERS I am currently preparing the Flower List for 2018 and if you don't already contribute to the Flower Fund, and would wish to do so, please contact me on 823850. Flowers in the Church are arranged on a weekly rota by volunteers and the donations to the Fund are used to purchase the necessary flowers to commemorate Friends or Family of Donors on specific week-ends throughout the Year.

We would also welcome additional help with the flower arranging and if you are interested in joining the small group of volunteers please contact me.

Pat Turner

NCH – ACTION FOR CHILDREN As usual, our Christmas collections will be for the above charity. Can all those who have a collecting box please ensure that I receive them for emptying this year, as I am conscious that they all need to be checked for 'old' pound coins. Thank-you to all for their continued support of this Methodist charity.

Rachel Wood

BRIGADE'S CAROL SERVICE/TOY SERVICE Today at 10am, the Brigades' Carol Service will include the annual collection of toys. You are invited to bring along a toy or gift suitable for a child or young person. These gifts will be donated to Cornerstone in Benwell who will distribute them to the children of families in the area whose budgets will be particularly stretched as Christmas approaches.

Peter Michell

After the service, feel free to join us in the hall for our Christmas Fayre with Hot Turkey sandwiches, a Tombola, cake stall and raffle. Please support our Brigades. *Fiona*

CHRISTMAS CONCERT This year, the Lemington Male Voice Choir will entertain us on **Sat 16th December at 7pm**, tickets, priced **£7**, are available from *Syd Cowan*. *Syd*

FAIRTRADE Thanks to everyone who ordered from Traidcraft recently. The order raised **£109** for Care & Share & also supported the producers and farmers who supply Traidcraft. Well done! *Andrew & Bev*

CIRCUIT CHRISTMAS EVENT 90 attended last week - it was a great success & thanks must go to Ann for organizing it and to Brenda and Kay for leading the kitchen team.

LOVE GIFT DROP (otherwise called 'Flash bombing'!) At the Christmas social, we gave each Church a large number of tiny gifts to drop round their neighbourhoods saying 'Love came down at Christmas – God loves you'. We are going out to put ours around Ponteland (for people to find and keep) on **Thurs 14th Dec at 2pm**, starting at Church. If you can help, please let me know. THANKS. *Ann Cooper* (824347)

NEWCASTLE WEST FOOD BANK - Demand for assistance is up **20%** this Christmas. Please help to make Christmas a little easier for some of the most needy families in the city. Items are delivered every week by Brian and Joyce Davis. *Chris Cogan*

MORNING REFRESHMENTS I am about to do the new rota for 2018. A few people have had to give up serving refreshments, so I am looking for a few more volunteers. It only means 3 or 4 mornings per year to serve tea or coffee and biscuits after the service. If you feel you could help, please see me after the service. Thank you. *Pauline Groves*

CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGING AT NEWCASTLE HOSPITALS RVI Medicinema @ **6.30pm on Fri 22nd** and FREEMAN Chaplaincy department @ **6.30pm on Sun 24th**. If more information is required, or you wish to advise us of expected level of support, call the Chaplain on duty (0191 2336161 ext 48129), or direct dial (0191) 244 8129

THE BRIDGE - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:- *Gather* is meeting at **7pm on Sat 26th Jan**, in Ponteland Methodist Church. This is a monthly meeting for prayer and worship for attended by Christians from around the region. It is exciting we are hosting it at Ponteland – do come along and join us! **BigChurchLive:** The Rend Collective (writers of "My Lighthouse") are coming to **Newcastle City Hall on Friday 9th Feb**. Some of us have already bought our tickets, do come and join us if you can.

<https://bigchurchlive.com/events/rend-collective/newcastle-february-9-2018> *Caroline*

SKILLS AUDIT A reminder that if you haven't responded yet, you have until **31st Dec**. <http://ponteland-methodist-church.org.uk/skillsaudit.html> is the link you need, If you don't have a computer, please see *Irene or Andrew Gonnet* or ask for a paper copy. *Irene*

SUNDAY CLUB meets in the Lounge around 10.10am each Sunday. There are 2 groups - *Stepping Stones* for children up to school year **4**, and *Rock Solid* for school years **5-8**. More info from *Chrys Hudson* (821458) A crèche is also available each Sunday morning.

PRAYERS

Be to us, O Holy Spirit, breath for our being, purity for our souls, healing for our wounds, fire for our hearts and light for our path, that, with all creation, we may rejoice in your presence; now and for ever. *Amen*

As this day begins, we turn to you, our God. By your Holy Spirit, be with us in all we have to face. In each step we take, walk by our side. In every conversation, guide our thoughts. In all our actions, show us your way. In our challenges, grant us wisdom. And at the end of the day, we commend to you our faults, failings, and frailty, just as we commit to you our devotion, dedication, and discipleship. In the name of Jesus Christ, our beginning and end. *Amen*

If you have people (or other subjects of intercessory prayer) for whom you wish the Church to pray for, please can you let the Church Stewards know at least 10 minutes before the service starts so they can inform the preacher. Thank You.

DIARY DATES

Sat 6th Jan - 7.30pm Meanders Dinner at Ponteland Golf Club
Sun 7th Jan - 10am Covenant Service
15th - 21st Jan - Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Sun 21st Jan - 12noon Church Lunch.
Sat 24th Mar - Spring Care and Share concert with Graeme Danby

CIRCUIT NOTICES

Tues 12th **Westerhope** 7.30pm. Weekday Praise. Speaker: Rev Juliet W.
Wed 13th **Westerhope** 4 – 5.30pm. Messy Church
Thurs 14th **Heddon** 10 - 11.30am. Advent Coffee Morning (Open door) Mince Pies and Refreshments (donations in aid of Charity).
Thurs 14th **Lemington** 1.15pm Open Doors Prayer Meeting
Thurs 14th **Westerhope** 9.30am Beech Hill School Carol Service
Thurs 14th **Scots Gap** 6.30pm Carols in the Mart
Fri 15th **Stamfordham** Soup and Pud lunch at church on the green. All welcome.
Sat 16th **Westerhope** 10am. Carol Singing around the Tree plus coffee and mince pies.
Sat 16th **Heddon** 7pm. Christmas Film Night – “The Polar Express”.
Sun 17th **Westerhope** 3pm New Life Church - led by Rosemary Gray.
Tues 19th **Denton Burn** 7.30pm. Tuesday Evening Fellowship Candlelight Service.
Thurs 21st **Heddon** 10 - 11.30am. Advent Coffee Morning (Open door) Mince Pies and refreshments (donations in aid of Charity).
Sat 23rd **Heddon** 10am. Community Carol Singing - Outside Dingle Dell.

Please send your notices to Geoff Lisle by next Thursday, 6pm.
Either by phone:- 01661 822532, by post:- 42, Ridgely Drive. NE20 9BL
or by E-mail :- Geoffandangela@btinternet.com