

Notices for Sunday 16th December 2018

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 after the Morning Services and tea after the Evening Service.*

3rd of Advent // The Promised Christ

Sun 16 th	10.00am 10.00am 6.30pm	The Bridge - Rev Jona Sewell - ‘Christmas journeys’ Rev Robin Brooks - Communion - ‘There was a man sent from God’ Rev Jona Sewell – ‘The fruit of repentance’
Mon 17 th	12.15pm 1.30pm	Prayers for people, this week’s activities and next Sunday’s preachers. All welcome or let us have a prayer request. Carpet Bowls (last Monday meeting till 7 th Jan)
Tues 18 th	2.30pm	Women’s Fellowship – Christmas Music & Carols with Cathy Anderson
Wed 19 th	3.00pm 7.00pm 8.00pm	Grange Lea Carol Service at Grange Lea, North Rd. Christmas Choir rehearsal in the Church Christmas Carols on Coates Green
Thurs 20 th	9.30am	Toddler Thursdays - toys, activities and refreshments till 11am
Fri 21 st	7.00pm	Christmas Choir rehearsal in the Church
Sat 22 nd	10.00am 6.00pm	Carol singing for Christian Aid outside the park by Waitrose Informal Carols on Coates Green
Sun 23 rd	10.00am 6.30pm	Geoff Orrock Rev Jona Sewell - Ecumenical Candlelight Carol Service
Mon 24 th	7.00pm	Ecumenical Carol Service in St. Mary’s - Rev Capt. Paul Allinson
Tues 25 th	10.30am	Rev Jona Sewell - Christmas Day Family Service

CHURCH STEWARDS

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

PRAY FOR OUR PREACHERS TODAY:- Rev Jona Sewell and Rev Robin Brooks.

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

Rev Pat Brooks, Scots Gap 10.30am; **Rev Tim Woolley**, Lemington 10.30am and Denton Burn 3pm and **Rev Colin Barrick**, Heddon 10.30am and Milbourne 6.30pm.

BIBLE READINGS IN TODAY'S SERVICES :-

10am (Bridge) : no set reading

10am (Church) : Luke 3 :7-18

6.30pm : Luke 3 : 7-18.

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

1) Add the missing words to this verse "His fork is in his hand to his floor and to gather the into his barn" 2) Where is the axe ready?

You will find the answers on the back page.

LECTIONARY

Zephaniah 3 : 14-20, Canticle : Isaiah 12 : 2-6, Philippians 4 : 4-7, Luke 3 : 7-18.

THANK YOU I would just like to say a HUGE THANK YOU to all who helped in any way with the Christmas Journey. From knitting sheep, making mangers, setting up, taking down, acting and puppeteering. You were all amazing and I could not have done this without you!! It was an amazing week where **90** children and their accompanying adults enjoyed the journey. I have received an email from one of the schools to say how excited and responsive the children and the teachers were to the experience. God is working in this place and He is blessing us with opportunities to reach our local community.

I wish you all a very blessed and joyous Christmas and New Year. Blessings

Alison

OPEN DOOR BIBLE STUDY Our Open Door "I Am" series concludes on **Jan 14th '19**

It is "**I AM the Alpha and the Omega**". We hope to start a study on Ephesians in late Jan. More info to follow on that next year.

Chris Cogan

WEST END FOOD BANK THANK YOU for being so generous during December. Our food donations are four times bigger than usual, and we have raised **£101** so far this month. Please do continue to help during December (and onwards if possible). This web link shows how the **£50k** fund is doing:-

<https://fundraise.charitycheckout.co.uk/newcastlewestend/cf/50k-by-Christmas-Day>

It shows that so far **£28.8k** has been raised by **521** donations and **4** fundraisers. The West End Foodbank needs **£120k** a year to function. It needs this **£50k** fund because the food supplies are all given out by Christmas, and food donations fall off drastically in the New Year. Hence, the need for cash to buy food in January and February. Please remember the green Food Bank bin in the foyer, where there is also a donations box which is emptied after every service. If you want to 'gift aid', you can put your donation in an envelope (supplied at the box) with your name on and our Treasurer will do the rest. **Andrew/Brian**

STEVE GRAY We would like to thank the Church family for all their love, prayers, support, help, cards and food parcels while Steve has been so poorly. We have greatly appreciated everything. Sadly, he passed away peacefully at home on 13th December.

Love Rosemary, Rebecca & Amy

REFRESHMENTS ROTA I am about to do the Sunday morning refreshment rota. Please if anyone wishes to join, or come of the rota, I need to know by **Sunday 23 Dec** *Pauline*

CHURCH PENS for sale, **£1.50 each**. Soft tipped and ideal for touch screens on iPads and phones. An idea stocking filler! Available from *Andy and Rosie*.

ACTION FOR CHILDREN Please can the collecting boxes be given to me for emptying by today. There will be gift envelopes available for our Annual collections & if you want one of these for a Christmas card donation, please get in-touch. I am here today, many thanks to everyone for their continued support. *Rachel*

FREE METHODIST CHURCH WINDOW STICKERS Please get one and put it in your car window, so we can identify who is parking in our car park. Available from *Andy*

CHRISTMAS HOPE There are supplies of these Christmas booklets available to take in the entrance hall as a gift from our Church to celebrate Jesus' Birthday. Discover how people's lives are being changed today as they get to know him. Please pass on to friends.

GRANGE LEA CAROL SERVICE will take place at Grange Lea, North Rd. on **Wed 19th Dec at 3.30pm** but turn up at 3pm for tea and cake! You are invited to come along and join in the fellowship with the residents. The service will be led by *Rev Jona Sewell*.

FLOWER ROTA I am currently preparing the Flowers List for 2019. If anyone wishes to add or delete their names, would they please let me know ASAP. Additional help with arranging flowers throughout the year would be very welcome. With thanks, *Pat Turner*

SUNDAY CLUB meets in the Lounge around 10.10am each Sunday as part of The Bridge Service. 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)
There is also provision for children attending Morning Worship.

CHURCH CARETAKER : *Marianne Groves* (07725052009)

PRAYERS

We bless your name, O God, for all your servants who have fought the fight and kept the faith. Grant us grace to follow their good examples, to continue their work and to enjoy their fellowship in the glory of your kingdom; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*

