

Notices for Sunday 23rd and 30th 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.*

Manger and Cross // Christ the Lord

Sun 23rd	10.00am 6.30pm	Geoff Orrock – “A New Birth” Ecumenical Candlelight Carol Service led by Rev Jona Sewell
Mon 24 th	7.00pm	Ecumenical Carol Service at St. Mary’s
Tues 25th	10.30am	Rev Jona Sewell – “Cracker Christmas”
Sun 30th	10.00am	Mrs Rosemary Gray - “Family time” NO Evening Service
Thurs 3 rd	11.15am	Thanksgiving Service for the life of <i>Steve Gray</i> followed by refreshments in the Church Hall
Fri 4 th	7.30pm	Carpet Bowls
Sat 5 th	9.30am 7.00pm	Meander – meet in Church car park. For 7.30pm - Meander AGM and meal at Ponteland Golf Club
Sun 6th	10.00am 6.00pm	Rev Jona Sewell – Covenant Service Rev Michaela Youngson – President of Conference (This is a Circuit Service)

**May I wish all our readers a very Merry Christmas
and a Blessed and Prosperous New Year**

CHURCH STEWARDS

(23rd - am) Pete Cowey, Brenda Rutter, Peter Michell.
(23rd - pm) Andrew Pay, Pete Cowey
25th - Angela Lisle, Andrew Pay, Peter Michell
30th - Pam Varley, Angela Lisle

PRAY FOR OUR PREACHERS TODAY:- Rev Jona Sewell and Geoff Orrock.

We also pray for those of our number who today are preaching elsewhere:- Rev Jona Sewell, Blucher 10.45am; Rev Tim Woolley, Denton Burn 10.30am and Lemington 4pm; Rev Colin Barrick, Scots Gap 10.30am and Heddon 3pm

BIBLE READINGS IN TODAY'S SERVICES

10am (Church) : Micah 5 : 2 - 5a, .Luke 1 : 39 - 55.

6.30pm : Various : See separate handout available this evening

**PRAY FOR OUR PREACHERS on 30th December :- Rosemary Gray (Ponteland)
Rev Robin Brooks (Heddon) Rev Pat Brooks (Stamfordham) Ann Cooper (Milbourne)**

LECTIONARY

23rd - Micah 5 : 2 - 5a, Luke 1 : 39- 45 (46-55), Psalm 80 : 1-7, Hebrews 10 : 5- 10.

25th - Isaiah 52 : 7-10, Psalm 98, Hebrews 1 : 1-4 (5-12), John 1 : 1-14.

30th - Jeremiah 31 :7-14, Psalm 147 : 12 - 20, Ephesians 1 : 3-14, John 1 : (1-9)10-18.

TRAIDCRAFT Thank you to everyone who bought items from the Traidcraft stall at the Christmas Fayre. As a result of your generous support a donation of **£36.50** has been made to Traidcraft Exchange. The uncertainties about the future of the trading side of Traidcraft are impacting on the charitable and campaigning work of Traidcraft Exchange, so this donation is especially welcome at what remains a difficult time for the whole Traidcraft family. Please continue to pray for all those currently being made redundant from the Gateshead HQ and for all those producers across the world who will need to find a new way to market their goods. *Bev*

MONDAY PRAYER MEETING Prayers will restart on the **7th January at 12.15pm** in the lounge. Please note that we are hosting the monthly shared ecumenical meetings on both **14th January and 11th February** in our Church. We hope to welcome visitors to share soup with us after prayers at Open Door. *Chris Cogan*

NEWCASTLE WEST END FOOD BANK is one of the largest foodbanks in the UK supporting people in and around Newcastle, and in the last year it gave out over **42,000** three-day emergency food packs. Last year, the foodbank distributed around 160 tonnes of food, with a cash value of approximately **£206K**. Once again, a big thank you from The West End Foodbank for your re-doubled help. So far, we have raised **£321** towards this year's target of £100k. Of which, £70.7k has been raised so far. (The £50k target I mentioned last week was, in fact, last year's target). Please continue to give, even after Christmas. Cheques should be made out to **Ponteland Methodist Church** and marked 'Foodbank' on the back. If you want to 'Gift Aid' the donation, please put it in an envelope (in the donation box) and put your name on it. The Treasurer will do the rest.

Any doubts, please contact *Andrew Pay*.

THANK YOU Many thanks to everyone who donated items for the Hub Asylum Seekers drop in Christmas Appeal. All items have been very gratefully received at a time of year when life is difficult. Many of their usual support systems are not in operation over Christmas. Thank you on their behalf. *David and Chris Cogan*

OPEN DOOR BIBLE STUDY Our Open Door “I AM” series concludes on Jan 14th . 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*

DEFIBRILLATOR Ponteland Lions have paid for and installed the second of four units in and around Ponteland on our Church wall near the entrance doors. They have raised money from various sources around Ponteland, with a large donation from the Co-Op. We will put an article in February’s Cornerstone about them *Andy and Geoff*

CHURCH SECURITY With the building not in use between Christmas and New Year (except services and Slimming World), the door will be on ‘keypad only’ entry through the day. Please use the code if you need to get in- code available from *Pauline, Andy or Geoff*

MAIN CHURCH DOUBLE DOORS need to be rehung and fittings replaced which is a specialist job. We hope to have them repaired early in January. *Geoff*

MARGARET WALL The wife of our former Minister John, sadly passed away last Sunday after a heart attack. There are no funeral details to hand at the moment. *Alan G*

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*

CAR PARK SIGNS have been positioned on the spaces against the Church Hall with more to come against the hedge in January mounted on posts. This is an attempt to discourage users of the local pubs and restaurants who have a blatant disregard of the words “Private Car Park” Anybody using the Church or any of its rooms are free to use these spaces. We cannot enforce “No Parking” – hopefully, these will act as a deterrent.

PRESIDENT OF CONFERENCE - REV MICHAELA YOUNGSTON Feel free to come along to one of the events that Michaela will be sharing in during her time here..

Sat 5th Jan. NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE DISTRICT 'Radical grace and God’s mission’ at St John's Methodist Church, Whitley Bay - A morning to explore the relationship between God’s reckless generosity and our call/part in God’s mission. Starting with worship at 10am Finishing with a soup and roll lunch. Contact Diane to book admin@newcastlemethodistdistrict.org. An intentional walk/pilgrimage alongside the coastline to consider God’s generosity in creation and our personal lives, 1.45pm starting at St John's Church Whitley Bay. A morning to explore the relationship between God’s reckless generosity and our call/part in God’s mission. Starting with worship at 10am and finishing with a soup and roll lunch Contact Diane to book admin@newcastlemethodistdistrict.org An intentional walk/pilgrimage alongside the coastline to consider God’s generosity in creation and our personal lives. 1.45pm starting at St John's Church Whitley Bay.

Sun 6th Jan. 10am - Service at Haydon Bridge Methodist Church and 6pm - Service at Ponteland Methodist Church.

Mon 7th Jan -HARVEST HANDS Wrekenton Methodist Community Church 9.30am Coffee and Croissants 10am Prayers. Contact Elaine@lindridge.org.uk to book.

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)

CHURCH CARETAKER : *Marianne Groves* (07725052009)

PRAYERS

Grant to those who seek you, O Lord, the gift of your kingdom, the comfort of your grace and the vision of your glory; for your own name's sake. *Amen*

Lord Jesus, you call each one of us to follow you, to be your disciples and to make disciples. You enable us to live out that discipleship as we seek to transform the lives of those whom we meet and the communities to which we belong. You inspire us to be agents of change and to seize the moment to proclaim your love and to be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit. You challenge us to live every day for you. May we be open to new ways and strengthened through your power. *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.

CIRCUIT NOTICES

Thurs	3 rd	Heddon	10-11.30am. "The Garden Room" cuppa, friendship, fellowship
Thurs	3 rd	Heddon	1.15 – 2.15pm. Prayer Group.
Thurs	3 rd	Heddon	7 - 8.30pm. Bible Study.
Sat	5 th	Heddon	10-11.15am. Men's Coffee Morning. Spkr: Rev Colin Barrick
Tues	8 th	Heddon	1.30 – 3.00pm. Craft and Chat.
Tues	8 th	Lemington	9.30 – 11.30am. Clothes Bar
Wed	9 th	Denton Burn	10.00 am. Beans and Banter.
Thurs	10 th	Heddon	10 – 11.30 am. "The Garden Room" (Open Door) cuppa, friendship and fellowship.
Thurs	10 th	Heddon	1.15 – 2.15 pm. Prayer Group.
Thurs	10 th	Heddon	7.00 – 8.30 pm. Bible Study.
Thurs	10 th	Heddon	7.00 – 9.00 pm. Photography Group.
			A New Year Review – basics of photography.
Sat	12 th	Denton Burn	10 am. Coffee Morning for Tuesday Toddlers.
Sat	12 th	Lemington	10. – 12 noon. Craft and Chat.
Sat	12 th	Lemington	4 – 6 pm. Messy Church
Sat	12 th	Westerhope	10.00 – 11.30 am. Coffee Morning.

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
If you would like to receive these notices by E-mail, please contact Geoff.