

Notices for Sunday 24th and 31st 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.*

4th of Advent - ‘The Lord is Near’ // 1st of Christmas - ‘Light of the Nations’

Sun 24 th	10.00am 6.30pm	Geoff Orrock - ‘Come to the Manger’ Rev Jona Sewell – Communion – ‘No room at the inn’
Mon 25 th	10.30am	Christmas Day Service - Rev Jona Sewell – ‘Sweet Christmas’
Sun 31 st	10.00am 6.30pm 11.30pm	Rev Pat Brooks – ‘Christmas is a Godsend’ Ann Cooper Watchnight Service at MILBOURNE – Rev Robin Brooks
Sat 6 th	9.30am 7.30pm	Meander led by Matthew Cooper Meanders Annual Dinner and AGM at Ponteland Golf Club
Sun 7 th	10.00am 6.30pm	Rev Jona Sewell – Annual Covenant Service Rev Tim Woolley
Mon 8 th	12.15pm 1.00pm 1.30pm 2.00pm	Churches Together Ecumenical Prayer Meeting at St. Mary’s Church Open Door – Soup , Cake, Coffee, Tea and Fellowship. Carpet Bowls restarts Open Door Bible Study – ‘The Story of Esther, part 4’ continues.
Tues 9 th	2.30pm 6.00pm	DOMUS restarts Boys’ Brigade restarts
Wed 10 th	5.45pm	Girls’ Brigade restarts

CHURCH STEWARDS

24th - am Peter Michell, Brenda Rutter, Angela Lisle.
 pm Andrew Pay, Irene Holmes.
 25th - Angela Lisle, Andrew Pay, Peter Michell.
 31st - am Brenda Rutter, Angela Lisle, Peter Michell.
 pm Peter Michell, Andrew Pay.

PRAY FOR OUR PREACHERS TODAY(24th) :- Rev Jona Sewell and Geoff Orrock.

We also pray for those of our number who today are preaching elsewhere:- **Rev Jona Sewell**, Lemington 10.30am; **Rev Tim Thorpe**, Westerhope 10.30am and Milbourne 6pm; **Rev Tim Woolley**, Denton Burn 10.30am & 6pm; **Rosemary Gray**, Heddon 10.30am and **Ann Cooper**, URC Broadway 10am.

BIBLE READINGS IN THE CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve 10am : Isaiah 11 : 1-9, Luke 2 : 1-7.

Christmas Eve 6.30pm : Luke 2 : 1-7.

Christmas Day 10.30am : Luke 2 : 1-20.

THE BIBLE QUESTIONS RETURN IN THE NEW YEAR

PRAY FOR OUR PREACHER(s) on 25th December :- Rev Jona Sewell.

Also on 31st December :- Rev Pat Brooks and Ann Cooper.

We also pray for those of our number who on the 25th are preaching elsewhere:-

Rev Jona Sewell, Lemington 9.30am; **Rev Tim Woolley**, Denton Burn 10am and

Rev Tim Thorpe, Heddon 9.30am and Scots Gap 11 am.

And on the 31st, **Rev Robin Brooks**, Cowgate 10.30am and Milbourne 11.30pm.

LECTIONARY

**24th Dec 2 Samuel 7 : 1-11, 16, Canticle : Magnificat (Luke 1 : 46b – 55)
or Psalm 89 : 1-4, 19-26, Romans 16 : 25-27, Luke 1 : 26-38.**

25th Dec Isaiah 62 : 6-12, Psalm 97, Titus 3 : 4-7, Luke 2 : (1-7), 8-20.

31st Dec Isaiah 61 : 10 to 62 : 3, Psalm 148, Galatians 4 : 4-7, Luke 2 : 22-40.

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*

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

WOMEN'S FOCUS resumes on **Thurs 11th Jan at 7.30pm**. Our Minister, *Rev Jona Sewell*, has chosen to speak on **St. Francis**. All are welcome. *Chris Cogan*

MEN'S FORUM Are gathering for their annual dinner at 7.30pm on **Thurs 11th Jan** at the refurbished Badger. All are welcome. A short talk follows the meal on "Dreams" given by Dr Iain Edgar, a retired Lecturer from Durham University Dept of Anthropology. I would appreciate it if you would make your menu choice and let me know by **Fri 5th Jan**. *Andy*

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP recommences on **Tues 16th Jan**. Led by Peter and Val, their daughter Jane will be leading a *'fitness fun'* session. A Bring and Buy stall will be open.

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*

NEW TEAM MEMBER We are delighted to announce that from mid-January, Tatiana Mendez Salcedo, a 'Time for God' volunteer from Columbia, will be joining us in Ponteland for a placement lasting between 10 and 12 months. Tatiana is an English teacher, currently teaching teenage children in a High School in Bogota. I'm sure we'll all work together to make her feel very welcome as she finds her feet here.

Tim Woolley, on behalf of the Fruitful Churches Youth & Family worker team.

CIRCUIT MATTERS We have been unsuccessful in both rounds 1 and 2 for the matching of presbyters to the circuit to replace Rev Tim Thorpe. The District Chairs regret this, but a combination of 3 stations for every 2 available presbyters and geographic restrictions for family reasons have frustrated their efforts. More developments may take place in January. *Peter Hindle via Andrew Pay (Invitational Committee)*

JOHN MASON son of Eric and Eileen, has accepted an invite to become a presbyter in the North Shields and Whitley Bay Circuit from September 2018, (Jona's 'old patch') We wish him and Sue well on their return to the North East from Leeds. *Geoff*

METHODIST WOMEN IN BRITAIN Applications are invited for the role of **MWiB President 2019—2021**. Would you like to help take MWiB forward as a member of the Executive and Forum? The role of MWiB President is a four-year commitment beginning in June 2018, when the person appointed will become Vice-President for one year, followed by two years as President and a further year as Vice-President. Selection will take place at MWiB Forum on Sat 17th Feb at Hinsley Hall, Leeds. Closing date for applications: Fri 5th Jan. Full role description/application form can be downloaded from the website: www.mwib.org.uk or obtained by email: admin@mwib.org.uk or by phone: 0300 030 9873 Methodist Women in Britain bring women together to know Christ and to make Him known, encouraging, equipping and enabling them to serve God in the church, the community and the world. They connect women in Britain with women worldwide.

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 *Chryst Hudson* (821458)

CHURCH CARETAKER : Marianne Groves 07725052009

PRAYERS

Yesterday we were crucified with Christ; today we are glorified with him. Yesterday we were dead with Christ; today we are sharing in his resurrection. Yesterday we were buried with him; today we are waking with him from the sleep of death. *Amen*

Jesus, at my awakening, breathe new life into me. Jesus, in my growth, protect and guide me. Jesus, in my maturing, grant me wisdom and peace. Jesus, in my decline, offer comfort and hope. Jesus, in my passing, carry me home to eternal rest. *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

15th - 21st Jan - Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Sun 21st Jan - 12noon Church Lunch , more details on 7th Jan.

CIRCUIT NOTICES : January 2018

- Thurs 4th **Heddon** 10-11.30am. Chapel People Care (Open door). Company, friendship, good conversation and a cuppa.
- Fri 5th **Heddon** 7pm. Film Night. Film TBC
- Sat 6th **Heddon** 10am. Circuit Men's Coffee and Fellowship Morning. Speaker: Pastor Tom Leighton. More info from John Banks (07890190750)
- Thurs 11th **Heddon** 10-11.30am. Chapel People Care (Open door). Company, friendship, good conversation and a cuppa.
- Thurs 11th **Heddon** 7- 9pm. Heddon Photography Group – all levels welcome.
- Sat 13th **Denton Burn** 10am. Coffee Morning in aid of Tuesday Toddlers.
- Sat 13th **Lemington** 10 - 12 noon. Craft and chat.
- Sat 13th **Denton Burn** 4pm. Messy Church.
- Wed 17th **Westerhope** 4 - 5.30pm. Messy Church.
- Thurs 18th **Heddon** 10-11.30am. Chapel People Care (Open door). Company, friendship, good conversation and a cuppa.
- Thurs 18th **Lemington** 1.15pm. Open Doors – to pray for the persecuted Church.
- Sat 20th **Westerhope** 12noon. Broth lunch. Tkts £4.50 - Anne Harbottle- 0191 243 3612
- Thurs 25th **Heddon** 10-11.30am. Chapel People Care (Open door). Company, friendship, good conversation and a cuppa.
- Fri 26th to Sun 28th **Bassenfell** weekend. Details from Carol Dent.
- Sat 27th **Denton Burn** 10am. Coffee Morning for Church funds.
- Sat 27th **Lemington** 10-11.30am. Coffee morning with cakes and cards. All welcome.

Please send your notices to Geoff Lisle by Thursday 4th Jan, 6pm.
Either by phone:- 01661 822532, by post:- 42, Ridgely Drive. NE20 9BL
or by E-mail :- Geoffandangela@btinternet.com