

Notices for Sunday 26th November 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.*

Week before Advent - Faith in Adversity - CHRIST THE KING!

Sun 26 th	10.00am 10.00am 6.30pm	The Bridge - Rev Tim Woolley – ‘God’s Rhythm’ Rev Jona Sewell – ‘What kind of king?’ - Communion Rev Tim Woolley – ‘The taste of paradise - Christ and the criminals’
Mon 27 th	12.15pm 1.00pm 1.30pm 2.00pm	Prayers for people, this week’s activities and next Sunday’s preachers. All welcome or let us have a prayer request. The Open Door :- Soup , cake, tea, coffee and fellowship in the foyer. Carpet Bowls Open Door Bible Study studying the story of Esther – all welcome.
Tues 28 th	2.30pm 6.00pm 7.00pm	DOMUS Bible Study Group at the Gill’s – 10, Darras Road. Boys’ Brigade - Anchor Boys Boys’ Brigade - Junior, Company and Senior Sections
Wed 29 th	5.45pm 7.00pm 7.00pm 7.45pm	Girls’ Brigade – Explorers 6.00pm – Junior Section Girls’ Brigade – Seniors and Brigaders Christmas Choir rehearsal in Church Prayer walk around Ponteland – meet outside the main door
Thurs 30 th	9.30am 7.00pm 7.30pm	Toddler Thursdays – toys, activities and refreshments till 11am Fruitful Churches progress meeting Searchlight Fellowship Group in St. Mary’s Church Hall. ‘How to lead someone in Christ’
Fri 1 st	7.30pm	Carpet Bowls
Sat 2 nd	6.30pm	Circuit Christmas Party – fun, food and games till 9pm
Sun 3 rd (1st of Advent)	10.00am 10.00am 6.30pm	The Bridge - Rosemary Gray – ‘Ready and Waiting’ Rev Jona Sewell Rev Juliet Wriglesworth

CHURCH STEWARDS

Andrew Pay (No.1 am / No.2 pm), Angela Lisle (No.1 pm / No.2 am), Brenda Rutter.

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 Tim Thorpe, Scots Gap 10.30am and Milbourne 6.30pm.

BIBLE READINGS IN TODAY'S SERVICES

(Bridge) 10am : Genesis Ch1 : 26 - Ch 2 : 3 and Mark 1 : 29 - 39.

(Church) 10am : Matthew 25 : 31- 46. 6.30pm : Psalm 46, Luke 23 : 33 - 43.

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

1) Which sides does Jesus put his sheep and goats on?

2) What did the soldiers offer Jesus?

You will find the answers on the back page.

LECTIONARY

Ezekiel 34 : 11-16, 20-24, Psalm 95 : 1-7a or Psalm 100,

Ephesians 1 : 15-23, Matthew 25 : 31-46.

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 after the service. If you feel you could help, please see me after the service from next Sunday (3rd). Thank you. **Pauline G**

SHADE UK Thank you to everyone who supported the SHADE lunch earlier this month. It was a huge success, and we raised **£800** which will all go towards the work of SHADE in Northern Kenya. Thanks also to Pete Cowey for providing such a fantastic meal. **Joan**

FRUITFUL CONGREGATIONS This **Thurs, 30th Nov at 7pm** there will be a meeting for anyone who has been, or who wishes to be, involved in the ongoing Fruitful Congregations work. This will be an opportunity for the groups to share what has been happening and think together about the future. **Jona**

CHRISTMAS FAYRE (Sat 9th Dec, 10am-12noon). The Care and Share committee would be very grateful for any raffle prizes to be given to Margaret Cowan, NEW boxed gifts to Kathleen Farquhar, chocolate donations to Gaye, crafts to Pauline or Judith and we require cake donations please which can be left on Friday afternoon or on the day. **Gaye**

CIRCUIT CHRISTMAS PARTY The whole circuit is warmly invited to a Circuit Christmas party on **Sat 2nd Dec** to be held at Ponteland. It will start with food at **6.30pm** followed by fun and games and a short epilogue, ending at about **9pm**. Please come and bring your friends. For catering purposes please let **Ann Cooper** know if you are coming.

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

WOMEN'S FOCUS Christmas Social & Faith Supper is next **Thurs 7th Dec at 7.30pm** This year's theme is memories of Christmas presents, both given and received. Do come with a story and perhaps even bring one along if you can. All are welcome. **Chris Cogan**

CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGING AT NEWCASTLE HOSPITALS Each year, with the support of local churches, the Chaplaincy department organises groups of people to visit hospital wards and sing carols. The Christmas carol singing around the wards will take place across 2 evenings, with volunteers welcome at each venue. The starting point for the **RVI** will be at the **Medicinema @ 6.30pm on Fri 22nd Dec** and the Chaplaincy department @ **The Freeman Hospital @ 6.30pm on Sun 24th Dec**. We therefore would appreciate your support in extending an invitation to the members of your Church to come and join us this year. While it would assist us to have an idea of expected numbers, people are equally welcome to 'just turn up'. If more information is required, or you wish to advise us of expected level of support please feel free to contact the Chaplain on duty (0191 2336161 ext 48129), or direct dial (0191) 244 8129

ECG CONFERENCE 3-8th APRIL 2018 The ECG (Equipping, Calling, Going) Conference at Scarborough has, as its main bible teacher, Elaine Heath. Elaine is a theologian, preacher, teacher and writer. In 2017, she was appointed Dean of Duke Divinity School and Professor of Missional and Pastoral Theology. She is a leading scholar of emergence, the process by which religious faith finds new life outside familiar institutional forms. She is also a noted practitioner of emergence and has reached out to establish new communities with people marginalized in many ways. She will explore the theme of 'Unrestricted Access' by reference to her book *Five Means of Grace: Experience God's Love the Wesleyan Way* (2017). The saver rate for bookings comes to an end on 30th November so, if you are interested in attending, make sure you book now to make a substantial saving. Bookings can be made online at www.ecgevent.org.uk. If you need accommodation there are also places still available in the team hotel at an extremely reasonable rate. These can be booked by telephoning 01782 575129. For more information please talk to **Steve Small**.

THE BRIDGE Gather:- this local ecumenical prayer and praise meeting will be coming here on **Sat 27th Jan**. It will be in the evening. Please put in your diary and don't miss it!
BigChurchLive:- The Rend Collective (writers of "My Lighthouse") are coming to Newcastle City Hall on **Fri 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>

OPENDOORS (www.opendoorsuk.org) has served persecuted Christians & churches worldwide for 60 years, supplying Bibles and other Christian literature, leadership training, livelihood support and much more. Every year Open Doors (OD) produces a World Watch list giving information on the fifty countries where persecution is most severe, while on alternate months supporters receive a colourful news magazine giving an up-to-date summary of current developments. The OD monthly Prayer Diary, of which I receive about ten copies, is a great asset to both prayer groups and individuals. The OD prayer group in the Newcastle West circuit has met regularly for more than five years, on the third Thurs of each month from 1.15 to 2.15pm., at Lemington Methodist Church. Attendance is typically about five. We both discuss and pray for current situations where persecution of Christians is ongoing. Members of our group would like to encourage more people to join us. We would very much value their support and input.

Prof Richard Stephenson

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 *Chryst Hudson* (821458)

PRAYERS

O Love most powerful, strengthen and protect us. O Love most faithful, comfort and support us. O Love most victorious, save and redeem us; for your own name's sake. **Amen**

Creator and sustainer of all that is, we worship you. Saviour and friend of all humanity, we worship you. Enabler and comforter of each disciple, we worship you. Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we worship you. New every morning is your love, eternal is your presence. From start to finish, we worship you, the first and the last. **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 Dec / Jan

Sun 10th - 10am - BB/GB Carol Service led by Rev Tim Woolley
Sat 16th - 7pm - Care and Share Christmas Concert – Lemington Male Voice Choir
Sun 17th - 10am - Bridge Christmas Service led by Rev Tim Woolley
Sun 17th - 6.30pm - Candlelight Christmas Carol Service led by Rev Jona Sewell
Sun 24th - 6.30pm - Holy Communion Service
Mon 25th - 10.30am - Christmas Morning Service
Sun 7th Jan - 10am - Covenant Service

CIRCUIT NOTICES : December

Sat 2nd **Blucher** 10am. Coffee Morning in aid of Action for Children.
Sat 2nd **Heddon** 10am. Circuit Men's Coffee & Fellowship Morning. Speaker: Rev Tim Thorpe. More info from John Banks (07890190750).
Please note venue: 52 Heddon Banks, Heddon on the Wall.
Sat 2nd **Heddon** 9am. Ladies Breakfast - £5 per person – Guest Speaker: Bryn Lauder.
Sat 2nd **Westerhope** 10 – 11.30am. Church Anniversary Coffee Morning.
Tues 5th **Lemington** 2pm. Ladies Meeting Carol Service.
Tues 5th **Westerhope** 7.30pm. Circuit Preachers' Meeting.
Thurs 7th **Heddon** 10 - 11.30am. Advent Coffee Morning (Open door) Mince Pies and refreshments (donations in aid of Charity).
Fri 8th **Lemington** 6pm. Ecumenical Carol Service at Lemington Centre. All welcome.
Sat 9th **Denton Burn** 10am. Coffee Morning for Church funds.
Sat 9th **Lemington** 10 – 12 noon. Craft and Chat.
Sat 9th **Denton Burn** 4pm. Messy Church

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

Bible Quiz Answers :- 1) Sheep on right, goats on left (Matthew 25:33) 2) wine vinegar (Luke 23:36)