

Notices for Sunday 3rd 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.*

1st Sunday of Advent / God's Word at Work

Sun 3 rd	10.00am 10.00am 6.30pm	The Bridge - Rosemary Gray - 'Ready and Waiting' Rev Jona Sewell - 'Watch!' Rev Juliet Wriglesworth - 'Actively waiting for the promise'
Mon 4 th	12.15pm 1 - 4pm 1.30pm	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
Tues 5 th	2.30pm 6.00pm 7.00pm 7.30pm	Women's Fellowship – Advent Service – Rev Jona Sewell Boys' Brigade - Anchor Boys (Party next week) Boys' Brigade - Junior, Company and Senior Sections Circuit Preacher's meeting at Westerhope
Wed 6 th	5.45pm 7.00pm	Girls' Brigade – Explorers 6.00pm – Junior Section Girls' Brigade – Seniors and Brigaders (Party next week)
Thurs 7 th	9.30am 7.30pm 7.30pm 7.30pm	Toddler Thursdays – toys, activities and refreshments till 11am Women's Focus – Christmas Social with a Faith Supper Men's Forum – Rev Capt. Paul Allinson – 'The journey of a life time! - Called, Commissioned and Collared' Searchlight Fellowship Group in St. Mary's Church Hall. (last one)
Fri 8 th		No bowls – Hall being prepared for Christmas Fayre
Sat 9 th	10.00am- 12noon	Care and Share Christmas Fayre – see page 2
Sun 10 th	10.00am 6.30pm	Rev Tim Woolley - Joint Service - Brigade's Carol Service/Parade including Toy Service followed by Brigade's Christmas Fayre Rev Jona Sewell -

CHURCH STEWARDS

(am) Irene Holmes, Pete Cowey
(pm) Pete Cowey, Brenda Rutter.

PRAY FOR OUR PREACHERS TODAY:-Rev Jona Sewell, Rev Juliet Wriglesworth and Rosemary Gray. We also pray for those of our number who today are preaching elsewhere:- Rev Tim Woolley, Heddon 10.30am and Milbourne 6.30pm; Rev Robin Brooks, Scots Gap 10.30am; Rev Pat Brooks, Denton Burn 10.30am; Rev Tim Thorpe, Blucher 10.45am and Scots Gap 6.30pm.

BIBLE READINGS IN TODAY'S SERVICES

10am (Bridge) : Mark 13 : 24 - 37
10am (Church) : Mark 13 : 24 - 37
6.30pm : Isaiah 64 : 1 - 9, Mark 13 : 24 - 37.

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

- 1) What type of tree is mentioned where it's twigs get tender and it's leaves come out?
- 2) How does Isaiah refer to the Lord and the people when he says "we are all the work of your hand?" You will find the answers on the back page.

LECTIONARY

Isaiah 64 : 1-9, Psalm 80 : 1-7, 17-19, 1 Corinthians 1 : 3-9, Mark 13 : 24-37.

BRIGADE'S CAROL SERVICE/TOY SERVICE Next Sunday (10th) 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 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*

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*. *Syd*

WOMEN'S FOCUS Christmas Social & Faith Supper is **this Thurs 7th Dec at 7.30pm**
The 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*

MEN'S FORUM Thurs 7th 7.30pm - St. Mary's new vicar, the Rev Captain Paul Allinson will talk to us on **"The journey of a life time! - Called, Commissioned and Collared"**. All are welcome, members and guests. *Geoff*

WEST END REFUGEE SERVICE CHRISTMAS (WERS) APPEAL This year, they are requesting confectionery, toiletries, gloves, hats and scarves - particularly for men. They support a number of destitute clients. The final collection date is this weekend. Many thanks for donations already received and delivered to WERS. *Chris and David Cogan*

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 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

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL Earlier this year, during one of the storms, rain got in East Boldon Methodist Church Community Hall through the roof, and this affected all the electrics. The hall was closed to all Community Organisations for nearly a week, until the necessary temporary work was completed. The Church were advised that although this temporary work was carried out, a new roof was needed. The Hall is used by many Community Organisations including Karate, Judo, Table Tennis, Age and Concern and many more. To help raise money for the roof the Church are planning a Christmas Tree Festival. This is to be held from the 7th -10th Dec. A Christmas Tree Festival is very similar to a flower festival with a number of decorated trees on a particular theme being displayed. It is a wonderful sight on a winter's afternoon with decorations glinting from each tree. Local organisations have been invited to take part, and this gives them an opportunity for them to highlight aspects of their organisation to a wider audience, and perhaps raise funds for their particular charity. The festival will be open to the public and entry will be by donation with a charge made for refreshments. There will also be a Christmas themed stall of cakes and gifts. The festival will be open from 11am - 4pm on 7th /8th Dec, 10am - 4pm on 9th Dec & 1pm - 5pm on 10th The event will close on Sunday 10th with The Big Christmas Sing in aid of Christian Aid at 5.15pm followed by refreshments.

CHURCH CARETAKER : Marianne Groves 07725052009

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.

PRAYERS

We bring to you, O Lord, our poverty of soul to be transformed by your beauty; our waywardness of passion to be tamed by your love; our stubbornness of will to be conformed to your commandments and our coldness of heart to be enkindled by your grace; now and for ever. *Amen*

Lord Jesus, wherever I am in my life, you know me. When I am first in the thoughts of friends and family because of challenges I face, when I am last in their thoughts because we have not been in touch recently, when I am somewhere in the middle, on an ordinary day of mixed blessings, you know me, you know them, you love us all wherever we are. Be the first in my thoughts in the midst of my challenges. Have the last word in restoring my relationships, that all may glorify you. *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

Tues 5 th	Lemington	2pm.	Ladies Meeting Carol Service.
Tues 5 th	Westerhope	7.30pm.	Circuit Preachers' Meeting.
Thurs 7 th	Heddon	10 - 11.30am.	Advent Coffee Morning (Open door) Mince Pies and refreshments (donations in aid of Charity).
Fri 8 th	Lemington	6pm.	Ecumenical Carol Service at Lemington Centre. All welcome.
Sat 9 th	Denton Burn	10am.	Coffee Morning for Church funds.
Sat 9 th	Lemington	10 – 12 noon.	Craft and Chat.
Sat 9 th	Denton Burn	4pm.	Messy Church
Tues 12 th	Westerhope	7.30pm.	Weekday Praise. Speaker: Revd Juliet.
Wed 13 th	Westerhope	4 – 5.30pm.	Messy Church
Thurs 14 th	Heddon	10 - 11.30am.	Advent Coffee Morning (Open door) Mince Pies and Refreshments (donations in aid of Charity).
Thurs 14 th	Lemington	1.15pm	Open Doors Prayer Meeting
Fri 15 th	Stamfordham		Soup and Pud lunch at church on the green. All welcome.
Sat 16 th	Westerhope	10am.	Carol Singing around the Tree plus coffee and mince pies.
Sat 16 th	Heddon	7pm.	Christmas Film Night – “The Polar Express”.

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) Fig Tree (Mark 13:28) 2) We are the clay, you are the potter (Isaiah 64:8)