

Notices for Sunday 13<sup>h</sup> December 2020  
**Ponteland Methodist Church**  
Minister – Rev Jona Sewell (Tel. 822057)  
**LET THE LOVE OF JESUS BE KNOWN**

3<sup>rd</sup> of Advent // The Lord is near

**MESSAGE FROM JONA**

This week our online service will cover the last of the four principles of the Methodist Way of Life, where **Rev Tim Woolley** will explore the theme of 'evangelism' with us. As I have reflected on these principles, it's become more apparent than ever that everything starts with being grounded in a life with God. Without that everything else may become little more than empty words and directionless travel through life. In this season of restrictions and social bubbles this begs the question - have you asked Jesus into your bubble? A simple prayer asking Jesus to share your life with you is a good place to start.

Further discussion on the theme of evangelism will continue at the weekly Circuit Discussion group; **Wednesday, 7:30pm.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88983378196?pwd=bGEwTHFSeVJiNmpTRG5ETEZxaEVyUT09>

Meeting ID: 889 8337 8196

Passcode: 409322

Next Sunday our online carol service will launch, the theme of which is '**Jesus: Light of the World.**' This theme is continued in the display in our church window (with thanks to Judith, Pauline and the team), on the poster on the side of the church, and on the bookmarks which are currently being distributed; you may already have yours. We have about 30 bookmarks spare so if anyone would like extra to share with family, friends or neighbours, then please let me know directly and I will get them to you.

Stay safe, keep a loving eye of care on one another.

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Rev Jona Sewell  
Newcastle West Circuit  
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@WanderingRev

*Jona*

## **WEST ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH HUB DROP IN**

Your generous donations of warm coats and strong shoes have been very gratefully received by the asylum seeker clients who attend the West Road Baptist Church Hub drop in. Each week the Hub provides a small cash donation to about 15 people who have no other funding, but are provided with basic accommodation and one meal a day. We also have many other individuals and families who live on limited government funding. Throughout the lockdown a local charity has provided generous weekly donations of both fruit and vegetables, and general groceries to our charity. These are delivered by our volunteers each Friday. Our Christmas delivery will be on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December**. To make this a special event we hope to include small gifts for our clients. On this basis we are appealing for gloves and socks for the men, toiletries for the ladies, and childrens hats and gloves. We would also be grateful for donations for the children's activity packs which are being sanitised by one of our volunteers. We would be happy to collect donations. The closing date for donations will be the early part of the week commencing Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December. We are very conscious that we are appealing to your generosity again – and wish to thank you all. *David and Chris Cogan*

## **DOMUS**

Our Bible Study group continues this **Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> December in the Church at 2pm**. We will be staying socially distant and observing the stay safe rules. Hand sanitiser is available in the entrance corridor. Please bring your own Bible and a drink if you need one as the kitchen is currently closed. The disabled toilet is available if necessary. Please wrap up warm as, although the heating will be on, the windows have to remain open to provide ventilation. *John Gill*

## **LECTIONARY**

**Isaiah 61 : 1-4, 8-11, Psalm 126 or Canticle : Magnificat (Luke 1 : 46b – 55),  
1 Thessalonians 5 : 16-24, John 1 : 6-8, 19-28.**

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

- 1) When the priests and Levites met John, who did they think he was?
- 2) Add the missing words to this verse "May God Himself, the God of peace, ..... you through and ..... May your ..... spirit, soul and body be kept ..... at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ"

You will find the answers on the back page.

## MEANDERS

So three months have passed since I last updated you and we've been in and out of National Lockdown. The rules on the Ramblers Association have been amended and my latest thought is that we should only consider resuming walks if the North East is placed into Tier 1 (Medium Risk) and we will need to carry out the appropriate risk assessments as outlined in my previous email. At this time, I'd like to also wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year!!! Regards *Matthew*

## CORNERSTONE

The combined December/January issue is available on the Church website.  
<http://www.ponteland-methodist-church.org.uk/> Printed copies are distributed to those without computer access *Geoff/Andy*

## NEWCASTLE WEST METHODIST CIRCUIT SERVICE

This Sunday's Youtube service is led by **Rev Tim Woolley** entitled "**Fool's Gold**" on the Methodist Way of Life looking this week at Evangelism. The Bible readings are from **John 12 : 37-50 and 1 Corinthians 1 : 18-31**

## PRAYERS

Let your word be in our mouth, O Lord, your truth in our heart and your will in our mind. Let us think only what is good and discern your presence in all that we do. Let us at all times be alive to the promptings of your Holy Spirit; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*

O Lord of majestic mountain and roaring sea,  
O Lord of astonishing beauty and outlandish loveliness,  
O Lord of the minuscule, the overlooked and the never seen,  
O Lord of the extraordinary and the everyday,  
open our eyes to see your presence,  
our ears to hear the whisper of your voice and,  
realising you in every place and every moment of our existence,  
may we live with justice, peace, care and hope.

*Amen*

Almighty and Gracious Lord, our Heavenly Father, I give thanks for all that is good in my life - but I cry for all those who feel despair and loneliness. I pray that You will watch over them in their hours of darkness, just as You watched over me. Fill them with hope and the strength they need to carry themselves through these troubling times; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour. *Amen*

Lord the earth is yours and all therein. We are your people and we have failed to care and use your world as you would expect us to. Forgive us I pray . Father I thank you that regardless of our shortcomings through your love and compassion you have given us a vaccine to help keep us safe from the deadly pandemic. We thank you for the skills you have given our scientists to meet this challenge. Help us all in this world to recognise your response to our many prayers and let us from now on be worthy caretakers of this great and wonderful world of yours. Merciful father we give you thanks. *Amen*

**Please send your notices to Geoff Lisle by next Friday, 1pm.  
Either by phone:- 01661 822532, by post:- 42, Ridgely Drive. NE20 9BL  
or by E-mail :- [Geoffandangela@btinternet.com](mailto:Geoffandangela@btinternet.com)**

**Bible Quiz Answers**:- 1) Elijah (John 1:21)    2) sanctify, through whole, blameless. (1 Thessalonians 5:23)