

Notices for Sunday 1st & 8th August 2021
Ponteland Methodist Church
Minister – Rev Jona Sewell (Tel. 822057)

LET THE LOVE OF JESUS BE KNOWN

18th in Ordinary Time // Imitating Christ
19th in Ordinary Time // The call to Perfection

MESSAGE FROM JONA

As it's August, Geoff informs me that this week's notices will cover the next 2 weeks. This means that this will be my last update for a while as I will soon be taking my annual leave and the remainder of my sabbatical. So, there are a few different things I want to briefly cover:

Barbara Hogg

It is with sadness that I need to inform you that **Barbara Hogg** died on Wednesday morning (28th . I have spoken with **Douglas** and passed on our condolences and love and assured him of our prayers. Douglas was keen to pass on his thanks for our concern and to let you all know that he misses us and the church very much. The family hope that there will be a memorial/celebration service for Barabara's life, held at Ponteland Methodist, at a later date, but the funeral itself will be local to where they now live (North Yorkshire). May Barbara rest in peace and rise in glory.

The Conference Decision on Marriage

Further to my letter dated July 1st regarding the Methodist Church's decision to hold two understandings of marriage, I wanted to take this opportunity to affirm a couple of things. Firstly, to be clear: it is not now Methodist Church policy that all churches must be willing to host same sex marriages, but, as stated in my letter, it will be a decision for each church council to make. Secondly, due to awaiting direction from the Methodist Church on this, and due to my forthcoming time out, our church will discuss this and make the decision no earlier than at our February Church Council.

Cover

I realise that, given all that's going on, it's not an ideal time for me to be taking my sabbatical (is there ever an ideal time?), but it cannot be delayed any further and I go off knowing the church is in safe hands. I will be off from **Monday 9th August** taking annual leave, this will then run into the remainder of my sabbatical and I return to work on **Monday 1st November**. Whilst on sabbatical, extra preaching and pastoral cover will be provided by **Revs Pat & Robin Brooks; Rev Tim Woolley** will be the point of contact for the circuit, and if you have any other questions or issues then please take them first to **Pete Cowey**, or any steward, who will direct you as appropriate. I am very grateful to belong to a denomination that gives its clergy sabbaticals, and I am very thankful for everyone who will be covering my leave.

God Bless,

Jona.

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Rev Jona Sewell
Newcastle West Circuit
01661 822057

LECTIONARY

**1st Aug :- 2 Samuel 11 : 26 > 12 : 13a, Psalm 51 : 1-12,
Ephesians 4 : 1-16, John 6 : 24-35.**

**8th Aug:- 2 Samuel 18 : 5-9, 15, 31-33, Psalm 130,
Ephesians 4 : 25 > 5 : 2, John 6 : 35, 41-51.**

The following questions are from the **Aug 1st** Lectionary using the NIV version:-

- 1) Who did the Lord send Nathan to see?
- 2) Add the missing words to this verse "Our forefathers ... the manna in the;as it is written: He gave them from to eat"
You will find the answers on the back page.

The Bible questions return in September

METHODIST PRAYER HANDBOOK 2021/22

If you would like to order the new prayer handbook titled "A Place for All" please let me know by **Sunday August 15th**. The price this year will be **£4.15**.

Judith Orton 01661 872891 email john.orton1949@gmail.com

PONTELAND METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES - AUGUST

This is the preaching plan during **August** :-

1st, 10am - Steve Small. Theme -“**Bread of Life**” Bible reading - **John 6:24-35**
5pm - 'Songs of Praise' at St Mary's

8th , 10am - Rev Jona Sewell. 6:30pm - Rev Jona Sewell.

15th ,10am - Rev Pat Brooks 6.30pm - Rev Robin Brooks (S)

22nd,10am - Rev Colin Barrick (S) 6.30pm - Rev Tim Woolley

29th ,10am - Rev Robin Brooks 6.30pm - David Forrester

NEWCASTLE WEST METHODIST CIRCUIT SERVICES

1st August service will be led by **Rev Colin Barrick** with the theme: “**Jesus, The Bread of life**” The Bible readings are **Ephesians 4 : 1-16** and **John 6 : 24-35.**

8th August service will be led by **Rev Jona Sewell**

FOCUS SUMMER OUTING

We are having a joint shared Summer Outing – Focus & WI – on **Thursday 26th August** - Departure around **10.00am.**

Unfortunately, our original plan to visit Bishop Auckland Palace is not viable at the moment.

We are scheduled to leave Ponteland at around 10.00am, visiting **Tynemouth** and then will visit **Seaton Delaval Hall**, which has been recently refurbished. It now has excellent facilities.

The price of **£25** includes fish and chips at Marshalls, Tynemouth, entrance if you are not a National Trust Member, the driver’s tip and the coach fare.

Please remember to bring both this card, and your Heritage Card, if you wish to also visit Tynemouth Priory before lunch, - if you are members.

Please ring **Jean Tweedie on 01661 822474** to confirm your place, to inform her if you are a National Trust member, and to arrange payment. Our bus driver has kindly agreed various pick-up points you will need to sort too.

Let’s hope the sun shines!! Places for this are now limited.

Chris Cogan

PRAYERS

Teach us, O Christ, to cast off all bonds of prejudice and custom, and to let your love direct every enterprise on which we embark and every labour that we undertake. *Amen*

God of my salvation, when my soul is a parched land, summon me to drink deep from your living waters.

When the floods rise up to my neck, rescue me from sinking in the mire.

When the storms rage around me, anchor me to the rock of your enduring love.

And at all times, keep before my sight those brothers and sisters for whom drought and flood and storm are more than metaphor.

Help me to live simply so that others may simply live. *Amen*

Remember, O Lord, what you have wrought in us and not what we deserve, and as you have called us to your service, make us worthy of our calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Eternal God, your steadfast love is as high as the heavens are above the earth and your everlasting arms are underneath us. In Jesus you made your home among us, and you long for us to find our home in you – safe and free from fear.

Alpha and Omega, beginning and end, the one holding all things together, give us liberating confidence to renew our trust in you, seek your will, and choose your paths. *Amen*

Shine upon us, O Lord, with the light that surpasses all other light. Cleanse us with the fire that consumes all other fires and fill us with the love that transforms all other loves; for your own name's sake. *Amen*

**Please send your notices to Geoff Lisle by Friday 13th August, 12noon,
Either by phone:- 01661 822532, by post:- 42, Ridgely Drive. NE20 9BL
or by E-mail :- Geoffandangela@btinternet.com**

Bible Quiz Answers:- 1) David (2 Samuel 12:1)

2) ate, desert, bread, heaven (John 6:31)

Next edition will be **SUNDAY 15th AUGUST** and will also cover 2 weeks