

Notices for Sunday 22nd November 2020
Ponteland Methodist Church
Minister – Rev Jona Sewell (Tel. 822057)
LET THE LOVE OF JESUS BE KNOWN

The Week before Advent // Faith in Adversity // Christ the King

MESSAGE FROM JONA

This Sunday marks the beginning of four weeks of themed preaching where we will be exploring together the four principles of **Methodist Way of Life** as follows:-

November 22 - Learning & Caring

November 29 - Worship

December 6 - Service

December 13 - Evangelism

As the title suggests the Methodist 'Way of Life' is designed to help us think about how we live in the world. It shouldn't be confused with the 5 practices of a Fruitful Congregation which focuses with intention on what we do in church, in worship and as the gathered people of God. The Methodist Way of Life challenges us to think instead about our day to day living as the people of God. Our preaching series will be no more than an introduction so I encourage you to join the Circuit Discussion Group which will be looking further at the themes when it meets on **Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm.**

The info and link for this week's Discussion Group is:

Topic: Circuit Discussion Group Time: **Nov 25, 2020 7:30pm**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84708444522?pwd=U2djcm5jRFhTSHNwRzFIWnhFMmhPUT09>

Meeting ID: 847 0844 4522 Passcode: 232110

Dial by your location

+44 203 481 5240 United Kingdom

+44 203 901 7895 United Kingdom

Rev Jona Sewell. Newcastle West Circuit, 01661 822057 @WanderingRev

SHOE DONATIONS

Shoe Donations - We have been really touched by your generous response to our appeal for winters shoes for the asylum seekers who attend the West Road Baptist Church for advice and support. There is an on going need for these. Further donations will be gratefully received. We have also had an appeal for warm winter jackets, particularly for men.

Thank you in advance again!

David and Chris Cogan

Sunday 22nd November – the Newcastle West Methodist Circuit video service is ‘A Methodist way of life, Learning and caring’ led by Rev Colin Barrick. Readings are:- Philippians 1 : 12-18, Philippians 3 : 7-14 and Matthew 22 : 34-40

LECTIONARY

**Ezekiel 34 : 11-16, 20-24, Psalm 95 : 1-7a, or Psalm 100,
Ephesians 1 : 15-23, Matthew 25 : 31-46.**

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

- 1) In the parable of sheep and goats, which side are the sheep on?
- 2) Which servant becomes the shepherd to tend the sheep?

You will find the answers on the back page.

SEND YOUR CHRISTMAS GREETINGS AND SUPPORT ‘ACTION FOR CHILDREN’ THIS CHRISTMAS

Regrettably, some of our Christmas traditions will be different this year. It is unlikely that we will be able to have a Christmas Day service in church. In recent years, the collection taken would have been given to **Action for Children**. You may have read the article in November’s Cornerstone inviting you to make a donation to Action for Children instead of putting your Christmas greeting card to everyone on the noticeboard, and because it will not be possible to use the pigeon-holes for sending your Christmas cards to church friends in person. It would be a great pity if our usual donation to Action for Children is hindered. So, why not send your Christmas wishes by having your names added to a special shared greetings centrefold of the December issue of Cornerstone? To participate please, kindly, send your donation - by bank transfer (sort code: 40-52-40; account code 00024788), cheque, or even cash, to our treasurer, **Peter Michell**, 18 Pinegarth, NE20 9LF. Gift Aid will be added where possible. Then, if you wish, send Peter your name(s) as you would like it to appear in Cornerstone - by email peter_michell@hotmail.com telephone, post, semaphore or Aldiss lamp (No! avoid the last two options – Peter is no good at either!). Please ensure that your donation and name(s) arrive before 30 November, in time for the Christmas Cornerstone publication deadline, though later donations will still be welcome! Thank you for supporting Action for Children which is a national children’s charity originally set up by a Methodist minister from Newcastle upon Tyne. You may know it better by its previous name - the Nation Children’s Home. Founded in 1869 to help destitute children, this wonderful charity served over 360,000 children, parents and carers last year. Try Googling ‘Rev Thomas Bowman Stephenson’ to read more about the fascinating story.

Rachel Wood

PRAYERS

Show us, O God of mercy, that no sin is so great that it cannot be confessed; no wound so deep it cannot be healed, and no sinner so lost that grace cannot bring them home. *Amen*

Light of the World, you shine for me always,
whether I am strutting my stuff in the footlights, or caught like a rabbit in the headlights;
when lightning strikes twice in the same place, or all the lights go out.

Draw me in to your firelight, search my heart with your candlelight,
may I live in your sunlight, until every dark place in my soul is illumined by you.

Amen

God of all hope we call on you today.
We pray for those who are living in fear:
Fear of illness, fear for loved ones, fear of other's reactions to them.
May your Spirit give us a sense of calmness and peace.

We pray for your church in this time of uncertainty.
For those people who are worried about attending worship.
For those needing to make decisions in order to care for other
For those who will feel more isolated by not being able to attend.
Grant us your wisdom.

Holy God, we remember that you have promised that
Nothing will separate us from your love – demonstrated to us in Jesus Christ.
Help us turn our eyes, hearts and minds to you.

Amen

Loving God, If we are ill, strengthen us. If we are tired, fortify our spirits.
If we are anxious, help us to consider the lillies of the field and the birds of the air.

Help us not to stockpile treasures from supermarkets in the barns of our larders.
Don't let fear cause us to overlook the needs of others more vulnerable than ourselves.
Fix our eyes on your story and our hearts on your grace.

Help us always to hold fast to the good, See the good in others,
And remember there is just one world, one hope, One everlasting love, with baskets of
bread for everyone. In Jesus we make our prayer, The one who suffered, died and was
raised to new life, In whom we trust these days and all days,

Amen

In our weakness, O Christ, let us trust your strength; in our darkness let us see your light; in our doubt let us feel your presence and in our despair let us cling to your Cross; for your truth and your mercies' sake. *Amen*

O loving and living God, may we trust in you as Jeremiah reminds us to, like a tree, planted by water, that depends on you alone to face the challenges of the climate and still produce fruit. Let your nourishment seep into our world today through our hands, minds and voices, that we may seek to bring your reconciling love in Christ to the earth in transformative ways. *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**

Bible Quiz Answers:- 1) the right (Matthew 25:33) 2) David (Ezekiel 34:23)