

Notices for Sunday 27th June 2021
Ponteland Methodist Church
Minister – Rev Jona Sewell (Tel. 822057)

LET THE LOVE OF JESUS BE KNOWN

13th in Ordinary Time // The Way of the Kingdom

MESSAGE FROM JONA

Dear Friends,

My current appointment to the Circuit ends next summer (2022), which means that we (my family and I) have recently needed to consider whether we wish to stay, and seek for me to stay on as superintendent, or whether we should seek to move on to another church appointment. After much thought, prayer and soul-searching, we have decided to seek to stay and so **I have requested a three year extension to my current appointment**. If agreed, then this would see me remain as a minister in this Circuit until summer 2025.

Our decision was announced at Circuit Meeting this last week so can now be made 'public knowledge'. I am letting the folk of Ponteland and Stamfordham churches know first through church notices or email, and a further letter will be sent to the Circuit next week together with other details from the Circuit Meeting.

There is a set reinvitation process laid out by the Methodist Church that must be followed and which will include some wider consultation with appropriate office and stakeholders as laid out in the guidelines. This process will be led by the Circuit Stewards, with the support of the Circuit Invitation Committee, and I am very grateful for the diligence and hard work that has already gone into this.

Please pray for the Circuit Stewards and Invitation Committee as they work through this process and seek to prayerfully discern a way forward. Please also pray for my family and myself throughout what could be an unsettling time. The final decision will be confirmed at the September Circuit Meeting which will be chaired by our District Chair, Rev Stephen Lindridge, as is the usual protocol when a superintendent seeks reinvitation.

God Bless,
Jona

LECTIONARY

2 Samuel 1 : 1, 17-27, Psalm 130, 2 Corinthians 8 : 7-15, Mark 5 : 21-43.

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

- 1) What was the name of the synagogue ruler?
- 2) What does "*Talitha koum*" mean

You will find the answers on the back page.

GARDEN SERVICE – Sunday 27th June

Today's Service in the Church garden at **11am** is led by **Rev Pat Brooks** with the message on the theme of '**Plagues**'. The Bible Readings are **John 6:32-35** and **Ephesians 2: 4-10**. If you haven't 'booked in' yet, **then please let Judith know** john.orton1949@gmail.com or by telephone **01661 872891**

Thanks go to Peter Michell and the "Thursday Ladies" for doing some weeding and strimming to keep the weeds round the benches and entrance way clear!

NEWCASTLE WEST CIRCUIT SERVICE

This week's service is led by **Rev Jona Sewell** on the theme of '**Life draining or life filling**'. The Call to Worship is **Psalm 113 : 1-7** and the Gospel Reading is **Mark 5 : 21-43**.

NEWCASTLE DISTRICT COFFEE GATHERING: Exploring Alpha Online

Takes place on **Thursday 15th July at 10am** via ZOOM

Join with others from across the District to hear Good News Stories from Circuits who have hosted Alpha Online. Maybe you are considering ways to reach out?

Considering an opportunity to journey deeper with those you've recently encountered. Have you led an alpha course before but never thought about hosting online.

Why not join us and hear about the highs and lows, and tips on how to make Online Alpha as fruitful as possible.

To register for the event please use the following link:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0sdOGqrT4qHdyeTtJD97e4EGau2bnZgkxw>

CORNERSTONE

The **July/August** edition will be rolling off the presses next week so, if you were considering submitting an article, Andy needs it by this weekend. His contact details are andrew73anderson@gmail.com or Tel. 01661 871844

METHODIST CONFERENCE

As we worship this weekend the Methodist Conference is meeting. The meeting is largely online with only a small number of people able to attend the Birmingham venue in person due to the continuing pandemic precautions. The reports coming to the Conference this year including God in Love Unites Us, Changing Patterns of Ministry, Holy Communion and Online Worship, The Theology of Safeguarding and Oversight and Trusteeship. Conversations will also include the response of the Methodist Church to climate change and becoming a church focused on Justice, Dignity and Solidarity. The reports are available on the Methodist Church website: <https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-conference/conference-2021/conference-programme/> We invite you to pray for those gathering, in whichever form, for wisdom and care in the decisions made. May we all look always to the Spirit to guide us onwards.

The ordination of those ministers who were received into full Connexion in 2020 took place last Saturday. The 2021 ordinations will take place next weekend. We hold all those being ordained in our prayers, some candidated from or are stationed in the North East.

PRAYERS

In our devotion to the needs of others, O God, let us not neglect the wisdom of your counsel. In the midst of our work let us not lose sight of your great purposes. In our path of service let us not snatch the management of the world from your hands.

Amen

God of breeze and sunshine, bless us;
God of wind and rain, refresh us;
God of gale and hail, invigorate us;
God of cyclone and snow, renew us;
God of creation, grant new birth to all your earth,
in Christ our Lord.

Amen

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

O God, since without you we are not able to please you; mercifully grant that your
Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our
Lord.

Amen

Gracious God, the world you have made is one of beauty and bounty, a plethora of
colours and textures and sights and sounds, all reminding us of your generous and
creative nature. We rejoice that we are part of your glorious creation but confess
that we have not always treated it with the love and care it requires.

Forgive us and help us to live in ways that enable us and all your people to care for
your world, enjoy its wonders and share its resources wisely. In the name of Christ,

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) Jairus (Mark 5:22)

2) "Little girl, I say to you, get up!" (Mark 5:41)