

Notices for Sunday 4th July 2021
Ponteland Methodist Church
Minister – Rev Jona Sewell (Tel. 822057)

LET THE LOVE OF JESUS BE KNOWN

14th in Ordinary Time // The Call of Moses

MESSAGE FROM JONA

I find this week's Gospel reading (Mark 6:1-13) quite discomfoting and challenging. In it, Jesus basically tells his followers, as he sends them out, to travel light:

"Take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. Wear sandals but not an extra shirt."

I believe he says this because he doesn't want them to be too distracted, comfortable or reliant on 'things' other than God. I can't read this without asking myself, living in West and being relatively affluent and comfortable by the world's standards, does my comfort and possessions cause me to be less reliant on God? And the truth is, it probably does. And that's not easy to admit, but it is honest. What about you? How does your relative comfort and the 'things' of this life affect your relationship and journey with God? It all resolves down to very simple but profound questions: Where do we put our trust? On what do we rely? If these questions don't make you feel at least a little uncomfortable then your either much closer to God than I am, or you're not being entirely honest with yourself! God loves us profoundly, but that love also challenges us to trust and rely on Him more. Can we do that?

God Bless, *Jona*.

LECTIONARY

2 Samuel 5 : 1-5, 9-10, Psalm 48, 2 Corinthians 12 : 2-10, Mark 6 : 1-13.

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

- 1) When Jesus sent out the twelve, what did he tell them not to take?
- 2) Add the missing words to this verse "And I that this ... - whether in the or apart from the body I do not know, but ... knows -"

You will find the answers on the page 3.

NEWCASTLE WEST CIRCUIT SERVICE

This week's service is led by **Rev Colin Barrick**. The Bible readings are **2 Corinthians 12 : 2-10 and Mark 6 :1-13.**

PONTELAND PARISH FLOWER SHOW 2021

The committee has reviewed the current Covid situation and now will be holding a virtual Flower Show in September. The schedule will be as 2020 show so entrants can start making photographic records for entries in the Show. Further details on how to enter will be made available as soon as they have been arranged.

Syd Cowan

A METHODIST WAY OF LIFE

In July the District are focusing on A Methodist Way of Life. A Methodist Way of Life is just that, a way for us to live out our faith in our day by day living and in our worship this month we are exploring why this is important to our walk with God. The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.

As far as we are able, with God's help on **Worship**

- We will pray daily.
- We will worship with others regularly.
- We will look and listen for God in Scripture, and the world.

On **Learning and Caring**

- We will care for ourselves and those around us.
- We will learn more about our faith.
- We will practise hospitality and generosity.

On **Service**

- We will help people in our communities and beyond.
- We will care for creation and all God's gifts.
- We will challenge injustice.

On **Evangelism**

- We will speak of the love of God.
- We will live in a way that draws others to Jesus.
- We will share our faith with others.

**May we be a blessing within and beyond God's Church,
for the transformation of the world.**

**A Methodist Way of Life encourages us to grow together.
Make time to discuss these questions regularly with others.**

Worship

- What is the pattern of your prayer life?
- How easy or hard do you find it to pray?
- What has spoken to you recently in worship or in the Bible?
- When, lately, have you felt close to God or distant from God?

Learning and Caring

- How have you practised generosity since we last met?
- How have you shown hospitality to others recently?
- How are you caring for yourself?
- How and what are you learning now?

Service

- How are you seeking to serve others in your communities and beyond?
- What has helped or hindered you in your service of others?
- How are you caring for God's creation?
- How are you using God's gifts (including your financial resources)?
- What issues of injustice are you currently concerned about?
- What are you doing in response?

Evangelism

- When was the last time you were able to talk about God?
- What opportunities to share your faith have there been since we last met?
- How have you responded to opportunities to share your faith?
- Is there anyone you might invite to consider Christian faith?

How can we support each other in our Way of Life commitments?

Bible Quiz Answers:- 1) No bread, bag or money in your belts (Mark 6:8)
2) know, man, body, God (2 Corinthians 12:3)

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP - Sat Jul 4th with Matthew Barrick

Hi one and all, This Saturday being the first Saturday in the month we have as our guest speaker Matthew. We carry on meeting, all be it online, until these restrictions are lifted. One thing remains the same on this journey of faith and that's the desire to meet in fellowship. Come and be a part of this gathering and feel free to share this invitation.

Join Zoom Meeting 4th July 10:00am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86960526947?pwd=WWZMTENoQVN1eXM4dWgwMTArY3FZUT09>

Meeting ID: 869 6052 6947

Passcode: 2Tim1:7

God Bless

Steve Philipson

PRAYERS

Gracious God, let the light of your face shine upon us; your peace rule in our hearts and your strength be our song. By the gift of your grace let us take up the cross and follow in the steps of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen*

Awesome God, thank you for giving us this wonderful earth and all its resources. We praise you for the amazing ways you have set everything to work according to your perfect plan. Thank you for touching the hearts of humans with the beauty of your earth. Thank you that the earth gives us so much joy and excitement for adventure. May we always be grateful for your blessings. *Amen*

Let us repose, Good Shepherd, in your presence; walk in your path, enjoy your safety, rejoice in your banquet, receive your anointing, drink from your cup and dwell in your house, now and forever. *Amen*

Creator God, help us to remember that the earth is yours, and not ours. Forgive us that our collective human activity has put your wonderful world at risk and that we are in danger of destroying all life on this planet. Your prophets, the scientists, have long warned us of what was happening, but we have given no heed to their findings and what they have declared is now coming to pass. We pray that world leaders will forget their differences and come together to take what drastic and radical measures are necessary to combat climate change. Lord, all of us have a part to play in the way we live our lives, even if we find it difficult and costly. Guide us in all our actions of response, world without end. *Amen*

Please send your notices to Geoff Lisle by next Friday, 12noon
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or by E-mail :- Geoffandangela@btinternet.com