

Notices for Sunday 4th and 11th October 2020
Ponteland Methodist Church
Minister – Rev Jona Sewell (Tel. 822057)

LET THE LOVE OF JESUS BE KNOWN

27th in Ordinary Time // 28th in Ordinary Time
Original Blessing // The Eternal Priest

MESSAGE FROM JONA

Dear Friends,

At our Church Council this week we agreed that we would work towards reopening the church later this month for those user groups that wish to return; both 'church' groups and other users. This is conditional on there being no further tightening of restrictions that affect the church our relevant groups, on each group completing a risk assessment, and on our confidence that they can operate within strict Covid guidelines. A small working group has been appointed to aid this. As the building is now reopening the Council agreed that now was the time to draw our Thursday morning prayer space to a close to enable other activities; this will cease with immediate effect.

The Church Council also had a substantial discussion about if, whether and when we might begin Sunday worship within our building. The Council recognises that this is not a straightforward issue and that there are many diverse points of view held and numerous issues to consider, including:

A small but increasing desire for 'gathered' worship.

The importance of keeping the church as 'one' if only some people are gathering.

The possibility of recording or live-streaming worship.

Balancing our duty of care for the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual wellbeing of each other.

The limitations of the worship space.

Worship as an act of witness to the community.

There was a recognition that there is no 'right' way to proceed but the honesty, respect, care and love shown in the meeting displayed the best of the church and a deep desire to give our best. In the end the Church Council decided to postpone any decision and will discuss it again at our next meeting on October 22. Please pray for us and for each other in our deliberating and discussions. Please feel free to contact me should you wish to discuss any aspect of this.

Thank-you for your love and support.

Jona

LECTIONARY

**4th Oct - Exodus 20 : 1-4, 7-9, 12-20, Psalm 19,
Philippians 3 : 4b-14, Matthew 21 : 33-46.**

**11th Oct Exodus 32 : 1-14, Psalm 106 : 1-6, 19-23,
Philippians 4 : 1-9, Matthew 22 : 1-14.**

The following questions are from the Lectionary for the 4th Oct using the NIV version:-

- 1) What did the tenants do when they saw the heir after killing him?
- 2) Add the missing words to this verse "I on towards the to win the
for which God has called me in Christ Jesus"

You will find the answers on the back page.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS BOXES

2020 has been a really challenging year for us all. We have both experienced challenging lockdowns and lost jobs as a result of the pandemic. We are not alone within our community. There are many people struggling and who have a real need, especially as Christmas draws near.

We are going to make Community Christmas Boxes from the Church to be delivered to those within our communities who need it most. The boxes will contain fair trade treats (biscuits/ chocolates / tea/ coffee), pre-loved toys (for families), some nice toiletry products for relaxation, the meaning of Christmas booklet and a Christmas Card from the Church family.

We would like to ask for your support to help this initiative and to reach as many people as we can spreading God's love and joy this Christmas.

Please pass any monetary donations through Peter Michell who will earmark them for this project. If you have any pre-loved toys, please contact one of us directly.

Thank you!

Kathryn (07708379834), Fiona (07434924898)

CORNERSTONE

This months edition will be printed today and delivered to those without computers or access to the internet. It will as usual be available via the church website.

<http://www.ponteland-methodist-church.org.uk/>

Our thanks go to Andy, Rosemary, Ann and Jona who deliver!

THESE NOTICES

Cover two weeks due me taking a few days off . Please contact Bev if you have anything urgent to go out in the meantime.

TRAI DCRAFT ORDER

The new Autumn/Winter range of goods is now available from Traidcraft. Due to current restrictions, please browse goods by going to www.traidcraftshop.co.uk and email your orders to pmc.pastoral@sky.com . Payment will be on delivery, preferably by bank transfer.

I do have a few copies of the catalogue which I can drop off to those without internet access who live in the immediate Ponteland/Darras Hall area.

Please see full instructions and order form sent with the notice sheet. Please place your orders by **Sunday 18th October**. Thank you, *Bev*

HEDDON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Hi all, just a heads up for This coming **Saturday 3rd October**. We have **Geoff Orrock** as our guest speaker for the first Saturday of October. It would be a blessing to have you join us, if you have the time. Invite whomsoever you like to join us, I'm sure they'll be blessed too.

Here's the link details:-

Topic: Men's fellowship

Time: Oct 3rd, 2020 10:00 AM London

Every month on the First Sat.

Join Zoom Meeting

Web link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86960526947>

Meeting ID: 869 6052 6947

Password: 2Tim1:7

Keep safe, 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 for ever. *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 Friday 16th October, 1pm.
Either by phone:- 01661 822532, by post:- 42, Ridgely Drive. NE20 9BL
or by E-mail :- Geoffandangela@btinternet.com**

Bible Quiz Answers:- 1) take his inheritance (Matthew 21:38)
2) press, goal, prize, heavenwards (Philippians 3: 14)