

Newsletter February 2024

This is our monthly newsletter. The newsletter can be received by anyone who has an e-mail address. To subscribe to this service please send your e-mail address to: northstaffscircuit@hotmail.co.uk.

Dear Friends

As I look out of the manse back windows, since Christmas Day I have look through cracked windows onto a fire damaged hedge and other debris. This week the hedge has gone and transformation has started to take place in the garden, hopefully by the time you read this we will be having the windows fitted. The Circuit are very grateful for skilled trades people who know their trade.

Just as trades people who know their skills are needed to repair the Manse so our Circuit needs us all to play our part as we seek to provide love, care, support at events for our churches and the communities in which they are placed.

The Bible in 1 Corinthians talks about the Church being a body, with every part/person being important no matter how insignificant they feel.

We could also use the idea of a jigsaw and each one of us being a piece of the jigsaw that makes the Circuit what it is. No matter how good we are at jigsaws we very often appreciate some help and so we come as churches and individuals to add our gifts and talents to Circuit life as we share our skills and are good neighbours to each other.

I wonder what your church and you can do to become more fully integrated in Circuit life?

Attend the next Circuit Service?

Encourage another church by attending an activity or event?

Ask for help or advice when unsure or struggling?

The hymn writer Charles Wesley penned these words:

He bids us build each other up;
and, gathered into one,
to our high calling's glorious hope
we hand in hand go on.

Let us walk hand in with each and with God as we seek to build the picture of God's kingdom here in North Staffordshire. God isn't finished with us yet but he might ask us to do things differently.

Every Blessing

Rev. Joy

North Staffordshire Circuit (11/22)

Preaching Plan – February 2024

					February			
					4	11	18	25
					Ordinary 5	Sunday before Lent (Racial Justice Sunday)	Lent 1	Lent 2
Lectionary Year (B)					Isaiah 40:21-31	2 Kings 2:1-12	Genesis 9:8-17	Genesis 17:1-7,15-16
(Principal Service)					Psalm 147:1-11,20c	Psalm 50:1-6	Psalm 25:1-10	Psalm 22:23-31
					1 Corinthians 9:16-23	2 Corinthians 4:3-6	1 Peter 3:18-22	Romans 4:13-25
					Mark 1:29-39	Mark 9:2-9	Mark 1:9-15	Mark 8:31-38
Please Pray For:					Audley	Baldwins Gate Community	Bradwell	Cross Heath
Wolstanton	LS	10.30	StF		Chadwick	Singleton HC	LA	Singleton
(95)		6.30	MWB		CS @ Audley 3.00 pm		Hymns by Candlelight	
Cross Heath	CL	11.00	StF	NV	Dyble T	LA	Irvine	Legge HC
(24)		3.00	MSB		CS @ Audley 3.00 pm			
Higherland	CL	10.00	StF	MM	Singleton	LA	Legge HC	Strachan
(37)		6.00			CS @ Audley 3.00 pm			Legge Messy Vintage
Madeley	CL	10.30	StF	SoF 1234	N Jones	Barnett	Davies T	E Perry
(19)		3.00	MWB	NV	CS @ Audley 3.00 pm			
Silverdale	CL	11.00	StF	MM	Café Church LA	Chadwick	Singleton HC	Emmaus
(45)		5.00			CS @ Audley 3.00 pm			Refuel
Audley	JV	10.30	StF	SoF 1&2	X	Rowley	X	Ventom HC
(33)		3.00	MWB	GNB	CS	X	Singleton	X
Bradwell	JV	10.00	StF	SoF 1&2	M Ventom	Ventom HC	N Jones	Barnett
(36)		3.00	MWB	NV H&P	CS @ Audley 3.00 pm			
Halmer End	JV	10.30	H&P	SoF 1&2	Ventom HC	R Jones	Harrison T	Matthews
(23)		3.00	MWB	GNB	CS @ Audley 3.00 pm			
St Luke's	JV	10.30	H&P	GNB	LA	I Perry	Ventom HC	Irvine
(19)		3.00	MWB		CS @ Audley 3.00 pm			
Printed Service for this week prepared by:					Ventom	Singleton	Legge	Heap
BGMC					Wednesday 21st February, 2.30 pm - Holy Communion - Rev'd Christine Legge			

Green Tips

Change your shower head - investing in an aerated shower head will make a significant difference to energy and water consumption. They inject air into the water stream, limiting water usage. A water-efficient shower head could save a four-person household £70 a year on gas for water heating, and a further £115 on water bills if they have a meter.

Practise eco-driving - research by the RAC Foundation has found that eco-driving leads to safer, cleaner and more affordable journeys. Regular vehicle maintenance improves fuel efficiency by as much as 10%. Before a long journey, check tyre pressures (tyres underinflated by a quarter can cause a 2% increase in fuel consumption), remove unused roof racks and boxes, and don't overload the car (every additional 45kg reduces fuel economy by 2%). At less than 40mph, it's more fuel-efficient to open a window than use air conditioning. Turn off engines for waits of more than one minute (5-8% of fuel is consumed while idling), and avoid sharp acceleration and heavy braking: aggressive driving can significantly raise fuel consumption.

Foodbank – please click on this link [here](#).

Thank you to everyone across the Circuit who gives regularly to Foodbank through their church. Foodbank remains open through these troubled times and demand for food is high. Can I please ask you to all keep on giving by taking your donations to your nearest Foodbank.



Clayton St Luke's host a session
on Tuesday morning. 10.00am – 12 noon

All Saints, Madeley host a session
on a Wednesday morning. 10.30 am - 12.30 pm
Cornerstone, High Street, Knutton, ST5 6BX
On Wednesday afternoon 2.00 pm – 4.00pm

Chesterton Pentecostal church
on Thursday Morning. 10.00 -12.00 noon

Newcastle Congregational church
on Thursday afternoon. 2.00 pm – 4.00pm

St Thomas church Kidsgrove
on Friday afternoon 1.00 pm – 3.00 pm

or you can take your contribution to our warehouse on the Parkhouse estate on a Monday afternoon or Wednesday morning ... please give us a ring if you want details of how to get there, it is on the Aspire work complex.

Your gifts large or small are very much appreciated and are a lifeline to those sadly more vulnerable than ourselves.

Please give us a ring if you want to drop your gift off at our house!
Carol and Marion Reddish TEL 01782 613265

If you would like to make a monetary donation to Newcastle Staffs Foodbank you can contact the Trustee/Treasurer Paul A Roberts for details: -
tel: 0300 102 9088 or email him on accounts@newcastlestaffs.foodbank.org.uk.

If you would like to Gift Aid your donation please visit the website or contact Paul A Roberts for details.

People can also contact info@newcastlestaffs.foodbank.org.uk for details to donate food or money donations.

At the present time Foodbank are short of the following items:-

Cold Meat	Mashed Potato	Rice Pudding
Tinned Fruit	Sponge Puddings	Jam
Long Life Milk	Long Life Fruit Juice	Coffee
All Toiletries		

Godly Play as Bible Study

Story is one of the most ancient forms of knowing. It is the way our Christian heritage has been passed down to us. And story forms the foundation of Godly Play. It invites you to sit as part of a circle and listen as the stories of the Bible are told through word and action. It allows you to immerse yourself in the stories as an act of meditation and prayer and ultimately to encounter God. As the stories are told you sit and listen and at the end of the storytelling you are invited to consider a number of 'I wonder questions'. Questions posed by the storyteller that ask you to reflect on what you have heard. Questions like:

I wonder what part of the story was most important to you?

Or

I wonder where you are in the story?

Or

I wonder if there is a part of the story we can leave out and still have all the story we need?

There are no right or wrong answers to any of the questions, they are a means by which you are invited to wonder deeply about the story and what it says to you. Then when the story is put away there is time to respond to all that you have heard and wondered about. It may be that you want to re-read the story again for yourself, paint, draw, model or write a response - the choice is entirely yours.

At the end of the response time we gather back together for refreshments before drawing our time together to an end.

If this is something you think you might like to try then our next Godly play session will take place on **the first Monday and Tuesday of the month ie Monday 5th February at 6.30 – 7.30 pm and repeated Tuesday, 6th February at 1.00 – 2.00 pm** and both sessions will be held at **Wolstanton Methodist Church**. Come and see, wonder, and reflect deeply about stories you thought you knew.

THANK YOU

The Collection taken at the Circuit Covenant Service held at Wolstanton Methodist Church amounted to £272 and this has been forwarded to ALL WE CAN.



EXPLORERS!

At Halmer End Methodist Church
High St, ST7 8AD



Calling all Master builders!

Come and join us for building fun, 6.00 pm till 7.00 pm,
Starting from– Monday 5th Feb (taster session),
4th March, 8th April, and 13th May.....

Suitable for Reception to Year 6 children accompanied by an adult; Year 7 and above unaccompanied, but must have parental permission.

Contact: Helen 01782 722685 or David 01782 722014

See www.halmerendmethodists.org.uk & Facebook



Drinks

Bible Stories,



'Folk at Halmer End will greatly appreciate your prayer support for this new outreach venture; for the leaders and all who come that they may learn more of Jesus.'

WORKING AT HOME AND WANT A CHANGE OF ENVIRONMENT? THEN TRY OUR..

CO-WORKING *Spaces*

FREE REFRESHMENTS
RELAXING SPACE

..in the former Methodist Building,
BALDWINS GATE, Newcastle, ST5 5DA

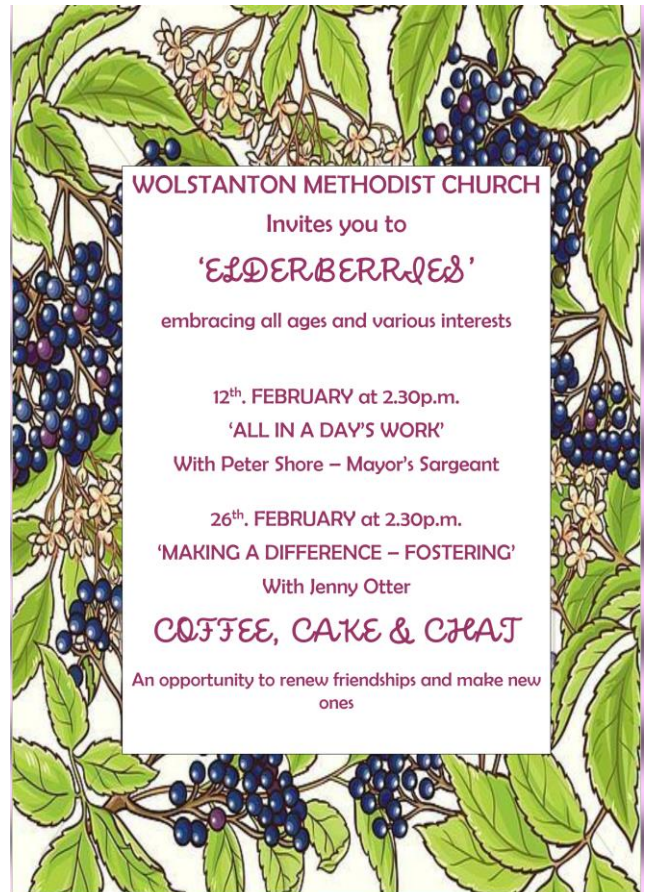
AS WE CONSIDER WHAT TO DO,
WE'VE ARRANGED A TRIAL SESSION

WED 7th FEB '24
9am 'til 1pm

THIS TRIAL IS FREE!

COME FOR AS LONG OR AS LITTLE YOU
WANT - YOUR FEEDBACK WILL BE VERY
IMPORTANT TO HOW WE MOVE FORWARD.

GOT ANY QUESTIONS? CALL US on 01782 612648,
or EMAIL US at northstaffscircuit@hotmail.co.uk



WOLSTANTON METHODIST CHURCH
Invites you to
'ELDERBERRIES'
embracing all ages and various interests

12th. FEBRUARY at 2.30p.m.
'ALL IN A DAY'S WORK'
With Peter Shore – Mayor's Sargeant

26th. FEBRUARY at 2.30p.m.
'MAKING A DIFFERENCE – FOSTERING'
With Jenny Otter

COFFEE, CAKE & CHAT
An opportunity to renew friendships and make new ones



ASH WEDNESDAY

A short Ash Wednesday service
will take place

at Wolstanton Methodist Church
on Wednesday, 14th February 2024

at 7.00 pm

This will be followed at 7.30 pm by the Circuit
Meeting.

Non-Circuit Meeting Members are welcome to
attend the service.

**NEWCASTLE UNDER LYME
COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA**
TOGETHER WITH
WOLSTANTON METHODIST CHURCH
Present

*An Evening of Hymns by
Candlelight
at Wolstanton Methodist Church*



Sunday 18th February 2024
6.30 pm free entry
Donations welcome



Building Bridges in Rome

with Tim and Angela Macquiban

Former mission partners in Italy

Wednesday 21st February 2024

from 10am to 3.30pm

at The Heath Methodist Church

Vista Road, Runcorn WA7 4PB

Parking available at the church

Please bring a packed lunch, drinks provided

Resources stall

All are welcome

Baldwins Gate

Methodist Community

(Baldwins Gate, Newcastle, Staffs, ST5 5DA)

Mid-Week Service

on the third Wednesday of
each month at 2.30 pm

21st February 2024 –

Holy Communion –

Rev Christine Legge

Please come and join us.

All are very welcome.

Higherland Methodist Coffee Bar

2pm-4pm Monday 26th February

'Get Together'



Come and join in the

chatter, cake, chatter, cake,

coffee and craft.

Monthly 6pm Coffee Bar Worship Time

Songs, Craft, Prayers, Smiles, Coffee, Tea

Biscuits, Chatter, welcoming, friendly.

Higherland Church

Messy Vintage

Last Sunday

in the month

from The Bible Reading Fellowship



Come along @ 6pm Sunday 25th February

Higherland Methodist Church

SING-ALONG
with
Fustian
&
Musical Misfits



6pm - Saturday 16th March
Tickets £5 incl. light refreshments
Call Kev: 07988 532738

TABLE TOP & CRAFT FAIR

at Audley Methodist Church

Handmade Craft Gifts

Preloved items


Cakes by "The Cake Lady"

Saturday 16th March
10:30am to 12:30pm

£12 per table - call
01782 722755 or email
audleymethodist@btconnect.com


Refreshments available

The Story of Christmas Shoeboxes at Halmer End




← From this

to this ↓



and this



The story of the Christmas Shoeboxes at Halmer End has been prepared at the request of the Rev. Joy Ventom. It will be on the Church Web Site from 5th February 2024. It will refer to a video showing the contents of a boy's shoebox.

Look at www.halmerendmethodists.org.uk and select the article 'Christmas Shoeboxes 2023'

Join Audley Methodist Church for our

Easter Family Fun

Tuesday

26th March 2024

10:30am - 12pm

refreshments available

for information call
01782 722755 or email
audleymethodist@btconnect.com

 **Methodist Women in Britain Conference 2024 – ‘Words Create Worlds’**

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Our ability to communicate, to imagine, to work for change is held within a framework of sounds and images, vowels and consonants.


Jenny and Becca have teamed up to offer two different angles, inviting us to examine the words we use, the reality we create with those words and the future that they shape.



Rev Jenny Pathmarajah is a long-standing friend and supporter of Methodist Women in Britain and is very excited to be leading this weekend. Most of the time she's very happily sat behind a piano and known amongst us for her music workshops and in days gone by, contextual bible studies. But her first degree was in Linguistics at Durham University and has a real passion for the power of words and how they transform our everyday life and understanding of God. Jenny leaves the comfort of the piano stool this weekend and promises us an enlightening and challenging journey as we discover the power of words in the church and our faith.

Becca Byass lives in Nottingham and works as an Engagement officer for All We Can (Methodist Relief and Development). Prior to that, Becca worked in social care for seven years, promoting wellbeing and enabling individuals to 'live later life well' and as the Nottingham and Derby District Wellbeing Officer (with a similar aim but less Bingo!). Becca has a master's degree in Theology, Politics and Faith-based Organisations, a PGCE in Secondary Education and a BA in Biblical and Evangelistic Studies. Becca is scared of disconnection and rejection, she hopes for a future where every person's potential is fulfilled and finds joy in the changing seasons, large bodies of water, Ossie (black labrador), and her two children, Felicity (15) and Alex (17).

Friday 19th to Sunday 21st April 2024 at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick
Cost £185 full board; Zoom only option £40; Bursaries available (need to apply)
Booking opens on 15th January 2024 on our website: mwib.org.uk
More info needed? Contact swanwick.mwib@gmail.com or 0300 030 9873

 Christian Resources for Life
 @ Methodist Book Centre
 Support your local, independent
 Christian bookshop



In Store

Online



www.crfl.co.uk
 Gitana Street, Hanley, ST1 1DY
 01782 212146



Madeley Methodist Church
 invites you to join us at our

Warm Space 

Elevenses

On Wednesdays at 11am

Chat **Free Refreshments** **Activities**

Everyone Welcome

Senior Moments
St. Luke's Methodist Church
Severn Drive
Clayton
ST5 4BH

FREE ENTRY

SENIOR MOMENTS

Crafts

Activities

Quiz

Games

Art Talks

Tea, Coffee & Biscuits

Stories

10.30am - 12.30pm, last Thursday of every month, starting Thursday 27th October.

Fun, explore together in lots of creative, interactive and fun ways.
A great opportunity to enjoy some time together.

For more information please contact Phil or Jeanette Hodges
on 01782 634766 or look on our Facebook page.

Silver Service

..on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of every month..
..beginning at 11:30am..

1st Thursday = Communion Service : 3rd Thursday = Activity Service

at Silverdale Methodist Church,
Earl Street (behind the Chip Shop!)
ST5 6NF

Find us on FaceBook: "Silverdale Methodist Church"
Visit our website: www.silverdalemethodistchurch.org.uk

SILVERDALE METHODIST CHURCH

There's nothing like a good cuppa coffee
and a friend like you to share it with!

Let's catch up!

**WHY NOT CATCH
WITH FRIENDS OLD
AND NEW**

**BRADWELL METHODIST
CHURCH
THURSDAY'S 10 - 12**

**SILVERDALE
METHODIST
CHURCH**

REFUEL

worship & the word
FOLLOWED by FOOD!

Join with us on the **LAST SUNDAY OF
EVERY MONTH**, at **5PM**, for 1-hour of..

**PRAISE &
WORSHIP**

..and then stay to share food together.
all-age & interactive, informal & relaxed – a Worship Experience for all

Like us on Facebook Follow us on Instagram Find us on YouTube

I wait for the LORD,
my soul waits,

and in his word
I put my **HOPE**

Psalm 130:5

cross
with care

