

Newsletter July 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,

For my final Circuit pastoral letter I've decided to take one word which I have used in Marriage services during my Ministry to give the living out of our lives as Christians a feel, a purpose, an outworking – the Word is **Cherish**.

The definition I've got of Cherishing is to Protect or Tend lovingly, To Hold Dear, To Take Care, To Nurture. That's how God cherishes you and me.

In the Marriage service I invite the couple to think about what 'cherishing each other' looks like as they begin their married life together, while also encouraging those in the congregation to think about their relationships and how they cherish those they love and care for.

I wonder what 'Cherishing' looks like in a church context? How wonderfully our congregations would thrive as we cherish each other? As we care for one another lovingly, nurture those we worship alongside, create relationships and friendships with the whole congregation which are deeper than our Sunday morning chats.

For me Cherishing has the most beautiful feel to it. It involves a deep communication, a communion, with one another motivated by love and care, of encouragement and nurturing as together you grow in faith and in your relationship with each other and, essentially, with Jesus as His disciples.

So, the word I leave you with is Cherish, it is **Love lived-out**. Please do reflect upon it, nourish it, nurture it and allow the North Staffordshire Methodist Circuit to be firmly grounded in the God who is Love. The One Who loves you individually and loves you as His church – the Body of Christ. As you continue to cherish each other you will grow stronger and more able to reach out into the community in which you are set, in which God has placed you, and you will be better able to cherish and disciple those who are drawn into a relationship with Him.

With much love to you all and thank you for your friendship and fellowship over the past six years, May God Bless you as continue to love and Cherish each other and all whom you love.

Rev. Christine

North Staffordshire Circuit (11/22)

Preaching Plan – July 2024

					July			
					7	14	21	28
					14th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Action for Children Sunday	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time	17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Lectionary Year (B)					2 Samuel 5:1-5,9-10	2 Samuel 6:1-5,12b-19	2 Samuel 7:1-14a	2 Samuel 11:1-15
<i>(Principal Service)</i>								
					Psalm 48	Psalm 24	Psalm 89:20-37	Psalm 14
					2 Corinthians 12:2-10	Ephesians 1:3-14	Ephesians 2:11-22	Ephesians 3:14-21
					Mark 6:1-13	Mark 6:14-29	Mark 6:30-34,53-56	John 6:1-21
Please Pray For:					Bradwell	Cross Heath	Halmer End	Higherland
Wolstanton	LS	10.30	StF		Singleton GCM	Singleton HC	Chambers	Barnett
(93)		6.30	MWB		CS @ St Luke's 6.30 pm		CS @ Higherland 3.30 pm	
Cross Heath	CL	11.00	StF	NV	Legge Farewell & HC	LA	Singleton	Matthews
(23)		3.00	MSB		CS @ St Luke's 6.30 pm		CS @ Higherland 3.30 pm	
Higherland	CL	10.00	StF	MM	Barnett	Legge HC	Parkes	N Jones
(37)		6.00			CS @ St Luke's 6.30 pm		CS 3.30 pm	Singleton Messy Vintage
Madeley	CL	10.30	StF	SoF 1234	LA	R Jones	Strachan	Ventom HC
(24)		3.00	MWB	NV	CS @ St Luke's 6.30 pm		CS @ Higherland 3.30 pm	
Silverdale	CL	11.00	StF	MM	Café Church LA	Chadwick	Legge HC	Emmaus
(46)		5.00			CS @ St Luke's 6.30 pm		CS @ Higherland 3.30 pm	Refuel
Audley	JV	10.30	StF	SoF 1&2	X	Denney HC	US @ St Luke's	X
(29)		3.00	MWB	GNB	Ventom	X	CS @ Higherland 3.30 pm	White
		6.30			CS @ St Luke's 6.30 pm			
Bradwell	JV	10.00	StF	SoF 1&2	Ventom HC	Harrison T	US @ St Luke's	Chadwick
(35)		3.00	MWB	NV H&P	CS @ St Luke's 6.30 pm		CS @ Higherland 3.30 pm	
Halmer End	JV	10.30	H&P	SoF 1&2	LA	Ventom HC	US @ St Luke's	Irvine
(23)		3.00	MWB	GNB	CS @ St Luke's 6.30 pm		CS @ Higherland 3.30 pm	
St Luke's	JV	10.30	H&P	GNB	N Jones	Benson	Rutherford & Ventom US	Singleton HC
(21)		3.00	MWB		CS 6.30 pm		CS @ Higherland 3.30 pm	
Printed Service for this week prepared by:					Ventom	Legge	Heap	Singleton
BGMC					Wednesday 17th July, 2.30 pm - Holy Communion - Rev'd Liz Singleton			

Eco Tips

Taste the benefits of seasonal and local food. Plan to incorporate locally grown produce into your diet and shopping list throughout the seasons, as it is harvested at its peak ripeness, ensuring superior flavour compared to imported alternatives that have travelled thousands of miles. If saying grace before a meal is a regular practice in your household, this month, include giving thanks for your local food producers.

A Rocha UK

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 Brick Kiln Lane, Chesterton 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:-

Tinned Spaghetti

Tea

Long Life Milk

Tinned Tomatoes

Tinned Hot Meat

Long Life Fruit Juice

Tinned Fruit

Soup

CIRCUIT SERVICES

Local Preachers' & Leaders of Worship Reaffirmation Service

on Sunday, 7th July 2024 at 6.30 pm

at St Luke's Methodist Church

Circuit Farewell Service for Rev'd Christine Legge

on Sunday, 21st July 2024 at 3.30 pm

at the Higherland Methodist Church.

Welcome Service for Rev'd James Pritchard

on Thursday, 29th August 2024 at 7.30 pm

at the Higherland Methodist Church

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 **Monday, 8th July at 6.30 pm** at **Wolstanton Methodist Church**. Come and see, wonder, and reflect deeply about stories you thought you knew.

Karen Barnett

ST LUKE'S METHODIST CHURCH CLAYTON IS PROUD TO PRESENT THE TRENTHAM BRASS BAND



ALL AGES
EVENT

TICKETS
AT THE DOOR
£5 cash

WHEN
Friday 12 July
7.30pm

Refreshments offered
at the interval.
Donations accepted.

St Luke's Methodist
Church Clayton
Severn Drive
Newcastle
ST5 4BH



**AUDLEY MALE VOICE CHOIR 70TH ANNIVERSARY
YEAR**

A celebration concert is to be held
in Congleton Town Hall
on Friday 12th July 2024 at 7.30 pm

The choir will be joined by the Macclesfield Male Voice Choir who now rehearse with the choir's Choirmaster and accompanist.

The Audley Male Voice Choir have met at Audley Church Hall, Bignall End for many years on a Thursday night from 7.30–9.30 pm. The choir has regularly included Methodists from the churches in our Circuit. The choir has performed concerts over the years to benefit church funds in North Staffordshire and South Cheshire. However, the choir must now raise funds to pay for high quality conductors and accompanists and their travel expenses.

Tickets for the concert are £14 and may be obtained via Alan Wright tel: 01538361266 or any member of the Choir. New members are of course welcome.

MWiB Easter Offering Service

Many many thanks to all the churches for their generous donations for the Easter offering service on 12th May. Collectively we raised £886.50 which has now been sent off.

Every blessing to you all.

Karen Barnett.

Higherland Methodist Church
6pm Saturday

New Date: **13th July**

The Fifties
SING-ALONG

Fustian & Musical Misfits

Tickets £5 incl. light refreshments
Call Kev: 07988 532738

**Baldwins Gate
Methodist Community**
(Baldwins Gate, Newcastle, Staffs, ST5 5DA)

Mid-Week Service

on the third Wednesday of each
month at 2.30 pm

Wednesday, 17th July 2024 –
Rev'd Liz Singleton
Holy Communion Service

Please come and join us.
All are very welcome.

Higherland Church Coffee Bar
2pm-4pm Monday 22nd July



Everyone welcome to come and
join in the natter & laughs.

Free cake & drinks.

JOIN US
FOR
**SUMMER
FAMILY FUN**
**AT AUDLEY
METHODIST CHURCH**
TUESDAY
23RD JULY 2024
10:30AM TO 12PM



STOKE-ON-TRENT METHODIST SINGERS
ARE LOOKING FOR AN ACCOMPANIST
FOR REGULAR REHEARSALS AND
OCCASIONAL CONCERTS.

COULD THIS BE YOU?

If you are interested
please call Pat Austin on 07804 138757
or email templestreetfenton@gmail.com
for further information.

TEMPLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH, FENTON, STOKE-ON-TRENT, ST4 4NW



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 **BRF**

Come along @ 6pm Sunday 28th July

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE PENSIONERS CONVENTION
COACH TRIP

A Coach Trip is being organised by the fund raising
Committee of NSPC to:

THE SHREWSBURY FLOWER SHOW

on Friday 9th August.

Pick ups can be arranged from Hind Street, Hanley,
Brunswick Street, Newcastle or Wolstanton.

Anyone interested in joining the day trip should contact
Satnam Devgan on tel: 0784 9015 675 for details of cost
and arrangements.

A trip to Crich Transport Museum in Derbyshire is also
being arranged on 27th September.

The Methodist Church
Chester & Stoke-on-Trent District

Chair of District: Revd Helen R Kirk
498 Crewe Road, Wistaston,
Crewe, CW26PZ
01270 668262
chair@chestokemethodists.com

Dear Friends,

At the Spring synod on Saturday 20th April 2024, I announced that Mr Ian White would be stepping down as Synod Secretary for the Chester & Stoke on Trent District in December 2024. After serving the Methodist church in this capacity for the last 8 years, Ian has decided that it is time to relinquish this role and retire from District leadership. I know that I speak on behalf of you all when I express immense gratitude for all Ian has offered to the district, not just in this role but in a variety of ways.

Ian's decision means that we need to appoint a new synod secretary from January 2025, although we would hope that the new secretary could be identified sooner so that they can shadow Ian in preparation for the September Synod.

The role is a volunteer role and open to both lay and ordained people. An outline of what is involved has been included with this letter. Please consider if you, or someone in your congregation, might be called to serve the church in this way. If anyone would like to explore this further, please get in touch with me and I will be happy to have a conversation.

Many thanks for your consideration of this matter and all the many and varied ways that you witness to and serve Christ throughout this district.

Every Blessing
Helen

Chester and Stoke-on-Trent District

Synod Secretary

Role Outline

The key information regarding the duties of the Synod Secretary can be found in Standing Order 411 onwards. The list of duties below is an explanation of what this means in practice.

Outline of duties

1. Representative District Synod (usually September and March/April)

- Arrange venue (several months in advance)
- Liaise with the Chair, in consultation with the District Leadership Team to plan the programme for the Synod.
- Prepare a working script for the business on the day.
- In conjunction with the District Administrator arrange for any ballots on the day eg Election of Representatives to Conference at the September Synod meeting.
- In conjunction with the District Administrator arrange for the appointment of Scrutineers to count votes.
- Prepare brief notes of the Synod Meeting for circulation.
- Through the Synod letter writer ensure that greetings are sent as requested by Synod
- Present items of Synod business as required.
- Submit a brief report of the Synod meeting to the Methodist Recorder

2. Attendance at District Meetings

The Synod Secretary is ex officio on a range of District meetings but attendance at the District Leadership Team, District Policy Committee (DPC) (District Trustees' Meeting) and the District Resourcing for Mission Group (DRMG) as grant making body are particularly helpful. The Synod Secretary is a fully participative and voting member of these groups.

The District Chair will be able to guide which other committee attendance would be most supportive for the Chair and the wider District.

3. Synod Directory

The Annual Synod Directory is prepared by the District Administrator, but the Synod Secretary will be consulted on its contents and in liaison with the District Chair will have an initial overview

4. Conference

Synod will determine whether a lay Synod Secretary will have an automatic place at Conference. Irrespective of whether the Synod Secretary will attend it is helpful if the Secretary:

- Works with the Chair to arrange a meeting of all representatives shortly before Conference to discuss arrangements, agenda etc.
- Informs the Conference Office of the details of the appointed representatives.
- Keep representatives up to date with information passed from the Conference office.
- Ensures that representatives register themselves at the appropriate time.
- Provides guidance on procedures to claim expenses.

5. Connexional meetings of Synod Secretaries

A supportive and collaborative arrangement has been established with other Synod Secretaries who meet on zoom quarterly to share experiences and raise concerns. The Secretary of Conference or Assistant Secretary of Conference will join these meetings when requested to do so. Good support from some very experienced Synod Secretaries can be found in this group.



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



Everyone Welcome

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

FREE ENTRY

SENIOR MOMENTS

Crafts

Activities

Games

Art Talks

Tea, Coffee & Biscuits

Quiz

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

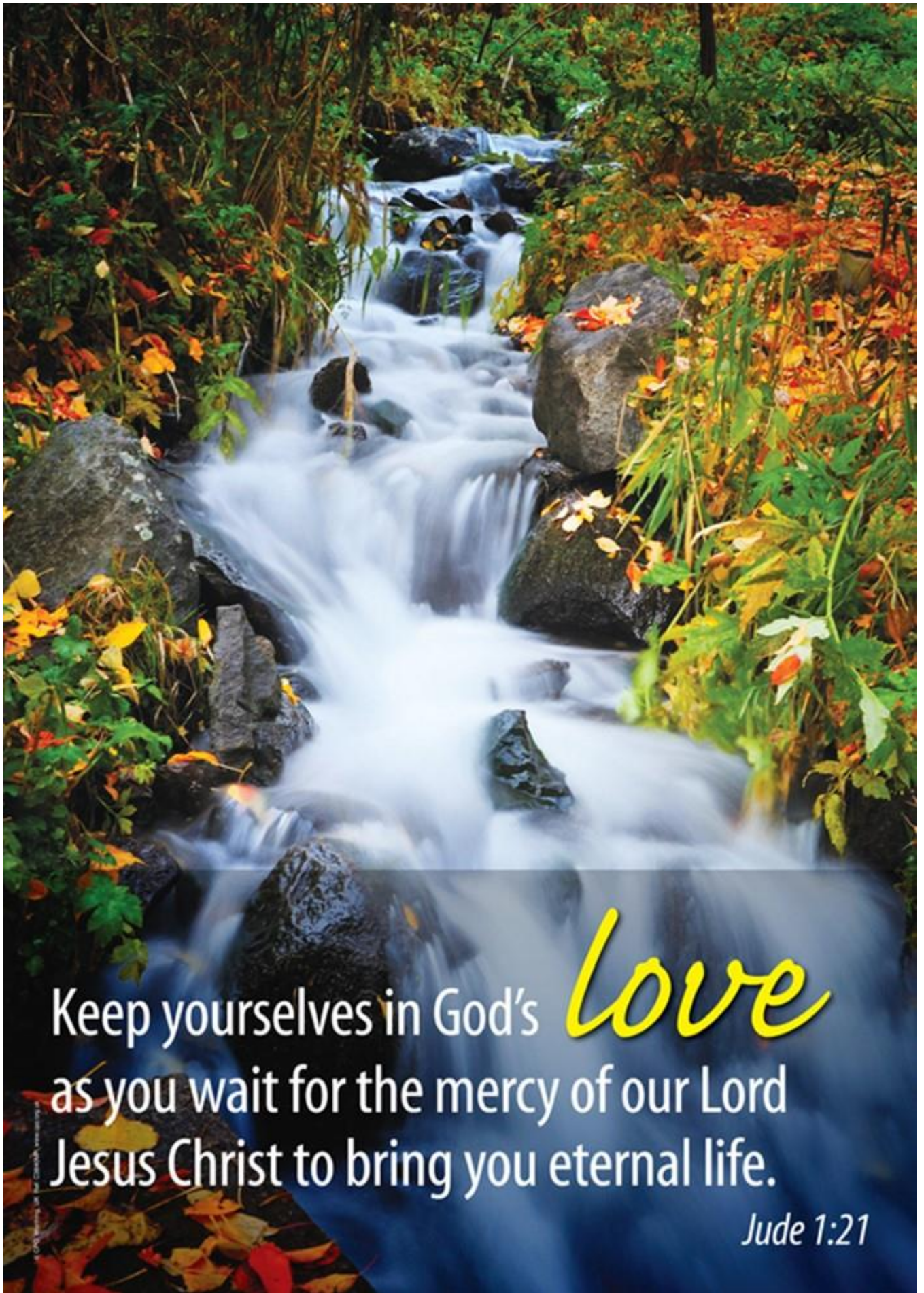
worship & the word
FOLLOWED by FOOD!

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 



Keep yourselves in God's *Love*
as you wait for the mercy of our Lord
Jesus Christ to bring you eternal life.

Jude 1:21