

## Newsletter August 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 Friend

I wonder how many of you watched any of the Methodist Conference online. I was particularly encouraged and challenged by the addresses from our new President and Vice President who have taken as their theme this year: “Learn to do right, seek justice and defend the oppressed”

### 1. Being a presence in our communities

To quote the president: ‘Our policies regarding our use of funds must be shaped and led by our justice seeking church agenda. When we give up church buildings in communities caught in that web of poverty we should be more willing to create roles for people to live and work in communities the church has otherwise withdrawn from. This is happening in some locations but perhaps not sufficiently frequently or part of a vision for how we should engage with communities. The buildings we have closed are often in communities with lowest incomes and poorest service provision. The buildings may be unsuitable and not fit for purpose but people participating in the lives of lower income communities are needed, not for the evangelisation of those living with poverty- the reverse. When we are present in these communities we might well be the first recipients of the expertise, gifts and knowledge that those living in poverty in that location possess. Our Church at the Margins work in the Methodist Church shares core values of celebration, inclusion and participation, ‘We recognise our need for the gifts of those at the economic margins and believe the whole Church needs to receive these gifts in order to be fully transformed by the gospel of Christ’.’

### 2. Being open to diversity

The Vice – President shared the following words: ‘My own experience is of people assuming that, if I just tried harder and put in a bit of effort, I would be able to spell better or do other things my dyslexia makes more challenging. What people are so often saying is that, if only you would try harder and put more effort in you could be more like me. Wouldn’t life be dull if we were all the same and all thought and responded to life and faith in the same way!

In the Walking with Micah report there is the quote from John Wesley’s Sermon 39 that says “Though we cannot think alike, may we not love alike? May we not be of one heart, though we are not of one opinion? Without all doubt, we may.” This is not just true where we differ in our political or theological thinking, but also in the more fundamental aspects of thinking and cognitive processing.

We do not all experience faith in the same way and we do not all need to do church in the same way. The joy of being a Connexional church is the rich diversity that makes up who we are’.

All Praise to our redeeming Lord  
Who joins us by his grace  
And bids us each to each restore  
Together seek his face

Every Blessing

Joy

# North Staffordshire Circuit (11/22)

## Preaching Plan – August 2024

					August			
					4	11	18	25
					18th Sunday in Ordinary Time	19th Sunday Ordinary Time	20th Sunday in Ordinary Time	21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
<b>Lectionary Year (B)</b>					2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a	2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33	1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14	1 Kings 8:(1,6,10-11)
<i>(Principal Service)</i>								22-30, 41-43
					Psalms 51:1-12	Psalms 130	Psalms 111	Psalms 84
					Ephesians 4:1-16	Ephesians 4:25-5:2	Ephesians 5:15-20	Ephesians 6:10-20
					John 6:24-35	John 6:35, 41-51	John 6:51-58	John 6:56-69
Please Pray For:					Madeley	St Luke's	Silverdale	Wolstanton
<b>Wolstanton</b> (93)	LS	10.30	<b>StF</b>		LA	Singleton HC	N Jones	Matthews
		6.30	MWB					
<b>Cross Heath</b> (23)	CL	11.00	<b>StF</b>	NIV	Parkes HC	Harrison T	Chambers	Davies T
		3.00	MSB					
<b>Higherland</b> (37)	CL	10.00	<b>StF</b>	MM	Davies T	Parkes HC	LA	Chadwick Singleton Messy Vintage
		6.00						
<b>Madeley</b> (24)	CL	10.30	<b>StF</b>	SoF 1234	Chadwick	Davies T	E Perry	Singleton HC
		3.00	MWB	NIV				
<b>Silverdale</b> (46)	CL	11.00	<b>StF</b>	MM	YouTube LA	Chadwick	Singleton HC	YouTube LA
		5.00						
<b>Audley</b> (29)	JV	10.30	<b>StF</b>	SoF 1&2	X	Ventom HC	X	LA
		3.00	MWB	GNB	Kirk	X	Davies T	X
		6.30						
<b>Bradwell</b> (35)	JV	10.00	<b>StF</b>	SoF 1&2	Ventom HC	LA	Parkes	N Jones
		3.00	MWB	NIV H&P				
<b>Halmer End</b> (23)	JV	10.30	H&P	SoF 1&2	N Jones	LA	Barnett	Ventom HC
		3.00	MWB	GNB				
<b>St Luke's</b> (21)	JV	10.30	H&P	GNB	I Perry	LA	Ventom HC	Harrison T
		3.00	MWB					
<b>Printed Service for this week prepared by:</b>					Ventom	Legge	Heap	Singleton
<b>BGMC</b>					Wednesday 21st August, 2.30 pm - Service - Rev'd Joy Ventom			

### Eco Tips

Help birds in hot weather. Keeping your bird bath topped up with fresh water in warmer weather can be a life saver for our feathered friends. Get your garden birds through a heatwave when natural supplies, like worms, become scarce, by putting out supplementary food - black sunflower seeds, pinhead oatmeal, soaked sultanas, raisins and currants, mealworms, waxworms and good seed mixture.

A Rocha UK

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**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](mailto: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](mailto:info@newcastlestaffs.foodbank.org.uk) for details to donate food or money donations.

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

**Washing Up Liquid**

**Tea**

**Long Life Milk**

**Deodorant**

**Tinned Fish**

**Long Life Fruit Juice**

**Tinned Fruit**

**Tinned Cold Meat**

**Biscuits**

**Chocolate Bars**

# CIRCUIT SERVICE

Please come and join us at the  
Welcome Service for Rev'd James Pritchard

on

Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> August 2024 at 7.30 pm

at

The Higherland Methodist Church

## **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 9<sup>th</sup> 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  
27<sup>th</sup> September.**

## **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, 12<sup>th</sup> August at 6.30 pm** at **Wolstanton Methodist Church**.

Come and see, wonder, and reflect deeply about stories you thought you knew.

Karen Barnett

**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, 21<sup>st</sup> August 2024 –  
Rev'd Joy Ventom**

**Please come and join us.  
All are very welcome.**



**Methodist Women  
in Britain**

**Date for your Diary .....**

You are invited to

## **AFTERNOON TEA**

at St Luke's Methodist Church, Clayton

on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> September

Wells Green Choir are coming to sing.

Our District Officers will also be present,  
come and meet them.

You will enjoy the afternoon.

More details (including time) to follow.

### **Book Swop at Bradwell Methodist Church**

**There is a new free book swop library outside  
Bradwell Methodist Church. Please take a look  
and if you have any unwanted books please pop  
them in.**



Christian Resources for Life  
@ Methodist Book Centre

Support your local, independent  
Christian bookshop



## **In Store**

## **Online**



[www.crfl.co.uk](http://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**

**Please Note ... that after Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July until Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September (a six week period) Madeley Elevenses group will continue to meet at the Madeley Centre at 11am.**

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



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 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of every month..  
..beginning at 11:30am..

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday = Communion Service : 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://www.silverdalemethodistchurch.org.uk)

**SILVERDALE METHODIST CHURCH**



**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!**

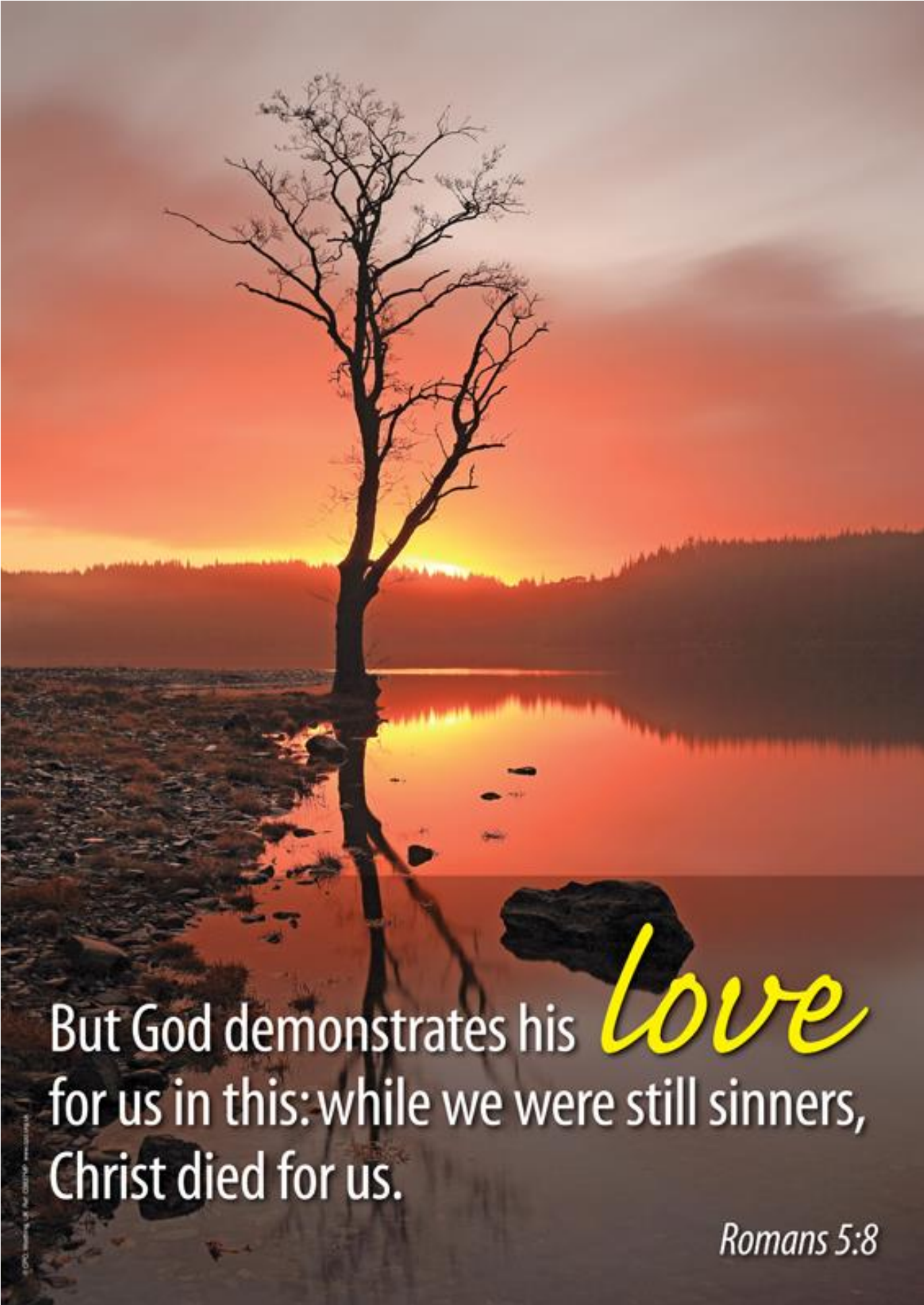
Join with us on the **LAST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH**, at **5PM**, for 1-hour of..

**PRAISE &  
WORSHIP**

**..and then stay to share food together.**

all-age & interactive, informal & relaxed – a Worship Experience for all





But God demonstrates his *love*  
for us in this: while we were still sinners,  
Christ died for us.

*Romans 5:8*