NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

ISSUE 10

Newsletter

June 2022

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

Of the many and varied books I've read over the past year *The Passionate Church: The Art of Life-Changing Discipleship* by Mike Breen and Walt Kallestad excited me. It opens with this story.

"February 3rd, 1931, began as a quiet Tuesday morning in the beautiful coastal region of Hawkins Bay in New Zealand. In Napier and Hastings, the two main towns in that area, life was going on as it had always been as the sun rose over those idyllic villages.

Then, at 10.46 in the morning, everything changed. An earthquake struck. When the smoke and dust cleared the shattered landscape that remained bore little resemblance to the terrain people had known so well. Flat ground replaced hills. Where there had been valleys, there was now level ground. The extent to which the earthquake had changed the environment was astonishing so rebuilding posed a dilemma. Their maps were redundant because they showed roads running along land that no longer existed and they didn't show the new land heaved up by the earthquake.

Eventually though the towns of Napier and Hastings were successfully redeveloped because those who directed the rebuilding threw out their maps and instead relied on a compass. When the landscape changes, maps are useless, but the compass is still trustworthy."

I think today's society presents us with the equivalent of a cultural earthquake. The social landscape we once knew has changed - the world today is far removed from the old 'map' we've been used to.

Today's 20/30/40 year olds spend Sunday mornings in coffee shops, visiting friends, working, playing or watching sport. That's where they experience community, share their deepest thoughts, their doubts and certainties, their concerns. Not in church. And for us this presents challenges.

Many of the ways in which we used to do things no longer work and if we continue to follow our same old maps we will struggle to reach people today. They're in a different place. Breen and Kallestad put it like this "we keep searching for the next programme or formula that will bring people back to our churches. What a pity. What we need is a compass."

And that compass is Jesus. Always trustworthy and true. I am convinced that before we can begin to reach this new cultural landscape with the good news of God's love we, as his church, need to rediscover what it means to be disciples of Christ.

So my prayer for the North Staffordshire Circuit for the coming months is that we will be prepared to throw out the old maps, spend more time with Jesus, and be guided along his path.

God bless

Liz

North Staffordshire Circuit (11/22) Preaching Plan June 2022

						June		
					5	12	19	26
					Pentecost	Trinity Sunday	Ordinary 12	Conference Sunday/
					World Environment Day	(MHA Sunday)	Father's Day	Refugee Week
Lectionary Year (C)				Acts 2:1-21	Proverbs 8:1-4,22-31	Isaiah 65:1-9	1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21	
Principal Service)					Psalm 104:24-34,35b	Psalm 8	Psalm 22:19-28	Psalm 16
					Romans 8:14-17	Romans 5:1-5	Galatians 3:23-29	Galatians 5:1,13-25
					John 14:8-17(25-27)	John 16:12-15	Luke 8:26-39	Luke 9:51-62
Please Pray For:				Cross Heath	Halmer End	Higherland	Madeley	
Baldwins Gate	LS	9.30	StF	GNB	US @ Madeley	Singleton HC	Barnett US	Irvine
(10)		6.30	MWB					
Wolstanton	LS	10.30	StF		Singleton	Sutcliffe HC	LA	Barnett
(100)		6.30	MWB		-			
Cross Heath	CL	11.00	StF	NIV	R Jones	Singleton HC	Mitchell	Davies T
(25)		6.30	MSB			<u> </u>		
Higherland	CL	10.00	StF	MM	Rowley US	N Jones	Dyble T FF	Chadwick
(44)		6.30						
Madeley	CL	10.30	StF	SoF 1234	Ventom HC US	R Jones	US @ Baldwins Gate	LA
(19)		6.30	MSB					
Silverdale	CL	11.00	StF	MM	Café Church LA	Chadwick	Singleton HC	Emmaus
(51)		6.30					•	
Audley	JV	10.30	StF	SoF 1&2	Х	Cooper US HC	Х	LA
(36)		3.00	MWB		Ventom HC	X	Ventom	X
		6.30						
Bradwell	JV	10.00	StF	SoF 1&2	Barnett CA	US @ Audley 10.30	Ventom	Matthews
(44)		6.30	MWB	NIV H&P		-		
Halmer End	JV	10.00	H&P	SoF 1&2	Dyble T	US @ Audley 10.30	LA (Leprosy Mission)	Orrell
		3.00	MWB	GNB		Short OA		
(23)		6.30						
St Luke's	JV	10.30	H&P	SoF 123	US @ Higherland	Ventom	Harrison T	Ventom HC
(25)		6.30	MWB	GNB				

Foodbank – please click on this link <u>here.</u>

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 Michael Heap for details: -

01782 639882 or email him on accounts@newcastlestaffs.foodbank.org.uk.

If you would like to Gift Aid your donation please visit the website or contact Michael Heap for details.

At the present time Foodbank are short of the following items:-**Small Jars of Coffee Sponge Puddings Custard – Tinned/Packet Tinned Spaghetti Tinned Cold Meat (Ham/Corned Beef)**

Long Life Juice Tinned Rice Pudding Tinned Fruit Chocolate & Crisps



QUEEN'S CELEBRATION **CIRCUIT AFTERNOON TEA**

Tickets are now available for the Circuit afternoon tea celebration of the Queen's platinum anniversary from your MWiB rep - £8.00 for adults, £6.00 for children 6-12 yrs, 5 yrs and under free.

To be held at Wolstanton Methodist Church on Saturday, 4th June, 2.30 pm start with a celebration service led by Rev'd Liz Singleton at 4.30 pm.

All dietary needs catered for – please let your MWiB rep know. Bring family and friends, all welcome. It promises to be an afternoon to remember and one where each church will be presented with a tree from the Circuit to commemorate the occasion.

All money raised will to to AGLIT+ (Adolescent Girls Literacy Plus) based in Malawi, which is our District President's project for this year.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Karen Barnett (Circuit President MWiB)





Baldwins Gate Methodist Church

Coffee Fellowship

(Theme: Platinum Jubilee)

Tuesday, 7th June

at 10.30 am

All are very welcome











Invite you to an

Open Air Songs of Praise

On Sunday 12th June 2022 at 3.00 pm

In the Minnie Pit Memorial Garden - opposite to the Church

Led by Rev. Joy Ventom

Speaker: Rev. Jeff Short (from Longton Central Hall) With Mr. Stuart Jackson on organ

Donations will be gratefully accepted for the work of Methodist Care Homes (MHA)



Higherland Methodist





Flower Festival and

Afternoon Tea Saturday 18th June 2022

2.45 pm - 5.00 pm £5

Ring 01782 628578 to book a table or pay on the door
All Flower Arrangements welcome
No judging or competition
Floral theme - 'Platinum Jubilee'

Flower Service Sunday 19th June 10.00 am

Higherland Methodist Coffee Bar 2pm Monday 27th June 2022



coffee and craft.



Organising on behalf of the North Staffordshire Methodist Circuit

A Sponsored* Circuit Walk on Saturday 16th July 2022





At Halmer End in Bateswood Country Park and visiting the Minnie Pit Heritage Site

Book the date and look out for more details coming to your Church soon.

If you don't want to be sponsored just come for the pleasure of the walk. Bring your Church groups including children who must be accompanied by a parent.

www.halmerendmethodists.org.uk



Come and sing-along to songs from 'Stage & Screen' with Fustian and special guest choir 'Musical Misfits'. Free tea, coffee and cakes will be served in the interval and a full song lyrics program is also included in your £5 ticket price. There will be a raffle with many good prizes to be won. The performance will start at 6pm in the Higherland Church top hall with free parking and easy access at the rear of the church via Priory Road entrance. All proceeds are for church funds and book your tickets early as numbers may be restricted - Call Steph on 01782-634181.



Green Tips for the Month of June

Save Water:

- Don't overfill the kettle boil only as much water as you need.
- Use short cycles on washing machines
 modern washing machines have an "eco wash" setting.





