NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

ISSUE 11

Newsletter July 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

I am writing this as I prepare to head off to Telford to attend this year's Methodist Conference. The Conference agenda for 2022 is largely driven by the recognition and conviction that things need to change. We are a declining church in terms of membership numbers yet the number of people the church is engaging with is increasing. How do we communicate with a world in which commitment to 'organisations' is an alien concept to many? What do we need to put to one side, accepting that some of our ways of doing things are no longer working? As God's church we are not called to prop up an ailing institution or, indeed, to be self-serving. Our vocation as those who seek to follow God through Jesus Christ is to be transformative in the world – to show God's love in authentic and life changing ways. To be people who live out the words of Micah 6:8 'to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.' And the foundations of this way of living are built on relationships, our relational living with one another and the communities around us.

As we move into the coming Connexional year you may find yourself being challenged to think about the future and where we are moving as a Circuit and as individual churches. You may be asked difficult questions as we consider how we might best use the resources we have; what our priorities are; how eco-friendly are our buildings and our ways of doing things; what is God saying to us?

And to start you off I would like to ask you a question – do you consider yourself / your church to be a fruit salad or a fruit cake?!

With a fruit salad every ingredient is recognisable. Each element keeps its original identity. With a fruit cake everything is mixed together to create something new. Remain the same or seek to change?

We have the wonderful and exciting opportunity to rediscover our identity as God's people called Methodist and to live as the body of Christ in the world today. I hope and pray that we will grasp that opportunity and enable God to both rekindle our faith and our lives.

May He bless you and all those you love and care about.

Liz

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

							July		
					3	10	17	24	31
					Ordinary 14	Ordinary 15	Ordinary 16	Ordinary 17	Ordinary 18
						Action for Children Sunday			
Lectionary Year (C)				Isaiah 66:10-14	Deuteronomy 30:9-14	Genesis 18:1-10a	Genesis 18:20-32	Ecclesiastes 1:2,12-14; 2:18-23	
(Principal Service)					Psalm 66:1-9	Psalm 25:1-10	Psalm 15	Psalm 138	Psalm 49:1-12
					Galatians 6:(1-6)7-16	Colossians 1:1-14	Colossians 1:15-28	Colossians 2:6-15(16-19)	Colossians 3:1-11
					Luke 10:1-11,16-20	Luke 10:25-37	Luke 10:38-42	Luke 11:1-13	Luke 12:13-21
Please Pray For:				StLuke's	Silverdale	Wolstanton	Audley	Baldwins Gate	
Baldwins Gate	e LS	9.30	StF	GNB	Х	LA	Singleton HC	US @ Madeley	Barnett
(10)		6.30	MWB				CS @ Wolstanton		
Wolstanton	LS	10.30	StF		Singleton HC	Davies T	Davies T	R Jones	Ventom
(100)		6.30	MWB				LP & WL Rededication CS		
Cross Heath	CL	11.00	StF	NIV	LA	Rowley	Irvine	Legge HC	Barnett
(25)		6.30	MSB				CS @ Wolstanton		
Higherland	CL	10.00	StF	MM	LA	Barnett	Mitchell	Legge HC	Singleton
(44)		6.30					CS @ Wolstanton		
Madeley	CL	10.30	StF	SoF 1234	Ventom	Legge HC	Strachan	Davies T US	Legge B HC
(19)		6.30	MSB				CS @ Wolstanton		
Silverdale	CL	11.00	StF	MM	Café Church LA	Chadwick	Legge HC	Emmaus	Heap (via Zoom)
(51)		6.30					CS @ Wolstanton		
Audley	JV	10.30	StF	SoF 1&2	Х	R Jones MHA	Х	N Jones	Х
(36)		3.00	MWB		Singleton	Х	Ventom	Х	Legge HC
		6.30					CS @ Wolstanton		
Bradwell	JV	10.00	StF	SoF 1&2	Davies T	Ventom HC	Harrison T	Dyble T	LA
(44)		6.30	MWB	NIV H&P			CS @ Wolstanton		
Halmer End	JV	10.00	H&P	SoF 1&2	N Jones	LA	Ventom HC	Singleton	Orrell
		3.00	MWB	GNB					
(23)		6.30					CS @ Wolstanton		
St Luke's	JV	10.30	H&P	SoF 123	LA	N Jones	E Perry	Ventom HC	Matthews
(25)		6.30	MWB	GNB			CS @ Wolstanton		

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 Michael Heap for details: -

01782 639882 or email him on <u>accounts@newcastlestaffs.foodbank.org.uk</u>. 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 th	ne following items:-
Small Jars of Coffee	Long Life Juice
Sponge Puddings	Tinned Rice Pudding
Custard – Tinned/Packet	Tinned Fruit
Tinned Spaghetti	Tinned Vegetables
Tinned Cold Meat (Ham/Corned Beef)	Chocolate & Crisps

Methodist Women in Britain

MWiB and Circuit Platinum Jubilee Afternoon Tea - A Big Thank You

On 4th June one hundred of us from the Circuit, family and friends joined together for an afternoon tea and service of thanks for the Queen's seventy years on the throne. And quite the celebration it was. Food, company, conversation and keen quizzing was in abundance.

My thanks to everyone who made it possible, to those who gave up their time to help set up and to those who helped on the day, to Michelle our circuit administrator for the crown that she made and donated for the day and of course to all of you who came and made it such a special afternoon.

£173 was raised from the afternoon which will go to our District President's charity. Many thanks again.

May God continue to bless our Queen and bless you one and all.

Karen Barnett

Green Tips

The Methodist Church is committed to ensuring that all travel, electricity and gas directly funded by the Connexional Church will have net zero emissions by 2030. The encouragement is for Districts, Circuits and local churches to aim towards that same commitment. We can all do something to work towards climate justice and our monthly 'green tips' might just inspire you.

God in his love for us lent us this planet, gave it a purpose in time and in space: small as a spark from the fire of creation, cradle of life and the home of our race.

Earth is the Lord's; it is ours to enjoy it, ours, as God's stewards, to farm and defend. From its pollution, misuse, and destruction, good Lord, deliver us, world without end!

Fred Pratt Green

StheF 727 vv 1 & 4

Carbon Footprint



Do you check your carbon footprint?

A carbon footprint is the amount of carbon dioxide, the main global warming gas, each of us puts into the atmosphere. We do this, not just when we use electricity or gas or use the car or fly somewhere, but every time we buy something because energy is used to make the goods and services we buy.

The UK average is 7.18 tonnes/year. Mine was approx 6.00 tonnes/year for the last 12 months – plenty of room for improvement!

The calculator is on www.carbonfootprint.com

Just being aware of things like turning off lights, insulating buildings and closing doors to keep the heat in can all make a difference.

And we can help to improve the environment and living conditions in places many miles away through....

Toilet Twinning

By donating £60 to twin your toilet, you help fund a project in a poor community that will enable families to build a basic toilet, have access to clean water and learn about hygiene – a vital combination that saves lives. When you twin, you receive a certificate to hang in your loo – showing a photograph of your overseas toilet twin and GPS coordinates so you can look up your twin's location on Google Maps!

I've seen one certificate on my travels around the Circuit so far – well done WOLSTANTON METHODIST CHURCH!! Let's get some more out there.



Baldwins Gate Methodist Church

Coffee Fellowship

(a time for coffee and a chat amongst friends)

Tuesday, 5th July

at 10.30 am

All are very welcome



NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE CIRCUIT WALK

SATURDAY 16TH JULY 2022

An afternoon walk for adults and accompanied children with a children's activity has been arranged by Halmer End Methodist Church from 1 pm on the 16th July. All members of the Circuit have been invited to attend. You can come just for the Walk or be sponsored. Please fill in your own sponsorship forms.

To assist those without cars a Newcastle Community Transport Minibus has been arranged to leave WOLSTANTON METHODIST CHURCH at 12.30 pm returning at 4.30 pm. Donations to cover the mileage charge would be appreciated.

Anyone wishing to make use of this service is requested to notify the Wolstanton Methodist Church office on 01782 712768 by Thursday 14th July to reserve a place.

Circuit Service

Local Preachers' & Leaders of Worship Reaffirmation Service

on Sunday, 17th July at 6.30 pm

at Wolstanton Methodist Church

All are very welcome to attend









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.









WE HAVE THIS HOPE AS AN ANCHOR FOR THE SOUL, FIRM & SECURE.

