

Newsletter March 2025

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

This will be my last pastoral letter before going on Sabbatical between March and May 2025. During that time Rosie and I will be exploring Dog Friendly Cathedrals with a particular interest in stained glass windows and art. I have a couple of craft workshops booked and am looking forward to having some time for reading, colouring and creating with the aim of having something visual to share with you when I return.

Hebrews 13:8 reminds us 'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever' while the world and the church might feel like it is constantly wanting to change. Let us hold on to the one who is our Cornerstone and whose love is unconditional.

Here are some words from Hillsong Worship:

Christ alone Cornerstone

Weak made strong

In the Saviour's love

Through the storm

He is Lord Lord of all

Every Blessing

Rev'd Joy

North Staffordshire Circuit (11/22)

Preaching Plan – March 2025

					March				
					2	9	16	23	30
					Transfiguration	1st Sunday in Lent	2nd Sunday in Lent	3rd Sunday in Lent	4th Sunday in Lent (Mothering Sunday)
Lectionary Year (C)					Exodus 34:29-35	Deuteronomy. 26:1-11	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18	Isaiah 55:1-9	Joshua 5:9-12
(Principal Service)					Psalm 99	Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16	Psalm 27	Psalm 63:1-8	Psalm 32
					2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2	Romans 10:8b-13	Philippians 3:17-4:1	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	2 Corinthians 5:16-21
					Luke 9:28-36,(37-43a)	Luke 4:1-13	Luke 13:31-35	Luke 13:1-9	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
Please Pray For:					Madeley	St Luke's	Silverdale	Wolstanton	Audley
Cross Heath	LS	9.00	StF	NIV					
		11.00			LA	N Jones	Parkes	Singleton HC	Barnett
(23)		3.00	MSB						
Silverdale	LS	11.00	StF	MM	Café Church LA	Chadwick	Singleton HC	Emmaus LA	LA
(40)		5.00						Refuel LA	
Wolstanton	LS	10.30	StF		Chadwick	Singleton HC	LA	Willis	Singleton
(85)		3.00	MWB						
Audley	JV	10.30	StF	Sof 1&2	Rowley	X	LA	X	Hunt
(27)		3.00	MWB	GNB	X	Pritchard HC	X	Irvine	X
Bradwell	JV	10.00	StF	Sof 1&2	N Jones	Strachan HC	LA	Davies T	Pritchard
(33)		3.00	MWB	NIV H&P					
Halmer End	JV	10.30	H&P	Sof 1&2	Irvine	Davies T	LA	Rowley	Kirk HC
(23)		3.00	MWB	GNB					
Madeley	JV	10.30	StF	Sof 1234	LA	Parkes HC	Davies T	Pritchard	I Perry
(23)		3.00	MWB	NIV					
St Luke's	JV	10.30	H&P	GNB	Strachan HC	LA	Williams	B Harrison T	R Jones
(23)		3.00	MWB						
Higherland	JP	10.00	StF	MM	BB & GA LA	Pritchard HC	Barnett	Matthews T	N Jones
(36)		6.00	MWB						Pritchard Café Church
Printed Service for this week prepared by:					Heap	Pritchard	Singleton	Heap	Singleton
Baldwins Gate					JP				
					Wednesday, 19th March, 2.30 pm - Mrs Rebecca Jones				

Eco Tips

Go Green (er) for Lent:-

- **Go plastic free. Even if you can't become totally plastic-free, make it your goal to at least reduce your use of plastic.**
- **Switch off from digital. Explore technology-free times or areas of the house, switching to 'airplane mode' for the first hour in the morning and the last hour at night, 'switch off Sundays', reaching for your Bible over your device(s) and writing a list of outdoor things that you enjoy.**

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 Monday morning. 11.00 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 Unit 18 Brock Way, Silverdale, ST5 6AZ (Opposite the Post Office Sorting Office). on a Monday afternoon or Wednesday morning .

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 Soup

Tinned Tomatoes

Tinned Peas

Tinned Carrots

Tinned Cold Meat

Tinned Fish

Tinned Small Potatoes

Sponge Puddings

Fruit Juice

Biscuits

Cereal

Circuit Lent Course 2025



A six-week course that encourages us to...
think about prayer in new and fresh ways
recognise that prayer is always good,
but not necessarily straightforward
find different and creative ways to pray
grow in confidence in our prayer lives

There will be two opportunities every week to engage with each session.

Thursday evenings 6th March – 10th April 7.30 pm
at St Luke's Methodist Church

Friday afternoons 7th March – 11th April 2.00 pm
at Wolstanton Methodist Church

Each attendee will be given a copy of the accompanying booklet

EVERYONE AN EVANGELIST



**Building confidence
Encouraging practical action
Enabling faith-sharing**

**Evangelism can sound scary and
threatening BUT IT ISN'T!!
Evangelism is simply talking about
our faith.**

**Over the summer months the Circuit is
offering the opportunity to explore what this
might look like in your church and in your
life.**

**'Everyone an Evangelist' is literally for
everyone but church stewards / church
leadership teams are especially encouraged
to participate.**

Further details will be available very soon!

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, 3rd March at 6.30 pm** at **Wolstanton Methodist Church**.

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

Karen Barnett

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2025

Friday 7 March

A service for everyone!

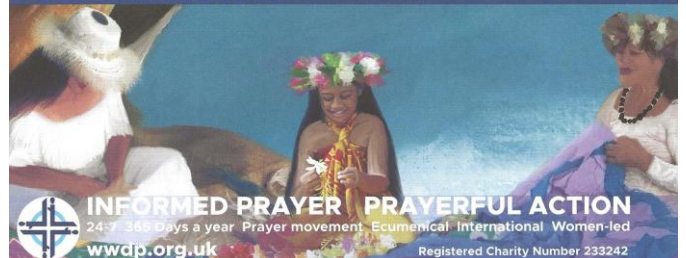
SPECIAL SHARED SERVICE 7.30pm MADELEY METHODIST CHURCH

SLIDES STORIES REFRESHMENTS
FREE BOOKLET SONGS

SPEND AN EVENING IN THE SUNSHINE OF THE COOK ISLANDS
AND SHARE THIS SERVICE WITH THOUSANDS OF OTHERS
AROUND THE WORLD.

EVERYONE WELCOME

Cook Islands *I made you wonderful*



WOLSTANTON METHODIST CHURCH

Invites you to

'ELDERBERRIES'

embracing all ages and various interests

MONDAY 10th MARCH at 2.30p.m.

'BEAT THE COLD'

With Jules Hill

MONDAY 24th MARCH at 2.30p.m.

Sing along with

'THE UKU LYMIES'

COFFEE, CAKE & CHAT

An opportunity to renew friendships
and make new ones

**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, 19th March 2025 –
Mrs Rebecca Jones**

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

SPRING TABLE TOP

AT AUDLEY
METHODIST CHURCH

SATURDAY 22ND MARCH 2025
10:30AM TO 12:30PM

£12 per table
to book - contact office
01782 722755 or email
audleymethodist@btconnect.com

refreshments
available
free parking

Higherland Methodist Church

SING-ALONG

With

Fustian & Musical Misfits



6pm - Saturday 22nd March

Tickets £5 Each

Incl. light refreshments

Call Kev: 07988 532 738



The **Methodist** Church 
Chester & Stoke-on-Trent District

Equality, Diversity, Inclusion (EDI) Training

As part of our striving to become a truly inclusive Methodist Church, folks in particular leadership roles need to complete the mandatory training on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. Many have already completed this training – but for those who have not yet done so, face-to-face training is being offered on

Saturday 22 March 2025 at Tunstall Methodist Church, ST6 6EE

The day runs from 10:00am until 3:00pm and lunch will be provided
Drinks will be served from 9:30am

To register to attend, please contact Rob Glassonbury
email: chester.stoke@btconnect.com
stating any special dietary requirements and / or large-print needs

We hope this will give an opportunity for those who need to engage with the training to do so and demonstrate the continued commitment of this District to celebrating Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in our life together in community. There is currently no expectation that people will attend the training more than once.

Those who are required to attend are:

1. All Ministers (including active Supernumerary Ministers, Superintendents and District Chairs)
2. Local Preachers
3. Connexional Committee members
4. Connexional Team members
5. Circuit and District Safeguarding Officers
6. Circuit Stewards and Church Stewards
7. Lay Workers:
 - a) Lay Pastoral Workers, b) Children, Youth and Family Workers, c) Pioneers
8. Worship Leaders

Higherland Church Coffee Bar

2pm-4pm Monday 24th March



Everyone welcome to come and

Join in the chatter

Free snacks, cakes & drinks.



Higherland Church Coffee Bar

*Friendly Chatter & discussion,
Welcoming Smiles & a good laugh,
Songs, poems, thoughts & Prayers
Drinks & biscuits.*

Come along @ 6pm
Sunday 30th Mar.

Cross Heath Methodist Church

SPRING COFFEE MORNING



Saturday 5th April @ 10:30am

Easter crafts Tombola
Raffle Refreshments
Plants



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.



St Luke's Methodist Church ...

have 2 prayer/praise kneelers surplus to requirements. If anyone is interested in these, please contact the Circuit Office on 01782 612648 for more details.





Madeley Methodist Church
invites you to join us at our



Warm Space
Elevenses



On Wednesdays at 11am

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

Everyone Welcome



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

Let's catch up!

WHY NOT CATCH UP
WITH FRIENDS OLD
AND NEW

BRADWELL METHODIST
CHURCH
THURSDAY'S 10 - 12



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

MAGIC MOMENTS
St. Luke's Methodist Church
Severn Drive
Clayton
ST5 4BH

FREE ENTRY

MAGIC MOMENTS

Crafts Activities
Quiz Bingo Games
Stories Tea, Coffee & Biscuits

10.00am - 12.00 noon, last Thursday of every month.

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.

Englesea Brook Chapel & Museum

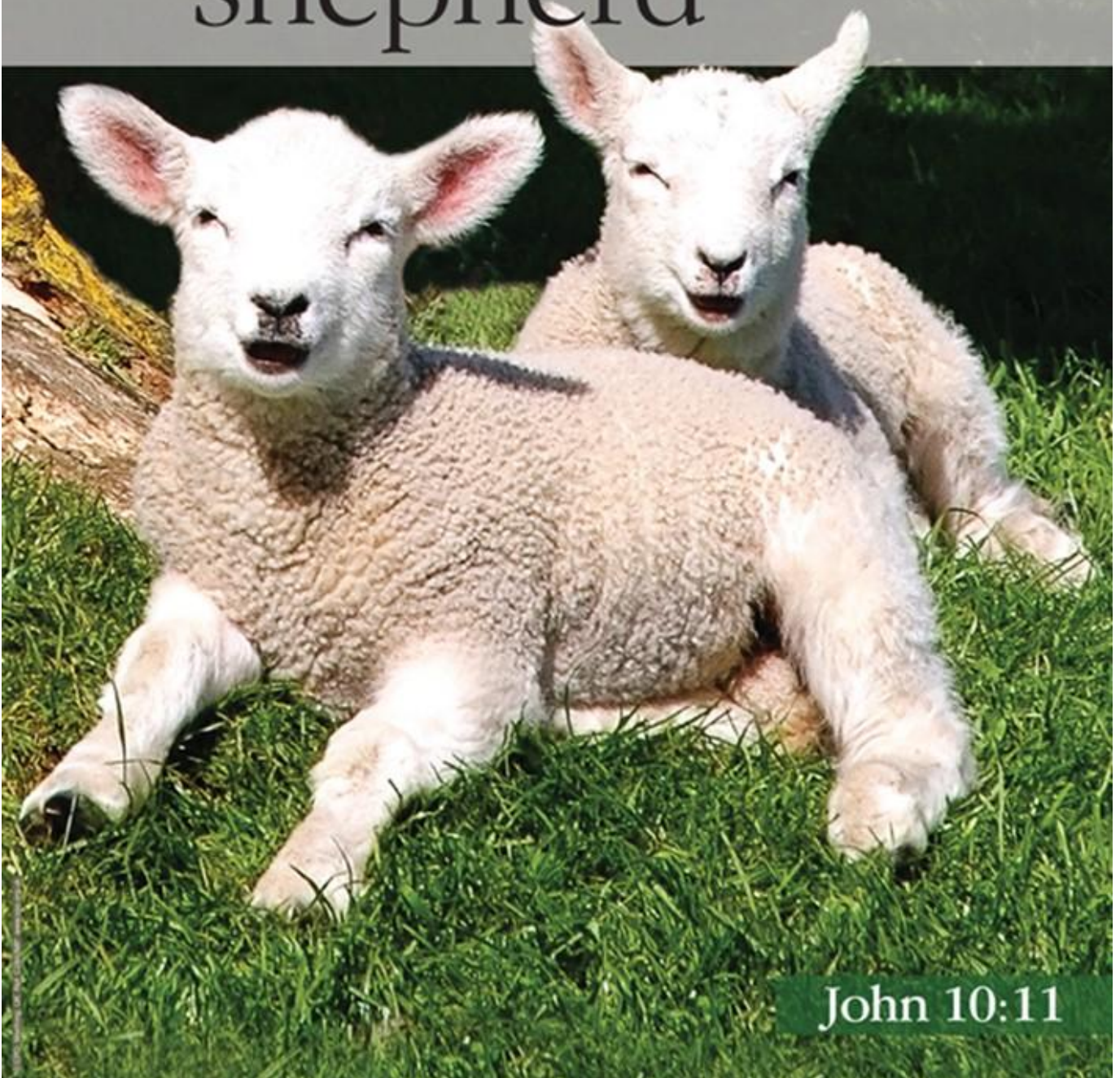
Annual Newsletter 2024/2025

To read please click on the following link:

[EBrook-Annual-Review-2024-25A.pdf](#)

Jesus said

I am the good
shepherd



John 10:11