



BARNARD CASTLE AND TEESDALE

METHODIST CIRCUIT

DECEMBER 2020

WHAT'S ON and NEWS ITEMS

CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT

CORONAVIRUS - A Covid Vision Group has been set up across the two circuits to look at the regulations from government and notes on how to apply these from the Connexion. This has enabled some churches to reopen, even though worship isn't the way we normally do it.

There are NO SERVICES on Sunday 27th December

THE PATHWAY, MIDDLETON

Sunday morning services are taking place on all Sundays except the first Sunday of the month when it is at 2:30pm, but there is no singing and no refreshments afterwards. Hand sanitisation materials are available at the door, and tracing information is being collected on entry. Chairs are arranged to comply with the Social Distancing regulations.

The Zoom Service continues on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 7pm. Contact the stewards for details.

Pray, Bake, Chat continues for those unable to attend worship. Contact Debbie for details.

Sunday 6th December at 2:30 - a *Toy Service* led by Rev Graham Cutler.

CHANGE HAPPENS, SOMETIMES WITHOUT WARNING

We are publishing this information in good faith, but services and other activities might have their times changed or be cancelled altogether at short notice, often beyond our control. Do not undertake a long journey without checking first.

BARNARD CASTLE

Sunday morning services are taking place, but there is no singing, and no refreshments afterwards. Hand sanitisation materials are available at the door, and tracing details are collected on entry. Chairs are arranged and labelled to comply with the Social Distancing regulations.

The Monday Cell Group continue their fortnightly meetings via Zoom.

STAINDROP

The worshipping community at Staindrop are not meeting in the church at present, but they are having Telephone Services by telephone conferencing. These have proved very popular and will continue until the Coronavirus situation changes. Contact the stewards for details.

Lectionary Readings for December 2020

Date	Sunday	Old Testament	Psalm	New Testament	Gospel
6th December	2nd Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 40:1-11	85:1-2, 8-13	2 Peter 3:8-15a	Mark 1:1-8
13th December	3rd Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11	126 or Luke 1:46b-55	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	John 1:6-8, 19-28
20th December	4th Sunday of Advent	2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16	89:1-4, 19-26 or Luke 1:46b-55	Romans 16:25-27	Luke 1:26-38
24th/25th December	Christmas Eve and/or Day option 1	Isaiah 9:2-7	96	Titus 2:11-14	Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)
24th/25th December	Christmas Eve and/or Day option 2	Isaiah 62:6-12	97	Titus 3:4-7	Luke 2:(1-7) 8-20
24th/25th December	Christmas Eve and/or Day option 3	Isaiah 52:7-10	98	Hebrews 1:1-4 (5-12)	John 1:1-14
27th December	1st Sunday of Christmas	Isaiah 61:10 - 62:3	148	Galatians 4:4-7	Luke 2:22-40

OUR CALLING

Worship

*Learning and Caring
Service*

Evangelism



METHODIST WOMEN IN BRITAIN

The 2020 EASTER OFFERING service has been postponed until **2021**. We are working on holding an on-line service in the autumn.

Do not dispose of envelopes and other materials already distributed; these will be used in 2021.

The Durham Foodbank is in need of more provisions for the needy, and we have recently received a thank you note from The Well for what we have contributed. Now we are regularly worshipping on a Sunday at Barnard Castle and at Middleton please restart bringing your Foodbank provision offerings to the church placing them in the green bins by the entrance and they will be transferred to The Well

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Friday 24th December - Christmas Eve

9pm at *Barnard Castle* - a service led by Rev Graham Cutler

Saturday 25th December - Christmas Day

10am at *Barnard Castle* - a service led by Rev Graham Cutler

10:30am a *Media Service* led by Rev Tim Boocock

Ministers' contact numbers:

- ! Rev Tim Boocock - 07926 584858
- ! Rev Graham Cutler - 01833 638272
- ! Rev John Howard - 01833 640823
- ! Rev Alan Coustick - 01833 908604
- ! Rev Richard Hunter - 01833 630315

CIRCUIT OFFICE

The Circuit Office is closed for the time being. Edwin can be contacted by telephone on 07484 398958 or by email at bctmc1317@gmail.com

Creative workshop - July 2020 During July the circuit organised a Creative Workshop looking at the book of Ruth. A PowerPoint presentation of the work created can be found at the following link: www.teesdalemethodists.co.uk/creative-arts-workshop.html

Praise and Prayer Points

Pray for all those recently bereaved and those who are unwell.

Give thanks for all those who work hard to maintain our buildings, and pray for them.

Pray for the Barnard Castle & Teesdale and Darlington circuit leadership teams as they continue to progress the work of forming a new circuit.

Pray for all those suffering from the effects of the many recent wars, conflicts and man-made and natural disasters around the world and other acts of violence.

Pray for the work of the Food Banks and for those who need them.

Pray for all those involved in the Coronavirus pandemic - those suffering, those working to relieve suffering and to help in other ways, and those whose lives are disrupted by it.

Pray for all of those for whom this is a difficult time of year - those separated from their loved ones or isolated in other ways, those for whom Christmas brings back difficult memories, those bereaved when everyone else is celebrating.

Pray for all those working to reopen our places of worship safely.

Pray for our Mission Partners from the UK in various parts of the world during the current crisis, feeling very isolated, but committed to their presence with the people they serve.



CIRCUIT WEBSITE www.teesdalemethodists.co.uk

The next issue of What's On/Praise Points will be for January. Please email items to bctmc1317@gmail.com or send to your contact person by 15th December.