

From the Superintendent

Dear friends in faith,

Jeremiah 31:33 comes up every year at least once on a Sunday for most Methodists. That is because it is nestled in the liturgy of our Covenant Service. God says I will write the law on their hearts and on their minds...

Doing what is legal, following the rules, well Jesus outperformed everyone in this area. At the same time, he broke expectations, rolled with the wrong people and challenged the way the faithful should see themselves in light of the rules. He pointed us to the most important law, to listen, to love your God with all that you are and to love your neighbour as yourself. Is this what God inked on your heart?

We are trying to find the best way forward for the Circuit. I keep belabouring a very human concern, that we do not have enough resources to keep things as they have been. Many of you are stretched too thin though giving freely of yourselves and are the very people asked to take new things on when jobs need doing. It is a system that needs to change. Somehow, and soon, decisions will need to be made about how we consolidate our resources by coming together in more ways than the Plan, joint services, Mission Forum, Circuit initiatives...

I think God has the potential to have written more than what you are supposed to do or not on your hearts. I think it might be more specific than to love better. I think collectively if we could see what God's hand printed on each of our most precious organs, we could possibly weave a story together that would say what we should do to make things better. I have a hunch it won't be to pick up that next job when you are already spread too thin so that we can keep things as they are. I hope when the Circuit Review comes this May it will expose some of this stuff.

Please look boldly and deeply into yourself. Look at what God has printed there. Come to the meetings and help us to put our story together that will show the best way forward. It might be in Jesus' example, counter to expectations.

God bless you,
John

Circuit Newsletter

All Saints, Newton Hall

When this is read, we will be journeying through Lent and towards the Easter Season. We will have Easter Journey with hundreds of school children through our doors. Then we reach Holy Week, with our Maundy Service (9th) and Messy Church (10th) and At the Foot of the Cross at 2 pm on the 10th on Good Friday, the culmination of the week as we celebrate the risen Christ at our Easter Day Holy Communion Service on the 12th at 10.45.

We offer various services at 9.00 am and 10.45 each Sunday ably supported by our ministers Caroline and Andy and others who come to preach or lead worship from within our own congregation.

One future event is on Sunday 6th September at 10.45 when we celebrate 50 years as a Local Ecumenical Partnership (**LEP**) between Methodists and Anglicans. At the service, the Bishop of Durham, Right Revd Paul Butler, and the District Chair, Revd Richard Andrew, will both be in attendance leading our worship and signing a new document to continue the partnership for another 50 years.

Our mission statement is '**Praising** God through worship, **Loving** God and neighbours and **Sharing** faith through words and action'.

We aim to be a very welcoming church, and you can be sure of a warm welcome when you come through our doors on a Sunday Morning. We are also a very busy church through the week, with lots of activities going on, and different User Groups using the building.

Please visit our new revamped website for more information at

www.allsaintsnewtonhall.org.uk

TUESDAY INFORMAL WORSHIP AT CARRVILLE

Each Tuesday at 9.45 am you are invited to join us for worship followed by tea and scones.

For further information please ring Silvia Dawson – 386 1289

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

6th April – 10th April

	Mon-Wed	Maundy Thursday	Good Friday
Elvet		7.30pm @ North Road	10.30am – Rev John Squares
North Road		7.30pm – Communion – Rev John Squares	10.30am @ Elvet
Framwellgate Moor			10.30am
Brandon			10am – Rev Andy Longe
Carrville	Tues 7 th - Prayer Labyrinth – 10am-12 noon – Rev Andy Longe	Prayer Labyrinth – 5pm – 7pm	10.30am – Rev Paul Beetham
Newton Hall		7pm - Rev Andy Longe	10am – Messy Church 2pm - At the Foot of the Cross – Rev Andy Longe
Bearpark			10am – Sean Conroy
Esh Winning			10am – Service 11.30am – Walk of Witness
Sacriston	Monday – 7pm St Philip and St James, Kimblesworth Tuesday – 7pm St Bede's, Sacriston		10am – Walk of Witness 11am – Salvation Army
Sherburn Hill	Wednesday – 7pm – Rev Colin Jackson		10am – Mr Roger Grant

Faith with Cake

eat drink and be joyful!

Through a mixture of songs, reflections, challenges and of course tea, coffee and cake, we meet to worship God.

All are welcome to join us from 5.30 - 7pm on **Sunday May 3rd** in North Road Methodist Church.

Lectionary Readings

5 April (Palm Sunday)

Principal Service: MATTHEW 21:1-11, PSALM 118:1-2, 19-29

12 April (Easter Sunday)

Principal Service: ACTS 10:34-43 or JEREMIAH 31:1-6, PSALM 118:1-2, 14-24, COLOSSIANS 3:1-4 or ACTS 10:34-43, JOHN 20:1-18 or MATTHEW 28:1-10

19 April (2nd Sunday of Easter)

Principal Service: ACTS 2:14A, 22-32, PSALM 16, 1 PETER 1:3-9, JOHN 20: 19-31

26 April (3rd Sunday of Easter)

Principal Service: ACTS 2:14A, 36-41, PSALM 116:1-4, 12-19, 1 PETER 1:17-23, LUKE 24:13-35

3 May (4th Sunday of Easter)

Principal Service: ACTS 2:42-47, PSALM 23, 1 PETER 2:19-25, JOHN 10:1-10

10 May (5th Sunday of Easter)

Principal Service: ACTS 7:55-60, PSALM 31:1-5, 15-16, 1 PETER 2:2-10, JOHN 14:1-14

17 May (6th Sunday of Easter)

Principal Service: ACTS 17:22-31, PSALM 66:8-20, 1 PETER 3:13-22, JOHN 14:15-21

21 MAY (ASCENSION DAY) ACTS 1:1-11, PSALM 47 OR PSALM 93, EPHESIANS 1:15-23, LUKE 24:44-53

24 May (7th Sunday of Easter)

Principal Service: ACTS 1:6-14, PSALM 68:1-10, 32-35, 1 PETER 4:12-14; 5:6-11, JOHN 17:1-11

31 MAY (Pentecost)

Principal Service: ACTS 2:1-21 or NUMBERS 11:24-30, PSALM 104:24-34, 35b, 1 CORINTHIANS 12:3b-13 or ACTS 2:1-21, JOHN 20:19-23 or JOHN 7:37-39

7 June (Trinity Sunday)

Principal Service: GENESIS 1:1-2:4a, PSALM 8, 2 CORINTHIANS 13:11-13, MATTHEW 28:16-20

14 June (11th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Principal Service: GENESIS 21:8-21, PSALM 86:1-10, 16-17, ROMANS 6:1b-11, MATTHEW 10:24-39


21 June (12th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Principal Service: GENESIS 21:8-21, PSALM 86:1-10, 16-17, ROMANS 6:1b-11, MATTHEW 10:24-39

28 June (13th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Principal Service: JEREMIAH 20:7-13, PSALM 69:7-10 (11-15) 16-18, ROMANS 6: 1B-11, MATTHEW 10: 24-39

Plan References

A	All Age Worship	P	Parade Service
B	Sacrament of Baptism	PC	Parish Church
C	Covenant Service	Q	Choir
CA	Church Anniversary	R	Remembrance Service
D	Discussion or Café Style	S	Sacrament of Holy Communion
DP	Digital Projection	T	Transport Required
E	Eco Group	TZ	Taizé-style Service
F	Farewell Service	Th	Themed Preaching
G	Gift Service	U	United Service
H	Healing Service	URC	United Reformed Church
HF	Harvest Festival	V	In Village Hall
J	Junior Church	W	Welcome Service / Back to Church Sunday
K	Mission Service	WL	Worship Leader
L	Local Arrangement	X	Carol Service
LC	Ladies' Circle	ac	Air Cadets
M	Messy Church		Readers' Service-
MWiB	Methodist Women in Britain		Own Arrangement
N	Nativity		

Church Schedules and Preachers' Plan Dates

Please return copies of these to **Revd John Squares and Sue Smith**
before April 30th 2020.

Preaching Appointments and Expenses

It is the responsibility of any preacher who is unable to fulfil an appointment (1) to find an accredited substitute and (2) to inform the local church and the Superintendent Minister.

Preachers are reminded that they are entitled to claim expenses at the rates agreed by the Conference.



Prayers from around the Circuit

A Prayer for Our World

We pray for the peoples of the world to spread love not hate.
May hate abate.

We pray for the people of the world to destroy knives
Those knives used to take lives.

We pray for the people of the world to spread joy and peace.
May peace increase.

Janet Ball. Copyright 27/1/2020

God does nothing redemptively in this world except by prayer - John Wesley.

Colossians 4 v2-4 'Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too that God may open the door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that we may proclaim it clearly, as we should. Be wise in the way you act towards outsiders, make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversations be always full of Grace, seasoned with Salt, so that you may know how to answer everybody.

Almighty God and Holy Father we come to you in prayer. Thank you, Lord, for your wonderful blessings in our lives - our friends, family, children, neighbours and colleagues. Thank you for providing us with food and shelter. Forgive us Lord that sometimes we have been comfortable and complacent. We have not looked after your gifts and resources. Gracious Lord forgive us. Forgive us Lord that sometimes we have NOT spoken out, stood up and acted for social injustice. We see and hear people in pain and suffering, the lonely, the sick, the

bereaved, prisoners, the homeless, children and young people who are struggling and broken, who have lost all hope Gracious Lord forgive us.

Lord Jesus we pray for especially Greta Thunberg who has spoken out and challenge us about climate change and the environment. Lord we pray that you give her strength and resilience and to protect her. Lord Jesus you call us and challenge us to sometimes to get out of our comfort zones. To step out in Faith. To grow that extra tree ring. Even Eagles need a push and a shove to SOAR!! We will stand beside someone when they fall down. Showing and sharing God's Amazing Love, Peace, Hope, Healing and Comfort - where Love and sorrow meet. Let us walk by Faith not by sight and to Trust in you Lord. Sometimes it feels like a walk in the dark with our hands stretch out but in the darkness there is Light. In the Name of Jesus. Amen.

John Wesley – ‘I continue to dream and pray about a revival of holiness in our day that moves forth mission and creates authentic community in which each person can be unleashed through the empowerment of the Spirit to fulfil God's creational intentions. Get on fire for God and people will come and see you burn.’

A prayer for Thy Kingdom Come Event.

Almighty God we pray to you for discernment, inspiration. guidance and lead us for the planning for the event of Thy Kingdom Come at North Road Church. Open our minds and hearts to do your Will. May God's Love, Hope, Peace and Joy will be shown- where Love and sorrow meet. We pray for the event that it will be specific and unique for North Road church. And let North Road church be a beacon of light in Durham City. Let's us encourage each other and work together using our gifts and talents. We pray to you Lord that you will open the way - make the way and send people to help us. We will ask, seek and knock and the door will be opened. In the Name of Jesus Amen.

The Spirit of Lord is upon us, to preach the good news to the poor, He has sent us to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour. Amen.

Church Assessments (2019-2020)

Church	£ / quarter	Church	£ / quarter
Bearpark	1613	Langley Park	1312
Bowburn	1651	Newton Hall	4671
Brandon	3303	North Road	11972
Carrville	7244	Pittington	957
Elvet	14013	Sacriston	2663
Esh Winning	2182	Sherburn Hill	1004
Framwellgate Moor	1531	Witton Gilbert	1384

Circuit Diary

April

- Thurs 2nd **Carrville** – Circuit Leadership Team – 7pm
Wed 15th **Brandon** – Global Care Quiz – 7pm
Thurs 16th **Framwellgate Moor** – Quiz – 7pm
Sat 25th **Stockton Circuit** – Darlington District Synod – 10am
Wed 29th **North Road Cottage** – LP&WL Monthly Bible Fellowship – 7.30pm

May

- Sat 9th **Sherburn Hill** – Chapel Anniversary Concert – ‘The Three Wise Men’
7pm – Refreshments to follow
Mon 11th **Brandon** - Monthly Bible Fellowship – 3.30pm
Sat 16th **Trinity, Middlesbrough** – Worship Academy – Rev Calvin Samuel –
10am to 4pm
Wed 20th **Brandon** – Global Care Quiz – 7pm
Thurs 21th **Framwellgate Moor** – Quiz – 7pm
Sun 31st **Bearpark** – Pentecost Praise - 6pm

June

- Thurs 4th **Pittington** – Local Preachers and Worship Leaders Meeting –
7.15pm for 7.30pm
Mon 8th **Brandon** - Monthly Bible Fellowship – 3.30pm
Mon 8th **Brandon** – Bible Month Study – 7pm
Sat 13th **TBA** - Mission Forum – 10am
Mon 15th **Brandon** – Bible Month Study – 7pm
Wed 17th **Brandon** – Circuit Meeting – 7pm
Wed 17th **Brandon** – Global Care Quiz – 7pm
Thurs 18th **Framwellgate Moor** – Quiz – 7pm
Mon 22nd **Brandon** – Bible Month Study
Wed 24th **North Road Cottage** – LP&WL Monthly Bible Fellowship – 7.30pm
Thurs 25th / Thurs July 2nd - **Telford, Shropshire** – Methodist Conference
Mon 29th **Brandon** – Bible Month Study

Contributions for the next Circuit Newsletter are invited from
Bowburn, Esh Winning, Framwellgate Moor and North Road

All information and dates for the Circuit Diary by **30th April 2020** to
Sue Smith Tel. 0191 3710 366 Email: susansmith0007@btinternet.com