



## **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March**

### **Lent**

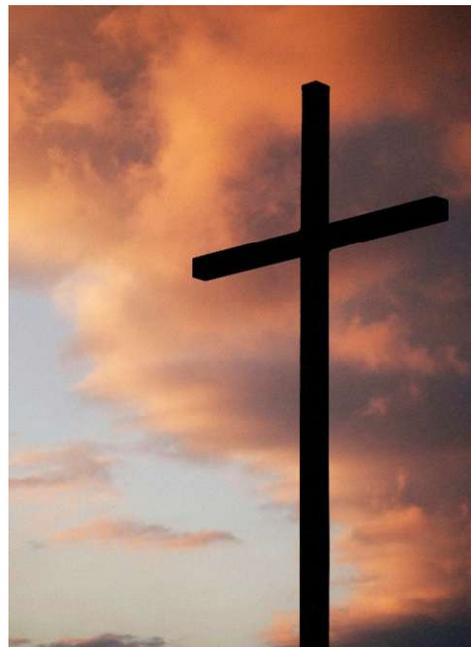


Are you a 'Crossword Buff'? Do you like to solve a difficult crossword each day in the fastest possible time, or are you like me, preferring the puzzle to be reasonably straightforward?

It is said that the solver of the puzzle needs to get into the mind of the compiler (or nowadays the mind of the computer programmer) in order to decipher the clues. The trouble is we have an awkward English language where some words have several meanings. Take the word 'row' – does this mean 'to row a boat' or 'sit in a row of people' or have an argument with someone? Depending on which meaning is in the mind of the question setter will determine the answer to the puzzle.

Which brings me to the word 'lent'. If we borrow a book from someone, they have lent this to us, hoping it will be returned in due course. Meanwhile, we enjoy the contents of the book. Can we use this analogy for the Christian season of Lent?

StF727 begins 'God in his love for us lent us this planet' – a reminder that God owns everything he has made but he lends the planet to us and we should care for it. We believe that God made a special revelation of himself by giving us his Son Jesus. But he was only on earth in bodily flesh for a relatively short time. In that sense he was 'lent' to us. As we read in the gospels of his life and ministry it is like reading a borrowed book. But it is so much more than that for in these pages we read of the love of God, the compassion of God and the saving power of God all demonstrated in Jesus. We hear his challenge to 'Follow Me' and realise that the words have come to life and speak now.



After the allotted time Jesus left earth in his bodily form and returned to the glory of the Father. The 'lending' time had finished. And yet it hadn't for we have been given the Holy Spirit to be with us forever, working as a challenge, guide and comforter.

So as we continue through the remaining weeks of Lent 2026, may we thank God for his generous gift to us in Jesus and remember that the 'lending' goes on.

*Lois Morton*

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**Penrith**

**10.30am** ~ Morning Worship – Mr Dean Lawson

**Skelton**

**10.30am** ~ Morning Communion – Rev Julia Reid

**Stainton**

**10.30am** ~ Morning Worship – Mr Lawrence Tomlinson

**Cottage Wood Centre**

**3pm** ~ Afternoon Communion – Mr Dean Lawson

***There are alternative Anglican services available.***

***For details, please see the EEMC website: [www.eastofedenmc.org.uk](http://www.eastofedenmc.org.uk)***

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**Regarding the Notices**

Please note that there will be no notices for Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March due to staff annual leave.

They will return as normal the following week.



### **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

**9.25am** ~ Monday Walks – Meet outside PMC

**6pm** ~ Choral Group – Sandgate/PMC

**7.30pm** ~ Zoom Prayer Meeting

### **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

**10am** ~ Morning Worship – Rev Julia Reid - Sandgate/PMC

**12 noon** ~ Lent Lunch – Ullswater/PMC

**1.30pm** ~ Prayer Meeting – Church/PMC

**7pm** ~ Blencow HG – The Hollies, Blencow (*We meet twice monthly at 7pm on a Tuesday. Contact Steve for further details.*)

**7pm** ~ Omega House Group – Sunningdale, Stainton

**7pm** ~ Youth Club – Ullswater/PMC

### **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March**

**10am** ~ 3C's – Cottage Wood Centre

**10am** ~ Coffee Morning – Skelton Methodist Church

**1.30pm** ~ Wednesday Get Together - Skelton Methodist Church

**7pm – 8pm** ~ Cottage Wood Monthly Prayer Time - *We are continuing to pray at home, and all are welcome to take part for any or all of the hour.*

**7.30pm** ~ Living Room HG, contact Morgan for details

### **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March**

**10am** ~ Knit Craft and Natter Group – Stainton Methodist Church

**7.30pm** ~ Thornton HG (*Contact Charlie for info*)

### **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March**

**12 noon** ~ Lunch Club – Ullswater/PMC

### **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March**

**Penrith: 10.30am** Morning Worship – Rev Julia Reid

**Skelton: 10.30am** Morning Worship – Miss Kathleen Williamson

**Stainton: 10.30am** Morning Communion – Rev Andrew Callaway

**Cottage Wood: 3pm** Church Council – Rev Julia Reid

**Patterdale: 10.30am** Morning Worship – Rev David Newlove

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### **Please Note**

There will be no Choral group at PMC on Mondays 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March.

# Leaving gift & service

After 4.5yrs of working across PMC, Penrith Circuit and Cumbria Circuit, Morgan will be stepping down from his role as Pioneer Enabler on 31st March. Morgan is not leaving the church, but this does mark the end of his time as an employee with the Methodist Church.

We are incredibly grateful for all that Morgan has contributed to over the years, and we would love to give him a leaving gift to say thank you. If you would like to contribute to Morgan's leaving gift, donations can be made to the below account details,

Penrith Methodist Church  
Acc No: 00032900      Sort Code: 40-52-40  
Reference: Morgan Gift



**We will be marking the occasion with a service on 15<sup>th</sup> March at PMC, do come along as we celebrate and show our appreciation.**



## Eligible households in Westmorland and Furness Council area have the opportunity to benefit from a Handy Person Service.

The scheme is intended to help **elderly or vulnerable householders** carry out very simple but essential works at their homes. The labour is provided free-of-charge and **the cost of items and materials is paid for by the householder.**

Gardening, painting and decorating services are not included in the scheme.

## Who is eligible for help?

People who are unable to undertake the task themselves and have no other person available to help them with the task and reside in Westmorland and Furness Council area, who:

- are aged 65 and over; or
- have a disability or are vulnerable; or
- are being discharged or have recently been discharged from hospital; or
- are at high risk of falling due to a medical condition.



## What works can the Handy Person do?

For example the works can include:-

- Fitting of minor security measures such as spy-holes, door and window locks and security lighting;
- Fitting key safes, door bells or telephone extension leads;
- Changing light bulbs and fluorescent tubes;
- Fitting plugs/fuses or fixing down/making safe trailing or loose wires;
- Putting up curtain rails, curtains or blinds which have been provided by the customer;
- Installing grab rails and handles both internally and externally;
- Erecting shelves or affixing coat hooks;

- Fixing down or trimming loose or hazardous carpets;
- Replacing toilet seats or sealant around sinks/baths;
- Unblocking sinks and repairing minor leaks for simple plumbing issues;
- Replacing tap washers, cistern washers and ball valves or draining/bleeding radiators. Mixer taps not included.
- Initial help following hospital discharge (e.g. re-setting heating controls)
- Minor repairs to gates, fences, paths (to eliminate tripping hazards) to repair tripping hazards or help secure the property from intruders;

All works undertaken are aimed at providing small-scale assistance to help householders maintain independent living and quality of life, as well as reducing the fear of crime.

Works are limited to a **maximum of three hours** on site if one handy person visits, or **1.5 hours if two handy persons visit.** Eligible households are able to utilise the service up to six times in any 12-month period.





We next meet for our " All Together Fellowship " on **Monday, March 9th, at 2pm in Penrith Methodist Church.**

As always, our time together will begin with a short act of worship and will be followed by the presentation  
**" WINDOW ON WILDLIFE AND NATURE "**



John G will take us through a typical year, showing still pictures and video sequences of birds, animals and other creatures. There will also be scenes showing the beauty of the wider natural world.

There will then be refreshments and opportunities to socialise.

**PLEASE NOTE that we meet again on Monday, March 30th.**

Dr John Ellerton will talk about his experiences as a mountain rescuer and doctor

**John & Margaret**



## Save the Date

An open meeting for anyone interested in how the Pastoral Care teams work at PMC: **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 7.30pm in Ullswater (PMC).**

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## Lent Lunch

PMC will be hosting the Lent lunches (organised by the local Christian Aid group and Churches Together in Penrith) on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. Please see Heather Tomlinson with offers of help and/or to say you will be there.

Please see a list of Lent Lunches below (all at 12pm – 1pm unless stated otherwise):

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March:** Penrith Methodist Church

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March:** 1pm-2pm, St Catherine's RC Church

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March:** from 12.30pm, Friends Meeting House

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March:** Church in the Barn



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## Penrith Music Club – London Handel Players

***Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm at PMC***



The last concert of the season brings another much-anticipated return. The London Handel Players gave us a stunning concert of Baroque music almost three years ago and this year's concert features the music of J.S.Bach and Handel in a programme entitled *German Geniuses: chamber music masterpieces by Bach and Handel*. Flute, two violins, cello and harpsichord combine to give us another real Baroque treat.

Tickets are £20 in advance or at the door (£5 for students)

## World Day of Prayer 2026

The World Day of Prayer is always on the first Friday of March. In 2026 that falls on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March and there will be an ecumenical service at St Catherines RC Church at 2pm.

Please do attend if you can – ALL are very welcome to this very special service which happens in most towns and many villages in the UK, where most also happen at the same time...and all over the world on the same day. It is powerful to know that we are all praying the same prayers, all over the world. This year the women of Nigeria have written on the theme 'I will give you rest, come.'



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## Churches Together in Penrith - Holy Week and Easter Sunday

**Good Friday Walk of Witness** will be the usual routine in Penrith - 12 noon from the Tourist Info Centre with Penrith Town Band; 12:30 (or soon after) - CTiP Good Friday Service in St Andrew's

**Easter Morning** - Easter 'Sunrise' on The Beacon at 6:30a.m



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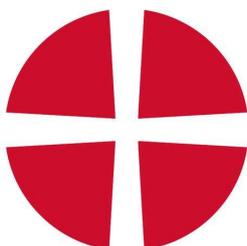
## Christian Aid

Christian Aid Week is 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> May. The theme is 'tackling climate-driven poverty through sustainable livelihoods'. There will be a Coffee morning & plant sale on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May at PMC.



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## Local Plan March to May 2026



The plan for March to May is now available. Please pick up a copy if you need one. If there are none left, please let Rev Julia know and more can be printed.

There is an error at the top of the back page – the Lent Group details is at Stainton chapel, not Skelton as printed. Rev Julia apologies for her muddled brain on that one!



## Lent Reflection Week 2

**Lord Jesus help us to follow your example. Who, as individuals and as a church community, is Jesus calling us to serve?**

Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under His power, and that He had come from God and was returning to God, so He got up from the meal, took off His outer clothing and wrapped a towel round His waist. After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash His disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped round Him.... When He had finished washing their feet, he put on His clothes and returned to His place. 'Do you understand what I have done for you?' He asked them. 'You call me "Teacher" and "Lord", and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one-another's feet.'

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### **PMC Health and Safety Training/Consultation**

For all Stewards, Welcomers and small group Leaders who couldn't make our session in December, please put **Sunday 22 March** in your Diary. We will assemble in Sandgate after the morning service and spend about an hour raising your awareness of the Risks and Mitigations when operating our unique, ancient and wonderful (well most of the time!) building.

This will also be your opportunity to bring your experience/expertise of safety matters to the conversation.

A paper copy of PMC Health & Safety Policy is available to browse in Reception or request a link to the digital version.

## Christmas Shoeboxes

Our shoeboxes went to Eastern Europe last year and will continue to do so, but with a UK based charity called Teams4U.

The age groups are very similar, as are the contents of the boxes, but toothpaste and sweets (best by June 2007 onwards) can go in. Our packing/coffee morning is booked for 17th October!



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## NWED Newsletter

If you would like to find out more about what is going on in the greater district, we encourage you to sign up to the North West England District Newsletter – you can do so following these steps:

1. Go to [www.nwedmethodists.org.uk](http://www.nwedmethodists.org.uk)
2. Follow the “Join our mailing list” link
3. Input your details and enjoy!



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## A Date for your Diary

The Carlisle Refuge Van will be at PMC **10am Tuesday 17th March** and welcomes your contribution.

They have especially asked for contributions of canned and long-life food. They tell me their stocks are somewhat depleted after the winter.

The Refuge is always grateful for any gifts of bedding, children's cots, high-chairs etc, kitchen equipment, small items of furniture (no electrical goods please), and clothing.

All items must be clearly marked i.e. size & gender suitability and must be clean and in good condition.

The Refuge are always so very grateful for our kindness and continued support.



## Easy Eco Tip – March:

Take part in a local litter pick or beach clean during **The Great British Spring Clean** (Friday 13-Sunday 29 March), the nation's biggest mass-action environmental campaign. Litter picking benefits the environment by removing rubbish that can be hazardous for wildlife and helps bring people together. See if there's a litter pick in your local area or consider organising your own - after church on Sunday or with a youth group for example. Pray for your local area as you do the litter pick and ask God for opportunities to share why you are doing it. Find out more and pledge to pick up a bag at [www.keepbritaintidy.org/our-work/eliminating-litter/great-british-spring-clean](http://www.keepbritaintidy.org/our-work/eliminating-litter/great-british-spring-clean)



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**Cumbria Aid Ukraine is a volunteer group based at  
“ The Pot Place Garden Centre “ near Penrith.  
We serve as a collection point in Cumbria for donated  
humanitarian aid, which we then transport to Ukraine.**

**We at Penrith Methodist Church are continuing to ask for donations,  
and these will be taken to “ The Pot Place “ on a regular basis.**

**Ukraine continues to desperately need assistance,  
and our support helps send warmth, care and hope.**

**PLEASE CAN YOU HELP BY DONATING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING :-**

- Nappies (all sizes). Baby and toddler's clothing.**
- Milk formula, paracetamol ( but no other form of medication )**
- Soap, toothpaste, shampoo, wipes, etc. Toothbrushes, Sanitary towels.**
- Domestic cleaning products, bleach, washing powder and liquids.**
- Long life food, pasta, rice, tins, dried ready meals like pot noodles, etc.**
- Candles ( preferably plain wax ones, either new or partially used )**

**PLEASE WILL YOU LEAVE ANY DONATIONS  
IN THE LABELLED BOX IN THE GLASS HOUSE**

**THANK YOU**

## Thought for the week...



### Contact Details:

**Circuit Superintendent Minister: Rev David Newlove:** 07989 198487  
or email: [revdavidnewlove@gmail.com](mailto:revdavidnewlove@gmail.com)

**Ministers in Pastoral Charge:**

**Rev Julia Reid:** 07483 932647 or email: [julia.reid@methodist.org.uk](mailto:julia.reid@methodist.org.uk)  
**Rev Ros Watson:** 07923 044709 or email: [ros.watson@methodist.org.uk](mailto:ros.watson@methodist.org.uk)

**Pioneer Enabler: Morgan Tebb-Roger:** 07949 156051  
or email: [outreach@penrithmethodist.co.uk](mailto:outreach@penrithmethodist.co.uk)

**East Fellside Local Lay-Pastor: Celia Ramnath:** 01768 639971  
or email: [celia.ramnath@cumbriamethodists.org.uk](mailto:celia.ramnath@cumbriamethodists.org.uk)

**Circuit Pastoral Worker: Dean Lawson:** 07897 736024  
or email: [dean.lawson@cumbriamethodists.org.uk](mailto:dean.lawson@cumbriamethodists.org.uk)

**Circuit Office:** 01768 862787 or email: [admin@penrithmethodist.co.uk](mailto:admin@penrithmethodist.co.uk)  
(Open 9am - 1pm, Monday to Friday)

**Circuit Operations and Administrative Manager: Sarah Mulheron-Summers**

**Circuit Administrative Assistant: Niamh Ryan**

**Premises Manager: Lindsay Wilson**

**Eden Debt Centre Manager (CAP): Jen Dixon:** 07799 271710  
or email: [jendixon@capuk.org](mailto:jendixon@capuk.org)

**Debt Coach: Jo Varley:** 07464 939138  
or email: [jovarley@capuk.org](mailto:jovarley@capuk.org)

**Cottage Wood Centre - Please send a request to join our Facebook group.**

**East of Eden Mission Community Website:** [www.eastofedenmc.org.uk](http://www.eastofedenmc.org.uk)

**PMC Website:** [www.penrithmethodist.co.uk](http://www.penrithmethodist.co.uk)

**Find our Sunday services on YouTube**

**Follow us on Twitter @PMCMethodists and on Facebook**

**Let's stay connected with one another!**

