



Sunday 5th April

Easter

Reflection / Circuit 'Worship at home' weekly resource

In our efforts to find the right balance between communicating well, reducing our environmental impact, and not duplicating the work already being done at Circuit level, we will no longer be publishing a 'reflection' every week in these notices. Instead, we invite you to follow this link : <https://www.cumbriamethodists.org.uk/worship-downloads.html> to the Cumbria Circuit website, where you will find a 'worship at home' sheet for each week, each one containing prayers, hymns and a reflection written by someone from Cumbria Circuit or one of our URC colleagues. The sheet for Sunday 5th April can be found here : <https://www.cumbriamethodists.org.uk/lib/file-1013636.pdf>

Just to give you a flavour of what you can expect, this week we have copied the reflection here, but from next week we will simply offer the link. If you would like to receive the 'worship at home sheet' on paper each week, we will be printing a number of copies which will be left in the reception area at PMC. We will keep an eye on how many are left each week, so we print enough, but not too many. If you know someone who cannot get to church and would like to receive a paper copy then please do take one for them. Thank you for your co-operation. **Rev Julia**

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An Easter Reflection:

*It was early in the morning. Still dark. The dawn just starting to cut through the fog. The air hung heavy with expectation, as if the earth itself were holding its breath.*

*The echoes of the cross linger. His voice still rings out: It Is Finished. Into your hands I commit my spirit.*

*The story comes to us in pieces and fragments, hints and images: A vineyard garden, grapes ready for the harvest. A stone, rolled away. The guards asleep at its side. A pile of clothes, folded in an empty tomb.*

*Peter and John, running in with disbelief. Walking out with questions and with hope.*



*But Mary stays behind. To weep in the garden. And we weep with her. There is so much loss. So much grief. So much death.*

*With her we look up, and through her tears, we see angels, seated in victory on top of the stone.*

*Do not be afraid, they tell us. He is not here. Why do you look for the living among the dead? He. Is. Not. Here.*

*From the garden she hears a voice: Why are you weeping? Whom do you seek? She still cannot see. The sun is rising. She is muttering with explanations, but Mary's heart starts beating with tremors. Of hope. Whom do you seek? He is not here.*

*And like a voice from heaven, she hears that voice. The voice she is longing for. The gardener speaks her name: Mary.*

*Christ looks at you and Christ speaks your name. The world is new as he speaks your name. You are made new as he speaks your name.*

*We pray for new life and hope for the sick, What the angels said was true. And it is true today. Christ is risen. Easter is announced by every breath he takes. And every word he utters. Easter means that love has won. Death is finished. Evil is conquered. God is good. Love's redeeming work is done. It. Is. Finished. It. Is. Finished. He is not dead. He. Is. Risen.*

(adapted from Rev. Cambron Wright, Faith United Methodist Church)

The hymn 'Christ is alive!' was written by Brian Wren in April 1968 to be sung on Easter Day, ten days after the assassination of Martin Luther King – but the words still speak to us today in the midst of violence and war. Easter very powerfully reminds us that in darkness and despair we can find the hope. In



Christ's resurrection we experience the power of God, and the truth that life is stronger than death, love is greater than hate, forgiveness overcomes judgement, and that the fear and pain of our lives are transient and do not represent the final reality. Easter brings the promise of new beginnings. How might you find hope and joy in the promises of Easter? Where do you see signs of hope and joy around you? Do you hear God speaking your name?

*Marie-Anne Kent*



**Penrith**

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

**Skelton**

**10.30am** ~ Morning Communion – Rev Gillian Belford

**Stainton**

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

**Cottage Wood Centre**

**6.30am** ~ Early Morning Communion – Rev Julia Reid

***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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Margaret Armer

Sadly, we heard of the passing of Margaret Armer on Tuesday 31st March. Please hold her friends and family, and in particular her two nieces, in your prayers. We give thanks to God for her many years of active service to this church community and take comfort that she is now with our risen Lord.

Weekly Diary

Tuesday 7th April

10am ~ Morning Communion – Mr Dean Lawson - Church/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.*)

Wednesday 8th April

1.30pm ~ Wednesday Get Together - Skelton Methodist Church

7.30pm ~ Living Room HG, contact Morgan for details

Thursday 9th April

3pm ~ Afternoon Communion – Rev Julia Reid - Woodlands

Sunday 12th April

Penrith: 10.30am

Skelton: 10.30am

Stainton: 10.30am

Cottage Wood: 5pm

Patterdale: 10.30am

Morning Worship – Mrs Lois Morton

Morning Worship – Rev Andrew Callaway

Morning Worship – Rev David Newlove

Early Evening Worship – Rev David Newlove

Morning Worship – Rev Julia Reid

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## **HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

There will be a Maundy Thursday 'Last Supper' service at PMC on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April at 7:30pm.

There is also a Good Friday service at Skelton chapel on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 7:30pm.

Please do come along to either or both. Rev Julia.



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PMC – Easter Cross

Please bring a small posy of flowers to church on Sunday to help with the decoration of the Easter Cross. Thank you.





Bonus Reflection: There's Only One You

Do you ever see someone and say, "Oh don't they look like another person?". On holiday one year we saw someone who looked just like Wilson Dugdale.

However, no-one is exactly like someone else. One of the Leaders on a Lay Witness Weekend said "you are a unique, unrepeatable, miracle of God". (There may be those who say that in my case one is more than enough). However, I find that an awesome thought.

God made us just as He wants us to be but He gave us a free will so that we could choose how we are to be.

We all have our own nature, personality and emotions and sometimes we are selfish, unkind and sinful and yet God still loves us. He doesn't just see our outward appearance and through love of us He can change our hearts.

Jesus didn't just see a little man when he saw Zacchaeus, He saw inside his heart and saw that he could change and make recompense to all those he had cheated. He didn't just see disfigured bodies when he saw those inflicted with leprosy but, when he healed them, he enabled them to go back to their communities and have different lives.

Isn't it an awesome thought that God loves us so much that He wants us to live the best life we can and with Him by our side, we can do just that. I find that amazing, how about you?

Sue Graham

CUMBRIA METHODIST WOMEN IN BRITAIN



‘New Meaning for our Life and Faith’

**A day of celebration and sharing with the women
in the Methodist church in Argentina**

Tebay Methodist Church

**Tuesday 21st April
10:00 – 15:00**

Coffee and lunch provided

Cost £10

**To book contact Rev Jackie Betts 01768371598
jcbetts82@gmail.com by 11th April
Including any dietary requirements**

Tebay Methodist Church is just off Junction 38 of M6
Postcode – CA10 3XB – Good roadside parking



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### **Food Bank Notice**

Please note that the following items are currently needed by the Food Bank  
– if you are able to donate at all, they would be very grateful:

- Tinned rice pudding
- Tin/carton or pkt custard
- Tinned fruit
- Beans and sausage
- Tinned mince, stews or chicken meals
- Pkt noodles
- Pkt pasta in sauce
- Jams
- Tin peas, carrots or sweetcorn
- Male deodorants
- Hair conditioner
- Washing up liquid





## **Zoom Prayer Meetings**

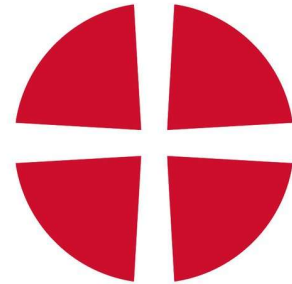
Please note that there will be no Zoom Prayer Meetings on the 6th, 13th and 20th of April.



## **EASTER OFFERING 2026**

Easter Offering envelopes are available in PMC as part of our worship response to bless Methodist World Mission Fund.

The Easter Offering service is at 10am Tuesday April 28th at PMC led by Rev Gillian Belford. All welcome, we would love to have you join us.



## **Penrith Music Club – Junior RNCM Concert**

***Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 2.30pm at PMC***

The season ends with our annual afternoon concert by musicians from the Junior Department of the Royal Northern College of Music, showcasing some of the most promising musical talent of the future – an uplifting and enjoyable end to our season.

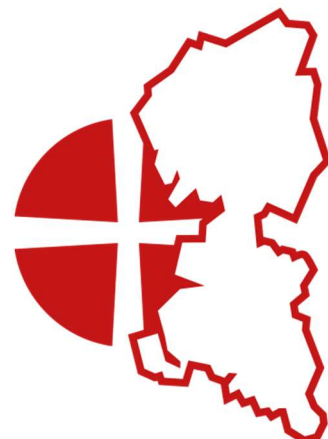
Tickets are £10 in advance or at the door (Free for students)



## **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!



## 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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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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The **Methodist** Church 

## Christian women: survivors of domestic abuse

The Safeguarding Team is interested to hear (via an anonymous survey) from Christian women who are survivors of domestic abuse. We are considering whether there would be uptake if we were to deliver the "Always Hopeful" recovery programmes for Christian women who are experiencing or who have experienced domestic abuse. We want to ascertain whether there would be interest. More information is available here about the programme:

<http://www.alwayshopeful.org.uk/what-is-always-hopeful/>

If this is relevant to you, or to any of your congregation members, we would be very grateful if you could please complete the following anonymous questionnaire and could you please also forward this to any other Christian women survivors of domestic abuse who you may know (not only Methodists):

[Domestic abuse - A Group recovery programme for Christian women – Fill out form](#)

# APR Online Quiet Day for Carers

led by Revd Alison Christian

on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2026 - from 10.15am to 3.30pm



Revd Alison Christian is Vice-Chair of the Trustees of the APR, an experienced retreat leader, and now herself, a Carer. Previously, she has been an incumbent in two London parishes, Warden of Launde Abbey, and *Advisor and Advocate for Spiritual Direction* at the London Centre for Spiritual Direction.

*Alison writes, 'This Quiet Day (which will be conducted via 'Zoom') is being offered to any APR member who finds themselves in the role of Carer. During the day we will have times of quiet, and one or two times of sharing. We will ask, "What difference is this experience of being a Carer making to my relationship with God - and with myself?" Some suggestions will be offered for meditation and prayer as we seek a little space and time for ourselves to retreat in daily life.'*

The Quiet Day is being offered free of charge, but participants are invited to make a donation towards the APR's costs according to their means.



Association  
for Promoting  
Retreats

You can book online (and pay via Paypal) on  
[promotingretreats.org/news-events-blog](https://www.promotingretreats.org/news-events-blog)

or please contact the APR Administrator directly on

Tel: 01395 272243

Email: [promoting.retreats@gmail.com](mailto:promoting.retreats@gmail.com)



*Left to Their Own Devices?* will equip parents and carers with practical skills and knowledge to stay ahead of the curve and help their children navigate the online world safely and to their advantage.

It's never too late to establish healthy digital boundaries with children – whatever their age.

Find out more and book your tickets: [cff.org.uk/owndevices](http://cff.org.uk/owndevices)

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Support available for rural households as heating oil prices surge

Westmorland and Furness Council [has launched funding support](#) for residents who rely on domestic heating oil and are experiencing financial hardship due to rising costs.

The fund provides assistance for households after the recent sharp rise in the cost of oil which has made it increasingly difficult for many rural residents to afford adequate heating and hot water.

Eligible households can receive a one-off cash award of between £200 and £250, depending on household size, with an additional £20 for each child in full-time education up to the age of 18.

This will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis until the funding pot is fully committed. Residents are strongly encouraged [to apply](#) as soon as possible, as the Household Support Fund is strictly time-limited by the government and only available until Tuesday 31 March 2026.

Easy Eco Tip - April:

Celebrate new life this Easter and have a go at growing something! April is the perfect time to try to grow something edible or, if you are a seasoned gardener, to encourage someone else to try. Salad leaves or herbs are a great place to start and will reduce your reliance on those oh-so-convenient supermarket salad bags.

For indoor space, try 'micro-greens' (vegetable leaves harvested soon after they open) For greenhouses, try sowing salad leaf seed mixes.

For outdoors, beetroot, lettuce, onion and pea plants are frost-resistant so can all be planted outside in April.

As you sow, thank God for the opportunity to grow food, and pray for those communities that are facing food shortages and famine.



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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.**

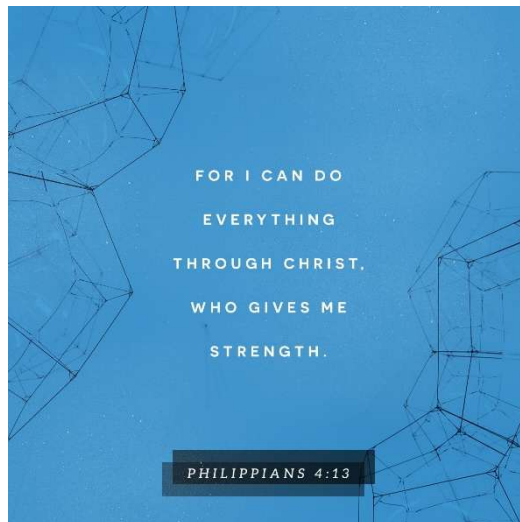
**PLEASE CAN YOU HELP BY DONATING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING :-**

- 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

**Ministers in Pastoral Charge:**

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

**Pioneer Enabler: Morgan Tebb-Roger:** 07949 156051  
or email: outreach@penrithmethodist.co.uk

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

**Circuit Pastoral Worker: Dean Lawson:** 07897 736024  
or email: dean.lawson@cumbriamethodists.org.uk

**Circuit Office:** 01768 862787 or email: 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

**Debt Coach: Jo Varley:** 07464 939138  
or email: 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!**

