



East Cumbria **Methodist** Circuit



Weekly Bulletin Sunday 7th January 2024

Giving

One hallmark of a healthy Christian community will be its generosity in all areas of its life. Jesus calls us to be a community of those who love one another and who seek to share our lives and the transformational news of his love with our neighbours.

As a Circuit we encourage generosity and recognise that it is an attitude which has many expressions, e.g. you are being generous when you give someone a listening ear, or when you refrain from being unnecessarily critical. You are generous when you join a rota to do something mundane or unseen and when you offer a prayer for someone. It's a long list: anything that we allow ourselves to be interrupted by which costs us our focus, our time, or our resources for the benefit of something other than ourselves.

It's also in this context which giving financially to our local church sits. At services the baskets go around, not to 'collect money' but to receive our offerings of gratitude for God's overflowing generosity towards us.

Jesus spoke a lot about money and our attitude towards it ^[1] (surprisingly more than some other subjects we might think of as more important), summed up perfectly with 'For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.' ^[2]

But how should we give and how much should we give?



Giving ought to be planned – thought about, prayed about, and budgeted according to our own financial situation^[3]. Planned giving is usually done through standing order or an envelope scheme. On occasions we might also be challenged to go beyond this, perhaps a special appeal for a specific need. Church treasurers may remind people to review what they already have in place – not to get people to go over their means, but to adjust as appropriate to changing circumstances.

What are we giving to/how is the money used? At PMC, as an example, the primary running costs are staff and buildings, both essential to the mission we

are called to. We forward money to Circuit for our ordained ministers and administrator and we employ our lay minister direct. Our normal building costs are largely met by the moneys received through the letting of our rooms to third-parties when they are not in use by church.

We mustn't forget though that most of what we do as a Circuit is done through volunteering. It's like our financial gifts are multiplied several times over by those who give their time.

The love of Jesus compels us to be cheerfully generous.



Notes

[1] Just a few: Matthew 6:24, Mark 10:24-25, Luke 12:13-15, Mark 12:41-44, Luke 16:11-13

[2] Matthew 6:19-21, Luke 12:32-34 [3] 1 Cor 16:2, 2 Cor 9:6-8

Shane McNichol



Penrith

10.30am ~ Covenant Service – Rev. Tim Cooke

Skelton

10.30am ~ Covenant Service – Rev. David Milner

Stainton

10.30am ~ Morning Worship – Mr. Morgan Tebb-Roger

Cottage Wood Centre

3pm ~ Afternoon Covenant – Rev. Tim Cooke

Alston Moor

11am ~ Covenant Service - Rev. Mary Elliot

Nenthead

5pm ~ Pennine Praise

Culgaith

11am ~ Covenant Service – Rev. Keith Speck

Langwathby

5pm ~ Taize Service

Gamblesby

10am ~ Little Acorns

There are alternative Anglican services available.

For details, please see the EEMC website: www.eastofedenmc.org.uk

Weekly Diary

Monday 8th January

9.30am ~ Monday Walks – Meet outside PMC

No ~ Choral Group

7.30pm ~ Monday Zoom Prayer

Tuesday 9th January

10am ~ Midweek Service ~ Mrs Lois Morton – Church/PMC

10am ~ 'He Brews' Coffee Club – Gamblesby Methodist Chapel

10.30am ~ CAP Job Club

7.30pm ~ Junior Youth Club - Ullswater/PMC

Wednesday 10th January

10am ~ 3Cs – Cottage Wood Centre

1.30pm ~ Wednesday Get Together - Skelton Methodist Church

7pm ~ Blencow HG – The Hollies, Blencow (*We meet twice monthly at 7pm on a Wednesday. Contact Steve on 07711 088448 for further details.*)

Thursday 11th January

1pm ~ Thursday Tots - Ullswater/PMC

2pm ~ Parklands HG – 19 Frenchfield Way, Penrith

7.30pm ~ Alpha Course – Restore Shop, New Squares, Penrith

Friday 12th January

12 noon ~ Lunch Club – Ullswater/PMC

Sunday 14th January

Penrith: 10.30am ~ Morning Worship ~ Rev. David Milner

Patterdale: 10.30am ~ Covenant Service ~ Rev. Tim Cooke

Skelton: 10.30am ~ Morning Worship ~ Mrs. Ruth Combellack

Stainton: 10.30am ~ Morning Worship ~ Rev. Andrew Callaway

Cottage Wood: 3pm ~ Something New at All Saints Church, Calthwaite

Alston Moor: 11am ~ Morning Worship ~ Mr. Morgan Tebb-Roger

Langwathby: 11am ~ Covenant Service ~ Rev. Dr. James Tebbutt

Kirkoswald: 10am ~ Covenant Service ~ Rev. Keith Speck

Renwick: 2pm ~ Covenant Service ~ Rev. David Milner

Gamblesby: *Joint service with Renwick*



PMC Christmas Charities

Thank you to all for the donations made during the Christmas services.

The donations total £809.18 and will be divided between this year's chosen charities – CAP Eden Debt Centre and Unicef Palestine/Gaza Appeal.



Belated Birthday Wishes

We wish Irwin Wallace belated birthday wishes for his 80th birthday, which he celebrated on 28th December.



Wedding Celebration



Please join us in sending love and congratulations to Katie & Loren following their wedding at PMC on 23rd December.

They are planning a larger service of celebration and blessing in May, which will be led by Rev. Tim Thorpe.

Our Calling

**A NEW YEAR, A NEW SERIES - EXPLORING
OUR RESPONSE TO THE CALL OF JESUS**

Week 1 – 7 Jan – Rev. Tim – Covenant service
Week 2 - 14 Jan - Dave - WORSHIP
Week 3 - 21 Jan - Morgan - LEARNING and CARING
Week 4 - 28 Jan - Tim - SERVICE
Week 5 - 4 Feb - Michael - EVANGELISM.

**Join us for worship live at PMC at 10.30am
or catch up on YouTube anytime!**



Worship



Learning and Caring



Service



Evangelism

Let's do **LUNCH**
SUNDAY 7TH JANUARY
Following the PMC morning service

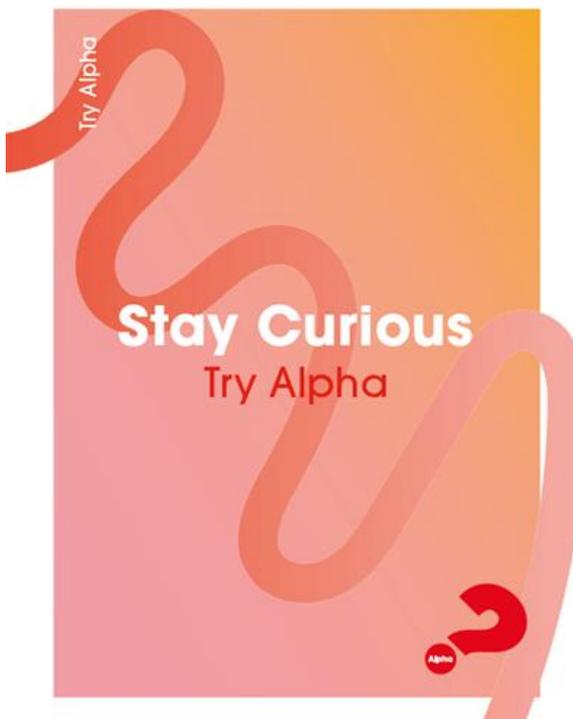


* donations of cake (no fresh cream) would be much appreciated



Monday Zoom Prayer Meetings

These will resume on Monday 8th January at 7.30pm. If anyone would like the link emailing, please either contact the Circuit Office or Chris Swift.



Curious about faith?

Join a series of group conversations that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment. At each Alpha session, you'll be hosted in a small group and watch an episode on a different question of faith – then you have a chance to share your thoughts and hear what others think. You can say anything you like, or nothing at all.

Everyone's welcome. You're invited, no matter your background or beliefs. It's free and there's no pressure to come back.

Starts 11th Jan 2024 7.30pm

'Restore' Shop, New Squares

Penrith Tel. 07748988033





Cottage Wood Centre **Take Tea Out**

There will be no tea in January or February this year.
To book a tea in for Thursday 14th March, eat in or take away,
please contact Sylvia: 01228 511547.

Service Amendment

There is **no** service at Cottage Wood on Sunday 14th January. Instead, we will be at the Something New Service at All Saints, Calthwaite at 3pm.

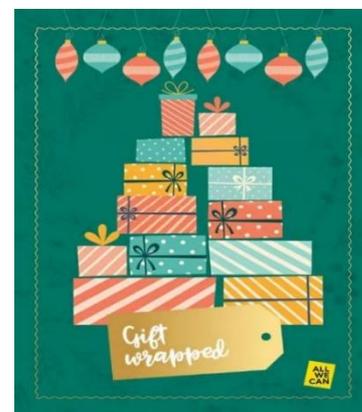
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### **Communal Christmas Card - PMC**

Thank you to everyone who donated instead of sending individual cards this year.

All We Can will receive £105.50 from the globe collection.

A reminder that we are still collecting small change for All We Can, anything you have can be left with the Office or passed on to Judith Joyce.



Thank you.

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Candles for Ukraine

New candles - Old candles - Ends of candles - Any candles

These will be taken to an orphanage and refugee centre in UKRAINE where they will be made into **TRENCH CANDLES**, which are used for light, heat and even cooking.

Any candles can be left in the blue box in the glasshouse at PMC.



Try a Daily Reflection App!

Perhaps you have considered using one of the daily Bible devotional apps that you can download to your phone or tablet. But which one?

Here are my top tips for three apps I think are well worth considering. You can find them on Google Play, or Apple App store.

1. Lectio 365 – FREE!



This is an app developed by the 24/7 Prayer team. It includes a morning devotion that begins with reading a Psalm, some prayers, the reading of another Bible text, and some commentary / reflection. You can listen to the audio, or just read it. Takes about 10 minutes. Quite evangelical in theology. There is also an evening, Compline type reflection (which I really like) which is more contemplative – also about 10 minutes.

2. Reflections - £2.99 a quarter



This app, from the Church of England, is one Trace and I do together each day. It's good in that it includes each of the three lectionary texts for the day – so in 3 years, you'd more or less read the whole Bible! There is a link to each of the Bible passages, and then a written commentary by a different contributor who changes roughly every couple of weeks. Some you will prefer more than others!

3. Pray as you go – Free



This is my favourite app at the moment! In the style of Ignatian spirituality, the daily prayer can be read or listened to. Takes about 10 minutes and begins with some gentle, contemplative music, then a Bible text is read, followed by some reflection and meditation, before the text is read for a second time. There are also a number of other different spiritual devotions you can listen to depending on your mood! Trace and I listen in the evenings – but can be done any time. I love it!

Whichever you choose to do – spending intentional time with God each day is a great habit, so enjoy!

Rev. Tim.

PAID OPPORTUNITY
FOR PROPERTY PROJECT

EAST CUMBRIA METHODIST CIRCUIT
REVIEW OF PROPERTY ASSETS



This new Circuit came into being on 1st September 2023 as the Penrith and Kirkoswald and Alston Moor Circuits merged. In developing a vision and strategy for the new Circuit the need to review our property assets has become apparent. We have recently sold Ainstable, Renwick and Sleagill chapels - with Salkeld Dykes chapel also now no longer needed.

As we develop Ecumenical Mission Communities, we are now looking for a volunteer to ideally manage these assets, and in particular, to lead a review of the remaining 6 chapels and 6 Manses.

You will also help the Circuit to evaluate our future building needs, taking into account the current conditions which are outlined in recent Quinquennial inspections, and the Circuit's overall Vision and Mission Statement.

This will be time limited project to be completed during 2024 ensuring compliance with well documented Methodist procedures. Reviewing our manses will include liaison with the managing agents for the two that are currently let out.

An honorarium payment will be available for delivery of the required recommendations.

For further details and/or an informal discussion please contact Rev. Tim Cooke.



THE
Freedom
CHALLENGE

AN **ESCAPE ROOM** STYLE ADVENTURE

Come and test your escaping abilities as you and your team face
The Freedom Challenge!



January 27th



3pm



Penrith Methodist Church

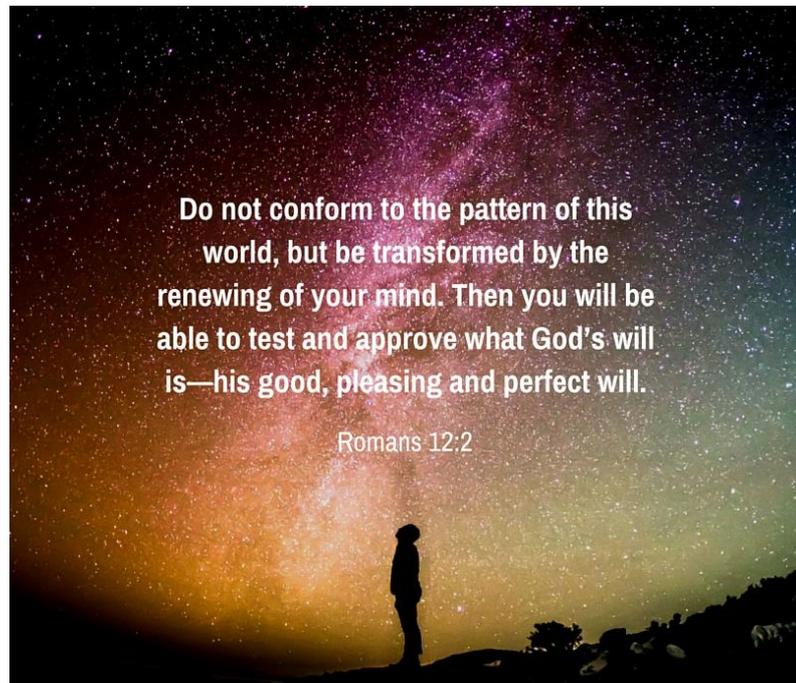
*For more info please contact Su Davis on
cumbriamethodistyouth@gmail.com*

An event for young people in the District arranged by Su Davis, District Young People's Work Coordinator.

This is for anyone aged between 11 and 21 years of age and will take place at 3 pm on Saturday 27th January at Penrith Methodist Church.

****Those under 18 must have a signed consent form.**

Thought for the week...



Contact Details:

Co-Superintendent Ministers

Rev. Tim Cooke: 01768 890465 or email: tim.cooke@methodist.org.uk

Rev. David Milner: 01768 863209 or email: dave@revmilner.plus.com

Circuit Pastor: Rev. Keith Speck: 01768 898257 or email: keithspck1@googlemail.com

Missional Pioneer & Communities Lay Pastor: Morgan Tebb-Roger: 07949 156051
or email: outreach@penrithmethodist.co.uk

Stainton Outreach Worker: Trace Cooke: 01768 890465
or email: tracecooke1@gmail.com

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

Circuit Administrative Manager: Sarah Mulheron

Administrative Assistant: Maureen Brunskill

Premises Manager: Lindsay Wilson

Eden Debt Centre Manager (CAP): Jon Cook: 07464 939138
or email: joncook@capuk.org

Debt Coach: Jen Dixon: 07799 271710 or email: jendixon@capuk.org

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

East of Eden Mission Community Website: www.eastofedenmc.org.uk

PMC Website: 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!

