



East Cumbria **Methodist** Circuit



Weekly Bulletin Sunday 21st January 2024

The Borders That Divide

We are in the middle of the week of prayer for Christian unity, and I find myself despairing about how little unity we truly have. More and more I see people clinging to the strict boxes we have placed ourselves in, afraid to step out and explore the unknown. At the same time, we persecute anyone who doesn't fit in that box, saying they're wrong and creating even more division. Is this what Jesus truly wanted? Are we really called to hurt other Christians, other humans, because of a different belief that we hold?

During World War I, Mark Sykes and Francois Georges-Picot drew the borders of the Middle East. The two diplomats' pencils divided the map of one of the most volatile regions in the world into states that cut through ethnic and religious communities. The effects of this can still be seen in the region today. It resulted in displacement, violence, arguments over territory. When we draw borders around our faith, we not only restrict what God can do in our lives, we risk being hostile to those who don't fall within those boundaries.

Father Richard Rohr says this "Unfortunately, the notion of faith that emerged in the West was much more a rational assent to the truth of certain mental beliefs rather than a calm and hopeful trust that God is inherent in all things, and this whole thing is going somewhere good."

This idea that *we know what is right and you don't* has hurt so many people. I know too many who are feeling hurt or wounded because of the rejection they were shown by a strict and rigid system that refused to accept them. Let me tell you this is not what Jesus wanted.

We all know the story of the good Samaritan: a man is beaten up and left to die by robbers. Walking past the man was a Levite and a Priest, both of whom refused to help him. It was the Samaritan that finally helped this man find true healing. We often depict the church as the good Samaritan, helping those less fortunate than ourselves, but I'm worried that the church has turned into the



other people in the story, the Priest, the Levite, yes even the robbers! We are ignoring the hurt because they don't fit into our comfortable boxes whilst Jesus is calling us to be the Samaritan. The one who helps people find true healing.

So, I pray that we can start to look past the borders that divide us and begin to accept people for the wonderful children of God that they are.

Morgan Tebb-Roger



Penrith

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

“Our Calling - Learning and Caring”

Readings: Proverbs 1: 1 - 7

Skelton

10.30am ~ Morning Worship ~ Miss Kathleen Williamson

Stainton

10.30am ~ Covenant Service ~ Rev. Tim Cooke

Cottage Wood Centre

3pm ~ Afternoon Worship ~ Rev. David Milner

Alston Moor

11am ~ Morning Worship ~ Rev. David Milner

Kirkoswald

6pm ~ Third Sunday Service

There are alternative Anglican services available.

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

Weekly Diary

Monday 22nd January

- 9.30am** ~ Monday Walks – Meet outside PMC
- 2pm** ~ All Together Fellowship – Sandgate/PMC
- 6.15pm** ~ Choral Group - Sandgate Room/PMC
- 7.30pm** ~ Monday Zoom Prayer
- 7.30pm** ~ Penrith Music Club Concert – Church/PMC

Tuesday 23rd January

- 10am** ~ 'He Brews' Coffee Club – Gamblesby Methodist Chapel
- 10.30am** ~ CAP Job Club – Beacon/PMC
- 12.30pm** ~ Week of Prayer Service – Mr. Morgan Tebb-Roger – Church/PMC
- 7pm** ~ Omega HG – Sunningdale, Stainton
- 7.30pm** ~ Junior Youth Club - Ullswater/PMC

Wednesday 24th 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 25th January

- 1pm** ~ Thursday Tots - Ullswater/PMC
- 2pm** ~ Parklands HG – Fairfield, Wordsworth Street, Penrith
- 7.30pm** ~ Alpha Course – Restore Shop, New Squares, Penrith

Friday 26th January

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

Sunday 28th January

- Penrith: 10.30am** ~ Morning Worship ~ Rev. Tim Cooke
- 7pm** ~ Encounter Service
- Skelton: 10.30am** ~ Morning Worship ~ Mrs Carolyn Dickinson
- Stainton: 10.30am** ~ Morning Worship ~ Mr. Michael Boone
- Cottage Wood: 3pm** ~ Afternoon Worship ~ Mr. Morgan Tebb-Roger
- Alston Moor: 11am** ~ Morning Worship ~ Rev. Mary Elliot
- Langwathby: 11am** ~ Morning Worship ~ Rev. David Milner
- Kirkoswald: 10am** ~ Morning Worship ~ Mr. Lawrence Tomlinson
- Gamblesby: 10am** ~ Little Acorns
- 2pm** ~ Afternoon Worship ~ Rev. David Milner
- Salkeld Dykes: 6pm** ~ Covenant Service ~ Rev. David Milner



**Churches Together in Penrith
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

All meetings are for about 30 minutes and start at 12:30pm.

Monday 22nd - January - Friends Meeting House, Meeting House Lane, Penrith

Tuesday 23rd January – PMC – ***Please note the Midweek Service will take place at 12.30pm instead of 10am***

Wednesday 24th January - St Andrew's Church, Penrith

Thursday 25th January - St Catherine's Church, Drovers Lane, Penrith

All are welcome!

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**A reminder that the first meeting of the year is on  
MONDAY, JANUARY 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2pm  
in the SANDGATE ROOM at PMC.**

**Talk and visual presentation entitled “Cruising the Norwegian Fjords”.  
Followed by refreshments and a chance to have a good chat.**

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Penrith Music Club Concert

Monday 22nd January, 7.30pm at PMC

Penrith Music Club's first concert of 2024 will be given by the London Handel Players. Making their first visit to Penrith, this group of four players will be presenting a programme of music from the Baroque era of music for flute, violin, cello and harpsicord.



See www.penrithmusicclub.com for more details.

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

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.**

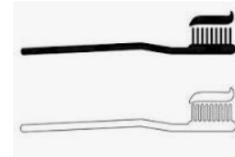
****Those under 18 must have a
signed consent form.**

PLEASE HELP UKRAINE!

Thank you to everyone who has given candles. Please keep collecting them.
Trench candles are urgently needed.

The soldiers also need (in good condition) **socks, woolly hats and gloves.** AND
(NEW) **toothbrushes, toothpaste and razors.**

The next collection is hoped to be at the end of January, but this will be a long,
on-going need.



We are also collecting **anything related to children** for the orphanage and
refugee centre. They need toys and clothes in good condition.



Thank you!

***The message below has been passed on by Sarah Hulme and Mark Finnie from
a Ukranian family they know well.***

Dear Penrith Methodist Church,

As you probably know, the situation in Ukraine is very dangerous.

I'm asking you to help my sister who lives in Kyiv. Life is getting much worse with
daily drone attacks and bombs dropping near her home. I'm struggling to find
someone who will be so kind to become a sponsor for my sister and her son.
They are tidy and nice people, you will be able to like them. At this time it's very
important. I have to save my nephew. He is just a boy. His life has just begun. My
sister's name is Yulia Makarenko and is 47. My nephew is Pavel Makarenko, who
is 17.

I'm begging you and ask you, your friends and people you know, if they can help
and host them so they can get visas to come to the UK. We are so grateful for
the support of people in the church.

Thank you,

Olha.

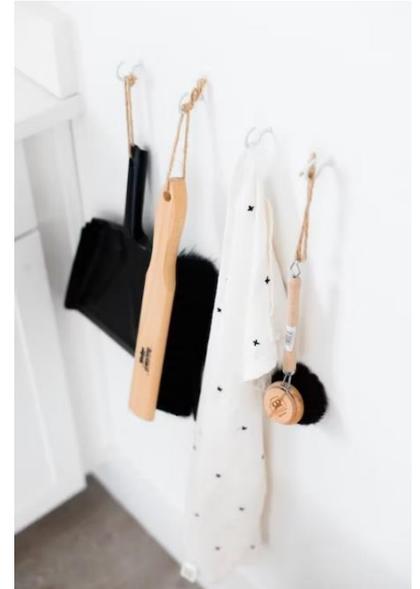
Cleaner Wanted

Skelton Methodist Church are looking for a cleaner.
Our premises are small and compact so the task should not be too onerous.

Number of hours and frequency of visits can be negotiated.

We will pay the going hourly rate.

If interested, please contact Lois Morton on 01768 890326
or email: lois.morton@btinternet.com



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## Post Christmas Clearing

Two of the small Christmas trees featured in the windows at PMC over the Christmas period have disappeared. If anyone has any thoughts as to their whereabouts, please either place in the "glass house" for collection or inform the office . Thank you.

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Operation Christmas Child

Please continue knitting soft toys, mitts, scarves and hats for children aged 2 to 14. There is wool in the wool box under the counter in Reception at PMC.

We are always pleased to receive spare wool too.
Thank you.



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## Free Pet Food

For anyone struggling during the cost of living crisis to feed their pets, free pet food is available from the Restore shop in the New Squares. (It's provided from Pets at Home.)

Anyone can just go along to the Restore shop and speak to a member of staff there.

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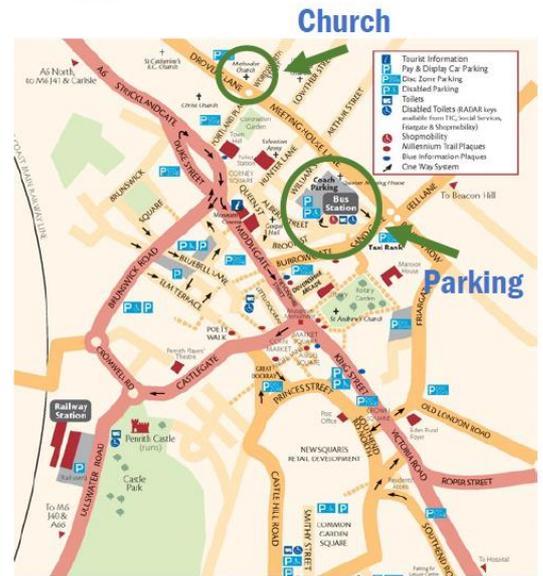
A Cumbria Circuit?



Cumbria
Methodist District

Listening Space

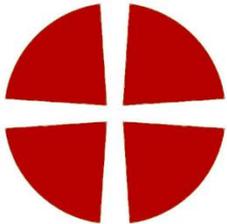
Saturday 3rd February
10:00am – 1:00pm
Refreshments from 9:30am
Penrith Methodist Church



Come and help us shape the future of Methodism in Cumbria

Please book in advance via Carolyn on 07727 415400

Email: cumbriamethodistdistrict@outlook.com



North West England District: Expressions of Interest

The new North West District, which comes into force in September 2024, are looking to recruit volunteers to fill various roles in order for us to effectively fulfil our mission and ministry.

Please have a look at the roles as detailed on the Cumbria Methodist District website and complete an expression of interest and an EDI monitoring form if you may be interested in serving in this way.

District website link: [Cumbria Methodist District Vacancies](#)

SUPPER CLUB

You are very welcome to a “Games Evening” hosted by Supper Club :-

**in the Ullswater and Sandgate rooms at PMC,
on Friday, February 9th at 7pm.**

Previous events of this kind have been successful and we hope that this will be an enjoyable evening. We would be very happy if individuals and families who are not part of Supper Club joined us for this event.



There will be various games and other activities in which to participate.

We will have a break in the middle of the evening when folk can have a chat while enjoying drinks and a selection of homemade cakes.

We look forward to seeing those of you who are able to come.

John & Margaret (Gore)

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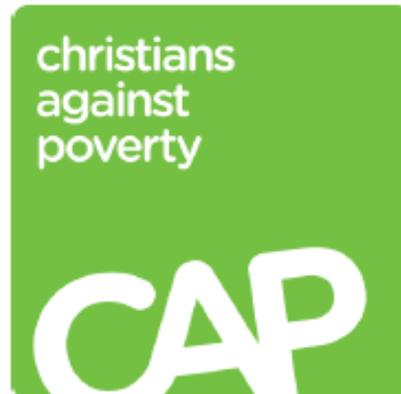
## PMC WhatsApp Community

Stay up to date with everything PMC - scan this QR code to join our WhatsApp community, where you can get general notices & announcements for church life, and also register for specific groups for discussion, opportunities, and prayer.

If the QR code does not work, you can also use the link <http://www.penrithmethodist.co.uk/whatsapp> to join.

# always hope.

EDEN CAP DEBT CENTRE delivers free, face to face help to people across the Eden valley. Volunteers can get involved supporting our experienced coaches and befriending clients.



**We are hosting New Befriender Training on Monday 19th February 2024,  
9.30am—12noon @ Penrith Methodist Church.**

If the statements below describe you and you are interested in attending, please contact Jen (*before Friday 9th Feb*) [jendixon@capuk.org](mailto:jendixon@capuk.org) or 07799271710

- I know and love Jesus
- I am actively involved in an Eden based church community
- I love getting to know and care for people
- I welcome opportunities to share my faith with others
- I can be available during the day (Mon—Fri). Opportunities vary depending on role—please enquire for more details.

Job Club



CAP Money



Debt Help



christians  
against  
poverty

CAP

Eden CAP Services are managed by Penrith Methodist Church  
and actively supported by the local church community

# THE SHOWTUNES MUST GO ON

EXCITING NEWS!

OUR VERY OWN PJ SUMMERS IS PRODUCING A MUSICAL TRIBUTE SHOW!  
FEATURING MICHAEL BOONE, AS WELL AS KATIE JANE (WHO JOINED US FOR OUR BE BOULDER CONCERT),  
THE DEBUT PERFORMANCES WILL BE RIGHT HERE IN PENRITH  
IF YOU WISH TO SUPPORT THEM, PLUS EXPERIENCE A NIGHT OF THEATRICAL EXCELLENCE:

**16TH MARCH 2024 // PENRITH PLAYHOUSE**

MATINEE 2.00PM // EVENING 7.30PM

TICKETS AT [WWW.PENRITHPLAYERS.ORG.UK](http://WWW.PENRITHPLAYERS.ORG.UK) OR [PENRITH TOURIST INFORMATION](#)

Thought for the week...



THE FEAR OF THE  
LORD IS THE BEGINNING  
OF KNOWLEDGE

**PROVERBS 1:7**



## Encounter Service

The next service takes place on  
**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January,**  
**7pm at PMC.**

## Contact Details:

### Co-Superintendent Ministers

**Rev. Tim Cooke:** 01768 890465 or email: [tim.cooke@methodist.org.uk](mailto:tim.cooke@methodist.org.uk)

**Rev. David Milner:** 01768 863209 or email: [dave@revmilner.plus.com](mailto:dave@revmilner.plus.com)

**Circuit Pastor: Rev. Keith Speck:** 01768 898257 or email: [keithspck1@googlemail.com](mailto:keithspck1@googlemail.com)

**Missional Pioneer & Communities Lay Pastor: Morgan Tebb-Roger:** 07949 156051  
or email: [outreach@penrithmethodist.co.uk](mailto:outreach@penrithmethodist.co.uk)

**Stainton Outreach Worker: Trace Cooke:** 01768 890465  
or email: [tracecooke1@gmail.com](mailto:tracecooke1@gmail.com)

**Circuit Office:** 01768 862787 or email: [admin@penrithmethodist.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:joncook@capuk.org)

**Debt Coach:** Jen Dixon: 07799 271710 or email: [jendixon@capuk.org](mailto: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](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!**

