



Weekly Bulletin Sunday 21st April



"Noli me Tangere"
by Ian Davidson (active 1966)
Manchester Art Gallery
<https://artuk.org/discover/artworks/noli-me-tangere-256175>

Initially what made me stop and look at this artwork was not its form, shape, or composition. Instead, it was simply the title. "Noli me Tangere".

These Latin words mean "Do not touch me", and are the words spoken to Mary by Jesus in the garden by the empty tomb.

When Mary recognises Jesus, she reaches out to hug him once more. Perhaps things can go back to the old normal again. But Jesus tells her not to cling on to him - To let him go. Things are going to be different now.

Many sculptures and art works in museums and galleries come with labels attached: "Do not touch!" Often, they are valuable, priceless even, and perhaps too many Ming vases have been accidentally broken by careless visitors. Red velvet twisted ropes keep us at a distance. Carefully regulated light and temperature controls prevent exhibits from being tarnished and polluted. Fragile!

Do not touch. Which in this case, with this particular artwork, seems somehow disappointing. It looks so, well, tactile, doesn't it? The smoothness of the polished metal surface, its weight, the coolness and hardness to the touch. The rough, unevenness in places - I want to turn it over in my hands and feel it for myself. Perhaps this piece reminds me somehow of what has come to be known as "Trench Art", that is, art made by soldiers during World War I out of the brass metal shell cases. Or, perhaps it looks a bit like a hand-grenade. Explosive stuff! Don't touch.

It also looks fruit-like or like a seed, which reminded me of the balsam plants which seem to grow wild along our local riverbanks. There is one type of balsam

which is called "Noli me Tangere". It's called "Do not touch me", because if you do brush against the seed pods and touch them, they can unexpectedly explode!

[<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KaOodZ3fRvE>]

"Do not touch me", says Jesus. Which makes me wonder about the risen Christ and the Resurrection. If it is true what the Gospels say, that death is defeated and sin no longer has a hold over us, it makes the news explosive stuff indeed! This reminds me, too, of Jesus' words that "if a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds..."

With Thomas, though, Jesus says something very different to his message to Mary. To Thomas he says, "Go right ahead. Touch me. Stretch out your hand and put it here!" So, perhaps this is the lesson for us today. Let's not cling hold of the good news that Jesus is alive and keep it to ourselves! Let's allow it to explode through us, out into the world so that the seeds can spread and take root in lives all around us.

Rev. Dave



Penrith

10.30am ~ Morning Worship ~ Rev. Tim Cooke
Readings: John 11:1-3, 7-8, 16; John 14:1-5;
John 20:24-29

Skelton

10.30am ~ Morning Worship – Morgan Tebb-Roger

Stainton

10.30am ~ Morning Worship – Mrs. Carolyn Dickinson

Cottage Wood Centre

5pm ~ Early Evening Worship ~ Miss. Kathleen Williamson

Alston Moor

11am ~ Morning Worship ~ Rev. Keith Speck
Leaving Service

Langwathby

11am ~ Morning Communion – Rev. David Milner

Kirkoswald

6.30pm ~ Third Sunday, *Leaving Service for Keith Speck*
(see separate notice)

There are alternative Anglican services available.

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

Weekly Notices

Monday 22nd April

9.30am ~ Monday Walks – Meet outside PMC

2pm ~ Skelton Bible Fellowship – Skelton Methodist Church

7.30pm ~ Monday Zoom Prayer

Tuesday 23rd April

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

10am ~ Midweek Service – Easter Offering – Rev. Gillian Belford – Church/PMC

10.30am ~ CAP Job Club – Beacon/PMC

7pm ~ Omega HG – Sunningdale, Stainton

7.30pm ~ Junior Youth Club – Ullswater/PMC

Wednesday 24th April

10am ~ 3C's – 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.*)

7.30pm ~ Living Room HG, contact Morgan or Sarah for details

Thursday 25th April

1pm ~ Thursday Tots – Ullswater/PMC

2pm ~ Parklands HG – 19 Arthur Street, Penrith

7.30pm ~ Eden Singers Spring Concert – Church/PMC (see separate notice)

Friday 26th April

12 noon ~ Lunch Club – Ullswater/PMC

Saturday 27th April

7pm ~ Ceilidh – Ullswater/PMC (see separate notice)

Sunday 28th April

Penrith: 10.30am Morning Communion – Rev. David Milner
7pm Encounter

Skelton: 10.30am Morning Worship ~ Rev. Beth Honey

Stainton: 10.30am Morning Worship ~ Mrs. Jan Blackshaw

Cottage Wood: 5pm Early Evening Communion – Rev. Tim Cooke

Alston Moor: 11am Morning Worship ~ Rev. Mary Elliot

Kirkoswald: 10am Morning Communion – Rev. Tim Cooke

Gamblesby: 10am Little Acorns

2pm Early Afternoon Worship – Rev. Keith Speck

Salkeld Dykes: 6pm Evening Worship – Rev. David Milner



**JOIN US AS WE EXPLORE 4 PEOPLE WHO ENCOUNTERED
THE RISEN JESUS - AND DISCOVER GOOD NEWS FOR US TODAY!**

7 APRIL - MORGAN TEBB-ROGER - MARY MAGDALENE

14 APRIL - MICHAEL BOONE – THE EMMAUS COUPLE

21 APRIL - REV. TIM - THOMAS

28 APRIL - REV. DAVE - PETER

SUNDAYS. 10:30AM. PENRITH METHODIST CHURCH,

OR FOLLOW ON  YouTube

Carlisle Refuge

A huge thank you to our drivers Bryan Gardiner, David Sharrock and Joyce Helyer, others who offered to drive and everyone involved in the Refuge collection on Tuesday 16th April. The help with loading (and unloading) the council van, Land Rover and cars, that went up to Carlisle, was really appreciated.

Thank you also for all of the donations and cash donations. As always, it is lovely to receive these from PMC members, the wider Methodist Circuit and other community groups in Cumbria - it was truly a team effort! All donations will be a huge help to the refuges.

It was also touching to hear reflections from people about the impact of my Grandpa's work for the Carlisle Homelessness Refuges.

Thank you!
Rebecca Frost



In memory
of Keith Scott



Penrith Music Club
Junior RNCM Concert
Saturday 20th April, 2.30pm

The season concludes with the annual afternoon concert by musicians from the Junior Department of the Royal College of Music in Manchester, showcasing some of the most promising musical talent of the future.



Leaving Service



Keith Speck has been working in the old Kirkoswald and Alston Moor Circuit and The East of Eden Mission Community for the last seven years. He has decided that now is the time to retire, and so there is an opportunity on Sunday night to wish him and Elizabeth well as they move up to Carlisle and enjoy a well-earned rest.

Please come and join us at 6.30pm at Kirkoswald Methodist Chapel as we join together in a time of worship, praise and thanksgiving.

Skelton Afternoon Tea

Skelton invite you to Afternoon Tea on Sunday 21st April at 3.00pm

Bring and share or you can or just bring yourself.

Donations for our windows fund



Birthday Wishes

We would like to wish Heather Tomlinson a very happy 80th Birthday for Sunday 21st April.



Easter Offering 2024

tells stories of people standing for justice, persisting in the face of setbacks and taking up the challenge anew as circumstances change. Some stories show how people now have hope because justice has 'rolled' into their lives.

Rev. Gillian Belford leads this year's Easter Offering Service at PMC on Tuesday 23rd April at 10am. There will be a Fairtrade stall and a small cake stall following the service.

The offering from this service will be donated to Methodist World Mission Fund.

*Spring
is in the Air*
with the
Eden Singers

**Thursday 25th April
7.30pm
Penrith Methodist Church**

Traditional folk songs arranged by Rutter
Songs by Schubert, Cesar Franck
and Karl Jenkins.

Ticket price £10
includes interval refreshments.
Tickets available at Styleline or on the door.



CEILIDH

FT. THE TAILGATE BUSKERS



**SATURDAY APRIL 27TH 2024
AT 7PM**

PENRITH METHODIST CHURCH
WORDSWORTH STREET

SUGGESTED DONATIONS:

ADULTS- £10

CHILDREN (10-18)- £5

CONCESSION- £5

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
WWW.PENRITHMETHODIST.CO.UK/EVENTS



MONDAY, APRIL 29TH, at 2pm at Penrith Methodist Church.

Following a short act of worship, we will be treated to a talk and visual presentation given by Fred Setters. Always a keen radio fan, Fred will share his passion for broadcasting and look at its future.

Afterwards, there will as usual be refreshments and time for a good chat.



A reminder that there is no May meeting, we will meet again on Monday, June 10th, when the Choral Group will be singing a selection of hymns and other pieces of music.

There will be opportunities for all of us to have a good sing as well.

The next programme from July to December will be available soon.

It will begin with the July get-together on Monday the 15th. After our introductory worship, there will be some humorous entertainment, and then a full afternoon tea will be served.

John & Margaret

The Penrith Singers

making music

LET THE SUNSHINE IN

Conducted by Edward Taylor
With the Eden Baroque Ensemble

PENRITH METHODIST CHURCH
Saturday 4th May, 2024 at 7:30pm

Tickets £15 (£13 early bird from Becksie Books and choir members)
Students £5 and Children under 12 free.
Also available from www.penrithsingers.co.uk and on the door.



Penrith Parishes presents
Sally's Army



Professionally, Sally is best known as Choral Director of Leeds Cathedral Choir School & the Leeds International Piano Competition.

To her choir and the organisations for which she raises money, she is an inspirational person in action. She has the community at heart and brings her passion for singing and her tireless energy to everyone.

Invites you to join them on

Sunday 5th May 2024

At **3pm** in **St. Andrews Church, Penrith** to

Sing As We Go

In an 'interactive singing experience'

Pay on the door donation

Cake stall and refreshments

ALL PROCEEDS TO HOSPICE AT HOME

Don't miss this Spring Bank Holiday family event!

christian aid

Join our coffee morning!

**Come along to PMC
on Saturday 11th May,
10am-12noon**

Have a cuppa,
grab some cake and
browse the plant stall

PLEASE HELP UKRAINE!

In March a television programme called 'Ukraine – Enemy in the Woods' highlighted the appalling situation in that country. It showed the soldiers living in dugout holes in the woods, using trench candles for heating and lighting, and with dead bodies lying among the trees.

I am glad to say that 94 boxes of candles, ready to be melted down, and 111 boxes of clothes, bedding, toys, toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors and paracetamol were collected from us on April 3, together with a small pram, highchair, zimmer frames and other baby equipment. These are now in Odessa to help the soldiers and people in the orphanage and refugee centre.

Some new things requested by the soldiers are toiletries, chocolate (with a long sell-by date!!) strong bandages and dried soup. I think they are trying to make shoe box sized gifts for the soldiers. It really does give them a boost – and they need it! Steve, our contact in Odessa, messaged me to say:

They really mean a lot to the frontline soldiers, and it's a big psychological boost but it does require a lot of donations. It really does make a difference here. I can't thank you enough for your efforts.

So please keep helping all you can! Thank you very much.

UKRAINE APPEAL

Trench candles are urgently needed.

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

We have had a NEW REQUEST for
**toiletries, chocolate (with a long sell-by date!),
strong bandages and dried soup (or other dried meals that just need the
addition of hot water – again, please check sell-by dates).**

It is hoped to make up boxes to distribute to the soldiers.
It gives them a great psychological boost to receive the boxes and know that
people are thinking about them.

205 boxes were collected on 3rd April and are now in Odessa.
We are also collecting **anything related to children** for the orphanage and
refugee centre.

They need toys and clothes in good condition.





East Cumbria Methodist Circuit urgently require an additional

CIRCUIT STEWARD

essentially to help manage the development of our Circuit Vision alongside the possible transition to a larger Cumbria Circuit.

The requirement is only for now until August 2025
- so no long-term commitment necessary!

For more details or for an informal chat,
speak to Rev. Tim, Rev. Dave
Or any of the current circuit stewards.

4F @ PMC

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We have enjoyed a great deal of success with this project, with up to 80 people (children and parents) regularly attending our events during the school holidays.

Due to the increased number of people attending we are urgently in need of additional help.

We are very grateful for the help and commitment of our volunteers, however it would be amazing if some younger people, who have a gift for working with children and families, are able to help.

We meet once each week of the school holidays, between 9.30am & 2.30pm. No qualifications are needed, just a heart to help families in our community. Volunteers would need an up to date DBS check (which can be done via Penrith Methodist Church) and to also undertake our Safeguarding Training.



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 below link to join,

<http://www.penrithmethodist.co.uk/whatsapp>

Two points to note:

1. ***It is only 'admin' who can post in the Announcements thread.***
2. ***Signing up to the announcements thread does not disclose your mobile number to others. Should you join the other four 'chats' your number may be visible to others depending on your privacy settings.***

**PMC
JUSTICE
TEAM**

AND WHAT DOES THE LORD
REQUIRE OF YOU?
TO ACT JUSTLY
AND TO LOVE MERCY
AND TO WALK HUMBLLY WITH
YOUR GOD.
MICAH 6:8

At PMC, we believe that it is our responsibility to stand for justice in the name of Jesus. The PMC Justice Team is committed to bringing social justice issues to the forefront of our focus as a church and challenging ourselves when it comes to how we actively engage with these topics.

We are not an exclusive group but a team that all are encouraged to engage with. So, don't hesitate to ask about what we do as a team and how you can take part in a 2000 year-old movement of justice.

YOU ARE LOVED
ARE VALUED
BELONG

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
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!

