

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday 14th December

Christmas People



Do you remember the event Easter People? Well, I'm afraid I'm going to show my age a little by telling you the event was just about finished by the time I joined the Youth Group at a Methodist Church. But I still remember our Youth Leaders telling us about the event and how it was all about living as "Easter People". That as Christians we ought to be living as people of the resurrection. Living as though Christ is no longer in the grave, but has arisen – Alleluia!

Because if we believe that Christ has risen, that death has been defeated, and that the same power that rose Christ from the grave lives in us, then we should live like that is true every day. And even though I was only 11/12 at the time, and wouldn't even have called myself a Christian until I was about 14, that message has stuck with me, from an event I never attended!

I don't know about you, but this year has felt particularly dark. Just watching the news and all the stories of war, and politics, and the environment, and the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer, and, and, and... Just fills me with all sorts of despair and anger and futility. By September, when the nights were just starting to get darker, and the days getting colder, I was already thinking, "I can't wait for it to be Christmas." Because for me, Christmas has always been a time of joy, even before I was a Christian, as a Child, Christmas brought joy and wonder. And this year, that joy couldn't come soon enough.



Think of a Child on Christmas day and all that excitement. Even think back to the first Christmas and the message the Angels brought to the Shepherds, *"Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you*

is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah,^[a] the Lord.” (Luke 2:10-11)

Or perhaps the joy of a mother holding her newborn baby. I know the song ‘*Mary did you know*’, has me thinking “Yes of course she did, the Angel Gabriel already told her that” to some of the lines, but the line, “And when you kiss your little baby, you’ve kissed the face of God” always strikes me. I’m not sure I could possibly imagine all the feelings that Mary was feeling.

So, as we light our candle for joy this Sunday, perhaps for a time, we can stop being “Easter People,” for just a time, and become “Christmas People”. A people living with the joy of a Saviour, walking and living amongst us, God with us, Emmanuel.

Dean Lawson

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**Penrith**

**10.30am** ~ Carol Service – Mr Morgan Tebb-Roger  
Readings: Psalm 146:5–10 + Matthew 11:2–11

**Skelton**

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

**Stainton**

**10.30am** ~ Morning Communion – Rev Andrew Callaway

**Cottage Wood Centre**

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

**Patterdale**

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

**Renwick**

**5pm** ~ Early Evening Worship – Mrs Jan Blackshaw

**Alston Moor**

**11am** ~ Morning Worship – Rev David Newlove

**Gamblesby**

**11am** ~ Little Acorns

**2pm** ~ Afternoon Worship – Rev Julia Reid

**Kirkoswald**

**10am** ~ Morning Worship – Rev Gillian Belford

***There are alternative Anglican services available.***  
***For details, please see the EEMC website: [www.eastofedenmc.org.uk](http://www.eastofedenmc.org.uk)***



### **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

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

**2pm** ~ Bible Fellowship – Stainton Methodist Church

**6.15pm** ~ Choral Group – Sandgate/PMC

**7.30pm** ~ Zoom Prayer Meeting –

*All are welcome to join, please use the Meeting ID below,*

*Meeting ID: 955 474 1253*

*Password: 2YaB4F*

### **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December**

**10am** ~ Morning Communion – Rev Gillian Belford – Church/PMC

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

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

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

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

**7.30pm** ~ Junior Youth Club – Ullswater/PMC

### **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

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

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

### **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

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

**10.15am** ~ Meeting Point – Langwathby Methodist Chapel

**7.30pm** ~ Thornton HG – (*Contact Charlie for info at 07846 597163/[cftornton1@aol.com](mailto:cftornton1@aol.com)*)

### **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

**12 noon** ~ Lunch Club Outing

### **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December**

**Penrith: 10.30am** Carols in Town

**Skelton: 11am** Carol Service at St Michael's

**Stainton: 10.30am** Carol Service – Mr Dean Lawson

**Cottage Wood: 3pm** United Carol Service – Rev Julia Reid

**Alston Moor: 11am** Carol Service/Local Arrangement

**Gamblesby: 2pm** Carol Service – Mr Dean Lawson

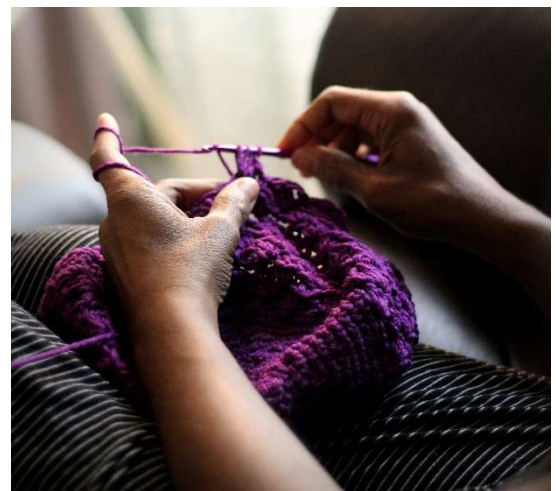
**Langwathby: 11am** Carol Service – Ray and Joan Wager



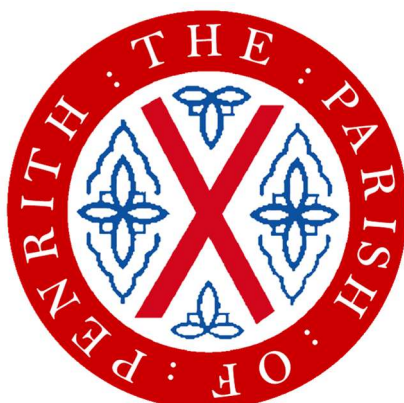
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KNIT CRAFT AND NATTER GROUP – Stainton Methodist Church

We meet at the church at 10am each Thursday morning during term time. All are welcome, and there's coffee and biscuits. There is no charge. (At the moment we are making little woolly sheep for Rev Cathy at Dacre Church to give to children at Christmas. Also tiny wooden hats for premature babies.) Some bring their own craft so that they can enjoy the conversation.



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### **Job Opportunity**

The (Church of England) Parish of Penrith are recruiting for a Children and Families Ministry Team Leader. The details are on their website at <https://www.parishofpenrith.org.uk/jobs.htm>

Please pass this on to anyone who might be interested.



## AT GAMBLESBY METHODIST CHURCH

### HE BREWS COFFEE CLUB

**EVERY TUESDAY 10am - 1pm**

Except 23 & 30 December

Enjoy games, crafts or just a chat only £2

Stay for soup and a roll £3 (until 24 March)



### COMMUNITY NATIVITY SERVICE

**SUNDAY 21 DECEMBER at 4 pm**

*A magical start to the Christmas weekend*

**Everyone Welcome**

followed by light refreshments



*For further information, please contact Claire  
on 07756932116 or email: gamblesbymethodist@gmail.com*

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Christmas Carols

CWC and All Saints, Calthwaite will join together to sing carols around the village on **Tuesday 16th November**. Meet at the crossroads next to the Church at **6.30pm**. All carollers welcome!



At Langwathby Methodist
Church

Langwathby Community Fellowship

Christmas Party

2pm Wednesday, 17 Dec

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

Sunday 21 Dec

at 11am

(Coffee and mince pies from 10.30)

With Christmas tree decorations by Pennine
Patchers

Christmas Day Worship at 10

Led by Pastor Celia Ramnath

All are welcome

(No Meeting Point this month)

Carol Singing in town with Penrith Town Band

Come and join others from Churches Together in Penrith with our Penrith Town Band for carol singing on **Saturday 20th December at 1.30pm**. The band will be in the town centre so just come and find them! *David*



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## Cumbria Circuit Newsletter

For anyone who has not yet signed up for the new Cumbria Circuit Newsletter, please feel free to do so using the following link:

<https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcumbriamethodists.us17.list-manage.com%2Fsubscribe%3Fu%3D1adb68eefa5e5f77f766477bb%26id%3Dba945e09e2&data=05%7C02%7Csarah.mulheron-summers%40cumbriamethodists.org.uk%7Cbdc40b8f63824b3037ff08de317f19e3%7Cce9713ccc677419faa4c380eb12b515f%7C0%7C0%7C639002619134534666%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMmlls1kFOljoitWFBpCmlldUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=sR83PnkCe%2BI5H8jMzgFGcA%2FZ1EC7%2BjHcJFWWaj%2Fgc2Q%3D&reserved=0>

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MERRY CHRISTMAS

4F

Christmas Party

Tuesday 30th Dec

11.45 - 3.30

Christmas meal

followed by



Party



Booking essential

please email

admin@penrithmethodist.co.uk

Family name - no of adults

no of children



Easy Eco Tip – December:

Celebrate a simpler and greener Christmas.

As Advent begins, let us turn our gaze to the true meaning of Christmas - God with us, Emmanuel. The humble birth of a child in a stable may seem distant from the way we celebrate today, but it offers a profound reminder of simplicity. This season, let's reflect on the story that we wish our actions and choices to tell. Consider A Rocha UK's blog on journeying towards a zero-waste Christmas www.arocha.org.uk/journeyingtowards-a-zero-waste-christmas. May our hearts and our celebrations align with the simplicity and beauty of the Christmas story.



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### **Ukraine**



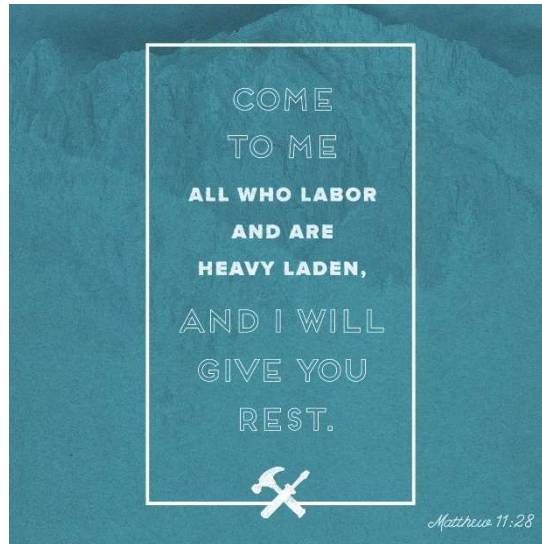
In spite of hopes and promises, Ukraine still desperately needs our help. Some of the urgent and ongoing needs are:

- Soap
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Paracetamol
- Washing Powder
- Nappies for babies
- Sanitary Towels
- As always, CANDLES (Preferably plain wax ones, either new or partly used)

If you can give just one of these items you will be making someone's life a little bit easier.

Many thanks.

## 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!**

