NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE CIRCUIT

WEEKLY BULLETIN 12th February 2020

<u>This is our weekly bulletin.</u> Please use it to either display in church or to announce the events to your congregation. The bulletin can be received by anyone who has an e-mail address. To subscribe to this service please send your e-mail address to: <u>northstaffscircuit@hotmail.co.uk</u> or contact Michelle in the Circuit Office on 01782 612648. All items for the bulletin need to be in for Wednesday morning.

Due to the new law that was enforced in May 2018 (GDPR) we are now required to seek permission from people or groups using a contact number, particularly on the Circuit Bulletin which has a wider viewing due to this being published on the web. Please check that contact names and telephone numbers are agreed first before sending in your advert. Many thanks.

Cross Heath Methodist Church

Young at Heart Club

Thursday, 13th February (fortnightly) 11.00 am – 1.00 pm

Light refreshments, discussions, games, quizzes. Cost £3.

All very welcome



Let me serve you at our Coffee Morning on Saturday 15th February 2020 at Halmer End Methodist Church from 10.00 am until 12 noon

Have your coffee with toast or a tea cake And then visit the stalls for Cakes, Knick Knacks and Books

All proceeds for the Church www.halmerendmethodists.org.uk





Audley Methodist Church Welcome All To Our Weekly Coffee & Chat Fellowship, in Church, Tuesdays 10:30am - 12 noon



Monthly Midweek Holy Communion Fellowship in Church, Tuesdays 11:45am-12:15pm 17th September 2019 19th November 2019 17th December 2019 17th December 2019 14th January 2020 18th February 2020 17th March 2020 21st April 2020 19th May 2020 19th May 2020 21st July 2020 None August The bread that we share is a foretaste of the Heavenly banguet

Circuit Prayer & Praise Meeting

<u>Please note</u> that the next Circuit Prayer & Praise Meeting due to take place at Cross Heath Methodist Church on 18th February has been cancelled.

The next meeting of Prayer & Praise will take place on 17th March at The Higherland Methodist Church.

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NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Introduction

Last Summer, the Methodist Conference discussed the Report on Marriage and Relationships called 'God in Love unites us'. This is the latest in a long line of reports stretching back to 1979, on different aspects of marriage and divorce, relationships, singleness, and family life. Sadly, they have not been widely read.

The latest report is a response to questions raised by the Conference in relation to the changes in marriage law in Scotland, England and Wales, and the changing pattern of relationships that we have witnessed since the last official Statement on Marriage in 1992. The working party set up to look at these came up with a set of recommendations for the Conference to consider including attitudes to cohabitation (people living together either before or after marriage), the marriages of people of the same sex, and how we live with Christians who profoundly disagree with us.

The vote at Conference was provisional which means the Synods now have a chance to discuss, change and vote on the proposals and advise the Conference who must vote again in 2020. Even if the proposals go through, it will still be up to each local Church's managing trustees to decide whether their building should be registered for the marriages of same-sex couples. It will be entirely up to the members of the church council whether or not to do this and it will not affect the church's standing with the rest of the Connexion, no matter what is decided.

The proposals recognise that, despite four decades of discussions, Methodists still hold different views on the subject of marriage. The proposed new rules on marriage affirm that belief in marriage between one man and one woman only, remains perfectly acceptable. Alongside that, those who affirm marriage as open to any couple are also affirmed. This model has been called the 'Mixed Economy' and seeks to allow everyone to follow their consciences, whilst respecting those who do not share their views. It is far from perfect, but may be the best way to help the Church live with contradictory convictions.

So, what is all this about?

The Marriage and Relationships Task Group presented a report to the 2019 Methodist Conference with recommendations about various issues to do with relationships in general and marriage in particular. Those recommendations are being submitted to the wider Church for consultation, with a final decision being made at the July 2020 Conference.

Watch the film: <u>https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-church/marriage-and-relationships-</u>2019/film-the-work-of-the-marriage-and-relationships-task-group/

How is our Circuit Engaging with Discussions about Cohabitation and Same-Sex Marriage in the Report from The Methodist Conference?

Through:

1. Prayer

Please pray for one another, and for our church in this process of discernment and decision making. The Methodist website provides some prayer resources for each day of the week <u>https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-church/marriage-and-relationships-2019/god-in-love-unites-us-prayer-guide/</u>

2. Provisional Legislation

The Methodist Conference 2019 voted for provisional legislation which would change our approach to marriage and relationships. This was through a report called: *God in Love Unites Us*. <u>https://www.methodist.org.uk/media/12606/3240-10-amended-marriage-and-relationships-report.pdf</u>

As a result, we are now discussing this across the District in preparation for a vote at our Synod on 25th April 2020. The vote will be on five resolutions as set out in this document downloadable from the Circuit website: <u>http://www.northstaffordshiremethodists.org.uk/content/pages/documents/1581066899.pdf</u>

Our votes from synod and responses will then go forward to Methodist Conference 2020 for a final decision.

3. Conversations

Our conversations will seek to achieve two things:

- 1. a full open conversation between people coming from different perspectives;
- 2. to inform the District Synod of the range of views within the District.

<u>Opportunities to engage in the conversation across the District</u>: Saturday 8 February 2020 at 10:00am at Frodsham, WA6 6BA Monday 2nd March 2020 at 7pm Temple St, Fenton, ST4 4NW Wednesday 25 March 2020 at 7:30pm at Trinity Congleton, CW12 4BA

Resources to help

Connexional materials can be found at www.methodist.org.uk/MandR19

You can access various documents and study guides below.

Find the full report here: <u>https://www.methodist.org.uk/media/12606/3240-10-amended-marriage-and-relationships-report.pdf</u>

Or in large print here: <u>https://www.methodist.org.uk/media/12624/3240-10-amended-mr-report-large-print-002.pdf</u>

And here is the official Methodist Church study guide: *God in Love Unites Us Study Guide* Cumbria District have produced an extended study guide which includes some helpful resources for looking at what Biblical sources about marriage and relationships have to say.

Find their study guide here: https://www.methodist.org.uk/media/14704/marriage-and-relationships-study-guidecolour.pdf

Methodist Evangelicals Together provide resources from a traditional perspective. Find their website <u>here</u>: <u>https://www.methodistevangelicals.org.uk/Groups/296798/Marriage_and_Relationships.aspx</u>

Dignity and Worth provide resources from a perspective which looks for change in our current practice. Find their website <u>here</u>: <u>https://dignityandworth.org.uk/resources/</u>

Other resources are available from the Methodist Church in Britain website here: <u>https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-church/marriage-and-relationships-2019/</u>

4. Feedback

The Circuit is gathering and collating any comments on the report either from churches or individuals and will forward them to the District in advance of the Spring Synod.

All responses should be sent to The Circuit Office or directly to John Palmer by Friday 17th April at the latest.

Please Note: information that your church needs printing from any of the links will be supplied by the Circuit Office upon request.

If individuals wish to talk about their concerns then please speak to your minister or the superintendent minister.

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NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE CIRCUIT WEEKLY BULLETIN 12th February 2020



The period between Ascension Day and Pentecost will again in 2020 mark the time when across the world Christians come together to offer up their prayers for evangelisation and renewal, shaped by the words that Jesus taught his own followers: 'Thy Kingdom Come'.

Churches Together in Cheshire, working with the Chester Diocese, is eager to support the planning of local prayer initiatives across the area in that period, 21st -31st May, 2020. In recent years there have been many excellent ideas pursued in Cheshire for prayer times, both individual and shared, prayer walks and vigils, prayer services, and these have made use of resources that have been prepared nationally as well as those specifically suited to local circumstances

Have you, or are you, someone who would like to champion and promote 'Thy Kingdom Come' in your church or in your area? Would it be helpful, encouraging, inspiring even, to hear what others have done and might be planning to do again?

Working with The Thy Kingdom Come national team three 'Inspire and Equip' events are being held around the county. These will be:

Wednesday 19 February from 2.00-4.00pm at Avenue Methodist Church, Wincham Road, Sale, M33 4PL

Tuesday 25 February from 2.00-4.00pm at Nantwich Methodist Church, Hospital Street, Nantwich, CW5 5RP

Tuesday 25 February from 7.30-9.30pm at Hoole United Reformed Church, Hoole Road, Chester, CH2 3NT

You are asked to book your place so that we know how many are attending and the number of resource packs to provide. This can be done at:

Sale : https://www.salemethodistchurches.org.uk/tkc-inspire-booking

Nantwich and Chester: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/diocese-of-chester-6816665967





To view the new version of **Property Matters** in its monthly format please use the following link:-

https://methodist-news.org.uk/BVI-6PDO8-3659XP29DE/cr.aspx

<u>Contact Agencies</u> <u>Which Support The Homeless</u>

The Lyme Trust Outreach Team: 07590 836729

The Lyme Trust: 01782 634510

Brighter Futures Rough Sleeper Team: 0800 970 2304

Brighter Futures, 90 Hope Street Hostel: 01782 279234

YMCA North Staffordshire: 01782 222376

Salvation Army Rough Sleeper Team: 07887 632027

Manna House Drop-in Centre: 07828 924522

The Gingerbread Centre: 01782 344740

The Macari Centre: 07500 771682

Staffordshire Mental Health Helpline: 0808 800 2234



Food Bank Driver Needed

Can you support us for 1 to 2 hours every Thursday: (between 12noon to 13.30pm) we are in need of a Volunteer driver.

Role description:

foodbank

The role entails lifting crates of food: You would ideally be physically fit as you will be lifting and transporting food donations from our warehouse in Chesterton and delivering to the Congregational church in Newcastle town centre.

You would be required to use your own vehicle, however we would reimburse your mileage costs.

We are looking for a volunteer who can:

- · Be committed and reliable with a clean driving licence
 - Be punctual
- Communicate effectively with fellow volunteers and
 Demonstrate a friendly and courteous approach.

If you are interested or would like to know more about the role, we would love to hear from you. To contact us, phone: 07519159061 or email: info@newcastlestaffs.foodbank.org.uk



trussell

www.newcastlestaffs.foodbank.org.uk info@newcastlestaffs.foodbank.org.uk rele: 07519159061 Registered Charly in England & Wales (1150816)

WOLSTANTON WESLEY GUILD ... meets every Monday Evening between October and March 7.30 pm - 9.00 pm for illustrated talks on a wide range of subjects of local interest, music and drama, followed by light refreshments and a chance to chat. There is no membership fee but visitors donate £2.50 per night to cover the cost of speakers and a contribution to church expenses. During the summer months May to September a monthly informal afternoon tea is arranged. Newcastle Community Transport and car sharing is used for outside visits. Further Information in the Church Lounge or from the Church Office Tel: 01782 712768

WOLSTANTON WESLEY GUILD TRANSPORT ... a number of members have requested transport to enable them to attend evening meetings of the Wesley Guild at Wolstanton during the winter months. Newcastle Community Transport is an excellent local service. It could be used more regularly if booked in advance and more volunteer drivers come forward. It would assist the organisers to know if you would attend meetings if transport was provided. Please contact the organising Secretary Richard Ayling Tel: 01782 627129 or Wolstanton Church Office.



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Regular Weekly Events Around Monday 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm - Knit Wits - St Peter's (Term Time Only) 4.15 pm - 8.15 pm - Jags Street Dance - Bradwell 4.30 pm - 5.30 pm - Helen O'Grady Drama Group (5 - 12 years) - St Luke's (Term Time Only) 4.30 pm - 6.30 pm - "Young Ones Dance Centre" - various dance classes - Cross Heath 5.45 pm - 6.45 pm - Piyo (yoga & pilates to music) - Audley 6.00 pm - 7.15 pm - Monday Club - (5-11 years) - Halmer End (Term Time) 6.00 pm - 8.00 pm - Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association - Higherland (Term time) 7.00 pm - 8.00 pm - Bible Study (1st & 3rd Monday of each Month) - Silverdale (Church) 7.00 pm - 8.00 pm - Prayer & Praise (2nd Monday of each Month) - Silverdale (Church) 7.15 pm - Daleian Singers Rehearsals - St Peter's 7.30 pm - Wesley Guild - All Welcome - Wolstanton Methodist Church (October - March) Tuesday 9.30 am - 11.30 am - Parent, Carers & Toddlers (up to school age) - Wolstanton (Term Time) 9.15 am - 11.15 am - Parent And Toddler Club - Higherland (Term Time) 10.30 am - 12.00 noon - Coffee Morning - Audley 11.30 am - 12.00 noon - Holy Communion (Monthly) - Audley 11.30 am - 1.00 pm - Hot Lunches - Higherland (Term Time) 12.00 pm - 1.30 pm - Soup Lunch - Cross Heath (First Tuesday in the Month) 2.00 pm - Indoor Bowls - Silverdale (Bethel Centre) 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm - The Crafty Stitchers (Cross Heath) (Fortnightly) 3.00 pm - 8.00 pm - Jags Street Dance - Bradwell 4.00 pm - 6.00 pm - Various Children's Dance Classes (Musical Theatre, Contemporary, Street Dance) - contact Audley 4.30 pm - 8.00 pm - "Young Ones Dance Centre" - various dance classes - Cross Heath 5.00 pm - 6.45pm - Shine Performing Arts - (3-12 years) - St Luke's 6.00 pm - 6.45 pm - Aerobic Dancefit (weekly) - contact Audley 7.00 pm - Indoor Bowls - Silverdale (Bethel Centre) 7.00 pm - Brass Band Practice - (once a month - check website for details) - Silverdale (Church) 7.00 pm - 9.30 pm - Lyme Valley Archers - Halmer End (alt Tuesdays) - contact Ken on 01782 721086 for info 7.15 pm - 8.15 pm - Zumba Gold (for any age) - St Luke's 7.30 pm - Cameo Ladies Group (fortnightly) - Audley 7.30 pm - 9.00 pm - Poolside Puppets - Madeley (alternate weeks. Contact - email: poolsidepuppets@outlook.com) Wednesday 9.30 am - 11.30 am - Stay & Play (under 5's with parent/carer) - Halmer End (Term Time) 10.00 am - 11.15 am - Tai Chi - St Luke's 10.15 am - 11.30 am - Coffee Shop (1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month) - Wolstanton 9.30 am - 12.00 noon - Knit and Natter - Audley (1st Wednesday of the month) 10.00 am - 1.00 pm - Sewing Class - Audley 11.00 am - 12.30 pm - "Elevenses", tea, coffee, chat & light refreshments - Madeley (3rd Wednesday of the month) 2.00 - 4.00 pm - Over 60s 'Youth Club' - Halmer End (1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month) 4.45 pm - 8.00 pm - "Young Ones Dance Centre" - various dance classes - Cross Heath 5.30 pm - 6.30 pm - T.J.I. Wednesday (Primary School Aged Children) - Silverdale (Church) (Term Time Only) 6.00 pm - 7.30 pm - Brownies (7-11 years) - Wolstanton (Term Time) 6.30 pm - 7.00 pm - Kids Singing/Dancing/etc rehearsal (term time but not all year - check website for details) -Silverdale (Church) 7.00 pm - 8.00 pm - Keep Fit - St Luke's 7.00 pm - Ladies Fellowship (March - October) - Silverdale Church (Meeting Room) 7.30 pm - Badminton - Audley (Waiting List) 7.30 pm - 9.00 pm - Unity Choir (Mixed Voices) - Halmer End - new members welcome.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE CIRCUIT

WEEKLY BULLETIN 12th February 2020

Regular Weekly Events Around the Circuit

<u>Thursday</u>

9.30 am - 11.30 am - Parent, Carers & Toddlers (up to school age) - Wolstanton (Term Time) 10.00 am - 1.00 pm - Sewing Class - Audley 10.00 am - 11.30 am - Parents/Carers and Toddlers - St Peter's, Westlands (Term Time) 10.00 am - 12.00 noon - Coffee Morning - Bradwell 10.30 am - 12.30 pm - Activities Club for Adults - St Luke's (2nd & 4th Thursday of the month). Activities include pool, table tennis, bowls, board games and others. 11.00 am - 1.00 pm - Place of Welcome - Silverdale (Church) 11.30 am - Silver Service (1st Thursday of the month) - Silverdale Church (Meeting Room) 11.30 am - 1.00 pm - Hot Lunches - Higherland (Term Time) 2.00 pm - Indoor Bowls - Silverdale (Bethel Centre) 2.00 - 3.00 pm - Zumba Gold (for any age) - St Luke's 4.30 - 6.30 pm - Shine Performing Arts (various classes for ages 3 to 12) - St Luke's 6.00 pm - 7.00 pm - Rainbows - Halmer End (Term Time) 6.00 pm - 7.30 pm - Brownies - Halmer End (Term Time) 6.00 pm - 7.30 pm - Guides - Halmer End (Term Time) 7.30 pm - Daleian Ladies Choir - Silverdale (Church) 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm - Audley Male Voice Choir Rehearsal - Audley - new members welcome to rehearsal. 7.30 pm - 9.00 pm - Craft Group - Halmer End 7.00 pm - 8.00 pm - Higherland Worship Group Practice - new members welcome. 7.15 pm - 8.45 pm - Ladies Small Choir - Cross Heath - new members welcome. 7.30 pm - 9.00 pm - Karate - Bradwell Friday 9.15 am - 10.15 am - Piyo (yoga & pilates to music) - Audley 9.30 am - 11.30 am - Parent, Carers & Babies (0-18mths) - Wolstanton (Term Time) 10.00 am - Blind & Partially-Sighted Club - Silverdale (Bethel Centre) 10.00 am - 12.00 noon - Alice Charity (Big Cup) - Bradwell 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm - Indoor Bowls - including tea/coffee & biscuits - Audley (October to April) 4.30 pm - 8.00 pm - Jags Street Dance - Bradwell 5.00 pm - 7.30 pm - "Young Ones Dance Centre" - various dance classes - Cross Heath 6.00 pm - Ignite (for those in Year 6 upwards) - Silverdale (Church) (Term Time Only) 6.15 pm - 7.30 pm - Brownies - St Peter's, Westlands 6.30 pm - 7.30 pm - Rainbows - St Peter's, Westlands 7.30 pm - 9.00 pm - Guides - St Peter's, Westlands 7.30 pm - 9.00 pm - Rangers - St Peter's, Westlands 7.30 pm - Newcastle Male Voice Choir - Newcastle - new members are always welcome. Saturday 9.30 am- 1.15 pm - "Young Ones Dance Centre" - various dance classes - Cross Heath 10.00 am - 12.00 noon - Coffee Morning - Silverdale (Bethel Centre) (2nd Saturday of the month) 11.00 am - 1.00 pm - Messy Church - Silverdale (Church) (3rd Saturday of the month) 3.00 pm - 5.00 pm - Messy Church once a month when advertised - Bradwell

