

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

27<sup>th</sup> November 2020

This is our weekly bulletin. 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: northstaffscircuit@hotmail.co.uk. All items for the bulletin need to be in for Wednesday morning.

## Worship 29<sup>th</sup> November 2020



The service is an audio file and a separate video file.

*(A full order (transcript) of these services can be emailed out to you, please ask your minister)*

~ To hear the services click on this link [here](#). ~

For a video of this service (with words to the hymns)

~ click on this link [here](#). ~

## **Letter from the Superintendent Minister, Revd John Palmer**

ON THE MOVE 2021

Dear Friends,

Just to let you know that I have accepted the invitation to become the Superintendent of the Salford Circuit from September 2021.

This is a single minister station, very diverse and very different from the North Staffs Circuit.

The manse is in Irlam which is 40 miles from here.

Every blessing,

John Palmer

## **Letter from the Circuit Invitation Committee**

‘SUPERINTENDENT APPOINTMENT 2021’

We are pleased to announce that the Reverend Elizabeth (Liz) Singleton will be joining the team as Superintendent of the North Staffs Circuit in September 2021.

She will be moving from West Devon where she is currently stationed as a Superintendent of a one minister circuit and brings with her, her husband Peter.

Every blessing,

The Invitation Committee

# **North Staffordshire Circuit Notices**

## **Please See These Important Notices Regarding Opening our Churches:**

### **Preparing for Re-opening our Churches for Worship**

#### **Official Guidance**

##### **Coronavirus Guidance for Property**

New Guidance and New Format – **Updated** 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020 [here.](#)

**TMCP** have produced a helpful article regarding the legal requirements for **Test & Trace** and **QR codes**, read more [here.](#)

**Property Matters November 2020** click on this link [here.](#)

## CORONAVIRUS

# NATIONAL RESTRICTIONS

5 November to 2 December

**National restrictions apply to England:**

### Meeting Indoors



You cannot meet anybody socially indoors unless they are in your household or support bubble.

### Meeting Outdoors



You can meet with 1 person from another household in outdoor public spaces, following social distancing. Children under 5 and anyone dependent on continuous care do not count towards the 2 person limit.

### Weddings and Funerals



Weddings and civil partnership ceremonies can only take place where one of those getting married is seriously ill and not expected to recover. Funerals can take place with up to 30 people in attendance.

### Working from home



You must work from home if you can. If you cannot work from home you should continue to go to work (unless you are clinically extremely vulnerable).

### Essential Shops



Open. Essential shops should follow COVID-secure guidelines.

### Non-essential Retail



Closed. Can only open for click-and-collect and delivery services.

### Exercise



You can exercise outside on your own or with your household; your support bubble; or one person from another household.

### Leisure and Gyms



Closed. Except for allotments and outdoor playgrounds.

### Hospitality



Closed except for takeaway, click-and-collect, drive through and delivery services. Takeaway not permitted after 22:00.

### Education



Early years, schools and FE colleges open. Universities must reflect wider restrictions.

### Healthcare Services



You can leave home for any medical reason.

### Residential Care



Care homes are encouraged to provide safe, COVID-secure visiting opportunities. See the guidance for details on how to keep visits safe.

### Travel



You must not travel in the UK or overseas other than for permitted reasons, including work, education, medical reasons, caring responsibilities or for essential retail.

### Public Transport



You may still use public transport, but should only travel for permitted reasons and should look to reduce the number of journeys you make, avoid travelling at peak times, and walk or cycle where you can.

### Overnight Stays



Overnight stays and holidays away from primary residences are not allowed, except for work and other exempt purposes.

### Entertainment and tourism



Entertainment venues are closed. Public gardens at visitor attractions are open.

### Vulnerable People



If you are 60+ or clinically vulnerable, be especially careful to follow the rules and minimise contacts with others. If you are clinically extremely vulnerable you are advised to stay at home as much as possible, except to go outdoors for exercise or to attend essential health appointments.

### Worship



Closed. Except for: funerals, broadcasting acts of worship, and individual prayer.

### Childcare



Registered childcare and childcare activities open to enable parents to work, or for respite care. Parents can form a childcare bubble with another household for informal childcare, where the child is 13 or under.

### Youth Clubs and Activities



Some youth services are able to continue, such as 1-1 youth work and support groups, but most youth clubs and groups will need to cease for this period.

For more information and detailed guidance visit:  
**[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://gov.uk/coronavirus)**



HANDS



FACE



















SPACE

# TIER 3

# VERY HIGH ALERT

FROM 2 DEC

<b>MEETING FRIENDS AND FAMILY</b>  <p>No mixing of households indoors, or most outdoor places, apart from support bubbles. Maximum of six in some outdoor public spaces (e.g. parks, public gardens).</p>	<b>BARS, PUBS AND RESTAURANTS</b>  <p>Hospitality is closed, with the exception of sales by takeaway, drive-through or delivery.</p>	<b>RETAIL</b>  <p>Open.</p>	<b>WORK AND BUSINESS</b>  <p>Everyone who can work from home should do so.</p>
<b>EDUCATION</b>  <p>Early years settings, schools, colleges and universities open. Childcare, other supervised activities for children, and childcare bubbles permitted.</p>	<b>INDOOR LEISURE</b>  <p>Open. Group activities and classes should not take place.</p>	<b>ACCOMMODATION</b>  <p>Closed (with limited exceptions)</p>	<b>PERSONAL CARE</b>  <p>Open.</p>
<b>OVERNIGHT STAYS</b>  <p>We advise against overnight stays other than with household or support bubble.</p>	<b>WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS</b>  <p>15 guests for weddings, civil partnerships and wakes; 30 for funerals. Wedding receptions not permitted.</p>	<b>ENTERTAINMENT</b>  <p>Indoor venues closed.</p>	<b>PLACES OF WORSHIP</b>  <p>Open, but cannot interact with anyone outside household or support bubble.</p>
<b>TRAVELLING</b>  <p>Avoid travelling outside your area, other than where necessary such as for work or education. Further exemptions apply. Reduce the number of journeys where possible. Plan ahead and avoid busy times and routes on public transport. Avoid car sharing with those outside of your household or support bubble.</p>	<b>EXERCISE</b>  <p>Classes and organised adult sport can take place outdoors, but people should avoid higher-risk contact activity. Group exercise activities and sports indoors should not take place, unless with your household or bubble. Organised activities for elite athletes, under-18s and disabled people can continue.</p>	<b>RESIDENTIAL CARE</b>  <p>COVID-secure arrangements such as substantial screens, visiting pods, and window visits. Outdoor/airtight visits only (rollout of rapid testing will enable indoor visits including contact).</p>	<b>LARGE EVENTS</b>  <p>Events should not take place. Drive-in events permitted.</p>

## Find out what support you can get

For example, if you're out of work, need to get food, or want to take care of your mental health.

[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

## If you have any coronavirus symptoms:

A high temperature • A new, continuous cough  
A loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

**Get a test and stay at home**

For more information and detailed guidance visit:  
**[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)**



## Lectionary

**The Lectionary Readings for this week (First Sunday of Advent) are:**

Isaiah 64:1-9

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Matthew 13:24-37

Please pray for: St Peter's

**The Lectionary Readings for next week (Second Sunday of Advent) are:**

Isaiah 40:1-11

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Mark 1:1-8

Please pray for: St Luke's

## Morning Prayers with Revd Joy Ventom

**Revd Joy will be online with morning prayers at 10.00 am on Wednesday mornings via the Audley Methodist Church facebook page.**



Click on this link [here](#)

## Zoom Advent Bible 'Exploring Advent Through Godly Play'

Tuesdays, 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> December & Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 7.00 pm. Please let Revd Joy know (email: [joy.ventom@methodist.org.uk](mailto:joy.ventom@methodist.org.uk)) if you would like to receive the link.







## **Circuit Zoom Carol Service**

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 7pm**

**This is an opportunity to be able to see each other across the Circuit  
and be able to 'sing' some carols.**

**If you would like to take part in reading a story or a poem, leading  
prayers or singing or recording a song then please contact John  
Palmer via email or email Michelle in The Circuit Office.**

**[northstaffscircuit@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:northstaffscircuit@hotmail.co.uk)**

**(The service will be uploaded to YouTube)**



**Foodbank** – click on this link [here](#).

Thank you to everyone across the circuit who gives regularly to Foodbank through their church. Foodbank remains open through these troubled times and demand for food is high. Can I please ask you to all keep on giving by taking your donations to your nearest Foodbank.



Clayton St Luke's host a session  
on Tuesday morning. 10.00am – 12 noon

All Saints, Madeley host a session  
on a Wednesday Morning. 10.30 am - 12.30 pm  
The Bethel Centre Silverdale 2.00 pm – 4.00pm

Chesterton Pentecostal church on:

Thursday Morning. 10.00 -12.00 noon

Newcastle Congregational church on:

Thursday afternoon. 2.00 pm – 4.00pm

St Thomas church Kidsgrove on:

Friday afternoon 1.00 pm – 3.00 pm

or you can take your contribution to our warehouse on the Parkhouse estate  
on a Monday afternoon or Wednesday morning ... please give us a ring if you  
want details of how to get there, it is on the Aspire work complex.

Your gifts large or small are very much appreciated and are a lifeline to those  
sadly more vulnerable than ourselves.

*Please give us a ring if you want to drop your gift off at our house!*  
*Carol and Marion Reddish TEL 01782 613265*

If you would like to make a monetary donation to Newcastle Staffs Foodbank  
you can contact the Trustee/Treasurer Michael Heap for details: -  
01782 639882 or email him on [accounts@newcastlestaffs.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:accounts@newcastlestaffs.foodbank.org.uk).  
If you would like to Gift Aid your donation please visit the website or contact  
Michael Heap for details.

**At the present time Foodbank are short of the following items:-**

<b>Tinned Cold Meat (Ham, Corned Beef, Pork)</b>	<b>Shaving Gel &amp; Razors</b>
<b>Long Life Juice</b>	<b>Chocolate</b>
<b>Shampoo</b>	<b>Tinned Potatoes</b>
<b>Shower Gel</b>	<b>Mash Potatoes</b>
<b>Deodorant for Men &amp; Women</b>	<b>Sponge Puddings</b>
<b>Washing Up Liquid</b>	<b>Washing Powder</b>



# The Methodist Book Centre



**Christian Resources for Life**  
at The Methodist Book Centre  
WWW.CRL.CO.UK

enquiries@crl.co.uk 01782 212146

**November 2020**  
**Is our 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

Join us in store or  
online for four weeks of  
amazing offers

**Free goodie bags**

**Free prize draw**

**And very special  
prices on a  
number of titles**

To view the Methodist Book Centre website please click [here](http://www.crl.co.uk).



## Winter 2020



Would you like to support our ministry  
during the difficult winter months ahead?

### DONATIONS

We would value donations of hats, gloves, socks, umbrellas,  
winter coats and personal safety alarms.

Home-baked treats are also really appreciated.



### VOLUNTEERING

We're considering extending our hours in the New Year to  
include a Sunday evening (both on-street outreach and drop-in  
support if possible.) We feel a need to step up, not back,  
as we anticipate some very hard months ahead  
for women involved in street prostitution.

But we can only do this with more big-hearted volunteers who  
care enough to be part of what we do.

If you have availability at any of the following times and would  
like to explore joining our volunteer rota, e-mail us at  
[info@yasha.org.uk](mailto:info@yasha.org.uk) for more information.

Training will be in January (and can be done online),  
but applications are being processed before Christmas.

**Wednesdays 11am-5pm**

**Fridays 7pm-11pm**

**Sundays 6pm-10pm**



[www.yasha.org.uk](http://www.yasha.org.uk)

If you would like to donate  
any items please contact  
**Hilary Jones** via email:  
[hilary.jones@uwclub.net](mailto:hilary.jones@uwclub.net) or  
tel: **01782 632895**.

**Thursday 3 December 2020**

7:30 to 9:00pm on Zoom

**Can 'white' people be saved?  
Exploring what it means to be 'white'**

**Revd Dr Jill Marsh**

(Northampton Methodist District Mission Enabler )

There will be opportunity to talk with each other through our time together.

This is the first of our Advent 2020 sessions on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.  
The remaining sessions are as follows:

**10 December**

The Bible and celebrating ethnic diversity -

**Revd Dr Inderjit Bhogal**

**17 December**

Stories of celebration on the ground - welcoming the other - **Jenny Ramsden from 'Touchstone' Bradford**

All sessions on Zoom from 7:30 to 9:00pm

Please email Rob to receive the Zoom link:  
[chester.stoke@btconnect.com](mailto:chester.stoke@btconnect.com)

  
**The Methodist Church**  
Chester & Stoke-on-Trent District



# RSVP

## Listening for God's invitation

RSVP is a series of Saturday morning sessions where we will consider how we pay attention to God's invitation and how we understand what God's calling might be in our lives.

Each session stands alone, and they fit together, so please do come to some or all.  
The sessions are intended to offer you a focus for your discernment.

To book a place please email Rob on  
[NWMannNetwork@gmail.com](mailto:NWMannNetwork@gmail.com)



**16th January God Calling: Many Calls**

**20th February Biblical Callings: My Calling**

**20th March Our Calling: Methodist Vocations**

**17th April God's Calling: Our Identity**

**15th May Discerning Calling: Decision Making**

**10am-12.30pm – arrivals from 9:45am**



For more information contact Edel on  
[mccleane@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:mccleane@methodistchurch.org.uk)



Heard of **Methodist Way of Life** and want to hear more?

**Thursday 10th December  
10.30am-12.00pm**

The Methodist Way of Life provides a set of commitments, and practices, that encourage and equip us to live our Christian life.

This introductory webinar offers:

- Background to Methodist Way of Life
- Explores some of the ways in which it might be used in your context.

The session includes:

- An introduction from Roger Walton
- Some suggestions for the use in Methodist Way of Life
- Discussion about how A Methodist Way of Life might be useful for you and those you work with

To book and receive a Zoom link email Rob at  
[NWMannNetwork@gmail.com](mailto:NWMannNetwork@gmail.com)

For more information contact

For more information contact Edel on  
[mccleane@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:mccleane@methodistchurch.org.uk)



**(Click on any of these links below from The Methodist Church also the Circuit has added more links)**

For general guidance and resources for the coronavirus pandemic click on this link [here](#).

## **For Methodist News Updates from Connexion**

26<sup>th</sup> November edition is available by clicking on this link [here](#).

## **Worship during the pandemic**

Suggestions for worship opportunities and how to help others in worship can be found Click on this link [here](#). including service sheets to be printed at home.

For those Methodists feeling the loss of communion, a short act of spiritual communion

Click on this link [here](#)

A selection of streamed Methodist services are taking place online. The list of services, produced with current guidelines in place.

click on this link [here](#).



## **Telephone - Dial-a-Prayer**

A FREE phone service to hear prayers and news from the Methodist Church has been launched.

**Listen to a prayer: 0808 281 2514**

**Listen to news: 0808 281 2478**

Content is updated weekly on Thursday evening.

Click on this link [here](#).



## **Daily Prayers from the Methodist Prayer Handbook**

Click on this link [here](#).

**Regular updates will be given on social media pages and on the Methodist Church website.**

Click on this link [here](#).



Keep yourselves in God's *Love*  
as you wait for the mercy of our Lord  
Jesus Christ to bring you eternal life.

*Jude 1:21*