

Newsletter April 2025

This is our monthly newsletter. The newsletter 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.

Dear Friends,

I hope the blue skies and bright sun is lifting the spirits, it certainly gives me more of a spring in my step (sorry for the pun)! Now we have emerged from the long dark months of winter there is a rather different feel to the natural world, nature offers us signs of hope and possibility... It has been interesting recently seeing things emerge in the manse garden, bulbs that I knew nothing of, planted by Christine, or even a previous minister - they have burst through the soil. In a few weeks' time we will be celebrating the wonderful season of Easter, a time when we see the new life God offers bursting through, breaking even the power of death... it is a time of hope, a time to celebrate life and all God can do! The hope and new life of Easter don't come from nowhere but are planted and rooted in God. Although we see Easter as God's ultimate act in Christ, it is also a broader reflection of God's nature, of God's power and grace. Just like the flowers in my garden the possibility has been there, but it has been hidden in the earth – at Easter however it is revealed in all its glory.

There is a cycle of death and resurrection seen in nature and one that might encourage us to hold both together. For to truly to celebrate the new life and resurrection of Jesus we also need to not shy away from the pain and sorrow of the cross. In fact it is a reminder of God's presence with us in our times of struggle or suffering. In Holy Week I will be in Birmingham where I will travel alongside the students as they learn about and reflect on the story of the first Holy Week and Easter. I encourage you to also consider what Holy Week and Easter means to you... if you are able why not join the Maundy Thursday Circuit Service? One of the Good Friday services, or the Churches Together act of witness in Newcastle Town Centre (12 noon)? For those who are early birds, or keen for a different experience there is also the 'sonrise'/sunrise Easter service starting at 5.30 am on Bunny Hill (parking at Wye Road). However you mark this season, may the good news of the new life God offers bring you hope and joy.

God's Peace,

James

God of new life,
help us to embrace the gifts of this new season,
may we journey with you to the cross,
then may we be ready to welcome the joy of the empty tomb.
Amen.

North Staffordshire Circuit (11/22)

Preaching Plan – April 2025

					April			
					6	13	20	27
					5th Sunday in Lent	Palm Sunday	Easter Day	2nd Sunday of Easter
Lectionary Year (C)					Isaiah 43:16-21	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 65:17-25	Acts 5:27-32
(Principal Service)					Psalm 126	Psalm 118:1-2,19-29	Psalm 118:1-2,14-24	Psalm 118:14-29 or
					Philippians 3:4b-14	Philippians 2:5-11	1 Corinthians 15:19-26 or	Psalm 150
					John 12:1-8	Luke 19:28-40 or	Acts 10:34-43	Revelation 1:4-8
						Luke 22:14-23:56	John 20:1-18 or Luke 24:1-12	John 20:19-31
Please Pray For:					Baldwins Gate Community	Bradwell	Cross Heath	Halmer End
Cross Heath	LS	9.00	StF	NIV			Singleton Easter Breakfast HC	
		11.00			B Harrison T	LA	Davies T	Strachan
(23)		3.00	MSB					
Silverdale	LS	11.00	StF	MM	Café Church	Chadwick	Singleton HC	Emmaus
(40)		5.00						Refuel
Wolstanton	LS	10.30	StF		Pritchard	Singleton	Parkes HC	LA
(85)		3.00	MWB					
Audley	JV	10.30	StF	SoF 1&2	X	LA	X	B Harrison T
(27)		3.00	MWB	GNB	Pritchard	X	Baker HC	X
Bradwell	JV	10.00	StF	SoF 1&2	Chambers	Parkes HC	G Harrison	LA
(33)		3.00	MWB	NIV H&P				
Halmer End	JV	10.30	H&P	SoF 1&2	Parkes	N Jones	Matthews T	Wakelin HC
(23)		3.00	MWB	GNB				
Madeley	JV	10.30	StF	SoF 1234	LA	R Jones	Strachan HC	N Jones
(23)		3.00	MWB	NIV				
St Luke's	JV	10.30	H&P	GNB	Chadwick	Irvine	Barnett HC	LA
(23)		3.00	MWB					
Higherland	JP	10.00	StF	MM	Singleton	Davies T	Pritchard HC	LA
(36)		6.00	MWB					Café Church LA
Printed Service for this week prepared by:					Pritchard	Heap	Singleton	Heap
Baldwins Gate					JP	Wednesday 16th April, 2.30 pm - Holy Communion Service - Rev'd Liz Singleton		

Eco Tips

Prevent Food Waste ... Food waste is a bigger problem than most people realise. One-third of all food produced globally ends up wasted. That's not just a waste of food—it's a waste of the water, energy, and resources that went into producing it. And when food rots in landfills, it releases methane, a greenhouse gas far more potent than CO2.

Steps to Waste Less Food ... Plan your meals so you buy only what you need. Store food properly to extend its shelf life—for example, keep herbs in a glass of water like flowers, and store fruits and vegetables separately to prevent them from ripening too quickly. Got leftovers? Instead of tossing them, try composting. Not only does this reduce waste, but it also enriches soil for gardening.

Foodbank – please 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 Monday morning. 11.00 am - 12.30 pm

Cornerstone, High Street, Knutton, ST5 6BX
On Wednesday afternoon 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 Unit 18 Brock Way, Silverdale, ST5 6AZ (Opposite the Post Office Sorting Office). on a Monday afternoon or Wednesday morning .

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 Paul A Roberts for details: -

tel: 0300 102 9088 or email him on

accounts@newcastlestaffs.foodbank.org.uk.

If you would like to Gift Aid your donation please visit the website or contact Paul A Roberts for details.

People can also contact info@newcastlestaffs.foodbank.org.uk for details to donate food or money donations.

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

Tinned Soup

Tinned Hot Meat

Tinned Fruit

Tinned Veg

Tinned Cold Meat

Sponge Puddings

Fruit Juice

Cereal

Shower Gel

Shampoo



Dementia Friendly Church

**What does it mean to be a place of safety
and inclusion for those who are
living with dementia?**

Wednesday 2nd April 7.30pm
Wolstanton Methodist Church

**A presentation by Mrs Dorothy Davidson
followed by Q&As and conversation**

**This event is open to everyone.
Pastoral Visitors and Church Stewards/Leadership Teams are
especially encouraged to join us.**



EVERYONE AN EVANGELIST



**Building confidence
Encouraging practical action
Enabling faith-sharing**

**Evangelism can sound scary and
threatening BUT IT ISN'T!!
Evangelism is simply talking about
our faith.**

**Over the summer months the Circuit is
offering the opportunity to explore what this
might look like in your church and in your
life.**

**'Everyone an Evangelist' is literally for
everyone but church stewards / church
leadership teams are especially encouraged
to participate.**

Further details will be available very soon!

Cross Heath Methodist Church

SPRING COFFEE MORNING



Saturday 5th April @ 10:30am

Easter crafts Tombola

Raffle Refreshments

Plants



EXPLORERS!

At Halmer End Methodist Church
High St, ST7 8AD



Calling all Master builders!

Come and join us for building fun, 6.00 pm till 7.00 pm,

Meeting again on **MONDAY 7th April**

Followed by 12th May, 2nd June, and 7th July..

It is suitable for Reception to Year 6 children accompanied by an adult; Year 7 and above unaccompanied, but must have parental permission.

Contact: Helen 01782 722685 or David 01782 722014

See www.halmerendmethodists.org.uk & Facebook



Drinks

Bible Stories



Invite you
to a

Spring Fayre

on

Saturday 12th April

12.00 - 2.00 pm

Various Stalls

**Cakes, White Elephant, Cards,
Books, Pottery & a Guide Stall**

Light Lunches served

Proceeds for Church Funds

www.halmerendmethodists.org.uk & on Facebook

WOLSTANTON METHODIST CHURCH

Invites you to

'ELDERBERRIES'

embracing all ages and various interests

MONDAY 14th. APRIL at 2.30p.m.

'OYEZ! OYEZ'

With Biddulph Town Crier, John Robinson

MONDAY 28th. APRIL at 2.30p.m.

'MERCY SHIPS'

With John Elton

Chat & Refreshments

An opportunity to renew friendships
and make new ones

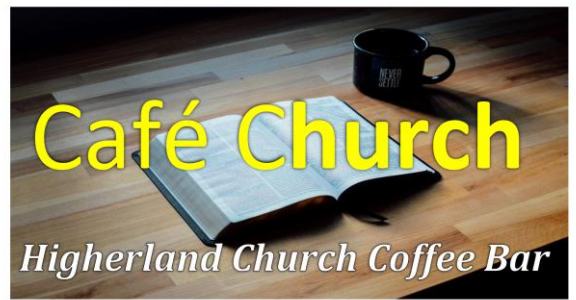
Baldwins Gate
Methodist Community
(Baldwins Gate, Newcastle, Staffs, ST5 5DA)

Mid-Week Communion Service

on the third Wednesday of each
month at 2.30 pm

Wednesday, 16th April 2025 –
Rev'd Liz Singleton

Please come and join us.
All are very welcome.



Café Church

Higherland Church Coffee Bar

*Friendly Chatter & discussion,
Welcoming Smiles & a good laugh,
Songs, poems, thoughts & Prayers
Drinks & biscuits.*

Come along @ 6pm

Sunday 27th Apr.

Higherland Church Coffee Bar
2pm-4pm Monday 28th April



Higherland Chatterbox

Everyone welcome to come and

Join in the chatter

Free snacks, cakes & drinks.

Wolstanton Methodist Church

Spring plant & craft sale

Saturday May 17th
10am - 12pm

Bradwell Methodist Church

— 75th ANNIVERSARY —



Sat 14th June 10am-3.30pm
Photo's & Archives on Display

Sunday 10am | Anniversary Service led by Rev. John Taylor

We look forward to welcoming you!

Fustian
&
Musical Misfits
SING-ALONG



Higherland Methodist Church

6pm - Saturday 12th July

Tickets £5 Each, Incl. light refreshments

Call Kev: 07988 532 738

Book Swop at Bradwell Methodist Church

There is a new free book swop library outside Bradwell Methodist Church. Please take a look and if you have any unwanted books please pop them in.



Coffee Morning

10.30am – 12.30pm

Every Wednesday at
Wolstanton
Methodist Church



Madeley Methodist Church
invites you to join us at our



Warm Space
Elevenses



On Wednesdays at 11am



Everyone Welcome



**WHY NOT CATCH UP
WITH FRIENDS OLD
AND NEW**

**BRADWELL METHODIST
CHURCH
THURSDAY'S 10 - 12**



Christian Resources for Life
@ Methodist Book Centre
Support your local, independent
Christian bookshop



In Store

Online



www.crfl.co.uk
Gitana Street, Hanley, ST1 1DY
01782 212146

MAGIC MOMENTS
St. Luke's Methodist Church
Severn Drive
Clayton ST5 4BH

MAGIC MOMENTS

FREE ENTRY

Crafts

Activities

Games

Bingo

Tea, Coffee & Biscuits

Quiz

Stories

10.00am - 12.00 noon, last Thursday of every month.

Fun, explore together in lots of creative, interactive and fun ways.
A great opportunity to enjoy some time together.

For more information please contact Phil or Jeanette Hodges
on 01782 634766 or look on our Facebook page.

Jesus said

I am the way

John 14:6