



Keswick Methodist Church

I lift up my eyes to the hills.....

www.keswickmethodistchurch.org.uk



Notices for week commencing 29 November 2020



Ministers:

Rev Paul Saunders
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Deacon Kina Saunders
deacon@westernfells.uk
01900 823273

Senior Steward: Helen North
017687 78025

Advent Sunday

The Light of the Coming Kingdom

We light our first Advent candle
to remind us that Jesus tells us
that we live our lives
in the light of God's kingdom
of love and peace.

Lord Jesus, help us to remember
that people learn about
your kingdom when we live
the way you want us to.

Amen

*(Let There Be Light
Advent Candle Liturgy Week 1)*

This is the last Sunday our church services at the church in Southey Street are on hold. We will return for worship here on Sunday 6 December.

Meanwhile please join us this week for worship online:

- Keswick Methodist Church live worship via Zoom Wednesday at 7pm
- Western Fells Methodist Circuit recorded worship via Youtube and Facebook this Sunday morning (uploaded very early Sunday morning)

Zoom Service : Wednesday 2 December

This Wednesday's service will be led by Rev David Hasson. If you'd like the code to join by internet or by phone please see Helen's letter or get in touch with us. Anne & David Hasson (75818) or revhasson@aol.com

Christmas cards (Christian Aid & Traidcraft)

If you'd like to order some Christmas cards please choose from the Traidcraft Christmas catalogue. Then, as we shall not be meeting at church, send me your order by email (joyce.ellis@zen.co.uk) or by phone (73340). You don't need to pay until you receive the cards. If you don't have a catalogue and would like one please give me a ring or email me and I'll drop one round for you. It will mean you can write your Christmas cards whilst confined to your home during Lockdown! Many thanks for all your support.



Joyce Ellis (73340)



President & Vice President of Conference Facebook Live

Rev Richard Teal and Carolyn Lawrence, our President and Vice-President, are hosting a series of Facebook Lives, starting at 12.45 on Mondays. Watch them at facebook.com/MethodistPresidency.

Need help?

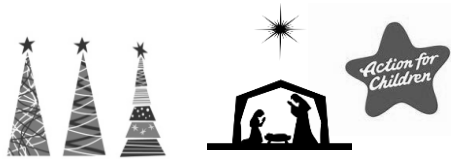
Please remember if you need help in any way that you can contact any of the Leadership Team:

Helen North 78025
Richard North 78025
Anne Hasson 75818
David Hasson 75818
Nigel Barker 73818

Sheila Files 79253
Christine Metcalf 72220
Pauline Huggan 017686 06539
Fiona Crouch 07914 578945

Christmas Tree Festival – Virtually

Due to Covid restrictions, our popular annual Christmas Tree Festival is going online this year.



We should end up with photos of about 15 trees, from our enthusiastic supporters. These include local schools, churches, Brownies, Scouts, Keswick Youth Club, Women's institute and several others. These, along with some of our unique Nativity scenes from around the world, can be seen from 4 December on the church's website and social media pages - keswickmethodistchurch.org.uk, Facebook and Instagram. They will also feature on the Keswick Tourism Association's website and social media pages. There will be a feature in the Keswick Reminder on 4 December, so be sure to get your paper!

We will have a Prayer Tree this year. If you'd like a prayer to be included, you can email it to me at sheila.files@btinternet.com or simply put it in the post-box by the church door. I will stick the prayer on to a bauble to go on the tree. Please say if you'd like your name added on the bauble or would prefer to remain anonymous. Baubles will also be available in church on Sunday 6 December, so please bring a pen and write the prayer while you wait for the service to begin. They can be put in the collection basket on the way out and some of the prayers will be shared in a service nearer to Christmas.

The Christmas Tree Festival usually raises a considerable amount of money, from generous donations, for the Methodist charity for disadvantaged children, Action for Children. This year we're encouraging people to donate directly to Action for Children. Alternatively, cheques can be made out to Action for Children and given to a steward, put in the collection basket or put into the church post-box and we will forward them to the charity. The collection on Sunday, 6 December will all be for Action for Children.

Enjoy the Christmas Tree Festival differently this year! Sheila Files (79253)

Keswick Advent Window Trail

As with almost everything else this year, the usual window lighting with an event has had to be adapted. The events have been cancelled (ours would have been Carol Singing) and there will be fewer windows lit. However, the Tourism Association have decided that the windows which can be lit will form a trail which people can follow and can use their mobile phone to click on the QR



code (on a sticker at each location) to vote for your favourite window. Our hall Christmas window will be in place again, and from the outside passers-by will see a silhouette of the Nativity, reminding everyone of the real story of Christmas. All the windows will be lit from 1 December which is when the Trail begins. The Trail

Map can be downloaded from www.keswick.org at the end of November.



Please remember to use easyfundraising when you do your Christmas shopping this

year. Over 4,300 shops and sites will donate to Keswick Methodist Church for FREE when you use easyfundraising to shop with them. This means you can raise donations for us when you buy anything from decorations and festive food shopping to gifts like toys, jewellery, tech, experiences and more! These donations, no matter how small, really help us and all you have to do is use easyfundraising when you're ordering the things you'll be buying anyway.

Visit easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/keswickmethodist to find out how to do it.



Advent Refresh :

You can watch the videos of this recent event on YouTube. Just search youtube/refreshcumbria to find them. This year's Advent Refresh is built round the four great themes of Advent – Hope, Joy, Peace and Love – and each are explored in turn. They're now available as individual videos on the Refresh Cumbria YouTube Channel, for use in Advent study groups. Each video lasts for around 15 minutes

Prepare and Wait with The Leprosy Mission

The Leprosy Mission is an organisation we support as a church and this year they've prepared a series of weekly devotionals taking us on an Advent journey together.



They say “Advent is a time of both preparing and waiting for Christmas Day. This year, it's hard to know what this Christmas will look like for many of us. You're probably wondering if you'll be able to spend this special season with family or friends, or you may be facing this time on your own. Although your heart may be filled with questions or fears, Advent brings peace and encouragement as you prepare and wait for Jesus' return.”

The Leprosy Mission *Prepare and Wait* devotionals will follow the traditional Advent themes of hope, peace, joy and love. Each one includes passages from Scripture and an uplifting real-life story of a person affected by leprosy. The devotional will be available to listen to or to read. If you'd like to receive a devotional by email every Monday from 30 November until Christmas please contact Chris Stratta at chriss@tlmew.org.uk or phone 01733 516092.

Cumbria's Big Carol Sing : Sunday 20 December 6pm

A challenge has been set to create Cumbria's biggest socially-distanced Christmas carol sing-along. BBC Radio Cumbria is working in partnership with churches across the county to run Cumbria's Big Carol Sing on **Sunday 20**

December. The radio station will broadcast a special programme from 6pm that evening, with as many people as possible being asked to sing the carol Silent Night on their doorsteps at 6.15pm.

BBC Radio Cumbria's Richard Corrie, who will present the show, said: "This is a wonderful opportunity for the whole county to come together in song and to help lift the mood for everyone after what has been an unprecedented year due to the coronavirus. My hope is that as many people as possible will tune into the programme that night and will sing their hearts out from their doorsteps. We'd encourage all our listeners to let their family, friends and neighbours know so as many people as possible can join in." Read more at [carlisle-diocese.org.uk/news/2020/11/13/come-all-ye-faithful-cumbrias-big-carol-sing/](https://www.carlisle-diocese.org.uk/news/2020/11/13/come-all-ye-faithful-cumbrias-big-carol-sing/)



Prayer Handbook

The theme for the Methodist Prayer Handbook 2021/2022 is 'A Place for All'. You can find out more and submit a prayer or photo by 11 January, just go to methodist.org.uk/prayerhandbook



Toys for Christmas

Giving good quality pre-loved toys and books as gifts

to those who can enjoy them afresh

Plans are now finalised for this Churches Together in Keswick event with the collection of gifts on 5 December now being **1.30-4.30pm** (rather than 3-6pm) at Crosthwaite Parish Room and the giving of gifts remaining unchanged.



Collection of Gifts – Saturday 5 December 1.30-4.30pm

Good quality pre-loved toys and books suitable for children 0-10 yrs of age can be dropped off at Crosthwaite Parish Room (next to the Co-op) where they'll be sorted and prepared. In addition we're also requesting Christmas biscuits, sweets and edible treats to be offered as a gift.

Giving of Gifts – Saturday 12 December 10am-3pm

Opportunity for families to choose gifts of toys and books that their children will enjoy, again at Crosthwaite Parish Room. These will be sorted by age range and will be free of charge, but donations will be accepted if offered.

How you can help

Pray: Thank God that the event is able to go ahead, for sufficient volunteers and the generosity of those who've already given gifts. Please continue to pray that those families who will benefit will get to hear about it and come along on 12 December.

Please continue to find good-quality pre-loved toys, books and Christmas edibles suitable for children 10 and under – and encourage your friends and families to do so as well. If you know of any families who might benefit, please do encourage them to come along and please publicise the event via social media and word of mouth. If you can display a poster please contact Susi at susi.wood@aol.co.uk or Keith at keith.rigg@btinternet.com.



Church Christmas Card :
£1.20 each or 5 for £5

Brian Moffat has produced a limited run of Christmas cards showing our nativity wall last year (card as illustrated). All proceeds for the church.

Available when we come back to church or please contact him if you need any earlier.

A Prayer for Coronavirus times

God of all hope we call on you today.

We pray for those who are living in fear: fear of illness, fear for loved ones, fear of others' reactions to them.

May your spirit give us a sense of calmness and peace.

We pray for your church in this time of uncertainty.

For those people who are worried about attending worship.

For those needing to make decisions in order to care for others.

For those who will feel more isolated by not being able to attend.

Grant us your wisdom.

Holy God, we remember that you have promised that nothing will separate us from your love – demonstrated to us in Jesus Christ.

Help us to turn our eyes, hearts and minds to you.

Amen

Notice Sheet: Please email or phone any notices for next week through to Anne Hasson by e-mail to annehasson@aol.com or phone 75818 by Wednesday evening. Please note the earlier day due to the COVID-19 mailing.