



Keswick Methodist Church

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

www.keswickmethodistchurch.org.uk



Notices for week commencing 13 December 2020



Advent 3

Prepare for the Coming of the Light!

We light our third Advent candle for John the Baptist, who told people to prepare for Jesus' coming.

Lord Jesus, as we make all our preparations for the Christmas festivities, help us to prepare ourselves to receive your light in our hearts and lives.

Amen

*(Let There Be Light
Advent Candle Liturgy Week 3)*

Ministers:

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

Senior Steward: Helen North
017687 78025

10.30am Worship led by Fiona Crouch

Singing the Faith 175, 264, 330

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 | 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

*Please remember we're now in **Tier 2 High Alert** which means church is open for services and the prayer group but we cannot interact with anyone outside our household or support bubble while we're in the building. You're welcome to greet each other in the car park or away from the church door, remembering to keep 2 metres (6 feet) or 1 metre (3 feet)+ face covering apart and no more than 6 in a group. Thank you.*

Christmas Post Box

Last day of posting today, 13 December

As I wrote in the Newsletter, the Christmas Post Box is now ready to receive your cards for church family and friends, with donations going to Action for Children.

Because of necessary Covid restrictions **TODAY, 13**

DECEMBER WILL BE THE LAST DAY OF POSTING. This is to allow the cards 72 hours before I can remove them from the box and sort them and then another 72 hours before they can be picked up by you! They will therefore be ready for you pick up at the Carol Service next Sunday, 20 December or Christmas Day itself.

Joyce Ellis (73340)



January/February Newsletter

I hope to bring out the next Newsletter at the end of December or the first Sunday in January. Any contributions, photos etc will be most welcome. Also I wondered in these times of lockdown, when we have all had more time to read than we normally get, whether you have read any books that you have particularly enjoyed or found interesting. If so it would be lovely to have a short account of it, what you found good about it and whether you would recommend to others. I've read one or two books that have been inspiring – what about you? Let us know. The last date to get it to me is 20 December, but earlier is always helpful!

Joyce Ellis (joyce.ellis@zen.co.uk/73340)

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

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Appeal **Wanted: Volunteers to help required for 16, 17,** **18 and 19 December**

This year, we are operating the three C's in Keswick:

∅ Collect ∅ Count ∅ Carton

We're at The Suite at the Rawsley Centre - the building on its own at the middle car park.

It will have the OCC banner on the outside. We've started collecting boxes already and 300 are in place. The three new dates when the collection point is open are 16, 17 and 18 December, with the cartons being loaded on to a lorry for transportation on Saturday 19 December. I'm in the process of working out a rota of volunteers for those dates (2 people per half a day) eg 6 people max with 4-5 to load the cartons. Are there any volunteers to collect, count or carton, who can do any of the slots?

Also, if anybody has filled boxes or have separate items to deliver, you can bring them to The Suite by prior arrangement or I can collect. I can be there within 10 minutes of a phone call.

George Tsintas (79568 or 079316 40121)



Western Fells Circuit Advent Calendar **Christmas Isn't Cancelled**

Every day in December at 12 noon we're sharing another window of our Circuit Advent Calendar on our Facebook page. Or look for it on the Circuit YouTube channel after 2am each morning.

GOD
IS WITH
US ▶

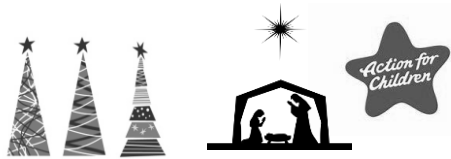
The Methodist Church Christmas campaign

It's been a tough year. We never could have predicted the things that have happened. We all have our own stories of the things we've experienced in 2020 – stories of isolation, grief, anxiety and uncertainty. But we are not

without hope. Where are you finding your hope? Each day during December in the run-up to Christmas, read a new story about an individual's journey through this year – findingourhope.co.uk or follow on our Keswick Methodist Church Facebook page (around 6pm every day).

Christmas Tree Festival – Virtually

Due to Covid restrictions, our popular annual Christmas Tree Festival has been online this year.



If you haven't seen the trees or nativities yet, do look on our website, keswickmethodistchurch.org.uk, or on Facebook or Instagram and you'll find them there. There are some quite imaginative ones!

Prayer Tree : If you'd like a prayer to be included on our church prayer tree, you can email it to me at sheila.files@btinternet.com or put it in the post-box by the church door. I'll 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 are available in church today, so you can write your 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 our Christmas services.

Action for Children : 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'll forward them to the charity.

Sheila Files (79253)



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

Keswick Live Advent Trail

Don't forget the Advent Trail is on for the rest of December and up to 4 January. Our window will be lit every evening during that time. You can pick up a Trail Map from the Moot Hall or download it from www.keswick.org and enjoy a walk round all the businesses and



organisations taking part. You can even vote for your favourite window using the QR code (on a sticker at each location) Passers-by in Southey Street can see a silhouette of the Nativity in our window, reminding everyone of the real story of Christmas.



Reset the Debt

This Christmas, over 6 million families are being weighed down by debt they were forced to take on by Covid-19. There is an opportunity to participate in the campaign at the moment with **Christmas Craftivism**.

People are invited to send their MP a *Reset The Debt* bauble, and ask them to remember those who are weighed down by debt this Christmas. You can find a template bauble and a letter to send to our MP, Trudy Harrison, here: <https://ResetTheDebt.uk/Christmas>. Churches are being encouraged to get creative and make a *Reset The Debt* bauble. So far people have made *Reset* baubles from glass, gingerbread and 3D pen - the more creative we are in getting the message across to the MPs, the better! There are other resources for churches to explore debt and jubilee here <https://resetthedebt.uk/resources/>. **Reset The Debt** is a campaign launched by the Baptist Union, the Church of Scotland, Church Action on Poverty, the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church.



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 now.



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/

Carol Service : Sunday 20 December 1030am

This year's Carol Service will be different as we won't be able to sing as normal. However, Joyce Ellis is leading the service so we can be assured we'll still be able to celebrate the coming of Christ through carols.



Local Blood Donor Sessions

NHS Blood and Transplant are holding blood donor sessions at Braithwaite Institute on Thursday 31 December 10am-2pm and Wednesday 3 February 3-7pm. and there are appointments available to register and book to donate blood. Would you kindly help support the NHS in the local area by giving blood and/or encouraging new and regular blood donors to book appointments and support NHSBT's Winter

Campaign? All the latest information on blood donation can be found at www.blood.co.uk and this is where you have to book your appointment. New donors should be 17-66 and returning donors can donate up to age 70 or longer if they've donated within the last 2 years.

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. Last quarter we earned £44.01 – every little helps.

Visit easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/keswickmethodist to find out how easy it is!

Facemasks for Christmas

Keeping myself busy during Lockdown #2, I'm happy to say that I've made some more washable, reusable, festive *Facemasks for Christmas*. They're the 3 ply pleated ones that can also be reversible, so not just for the festive season, and come in a variety of designs. This time the £2 per mask charge will be donated to **Action for Children**.

Please collect from 21 Helvellyn St, Keswick or phone me if you'd like some. Thank you!

Sally Lunson (71016)



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.