



# Keswick Methodist Church

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

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



## Notices for week commencing 6 December 2020



### Advent 2

#### The Light that Challenges Us

We light our second Advent candle to remind us that the light that Jesus brings, like the message of the Old Testament prophets, shows up the dark places in our lives and our world.

Lord Jesus, as we prepare for Christmas, help us to remember that we need your help to change our lives and the world around us.

Amen

*(Let There Be Light  
Advent Candle Liturgy Week 2)*

#### Ministers:

Rev Paul Saunders  
[superintendent@westernfells.uk](mailto:superintendent@westernfells.uk)  
Deacon Kina Saunders  
[deacon@westernfells.uk](mailto:deacon@westernfells.uk)  
01900 823273

**Senior Steward:** Helen North  
017687 78025

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**10.30am Worship & Communion led by Rev David Hasson**

**Virtual Christmas Tree Festival – collection for Action for Children**

Singing the Faith 165, 628, 264 Isaiah 40:1-11 | Mark 1:1-8

*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 next Sunday 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 **NEXT WEEK, 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 on 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](mailto: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'll be sharing another window of our Circuit Advent Calendar on our Facebook page. Or look for it on the Circuit YouTube channel.

## **#GodIsWithUs**

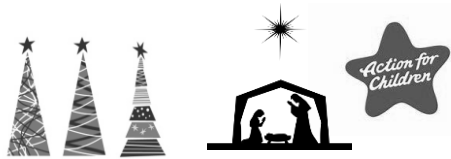
### **The Methodist Church Christmas campaign**

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](http://findingourhope.co.uk) or follow on our Keswick Methodist Church Facebook page (6pm every day).

**GOD  
IS WITH  
US** ▶

## **Christmas Tree Festival – Virtually**

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



We've got photos of trees from local primary schools and after school clubs, churches, Brownies, Scouts, Keswick Youth Club, Women's institute, Fairtrade and Keswick Embroiderers. These, along with some of our unique Nativity scenes from around the world can be seen on on the church's website ([keswickmethodistchurch.org.uk](http://keswickmethodistchurch.org.uk) – newly revamped and updated) and every morning on our social media pages (**Facebook and Instagram**). They will also feature on the Keswick Tourism Association's website and social media pages. There is a feature in this week's Keswick Reminder (4 December), so be sure to get your paper!

**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](mailto: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 a service nearer to Christmas.

**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. The collection today is all for Action for Children.

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

## Keswick Live Advent 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 are fewer windows lit. However, the Tourism Association have decided that the windows which are able to 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 is in place again, and from the outside passers-by can see a silhouette of the Nativity, reminding everyone of the real story of Christmas. All the windows were lit from 1 December which is when the Trail began. Download

the Trail Map from [www.keswick.org](http://www.keswick.org) or pick one up at the Moot Hall.



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](http://easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/keswickmethodist) to find out how easy it is!

## 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](http://methodist.org.uk/prayerhandbook)



### **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/](http://carlisle-diocese.org.uk/news/2020/11/13/come-all-ye-faithful-cumbrias-big-carol-sing/)

## **Toys for Christmas**

***Giving good quality pre-loved toys and books as gifts to those who can enjoy them afresh***

***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.



**Please 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. If you know of any families who might benefit, please encourage them to come along. For more details of this Churches Together in Keswick organised event contact Susi at [susi.wood@aol.co.uk](mailto:susi.wood@aol.co.uk) or Keith at [keith.rigg@btinternet.com](mailto: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 now.

## ***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](mailto:annehasson@aol.com) or phone 75818 by Wednesday evening. Please note the earlier day due to the COVID-19 mailing.