

Pastoral Prayers



“A new commandment I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples; if you love one another.” (John 13 v34-35)

A Pastoral Prayer

Lord God, we bring before you those we don't consider to be within the bounds of our hospitality: the poor and sick of other nations; refugees; the homeless on our own streets; all who are on the edges of society. We do our bit, we give money for their needs and pay our dues as Christians should; but we cannot invite the whole world into our homes. And yet...help us to understand that hospitality is a 'moveable feast'. Jesus was a host although he had no home to call his own. It was in his welcome and the warmth he showed. So, Lord, when we come across those who are on the margins, move us not just to walk on by. We thank you for those who work, paid or as a volunteer, for those in need and we pray for their continuing strength and resolve in righting the injustices of society. And may we be given the grace to extend the hand of friendship, and maybe drop a kind word or deed here and there, even if we can do little else. Show us, Lord, what you would have us do.

Amen

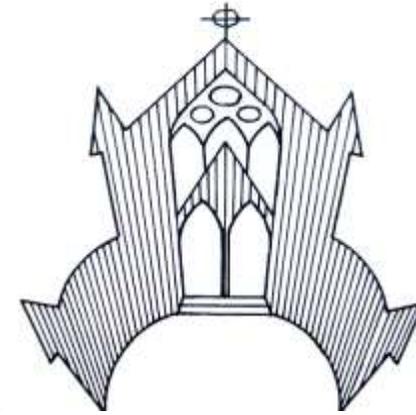
All contributions for future notices & items of interest for the Church Website are welcome! Please contact Lesley Jackson on brackenjack@btinternet.com or **telephone 01642 714384** or by passing a note by hand. All notices must be received by the Thursday before the following Sunday. Many thanks.

Please be aware that what is printed in the notices will now be posted onto our website, which is open to the public. If there is anything sensitive that should not be placed onto this public space, please phrase your notices carefully or let us know that it is for print only. The notices are taken off the website at the end of each month and do not include personal details unless part of an "advert".

The website address is www.stokesleymethodistchurch.co.uk .

Circuit Website <http://www.stokesleymethodistcircuit.org.uk/>

Stokesley Methodist Church



Sunday 1st September 2019

FOOD BANK SUNDAY

10.30am Morning Worship

led by Rev Andrew Robinson,

including the Sacrament of Holy Communion

6.00pm Evening Worship at Town Close

led by Rev Andrew Robinson (HC)

Minister: Rev Andrew Robinson

The Manse, 15 North Road, Stokesley.

TS9 5DY

Tel: 01642 710358

Email: rev.andrewr@gmail.com

We believe in a church where all are welcome, where people can engage with God and each other, both actively and reflectively: a place that is a sanctuary, a place of worship and a base for mission.

Please join us for refreshments after the service. If you are visiting, please sign your name in the Visitors' Book at the back of the Church and pick up a Welcome leaflet.

A Gathering Prayer from the Roots resources

Lord, as we gather here, we remember that it is your house to which we have been invited. Help us to imagine not pews or rows of chairs, but a table laden with good things; and you bidding us to take our places. The temptation to seize the best seats is strong, but we remember our manners and we hold back. We await your continuing grace, Lord. We await your beckoning and invitation to proceed. It is more than enough that we are here, and we thank you.

Lord God, you are the host here and we are your guests. We come in the knowledge of your welcome, to feast upon the riches of your Word. Yet we are also hosts to one another. Help us to welcome each other with joy and kindness, especially any who may be new among us – wondering what we are like. In the grace of your invitation to us, help us to extend the hand of friendship to all around us.

Amen.

Today's Lectionary Readings:

Psalms 112 (p614) Even in darkness light dawns for the upright

Hebrews 13 v1-8, 15-16 (p1211) Concluding Exhortations

Luke 14 v1, 7-14 (p1047) Jesus at a Pharisee's House

Steward: Ann Keene

Communion Steward: Dorothy Mair

Organist: Leigh Harrison

Readers: Winifred Laking & June McCleave

Welcome on the door: Ellen Brown & Rosemary Lincoln

Coffee is served by: Ruth Watson & Rosemary Lincoln

The flowers are a gift from: Margaret & Harry Stewart

HYMNS:

A Message from the Church Mouse for the children (and grown-ups too!):



""For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." Luke 14 v11

A balloon is a simple toy, but it brings a lot of pleasure to people of all ages. There are so many things you can do with a balloon.

You can use balloons for decorations at a party or you can bat them around in the air like a ball. If you have a long, skinny balloon, you can even make it into the shape of different animals. Yes, a balloon can bring a lot of happiness, but it can bring sadness and disappointment too. Haven't you ever seen a small child cry when his balloon bursts?

You and I are sometimes like a balloon. We sometimes get all puffed up with our own importance. We think we are great and we expect everyone else to think so too. Maybe it is because we are so good looking, or maybe it is because we are so smart. Maybe we are really good in sports, or perhaps we think we are the best singer in the choir. Sooner or later, if we keep getting puffed up with our own importance, something will happen to burst our balloon.

Jesus warned us that this would happen. The Bible teaches us that if we are too proud and think too highly of ourselves, we are headed for a fall. On the other hand, if we are humble, and realize that it is through God's strength that we are able to do great things, we will be given a place of honour in the kingdom of God.

From now on, when you see a balloon, I hope it will remind you that we should not become too puffed up with our own importance - or something may come along and burst our balloon!

Dear Lord Jesus, help us to be humble. Remind us that whatever abilities we have are a gift from you and that you are the one who deserves the praise! These things we pray in your holy name. Amen.



With Fond Memories

In these weeks following the death of Jennifer Bainbridge (Jennifer passed away on Wednesday 21st August), our much loved friend & neighbour, we have all had our moments to remember all the good things about her. Please continue to hold Chris & all the family in your thoughts and prayers as they mourn her loss & may they find comfort that she is at peace with her Lord. Jennifer's funeral will be on Thursday 5th September at St Bedes Chapel, Middlesbrough crematorium, at 1pm, followed by a Memorial service, to celebrate her life, at Church at 1.45pm.

Please note that the choir will gather in the Church Hall at 1.30pm.



MWiB District Day at Barnard Castle on Saturday 12th October.

The morning will be The Induction service for our new District President, Debs Coggrave. Following lunch (we are invited to take our own packed lunch & drinks will be provided) the afternoon session will be led by Professor Clive Marsh who is this year's Vice President of Conference. Redcar & Cleveland Circuit are organising a coach which could pick up at The Blue Bell, Acklam. If you are interested in going to Barnard Castle please sign the list at the back of church or see Helen Weighell. This seems a long way off but numbers are required to book the right size of coach. Thank you.

THIS WEEK

Mon 2nd Sept	9.30am – Bible Fellowship & Prayers 2.00pm – Knit & Natter 7.30pm – Keep Fit Class 7.30pm – WL/LP Meeting
Tues 3rd Sept	9.30am – Church Life Committee Meeting with breakfast served from 9.00am 9.10am – Zumba 5.00pm – Fireplace Youth Club 7.00pm – OASIS Habit of Fellowship
Wed 4th Sept	7.30pm - Zumba
Thurs 5th Sept	1.45pm – Memorial Service for Jennifer Bainbridge 5.30pm – Boccia 7.00pm – The Holy Habits singers meet for a rehearsal prior to the Circuit Service on Friday 7:00pm - Yoga
Fri 6th Sept	6.30pm – Stokesley Methodist Circuit Service to launch the Holy Habit of Fellowship, followed by a Bring & Share supper. 7.00pm - Ceilidh, featuring The Cleveland Bays. Families & children are all welcome. No tickets are required but donations will be gratefully received. Any surplus funds raised will go towards the Circuit's chosen charity, 'Feed The Hungry'.
Sat 7th Sept	10.00am to 11.30am – Coffee Morning with coffee served by Christine Ridgeway, Vanessa Johnson & A.Nother

SUNDAY 8th SEPTEMBER

10.30am	Elaine Wilson
6.00pm Town Close	Christine Campy
Steward	Vanessa
Organist	Helen Weighell
Readers	Christine Ridgeway & Joyce Binns
Door Stewards	Sylvia & Ian Waites
Flowers	Mary Weighell
Coffee	Mary Hunt & Pauline Rowell

For Your Diaries & Your Prayers

- **Tuesday 10th September – Silver Screen Film Show at 2.00pm**
- **Thursday 12th September – Circuit Holy Habits Evening Worship at 7.00pm** to include a traditional Love Feast
- **Sunday 15th September – Filling Station Breakfast at 9.00am** in the Church Hall. Meeting from 9am until 10am, we will be exploring what the Bible says about 'Loving God & Others'.
- **Sunday 15th September – Special Sunday Lunch** following the presentation of cheques during the Morning Service to our Church Charities, RNIB & Macmillan Cancer Support (on the menu – Lasagne & Salad).
- **Tuesday 17th September – MWiB Afternoon Group at 2.30pm** 'Stokesley Show' with Alan Weighell
- **Saturday 21st September – STOKESLEY SHOW DAY.** Look out for the Church Tent! Remember there will be no coffee morning at Church.
- **Tuesday 24th September – Forget Me Not Café at 2.00pm**
- **Saturday 28th September at 9.30am – Church Council Meeting.** Breakfast will be available from 9.00am.
- **Sunday 29th September – Cleveland Chamber Orchestra Concert at 3.00pm**

"Night and Day"

Conductor: Tim Jackson

Horn: Peter Francomb

Tenor: Jeremy Harbottle

Two masterworks exploring the daily cycle of darkness and light:

"Night" Benjamin Britten's Serenade for tenor, horn and strings

"Day" Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony

with Beethoven's 'The Creatures of Prometheus'

Tickets £12, children free, at the door



Calling all knitters!



Networking Maternity Voices Partnerships in England

The South Tees Family & Birth Forum
urgently need **Moses Basket Size Baby Blankets**
for Ward 17 at James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough

Moses Basket size (74cm long by 28cm wide) is ideal
as this will fit the bassinets in the hospital.

Why not come along to our Monday afternoon Knit & Natter and knit a blanket or if you prefer to knit at home, then you can bring your finished blankets to church for collection.

You can also hand your knitted Moses Basket blankets to Maternity Reception at James Cook Hospital or contact Paulina.Ross@nhs.net to arrange collection.

Many thanks for your help with this!

