

The Church in the Westlands



St Andrew's Anglican Church

St Peter's Methodist Church

As the Church in the Westlands

we are committed in the power of the Holy Spirit that our worship, service and witness will demonstrate to everyone the love of Jesus Christ

A very warm welcome to anyone worshipping with us today for the first time.

St Andrew's Church

Sunday, 2nd April
5th Sunday in Lent

St Peter's Church

Holy Communion *Mrs Irene Hardacre*

8.00 am

Holy Communion

Mrs Irene Hardacre
Mark 7:31-37 (p1016)
Psalm 38 (p560)

10.30 am

Holy Communion
Revd John Taylor
Ezekiel 37:1-14 (p838)
John 11:1-45 (p132)

Church Lunch

12.00 noon

Day One

Collect

*Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.*

Morning prayer will take place at 8.30 - 8.50 am on Monday (in church), and on Tuesday & Wednesday (at the Vicarage). All are welcome.

	Tuesday, 4th April	
Little Sparklers Yr 10-13 Group	10.00 am – 11.30 am 7.30 pm – 9.00 pm	Parish Room Parish Room

Lent Course	Wednesday, 5th April	Parish Room
Lent Course	10.30 am 7.45 pm for 8.00 pm	Parish Room

Holy Communion	Thursday, 6th April	St Andrew's Church
Blaze Youth Group	10.00 am	Parish Room
Compline	6.30 pm – 7.45 pm	
St Andrew's Church	Saturday, 8th April	Parish Room
	9.00 – 9.30 pm	
	Sunday, 9th April	St Peter's Church
	<i>Palm Sunday</i>	
Holy Communion	8.00 am	
<i>Revd Leslie Siu</i>		
Morning Prayer & Baptism	10.30 am	Morning Worship
<i>Revd Leslie Siu</i>		<i>Revd Andrew Dawswell</i>
St Andrew's APCM (in Hall)	6.30 pm	

Church Sunday Lunch ... in St Andrew's Hall for those who have booked. Cost £4.50, under 18's £1.50. Because of this there will not be the usual after-service refreshments in St Andrew's hall, but you are welcome to stay in church to chat. There are sometimes a few spare spaces for lunch - please go to the church hall after the service to ask Glenys Gill about this.

Our Youthworker Johnny Milton ... will be leaving in April, Easter Sunday being his last day with us. This is to enable his wife Esther to pursue a job opening in Scotland. We are very grateful for all that Johnny has brought to the role. Please do please pray for Johnny and Esther as they make preparations for this - and for the Management Committee as they think about how to approach recruiting a replacement. (NB because of this, the evening at 10 Green Bottles that had been scheduled for Tuesday, 4th April has been deferred till later in the year).

If you would like to contribute towards a gift, please put it on the church collection plate in an envelope marked: 'Johnny's leaving gift', or alternatively post it through the vicarage study letterbox by Easter Sunday. Envelopes are available by the church entrances. Please make any cheques payable to 'St Andrew's Westlands PCC' or 'St Peter's Methodist Church'. After the main services on 9th April (NB change) members of both churches will be very welcome to come to St Andrew's hall for coffee - and a piece of cake too hopefully to say farewell to Johnny & Esther. If you are able to bake for us please sign the list at the back of St Andrew's.

Good Friday & Saturday Witness at the Guildhall ... there will be an open air Good Friday service, again this year mainly contemporary in style, at 12 noon. As part of this a team will be giving out cream eggs and other goodies to shoppers. Speak to Andrew if you would like to join this team, and donations of cream eggs on the day will be welcome too.

There is also the opportunity for public witness alongside the visiting Sentinel Cross on Maundy Thursday at 10.45 am with be a brief gathering for worship at The Guildhall

The Easter Day Sonrise Service ... will be at 5.45 am at Bunny Hill (above Wye Rd Community Centre). This will be followed by an open invitation to breakfast. If anyone is willing to host this let me know - otherwise we will again go to McDonalds. We are also looking for a musical instrument player to give a simple lead to our singing - Andrew

Coach Trip to The Cotswolds ... to include Bourton on the Water and Stow on the Wold etc on Saturday, 20th May, departing from outside St Andrew's Church at 8.30 am. Tickets are £12 per person and need to be booked in advance (non-refundable). For more information on the itinerary and booking, please phone Jenny or Trevor.

St Andrew's Annual Meeting & Report ... all members of the congregation are encouraged to take a copy of our annual report from the back of church, or it can be accessed on www.churchinthewestlands.org.uk

The annual meeting will take place at 6.30 pm on Sunday, 9th April. We need to elect 15 members of the PCC (Parochial Church Council) for 2017-18, and 4 to serve on the Deanery Synod from 2017-20. There are nomination forms at the back of church for those who are willing to stand for these posts; also to serve as our two church wardens for the next 12 months; and an additional sheet for any who would like to volunteer to join the sidesperson's rota.

Afternoon Tea ... you are invited to our next Afternoon Tea on Tuesday, 11th April, in St Andrew's Church Hall, from 3.30 pm to about 5.00 pm. Enjoy the company of your friends and make some new ones. A light afternoon tea will be served. The cost will be £2.50. All welcome. If you would like to come, please contact Jenny.

New Circuit Treasurer Needed ... My role as Circuit Treasurer ends on 31st August 2017. The Circuit is currently looking for someone to take over the job starting on 1st September 2017. Some background in finance would be helpful and a reasonable level of computer literacy would also be good. I have said that I am happy to mentor anyone volunteering for twelve months to allow them to get used to the job. Derrick Collins.

Circuit Plan ... anyone wanting a Circuit Plan please pick one up this morning from the table in the entrance hall. Because of data protection we are not allowed to leave them out.

Bible Training for Christian Ministry... we are pleased that there has been enough interest in the area to be able to firm up plans for the Northwest Partnership to put on an evening version of their one year ministry training course in North Staffs. Starting on 25th September, it will comprise three 10-week terms on Monday evenings from 7.00 pm - 9.30 pm in Audley, with around a couple of hours of personal study each week needed as well. The main leader throughout the course will be Justin Mote - an exceptional communicator (who was our speaker at this year's Explained and Proclaimed). The 3 strands covered would be: *Biblical Theology* – an overview of the whole Bible; *Bible Exposition* – after covering the tools of interpreting and applying the Bible passage there will be worked expositions through a number of Bible books; and *Hands on Training* – each week course members teaching the Bible to one another and receiving encouragement and feedback. Please speak to Andrew if you think that you might be interested or if you want to know more. The individual course fee is around £300 but some or all of this could be covered by the PCC for those currently involved in teaching ministries, or with the potential to develop in this direction- Ask Andrew for more details.

Alternatively (or as well as this)... there are meetings being held at Christ Church, Stone as taster sessions for a similar kind of course, run by the Midlands Gospel partnership, They will take place on 3rd, 10th and 17th May from 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm, cost £15. Two topics will be taught: 'The glories of the Reformation' (historical theology, by Revd Paul Kingman) and Deuteronomy (by Revd Paul Hancock, MMTC tutor and training director for MGP). A second half of the course could be run in June if there is sufficient demand. Contact Andrew for more details.

Shallowford House Event ... Friday, 16th June from 10.00 am – 4.00 pm. We are joining with other churches in sponsoring a day of Bible teaching and guided reflection. It will again be led by Jonathan Lamb, minister at large for the Keswick Convention. Cost £20, to include a BBQ lunch - please sign the list at the back of St Andrew's. Shared transport will be available.

Calling All 7 - 11 Year Olds ... Glo After School Club in St Andrew's Church Hall. The session runs from after school time (around 3.30 pm) to 5.00 pm. A warm welcome awaits you! Lots of fun, games, refreshments, bible stories and songs. For further information, contact Bob Baker.



... has re-launched as a weekly Parent and Toddler group. Meeting every Tuesday 10.00 am – 11.30 am in the Parish Room. Plenty of toys and books for the children to enjoy followed by drinks, snacks, a short time of songs, fun Bible story and the occasional craft. Everyone, both regulars and newcomers, are welcome.

Compline ... or night prayer gives the opportunity to conclude the day sharing with others in quiet worship and prayer. This will now take place monthly, on the second Saturday of each month, meeting at 9.00 - 9.30 pm in the Parish Room (ie 8th April etc).

Job Vacancies ... United Christian Broadcasters, based in Hanford and Burslem are currently recruiting for a number of roles, including a full time Radio Presenter; two part time Hospitality and Catering Assistants; and also people who would be interested in joining their hospitality and reception teams as paid casual staff. More details, a job description for both positions and the application form can be found on <http://www.ucb.co.uk/jobs>

Keele Bach Choir's Spring Concert ... with music for Passiontide and Easter: Parry Songs of Farewell, Victoria Tenebrae Responsories, Sanders The Reproaches and Lotti Crucifixus on Saturday, 8th April 2017, 7.30pm, Keele University Chapel. Tickets £12 (£10 for prior bookings) and £5 for students and children are available on the door.

Barbara Walton Singers ... performance of Messiah in St Andrew's Church at 7.30 pm on 20th May 2017. Tickets (which include an interval drink): £15.00, or £2.00 (young students) are available on the door or from A Major Music Supplies.

Vicar Revd Andrew Dawswell (Day Off: Friday Afternoon Tel: 619594 e-mail: ja.dawswell@googlemail.com	Minister Revd John Taylor (Days Off: Friday & Monday) Tel: 909163 e-mail: jandrtaylor59@sky.com
Curate Revd Leslie Siu (Day Off: Friday & Sat afternoon) Tel 766116 e-mail: anglican.leslie@gmail.com	Youth & Children's Worker Johnny Milton
Secretary Michelle Bradbury churchinthewestlands@talktalk.net 01782 634389 (Thurs only) Same contact details (or St Peter's letterbox which is on the wall next to the Pilkington Avenue door) for the next notice sheet (before 9 am on Thursday please). Rest of week for St Peter's & Circuit Business: northstaffscircuit@hotmail.co.uk 01782 612648.	

Church website – www.churchinthewestlands.org.uk