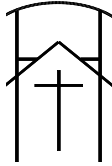


The Church in the Westlands



**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, 17th December

St Peter's Church

Holy Communion

Advent 3

8.00 am

Revd Andrew Dawswell

Holy Communion

10.30 am

Revd Andrew Dawswell

2 Peter 3:1-15a (p1226)

Mark 1:1-8 (p1008)

Morning Worship

Mr Phil Symonds

Isaiah 61:1-11 (p724)

John 1:1-28 (p116)

United Carols by Candlelight Service

6.30 pm

Revd Leslie Siu

Collect

*O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent your messenger
to prepare your way before you:
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,
that at your second coming to judge the world
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;
for you are alive and reign with the Father
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.

Monday, 18th December

Seabridge Primary Carol Service	9.30 am	St Andrew's Church
Coppice School Practice	11.00 am	St Andrew's Church

Tuesday, 19th December

Little Sparklers	10.00 am – 11.30 am	Parish Room
TMNC	7.30 pm – 9.00 pm	Parish Room

Thursday, 21st December

Coppice School Service	11.00 am	St Andrew's Church
Blaze Youth Group	6.30 pm – 7.45 pm	Parish Room

St Andrew's Church**Sunday, 24th December****St Peter's Church***Christmas Eve*

Holy Communion <i>Revd Andrew Dawswell</i>	8.00 am	
Morning Prayer <i>Revd Andrew Dawswell</i>	10.30 am	Morning Worship <i>Mr Nigel Jones</i>
United Crib Service <i>Revd Leslie Siu</i>	3.30 pm	
United Holy Communion <i>Revd Andrew Dawswell & Revd John Taylor</i>	11.30 pm	

Carols by Candlelight ... today at 6.30 pm on Sunday, 17th December.

... Those who have served as fire wardens previously (and any who are willing to help in this way for the first time) are asked to come for a briefing at 6.00 pm.

... Following the service tea/coffee and mince pies will be served in St Peter's Hall. If you are willing to provide mince pies for this event, please see either Gillian Moss or Ann Harvey.

Offers of help to both serve and clear away will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Season of Invitation ... do consider whether you might invite someone to come with you to one of our special Christmas services, carol services etc. There are copies of an invitation at the back of church which includes details of our Crib Service at 3.30 pm on Christmas Eve.

Young Musicians ... there is again an open invitation for young instrumental or vocal soloists to play for us in the period before the Crib service. If you would like to take part please come along to a rehearsal at 11.50 am today, Sunday, 17th December (ie just after the morning service). Geoffrey is playing for the Crib Service and should also be able to act as accompanist if you bring the music to the rehearsal.

Sunday Groups for Children and Young People ... will be taking a break after today and will resume on Sunday, 7th January. Next week (Christmas Eve) the main focus for children will be the Crib Service at 3.30 pm - although there will also be activity sheets available at the back of St Andrew's for use in the 10.30 am Sunday service both on that day and on 31st December.

January Links ... are now available for deliverers. There is no need for them to appear in letterboxes until nearer the end of December though. We are grateful for those who continue to help us get the word out in this way.

A Bible Teaching Workshop for Women ... led by Ros Clarke, Associate Director of Church Society on Saturday 20th January, 10.00 am - 12.30 pm, Castle Church Barn, Stafford £5 - email: ros@theoldshed.me to book. With a doctorate in Old Testament, Ros is convinced that - though there may be differences in church roles between genders, women can and should be involved in teaching the Bible in a variety of different contexts, and is keen to offer support and training.



Life Explored is a seven session series featuring a combination of short films - shot around the world - and Bible interaction. It is an exposé of the little gods that promise us so much happiness, yet deliver so little. As it explores the Bible story (creation, fall, redemption, new creation), Life Explored shows how our deepest desires for happiness can only be satisfied in one person, Jesus Christ. The best gift God can give us is himself. Ideal for anyone wanting to know more about the Christian faith, or looking for a refresher course. More details from the vicar.

Confirmation Service ... the service for 2018 will take place at 10.30 am on Sunday, 22nd April. If you are interested in considering being confirmed as a full member of our churches, please speak to Andrew or John as soon as possible. Young people in year 8 or above who feel ready to affirm a personal commitment to Christ and to his church are also invited to consider confirmation.

Where Adventure Begins: Faith in the Family - a new play by Riding Lights Theatre Company ... on Friday, 19th January, 2017 at 7.30 pm, £10 per person at St Andrew's Church, Sneyd Green, Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 2NW. More details and tickets at <http://www.ridinglights.org/where-adventure-begins>

Adrian and Bridget Plass... best-selling Christian authors and story-tellers are coming to Keele Chapel with an evening of laughter, poems, questions and the odd moment of dangerous honesty about things that really matter. Do go along and bring a friend too. Refreshments and a bookstall will be available on Saturday, 3rd February at 7.30 pm. Tickets are £5 (£2 students), available on the door and can be reserved via email: chaplaincy@keele.ac.uk

St Andrew's 10.30 am Services ... The PCC last month agreed to test the waters of using the screen for hymn words and liturgy. Printed materials will continue to be available to those who really need them; but with the encouragement for as many as possible to aim to use the screen (if necessary considering moving seat). The next few services we will be trialling are scheduled to be the 14th January, and then on 28th January.

St Andrew's Church Christmas Card... there is a large Christmas card at the back of church, provided by the Trailblazers group, to give church members the opportunity to send greetings to one another and donate to Tearfund as an alternative to sending multiple cards.

Home Insurance ... St Andrew's insurers, Ecclesiastical - celebrates its 130th Anniversary this year and as a gesture of appreciation for the church's continued support will donate £130 to each church in respect of each and every new home insurance policy taken out by its clergy, church workers, volunteers or members of the congregation in the next year. St Andrew's church is not necessarily recommending Ecclesiastical, the purchaser of any insurance must make their own mind up of course after considering all factors- price, risk, cover etc. However, if you do decide to obtain a quote or buy the insurance can you quote Trust 130 nominating St Andrew's. If the transaction goes through then Ecclesiastical will forward the £130 to us. If there are any

questions please contact David Morgan. They are on <http://www.ecclesiastical.com> or tel 0345 777 3322.

PCC News Update ... St Andrew's church opening... we are grateful to those who have made it possible for the church to be open during weekdays in term-time. With some schools now on holiday, this will resume on week commencing 8th January.

Newcastle Foodbank ... thank you to everyone who gives food and toiletries to Newcastle Foodbank, it is very much appreciated by clients. We just want to draw to your attention a few items that they are short of at the moment: sugar, long life juice, jam, sponge puddings, mashed potatoes, toothpaste, shampoo, gents toiletries and ladies deodorant.

THANK YOU

... to all who were involved in helping with last Tuesday's excellent Christmas Lunch.

Vicar

Revd Andrew Dawswell (Day Off: Friday Afternoon
Tel: 619594 & Saturday)
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

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