

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 February

St Peter's Church

Third Sunday Before Lent

Holy Communion
Revd Andrew Dawswell

8.00 am

Holy Communion
Mrs Irene Hardacre
Psalm 23 (p549)
John 10:1-21 (p1080)

10.30 am

Morning Worship
Mr Richard Orrell
2 Timothy 3:1-17 (p269)

United Evening Prayer
Mr Brian Tattersall

6.30 pm

Collect

*Almighty God,
who alone can bring order
to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity:
give your people grace
so to love what you command
and to desire what you promise,
that, among the many changes of this world,
our hearts may surely there be fixed
where true joys are to be found;
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 in St Andrew's each Tuesday at 9.00 am. All are welcome.

Monday, 18th February

St Andrew's Standing Committee

7.30 pm

Parish Room

St Andrew's Church

Sunday, 24th February Second Sunday Before Lent

St Peter's Church

Holy Communion

8.00 am

Revd Andrew Dawswell

Morning Prayer

10.30 am

Revd Andrew Dawswell

Morning Worship

Revd John Taylor

United Evening Prayer

6.30 pm

Revd Andrew Dawswell

Lent Course ... will take place on Wednesdays at 10.30 am and 7.30 pm for 8.00 pm in the parish room. We will be looking at the Lord's prayer, with meetings on 13th, 20th and 27th March and 10th April (with the encouragement for as many as possible to go along to the Churches Together/Jeff Lucas event on Wednesday, 3rd April). All welcome - please sign the lists at the back of church if you are planning to come.

Church Office Email Address ... we are now using churchinthewestlands@gmail.com as our main email address - although the old address churchinthewestlands@talktalk.net may well still work for a good while yet.

St Andrew's Mission Action Plan 2019/20 ... if you haven't yet got a copy of this, please do take one from the back of church. Andrew's talk introducing the plan can be listened to on churchinthewestlands.org.uk/sermons

Becoming an Autism Friendly Church ... a seminar hosted by J. John with pioneer Craig Johnson. For church leaders, their teams, and all those who work or volunteer in children's ministry - an opportunity to reflect and respond to this need. Tuesday, 12th March at 11.00 am at UCB in Burslem. Please speak to Naomi if you are interested in attending.

St Andrew's Use of Screen for Words ... we are grateful to those involved in setting up and operating the laptop software for this. In order to be able to continue using this on the second and fourth Sunday at 10.30 am, we will need another volunteer or two to join the rota to operate the laptop on the day. If you are OK using computers, it doesn't take a long time to be shown what to do. Please speak to Andrew if you might consider helping with this.

The Bible Society are Going on Tour ... and they will be in Stafford on Friday, 15th March at Rising Brook Community Church, Burton Square, Stafford ST17 9LT. For one night only, Paul Kerensa, stand-up comedian and script writer (Miranda and Top Gear) and Dr Andrew Ollerton, creator of The Bible Course, will be journeying through the Bible. They will explain how key events, books and characters fit together. You will get to see the big picture while discovering how the Bible applies to your life. For those who are enjoying our current Bible Course, here is an opportunity to meet Andrew in person. Tickets can be ordered on-line for £5 but we can order for you if you sign-up on the sheet at the back of St Andrew's by 24th February. It will help us to know if you need transport or if you can offer places in your car. For more information please contact Alan.

Transgender Guidance and the CofE ... this is a growing issue in our society, which is given an even greater prominence in the media. Interestingly, whilst almost all of the secular voices

that were heard a couple of years ago represented an overwhelmingly positive perspective, in recent months a far wider range of complications and convictions and are apparent. The CofE bishops recently reacted to this subject by publishing some guidance on adapting another service to mark a person's gender transition. A rather different perspective - which appears to me to engage rather better with the complexities of the issues involved - has recently been published by the evangelical alliance and is available by googling 'EA transformed' - and there is also a copy that can be borrowed on the church library. A couple of recent conversations has made me aware that this is an issue which touches a good number of families; and as with any pastoral issue I am very happy to meet with any who would find it helpful: to listen; to pray together; and if needed to signpost specialist resources - Andrew.

St Andrew's Medical Emergencies During Worship ... we are very grateful to all who have assisted on a number of occasions during the past year. To help us in future:

- Church members whose health is uncertain are invited to consider completing a 'key health details and contact' card (available at the back of church) - aiming to bring it with them in their wallet or purse when attending services.
- Any regular worshippers with current first aid training are asked to email or ring Andrew confirming their willingness to be listed as possible sources of help in an emergency.
- If there is ever a need to evacuate the building, worshippers are asked to comply with this request promptly.

An Evening with Jeff Lucas & Searchlight Theatre Co ... is being organised by Newcastle Churches Together on Wednesday, 3rd April to be held in St George's church, from 7.15 -9.15 pm. We hope that many from our churches will plan to join us - more details to follow later.

The Churches and the Environment's Future ... is the subject being addressed at the next meeting of the Potteries Theological Society. It will take place on Wednesday, 27th February at 7.00 pm in the Chancellor's Building, Rm CBA 0.060. Dr Martin Hodson, who is speaking, is Operations Director for the John Ray Initiative and Principal Tutor of Christian Rural and Environmental Studies.

Olivia Rigby's Prayer Letters ... are available at the back of St Andrew's. Please do take and use a copy as way of supporting her ministry in encouraging the University Christian Unions in the Staffordshire area.

"The Bible Course"... will continue on 27th February. As usual we will meet in St Andrew's Parish Room for refreshments at 7.45 pm to start at 8.00 pm. For any further information contact Alan and Helen.

Morning Prayer ... we are experimenting with offering a weekly slot for morning prayer in church at the slightly later time of 9.00 am, for about 20-25 minutes, and now taking place on Tuesdays. The time includes: saying some words of worship together, hearing a couple of bible readings and a written reflection on a psalm; and then being led in intercessory prayer, with a focus on the church's needs for the coming week and praying for the names of individuals in particular need. All welcome.

Holiday Club ... assuming that we have sufficient volunteers, we are planning to run a children's holiday club on the mornings of Monday, 29th July - Friday, 2nd August. If you haven't yet booked your holidays, can we ask both parents of potential club members; and helpers and leaders to consider avoiding that week! Please contact Naomi Savage if you would consider helping with this important outreach ministry.

St Andrew's Church Opening ... will resume Monday - Friday 9.00 am - 3.00 pm on Monday 25th February, after half term.

Circuit Prayer & Praise ... the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 19th February at The Higherland Methodist Church commencing at 7.30 pm. Please note to use the top car-park and entrance from Priory Road – the Physiotherapy Clinic. A warm welcome to all to join in this time of praise, worship and prayer. Tea/coffee and biscuits from 7.00 pm.

The New Methodist Church Plant ... the next service will take place on Sunday, 24th February at 4.00 pm at Newcastle Methodist Church. All are very welcome to attend.

Christians Against Poverty Stoke and Newcastle Debt Centre Update ... a couple of St Andrew's members volunteered in the autumn to act as befrienders - and have accompanied the centre manager, Rob Kellett on several of his visits to clients. There is scope for others to volunteer to fulfil this role too - see Andrew for more details. Please pray for the chair of the steering group too as he looks for advice and support regarding the development of the local churches' partnership. Pray too that those who contact CAP for help will feel able to make a commitment to the debt recovery plans that are proposed to them.

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: jandraylor59@sky.com

Children & Families Worker

Naomi Savage (Day Off: Friday)
Tel 07864 127523
e-mail: naomi.westlands@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