

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.
After the main morning service, in both churches, you are warmly invited to join us for refreshments which are held in St Andrew's Church Hall and St Peter's Room 2.*

St Andrew's Church

Sunday, 24th November

St Peter's Church

Christ the King

Holy Communion
Revd Andrew Dawswell

8.00 am

Morning Prayer
*Revd Andrew Dawswell
Psalm 16 (p544)
Matthew 7:24-27 (p980)*

10.30 am

Morning Worship
*Mr Richard Orrell
Ephesians 6:10-18 (p245)
Revelation 14:1-7. 9-13 (p322)*

United Evening Prayer
Mrs Irene Hardacre

6.30 pm

Also today: Farewell service for Geoff Annas, Bishop of Stafford - 4pm in Stoke Minster

Collect

*Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven
that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit
and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet;
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now for ever.*

Monday, 25th November

"Xcite" After School Club
St Andrew's PCC

4.00 pm – 5.00 pm
7.30 pm

St Andrew's Church Hall
Parish Room

Tuesday, 26th November

Morning Prayer
Little Sparklers
TMNC
Home Group

9.00 am – 9.30 am
10.00 am – 11.30 am
7.30 pm – 9.00 pm
8.00 pm

Parish Room
Parish Room
Parish Room
16 Rugby Close

Wednesday, 27th November

Home Groups
Home Group

10.30 am
8.00 pm

Parish Room & 5 Friars Walk
32 Beresford Crescent

Thursday, 28th November

Home Group

8.00 pm

19 Westcliffe Avenue

St Andrew's Church**Sunday, 1st December**
*First Sunday of Advent***St Peter's Church**Holy Communion
Revd Andrew Dawswell

8.00 am

Holy Communion
Mr Brian Tattersall

10.30 am

Holy Communion
*Revd John Taylor*United Christingle Service
Naomi Savage

4.30 pm

A Christmas Lunch ... replaces the afternoon tea for December. You are invited to a four course Christmas Lunch on Tuesday, 10th December, in St Andrew's Church Hall at 12.30 pm. The cost will be £9.00. If you would like to come please contact Jenny for more details.

Daleians Concert in St Andrew's on Friday, 13th December ... the award winning Daleians are combining with Seabridge School for a 7.00 pm concert. Tickets cost £10 Adults and £5 children, with profits being donated by the Daleians to St Andrew's and Seabridge School. Music will aim to suit all tastes and genres with a sprinkling of Christmas songs from both choirs. Tickets are available from Bob Baker at St Andrew's and Don Holford at St Peter's.

Singers are Needed ... to join the choir for the Christmas candlelight carol service. Rehearsals are held in the Parish Room on Thursdays, 7.45 pm to about 8.30 pm, and we sing in parts. All voices are needed; and altos would be particularly appreciated. Why not give it a try? Any enquiries, please contact Olwyn Jones or Geoffrey Walker or just come along to a rehearsal.

Mental Health First Aid Awareness Course. We are offering an introductory course covering ♦ What mental health is and how to challenge stigma ♦ a basic knowledge of some common mental health issues ♦ an introduction to looking after your own mental health and maintaining wellbeing (though obviously this kind of course will not be able to give attention to participants' specific problems), and ♦ confidence to support someone in distress or who may be experiencing a mental health issue. The course will take place in the Parish Room on Saturday, 11th January from 10.00 am - 2.30 pm, including a half hour break for lunch. There will be a mix of presentations, group discussions and workshop activities, delivered by Gary Peake who offers similar training to local companies. Please sign the list at the back of St Andrew's to book your place.

Prayer Chain ... for many years St Andrew's and St Peter's have operated a prayer chain. It is intended for pressing needs (major medical problems or emergency, job interview, bereavement, family crisis etc). The chain aims to communicate promptly with a small group (currently 12) who are committed to pray for the situation. If you would value this kind of prayer support at any point, please do speak to one of the ministers, who are responsible for initiating prayer chain requests.

In addition, the Ecumenical Exec has agreed that we open up the prayer chain to up to 6 extra members. Members of either congregation who are willing to make a commitment to pray for others' needs in this way, and are willing to maintain confidentiality, are encouraged to speak to Andrew or John. From the new year, members of the chain will have the choice of receiving information either by email or telephone.

Christingle Service ... Sunday, 1st December at 4.30 pm, all welcome. You can help to make the Christingles on Saturday, 30th November, 9.30 am in the Parish Room. There is also a warm invitation for singers to join the music group. The practice for this will be at 3.30 pm on the day of the service.

Identity Course ... *Who is God? Can I make contact with Him? Who are we? What is the purpose of life?* We have run this course several times over the last couple of years and are beginning to think about doing so again. Each week includes a discussion starter on DVD, with opportunity for interaction and questions. Ideal for anyone wanting to know more about the Christian faith, or looking for a refresher course. It also forms the main part of the preparation course for adults who would like to think about being confirmed in a future year. More details from the vicar.

St Andrew's Flower Rota ... the flower rota for 2020 is being prepared. There are some Sundays available for those who would like to contribute to the cost of the flowers in memory of a person or occasion. Also, we are in urgent need of further help in the flower team. Experience is not essential (but a welcome bonus) and a very warm welcome is assured. For further information please contact Diana.

St Andrew's Bible Reading Notes 2020 ... if you would like to continue to subscribe to daily bible reading notes, would you please confirm that with Helen Swanborough. There are some samples of the various notes available at the back of Church, in case you might like to try something different next year or for anyone who would like to try this means of establishing a pattern of daily bible reading for the first time. Helen is happy to answer any queries.

Diocesan Evangelical Fellowship ... following a very successful re-launch meeting earlier in the year, the next meeting will be held on Saturday, 30th November, 9.30 am refreshments for 10.00 am - 12.30 pm meeting at St John's, Stafford, ST16 3RP. Paul Harcourt, national leader of New Wine is speaking on 'Holding to Truth and Love'. All welcome, lifts should be available if needed - please sign the list at the back of St Andrew's.

Election Forum ... Churches Together are again organising an opportunity to put questions to the candidates of the Newcastle-under-Lyme constituency on Friday, 6th December, at 7.15 pm for 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm in Newcastle Baptist Church (Stafford Avenue, ST5 3BN) All welcome.

Our Toy Services ... are on 8th December, 10.30 am.

Gifts given at St Peter's will be passed on to Tri Alpha (Action for Children). Gifts for teenagers would be very welcome. Please see Joe, Val or Marion if you cannot come on that Sunday but would like to contribute a gift.

Gifts given at St Andrew's will be passed on to Elizabeth House refuge who work with families experiencing domestic violence and abuse. They have particularly asked for donations of: women toiletries, sanitary products, toys, gifts suitable for teenagers, small decorations/items for houses to help somebody make their house a home, gloves, hats and scarfs (or donations of money, in an envelope marked 'Arch - Elizabeth House'). Please bring items along to the services at 10.30 am on 8th December, or leave them at the back of St Andrew's in the week beforehand (the building is open Monday-Thursday 9.00 am – 3.00 pm).

A Time for Silence and Contemplation ... do you find that your life is more Martha than Mary? Is that possibly what stops you getting closer to God? Then join us for a time of quiet contemplative prayer in the old Circuit Office, Newcastle Methodist Church and experience the use of silence as a way of going deeper with God; as a way of reflecting on your journey and as a way of listening to God. Thursday, 12th December 1.45 pm for a 2.00 pm start. Entrance off Merrial Street.

Methodist Women in Britain - The Disciples of Christ ... a reflective look at the twelve female disciples of Jesus where we ask "Does it matter how we live out our faith?" Led by Karen Barnett on 4th December 2019 at Wolstanton Methodist Church, 10.00 - 10.15am arrival

and coffee, 10.15 - 11.15 am The Colours of Christmas. Stalls to browse and a chocolate tombola. All welcome.

God In Love Unites Us ... the Marriage and Relationships Task Group presented a report to the 2019 Methodist Conference with recommendations about various issues to do with relationships in general and marriage in particular. Those recommendations are being submitted to the wider Church for consultation, with a final decision being made at the July 2020 Conference. Four opportunities to engage in the conversation across the District: Monday, 27th January 2020 at 7.30 pm at North Street, Crewe, CW1 4NJ; Thursday, 30th January 2020 at 7.30 pm at West End, Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 5AW; Saturday, 8th February 2020 at 10.00 am at Frodsham, WA6 6BA and Wednesday, 25th March 2020 at 7.30 pm at Trinity Congleton, CW12 4BA. Additionally Revd Paul Smith and Revd Sam McBratney, nationally renowned speakers, are to lead a specifically Bible Focused event on Wednesday, 29th January 2020 at 7.00pm at Swan Bank, Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 2AA. There is no need to book in advance for these events. These conversations will help provide a wider background to inform the debate at the Spring Synod. Further information available from the District Administrator, Rob Glassonbury; email chester.stoke@btconnect.com or tel: 01270 627774. Connexional materials can be found at www.methodist.org.uk/MandR19

THANK YOU

... to all who attended the Tearfund Quiz Night and gave generously. We have been able to pass £157 to Tearfund. Thank you too to Steve and Camilla Forrester for organising such an enjoyable event.

... to everyone for their wonderful contributions to Operation Christmas Child. We will give you an update very soon, with our total number of boxes and extras sent – June.

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@gmail.com 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