



Penrith Methodist Circuit

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday 12th March 2023

“Them’s the Rules”

If we’re honest, perhaps we want everyone else to stick to the rules...but maybe they don’t always apply to me. Drivers, there are many that we want others to follow, don’t we?

Some individual rules may seem non-sensical or overly harsh. At my primary school there was a sign: “Keep off the grass”. I think I was a model pupil: bright, respectful, helpful. But that didn’t stop me from ‘getting the slipper’ after I was caught running across that grass to avoid the inconvenience of going around. But many rules are not just about an individual breach. My geometrically efficient route that fateful day really didn’t cause any harm. But without the rule, *all* the kids would be running on it *every* day, with the effect of churning it up and bringing mud into every corridor and classroom.

So, there’s often a cumulative effect to rule-breaking. Consider seatbelts: in all likelihood you could probably not wear one your entire life and not be adversely affected (apart from the police fines you’d get). That’s because they need to be used thousands of times to make a difference in just one instance.

Apart from flouting (or bending) rules there’s another temptation: thinking that by keeping rigidly to them we have achieved all that needs to be achieved. But is that really true? Jesus asked a certain rich young man if he’d kept the rules. Yes, great! But it wasn’t enough, was it?

Driving rules are there to help but they aren’t actually the main thing. So many rules are in place to try and enforce a single core issue: being a safe and considerate motorist.



Now, if you were to select a random rule from Leviticus, there’s a good chance it wouldn’t make much sense to you. But having a laser focus on a single Old Testament rule is missing the point. Rather, it is what the cumulative effect those rules would have on Israel as a whole – how they would be different from other nations because of the God they followed.

But rules are open to abuse. That was the case in Jesus’ day. He saw how the rules were used as a tool of oppression in his society and he repeatedly called it out. His statement “take my yoke” was all about alleviating the burden of the

religious rules. And he reduced the rulebook to just two: love God and love your neighbour.

I don't think our main job as Christians is to go around waving rules at society, but rather point to the sinless one who, ultimately, was crucified for breaking men's rules. As we approach Easter, we can rejoice that Jesus broke the biggest unwritten rule of them all – that once you're dead, you stay dead.

Shane McNicol



Penrith Methodist Church

10.30am ~ Morning Worship with Baptism ~ Rev. Tim Cooke
We welcome Gregory Nicholls to be baptised, along with his parents Phil & Katie and their family & friends.

Readings: Matthew 3: 13 – 17; Galatians 3: 26 – 28

St. Patrick's Church, Patterdale

10.30am ~ Morning Worship ~ Mrs Carolyn Dickinson

Skelton Methodist Church

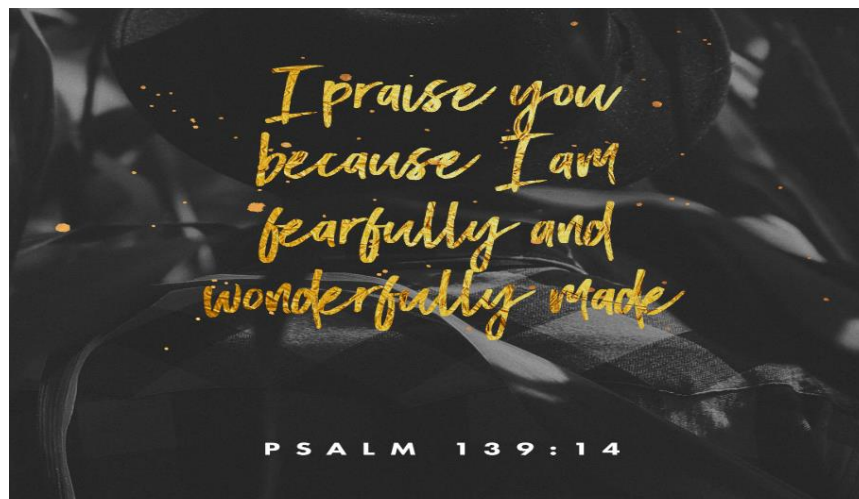
10.30am ~ Morning Worship ~ Mr. Michael Boone

Stainton Methodist Church

10.30am ~ Morning Worship ~ Rev. David Milner

All Saints Church, Calthwaite

3pm ~ Something New ~ Rev. Mark Houston
(No service at Cottage Wood Centre)



Weekly Diary

Monday 13th March

9.30am ~ Monday Walks – Meet outside PMC

1.30pm ~ Lent Course – Stainton Methodist Church

NO ~ Choral Group – Sandgate Room/PMC

7.30pm ~ Monday Zoom Prayer

Tuesday 14th March

10am ~ Midweek Communion Service ~ Rev. Tim Cooke – Church/PMC

10.30am ~ CAP Job Club – Beacon/PMC

12 noon ~ Lent Lunch – Quaker Meeting House, Penrith

7pm ~ Omega HG – Sunningdale, Stainton

5.50pm ~ Junior Youth Club – Trampoline Park/Meet at PMC

Wednesday 15th March

10am ~ 3Cs – Cottage Wood Centre

1.30pm ~ Sewing Craft Group – Skelton Methodist Church

7pm ~ Blencow HG – The Hollies, Blencow (*We meet twice monthly at 7pm on a Wednesday. Contact Steve on 07711 088448 for further details.*)

7.30pm ~ Just Economics Lent Course, 1 Lowther Terrace, Penrith (*Contact Sarah & Chris Hulme for further details, sarahchrishulme@gmail.com*)

Thursday 16th March

1pm ~ Twinkly Tots – Ullswater/PMC

2pm ~ Parklands HG – Fairfield, Wordsworth Street, Penrith

7.30pm ~ Penrith Music Club Concert – Church/PMC

Friday 17th March

10am - 2pm ~ Warm Spaces – Sandgate/PMC

12 noon ~ Lunch Club – Ullswater/PMC

7.30pm ~ Senior Youth Club – Ullswater/PMC

Saturday 18th March

9.30am ~ Flower Workshop – Ullswater/PMC

Sunday 19th March

Penrith: 10.30am ~ Morning Worship ~ PJ Summers

Skelton: 10.30am ~ Morning Worship ~ Rev. David Milner

Stainton: 10.30am ~ Morning Communion ~ Rev. Tim Cooke

Cottage Wood Centre: 3pm ~ Early Evening Communion ~ Rev. David Milner
(Church Council Meeting to follow)



11TH MARCH @ PMC

CHURCH PRAYER BREAKFAST

JOIN US AT 9:30AM FOR BREAKFAST;
BACON BUTTIES, PASTRIES, AND TOAST
AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT THE
LENT REFLECTIVE PRAYER SPACES

IF YOU CAN'T MAKE BREAKFAST,
THE PRAYER SPACES WILL
BE OPEN TIL 12 NOON,
SO POP IN ANYTIME!



Skelton Afternoon Tea

A reminder that there is Afternoon Tea on Sunday 12th March, 3pm at Skelton Methodist Church.

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## **'Something New'**

### **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 3 pm at All Saints, Calthwaite**

Led by the Revd Mark Houston with a speaker from Living Water Adopt-A-Child

Refreshments served and all welcome.



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THE SEASON OF
Lent

Churches Together in Penrith
Lent Lunches

TUESDAY 14TH MARCH, QUAKER MEETING HOUSE,
12NOON

TUESDAY 21ST MARCH, THE SALVATION ARMY,
12NOON

FRIDAY 31ST MARCH, ST CATHERINE'S, 1PM

TUESDAY 4TH APRIL, CHURCH IN THE BARN,
12NOON



Lent Course

Each Monday during Lent there will be a relaxed and friendly, ecumenical Lent Course, 1.30pm at Stainton Methodist Church. There will also be refreshments.





**Penrith Music Club Concert
Thursday 16th March, 7.30pm at PMC**

lyad Sughayer (Piano)
(Please note change of artist)

For more information see: www.penrithmusicclub.com

Thank you to all who attended the Ceilidh
on Saturday.
It was an amazing evening of food, friendship,
music and dancing!



A special thanks to
Ruth & Helen for
organising the event
and all those who
helped with the
cooking and set up.

Also, to the Tailgate
Buskers for the
wonderful music!



Sponsorship of Ukraine Family

We have a friend 'Olha' who is from Ukraine and now living in Penrith to escape the troubles. As the war rages on, her sister and her 16 year old son are also now wanting to come over to the UK to live while the war continues.

If there is anyone who might be prepared to sponsor this lady and her son by providing lodging in their home, please let Tim know.





Making Your Gifts Go Further

All cash in the offering basket and contactless donations up to £30 are worth an extra 25% to the Church and there is a particular opportunity between now and April 5th when we submit our next claim.

This is separate to the Gift Aid Scheme and you don't have to be tax payer.

Thank you for your support.

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## **CAP Money Lead**

We are actively seeking someone to head up our ministry of CAP Money Courses.



As the cost of living affects us all, the need for help in budgeting our money has never been greater. CAP Money is getting more demand than any CAP service right now, and we are keen to run a series of CAP Money courses to help people with managing their finances. We are also getting demand from Social services who have clients they want to direct to a CAP money course.

Is this something you have a heart for? Is this something you could help with?

Full CAP training will be provided, and the CAP Money lead can run as few or as many courses as they feel able to.

For more information, please speak to Tim, Jon or Steve.

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Sleeping Bags for Turkey & Syria

Gordon Dugmore (at Dacre and Stainton) is collecting sleeping bags to assist the many people affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. If you have any sleeping bags you are no longer using and would like to donate, please call or email Gordon to arrange a collection -Tel: 07546 082324 or email: revgordondugmore@gmail.com

Alternatively, it is understood you can also deliver sleeping bags to the AlpKit shop in Keswick.



Help needed in Greystoke!

We need you to join our group to bring the Easter Story to the children of Greystoke and Penruddock Schools on 29th March.

We have an urgent need for more people who can join our team.

We need actors - minimal experience required! Just a heart to communicate God's love to the next generation. We need conversation guides to aid reflection.

Contact Daphne on dehriij@gmail.com

**SUNDAY
LUNCH
2ND APRIL
FOLLOWING THE
MORNING SERVICE**



SOUP



**CRUSTY
BREAD**

CAKE

**ALL ARE
WELCOME
TO JOIN US!**

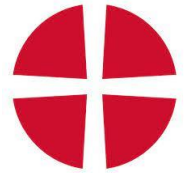




Follow Daily Care Deeply
Speak Boldly Tread Gently

Diocese of Carlisle & Cumbria Methodist District

Self-supporting Priest in Charge St Patrick's, Patterdale



Legend has it that the valley was originally evangelised by St Patrick. Standing in that tradition, this is a unique opening for a rural incumbency in a single parish benefice. Situated in the heart of the Lake District, it has a small but supportive congregation and the opportunity to continue to build strong links with the local community and to minister to the many tourists who visit the area.

Since 1995 the parish has been a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) incorporating both Anglican and Methodist traditions.

It is a 'House for Service' appointment, nominally based on a 28-hour working week, so applicants will need to be substantially self-supporting.

We are particularly looking for candidates who:

- Love the Lord their God with all their heart and soul and mind and their neighbours as themselves.
- Have a pastoral and evangelistic heart for the wellbeing of parishioners and visitors alike.
- Will be comfortable working within the LEP context.
- Can implement the Diocesan Vision while sensitively navigating the varied theological and other traditions that exist in our rural context.
- Will develop the positive role of Christian faith and teaching in the Village School.
- Aim to build on the strong links that already exist between the church and wider community.
- Can capitalise on the opportunities for mission offered by our setting in a tourist hotspot.

Informal conversations are welcome.

Please contact:

Archdeacon Vernon Ross

Archdeacon.South@CarlisleDiocese.org.uk

T: 07388 377105

or

Rev Dave Milner

dave@revmilner.plus.com

T: 01768 863209

For a profile and application form, please visit
www.carlisediocese.org.uk/vacancies

Closing date for applications: Monday 27th March 2023

Provisional interview date: Thursday 20th April 2023

Please return completed applications to liz.howson@carlisediocese.org.uk

8 YEARS OF OUTREACH

for the Carlisle Homeless Refuge



'It's better to light a candle
than curse the darkness'

ANYTHING KITCHEN
'little to large'
a BIG collection

Tuesday 18th April, PMC,
9am-10.30am

Please help.

Thank you,
Jeannette & Keith

Contact Details:

Superintendent: Rev. Tim Cooke: 01768 890465 or
email: tim.cooke@methodist.org.uk

Circuit Minister: Rev. David Milner: 01768 863209 or email: dave@revmilner.plus.com

Missional Pioneer & Communities Lay Pastor: Morgan Tebb-Roger: 07949 156051
or email: outreach@penrithmethodist.co.uk

Circuit Office: 01768 862787 or email: admin@penrithmethodist.co.uk
(Open 9am - 1pm, Monday to Friday)

Circuit Administrative Manager: Sarah Mulheron

Administrative Assistant: Maureen Brunskill

Premises Manager: Lindsay Wilson

Pastoral Team:-

Angela Wicker: 01768 881357; **David & Karen Lee:** 01768 868428

Lucy Pullan: 01768 898386; **Morgan Tebb-Roger:** 07949 156051

Ruth Gardiner: 01768 863412; **Marion Todd:** 01768 868255

Eden Debt Centre Manager (CAP) ~ Jon Cook: 07464 939138
or email: joncook@capuk.org

Cottage Wood Centre - Please send a request to join our Facebook group.

PMC Website: www.penrithmethodist.co.uk

All services are on You Tube

Follow us on Twitter @PMCmethodists and on Facebook

Let's stay connected with one another!

