

**Penrith Methodist Circuit**  
**Weekly Bulletin**  
**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2023**



**Johannes Vermeer**

**“The Little Street”**

**(c. 1657)**

**The Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam**



Beauty, they say, is in the eye of the beholder. In other words, something I see as being commonplace and ordinary, might actually be to you something of great beauty. It could also be, of course, that I have actually missed the beauty that is hidden within the commonplace and ordinary. Perhaps, because I see it every day, I have become in some way immune to its charms and significance.

It's easy to miss things or scenes or people that actually have a beauty to them, and it takes another person to point that beauty out to us. In the film “American Beauty” the protagonist is captivated by a miniature whirlwind of leaves dancing in the city street.

Scenes can become so commonplace to us because we drive past them nearly every day. I hope that I never lose the joy and wonder of living here in Penrith and the view from Beacon Edge, simply because I've seen it so often. So, this week, take notice. Stop, stand still for a moment and look around you. It's a decision we make - to find the beauty in the ordinary things of life that surround us.

Sometimes we can take the people around us, our family, for granted too. Perhaps this week, you can tell the people around you how beautiful they are to you.

And I wonder about the street scene in the painting. What's so special about it that Vermeer chooses to stop and paint it? Has he found something of beauty here? Recent research apparently has shown that the house on the right belonged

to Vermeer's aunt, who had a business selling tripe. The passageway beside the house was known as "Penspoort" or Tripe Gate! So, what am I looking at here? A load of old tripe... or something of beauty?

*Rev. Dave*



**Penrith Methodist Church**

**10.30am** ~ Morning Worship ~ PJ Summers  
'ConTEXT'

**Readings:** Isaiah 46: 8 - 11 & Mark 7: 1 - 19

**Skelton Methodist Church**

**10.30am** ~ Morning Worship ~ Mrs Lois Morton

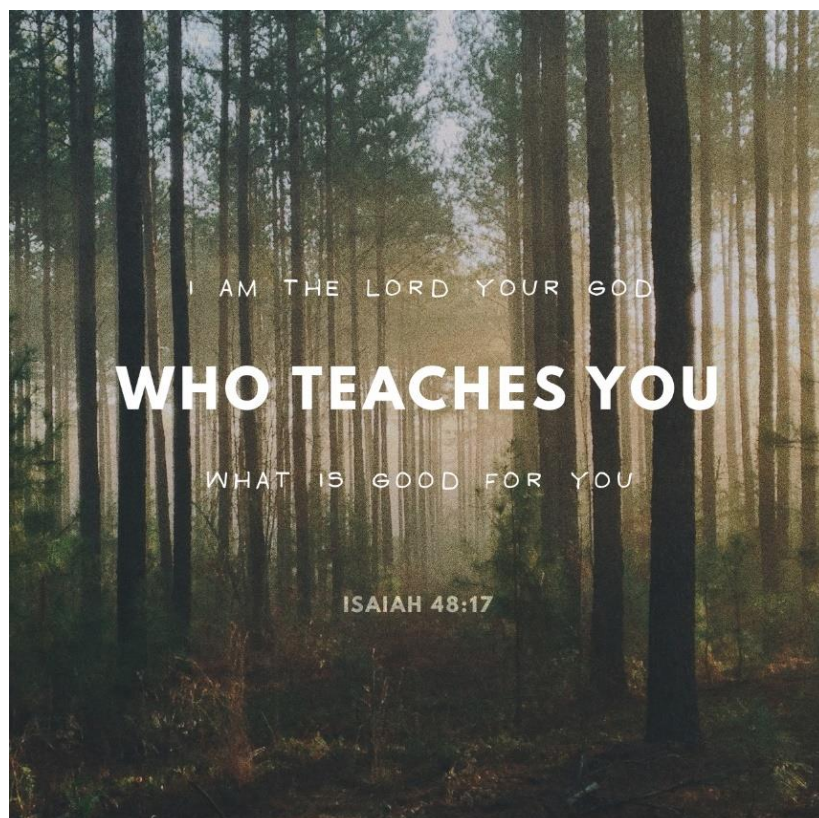
**Stainton Methodist Church**

**10.30am** ~ Morning Worship ~ Mr. Michael Boone

**Cottage Wood Centre**

**5pm** ~ Early Evening Communion ~ Rev. Tim Cooke

**Thought for the Week**



# Weekly Diary

## **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June**

**9.30am** ~ Monday Walks – Meet outside PMC

**NO** Choral Group

**7.30pm** ~ Monday Zoom Prayer

## **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June**

**10am** ~ Midweek Service ~ Rev. Gillian Belford – Church/PMC

**10.30am** ~ CAP Job Club ~ Beacon/PMC

**7pm** ~ Omega HG – Sunningdale, Stainton

**7.30pm** ~ Junior Youth Club – Ullswater/PMC

## **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June**

**10am** ~ 3C's – Cottage Wood Centre

**10am** ~ Coffee Morning – Skelton Methodist Church

**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.)*

**7pm – 8pm** ~ Cottage Wood Monthly Prayer Time - *We are continuing to pray at home, and all are welcome to take part for any or all of the hour.*

## **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June**

**1pm** ~ Twinkly Tots - Ullswater/PMC

**1.30pm** ~ Take Tea Out – Cottage Wood Centre – *Contact Sheila Mallinson to book*

## **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June**

**12 noon** ~ Lunch Club – Ullswater/PMC

**7.30pm** ~ Senior Youth Club – Ullswater/PMC

## **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June**

**Penrith: 10.30am** ~ Morning Communion ~ Rev. Tim Cooke

**Patterdale: 10.30am** ~ Morning Worship ~ Mr. Morgan Tebb-Roger

**Skelton: 10.30am** ~ Morning Worship ~ Miss Kathleen Williamson

**3pm** ~ Afternoon Tea

**Stainton: 10.30am** ~ Morning Worship ~ Mrs Ruth Combellack

**St. Michael's Church, Skelton: 3pm** ~ Something New

*(Please note change of venue & no service at Cottage Wood Centre)*



I want to introduce you to a series we will be running over the 4 weeks of June, here at PMC on Sunday mornings, in response to requests we've had. It's called ***Unpacking the Bible***, and we are really excited about it!

You know, in my last eight years as a minister, I've had many people asking me the same thing – *'I have this problem with the Bible...'*

Sometimes it's the brutality and bloodshed, or the difference between the God of the Old Testament, and the God seen in Jesus in the New. Sometimes it's a really obscure passage that they can't understand, or a law or command, which seems unfair, discriminatory, misogynistic, or otherwise at odds with ordinary decent behaviour.

Sometimes it's that they simply can't believe what they're reading – that a fish could swallow a man, or an ark could contain all known species of animals, or that God placed the entire fate of humanity on two people called Adam and Eve and what they did with a snake and a piece of fruit.

We are told that the Bible is the word of God, and yet some bits are violent, disgusting or just baffling! We are told that the Bible is inerrant, infallible and without contradiction - but then we discover there are lots of contradictions, and things written that we now know are just not true. We are told that the Bible is about a loving God, but sometimes what we read seems at odds with that.

Let's be fair. The Bible is difficult. It is confusing. But maybe that's because we sometimes try to control it, or tame it, or make it support what we want it to say. To open the Bible means risking our theology, our presuppositions, our deepest held beliefs.

My hope is that this series will be an act of rediscovery. We want to explore how we read and interpret the Bible, look at some of the myths we have about the Bible, work out how to make sense of the Bible, and fall in love with the Bible all over again – for it to be a text that helps us to encounter more of God, liberate us, and empower us, and thrill us!

So, please join us either physically at 10:30am each week of June, or catch us on YouTube, as together, we start 'Unpacking the Bible'.

Rev. Tim.

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Without sounding too much like a broken record, we really are in desperate need for volunteers to help with **sound** and **projection** at PMC.

This coming quarter we have **4** gaps for sound and **7** gaps for projection. Unfortunately, this means that these services will be going without.

This doesn't just create an issue for those that are preaching, but also those who come to the service or join us online - with no microphones we are unable to hear the messages and with no projection we are unable to sing our praise.

If you find that you are being called to help, please do speak to Tim, PJ or Morgan

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### **Afternoon Tea**

Afternoon Tea will be served on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June, 3pm, at Skelton Methodist Church.

All are welcome.





# FELTING WORKSHOPS

**AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN A NEW CRAFT WHILST  
MAKING A 'WELCOME' WALL HANGING**

BRING A FRIEND OR COME ALONG FOR SOME COMPANY

**MONDAY 12TH & 19TH JUNE, 7.30PM  
PENRITH METHODIST CHURCH**

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN JOINING US!

**THANKS,  
DAPHNE, TAMAR & ANGE**

## Woodlands Discussion Group

Residents at Woodlands have suggested trialling a discussion group.

The idea would be to meet and discuss topics of the day, or other things in life that come up - in a general way (not necessarily from a religious/faith point of view).

If you might be interested and able to host such a discussion group, please contact Tracy Temple (Woodlands Chaplain) for more information

[Tracy.Temple@mha.org.uk](mailto:Tracy.Temple@mha.org.uk)

# CUMBRIA METHODIST WOMEN IN BRITAIN



Methodist Women  
in Britain

## *Methodist Deacons*

## *Who we are & what we do*

## *Penrith Methodist Church*

**TUESDAY 13 JUNE 2023**

**10.00am - 3.00pm**

**Tuesday Service at 10<sub>am</sub> led by the Deacons  
Followed by Coffee/Tea at 10:30**

Deacons Debbie, Kina & Mark will then share about  
their Calling, Faith & Work in Cumbria.

This meeting is open to everyone, including gentlemen.

Please bring a packed lunch – drinks provided

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### **Diary Dates 2023**

August 3rd at Tebay MC - Afternoon Tea with Speaker *Debs Coggrave*.

November 6-8<sup>th</sup> “Together at Thornleigh”, our MWiB Residential;  
*"To Serve the Present Age"*

We are delighted to have leading us *Kathleen Pearson*, from Scotland.



## 'Something New' Service

On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June at 3pm, 'Something New' will be held at St Michael's Church, Skelton (please note change of venue). Two members will be commissioned as Anna Chaplains.

*This will be instead of the service at Cottage Wood Centre.*

## Contact Details:

**Superintendent: Rev. Tim Cooke:** 01768 890465 or  
email: [tim.cooke@methodist.org.uk](mailto:tim.cooke@methodist.org.uk)

**Circuit Minister: Rev. David Milner:** 01768 863209 or email: [dave@revmilner.plus.com](mailto:dave@revmilner.plus.com)

**Missional Pioneer & Communities Lay Pastor: Morgan Tebb-Roger:** 07949 156051  
or email: [outreach@penrithmethodist.co.uk](mailto:outreach@penrithmethodist.co.uk)

**Circuit Office:** 01768 862787 or email: [admin@penrithmethodist.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:joncook@capuk.org)

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

**PMC Website:** [www.penrithmethodist.co.uk](http://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!**

