



East Cumbria **Methodist** Circuit



Weekly Bulletin Sunday 8th December Never Say Never



I've always loved the outdoors. Hiking on a fairly regular basis and enjoying all God's creation has to offer. But I've always looked at fell runners like they've got a screw loose. 'Why would you run up the side of a mountain in the middle of winter, wearing shorts and a t-shirt?' I'd often say. Me and my friend, Jack, always looked at those people and said 'never going to be us'.

However, this week I found myself attempting (with a strong emphasis on the word 'attempting') to run up the side of Seat Sandal in a pair of shorts and a fleece after Jack encouraged me to give it a go. And I loved it!

This isn't a story about how I encountered God on top of a hill I'm afraid. In fact, the only thing I encountered was a feeling of cold knees. But it got me and Jack talking about how things have changed in just a few years. How we as people have grown and evolved, and how we will continue to do so. How just a short time ago, neither of us would have attempted to do fell running and now we're both diving into it.

We've moved into the season advent. A time of waiting and anticipation (something I'm far from comfortable with). Yet sometimes we don't even know what we're waiting for, but we still feel God's got something in store. Sometimes we can't even comprehend how God is going to work in our lives. A great example of this is when the angel appeared to Mary and informed her she was going to give birth to the son of God, the one who would change the world. Up until then she had seen herself as the future wife of a carpenter. Now she saw the part she had to play in the bigger story. This must have been both exciting and terrifying!

You may doubt yourself. You may doubt what things God has in store for your life. You may even think there isn't anything more to come at the point of life you're at. But I would remind you to never say never. You have no idea where you will be a few weeks, months, or years from now or how God is going to work in your life. Let's leave ourselves open to what God is wanting to do in our hearts this advent season and see what wonders take place as a result.

Morgan Tebb-Roger



Penrith

10.30am ~ Morning Worship – Rev Andrew Callaway
Readings: Jeremiah 33:14-16, Luke 21:25-36

Patterdale

10.30am ~ Morning Worship – Rev Tim Cooke

Skelton

10.30am ~ Morning Worship – Mrs Lois Morton

Stainton

10.30am ~ Morning Worship – Mrs Carolyn Dickinson

Cottage Wood Centre

3pm ~ Afternoon Communion – Rev Tim Cooke

Alston Moor

11am ~ Morning Worship – Rev David Milner

Kirkoswald

10am ~ Morning Worship – Mr Dean Lawson

Gamblesby

2pm ~ Afternoon Worship – Mrs Jan Blackshaw

Renwick

2pm ~ Afternoon Worship – Mr Dean Lawson

There are alternative Anglican services available.

For details, please see the EEMC website: www.eastofedenmc.org.uk



Weekly Diary

Monday 9th December

9.30am ~ Monday Walks – Meet outside PMC

2pm ~ All Together Fellowship – Church/PMC

6.15pm ~ Choral Group – Sandgate/PMC

7.30pm ~ Zoom Prayer Meeting –

All are welcome to join, please follow the link and use the Meeting ID below,

<https://zoom.us/j/97436321089>

Meeting ID: 974 3632 1089

Tuesday 10th December

10am ~ Midweek Service – Mr Lawrence Tomlinson – Stainton Methodist Church

10am ~ Brunswick School Christmas Service – Church/PMC

10am ~ ‘He Brews’ Coffee Club – Gamblesby Methodist Chapel

10.30am ~ CAP Job Club – Beacon/PMC

1.30pm ~ Prayer Meeting – Church/PMC

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

7pm ~ Omega House Group – Sunningdale, Stainton

7.30pm ~ Junior Youth Club – Ullswater/PMC

Wednesday 11th December

1.30pm ~ Wednesday Get Together - Skelton Methodist Church

7.30pm ~ Living Room HG, contact Morgan or Sarah for details

Thursday 12th December

1pm ~ Thursday Tots – Ullswater/PMC

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

2pm ~ Parklands HG – Cottage Wood Centre

3pm ~ Afternoon Communion – Rev Tim Cooke - Woodlands

7.30pm ~ Alpha – Tarn/PMC

7.30pm ~ Eden Singers & Dalston Male Voice Choir Performance – Church/PMC

Friday 13th December

12 noon ~ Lunch Club – Ullswater/PMC

Sunday 15th December

Penrith: 10.30am Carols in Town – Rev Tim Cooke

Skelton: 10.30am Carol Service – Miss Kathleen Williamson

Stainton: 10.30am Morning Worship – Mr Morgan Tebb-Roger

Cottage Wood: 9.30am Joint Carol Service at All Saints, Calthwaite

Alston Moor: 3pm Community Carols at Town Hall

Langwathby: 11am Local Arrangement Carols

Kirkoswald: 6.30pm Third Sunday Service

The implantation Group have been hard at work during the autumn and are making good progress in both identifying the work required and making a start at gathering information.

An overall project plan has been developed against which progress will be monitored. The work has been divided into a number of areas mirroring the proposed functional structure of the new Circuit, Each Superintendent had been asked to initially lead one of the following groups:

- Strategy and Vision
- Mission
- Ministry
- Communication
- Governance and Legal
- Finance
- Central Support (Administration)
- Personnel
- Property

These groups consist of lay and ordained people from across the county who we feel have the appropriate skills – if however you'd like to get involved in any of the groups or have any queries, please contact Carolyn Dickinson who is providing administrative support to the Implementation Group carolyndickinson3@gmail.com or your local Superintendent.

The Groups meet both virtually and in person and refer back to the implementation group for advice and any decisions required. We want to involve as many people as possible, so over the next six months we will be consulting on important issues such as creating and owning a vision for the new circuit. We will also be asking the Spring Circuit Meetings to agree legal matters that will be required to progress the preparation. The intention is to have as much as possible in place for 1 September 2025.

A date for your diary is the formal welcome service for new ministers and a celebration of the start of the One Cumbria Circuit. This will be held on Sunday 31 August 2025 at 11am in Penrith Methodist Church followed by a lunch.

We are very conscious that this is a period of intense change and wish to ensure we communicate progress and provide further details on a regular basis. As well as monthly bulletins during 2025, after each Implementation group meeting, the Communications Group have been tasked with developing both interactive and more traditional methods of communication with the opportunity for feedback and discussion.

We pray for understanding and patience as we work through the establishment of this new and exciting phase of Methodism in Cumbria.

The Implementation Group

Carolyn Dickinson, Helen Hooley, David Milner, David Newlove, Stephen Radford, Brec Seaton, John Slee

East Cumbria Methodist Circuit **Announcement**

Rev Julia Reid visited our Circuit on Saturday 30th November, with a view to becoming our new Minister.

Following Julia's visit, the Invitation Committee issued an invitation to her and we are incredibly pleased to announce that Julia has accepted!

Julia is currently a presbyter in the North Yorkshire Dales Circuit, and she will replace Tim as our new Minister in September 2025.



Twelve tips for a greener Christmas

- 1) Start with your advent calendar. Support overseas farmers by ensuring that your advent calendar, and any Christmas chocolate, is [Fairtrade](#).
- 2) Rent a tree. Did you know that, in the UK, 6-8 million real Christmas trees go to landfill every year?
- 3) Go for a natural wreath and decorations.
- 4) Re-use cards and wrapping.
- 5) Create homemade gifts.
- 6) Make sure your gifts don't cost the earth.
- 7) Give the gift of time - just make a 'gift of time gift voucher' and put it in a card for them.
- 8) Dim the lights but not the joy! LED Christmas lights help to save energy and money.
- 9) Remember the reason for the season. Practising generosity and hospitality is a great way to show Christ's love at Christmas.
- 10) Try a meat-free Christmas meal.
- 11) Recycle right. More waste ends up in landfill over Christmas than during the rest of the year.
- 12) Carry on caring for God's earth throughout the year.

For more in depth tips over Christmas take a look at

www.arochoa.org.uk/our-twelve-tips-for-a-greener-christmas/





PMC Decorating Church for Christmas



A small group will be putting basic decorations in the Church on Wednesday December 4th at 10am.

You do not need to be a flower arranger to get involved, just a willing helper (there may even be hot drinks and scones!)

A gentle reminder if your group has volunteered to put a display in one of the windows it would be desirable if it were in place before Sunday 8th December.

If you would like to create a something for one of the windows, which promotes the Christmas message and themes of Social Justice or sustainability please either send me a message on 07827 530 799 or contact the office.

It's not too late to get involved!



Our next " All Together Fellowship " gathering is on **MONDAY, DECEMBER 9th, at 2pm in the Church.**



Come and join us, and enjoy an afternoon of Christmas cheer. There will be readings, poems, etc, interspersed with carols, and also a magical representation of the nativity story.



As usual, there will be refreshments before you leave. Stay for a chat and enjoy a selection of seasonal goodies.

PLEASE NOTE that we meet next on Monday, January 20th. The programmes for January to June, 2025, will be available soon.

John & Margaret

AT GAMBLESBY METHODIST CHURCH

HE BREWS COFFEE CLUB

EVERY TUESDAY 10am - 1pm

Except 26 and 31 December

Enjoy coffee and a biscuit, games, crafts or just a chat only £2

During the winter - soup and a roll at lunchtime only £2.50



CHRISTMAS FUND RAISER

SATURDAY 7 DECEMBER 10am – 1pm

Some stalls with light refreshments

Fun and games for the children and goodies for all!



Funds for Little Acorns Children's Christian Creative Club

COMMUNITY NATIVITY SERVICE

SUNDAY 22 DECEMBER at 4 pm

A magical start to the Christmas weekend

Everyone Welcome

followed by light refreshments



*For further information, please contact Claire
on 07756932116 or email: gamblesbymethodist@gmail.com*

**An Evening of Christmas Music
with**



**Eden Singers
&**



Dalston Male Voice Choir

**Thursday 12th December
7.30pm**

Penrith Methodist Church

Tickets £10

(incl. interval refreshments)

available at Styleline, from choir members
and on the door

**Proceeds in aid of BEEP Doctors
and Cancer Research UK**

PENNINE PATCHERS
LANGWATHBY QUILTING
GROUP
OPEN HOUSE



Thursday 12 Dec.

10 - 12

Methodist Chapel
Langwathby

Christmas trees

Coffee, cookies, cakes.

Examples of our work on display

Donations for Blood Bikes

New members WELCOME!

A decorative border with holly leaves and a red bow at the top. The background features a faint image of a Christmas tree and musical notes.

PENRITH METHODIST CHURCH
warmly invite you to join

**CAROLS BY
CANDLELIGHT**
'All Things New'

SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER, 7PM

Free Admission - All Welcome
Wordsworth Street, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 7QY



**CHRISTMAS CAROL
SERVICE**

**Sunday 15 Dec
at 11am**

(Coffee and mince pies from
10.30)

Langwathby Methodist
Church

With Christmas tree decorations by
Pennine Patchers

All are welcome

**Festive Lunch
&
Circus Fun!**

**Monday 30th December,
12noon Lunch 🍎 1.30pm Euphoric Circus**

Booking is essential
contact:
admin@penrithmethodist.co.uk

**Penrith Methodist Church
Wordsworth Street,
Penrith, CA11 7QY**

 Department
for Education  Westmorland
& Furness
Council

#HAF2024

ECO  **CHURCH**
AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT

Easy Eco Tips, DECEMBER: -

- Celebrate a Greener Christmas - Find ways to make your Christmas festivities both a joyous celebration of Christ's coming and environmentally conscious.
- Explore A Rocha UK's twelve tips for a greener Christmas at arocha.org.uk/our-twelve-tips-for-a-greener-christmas.



WILD
ARTS



G. F. HANDEL
MESSIAH

AT CARLISLE CATHEDRAL

Following their sell-out tour in 2023, critically acclaimed opera company Wild Arts (★★★★★ Opera Now, ★★★★★ The Guardian) bring Handel's legendary telling of the Christmas story to Carlisle Cathedral.

With staging from theatre and opera director Tom Morris (*Breaking the Waves*, *Dr Semmelweis*, *War Horse*).

Wednesday 11 December, 7pm | Tickets from £15
www.wildarts.org.uk/messiah





God For All Newsletter

Please see the following link for God For All's most recent edition of 'The Way', which contains a section about the Restore Van and our very own Bea Hulme:

<https://godforall.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/The-Way-Winter-2024.pdf>

Advance Notice - The Christmas Circuit Bulletin

As the Circuit Office will be closed between Christmas and New Year, there will be a double edition of the Circuit Bulletin for Sundays 22nd & 29th December.

Please can any items for that period, up to 5th January, be sent to the Circuit Office by 9am on Thursday 19th December, at the latest.



80th Birthday

I want to give my warmest thanks to all who sent Greetings, Cards and Best Wishes for my 80th Birthday. You all helped to make this a special occasion which I will long remember.

Lois



Please Don't Forget Ukraine

Steve is planning to be back in Cumbria in mid-December. As well as all the usual things that we collect for the people of Ukraine, he is asking for chocolate, sweets and new toys to use as Christmas presents for the soldiers and children at the orphanage and refugee centre in Odessa.

Please can you help Steve to play Santa? Together we can bring some Christmas comfort and smiles to the faces of these brave people.



Help for Ukrainian Family – Looking for Host

Hi, I'm seeking hosts for 3 Christians in Cumbria. They are in UK already so they don't need to go through the visa system. They need to come from Norfolk to Penrith, Kendal or elsewhere nearby.

The family is made up of Victor, who is an amputee wounded in Mariupol, his wife Inna, who has some trauma, and daughter Lidia.

The Homes for Ukraine system pays the host and this family can be housed separately (husband and wife separately from daughter). They are Christian on the evangelical side.

Can you think of people around here that might offer a "Homes for Ukraine" place - perhaps friends might?

I can talk people through this process – here is my phone number: 07973112046

Frank Chalmers



PMC Communal Christmas Card

Instead of sending individual cards to members of our church family, we invite you to sign our large card and put a donation to All We Can into the globe.

The card will be in the crush hall in church from Sunday 1st December. On the card are examples of gifts from their Extraordinary Gifts catalogue.

The catalogue is on-line at

<https://www.allwecan.org.uk/gifts/#tve-jump-188720ccb3f> if you want to do your own shopping!





East Cumbrian Methodist Circuit Christmas Services

Sunday 15th December

9.30am - Cottage Wood Centre -
Carol service at All Saints, Calthwaite

10.30am - Penrith Methodist Church -
Carols in Town (meet at PMC)

10.30am - Skelton Methodist Church - Carol Service

11am - Langwathby - Carol Service

3pm - Alston Moor - Community Carols at Town Hall

7pm - Penrith Methodist Church - Carols By Candlelight

Tuesday 17th December

10am - Penrith Methodist Church - Rev. Tim Cooke,
Lessons & Carols

Sunday 22nd December

10.30am - Penrith Methodist Church - Family Crib Service

3pm - Cottage Wood Centre - Nativity Service

3.15pm - St Patricks, Patterdale - Carol Service

4pm - Gamblesby Methodist Chapel -
Little Acorns Carol Service

Christmas Eve

3pm - St Patricks, Patterdale - Crib Service

6pm - Kirkoswald - Nativity Service, meet at Lace's Garage

11.15pm - St Patricks, Patterdale - Midnight Communion

11.30pm - Penrith Methodist Church - Midnight
Communion

Christmas Day

10am - Penrith Methodist Church - Rev. Tim Cooke

10am - Skelton Methodist Chapel - Mrs Lois Morton

10am - Stainton Methodist Chapel - Rev. Dr. James Tebbutt

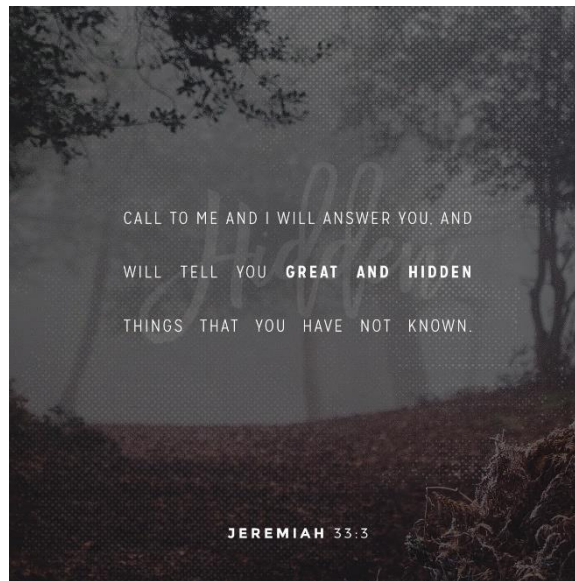
10am - Langwathby Methodist Chapel - Rev. David Milner

10.30am - St Patricks, Patterdale - Rev. Andrew Callaway



Please let the Circuit Office know if there are any Christmas Services missing from the above and we will add them in.

Thought for the week...



Contact Details:

Co-Superintendent Ministers

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

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

Pioneer Enabler: Morgan Tebb-Roger: 07949 156051

or email: outreach@penrithmethodist.co.uk

Circuit Pastoral Worker: Dean Lawson: laypastor@penrithmethodist.co.uk

Stainton Outreach Worker: Trace Cooke: 01768 890465

or email: tracecooke1@gmail.com

Circuit Office: 01768 862787 or email: admin@penrithmethodist.co.uk

(Open 9am - 1pm, Monday to Friday)

Circuit Administrative Manager: Sarah Mulheron-Summers

Circuit Administrative Assistant: Niamh Ryan

Premises Manager: Lindsay Wilson

Eden Debt Centre Manager (CAP): Jen Dixon: 07799 271710

or email: jendixon@capuk.org

Debt Coach: Jo Varley: 07464 939138

or email: jovarley@capuk.org

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

East of Eden Mission Community Website: www.eastofedenmc.org.uk

PMC Website: www.penrithmethodist.co.uk

Find our Sunday services on YouTube

Follow us on Twitter @PMCMethodists and on Facebook

Let's stay connected with one another!

