

# Weekly Bulletin Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January

Here's another of my favourite paintings. In the period after Christmas, we remember how after the magi return, Herod massacres the innocent children forcing the Holy Family to flee into Egypt.

In this painting,
Gentileschi has treated
the subject as if the Holy
Family were ordinary
Italian peasants. Joseph is
old, haggard and
exhausted (and rather
uncomfortable I reckon,
flaked out.) The Virgin is a



Orazio Gentileschi – "Rest on the Flight into Egypt" (1615 – 20) Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery

young, well-built woman with grubby feet sitting uncomfortably on the floor of a ruined building as she feeds her toddler child. Jesus appears naked and vulnerable glancing furtively towards the viewer and we are reminded that this family are refugees who are escaping from Herod's death-threat. [https://www.bmagic.org.uk/objects/1947P5/]

Broken walls and ruins - a reminder of the wars and conflicts around us? And a very naked and vulnerable Jesus.

Jesus is in hiding! He is hiding from Herod, but he also comes to us in disguise. Here is God himself, disguised as an ordinary human baby. Who would have noticed him, or recognised him? (Isaiah 53.2) This is our God. The Word made flesh.

However, what I love most about this painting is the silly, old donkey. What an ass! He is on the wrong side of the wall and looking away from Jesus. Perhaps he is acting as lookout to warn the family if any soldiers are coming. Or is he saving Mary's modesty by not staring at her uncovered breast?

And Jesus looks out of the painting at us, the viewers, as if to ask us, "What about you? Which side are you on? Friend or Foe? What are you looking for?"

Are you going to be an ass and look the wrong way and miss the Saviour of the World?

And... will you be an ass and look in the other direction when there are refugees in need of your help?

Rev Dave



### **Penrith**

**10.30am** ~ Covenant – Rev Tim Cooke Readings: Jeremiah 31:31-34; John 14:15-24 NLT

#### Skelton

**10.30am** ~ Members Service

#### Stainton

10.30am ~ Covenant - Rev Gillian Belford

### **Cottage Wood Centre**

**3pm** ~ Covenant – Rev David Milner

#### **Alston Moor**

**11am** ~ Covenant – Rev Mary Elliot

### **Culgaith**

**11am** ~ Covenant – Dr Peter Bowes

### **Langwathby**

**11am** ~ Covenant – Rev David Milner

There are alternative Anglican services available.
For details, please see the EEMC website: <a href="www.eastofedenmc.org.uk">www.eastofedenmc.org.uk</a>

# **Change to Service**

Please note that the PMC Tuesday Service on the **21**<sup>st</sup> **of January** is now taking place at **12.30pm**, not 10am.





### **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January**

9.30am ~ Monday Walks - Meet outside PMC

**2pm** ~ Bible Fellowship – Skelton Methodist Church

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 7<sup>th</sup> January

10am ~ Midweek Service - Ven Morris Rodham - 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.)

### Wednesday 8th January

**10am** ~ 3C's – Cottage Wood Centre

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

**1.30pm** ~ Wednesday Get Together - Skelton Methodist Church

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

## Thursday 9th January

**1pm** ~ Thursday Tots – Ullswater/PMC

**2pm** ~ Parklands HG – Upper Link/PMC

**3pm** ~ Afternoon Service – Mr Lawrence Tomlinson – Woodlands

**7.30pm** ~ Fellside HG (Contact Mike on 07511089321or Ange on 07808801229 for more details)

# Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January

12 noon ~ Lunch Club - Ullswater/PMC

### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January

**Penrith: 10.30am** Morning Worship – Mr Dean Lawson

Patterdale: 10.30am Covenant – Rev Tim Cooke

**Skelton: 10.30am** Morning Worship – Mrs Jan Blackshaw **Stainton: 10.30am** Morning Worship – Rev Andrew Callaway

Cottage Wood: 3pm Members Service
Alston Moor: 11am Local Arrangement

**Kirkoswald: 10am** Morning Worship – Rev David Milner

**Gamblesby: 2pm** Covenant – Rev David Milner **Renwick: 2pm** Covenant – Dr Peter Bowes



# **UPDATE 2**

## Preparing for the Cumbria Circuit

Our Implementation Group are working hard to keep the process on track and are now at the stage where we want to step up consultation and engagement with all our congregations and partners across Cumbria. We are building our communications strategy so an Update and a mail chimp post should come out monthly on the first Tuesday. Alongside this we are planning some zoom meetings for a Tuesday evening at 5:00pm for Superintendents in week 2 (from 11th Feb) and all Ministers in week 4 (from 25th Feb).

The Strategy and Vision Group want to give everyone across the new circuit the opportunity to engage in creating a vision for the future up to and beyond Sept 2025. This will include:

- Opportunity to complete and return postcards
- Campfire discussions in January
- Zoom conversations with the implementation group
- A Creative art project

We are hoping to have a first draft of a vision statement ready during February. This isn't the end of the process, but a starter for ongoing consultation. To inform the process, it is hoped that as many people as possible will also attend campfire discussions, but for those who can't, ideas can be written on postcards to ensure we reach more people.

The Group are producing opening worship, and discussion questions, to guide the sessions, intended to last for 1-1.5 hours. Look out for details of where and when your local Campfires are being held. Some will be outside, others inside.

On the 21st November a joint Invitation Committee met and appointed David Newlove as the Superintendent of our new Cumbria Circuit from 1st September 2025.

David is currently a Co-Superintendent of the North Cumbria Circuit. He came to Cumbria from Lincolnshire 6 years ago and has fallen in love with the County. As part of his ministry here he has developed chaplancy roles at the Borderway Auction Mart in Carlisle and at Carlisle Infirmary. Alongside Superintendency David is the Mission Area Lead for Cumbria and a Deputy Chair for the North West England District. As he takes up his new role David will have served as a Superintendent for 26 years.





A number of legal decisions will need to be approved at Church Councils and Circuit Meetings in Feb/March so look out for local dates.

Finally, as we continue to pray for patience and understanding as we develop this exciting initiative, we wish you a peaceful, happy and blessed Christmas.

# **PMC Coffee**

It would be appreciated if folks can please sign up on the Sunday morning coffee rota, 29th December to the end of March is currently empty!

Perhaps it could be a New Year resolution to take a regular slot on the rota, as it facilitates an important part of PMC's caring nature.





Centre Development Manager

Organised?

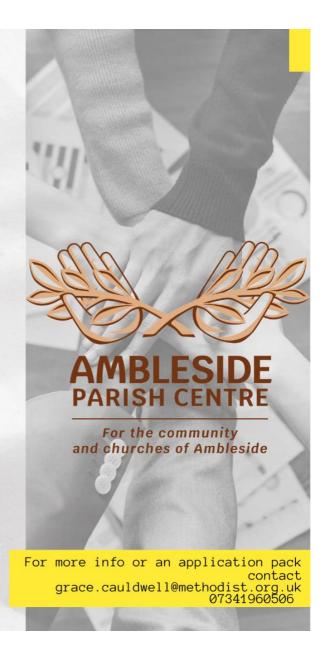


Motivated?



Leader?

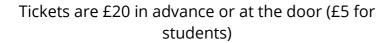
Full Time permanent contract, £32-34K job share considered for the right person Closing date 19th January 2025



# Penrith Music Club - Pei-Jee Ng (Cello), & Chiao-Ying Chang (Piano)

### Monday 13th January at 7.30pm at PMC

Australian-born Pei-Jee Ng studied at the Royal Academy of Music and has appeared as soloist at numerous international venues, including New York, Taiwan, Berlin and London. Chiao-Ying Chang was born in Taiwan and also studied at the Royal Academy of Music, since when she has enjoyed a successful career as both a solo performer and chamber musician.







### **Communal Christmas Card**

Thank you to those folk who supported All We Can by leaving a donation in the globe. The total raised this year was £70.00.

## **Sad Announcement**

It is with very deep sadness that we announce that Alan Donaldson passed away on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

We hold Carol and their family and the fellowship at Penrith Salvation Army in our thoughts and prayers.

In the Salvation Army they often use the phrase 'promoted to glory'. Alan's faith was deep, grounded and evident to us all.

May he rest in peace and rise in glory; but we grieve and will miss him very deeply.



# Restore on the Road 2024–2026 and Beyond...



Are you interested in connecting up people and places in our local villages, and finding a way to encourage sustainable community groups? If so, this project for people of all ages, all faiths and no faith may be for you. It won't cost the earth or all your time.

Restore is taking the community space beyond the shops onto the road to connect Penrith with local villages through this project.

We have funds to invest in an electric van and we are looking for people to volunteer to be part of this project.





# Can you be a...

- Team leader on the van, supported by the project leader; caring for the community around the van.
- Member of the community on the van; working together and encouraging community wherever the van stops.
- Van driver: an essential role but still part of the community.
- Event diary organiser; not necessarily going out on the van.

If you're interested in getting involved then we want to hear from you!

Please contact Beth Honey on:

beth.honey@restorecumbria.co.uk

07831 991076

Or drop into the shop & speak to her (Tues-Thurs).





### 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!















