



SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTER 24th July 2023

I write this having had a weekend of farewells and the end of another chapter in my book of adventures. I'm blessed to look forward to the beginning of a new chapter in September as I join the Cannock Chase Circuit as your Superintendent.

As we begin this part of our journey together, we begin the new Connexional year for which the theme chosen by the president and vice-president is "Hidden Treasure". It was a joy to hear their addresses at Methodist Conference in June as they spoke with excitement and conviction of the treasures that God hides for us, not from us. God's treasures are all around us if we take time to notice them in his creation, his people, his world. They may be small and buried, but they are ours to find if we look. The theme uses the text from Isaiah 45:3 which falls neatly in the story of Cyrus who God has appointed, even though he's not an Israelite, to instruct the Israelites in exile in Babylon to return to Israel and rebuild the temple. No mean feat with the weight of what that represents for the people of Israel. As they begin to build, they find buried treasure, buried there by King Herod. Treasures are no good to us if they're buried, except perhaps that they're safe. But God doesn't call us so that we are safe. He calls us to take risks, to explore and dig, with all the messiness that might hold, as we deepen our discipleship, finding his treasures along the way.


It feels timely in the Methodist Church to have this theme. Perhaps we need to let go of some of the things that we think are very important so that the buried treasure in those places, activities and people can be found. We remember as we share the sacraments each month all that God has done for us, and we should be reminded of all that he longs to do for us. Jeremiah 29:11 tells says: *"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope."* (NSRV). I'm sure that when the temple was destroyed, the people struggled to see a future with any hope. But then look what God did for them. Not only did they get a new temple, but they had also enough of everything they needed to build it and resource it. It wasn't easy, in fact it was thwarted with difficulty, but by the grace of God it happened because that was the will of God.


As we begin our Connexional year together, let's remember all that God has and will do for us, never leaving or forsaking us. As we seek to live in God's will, let's be bold and courageous as we seek out and find the treasure that God is hiding for us. I feel like this is the beginning of a great treasure hunt – and they're always exciting!


I and my family are very much looking forward to what the next chapter holds. I have no doubt that it will be exciting and challenging in equal measure, but we don't do any of this in our own strength. We have God's helper, the paraclete, the Holy Spirit to keep and guide us in right paths.

With every blessing and many thanks for all you do, whoever you are and wherever you join in with God's work.

Rev Sam x

 <http://cannockchasemethodists.org.uk>

 Cannock Chase Methodists

 Cannock Chase Methodist Circuit

The Methodist Church

CANNOCK CHASE CIRCUIT 28/08

Here to worship God, serve our communities, and grow our Churches

Plan of Services September, October & November 2023

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The Revd Canon Rachel Parkinson, W&S District Chair

2023	September				October					November				
	3	10	17	24	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	
	22 in OT	23 in OT	24 in OT	25 in OT	26 in OT	27 in OT	28 in OT	29 in OT	30 in OT	31 in OT	32 in OT	33 in OT	X King	
Year A Matthew	Creation	Education			Black History	Prisons		One World	All Saints	4 bef Advent	Remembrance	2 bef Advent	snb Advent	
	Mt16:21-28	Mt18:15-20	Mt18:21-35	Mt20:1-16	Mt21:23-32	Mt21:33-46	Mt22:1-14	Mt22:15-22	Mt5:1-12	Mt23:1-12	Mt5:1-12	Mt25:14-30	Mt25:31-46	
WEST SECTION														
The Revd Samantha Hagerman														
BETHEL	5.00 pm	Hagerman HC	Lowther CP	LA CP	Crook CP	Timothy CP	Hagerman HC	C Parkes	Lowther CP	Donkoh CP	10.30 Hagerman REA	Lowther CP	LA CP	Hagerman CP
FEATHERSTONE	11.00 am	Hagerman HC	Cowell HF	Rothery	LA	Sigley	Timothy	Hagerman HC	LA	C Parkes	Trigg	Hagerman HC	Devey	J Jenkins
PENKRIDGE	10.30 am	Bates B	Hagerman	Haywood	LA	Whitson	Ryder	Bates	Hagerman	LA	Bates	US St Michaels	Hagerman HC	Haywood
St STEPHEN'S	10.30 am 3/6.30 pm	J Ambler T X	Mason X	Hagerman HF X	Cowell T X	LA X	Alexander X	S Parkes X	Sigley X	Donkoh HC X	Herring X	Boot X	Magiure Hagerman	Hagerman HC X
The Revd Helen Hoe														
MILL STREET	11.00 am	Ryder	X	Hoe HC CC	X	LA	X	Hoe HC	X	X	Rothery	X	Hoe HC	X
U/LANDYWOOD	10.30 am	Hoe Cv	Trigg	Timothy	PLA H	Hoe HC B	Cowell T	PLA	Alexander	Hagerman	Hoe HC	Haywood	Whitson	Sigley
CENTRAL SECTION														
The Revd Chris Ambler														
CHADSMOOR	10.30 am 6.00 pm	Rothery Ctemp	Herring HC Glover	LA Timothy	Ambler HF AA LA	Timothy Ctemp	Devey Glover	LA Ambler HC	Donkoh LA	Ambler Ambler	Thompson HC CA Ctemp	US Bethany Glover	Ryder AAW Ambler	A Jenkins T Rothery
GREAT WYRLEY	11.00 am	Glover	Hoe	LA HF	Lowther	Ambler HC	Rothery	Parkinson CA	Ambler HC	Cowell T	LA	Devey	Ambler	Ambler HC
SALEM	11.00 am 4.00 pm	LA X	Ambler B X	Sigley Crook/Goode HC	J Ambler HF X	Alexander X	Ambler X	LA Hagerman HC	Whitson X	A Jenkins X	Lowther X	Ambler X	Cowell Ambler HC	Glover X
TRINITY&BOURNE	11.00 am	Ambler HC	Devey	Lowther	Trigg	LA	J Ambler T	Ambler HC	Boot	LA	Ambler HC	C Parkes	Sigley	Ryder
EAST SECTION														
The Revd Jacob Donkoh														
BRERETON	10.30 am	US@ST P	C Parkes	Alexander	Donkoh HF	US@StP	P Dunn	Ryder	S Parkes	Whitson	US@St P	Hoe	Lowther	Donkoh CA
BURNTWOOD	10.30 am	Sigley	LA	Donkoh US HC	Alexander	Glover	Haden W HF	Chasetown US	Rothery	LA	P Dunn	PLA	Chasetown US	LA
CANNOCK WOOD	6.00 pm	Ambler	Donkoh HC	LA	Ambler	Donkoh HC	Hoe	Rothery	Ambler	Crook	Donkoh	Hagerman	LA	Crook
CHASETOWN	10.30 am	Timothy	Donkoh B	Burntwood US	A Jenkins	Magiure	PLA HF	Donkoh US HC	Chasetown US	Sigley	J Ambler	St Annes US 11	Donkoh US HC	Lowther
HANDSACRE	9.30 am	Boot	P Dunn	Whitson	J Jenkins T	LA	Donkoh HC	Haywood	LA	TRigg	Timothy	S Parkes	LA	C Parkes
St PAUL'S LEP	11.00 am 6.00 pm	U Donkoh HC Donkoh HC	Lowther X	LA X	Boot HF X	U Donkoh HC Ambler HC	Herring X	LA X	Devey X	J Jenkins X	U Donkoh HC X	LA 10.50 Donkoh Mem	Trigg X	E Hoe-Crook X

AA All-age Worship / B Baptism / Caf  Caf  Worship / CA Church Anniversary / CC Church Council / CP Coffee & Prayer / Ctemp Contemporary Worship / Cv Covenant Service / GD Gift Day / H Harvest Festival / HC Holy Communion / LA Local Arrangement / Mess Messy Church / Mem Memorial Service / OT Ordinary Time / P Parade Service / REA Royal Engineers' Association Parade & Service / snb Sunday next before / U United Service/ UC United Circuit Service / U@Bton United Service at Breteton / U@Bwood United Service at Burntwood / U@StA United Service at Chasetown with St Anne's / U@StA United Service at St Anne's / U@StM United Service at St Michael's Penkridge / U@StP United Service at St Paul's / X No Service / ➤ Transport requested

red = fixed / black = moveable / PLA = Planned Local Arrangement / LA = movable Local Arrangement / U@StP ≡ LA