

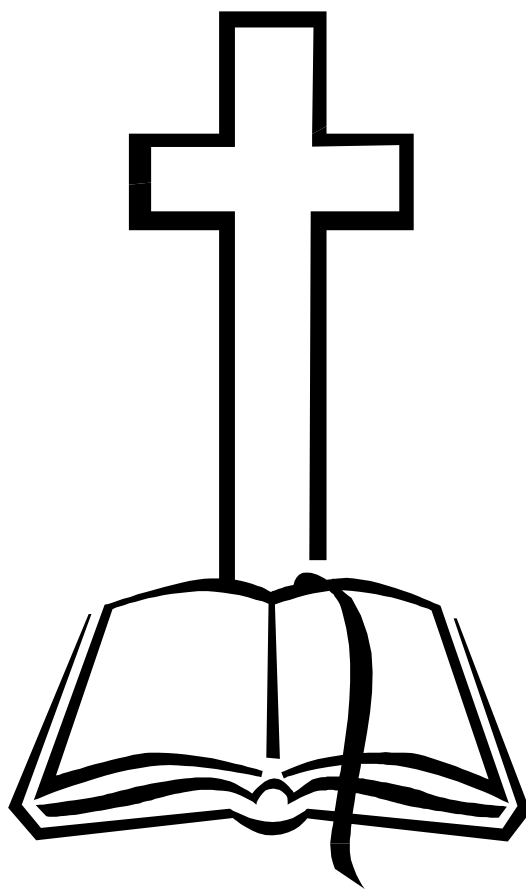


North East Somerset & Bath

Methodist Circuit

PREACHING PLAN

December 2017 – February 2018



'EMMANUEL... GOD WITH US'

SUPER'S SOAP BOX



Dear Friends,

This Quarter we celebrate two significant seasons of the Christian year...Advent and Christmas. They are both seasons that are filled with symbolism and meaning as we seek to express the truths of Christ coming into the worldand his second coming.

As I climb up on to my soapbox I want to ask you this... 'How will it be different for you this year?' The danger is that we will do the same things in the same way at the same time and we are just going through the motions...and we miss some great truths and insights into our Christian story. Come Boxing Day we will be sighing 'Thank goodness that is all over' If we just do the same every year.

I am reminded of the story of a mother who presented the Christmas turkey at Christmas Day lunch. She had prepared the turkey exactly as her mother had done for many years... part of the family tradition. The legs were separated off from the main body of the turkey and surrounded by lovely cooked vegetables. It was at that point that one of the children asked (as they often do!) 'Mum why do you always chop the legs off the turkey?' 'Well' replied the mother 'that's how this family has always done it as part of our Christmas...it's a special tradition that goes back a long time'. It was at that point that Grandma spoke up. 'How silly' she retorted 'the only reason I used to chop the turkey legs off was because our oven was so small and so we had to cook them separately. Nothing special about that!'

As the story shows, sometimes traditions at Christmas can have no meaning at all!

So I encourage you to reflect on why we do some of the things we do at Advent and Christmas. As a result of asking these questions we may well do things differently and find new truths as we celebrate the coming of Jesus...and as we prepare for His return. Maybe you can find time away from Sunday worship to re-read the familiar Bible readings and carols associated with Christmas rather than getting a sort of 'indigestion' when they all come together at the Carol Service!

And I want to say a particular word to those of us who will have no choice but to do it differently.... Maybe in this last year we have lost loved ones and so it will be different. Maybe our children have other plans this year or relatives are far away. In these different circumstances may we know that same presence of Emmanuel 'God with us' as we have before, as the one constant at Christmas time.

Your Superintendent,

Stephen

December 2017

Liturgical Year <i>Special Sundays</i> <i>Please pray for</i>	3 rd Advent 1		10 th Advent 2		17 th Advent 3		24 th Advent 4 <i>Christmas Eve</i>		31 st Christmas 1			
	<i>Bathampton Beechen Cliff</i>		<i>Box</i>		<i>Chew Stoke</i>		<i>Farrington Gurney</i>		<i>Horizon Southdown</i>			
Bathampton	11.00	Parsons		Bell		Kirova	HC	Hull	Car	Durkin	Auty	
Beechen Cliff	9.30	Souter	HC	---		---		---		---		
	10.30	LA	IP	Souter	Toy	Jakins		Mills		at Weston	U	
	2.00	LA	K	LA	K	LA	K	LA	K	LA	K	
		---		---		6pm Souter	Car	4pm Souter	Chr	---		
Box	11.00	Hull		Kirova	HC	Honey		Kirova	Car	Wilson		
Chew Stoke	10.30	Hewett		Durkin	Auty	IP	Lansley	HC	Slocombe	Car	at Paulton	U
Farrington Gurney	11.00	Heynes	Toy E	Hull	HC	Slocombe	Car	Low		at Paulton	U	
Horizon	10.30	Turner	HC	Wilson	Toy	Souter	Car	Trembling		at Weston	U	
	6.30	Souter	U	Souter	HC	Crane		---		---		
Keynsham Queens Road	8.30	---		---		---		---		---		
	10.00	Wilson	HC	Beck		Wilson	A	at Victoria	U	at Victoria	U	
	6.30	Wilson	U Car	at Victoria	U	at Victoria	U	4.30pm Wilson	Nat	---		
Keynsham Victoria	10.00	Evans		Robinson	HC	Turner		Wilson	AU	Winstanley	U	
	6.30	at Queens Rd	U	Wilson	U	Wilson	U Car	11pm Wilson	H CU	---		
Midsomer Norton	10.30	Robinson	HC	D Robinson	IP	Robinson	N	Robinson		Cross		
	6.00	4pm Robinson	E	Kirova	HC	Robinson	Car	Robinson	Chr	---		
		---		---		---		11.30pm - Robinson	HC	---		
Nexus	10.30	Kirova	HC	LA		Haynes	Nat	Cross		Kirova	CS	
		---		---		6.30pm Kirova	Car	11.30pm Kirova	HC	---		
Paulton	8.30	---		---		---		---		---		
	10.30	Trembling	Toy	Slocombe	HC	Parker	Nat	Withers		Slocombe	U	
	6.00	at PC	E	---		Slocombe	Car	11.30pm - Slocombe	HC	---		
Peasedown St John	10.30	Dymond		Winstanley	HC	Winstanley	Nat	Winstanley		Heynes		
		---		2pm - Winstanley		6.30pm - Winstanley	Car	11.30pm- Winstanley	HC	---		
Stratton House	3.30	---		---		Turner	HC	---		---		
Timsbury	10.30	Slocombe	HC	at Cong	E	Cross		Crane	Car	at Paulton	U	
Trinity at Radstock	10.30	Honey		Cramb	IP	Tate	HC	White		Tate		
	4.00	---		---		---		Christingle	MC	---		
	6.00	Tate	HC	Tate	Car	Tate	Car	---		---		
Trinity at Westfield	10.30	Tate	B	Low		Dymond		Tate		White		
	6.00	---		---		---		Evans	Car	---		
Weston	10.30	Souter		Tate	U	Beck		Souter	Car	Lansley	HC U	
		---		---		---		11.15pm Souter	HC	---		

January 2018

Liturgical Year Special Sundays Please pray for	7 th		14 th		21 st		28 th		
	Epiphany 1		Ordinary 2		Ordinary 3		Ordinary 4		
	<i>Covenant</i>				<i>Christian Unity</i>				
	<i>Keynsham Kingswood School</i>		<i>Midsomer Norton</i>		<i>Nexus</i>		<i>Paulton</i>		
Bathampton	11.00	Beck		Cross		Kirova	Cov	Gilson	
	9.30	....		....		....		....
Beechen Cliff	10.30	Crane	Cov	Saunders		Lowe		Cramb	
	2.00	LA	K	LA	K	LA	K	LA	K
Box	11.00	Turner		Kirova	Cov	Winstanley		Biddulph	
Chew Stoke	10.30	Cramb		Parsons	IP	Slocombe	Cov	Parker	
Farrington Gurney	11.00	Hewett		Slocombe	Cov	Turner		Crane	
Horizon	10.30	Parker		Withers		Tate	HC	LA	
	6.30	Tate		Robinson	HC	Slocombe		Tate	
Keynsham Queens Road	8.30		Wilson	A
	10.00	Wilson	A Cov	Bell		Judge		at Victoria	U
	6.30	at Victoria	U	at Victoria	U	Winstanley	U	Slocombe	U
Keynsham Victoria	10.00	at Queens Road	U	Haynes	HC	Somers		Wilson	U
	6.30	Kirova	U	Wilson/Robert	UGS	at Queens Rd	U	at Queens Rd	U
Midsomer Norton	10.30	Robinson		Robinson	Cov	Bond		Edge	IP
	6.00	Winstanley		Tate		4pm at Welton	E	Robinson	HC H
Nexus	10.30	Kirova	Cov	Wilson		Durkin Auty		Trembling	
	8.30	---		Slocombe	HC	---		---	
Paulton	10.30	Parsons		White		Heynes		Slocombe	Cov
	6.00	Slocombe	E	---		---		---	
Peasedown St John	10.30	Winstanley	A	Winstanley	HC	Rowe		Hewett	
Stratton House	3.30	....		....		Kirova	HC	....
Timsbury	10.30	Slocombe	Cov	Jakins		at Congregational	E	Dymond	
Trinity at Radstock	10.30	Tate	Cov U	Trembling	IP	Withers		Mills	
	4.00	....		....		....		MC
	6.00	Wilson		....		at PC	E	....
Trinity at Westfield	10.30	at Radstock	U	Tate		D Robinson		Robinson	
	6.00	....		....		at PC	E	....
Weston	10.30	Mills		at Moravians	E	Parsons		Tate	HC

ALL PREACHERS ARE REMINDED THAT IF THEY CANNOT FULFIL AN APPOINTMENT THEY MUST FIND AN ACCREDITED SUBSTITUTE AND INFORM THE SUPERINTENDENT MINISTER AND THE RELEVANT LOCAL CHURCH STEWARD.

DEADLINES FOR PLAN: December 2017 to January 2018

Wednesday 10th January 2018: Presbyters (and churches via Presbyters)

**Wednesday 17th January 2018: Supernumeraries and Preachers
(Local Preachers' Meeting date)**

February 2018

Liturgical Year Special Sundays <i>Please pray for</i>	4		11		18		25		
	Ordinary 5		Ordinary 6		Lent 1		Lent 2		
			<i>Racial Justice</i>						
	<i>Peasedown St John</i>		<i>Stratton House Tisbury</i>		<i>Trinity</i>		<i>Weston</i>		
Bathampton	11.00	Saunders		Winstanley		Kirova	HC TP	Cross	TP
Beechen Cliff	9.30	Tate	HC	....		....		....
	10.30	Tate		Hewett		Haynes	HC	Biddulph	
	2.00	LA	K	LA	K	LA	K	LA	K
Box	11.00	Cramb		Kirova	HC	Crane	TP	Kirova	TP
Chew Stoke	10.30	Beck		Slocombe	IP	Robinson	HC	Gilson	
Farrington Gurney	11.00	D Robinson		Trembling		Cramb	HC	Honey	
Horizon	10.30	Lansley	HC	Jakins		Winstanley		Tate	
	6.30	Winstanley		Tate	HC	Tate		Wilson	
Keynsham Queens Road	8.30	....		....		....		Wilson	A
	10.00	Wilson	HC	Dymond		at Victoria	U	at Victoria	U
	6.30	at Victoria	U	at Victoria	GS U	Wilson	HC H U	at Victoria	U
Keynsham Victoria	10.00	Turner		Wilson	HC	Wilson	U	Wilson	U
	6.30	Robinson	U	Wilson	U	at Queens Rd	U	Winstanley	U
Midsomer Norton	10.30	Robinson	HC	Robinson	IP	Rowe		Robinson	IP
	6.00	Wilson		Robinson		Robinson	HC	Slocombe	
Nexus	10.30	Kirova	HC	Evans		Parsons	TP	Lansley	TP
Paulton	8.30	---		---		---		---	
	10.30	Cross		Durkin Auty		Edge		Slocombe	HC
	6.00	at PC	E	---		Slocombe	R	---	
Peasedown St John	10.30	Winstanley	A HC	Parsons		Durkin Auty		Winstanley	
Stratton House	3.30	....		....		Vonberg	HC	....
Tisbury	10.30	Withers		Mills		Slocombe	E	Hewlett	HC
Trinity at Radstock	10.30	at Westfield	U	Parker	IP	Tate	HC	Lowe	
	4.00	....		....		....		MC	
	6.00	Tate	HC	....		Kirova		....
Trinity at Westfield	10.30	Slocombe	U	Tate	HC	Bell		Parsons	
Weston	10.30	LA		Crane	HC U	Vonberg		Trembling	

ABBREVIATIONS

A	All Age Worship	GS	Guest Service	Nat	Nativity Service
B	Baptism	H	Healing Service	PC	Parish Church
Car	Carol Service	HC	Holy Communion	R	Reflective Worship
Chr	Christingle	IP	Informal Praise	TP	Theme Preach
Cov	Covenant Service	K	Korean Worship	U	United Service (Methodist)
CS	Creative Service	LA	Local Arrangement		
E	Ecumenical Service	MC	Messy Church (or equivalent)		

News from around the Circuit

Superintendency

At the September Circuit Meeting a reinvitation was given to Rev Stephen Robinson for a further 4 years from September 2018. The reinvitation, at Stephen's request, does not include the Superintendency to enable him to respond to the growing opportunities and needs in the Midsomer Norton area.

The Circuit Leadership Team, along with the Chair of District, are currently engaged in a process of reviewing the Superintendency role/model and will bring to the February Circuit Meeting proposals in relation to this.

Please do commit this to prayer.

Sabbatical

From December 27th to March 25th Ian Souter will be taking a sabbatical. Rev Jan Tate will have pastoral oversight of his churches during this period. We wish Ian a refreshing and blessed time.

Circuit Stewards

We are currently looking for 4 new Circuit Stewards as 2 have stepped down and 2 will be stepping down in August.

Specifically:

- a) Two Circuit Stewards with **general oversight**. This will include attending some local Church Councils and offering support to a minister
- b) One Circuit Steward to oversee the **finances** of the circuit
This role has been reviewed and will not be a direct 'like for like' with what Hilary has been doing. It will not include duties mentioned in a)
It might be possible to split this role up for two people working closely together: one who does the 'book keeping' and another who does the 'overarching' work of the Treasurer eg Reports, monitoring, policy etc. (This is the model the District are using)
- c) One Circuit Steward to oversee **Manses**
This role has been reviewed and will not be a direct 'like for like' with what David has been doing. It will not include duties mentioned in a)
It will include oversight of the manses but will not include single responsibility should a property (circuit or local church) need to be sold. In this instance a small team will be appointed.

We hope to make appointments at the February 7th Circuit Meeting.

If you would like more information or to express an interest, please contact either the Superintendent Minister or a Circuit Steward (currently: Jeff Sawyer (Keynsham), Irene Arnold (Keynsham), Kathy Dymond (Midsomer Norton), Hilary Nash (Keynsham) and David Pendle (Weston)

If you could do this before **December 7th** (next meeting of the Circuit Leadership Team) that would be really helpful.

Christmas Eve & Day Services Around the Circuit

Sunday 24th December

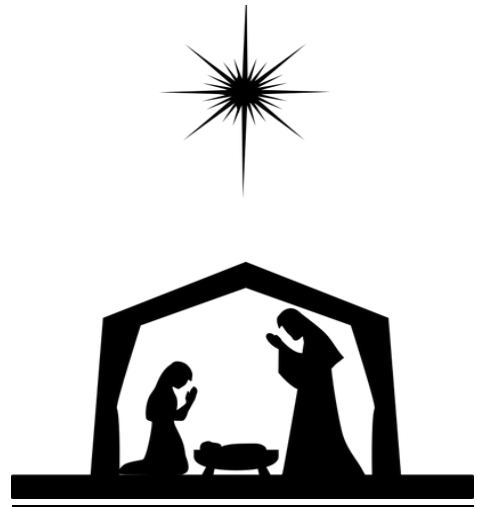
(see also the Plan for morning services)

4.00 pm	Beechen Cliff	Christingle
4.00 pm	Peasedown St John	Crib Service
4.00 pm	Trinity Radstock	Christingle
4.30 pm	Keynsham Queens Road	Family Nativity
6.00 pm	Midsomer Norton	Christingle
6.00 pm	Trinity Westfield	Carol Service
11.00 pm	Keynsham Victoria	Holy Communion
11.15 pm	Weston	Holy Communion
11.30 pm	Midsomer Norton	Holy Communion
11.30 pm	Nexus Walcott	Holy Communion
11.30 pm	Paulton	Holy Communion
11.30 pm	Peasedown St John	Holy Communion



Christmas Day

9.15 am	Box
9.30 am	Horizon
9.30 am	Timsbury
10.00 am	Keynsham Victoria
10.30 am	Beechen Cliff
10.30 am	Midsomer Norton
10.30 am	Nexus
10.30 am	Paulton
10.30 am	Peasedown St John
10.30 am	Trinity Radstock
10.30 am	Weston
11.00 am	Bathampton



Ash Wednesday (14th February 2018)

10.00 am	Bathampton
2.00 pm	Box
6.30 pm	Keynsham Victoria
7.30 pm	Nexus
7.30 pm	Paulton



Circuit Dates for the Diary

Thursday 7th December

2.00 pm Circuit Leadership Team Southdown

Wednesday 17th January

7.30 pm Circuit Preachers Meeting Southdown

Wednesday 7th February

7.30 pm Circuit Meeting Southdown