

Contact

Chester-le-Street Methodist Church

October 2026



OUR VISION

The Chester-le-Street Methodist Church is a people in whom Christ's love is celebrated through Worship, expressed through Service and shared through Mission.

CIRCUIT MINISTERS

Rev. Jenny Porterpryde

Tel: 0753 835 2684

e-mail: prydejenny2@gmail.com

Rev Anne Kilvington

Tel: 0191 388 3268

e-mail: revannekilvington@gmail.com

Deacon Ellie Griffin

email: deaconellie@gmail.com (preferred contact)

Tel: 07739 412287 (leave text message)

CIRCUIT CHILDREN & FAMILIES WORKER

Neil Garlick

Tel: 07855 386292

e-mail: neil.g.hopemethodistcircuit@gmail.com

Facebook: Cornerstones Children and Families



This edition of Contact is available on-line at
<https://clsmethodist.org.uk/styled-4/>

From the Stewards

Hello it is hard to believe we are in the month of October with it been such a lovely

long hot summer the months have passed so quickly, we are reminded that seasons are changing when we see the trees changing to the Autumnal colours. A reminder of God's Love and handy work.

Sunday 27th September was our Harvest Festival Celebration, and we thank everyone who took part in that service also we would like to thank everyone who gave gifts of food and those who collected at the Super Market for food which will be delivered to the Food Bank.

We have quite a few events happening with the Boys Brigade at present we are pleased that these young people are so interested in these activities, no doubt Derick will be giving information on these in the contact.

We are so very happy to have new people attending our worship and joining in with our Church Family and we pray that they feel welcome and feel and the warmth of God's Love in our Church.

It was with much sadness we had to Celebrate the Life of our much-loved Friend Joan Evans. We thank God for her friendship and true Love of God and Christian example.

I would like now to share the Peace with you all,

May the Peace of the Lord be with you now and for evermore Amen.

Freda Raine, Steward



Prayer of trust in God's Word.

Father,

Thank you for your written Word to us in the Bible, inspired and interpreted by your Holy Spirit. Thank you that from beginning to end it reveals Jesus, the living Word, sent by you to rescue us from the mess of selfishness and disobedience. May we treasure your revelation to us and allow you to guide us by it through the confusion and pain of this world, confident that your Word is unchanging and powerful and trustworthy.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

NEVER ENOUGH, NEVER, NEVER...

Recently as most of you know I was eighty and I wanted to thank everyone for the good wishes, cards etc. the words I find it difficult to express how humbled I was and still am. As ever music has come to my rescue. if you can watch or listen to the song Never Enough from The Greatest Showman, the opening lyric through to the chorus says just how I feel, thank you can "never be enough, never, never".

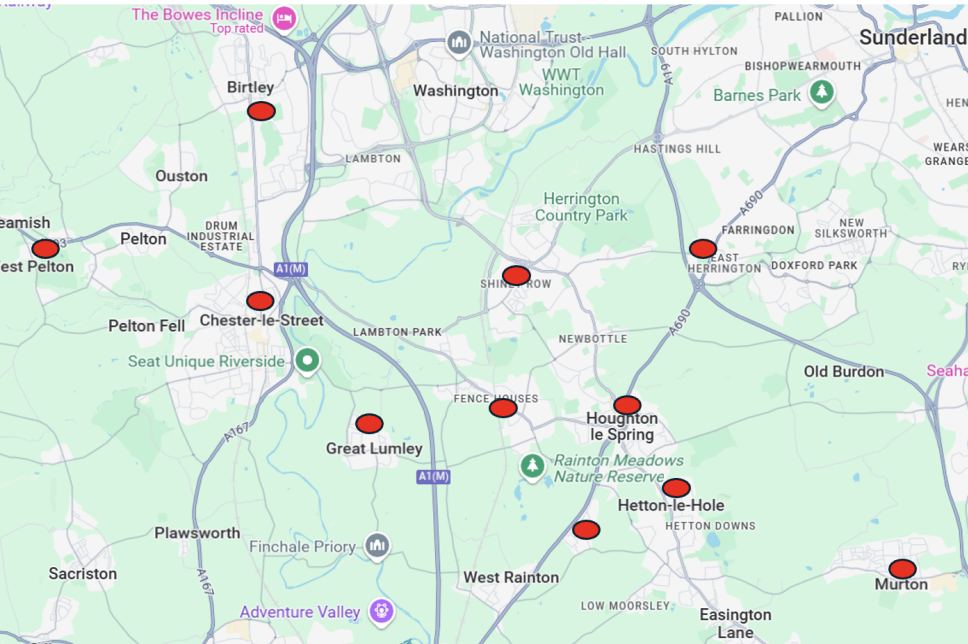
As my birthday was approaching my amazing wife asked if I wanted a do because we as a family are good at them but I said no love I really don't want a fuss. She said ok but shall you and me just go to the lakes on our own then, and on your birthday I will book us in to our favourite haunt The Swinnside Inn in Newlands Valley for a quiet lunch. I was over the moon. However as most of you will know she slipped in the bath and broke her shoulder a few days before but rather than cancel she insisted we go ahead, my shoulder is broken but it is the same in lakes as at home. So we went ahead and as we approached The Swinnside Inn on the day I was totally chilled despite being a year older, Kath, went in first followed by the dog and the now old man last. I glanced towards where we usually sat and I said to mam (thats what I call her), there is a young lad the double of our Matthew up there. Still not suspecting a thing I made my way to where we sit, not only was it Matthew but every one of my family were there. The most wonderful surprise of my life, not to mention shock, a few days I will remember above most others for the rest of my life.



I have found out since just about half of Chester le Street knew, neighbours, my hairdresser, everyone staying at the hotel in Keswick, all of toddlers, the office, I could go on. The family I thought were up in Glencoe or at work were in fact in Keswick all along preparing this special treat for me and I didn't have a clue, Honest. So once again Never enough, never, never will my thanks apply to this time to you all but especially my dear lady wife who made this happen.

Yours
The now Octagenarian Fred

Churches in Hope Circuit
Birtley, Chester-le-Street, East Rainton, Fence Houses, Great Lumley, Hetton-le-Hole, Houghton-le-Spring, Middle Herrington, Murton, Shiney Row, West Pelton



Distances between churches											
	HLS	HLH	M	SR	ER	MH	FH	CLS	L	B	WP
HLS		2.2	5.3	2.9	1.8	2.5	1.8	5.8	4.6	7.8	8.2
HLH	2.2		3.4	4.4	2.2	4.2	3.2	6.8	4.9	8.7	9.4
M	5.3	3.4		8.4	4.5	6.2	6.0	9.1	7.6	11.5	12.2
SR	2.9	4.4	8.4		4.1	2.5	2.4	3.8	3.5	5.5	6.3
ER	1.8	2.2	4.5	4.1		3.7	1.9	5.6	3.6	7.5	8.2
MH	2.5	4.2	6.2	2.5	3.7		3.6	6.2	6.8	7.7	8.8
FH	1.8	3.2	6.0	2.4	1.9	3.6		4.0	2.6	5.6	7.5
CLS	5.8	6.8	9.1	3.8	5.6	6.2	4.0		2.9	2.7	4.0
L	4.6	4.9	7.6	3.5	3.6	6.8	2.6	2.9		5.1	6.4
B	7.8	8.7	11.5	5.5	7.5	7.7	5.6	2.7	5.1		3.8
WP	8.2	9.4	12.2	6.3	8.2	8.8	7.5	4.0	6.4	3.8	



Cornerstones Craft Club

Come and join us! Your first session is **FREE**, then just £3 per visit. We're here every Friday from 10am–1pm.



Chester le Street Methodist Church,
North Burns, Chester le Street, Co
Durham, DH3 3TF Tel. 0191 3881313
info@cornerstonescentre.co.uk



The Methodist Church
Chester-le-Street

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

28

Our annual Christmas Fayre will be held on
Saturday November 28th between 9am and 12:00pm. All
proceeds go to Church funds. As usual we have a fabulous
selection of stalls, with lots of goods on offer, including:

- Handmade Crafts
- Jigsaws
- Chocolate Surprise
- Christmas decorations
- Jewellery
- Scarves

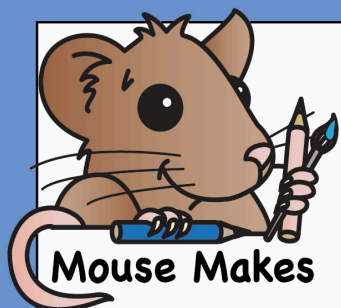
- Cakes
- Toys & Games
- Toiletries
- Holiday gifts
- Red & Gold items

**FREE
ADMISSION**

**DONATIONS
-ACCEPTED-**

See you there!

Cornerstones Centre for the Community at Chester-le-Street Methodist Church.
North Burns, Chester-le-Street, County Durham, DH3 3TF



The **Bible** is a collection of books, written by many different people who were helped and inspired by God. The **Bible** includes books of history, law, poetry and songs, wisdom, testimony, letters and prophecy.

The **Bible** encourages us, corrects us and teaches us about God and how we can be friends with Him.



2. Which book of the Bible has the shortest title?

1. How many books are there in the New Testament?



3. The Word of God is sharper than a two edged

Hebrews 4:12



BIBLESUNDAY

4. He was an Old Testament prophet that has a book named after him.



5. The first book of the Bible.



6. God's word is like a _____ and a _____
Psalm 119:105

8. The last book in the Bible.

9. The Old Testament book of poetry and songs.

11. The last book in the Old Testament.

10. Who wrote the third book of the New Testament?

12. Which book tells the story of the spread of Christianity?



13. The Bible is also known as the _____ of God.
Hebrews 4:12

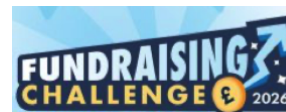
14. A book of the Bible named after a woman



7. What are the first four books of the New Testament known as?



Oct26 © deborah noble • parishpump.co.uk



YOUNGMINDS

The Boys' Brigade are supporting Young Minds, the UK's leading charity dedicated to improving the emotional well-being and mental health of children and young people up to the age of 25.



Our Coffee Morning in September got us off to a good start fund raising together with the Quiz (£2) and the Pick the Emoji (£2). These are still available to take part with the results being announced at the end of October. Ask any Leader if you would like a Quiz sheet, or to pick an emoji. The Quiz winner and the person picking the winning emoji will each receive a £20 prize.

Also as part of the project we are asking everyone to wear something yellow at the church services on Sunday 11th October.

Derick Lawson



Save the Date

**Complete Clothing Fashion Show
27th October**

**Christmas Fayre
28th November**



BAPTISM

On Sunday 13th September during the Jigsaw service we were happy to welcome Jonathan and Stephanie Robson with their family and friends when they brought their young daughter Violet Athena-Rae Robson for Baptism. We heard the story of Jesus Baptism told by Rev. Jenny Porterpryde and later

enjoyed cake with the refreshments.

Miriam Proctor,

Prayer for harvest

Dear Lord,

As we give thanks for the harvest and pray for the farmers who have struggled through the summer's drought and heatwaves, we also give thanks and pray for those who work to share the good news of Your kingdom, to bring in Your harvest of people who are searching for You.

May we, who know You, join those workers and share the good news that Jesus brings. So many people are lost and without hope or direction. Help us to reach out to them, maybe with an invitation, or simply a smile, or an act of kindness. May they see Your love reflected in us and turn to You.

May they put their trust in Jesus, who alone is the answer to all life's great questions.

Lord, may we be workers in the harvest field where You have placed us, for Your glory.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching



Sticks

Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft.

Today, it's called golf.



Flower Rota

October

4th Margaret Walker

11th Christine Smith

18th Joan Moore

25th

November

1st Gwynne & Jenny Walker

15th Irene Hall
Pauline & Derek Ogle

22nd

29th



DISCOVER

contemporary worship

music by
local musicians

FEATURING **Jane
Kitson**

Wesley Methodist Church
Durham Road, Low Fell

Saturday 3rd October
6.00pm

with

Deacon Linda Watkin

for more information email:
discover.cws@gmail.com

WELLBEING MASSAGE SESSIONS

Individual one hour sessions for seated massage

Every **MONDAY** 9.30am-2.30pm.

13th July-5th October 2026

Come and try a massage with the experienced
Complementary Therapist, Grace Ferreira



**Donations of £5, or free if you have proof
of receiving benefits**

AT CORNERSTONES

Chester-le-Street Methodist Church, North Burns. DH3 3TF

Grace Ferreira is
an insured and certified Massage
Therapist & Reflexologist.

**Grace is also highly trained
in complementary therapies
for cancer care**



**Applications are now available for the 2027
Competition**

at Chester le Street Church on

Saturday 6th February

1st Prize £500 – 2nd Prize £250

All other competitors in the final receive at least £75

**Young musicians in the DH Postcodes area can
request**

Application Forms from etheringtonmusic@outlook.com

**or download them from
www.jamesetheringtonaward.org**

**Closing date for Applications is
13th December 2026**



Foundation Safeguarding

**A Foundation Safeguarding course is planned for the evening
of 23rd November at Chester le Street Methodist Church.**

**If you need or want to attend, please let Tom Baker know
(email: tombak6@aol.com)**



FORGET ME NOT SINGERS

FREE

Dementia - Friendly




- Fun, friendly & relaxed music sessions
- A great way to enjoy music while making friends
- All ages welcome
- Perfect for people with dementia to come along with family, friends & carers
- Arrivals & refreshments from 1pm

THURSDAYS 1.30 - 3PM

CORNERSTONES @ CHESTER-LE-STREET METHODIST CHURCH
0191 3881313 INFO@CORNERSTONESCENTRE.CO.UK



CORNERSTONES
centre for the community




**point
north**



The **Methodist Church**
Chester-Le-Street

CORNERSTONES

THURSDAY LUNCHES

Every 1st and 3rd Thursday

NEXT DATES:- Oct 1st & 15th



Everyone is welcome! Served from 12 Noon.

Soup, Sarnie, Cake and Cuppa

(or Pay As You Can)

Chester-le-Street Methodist Church, North Burns,
Chester-le-Street, Co Durham, DH3 3TF



Fund Raising Fashion Shows

Tuesday 27th October 2026

Chester-le-Street Methodist Church at 7:00pm

Labels include



Monsoon

Phase Eight

White Stuff

Tickets £5 (inc refreshments) from the Church
Office 0191 388 1313 or Fundraising team

High street clothing at affordable prices available at
the event



www.complete-clothing.co.uk



complete Clothing Company



07774 459214 / 01977 684930



Complete-Clothing@hotmail.co.uk

God in the Arts

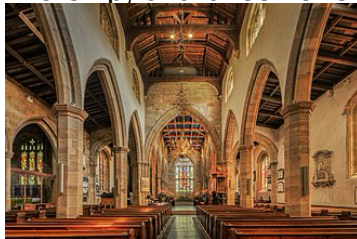
Editor: Have you ever thought how an actual church building might provide a series of visual aids to spiritual meditation? The Revd Michael Burgess continues his procession through a church building, this month pausing to consider the significance of the church choir stalls.

Photo:- Michael D Beckwith, CC0, via Wikimedia Commons

‘He gave us eyes to see them’ – the choir stall

‘Let all the world in ev’ry corner sing My God and King.’ George Herbert’s poem from ‘The Temple’ tells us that ‘the church with psalms must shout. No door can keep them out.’ It is a reminder of the rich tradition of music in our worship that reaches back to the people of the Old Testament praising the Lord. 2 Chronicles 5 paints a vivid picture of musicians and singers gathered to welcome the Ark of the Lord to Solomon’s Temple.

Because music is such an important part of worship, churches have set aside places for the singers to offer praise and petition. Some of the most wonderful choir stalls in the land can be found in Lancaster Priory, the parish church of St Mary. They are 14 in total, the third oldest choir stalls in England dating back to the 14th century. John Ruskin called them the finest in the country. The canopies are richly decorated with foliage and carved heads, and they enclose tapestries from the 1970s that depict saints and shields. Beneath are the seats: misericords with carvings that have survived the vandalism of the Civil War.



We can imagine the medieval monks gathered in these stalls to sing the offices. Today the stalls are a resplendent, harmonious blend of the old and the new – a work of beauty for the eye, just as the music offered there is a work of beauty for the ear. The word ‘choir’ means a dance to God, and the Priory has a fine choir whose chants and hymns dance from side to side of the chancel and resound in the air. But the music sung there is not just for our enjoyment: its focus is God. Herbert tells us that the songs we create here in our churches on earth have no other destination but the courts of heaven.

Christmas is coming !

We are hoping to organise a group of singers who will get together and rehearse two or three pieces of music to enhance our Evening Carol Service that will take place at 6.00 pm on **Sunday 20th December.**



They will also of course join with the congregation to sing the traditional carols.

As in previous years, we will need to arrange a few practices, but first we need to ensure that we have enough singers to make this work, and we are inviting those who have participated before to let us know whether they are available to sing again this year.

However, we believe there may be other people from our church family and from the wider Cornerstones Community who might like to join in with us for this occasion, and if anyone would like more information the Cornerstones Office would be pleased to provide it.

0191 388 1313 - info@cornerstonescentre.co.uk



Genesis for Cats

On the first day of Creation, God created the cat.

On the second day, God created man to serve the cat.

On the third day, God created all the animals of the earth to serve as food for the cat.

On the fourth day, God created honest toil so that man could labour for the good of the cat.

On the fifth day, God created expensive furniture so that the cat would have objects whereon to sharpen its claws.

On the sixth day, God created veterinary science to keep the cat healthy and the man broke.

On the seventh day, God tried to rest, but the litter box needed changing.



A poster for an English Course. The title 'English COURSE' is written in a large, bold font, with 'English' in dark blue and 'COURSE' in a lighter blue. To the right of the title is a green starburst shape with the word 'FREE' inside. Below the title, there is a yellow box with a wavy border containing a list of topics: '• BASIC COMMUNICATION', '• VOCABULARY', and '• FUN AND SUPPORTIVE'. To the left of this box is a pink speech bubble with a smiling face. Below the yellow box, the text 'Join us for:' is written in a green font. This is followed by a list of details: '• MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS', '• 1.PM TO 2.30PM', and '• LIMITED SPACES REGISTER EARLY'. To the right of this list is a yellow speech bubble with a surprised face. At the bottom, a pink wavy banner contains the text 'REGISTER NOW:' followed by the contact information 'INFO@CORNERSTONESCENTRE.CO.UK OR 0191 3881313'.

Circuit Children and Families Work

Greetings all!

Here are a few things we got up to over the summer and in September:

- At September's **Jigsaw Church**, we were delighted to welcome baby Violet with her family and friends to celebrate her baptism. We heard about Jesus' baptism, how God loves Jesus and loves us too. This was the beginning of our new theme, 'Who is Jesus?'

- We've had several **Mosaic Church** services over the summer. We've explored the parable of the sower, the parable of the wise and foolish builders and David's anointing as future king. To help us reflect on these themes we've planted seeds, built towers on jelly and made unique marbling art.



-  **Make Lunch** returned with two sessions over the summer. Thanks to Durham County Council funding and the wonderful Expedition Dinosaur and Crooked Halo Crafts we had a dino themed session and a day for space-themed crafts. Our volunteers made everyone feel very welcome and cooked up a storm in the kitchen. We had around 35 guests at each session; the families gave us some lovely feedback!

And here are few things coming up:

- Our next **Jigsaw Churches** are on **Sundays 4th October** and **1st November at 2pm**. We'll be continuing to explore who Jesus is.
- The next **Mosaic Church** is on **Sunday 22nd November**. We'll continue to find out about the life of King David.
- Our **Harvest Festival Community Worship** on **Sunday 27th September** will also be a great time for families to join us.
- Our next Make Lunch will be on **Thursday 29th October**,

with a jungle theme. There'll be more information to follow, but do put this date in your diary whether you're a family wanting to attend or volunteer who may support us.

- **Activ8+** is a new group for children aged 8–12 offered by our Methodist Circuit. We'll play active and fun games, share conversation about faith and Jesus over snacks and have opportunity for prayer. We're inviting children already involved in our churches and children we don't know yet. After consultation with families, the group will be held at **Great Lumley Methodist Church on Fridays, 6:00–7:30pm** starting on **Friday 13th November**. Do encourage families who may be interested to contact Neil and let Neil know if you'd be interested in covering when our regular volunteer team are unavailable.

As we seek to grow and develop our work with children and families across the circuit, we'd love to have more people involved in supporting our work with children and families here at Chester-le-Street. This could involve anything from cutting and sticking, to keeping in touch with families, to being at our sessions or even planning and leading sessions. Do contact Neil if you could help in any way at all.



Thank you to everyone who is already practically and prayerfully involved. Do use the above to keep praying for us!

Blessings, Neil (07855 386292;
neilg.hopemethodistcircuit@gmail.com)



Shampoo

Why I didn't realise this sooner? It's the shampoo I use in the shower that is my problem. When I wash my hair, the shampoo runs down my whole body, and printed very clearly on the shampoo label is this warning: 'FOR EXTRA VOLUME AND BODY.' No wonder I have been gaining weight.

*When you were born...
your mother brought you here.*

*When you were Baptised...
your parents brought you here.*

*When you were Married...
your partner caused you to come here.*

*When you die...
your family and friends will bring you here.*

*In the meantime...
why not come on your own?*

Those articles without names along with God in the Sciences or God in the Arts
are courtesy of Parish Pump

CORNERSTONES

Tel: Office - 0191 388 1313

Mobile - 0780 674 5097

e-mail - info@cornerstonescentre.co.uk

www.cornerstonescentre.co.uk

CORNERSTONES MISSION STATEMENT

A permanent commitment by the whole Church to reach
out
and become more involved in the life of the community of
Chester-le-Street and for the community to be supported
by the wider Church family.

Items for "Contact" to be handed in by the 20th of the month to:
Derick Lawson, 2 Loweswater Avenue, Chester-le-Street, DH2 3HJ
Tel: 0191 388 4684 e-mail: - derick.lawson@btinternet.com

