

CHURCH ACTIVITIES – Week commencing December 7th

FOOD BANK AND REFUGEE COLLECTIONS.

These take place on Mondays and Wednesdays, 11 -12 midday.

Sunday, Dec. 7th	Philip Mason Circuit Service	10.30 6pm	Church Annfield Plain Meth.Church
Monday December 8th	Badminton Open Church KOGs	10AM - 12mid 10.45 -12 5 -7.30pm	Croft View Church Church
Tues Dec.9th	Lunch	12 -3pm	CHURCH
Wed, Dec. 10th	Carol Service Junior Section Boys Brigade. Company & Senior section	1.30pm 6.15 - 7.30pm 7.30 -9pm	West Pelton Meth Church Croft View Croft View
Thursday Dec. 11th	Open Prayers Toddler group Anchor Boys Men's Meditation	8.30pm 10 – 12, 30pm 6-7pm 7.30pm	CHURCH CHURCH Croft View Lanchester Social Club
Friday Dec. 12th	Indoor Bowls	1.30pm	Croft Halla
Saturday Dec 13th	Coffee Morning Lanchester Band	10am	CHURCH

CHURCH NOTICES FOR NEXT WEEK. If you any items for the week commencing **Dec. 14th 2025.** please telephone Margaret on 07795 034427 or email churchnotices@hotmail.co.uk by **Wednesday, December 10th**

Minister: Rev. Stuart Earl, 33 Ford Road, Lanchester.

<http://www.lanchestermethodistchurch.org.uk>

Tel. No.:01207520604

PLEASE REMEMBER TO CHECK THE NOTICE BOARDS AT THE BACK OF CHURCH,



THE NORTHWEST DURHAM CIRCUIT

LANCHESTER METHODIST CHURCH

We ARE A FAMILY FRIENDLY CHURCH

www.lanchestermethodistchurch.org.uk

SUNDAY December 7th 2025
2nd Sunday in Advent



10.30am
Stewards
Creche
Jr. Church

Philip Mason
Bill and Margaret
Please see notice.
Mark and Inge

6pm
Circuit Service at Annfield Plain Methodist Church
led by Rev. Lees.

Members of the church community who will be leading worship and working for God elsewhere on Dec. 7th

WELCOME

We welcome any visitors and anyone who is joining us for the first time today. Please introduce yourself to one of our stewards who wear name badges. For safety reasons, would parents please look after their children after the service both inside and outside the church?

TUESDAY LUNCH CLUB

We continue to meet every Tuesday from **12noon until 3pm.** All are welcome for lunch or to pop in for a coffee and chat!
Margaret Coates

CHURCH FLOWERS

December 7th Mrs Lakey
December 14th Mrs Hall
December 21st Christmas Flowers

SUNDAY DECEMBER 14th 2025

Third Sunday in Advent

10.30am Local Arrangement, **Nativity**. All Age
Worship
Stewards Jen and Doreen
Creche See notice
Junior Church Sonia and Elaine

6pm **Service of Remembrance led by Rev.S.Earl**
Stewards **Jennifer and Philip**

CRECHE

Sadly we are not able to provide a creche at present, but there are toys, books etc in the back room if parents/carers wish to take their children out of the service. Children of any age are very welcome to join in with junior church although we ask if any child under 3 could come out with a parent / carer.

NATIVITY

After missing a few years, we are excited to announce that our nativity is returning this year on **Sunday 14th December at 10.30am**. We would love you to take part. All ages welcome! Range of parts available; both non-talking and talking, dressing up or not dressing up, just let us know how much you would like to do! If you have any musical talents you would like to use in the service, we would love to include them too. Please invite any children / young people you know to take part, but also we would love a few adults to help us out too. We can supply outfits if needed or bring your own if you prefer. Please let Kath (Tel 07704160449) or Sonia (07736774141) know if you would like to help.

SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL

At Christmas it is really important to support local families who will be struggling to afford presents for children. Therefore, **we will be collecting new, unwrapped toys and books every Monday and Wednesday 11am-12noon from Monday 17th November until Wednesday 10th December as well as on Sunday mornings from 16th November**. At the entrance to church there will be a box labelled "Toy Appeal" in which to place your gifts, please. Thank you for your support. Margaret Coates and Philip Holroyd

CAROL SINGING

This Christmas we hope to revive the tradition of Carol Singing around Lanchester. We are meeting outside of Church on **Tuesday 23rd December at 5.30pm**. It would be fantastic if as many people as possible could join us to help with the singing. Also, if you would like us to sing a carol at your home or the home of someone who might appreciate a visit (within walking distance in the village!) please could you contact us with the address and post code. We are very happy to sing for free to spread joy this Christmas, but if people want to make a donation we will be collecting for Willowburn Hospice. If you are singing please wrap up warm and if you have one bring a torch or lantern. Please contact Sonia (on 07736774141) or speak to any member of the Foxhills Cell Group if you would like to sing or have a carol at your home.

FRIENDSHIP ACROSS BORDERS (FAB) CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

FAB will be delivering a small Christmas present to each of the women who will be detained in the Derwentside Immigration Removal Centre over Christmas. They are in need of women's gloves (one size) and tubes or small bottles of hand cream. There is a box in the Church vestibule for donations which are required by **Sunday 7th December**. Thank you for your help.
Christine Slatcher

AN EXCITING CHRISTMAS CONCERT! 'Twas THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Innominata Choir will be performing at Annfield Plain Methodist Church on **Saturday 20th December at 7pm**. The concert will include familiar carols for choir and audience as well as some beautiful readings with carols from composers such as Bob Chilcott, Peter Warlock and Sarah Quartel. 'Twas The Night Before Christmas will be sung in the second part of the concert. A wonderful, innovative Cantata by Oliver Tarney, the words of the poem unfold interspersed with traditional carols. Please join us for a real celebration of Christmas! For Tickets costing £12 to include refreshments please email: innominatachoir@gmail.com or Tel: 01207521650 Margaret Coates

CAROL SERVICE – DECEMBER 10TH 1.30PM David Brown, our local preacher, is leading the carol service at West Pelton, our circuit's nearest neighbour, if anyone fancied a festive mid-week service. (See poster circulated with these notices)

LANCHESTER WIVES & FRIENDS

Advance notice

2026 7th January 12pm; In house Buffet lunch cost £10. Names & money to Dianne please

ECO SHOPPING – CHOCOLATE THIS CHRISTMAS

This Christmas, how can we choose the most ethical chocolate to match our budget?

Extract from 'Ethical Consumer': -

Over 70% of the world's cocoa is grown in West Africa, primarily in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana. Oxfam reports that up to 90% of cocoa farmers in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire don't earn a living income, forcing them to rely on child labour because they can't afford adult workers, involving practices that harm children's health, safety, or morals. Approximately 2.1 million children work on cocoa farms in these regions. Fairtrade certified chocolate has a set minimum price for cocoa to protect farmers.

Pesticide use is rife in cocoa cultivation, especially worrying due to the prevalence of child labour on cocoa farms and the lack of access many farmers have to proper protective equipment. Chocolate production is a major cause of deforestation. EU deforestation law states 'By December 30, 2025, all cocoa entering the EU must be deforestation-Mondelēz (own Cadbury, Green & Black) is urging for a delay of another year.

Of the 'affordable' chocolate that is readily available I found Oxfam chocolate, scoring 87/100, a clear leader at £2.40 for 100g. Ferrero, Lindt, Mars, Mondelēz and Nestlé all score under 25/100 overall for ethicality – with Cadbury's scoring 3/100!!

Our eco stall now has Oxfam Fairtrade milk and plain chocolate at £1.20 for 50g bar.

THE GLENDALE CHOIR – CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Glendale Choir are giving a concert of Christmas Music and Carols at Leadgate Methodist Church (followed by coffee, tea, mince pies and cake) on **Tuesday 16th December at 4.30pm**. No tickets required. There will be a retiring collection.

WATOTO CHARITY

Watoto brings hope and healing to vulnerable women and children in Uganda and South Sudan. Watoto villages provide homes, families and holistic care to over 3000 children. Baby Watoto rescues orphaned and abandoned babies giving them a bright future and the Watoto Neighbourhood Projects return dignity to Africa's greatest resource, her women. God is at the centre of everything Watoto do.

Mark and Julia Lloyd from Lanchester recently spent time in Uganda volunteering with Baby Watoto. They plan to return for 3 – 4 months next year and would love to be able to take out much needed supplies of premature baby milk, nappies, bottles and as much as they can fit into 6 suitcases to support this charity. As part of their fundraising for the children and women they are hosting, together with some wonderful volunteers, a Christmas Crafting afternoon at Lanchester Methodist Church. Please see below or find all the information in the poster accompanying these notices.

Christmas Crafting

Lanchester Methodist Church

Wednesday 17th December 2025 1.30 – 3.30pm

Refreshments available – Tea/Coffee and Mince Pie

Tickets £12 – to include a Framed Craft, Stick Christmas Tree and Mini Bobble Hat Party Favor

