

**15 January 2026 at 7.30pm
via Zoom**

1. **WELCOME:** Rev Beard opened the meeting.
2. **IN ATTENDANCE:** Rev Marie Beard (in the chair), Rev Tony Buglass, Tom Dodds, Sandra Martin, Bob McAlpin, Brian Japes, Glenn Smith, Robin Charlton, Rev Tony Buglass, Glen Smith, Rev Fiona Calverey, Jacqui Cameron.
3. **APOLOGIES:** Margery Burgess, Brian Elstob, Ian Warburton, Rev Gareth Sherwood, Christine Thompson, Sheila Holland, Rev Michael Holland, Norman Fullard, Daryl Ralston, Ruth Johnson, Elaine Goy.
4. **DEVOTIONS:** Rev Tony Buglass. *“Answering the call”: Irish Saint Íte of Killeedy. She is the source of a prayer in the Northumbria Celtic Prayerbook. She led an Irish religious community. We have all “answered a call”.*
5. **PASTORAL MATTERS:**
 - a. Ian Warburton retired as an active local preacher after his last appointment on 16 November 2025 at Prudhoe.
 - b. Rev Steven Talbot is recovering after surgery. He attended Acomb on 4 January.
 - c. Elaine Goy is unwell.
 - d. Margaret Weatherson is in hospital presently.
6. **MINUTES** of the meeting held on 2 October 2025 at Stocksfield Methodist Church, previously circulated, were accepted as a true record.
7. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES** not otherwise on the Agenda:
 - a. Allendale’s ISing list will be updated by Rev Michael soon. *TD will arrange to place the pdf, with hyperlinks, on the Website and circulate. Action: Michael/Tom*
8. **NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS** not otherwise on the Agenda:
 - a. Chrestos/Availability/Plan Making: User Interface refreshed. If you have any difficulty accessing it, please ring the Help Line number shown on Chrestos.
9. **CORRESPONDENCE:** None.
10. **PREPARATION FOR SERVICE:**
 - a. Seeking a Note to Preach: None. Please remember to encourage others to come forward to explore their calling to preach.
 - b. Preachers On Note: None.
 - c. Progress of Preachers On Trial:
 - i. Daryl Ralston: Jacqui Cameron is tutoring and Ruth Johnson is the mentor. Daryl continues to make progress, having to complete the Course by 18 January 2029.
 - ii. Sandra Martin heard Daryl on 26 October at Haydon Bridge. The meeting agreed to Daryl continuing On Trial.
 - d. Arrangements for preachers to be heard and a report prepared:
 - i. Daryl Ralston: Jacqui Cameron will hear Daryl on 8 February and report back.
 - ii. Fiona recommended that we try the Methodist Church in South Africa Summary Form: you can find a link to the form [here](#).

11. NEWS FROM CHURCHES:

- a. Roger Jones' 'Simeon' Musical at Prudhoe was 'marvellous', said Jacqui. There is another session with Roger coming up in March.

12. DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING: Resources for Lent and Easter: Marie led this. She uses Iona materials. How many churches decorate a Cross on Easter day? Here are some specific resources:

- a. Fiona shared the resources on the Methodist website, fully available from 26 January: you can view them [here](#).
- b. Fiona shared last year's material from The Church of England - you can view them [here](#).
- c. Sandra recommended Tear Fund materials, and 40 day course: The Daniel Plan: 40 days to a healthier life: you can view some of the material [here](#). Contact Sandra for details and discounted purchase (sjmartin_74@outlook.com) .
- d. Glen told us about Lent materials, titled Acts of Hope, available from Embrace The Middle East - you can view them [here](#).
- e. (After the meeting, Tom recalled Bob McAlpin's 'Easter Hymn for Tynedale', words by Bob written to the tune *Blaydon Races*. Download the pdf [here](#).)

13. FUTURE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

- a. 27 Jan: Approaches to Preaching the Good News from the Old Testament: a short on-line event previously circulated by TD. Details and booking here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/approaches-to-preaching-the-good-news-from-the-old-testament-tickets-1979866255266?aff=oddtcreator>

14. PEER REVIEW: Reminder. These happen on an 'ad hoc' basis, but we're always pleased to hear about them at this meeting.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS as notified at 7 above: None.

16. FUTURE MEETINGS: (all at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated, *place, volunteer for devotions*)

- **Note date: Thursday 23 April 2026:** at Stocksfield: *Devotions: Ruth Johnson*
- **Thursday 9 July 2026 - on Zoom:** *Devotions:*
- **Thursday 1st October 2026** at Acomb ('outing'): *Devotions: Communion and Reaffirmation: minute taker required.*
- **Thursday 14 January 2027 on Zoom**

17. The meeting closed with The Grace at 8.43pm