



The Methodist Church



Circuit Chat

Dear Friends,

Can you believe we're well into Autumn and heading towards the end of another year?! Lots to enjoy before C...C...Christmas though (I'm allowed to say that now, right?).

During a recent Methodist Diaconal Retreat, I was shown how to weave on an Ashford loom and was so taken with this traditional skill I've managed to source one, and have been nursing an addiction to wool ever since! We explored the intricate and delicate creation of the world in Genesis 1, our own identities as fearfully and wonderfully made, knit together in our mothers' womb in Psalm 139, and encouraged through Colossians 3 that we are bound together in unity and love.

The Crossing Church then had the chance to benefit from these themes during worship a couple of weeks ago where we weaved a prayer cloth together, made from individual strands of wool which we prayed over and weaved together – very special. I would love to share about this more widely around the circuit when opportunities arise (watch out Fellowship Groups!).

It's reminded me again how intentionally we were crafted by our Creator, and how God weaves together the tapestry of our lives – individual strands wonderfully spun and brought together as a whole. Without a single strand the bigger picture is poorer – we are all valued, necessary, and beautifully woven together. Let's continue to treasure our churches and our wider circuit, and marvel at the ways God interacts with us.

I leave us with a prayer which is shared overleaf

Deacon Emily

Eternal Weaver, we praise you for the loom of life, for the warp and weft of your love that holds us together. You have spun the galaxy and knitted each heart with care: May your Spirit move among us, connecting us, healing us, helping us see ourselves as part of your beautiful tapestry. Through Jesus Christ, the thread of grace, Amen.



News from The Crossing

Dear all,

Greetings from The Crossing Church, we have lots coming up in the coming months to invite you to – please see Save the Dates info below! There's also been lots of exciting things happening in Worksop – Singing with Dementia has been a real highlight recently with care homes and individual families joining in, and a host of different singers and groups leading our merriment. Coming up, we have Rev Mark Cantrill coming on Wednesday 29th October from 2-4pm, all are welcome! And next March 25th we're so pleased to be welcoming Our Dementia Choir from the television!!! Vicky McClure will be joining us and sharing their amazing work with us at The Crossing Church, everyone is invited.

In sadder news we have lost a few dear friends and church family members in these last few months – Richard Ward, Maureen Williams and Margaret Bray have all gone to glory recently – we uphold their loved ones in prayer and look forward to meeting again.

Excitingly, Deacon Emily has begun a new venture at the Priory Primary Academy in Worksop – a weekly lunchtime Christian Club! Along with the Head of

RE at the school, the children hear a Bible story, respond with a craft or prayer activity and lively discussion questions every week, with a great response so far! It's encouraging to know that our mission is spreading beyond the church in this way.

We are looking forward to this year's Journey to Christmas through December, building up the wooden nativity set in our church windows and hearing the story develop over the weeks leading towards Christmas Day. Our Nativity Festival 20-21st December will include the opportunity to see a huge range of nativity sets from around the world, seeing how different times and cultures interpret the characters and story we know and love. The Café will be open on the Saturday along with Messy Church activities, culminating in our Carol Service on the Sunday morning – please do spread the word and bring a few friends along to view the nativities!

Other Save the Dates include the next Model Transport Exhibition which takes place on Saturday 14th March 2026, there's always such a warm lively atmosphere, it was commented on particularly at the last one a few weeks ago that everyone there is so nice, and there are so many fascinating lay-outs to explore. Please do pop it in your diary.

That's all for now, but watch this space...and for now save the dates, info below!

Deacon Emily





Christmas

the ^{at} crossing church

Christmas 2025 at The Crossing is going to be a time of joy and gifting. We have lots of plans to involve the community and give as much as we can. There will be a reverse advent calendar for the local foodbank and mini services on Wednesday's and Friday's to which all are welcome.

There will be a Christingle for the uniform groups and a family nativity day

If you would like more details of any of our events either Christmas or throughout the year please contact me

clare.biddle@trinitycircuit.net

NEWS FROM SOUTH ANSTON METHODIST CHURCH

This year we said farewell to Rev Meg Burton. We have been blessed by how much she has brought to us, including the refurbishment of our church which has made it warmer and more welcoming with the addition of carpet and comfortable chairs.



Rev Meg had her last Network meeting with us on Tuesday 8th July where she gave us a potted history of her life which was indeed interesting and varied. She was presented with flowers from our Network Secretary Mrs Gwenda Coyne.

“CHURCH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS”



On the weekend of 12th/13th July we celebrated our 90th Church Anniversary. We were treated to an evening of entertainment with Rev Meg Burton and her friend from Austria Jutta Sigmund who wanted to “do something” for Meg’s farewell with us. It was a fabulous evening of music and poems, Meg singing and Jutta playing the organ which was wonderful. We were also joined by pianist Jonathan Gooing. We had traditional Austrian cake in the interval which went down very well, and a good evening was had by all.



The following morning, we hosted a Circuit Service, and it was so good to have a full church with members from all around the circuit. We were honoured to have Rev Dr Jonathan Hustler, General Secretary of the Methodist Church to lead our worship. Meg was thanked for her past work in our circuit and was presented with flowers, cards and gift cards. We were introduced to pioneer Peter Farmer, who is working with Dinnington Methodist Church and the community.



We then celebrated in the hall with a buffet lunch and cake. All in all, a memorable weekend.



Forthcoming Events at South Anston: -

Wednesday 26th November 9.30am-11.30am – Charity Coffee Morning for the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Bacon Butties, Tombola, Raffle and Cake stall all on offer and everyone is welcome to join us.



Saturday 29th November – Christmas Craft Fayre -11am-2pm

Saturday 13th December – Christmas Concert with Anston Male Voice Choir – 7pm

Christmas Services 2025



Sunday 14th December – Christingle/Gift Service – 10am

Thursday 25th December – Christmas Morning Worship – 9.30am

Anne Duffy

News from Carlton in Lindrick Methodist Church

CARLTON

Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association (Summer Term)

On 29 April we visited the Carlton Youth Centre and continued VE 80 activities, playing various games including 'Spitfires and Hurricanes' in the barn, and heard the story of Doubting Thomas. Videos covering events up to Pentecost, plus more VE 80 activities – including making Beacons of Light and Parachute Challenge – followed in the next few weeks.

On 10 May we held a fundraising event for Christian Aid. On the same day two leaders took some of the older boys to the Battalion Canoeing Day at Rother Valley and did paddleboarding for the first time.

On Tuesday 20 May we held a night on King Georges' Field, a recreation ground in the village. We identified trees and played games. We also played rounders threw the javelin. After half-term we held a 'fuddle' (Bring and Share) party to celebrate Pentecost, the Church's Birthday.



On Pentecost Sunday, 8 June, a united service was held on The Parish Centre car park. This was preceded by a walk of witness from the Methodist Church led by Rev Mark Orr, Rev Meg Burton and Fr Barry Frier. Church members and BBGA members took part and Timothei carried the BB colour for the first time.

The youth groups met together for the annual Treasure Hunt on Thursday 19 June, and around 70 family and friends enjoyed the evening.

As we had some new members join us, on 24 June we watched 3 videos and related puzzles. These were the boy Jesus in the Temple, Jairus' Daughter and Jesus welcomes the children to show how all are welcome.

On 1 July our video was 'On the road to Damascus', as we were going to hear stories about St Paul in the next term. Some of the youngsters then started making scarecrows for the upcoming Civic Centre Fun Day and On the Farm Family event, whilst our new drumming group held their first training session. Toby, a leader who left the village and has now returned, offered to teach the drums again. As we still have all the instruments we took him up on his offer. Others hope to learn soon.

On 8 July, family and friends gathered for the final BB&GA meeting of the year. They completed a wordsearch based on BBGA awards so they understood the awards being presented. Fr Barry Frier presented them.

Eddie Croot (Captain)

Family Fun Day

On a very soggy Saturday in July, a number of us attended the Family Fun Day at the Civic Centre, joining with other churches in the village. Our aim was to share crafts and activities and hand out leaflets about the churches, and some of what happens there. The newly formed group of BB&GA drummers had planned to play every hour or so – people would certainly know the churches were present! It was not to be this time. The gazebos were in place before the rain started, but not long afterwards everything on our tables was sodden. We did manage to speak to some passers-by and information etc was given out – so all was not lost.

The organisers of the day offered the drummers a slot inside and they played on the stage to all those already in the main hall. Six weeks previously, four of the boys had never played a drum – they were absolutely brilliant. It brought back memories of the band of 30 years ago. They were promised a longer time-slot next year. It is hoped that more of the BB&GA youngsters will learn to play too.



On the Farm Family Afternoon

This was held at Cleveland Close Community Centre on 19 August, in collaboration with UKSPF, with other activities organised by St John's Parish Church and the Methodist Church/BB&GA. The theme was chosen to link in with Carlton's Scarecrow Festival and also because it allowed us to introduce the stories that Jesus told of the Lost Sheep and the Prodigal Son. The underlying message was based on John 10 v 10 "I came to bring life in all its fullness."



About 13 children and their parents attended, along with volunteers and other interested adults. There were fewer children than last year but the majority had not been before. They enjoyed various craft activities, games, refreshments and a story time.

Two scarecrows made earlier by the BB&GA, Penelopea and Edwood, were on display and were later put in gardens in the village for the festival. A life sized scarecrow was made during the afternoon, and a competition held at St John's Summer Fayre the following week named her Maizey. Maizey had a few weeks in the vegetable garden at Bassetlaw Museum, before moving to her permanent home in a Community Garden in Nottingham.

Ride & Stride

On Saturday 13 September three local churches – St John's Parish Church, St Luke's in Langold, and ourselves – took part in Ride + Stride, supporting Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust. Churches around the county were open for people to visit as part of Heritage weekend. People could be sponsored to visit a number of churches with half the sum raised going to the Trust and the rest to their chosen Church.

We had displays of photographs and memorabilia depicting the history of the Methodist Church in Carlton. The communion table was set, and was presided over by a figure in Minister's robes (courtesy of Rev Angela's dressmaker's dummy and Rev Alan's full clerical attire!) Our 1822 engraving of John Wesley with 446 preachers represented in his connexion at City Road Chapel in London was on display, which has a drop down section identifying all those depicted.



To bring things up to date, there was a visual display on the screen of photographs, along with information of the three churches who meet in the building, plus details of coffee mornings and youth groups' meeting times. There was a stall with Carlton Methodist Church memorabilia for sale towards the fundraising, a Cancer Charities stall, and refreshments were available.

We had visitors who were cycling around the area calling at various churches, and others who walked or came by car.

Christmas Craft Fayre



Our Christmas Craft Fayre will be on Saturday 22 November, 10 am – 3 pm. There will be craft stalls, BB&GA stall, games, tombola, raffle and refreshments. All are very welcome.



Helen Hindmarch, Yvonne Jones and Laurian Moore

Baptism at The Grove Methodist Church



Our last Messy meeting was a first for us all. We were pleased to be part of the celebration of Ben Peter's Baptism. Ben's Grandma & Auntie are members of our Messy Church & Ben's Mum has also been part of our church. This was not the first time we had involved Ben in our Messy activities as he was baby Jesus in our Nativity play.

We started the session with making friendship bracelets (to share later) & decorating feet (Jesus walking alongside us). It was wonderful to have so many littlies with us – obviously the Duplo had to come out too!

We then went in to the Sanctuary for the Baptism, again lovely to see the space filled with young people – as well as a few of we older ones! We sang 'This little light of mine', and they did sing too! Julie told the story of the meaning of Baptism through Godly play. Still after all these years I love to see the awe & wonder on childrens' faces, especially when Julie extinguished the candles! As Ben was baptised we all made our promises, welcoming him and his family into our church family. As a reminder Ben was given a candle and a book. He was really good – no tears at all.

We all then went into the Vestibule to share in a wonderful buffet, provided by the family and members of the Messy Team.

There was a lot of love in the room and we really hope that the connections we have made will result in new relationship with the families. But if it doesn't - we loved the opportunity to share our faith, our hospitality and our building with a new group of people.

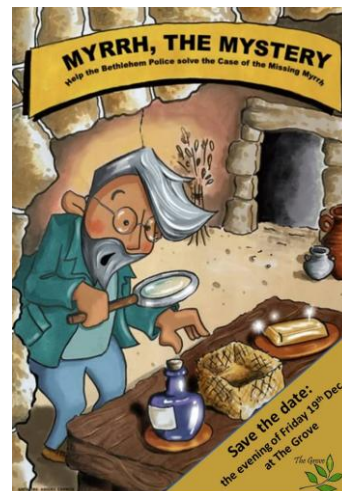
Sue Osborn (member of the Messy Team)

Myrrh, the Mystery at The Grove 19 December 2025

Come along to The Grove on the evening of Friday 19th December to solve one of the biggest mysteries of the year - who has stolen the myrrh?

A crime has been committed on the streets of Bethlehem. Strange sightings have been made at the town's Star Hotel stables. A precious item has gone missing! Can you help the Bethlehem police crack the case?

Myrrh, the Mystery is a retelling of the nativity story, based on the popular and interactive 'Whodunnit' evenings.



The evening will start with a meal and then the mystery will unfold before you. A great opportunity to invite a friend and, together, immerse yourself in the nativity story as never before.

This is being arranged with help from friends at Chesterfield Central Methodist Church who piloted this event two years ago. Ticket details to follow.

Daphne Sidney

The Banner 2024

The banner was born through a chance remark at a meeting – something like ‘it might be quite nice to make a banner to commemorate the end of the work done on the sanctuary, moving back into the church and the start of a new era in the church’s life’.

Surprisingly there were quite a number of people interested in making a banner – some skilled some unskilled and some completely unskilled so the first plan was to arrange to visit the banner making group at Leverton for help and advice and we came back from there with the shape – the circle - depicting the world divided into quarters into which we would put suitable symbols. Over the next few meetings the intended world became the Methodist symbol of orb and cross and into the four spaces we wanted to put symbols which symbolised our church.

Into the top left hand went the hand of friendship – all are welcome in our church and all are considered to be as one.

Top right hand is the dove of peace taking the olive branch out into the world, the town and community

Bottom left took some thought as we juggled with scallop shells, IHS, hearts, but we settled for the Christian fish as we considered that as a church we are fishers of men. They too are swimming outwards.



Bottom right was no problem as we knew that we wanted people spilling out of this building taking God's love and care out into the community.

In the middle of the cross is our church logo embroidered beautifully.

Having decided on the design we brought gifts of material having raided our rag bags and even our wardrobes, there were some large pieces, some scraps, some came with many memories, anything we thought might be suitable.

The cross and the lettering were made from a former beautiful garment – fit for a wedding

A piece of embroidered sheer organza suited the bird then decorated with gold thread and sequined wings snatches of different materials were ideal for the mix of people – the fish needed something aquatic.

The problem one was the held hands, altered several times with different material and wadding before it was just right.

An old sheet forms the backing. The only new material is that on which the symbols are displayed – the same material which covers the new chairs.

The banner is to commemorate the end of one era and the start of another and we thought it fitting that the new should grow out of the old like the Phoenix rising from the embers. The generations of people worshipping in this church over the years have given us a strong Christian faith and a base from which to take our church forward today into a new exciting era.



With this banner we feel, that what we have created, not only commemorates a new era but is a statement of how we want our church to be and how we want it to be known.

Daphne Sidney

An interview with Clare Biddle, Circuit Facilities and Community Manager

Tell us a bit about yourself and your role

Hello all, I am Clare Biddle, the Facilities and Community Manager for The Crossing Church in Worksop and Grove Street Methodist Church in Retford. I have been in the role since March 2024. The role is different everyday and it is great meeting people from all different sectors and growing the usage of the churches. I also look after the buildings themselves which can be a challenge as one is quite new and one is a listed building. I am very lucky at both sites to have dedicated hardworking volunteers and also paid caretaker/cleaners and I do enjoy the Human Resources side of the role including recruitment, training and appraisals. I really enjoy the role and it is great to see the 2 Churches growing and developing for the future.



What's your favourite holiday destination and why?..... My favourite place is Romney Sands down on the south coast, my family and I have been going every year for about the last 10 years. It is peaceful and near to some great family friends.

What's your favourite music and book?..... I love all types of music from ABBA to ZZ Top. If it has a beat and/or meaningful lyrics I will give it a listen. My favourite author at the moment is Robert Galbraith (J.K.Rowling) . The last book I read was The Running Grave. I am looking forward to the new Dan Brown novel.

Tell us something about you that we don't know!..... I am a massive fan of WWE, my favourite wrestler is Jey Uso YEET

What do you do to relax?..... I love to swim, and be at the seaside

What does being a Christian/going to Church mean to you?

Being a Christian makes me feel part of something bigger, I go to Church to Thank the lord for the previous week and to give me strength for the next week

What do you find the most difficult things about being a Christian now?..... It is difficult to engage with people when there is so much hate.

What would be your message for the World in 10 words or less?..... Treat others the way you would like to be treated.

News from Wales Kiveton Methodist Church

It is encouraging to be able to declare that in addition to a recent special service that was held to welcome two new members (Linda Burgess and Frank Scowen), we will also look forward to including a membership service on Sunday October 26th to welcome Catherine Buxton as a member. Both services taken by Julie Coates as Circuit Superintendent make them particularly special.

Our service on October 12th will be our Harvest Festival service, with donations requested for food provisions, toiletries etc that can go to the Killamarsh Hope food bank which we have supported on numerous occasions.

Our successful Soup and Song events having now passed the 2 year anniversary continue to attract more people, with an average of 55 attending at recent events.



Our funding to make this happen will benefit from the second tranche of money from the Co op “good causes” scheme at the beginning of November as this will provide a further £500, and in addition there is a £2,000 fund that will be distributed between the three good causes chosen by Co op members votes. So if you are a Co op member please log in to the Co op web site and vote for Soup and Song at Wales Kiveton Methodist Church to help increase our chances of the funding distribution, but do it before the end of the October cut off date please. A second application to be considered for a further year has been submitted, but being accepted once has been very rewarding and appreciated.

It is rewarding also to know that other community organisations are recognising the benefits and importance of the work the church is doing in the community with such as Soup and Song events, and the Kiveton Park based Saxon Golf

Society in their 40th anniversary year have decided to split their fund raising this year between Soup and Song, and the local village Andy's man club.

Projections for the final totals should be close to £2,000, so 50% of this might realise a further £1,000. This is critical and has enabled us to book Lost Chord singers/musicians through to July 2026, but further external funding sourcing will be required to continue this wonderful event from that month onwards.

To build on our strong ecumenical links in both faith, friendship and social gatherings, it has been decided that following the success and enjoyment of a recent general knowledge quiz night held at Harthill Church, we will hold a music quiz at Wales Kiveton on Wednesday 3rd December commencing at 7pm. It is free to take part, and food and refreshments will be provided, so why not come along and join us for this fun evening as you will be made very welcome. (The questions will be of the older decades not the more recent ones to suit our average age grouping!)

Following the hugely successful VE80 Day concert back in May performed by Harthill Village Voices to a sell out crowd, by popular demand they will be back on Friday 17th October performing their own arrangements of songs, along with Harthill bell ringers. Tickets are available at £8 which includes food, and there will be a raffle on the evening. Tickets can be obtained from Paul Joynes on 07990 616545 or by contacting those shown on the attached poster. Don't leave it late as tickets are limited, and if it's anything like the last concert then you won't be disappointed!



Approaches have been made to the local primary school to see if they would like to hold their Christmas concerts again this year at our church, but confirmation is still pending.

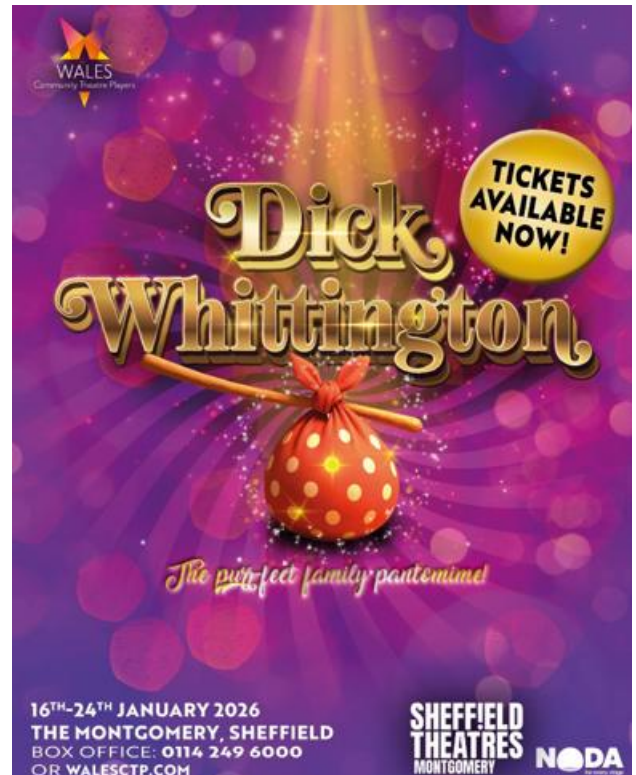
Following on from the successful and entertaining production of Shrek the musical by Wales Community Theatre Players at the Montgomery Hall in Sheffield during July, they are now back rehearsing twice weekly in our church for their next Panto production of Dick Whittington, with several shows in January 2026.

They are a charitable organisation and actually perform one of their nights for free to such groups as Sheffield Foster carers, Rotherham Foster carers and Sheffield Young carers, which is admirable.

Please see the flier which shows the performance dates and contact details of how and where to obtain tickets. Don't leave it to the last minute to book, the early bird gets the worm (or in this case the preferred seat choice!)

Those Christmas adverts on TV might not be too long away unfortunately, but we all know the real meaning of Christmas don't we. Until then let's enjoy the beautiful autumn season that God has bestowed on us all.

Paul Joynes



North Anston Christmas events - save the dates!

CHRISTMAS ALLSORTS – SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER AT 2PM. TICKETS £7 ADULT, £4 CHILD.

COMMUNITY CAROL SINGING – TUESDAY 16 DECEMBER FROM 6PM

UNITED CAROL SERVICE SUNDAY 21 DECEMBER AT 6PM

CRIB SERVICE WEDNESDAY 24 DECEMBER AT 3PM

Please contact Sue Boyles for further information

News from North Anston Methodist Church

Harvest Celebrations at North Anston

Our celebrations began at 2pm on Saturday 20th September with a delightful event, “A Musical Journey.” The idea for this special afternoon was brought to us by Paul Bacon, a long-time supporter of our Church who, through recent activities, has become even more involved in our community life.

The event was uplifting and entertaining, with twenty diverse pieces of music that took us on a journey through a wide range of genres — from classical masterpieces to the energetic sounds of big band, and from timeless rock to popular pop favourites. Each selection was thoughtfully chosen, with interludes of personal memories shared by Paul to reflect different eras and styles. The afternoon concluded on a joyful note with “Thank You for the Music” by ABBA — a fitting finale to a celebration of music.

The atmosphere in the Church was one of joy, appreciation, and togetherness, as music brought people closer. One lady commented that she particularly loved classical music — especially Tchaikovsky — and shared that she hadn’t really listened to it since her husband passed away. She felt inspired to go home and spend the evening revisiting her CD collection.

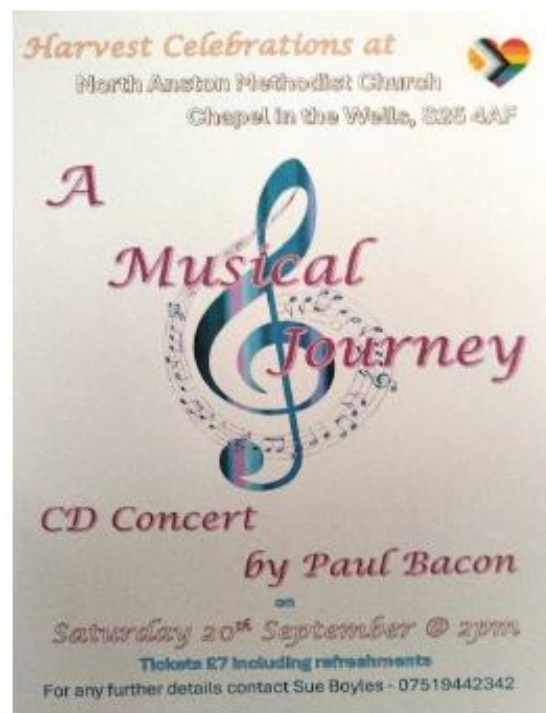
Paul’s vision for the event was really well thought through and made for a truly memorable beginning to our weekend of celebration. We are sincerely grateful to all who supported the event — especially Paul for his inspiration, storytelling, and commitment. “A Musical Journey” was far more than just an afternoon of music; it was a heartfelt expression of community, creativity, and connection.

On Sunday morning, we gathered together for our own arrangement Harvest Festival Service, which incorporated resources from All We Can. The service included a wonderful mix of



traditional and modern harvest hymns — from Bringing in the Sheaves to lively favourites like Harvest Samba — and offered a meaningful reflection on thankfulness and giving.

After the service, the celebration continued as we joined together for a Bring and Share lunch — a chance to enjoy each other’s company, delicious food, and the blessings of Harvest.



Dinnington Community Pioneer Project Report - the First 3 Months

3 Months into the Project (June-Sept 2025)

My goal for the first 3 months was simply to listen. Listen to God, listen to others involved in the Pioneer Project and to those I met in Dinnington.

Picture of an Ancient Tree

I began prayer walking the town, and began an ecumenical House of Prayer. As a result of these prayer initiatives, we received a picture of an Ancient Tree (I've since discovered that the ancient tree is a picture of the town depicted on a stained glass window in the Anglican Church).

The Ancient Tree seen prophetically is large and covers the entire town. Further revelation uncovered the idea that there are **Five Fruits** on this tree for us to engage with:

1. **Families**
2. **Food**
3. **Fun (Seasonal Events)**
4. **Faith**
5. **Finance**

We take very seriously this prophetic intelligence that has come through listening prayer and are moving forward with a strategy based on this...

FAMILIES

We have also been working hard to build and strengthen the kids and youth team during this period. We hosted two **Team Training Days** and have increased our children's and youth team to a pool of approx. 9 people. Our offering as a **Families Hub** now includes a Toddlers Group, a Kids Club and a Youth Club.

FOOD

There is a problem with obesity and fast food in Dinnington. To tackle this, we already run a successful **Luncheon Club** (average attendance between 20-25 people) in collaboration with the college.

We are developing a good relationship with the Salvation Army who run the local Food Bank and we've also been in touch with an organization called **Food**

Works. They would like to establish a Hub in Dinnington to distribute their homemade healthy ready meals made from food that would have gone to landfill. Customers pay-what-they-can with minimum of £1 per meal.

Table Communities – the aim would be to form new spiritual faith communities as a result of people coming into the building for food, be that in connection to the Food Bank or to Food Works

FUN

In Collaboration with the Ecumenical Group, we are looking to be involved with annual seasonal events across the town, that have a fun element whilst also sowing seeds of the gospel. These include:

- **Dinnington Community BBQ** (August)
- **Christmas Fayre & Christmas Walking Nativity** (December)
- **Easter Trail** (March/April)
- **Youth Gospel Outreach Event** (July)
- **Summer Holiday Club** (August)

At Dinnington BBQ, we experimented with giving away goodie/info packs of the various communities we host. We also created a **Prayer Space**, one family were particularly impacted!

Peter Farmer
Community Pioneer Worker, Dinnington

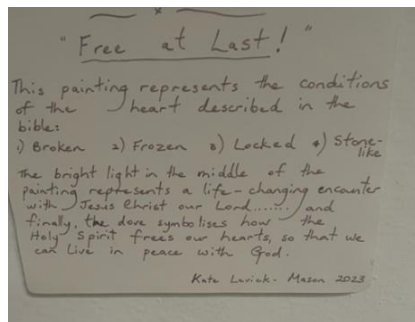
Inspiring words from Menorca!

I'm not sure about you but whenever I'm on holiday and come across a local church I'm drawn in to spend a few minutes and see what the local church is up to and more often than not admire the architecture. This year was no different and in the midst of a bustling Menorcan village called Fornells I found a beautiful Catholic church called 'Sant Antoni de Fornells'. There's a photo from the inside of the church below but what I really wanted to share was a beautiful piece of artwork entitled 'Free at Last!' - the artist has written up some words behind the meaning of the painting which really struck me, as you'll see the words are handwritten and not that easy on the photo to see, I've therefore copied over the words below:

Free at Last!

This painting represents the conditions of the heart described in the bible:

- a) Broken
- b) Frozen
- c) Locked
- d) Stone-like



The bright light in the middle of the painting represents a life-changing encounter with Jesus Christ our Lord..... and finally the dove symbolises how the Holy Spirit frees our hearts, so that we can live in peace with God.

I loved the simplicity of these words and it summed up for me what our faith is all about, I also felt nudged/encouraged to do more to share the wonder of our faith and this message with others. (I'm working on that!)

Richard Dearden





Methodist Connexion updates The Methodist Church

Please take a look at the strong message of welcome and inclusion that the Methodist Church put out recently with this video based on the hymn 'Let us build a house' alongside messages of greeting from 140 church congregations. This was prepared in response to the anti-migrant protests.

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/about/news/all-are-welcome/>

You can find out more about ways in which to respond to the unrest within our communities on this link:

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/about/our-stories/responding-to-anti-migrant-protests/>

and also please read about our new Chair of District reflections

here <https://www.sheffieldmethodist.org/news/news-stories/sandcastles-of-welcome.html>

Finally here is a statement that has been prepared by the Presidents of Churches Together in England:

The Presidents of Churches Together in England, named below, have issued the following statement:

As leaders of Christian Churches in this country, we wish to express our deep concern that in the recent rally “Unite the Kingdom,” and in other places, use has been made, by some, of the symbols and words of the Christian faith to support views and attitudes actually opposed to their message. In contrast, we wish to state clearly some of the key messages of our shared faith that are a crucial contribution to the well-being of all people in our lands.

The Cross of Christ reveals God’s overwhelming and unconditional love for every single human being. The Cross calls us to love our land and its communities and to serve its well-being. But, equally, we are called to love members of other nations too. The Cross and the Gospel of Christ must never be co-opted to support the messages that breed hostility towards others. Its message never legitimises rejection, hatred or superiority towards people of other cultures.

This ethic is core to a biblical vision. In the Old Testament, God commands the people of Israel, “When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the native-born among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the

land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.” (Leviticus 19:33-34). Jesus intensifies this call when proclaiming that love for the least is love for himself, saying, “I was a stranger and you welcomed me.” (Matthew 25:35)

As Christians, we wish all policy to be grounded in solid and compassionate values. So, we pray for a generous and just spirit, which does not demonise the other simply for being other. We pray that we can have mercy on those in need who legitimately come seeking our aid. We pray for a true Christian revival where people of all creeds and none, of all ethnicities and ways of life, can feel secure and appreciated for the gifts they bring.

Presidents of Churches Together in England:

- **Cardinal Vincent Nichols**, The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster
- **Bishop Tedroy Powell**, CTE Pentecostal and Charismatic President, and National Bishop of the Church of God of Prophecy UK
- **Rev Dr Tessa Henry-Robinson**, Moderator of the Free Churches Group
- **Bishop Paulina Hławiczka-Trotman**, CTE President for the Fourth Presidency Group and Head of the Lutheran Church in Great Britain
- **His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas**, CTE President for the Orthodox Churches, and Archbishop of the Oecumenical Patriarchate (Diocese of Thyateira and Great Britain)
- **The Archbishop of Canterbury (position vacant)**

Operational bits and bobs!

Just a couple of things to mention as a reminder/for information:

Energy prices

As we all know energy prices have been a significant topic over the last few years and whilst the market has stabilised slightly the cost of energy remains an important issue for all of us and specifically our church buildings.

Over the last few months I've developed a good relationship with an energy broker who specialises in the Christian market, I was introduced to them by a contact within Sheffield District and I've used them a couple of times with churches in the Circuit and found them very helpful, professional and some good savings have been achieved.

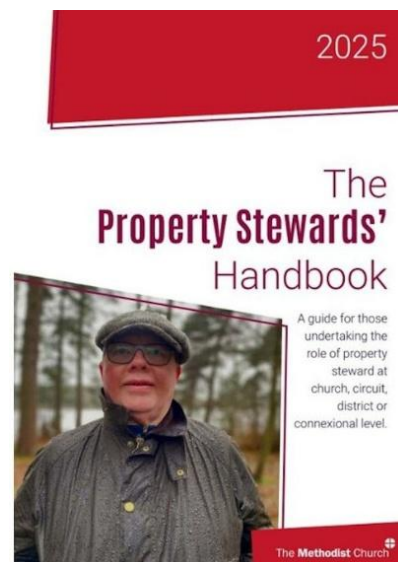
If anyone wants any further information please don't hesitate to let me know and I can share more and introduce you as appropriate. The general rule when looking at a new energy contract/deal is to review matters around 3 months before an existing agreement ends.

Property Steward's Handbook - Updated

Don't forget - the Property Steward's Handbook has been updated and a 2025 edition is now available to download on the Methodist Church Website

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/>

If receiving this newsletter electronically you can [Click here](#) to access and download the PDF version of the handbook



Richard Dearden

Circuit Operations Manager

Thank you once again to everyone who has contributed to this edition of our Circuit Chat Newsletter. It's a packed edition and wonderful to see and hear some of the great events and activities happening across the Circuit. Great stuff!

The aim is to produce quarterly Circuit Chats, could you please send any articles for the next edition to.....

richard.dearden@trinitycircuit.net

by....29 January 2026

As usual there won't be an edition now before Christmas with the January newsletter focussing on a review of the Christmas period and looking ahead into 2026. However if you do have any events/activities in the run up to Christmas that you'd like to promote/share please don't hesitate to let me know and I'll send the information around friends in the Circuit.

And finally as we plan ahead for the upcoming Christmas period The Connexion have launched their package of Christmas resources, please see here for further information:

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/christmasresources/>



Rev'd Julie Coates- Superintendent Minister



01777 702573



julie.coates@methodist.org.uk

Rev'd Angela Potheary- Presbyter



01909 567371



angela.potheary@methodist.org.uk

Deacon Emily Hoe-Crook- Deacon



01909 579022



emilyhoecrook@trinitycircuit.net

Richard Dearden - Circuit Operations Manager



07922083990



richard.dearden@trinitycircuit.net

David Burton - Financial Administrator



david.burton@trinitycircuit.net



Clare Biddle – Facilities and Community Manager

07895553224



clare.biddle@trinitycircuit.net



Peter Farmer – Community Pioneer Worker

07745 955586



peter.farmer@trinitycircuit.net