

Telford Methodist Circuit Newsletter

7th March 2024

You are invited to a **Circuit Prayer Meeting** which will be held in John Fletcher of Madeley Primary School on Friday 15th March at 6pm. (In one of the halls or in The Den depending on numbers) Car parking is available in the South car park. This is the first set of gates on the left as you approach the school. Just drive down the slope into the car park at the bottom.

Everyone will need to sign in at Reception and I will be there to welcome folk and direct as needed. We may be allowed to sign everyone in together.

If there is anyone with mobility issues please let us know in advance. The school isn't wonderful for accessibility, (built on a hillside so lots of stairs) but we can arrange accordingly.

Also does anyone require milk alternative as I'm providing tea and coffee afterwards?

(Expected time to finish will be 7:30pm after refreshments)

Regards

Julie Tomlinson

Lay School Worker for the Telford Methodist Circuit





Circuit Coffee Morning

Thursday March 7th.

10am – 12noon

At Wellington Methodist Church

With cake stall and
Bring and Buy

Everyone will be very welcome

Easter Offering envelopes will be given
out so representatives from each church
would be welcomed.

Ghana's 67th Independence Celebration

A NIGHT OF SONGS AND STORIES BY THE FIRE SIDE

SDA CHOIR

METHODIST CHOIR

PRESBY CHOIR

**WINNERS FAMILY CHAPEL CHOIR
OASIS PRAISE & WORSHIP TEAM**

DATE
9 MAR
2024

TIME
5 PM-9 PM
SHARP

**VENUE: HOLYHEAD ROAD KETLEY,
TELFORD TF1 5AQ**

**EXHIBITION: 10TH MARCH
TIME: 10AM - 2PM**

All Are Welcome

Oakengates United Church
Saturday 23rd March
9.30 – 12.30

Spring Fayre

Cakes, Plants, Books,
Nearly New, Aladdin's Cave,
& Name the Rabbit.

Easter Egg Tombola & Raffle
Bacon Sandwiches, Toast,
Tea & Coffee

Admission
Free

IONA WORSHIP

An evening meditation
for PALM SUNDAY
inspired by the Iona Community, Scotland

WELLINGTON METHODIST CHURCH
New St., Wellington
Telford TF1 1LU

Sunday 24th March 2024

5pm

ALL WELCOME

www.wellingtonmethodist.org.uk

www.iona.org.uk



I am holding an 'Open Morning'
at Seniors Hall Curriers Lane Shifnal TF11 8EQ
Wednesday 17th April From 10.30-12

An opportunity for you to learn all about our services
and the impact we make in this district.

We can explore the ways we can work in collaboration for
volunteering opportunities, fundraising and support for the
elderly in our community.

I will be talking at 11am

Drinks and cake provided.

Please join us at our wonderful new venue.

RSVP to Rachel

on 07935202556 or rachel.powell@mha.org.uk

Wellington Methodist Church *Maundy Thursday Service*



Thursday March 28th. 7.30pm

Communion in the form of an
AGAPE MEAL

Led by Rev. Roger Dunlop

All will be VERY WELCOME

Lent Lunches at Trinity Methodist Church, Shifnal

Delicious home made
soups, conversation and
prayer, all welcome!
Collection for Christian Aid

Wednesday
21st, 28th February,
and
6th & 13th March
12 Noon





Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury District
Methodist Women in Britain

Springdale Methodist Church, Penn WV4 4LF

Tuesday 16th April
10.30am to 3.15pm

*11.00am Final MWiB
District Thanksgiving
Service*

Rev. Rachel Parkinson
*1.30pm Happy District
Memories*

Please bring your stories and photos.

Please bring packed lunch
Drinks provided



Hello everyone

As some of you will know the decision has been made to suspend activities of the District MWiB.

Many of us have enjoyed District days and activities over a number of years and it is very sad that we no longer have people with the energy and enthusiasm to step forward as officers to continue.

But there is, in life and in God's plan, a natural cycle and we want to give thanks for all the joyful times of learning and sharing, and to remember the many charities we have been able to support. And so a final District Day is planned on April 16th.

Please do come if you can and encourage others to join us for worship and sharing of reminiscences of all that MWiB has meant to so many.

Best wishes
Claire (Acting Secretary)



Advanced Safeguarding Course

Stephanie Bradley, Assistant District Safeguarding Officer is doing Advanced Safeguarding Training in the Telford Circuit on **Saturday 22nd June 2024**, starting at 10am at **Wellington Methodist Church**.

If you are unsure as to whether you are due to attend a course please contact either your Church Safeguarding Officer or Sharon in the Circuit Office on 01952 505108.

Registration will be from 9:30am with a prompt start at 10am, finishing around 12:30pm.

Please book directly with Stephanie by calling 07494 734 473 or email:

StephanieBradley@birminghammethodist.org.uk

Safeguarding
Young people and vulnerable adults

Coffee Morning at Cartway Methodist Church, Bridgnorth

On the 1st Saturday of each month between 10am and midday there is a Coffee Morning at Cartway Methodist Church. There's going to be a raffle, cake and biscuits too.

All are welcome.



God the Holy Spirit, through the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. Strengthen and deepen our commitment to revealing your kingdom through our lives and by our prayers. Grant us, we pray, wisdom to discern signs of your kingdom in the world around us, wherever grace, mercy and truth are present. Enable us to discover, even in unexpected places, the beauty of holiness revealed in personal acts of compassion and sacrifice. Empower all people of goodwill to work towards establishing social structures and relationships that embody justice and peace. Through the faithful endeavour of us and all your people, may your kingdom come your will be done. Amen.

David Chapman, District Chair, Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire District

Please pray for **Jean and Steve Thomas**.

Please continue to pray for Mark who had surgery on 6th March to have a food peg fitted directly into his stomach, as he won't be able to eat food whilst he's having radiotherapy and chemotherapy on his throat. The surgery went well but now he has to heal.

Please pray for Annie Barnett who is currently in PRH . Annie has responded well to treatment and although is still in hospital she's doing much better. Thank you for your prayers.

Lord Jesus, who went about doing good and healing all, we ask You to bless our friends who are sick. Give them the strength in body, courage in spirit, and patience in pain. Let them recover their health, so that, restored to the Christian community, they may joyfully praise Your name, for You live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.



Circuit Prayer Space

Circuit Prayer Space on a Monday morning at 8:30am.

Val Smith is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Circuit Prayer Meeting

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/96716434790?
pwd=RTZZa210Q1ZOWCtLTWk3NHoyWDVlQT09](https://zoom.us/j/96716434790?pwd=RTZZa210Q1ZOWCtLTWk3NHoyWDVlQT09)

Meeting ID: 967 1643 4790

Please pray for my daughter Stacey who is 22 weeks pregnant.

Baby Button and mother are doing very well :)

Stacey is having hydrotherapy baths to help her with her dislocations which seem to be helping.

Thank you. Sharon

Online Bible Study is on a Monday 1.30pm, Monday 7.00 pm and Wednesday 8.00pm

Enjoy a lively discussion as we explore the work of the Holy Spirit in Acts.

Please contact the Circuit office if you'd like to know more.
If you're not sure why not give it a go?

Coffee Mornings at Horsehay

Every Wednesday:
10.30am - 12.00 noon

Join us for tea/coffee,
fellowship and lots of
chat and laughter!

Please use this space to
advertise what's going on
in your church.

:)

Calling all knitters!

Sylvia Bailey from Oakengates United Church has put out a request for people who enjoy knitting to knit Dementia blankets.

The Dementia Team at The Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust (SaTH) is looking for people to knit or donate knitted blankets. The colourful blankets help patients, particularly those with dementia, to find their way back to bed more easily – and also see the edge of the bed more clearly when getting in and out

The blankets are **usually 90cm x 90cm (or 3ft by 3ft), brightly (multi) coloured crochet or knitted new wool blankets. Please use double knitting wool.**

They are given to the patients when they are settled on the ward. The only thing we have to be careful of is that there are no knots as they love playing with the knots and undoing them.

So far Sylvia and her team of knitters have sent 177 blankets to the Dementia Ward.

“Due to infection control, the blankets are single-use items and they will be taken home with the patient when they are discharged. They must be knitted using new wool, or if anyone is planning to donate blankets, they need to be brand new. The blankets should also be brightly coloured or patterned, and 3ft wide.”

Dawley Christian Centre is happy to be a drop off point for the blankets and will ensure they get to Sylvia to pass on if it's easier.

And there's always an opportunity to pray for the patient who'll be receiving the blanket whilst you're making it.. Soak the blanket in prayer... what a wonderful gift indeed.



Latest News from John Fletcher Primary School, Madeley by our School Worker Julie Tomlinson

Hello Everyone,

The weeks have flown by at school and here we are already well into 2024!

I'm sorry I haven't been in touch for a while. Its been quite a busy time. I continue to support both children and adults and am a 'listening ear' for anyone who needs a chat.

Mrs T's Monday Stay 'n Pray lunchtime sessions continue apace and are usually well attended. Based in The Den in Key Stage 2 each week we meet to talk about the Christian faith and to share and pray together. Craft activities are always on offer and are either displayed or taken home. We follow the church readings and lectionary for the year and in addition last September we began learning about the 'I am' sayings of Jesus from John's Gospel and have so far covered (or plan to cover) the following:

Harvest (I am the bread of life)

Remembrance (I am the Good Shepherd)

Christmas (I am the Light of the world)

New Year (I am the gate)

Lent (I am the Way the truth and the Life)

Easter (I am the Resurrection and the Life)

Pentecost (I am the true Vine)

We have created displays and made crafts reflecting these sayings. Of course, we made Advent candle wreaths and lanterns at Christmas and have led a few assemblies too. The most memorable being the Bread of Life Harvest Assembly which included a clapometer to measure everyone's favourite bread!

Friday morning meditations draw in the children who need to be there. These quiet reflective sessions are held during the morning playtimes for any child who wishes to attend. We continue to follow the Lectio for Families Bible app. PLEASE PRAY FOR THE CHILDREN WHO ATTEND. That they may know the Peace and Love of Jesus in these quiet moments. Please pray for the discussions that often follow.

I was very pleased to have supported the staff through our recent SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) inspection in October and am extremely proud to report the school were judged to be Outstanding. The inspector visited and chatted with me and saw the children's work and I was also invited to attend an interview with her and a group of Stay n Pray children.



Each child has their own Stay n Pray journal which they keep at school and can record prayers and anything that we learn at S and P. They are all most beautifully decorated. I have attended some RE lessons in Key Stage 2 and to include the younger children more, I have arranged to visit their classes and the Nurture Hub to do some music.

It has become a regular thing for Reception Class to visit me in the Den on a Monday morning for a session of prayer and praise. Recently we undertook a 'Pilgrimage' through school ending up at our World Map Prayer area. The children collectively thought of a Prayer for Peace. I'm planning to do the same with the Year 2 classes this coming week and they have a Question and Answer session planned.

In the Autumn we continued to work on the Prayer Garden outside. There's still a long way to go. We have an art project planned for Spring and will be planting more flowers as the warmer months come along. We've recently received the gift of a beautiful Bug Hotel and several bat boxes.

Our head teacher Mrs Cross is, at last, able to return to school after a long absence and I look forward to working with her again. All the staff are very supportive of any ideas for projects I have.

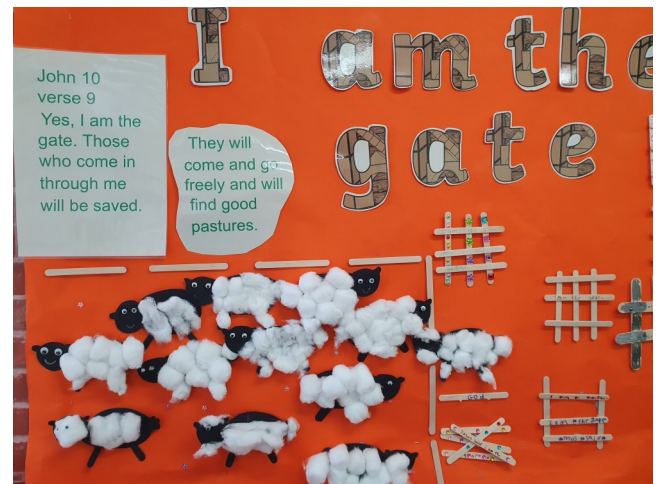
We are looking forward to welcoming Rev Marcus in March for his first visit and there is a Prayer Meeting planned for Friday March 15th in school at 6pm.

For the season of Lent the children are making a 'Bag for Lent' which they take home with instructions to use through Lent. In it are items to focus on for prayer and reflection. It is an absolute privilege to hear the children's reflections and questions about Christianity and we have some lively discussions. There will be cards made for Mothering Sunday and Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday. Stained glass crosses for Easter!

My aim remains to share the love of our Heavenly Father with both children and staff.

God's Blessings to you all.

Julie Tomlinson



Sign up for The Methodist Church daily reflection emails during Lent.

Throughout Lent we are sharing daily email reflections that explore the theme of *Unbounded Love*. Sign up to receive these each day, beginning on Wednesday 14th February and discover a rhythm of reflection over Lent. You'll also be signed up to future reflection series.

What to expect?

A range of resources that connect the Gospel readings from the Sunday lectionary throughout Lent to weekly themes, each one a line lifted from "Love divine, all loves excelling". The themes are:

- **Week 1** - "Unbounded love": Jesus' baptism and wilderness experience – God's love bursts the barriers of heaven, and then bursts into the realms of darkness.
- **Week 2** - "Visit us with thy salvation": Losing our life (psyche) to find it – the ways we attempt to insulate ourselves from God's love.
- **Week 3** - "Pure and spotless let us be": Turning the tables in the Temple – corporate religious attempts to boundary God's love.
- **Week 4** - "Finish then thy new creation": God's unbounded love for the cosmos.
- **Week 5** - "Changed from glory into glory": Like a seed that has to die before it bears fruit, death is no barrier to God's love.
- **Week 6** - "Till we cast our crowns before thee": As Jesus entered Jerusalem the people responded by taking off their cloaks. What's our equivalent?

Holy Week - "Lost in wonder, love, and praise!": As Jesus becomes bound by his opponents, will God's love stay bound?

What will be available?

For individuals

Forty daily discipleship prompts, delivered straight to your email inbox every day of Lent, excluding Sundays. Daily emails will include Bible studies, creative activities and challenges to take an action.

[Unbounded Love - Lent 2024 reflections \(methodist.org.uk\)](https://methodist.org.uk/UnboundedLove)

Charles Wesley's famous hymn [Love Divine, All Loves Excelling](#) (*Singing the Faith* 503) talks about Jesus as 'unbounded love' – a kind of love that cannot be contained, that works in our lives and in our world to free us and heal us. *Unbounded Love* is the theme of the Lent campaign of the Methodist Church in 2024 – holding together our commitments to be a justice-seeking church, and a people who experience and proclaim the good news of God's uncontainable love.





**15th - 17th
March
2024**

AMPLIFY

**Activities,
Worship,
Fun**

Could you be part of our small but mighty stewarding team? If you are passionate about young people involved in the church and want to be a part of a great team who will be serving, listening and engaging with them, then being an Amplify Steward is for you! This varied role will allow you to both be blessed by and be a blessing to our young people. Amplify takes place between 15th and 17th March 2024 at the Pioneer Centre near Cleobury Mortimer. You can volunteer anywhere from one session to the whole weekend. Food will be provided for the meals you are with us for, and there is some accommodation available to stay with us for the weekend. You can find out more information about stewarding and apply at www.birminghammethodist.org.uk/amplify/#stewards. Contact Charlotte youth@birminghammethodist.org.uk for more information. We'd love to have you on board!

Thanks,

Charlotte 😊

Charlotte Hambly | District Youth Coordinator

07742737437

www.birminghammethodist.org.uk | Registered Charity no. 1134167 36 Amesbury Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8LE

Painting for Pleasure at Horsehay Methodist Church

Informal art groups (no tutor, but lots of chat and helping each other with tips and techniques). Whatever your skill level, if you enjoy drawing and/or painting, why not come and join us? Monday and Thursday mornings 10.00 - 12.30. £5.00 per session. Ring Dave on 01952 505942 for more info.



Admaston Methodist Church— the little church with a Big Welcome

Sunday Services

These are informal services at 10.30am led either by a Minister or Local Preacher / Worship Leader. There is often an opportunity for tea, coffee and chat after the service. Please check the Notice Board outside church or our website for details.

We also offer prayer meetings, bible study and fellowship meetings.

Community Activities

Community lunch The first Thursday in the month at 12.30pm. A two-course lunch and a chance to meet up with others for companionship.

Fabulous food (Donations approx £5)

Table Top Games The third Thursday in the month at 12.30pm for a soup lunch or just come along at 2.00 – 4.00pm to play board games or simply chat with others. Always fun!

Craft and chat Every Monday afternoon - 1.00 – 3.00pm. Come with your own ideas or share with the activities offered (small charge for tea and coffee).

Coffee mornings Occasional Saturday mornings from 10.30 – 12.30pm, often with table top sale.

Munch and Meet An opportunity to meet for supper at 6.00pm followed by sharing fellowship at 7.00–8.00 pm. Normally held on the second Thursday of the month.

Warm space We will be opening the church on Monday mornings for those who need a warm, safe space to sit quietly and reflect or would like to meet up with others for tea/coffee and a chat.

The church will be open from 10.30am

All these activities take place at Admaston Church but we have an open policy and you do not have to be a churchgoer. We are keen to provide activities for the local community - so please do come along.

For more information please check the Notice Board outside church or visit our website:

www.admastonmethodist.org.uk.

If you have any queries please email: amcenquiries@outlook.com

Minister: Rev Roger Dunlop

Email: roger@telfordmeth.org.uk

Tel: 01952 640079

Church Activities taking place in
Albrighton Methodist Church on a regular basis:

Weekly, Thursday cafe 10-12

Monday (2nd and 4th Monday of the month) Coffee and T4U 10-12 (A quiet coffee morning for people who want a bit of time out it's FREE!)

Friday (2nd and 4th Friday of the month) Sing a long 2-3.30pm (For anyone who likes to sing 'old time' songs or from the musicals. £2)

Saturday morning 1st Saturday in the month 10-12. with bric-a-brac and bookstall.

Tuesday eve Open Door. 7.30-9pm This evening has a variety of speakers ranging from singing, talks about wildlife, travel logs, health related talks.....£2

We have a Quiet Corner open for prayer/quiet reflection when there are church run events, located in the Meeting Room. Gill is available for anyone who wants to chat on a Thursday morning and has planned a 'Food for thought' time for a short while after the cafe closes.

All are welcome

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Module and Unconscious Bias Training Links

To register for online learning via the Methodist Church in Britain learning page:

Click on this link: [MCBX \(theologyx.com\)](https://theologyx.com)

Click on **sign in** (in the top right corner) and **create an account**. You will need your email address and you will need to choose a password.

Once you have signed up to the website click on **Courses**. The two mandatory courses are:

- **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Module**
- **Unconscious Bias Training** (unless you have already completed this training eg via a zoom training opportunity)

Click on **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Module** and then on **Go to course**