

Telford Methodist Circuit Newsletter

28th March 2024

**Have a very blessed
Easter from the Circuit
Office.**

Oh, God's Glory Hallelujah, Shine On

Jesus gave His life on Calvary;
To save us from hell's fatality.
Our debt was paid on that cruel cross.
He came to give His life for you and me.

The sun was darkened when Jesus died.
The crowds of people were terrified.
The earth shook and quaked in it's grieving.
As they watched the death of the King of kings.

Oh, God's glory hallelujah, shine on;
The stone at the tombs entrance was gone.
The sun came up Resurrection morn;
And it was like a new day was born.

Jesus triumphant, defeated death:
He defeated hell, and we are blest.
Glorious morning, Jesus lives;
And He lives forever to forgive.

Just as He has risen from the dead;
Just as he has bruised the devil's head.
He defeated the power of sin.
So you too can come alive in Him.

No longer lost, but found in Jesus;
Oh, the love, He has shed upon us.
Oh, God's glory hallelujah, shine on;
What a wonderful resurrection morn.

Susan Y. Nikitenko
March 28th, 2015
Poetry/Song



MWINB Easter offering Dedication Service

This year we will
be holding our Annual
Easter offering service on
May 1st at Albrighton
Methodist Church at
2.30pm.

A warm welcome is
extended to everyone.

Saturday March 30th

Cartway Methodist Church, Bridgnorth

FREE EASTER HEARTS GIVE - AWAY - 10:30 UNTIL NOON

Also FREE Easter related activities for children and the young at heart:

Holy Week Wheel to colour and take home.

Palm Sunday interactive flannel graph picture.

Decorate a wooden cross to take home/or a Palm Sunday cross to
decorate with paper flowers, to take home.

Decorate and eat an Easter biscuit.

Add to our Easter Garden.

Coffee, tea or squash available for a small donation.

**Coffee Mornings
at Horsehay**

**Every Wednesday:
10.30am - 12.00 noon**

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

**Albrighton Methodist
Church**

Maunder Thursday Service

**7pm led by Rev Derrick
Lander.**

All welcome.

The President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, the Revd Dr Roger Walton and Ms Rachel Lampard MBE, speak about confidence, suffering and hope in this year's Easter Message.

"...Do we sometimes race over the reflection of holy week and the pain of Good Friday, in order to reach the joy of Easter?..."

"...The Christian vocation means feeling and facing the suffering and injustice of the world, alongside God, until new creation is complete. Staying with suffering and tackling injustices no easy option but is where Christian confidence takes us..."

A few weeks ago we both attended the launch of JPIT (Joint Public Issues Team) Yorkshire in Leeds along with about 100 other people. It was held in the grand surroundings of the Civic Centre, high ceilings, gilt-painted mirrors, and plaques listing the great achievers of the industrial and civic life of the city. The self-assured grandeur of the surroundings sat a little uneasily with the title of the conference: "Recovering confidence in the North".

The building spoke of a confidence of a time long gone; the conference looked at how through the decades since that economic and cultural confidence had been lost. The reality of poverty ingrained in parts of various cities in the north, the loss of industry, the London economic magnet, sucking life out of the rest of the country. But the speakers also spoke about the confidence which exists in the North, and is even growing. It seems that northern businesses and politicians are taking up the notion of a 'Northern Powerhouse' though perhaps they are reshaping around themselves and their aspirations rather than the needs of local people. The conference ended on a note of hope, with the signing of an agreement between the Methodist, Baptist and URC leaders in Yorkshire, along with Rachel as the leader of the Joint Public Issues Team, to work together on issues of peace and justice in the region.

We sometimes struggle with the word "confidence". Our Secretary of Conference, Gareth Powell, has encouraged us to be churches of confidence and imagination. But around us we see church membership declining and a huge demographic cliff of younger (and not so young) people who are simply not in our churches. We have a shortage of ministers to station, and for many people it feels like a bit of a battle just to keep going. Is it hard to keep preaching the gospel of resurrection if we have so little confidence in the present?.

Some of it is surely how we understand confidence. It is often portrayed as self-confidence that needs to be asserted, so that our view and agenda triumphs over others, so that we get that job, win that debate, capture that vote, gain that power advantage. Christian confidence is quite different. It is a confidence not in ourselves but in a crucified God, in Jesus raised from the dead and in the Holy Spirit making all things new. St Paul says that he had lots of grounds for confidence in himself but that he has counted all that as loss or waste - he uses a rather stronger word meaning utter rubbish - for the sake of knowing Christ and the power of his resurrection (Philippians 3.3-11). This is the Christian confidence we need as churches, a confidence that the crucified one has been raised and that God's love is calling into a different kind of future.

But we should note that Paul doesn't stop at knowing Christ and the power of his resurrection but also includes the calling to 'share Christ's sufferings'. It is not easy to know what this means exactly but it suggests that the Christian vocation means feeling and facing the suffering and injustice of the world, alongside God, until new creation is complete. Staying with suffering and tackling injustice is no easy option but is where Christian confidence takes us. The English word confidence comes from the root words of con "staying with" and fides "faith" "Staying with the faith is a far more appropriate way of understanding confidence at Easter.

(continued on next page)

I went on a Good Friday walk of witness a few years ago. While we handed out hot cross buns to slightly bemused passersby, we sang songs, led by a band from the local free church. These were songs of resurrection, of rejoicing, of the redemptive power of the resurrected Christ. The wooden cross, being carried at the front of the procession seemed rather lonely and out of place.


Do we sometimes race over the reflection of holy week and the pain of Good Friday, in order to reach the joy of Easter? And by doing this, do we deny the pain? Are we really staying with the faith?

We visited Blaydon Foodbank a few weeks ago. This church-run foodbank, like so many others, stays with people through their pain. The volunteers help and hold people through their hunger, pain and difficulties. The church at Blaydon, where the foodbank is based, has doubled in membership, with volunteers and foodbank clients coming to learn more about this confident faith, a faith that stays with people through their pain, and allows people to catch the infectious hope that there is Christ.

We pray that we will all deepen our confidence in Christ, as we journey through the last part of Lent and Holy Week to the pain of the cross and the glory of the Resurrection. May it allow us to stay with the suffering of the world with irrepressible hope, and may it inspire our imaginations so we share in a thousand different ways the good news of Jesus, risen and alive.

Happy Easter

Roger Walton and Rachel Lampard




CELEBRATE THAT
JESUS IS RISEN


AT
LEEGOMERY METHODIST CHURCH
(Hadley Park Road)
On
Sunday 31st March

FAMILY SERVICE
At
11 a.m. led by Mr Paul Trenberth

Everyone welcome



ALLELUIA!
CHRIST IS ALIVE!
www.leegomerychurch.webs.com



EASTER FAYRE
&
EASTER TRAIL



Easter Monday 1st April

At
Leegomery Methodist Church
(Hadley Park Road)

From
12 noon - 4 pm



Cake Stall, various other stalls, refreshments,
Games – Free Crafts - Raffle

*Come and follow the Easter Trail – collect a form from the Church follow the trail and find the items.
Return to the Church with your form and receive an Easter Treat*

ADMISSION FREE

Please continue to pray for:

Denice Morgan has asked that we pray for her grand-daughter Azura who has an operation booked for her hips on April 24th 2024.

Doug Hughes who is on the road to recovery but please keep him in your prayers.

Jean and Steve Thomas.

Please continue to pray for Mark as he continues with his radiotherapy.

Please pray for my daughter Stacey who is 25 weeks pregnant. Our little man is getting stronger every day and you can see him moving around in mum's tum.

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

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

Meeting ID: 967 1643 4790

**Lord of life
We pray for all who bring
your word of life
As a light to those in darkness
For those who bring your
word of peace
To those enslaved by fear
For those who bring your
word of love
To those in need of comfort
Lord of love and Lord of peace
Lord of resurrection life
Be known
Through our lives
and through your power
Amen**

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?



Holy Week Services

We Walk His Way



Maundy Thursday 28th March

7.30pm Foot-washing, Communion of the Last Supper and stripping of the church.



Good Friday 29th March

10.30 – 12.30pm Messy Church – for families.
2.00 – 3.00pm Service of the Last Hour on the Cross - in church and online.



Holy Saturday 30th March

7.30pm The Easter Mysteries, the Service of Light, the Renewal of Baptismal Promises .



Easter Day 31st March

8.00am Early Communion
10.30am Easter Eucharist and Young Church
Signing of Partnership agreement between St Andrew's Church and Shifnal Methodist Church.



Reaching out together to share God's amazing faith, hope and love

Advanced Safeguarding Courses arranged 2024

9/3 Kidderminster	25/5 Coventry
16/3 Ledbury	1/6 Solihull
23/3 Cannock	8/6 Wednesbury Black Country
13/4 Wolverhampton	19/6 – Birmingham West & Oldbury
20/4 Dale Street Leamington Spa	22/6 Telford
11/5 Sutton	13/7 – Bromsgrove & Redditch
21/5 Droitwich	5/10 – Vale of Stour

Safeguarding
Young people and vulnerable adults

Please contact **Stephanie Bradley** | Safeguarding - Birmingham Methodist District - 07494 734473

StephanieBradley@birminghammethodist.org.uk to book a place.

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

Good Friday Service

in the Dawley Bandstand

(Weather permitting - in Church if not)

On 29th March 2024

at 10:30am

**Refreshments will be served
after the service.**



**Easter
MESSY
Church**

Good Friday

29th March

10:30am - 12:00pm

St Andrew's Church

Come and join in all the Easter Messy fun
of singing, worship, craft, and a delicious
hot cross bun!



Reaching out together to share God's amazing faith, hope and love.

"But ask the animals, and they will teach you,
or the birds in the sky, and they will tell you;
or speak to the earth, and it will teach you,
or let the fish in the sea inform you.
Which of all these does not know
that the hand of the Lord has done this?
In his hand is the life of every creature
and the breath of all mankind.
Job 12: 7-10

Dates to remember in your preaching and fellowship this month.
Click on the links for more information and resources:

22nd March is World Water Day
This year's theme: Water for Peace
[World Water Day | United Nations](https://www.un.org/waterforpeople/)

23rd March 8:30-9:30pm is Earth Hour
[Earth Day 2024 - Earth Day](https://www.earthhour.org/)

30th March is International Day of Zero Waste
[International Day of Zero Waste | United Nations](https://www.un.org/zero-waste/)

If you are interested in getting more involved in Justice,
Compassion and Peace across the circuit or if you would
like more information about being an Eco-Church, contact:

Jo Kudlacik jokudlacik@gmail.com



learn telford
Adult learning starts here

SKILLS
FOR LIFE
MULTIPLY

Funded by
UK Government



Games 4 Wellbeing

FREE COURSE

Start date: Wednesday | 10th April 2024
End date: Wednesday | 17th April 2024
Duration: 2 weeks
Time: 12:45-3pm
Location: Dawley Christian Centre, TF4 2EX

Do you enjoy playing games and meeting new people? Join us and try a selection of number-based games to increase your confidence with numbers. Enjoy FREE light refreshments in a relaxed and friendly environment, whilst making new friends. Each week you'll take away a FREE number-based game to enjoy at home.

Eligibility: Adults aged 19+.



To register your interest, please call / text 07528 979376 or visit www.learnelford.ac.uk



Protect, care and invest to create a better borough



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**



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

Table Top

SALE

DAWLEY CHRISTIAN CENTRE

on Friday 19th April 2024

from 9 am – 12 noon

**Come along and pick up a
bargain.**

**To book a table please call
01952 505108.**

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.



Wellington Methodist Church

Are having All Age Drop-in Craft Sessions on the second Saturday of each month.

The sessions are FREE and start at 10am-11:45am.

You are welcome to drop in any time. Everyone is welcome.



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

Thank you.

Safeguarding
Young people and vulnerable adults

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**