

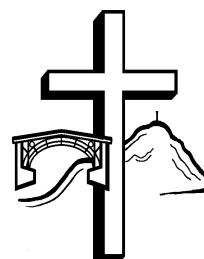
# Telford Methodist Circuit Newsletter

21st August 2024

Prayers please for Rev Adrian Burdon our new Circuit Superintendent Minister and his family who are moving into the Newport manse on Tuesday 27th August 2024.



Our next Circuit Meeting will be at Oakengates United Church on 18th September at 7:30pm.



**All you keen or would be bakers please**

**Join us for Bread Church**

**On Wednesday 11th September 2024  
between 1-4pm**

**(with delicious tea and scones) and**

**Saturday 19th October 2024 between  
9:30-1:30pm (with a light lunch)**

**ALL ARE WELCOME**



**Everything will be ready for you to make your  
own bread and it's FREE!**

**Please come along and give it a go.**



## Bereavement cafe morning

A support group looking forward, following loss.

**Thursday September 5th 10:30am - 12:00pm**  
The Trinity Centre, Victoria Road, Shifnal

**Offering support, understanding & empathy**

A small group brought together through loss.  
We offer a relaxed, friendly and safe environment to  
talk with others, share memories and make new friends.

**Everybody welcome**

For further information contact Claire: 07955 688627



## **Welcome Service for Rev Adrian Burdon**

You are warmly invited to join us, as we celebrate the arrival of **Rev Adrian Burdon and his family** to our Circuit on

**1st September 2024 at 6pm at  
Dawley Christian Centre**

During the service we will also be dedicating

**Diane Parkin in her role as  
Church Pastoral Lay Leader**

**and John Parkin in his role as New Places for  
New People Church Lay Pastor**

**All are welcome**





# BE THE CHANGE

## 9th—22nd September 2024 is Fairtrade Fortnight

### Fairtrade facts and figures

**50%**

**of Fairtrade is owned by  
farmers**

The assembly combines 50 percent producer representation with 50 percent national Fairtrade organisation representation.

**€1bn**

**Paid in Fairtrade premium  
since 1994**

Since 1994, shoppers buying Fairtrade products have generated more than €1bn in Fairtrade Premium for farmers and workers.

**4,800**

**Fairtrade products in the  
UK**

Think Fairtrade is just bananas and coffee? The full list of products includes flowers and gold, chocolate and tea, cotton and beauty.

Could you...

- Share a Fairtrade story?
- Enjoy Fairtrade refreshments at your church?
- Make it a church policy to only purchase Fairtrade tea, coffee and sugar?
- Pray for the work of Fairtrade or for a Fairtrade project in a particular country?
- Encourage one another to visit the Fairtrade website?
- Sign the 'Make your Mark' pledge?

You will find lots of resources and videos on their website

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



**FAIRTRADE**  
FOUNDATION



# Education Sunday

## 8th September, 2024

Please pray for all those in Education

Could you...

- Give thanks for the gift of Education?
- Ask your local schools how you can pray for them?
- Pray for our work through Julie Tomlinson at John Fletcher School, Madeley?
- Think of a way you can bless your local schools?
- Click on this link for more ideas and resources?

[Education Sunday 2024 – 8 September – Churches Together in England \(cte.org.uk\)](https://www.cte.org.uk)

Dear Lord God,  
we thank you for the gift of learning.  
Help us to be mindful that learning is a gift from you to be cherished,  
to be used for the betterment of ourselves and others  
and to the glory of your name according to your will.  
Here in our community, we have teachers, learners and places of learning.  
We thank you for them all  
and for the contribution they make to our community.  
Bless them and strengthen them.  
We pray for our places of learning,  
that they are safe and supportive places  
which open up a world of possibilities to all.  
We pray for those who contribute as teachers, lecturers,  
teaching assistants, support staff, chaplains, volunteers,  
leaders and governors.  
May they each know what valuable contributions they bring  
in helping their learners flourish and grow.  
We pray for those who learn,  
whether that comes easily to them or is difficult,  
that they see the opportunities before them  
and grow in confidence and wisdom and flourish.  
We thank you Lord for their curiosity and creativity.  
We ask all these things in your name. **Amen.**

# Friday 6th September, 2024



I know what it's like to use the same teabag twice  
To cut the mould from the bread, to rescue a slice  
I didn't ever think I would be in such a mess  
While working full-time for a living, while suffering from illness  
and stress...

*Words written by a Food Bank client*

## Could you...

- Remember to pray for Food Bank clients and workers in your church?
- Find out more about your local Food Bank?
- Ask a local Food Bank volunteer to come and talk at your church?
- Hold a special Food Bank collection?

**Micah 6:8: He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.**  
*And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly  
and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.*



# Advanced Safeguarding Course

Stephanie Bradley, Assistant District Safeguarding Officer is doing Advanced Safeguarding Training in the Telford Circuit on **Saturday 2nd November 2024**, starting at 10am at **Dawley Christian Centre**.

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 2pm.

Please book directly with Stephanie by calling 07494 734 473 or email: [StephanieBradley@birminghammethodist.org.uk](mailto:StephanieBradley@birminghammethodist.org.uk)

Thank you.

**Safeguarding**  
Young people and vulnerable adults

## Listen Carefully

Can you Listen carefully to someone who is troubled, listen without judgement and without telling them what they should do? Listen compassionately and try to understand the circumstances from their point of view and then help them to work out their own solution?

The people you will listen to come from many walks of life but there are often reasons why they come to the Dawley Food Bank apart from just 'running out of money at the end of the month'. They may be vulnerable victims of violence or other crime, they may have housing problems or be in debt. They may have mental health problems, have been released from prison or have addiction problems.

Your role would not be to find a solution for them but help them to find their own, maybe through you signposting them to other organisations or maybe by talking through the options that they have thought about. And just to keep them going, you can offer them a food parcel to last the next week.

If you can do these things and you are available to volunteer at Dawley Christian Centre on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday morning (10:30 to 12:30) then we would like to talk to you and invite you to see what we do at the food bank.

You can contact Sharon on 01952 505108. Thank you.





# LEEGOMERY FAMILY FUN DAY

SATURDAY 31ST AUGUST  
11AM - 2PM



GRASS PARK,



AT THE JUNCTION OF  
HADLEY PARK ROAD &  
OKEHAMPTON ROAD

**pick  
mix**



TF1 6QG FREE ENTRY

25+ INDEPENDENT STALLS AND CHARITIES!



STALLS AND CAR BOOT £5 PER PITCH.

ADVANCE BOOKING ONLY!

PLEASE NOTE YOU WILL REQUIRE YOUR OWN TABLE.  
TO BOOK PLEASE MESSAGE THE EVENT FACEBOOK PAGE.

**Remember  
whenever you're in a position  
to help someone, be glad and  
always do it because that's  
God answering someone else's  
prayers through you.**

Prayers please for Julie who has recently had a mastectomy and is still having chemo.

Even though Julie is still unwell she is eager to return to work, but please comfort Julie and let her know that for now she needs to heal and when the time comes you will renew her strength so she can continue to work for you. Amen.

**Please pray for...**

**Please keep Jean and Steve in your prayers.**

**Prayers please for Simon.**

**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.**



**Online Bible Study** is on a Monday 1.3pm, 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?

All are welcome.

### **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>

Meeting ID: 967 1643 4790

Passcode: 355690

### **Prayer for the week...**

God of constant mercy,  
who sent your Son to save us:  
remind us of your goodness,  
increase your grace within us,  
that our thankfulness may  
grow,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity



# Serving with our God-given skills



"When I look back on the journey, then I find that it has been planned. God has been there leading me...and even in skills and giftings, God has used me like many others," Elysé says.

Elysé, born and currently based in Madagascar, has served with OM for 15 years. He oversees financial development and communication marketing for OM's 14 ministry fields in Africa. By either connecting ministry fields with resourcing fields in the USA, Canada, or Europe or by contacting donors, Elysé helps OM's projects across the continent receive funding. His role also includes managing and updating the progress of various projects on an online integrated system so that OM offices around the world can use the information for marketing campaigns and to update donors and prayer partners.

## Faith to action

Serving as a Sunday School teacher twenty years ago, Elysé's transition to working full-time in missions came as no surprise to anyone close to him. Yet Elysé's younger self, who dreamt of becoming a physician or surgeon, would never have imagined that he would be using his studies in finance for missions.

Raised in a Christian family, Elysé grew up attending church and Sunday School. Elysé's faith had a turning point at age 14 when his father passed away, leaving Elysé with many questions. "When my father passed away, I began investigating my faith, and that's when I encountered the loving promise of God," says Elysé. A year later, Elysé fell in love with God's Word after studying a correspondence Bible course gifted by a friend, committing to follow Jesus and beginning a lifelong journey of getting to know Him personally.

"When I was in high school, my circumstances changed a lot. And of course, with my newly found faith, the Lord works through different situations and circumstances," says Elysé.



He decided to study business instead of pursuing his passion for science because of his family situation and the wider educational issues in Madagascar.

After studying management and accounting in college, Elysé worked in finance and accounting in development projects for international NGOs. He also taught Sunday School but wanted to do more for the church. By then, Elysé had dedicated himself to the Lord, saying, "Here I am, wherever you want me." When the opportunity came to join missions full-time in 2003, Elysé was sure it was from the Lord and quit his job to work as a volunteer for the Council for World Mission abroad. He got to know OM through a visit to OM's ship *Doulos* in Madagascar in 2005, and he was excited to be able to continue missions in new ways with the organisation in 2009.

## God uses experiences

"I believe the experience I got from the early time in my career outside of missions organisation...developed in me a passion for the world, for people around the world, and encouraged me to develop my skills as well," explains Elysé.

Elysé's experience in the non-profit world and helping the poor changed his outlook on life, preparing him for missions work in general. As a full-time missions worker, Elysé first served in South Wales by working with people struggling with poverty and drug addiction and then onboard OM's ship *Logos Hope* for two years. After, he joined OM's team in Madagascar, helping with finances before transitioning to his current financial development and communications marketing role for the Africa Area two years ago.

"Because of His grace, I could contribute to missions in some ways, and the hope and goal is to continue that journey. Sometimes it's challenging, of course, but I wouldn't have traded it for anything else...Faith works in you and around you sometimes in mysterious ways," says Elysé. "If I could choose, then I wouldn't choose to do finance for the rest of my life...but wherever I'm needed, I'm happy to help anywhere, in any role, and in the ways I can best serve. I have also been using my life-long passion and skills in visual arts as a tool to communicate the message of the gospel."

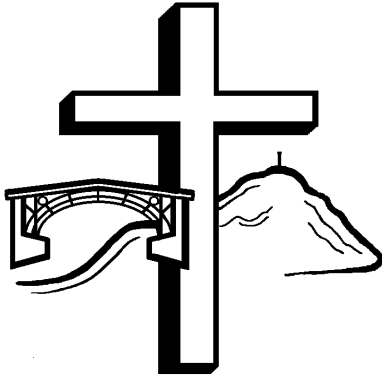
## Join us in prayer

One of the greatest challenges for Elysé is the lack of people working in financial development. Only five out of the 14 OM ministry fields in Africa have a local team of financial developers. Elysé and his team of one other colleague then serve as the bridge between donors, resourcing fields, and ministry fields. Elysé is in charge of communicating with local teams to get the relevant information. However, local teams are very busy, and often WIFI access is limited.

"I don't think we will ever get to say, 'We have enough people for this project,' because there's so much need out there, and that's the challenge, " says Elysé.

*Praise God for leading Elysé in His greater plans and using Elysé experiences to support missions in Madagascar and beyond. Please pray for Elysé, that God will continually strengthen his faith, keep him in good health, and provide endurance to serve Him through his skills. Pray for more Jesus followers to use their God-given skills and passions to proclaim Christ's love to all people. Pray for the OM ministries in Africa, those they impact, and the donors who financially support the work.*





# **Telford Methodist Circuit**

## **Part-time Circuit Safeguarding Officer**

The Telford Methodist Circuit is seeking a Safeguarding Officer to support and oversee the Circuit's Safeguarding Practices.

We seek someone with the ability to lead and instruct on all aspects around Safeguarding at Circuit level. To support churches with their Safeguarding needs.

Applicants should have experience in Safeguarding within a volunteer or employed environment with a working knowledge of workplace IT systems.

12 hours per week

Salary: £7,488 per annum

**For Job Description & Person Specification, please contact**  
[circuitssupport@telfordmeth.org.uk](mailto:circuitssupport@telfordmeth.org.uk)



## **Ladies' Fellowship at Horsehay** **Second Tuesday of each month**

**in the vestry @2.30pm**

***ALL WELCOME - BRING A FRIEND!***

## **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.



### **CRAFT AND CHAT**

**2ND & 4TH FRIDAYS EACH  
MONTH 10-11.30**



**At Wellington Methodist Church**  
New Street Wellington Telford TF1 1LU  
[www.wellingtonmethodistchurch.co.uk](http://www.wellingtonmethodistchurch.co.uk)  
Contact Roger Jones 07808344374  
Or the church office 250944

## **Bereavement Cafe**

A monthly opportunity to meet and chat with others who have been bereaved, hosted by members of local churches.

Second Monday of each month

2:30-4:00pm

Wellington Methodist Church





## Church Activities taking place in

### **Albrighton Methodist Church** on a regular basis:



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!)

**Open Door** - First Tuesday of the Month - 7.30-9pm. The evening has a variety of speakers ranging from singing, talks about wildlife, travel logs, health related talks.....£2

Weekly, **Thursday cafe 10-12**

**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.



**NEW!!!! Board Games**

**Come and join the fun!**

**The last Saturday of each month  
10am-12noon. This is for all ages.**

**£2 per adult, £5 per family.**

**You are welcome to bring your own game.**

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

**All are welcome**



### **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 great raffle, handicraft stall and lots more and not forgetting the strawberries and scones and tea and coffee.

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.



## **Coffee Mornings at Horsehay**

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

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