

Telford Methodist Circuit Newsletter

24th April 2025

The Methodist Church in Britain receives with deep sadness the news of the death of His Holiness Pope Francis, and gives thanks for his life and Christian witness.

Even to the final days of his long life, by his actions and his words, Pope Francis continued to set forth the gospel of God's love in Christ. He spoke plainly of the hope that is to be found in Jesus Christ, showed profound compassion for those who are poor and marginalised, and gave particular emphasis to God's demand for global justice. Through his papacy, Francis has fostered an openness to Christians sharing together in the Church's life and mission, in ways which have broken new ground for the Catholic Church. In all these ways, for many Methodists Pope Francis's witness to the Christian faith holds a special resonance, and his loss is deeply felt.

Methodists join in these days in prayer and sympathy with our Catholic sisters and brothers, who have lost their Holy Father, recognising the pain that this brings. Methodists will also offer prayers in the days ahead for the Catholic Church, as she navigates this period.

As God receives Pope Francis into God's arms of love, we pray that he may rest in peace and rise in glory.



Pope Francis greets attendees at the weekly general audience on October 29, 2014 in Rome.

We had a lovely Easter service on Easter Sunday morning at Dawley Christian Centre. Rev David Lavender took our service which included holy communion. The children worked hard on their Easter hats. I'm sure you'll agree Andrea, Aidan and Chloe did a fantastic job of decorating them. A wonderful time had by all.



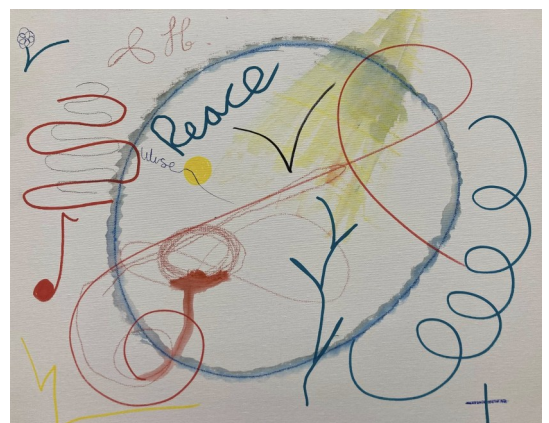
Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury District Chair's Travels - Rev. Rachel Parkinson

District Pilgrimage: Day 1

We try to be as environmentally aware as we can when planning the pilgrimage which means starting and finishing at places served by rail travel. Jo, Steve, Carys and I found ourselves on the same train from Shrewsbury to Ludlow.

Roger and Adrian reprised their "Pilgrim's classic" - salmon in soy sauce with stir fried veg and new potatoes- followed by meringue and fresh fruit salad. Not need for asceticism when it comes to food!

Carys led us in evening prayers. This week our theme is "Making a Mark" - we began with an art exercise.



Eco News from the Telford Circuit

"Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime."

Martin Luther



At this time of year the world seems to be full of life, doesn't it! Whether you have a large outside space at your church or just a tiny parking space, there are small things you can do to support local wildlife. Planting up one pot of flowers or hanging basket or putting up a bat box might be just the thing that sparks a conversation with your neighbours about why looking after God's creation is so important to you. The Methodist Church website has examples (including from our district) of how even a small space can be transformed and help to build links with local community groups. Click here: [Latest Eco Stories and Updates - The Methodist Church](#)



In our own circuit we look forward to the official opening of Dawley Community Garden on Friday 9th May, which I am sure will inspire us all with ideas to try out. While you are there, come and find out more about what it means to be an Eco Church. There will be an opportunity to register on the Eco Church website and eco-gifts to take away!

Julie and the staff and governors at John Fletcher Primary School have also been busy planting and on 4th April their new Prayer Garden was blessed by Rev Andy (St Michael's Church, Madeley). May it be a place of peace and a blessing and to all at the school!

Good Friday Service at Dawley Christian Centre

Thank you to everyone who attended the Good Friday service at Dawley Christian Centre, even though it was a bit damp, it was still great to be able to worship outside in the bandstand. It was so lovely to see so many people from across the Circuit and neighbouring local churches joining us. Rev Nik Wooller did a very thought provoking Good Friday service to poetry, and John Addison was brilliant, as always, and played his guitar, which somehow makes our singing sound so much better .



Dear All,

Cartway Church is holding a soup lunch on the following dates: **Friday April 25th and Friday May 30th** from 12.00 - 2.00pm.

There is no charge but we will be grateful for donations which will go to support a Ghanaian Community Health Project.

Everyone is welcome and we look forward to seeing you at any of the times.

The soup will be served upstairs, in the church.

Blessings to all,

Ruth

Pray with us today....

God of grace and hope. Where the warmth of a smile eclipses the sinister sneer –

Let hope stand triumphant. Where an act of kindness undermines an evil deed –

Let hope stand triumphant.

Where a word of peace silences the terrorist's threat –

Let hope stand triumphant. Where difference is diversity in place of disunity –

Let hope stand triumphant. Where youth is innocent and age is wisdom –

Let hope stand triumphant. Where love is real and faith is kindled –

Let hope stand triumphant. Praying that praise and protest would be partners in our living and in our praying, that your kingdom may come among us.

Amen.

Find more ways to pray at methodist.org.uk/prayer.



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

Passcode: 355690

God loves you
unconditionally, no strings attached.
That's the good news.

Faith Space - An online service for all

Starts at 6:30pm on the link below.

Weekly zoom services for anyone and everyone wherever in the world you are!

Join Zoom meeting:

[https://zoom.us/j/95651019665?
pwd=bGgyVEdvQ0cvNDRpWm5HTVB0UDRmdz09](https://zoom.us/j/95651019665?pwd=bGgyVEdvQ0cvNDRpWm5HTVB0UDRmdz09)

Meeting ID: 956 5101 9665

Passcode: 395669

God bless you all and see you soon!



Oakengates United Church

Stafford Road, Oakengates, Telford TF2 6JH

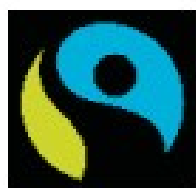
Coffee Morning



Saturday 26th April

10.00am - 12noon

**Serving Delicious Bacon Sandwiches,
Toast, Tea & Coffee**



We use Fairtrade Products

IONA WORSHIP

An evening meditation
for EASTERTIDE

inspired by the Iona Community, Scotland

WELLINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

New St., Wellington

Telford TF1 1LU

Sunday 27th April 2025

5pm

ALL WELCOME

www.wellingtonmethodist.org.uk

www.iona.org.uk

HeartSpace **on Sundays** **10:30am**

Upcoming dates:
Sunday 16th February
Sunday 16th March
Sunday 27th April

Do come along!

Relaxed contemporary worship
at the Trinity Centre, Victoria Road,
Shifnal





THE FILLING STATION

Haughmond
& Wrekin

Monday 28th April 2025

7.15 for 7.30pm start



Haughmond & Wrekin Filling Station,
Redington Village Hall, Shrewsbury,
SY4 4QS. 7:30 - 9pm, every 4th Monday.

Join us in April when the Filling Station returns to evening worship, teaching, prayer, great hospitality and lighter nights!

Future dates

- 26th May
- 23rd June

Main Speaker

Chris Densham

Chris is married to Lyn and they have two adult sons. Following a call to Ministry, he trained in Oxford then spent 22 years as a Baptist Minister. He is well known in this area for his love of the Gospels and what they mean in today's world.



Chris was as an Ecumenical Mission Enabler for Telford and Shropshire from 2016 until retirement in 2023. He is one of the leaders in the 'Greenhouse' movement.

More info at...

www.thefillingstation.org.uk/station/haughmond-wrekin





"TEDDY BEAR TRAIL"

&

"V E CELEBRATIONS"

SATURDAY 3RD MAY

&

MONDAY 5TH MAY

FROM 11 am – 4.30 pm

Follow the Teddy Bear Trail starting at Leegomery Methodist Church

Collect the Trail Sheet, follow the Trail

And as you go award points out of 10 for each one.

Once you have completed the Trail hand your completed form back in at the Church then join in with other activities

For the young & young at heart bring along a Teddy Bear to the Teddy Bears Picnic

Or for everyone lunch or afternoon tea for VE Day



Cake Stall



Tomboles & Games

Admission Free - Donations for Church Funds

You are warmly invited to join us for the official
opening of

**Dawley Christian Centre
Community Sensory & Prayer Garden**

On 9th May 2025 between 1:00-3:00pm

**Our garden has been designed to evoke the five senses: sight,
sound, touch, taste and smell. It's a place to relax.... or if you
prefer, you are welcome to pick up a trowel and do a bit of
weeding. All are welcome.**

**Cream teas and scones will be served on the day and perhaps
some beautiful fried chicken!**

Sponsored by:



**The
Grimmitt
Trust**



The Methodist Church



**Telford & Wrekin
Co-operative Council**

TABLE TOP



**Friday May 16th 2025
at Dawley Christian Centre
9:00am - 12:00 noon**

**Please call Sharon on 01952
505108 to book a table
Only £5!!!**

**Come along and grab
yourself a bargain!**



Telford Methodists Circuit project with Ajumako Osedzi



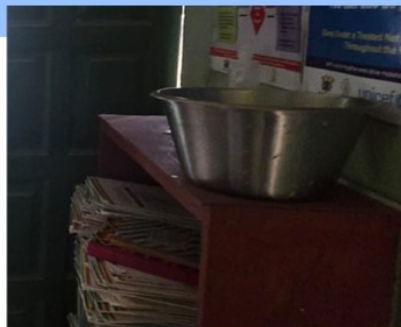
Community Health Centre **March Update**

What is needed:

- Hospital beds
- A wheelchair
- Chairs for the nurses
- Delivery equipment
- A sink for the delivery room
- A larger fridge/freezer

Total cost: £3500—£4000

(depending on exchange rates)



GREAT NEWS: We have raised just over £4,015 so far... let's keep going!

Please consider donating your Easter Offerings this year so that our fundraising can start making a difference by the summer!

Lawley Summer Pop-ups Planning.

As part of our Circuit project in Lawley we would like to run a series of pop-up events over the summer. These might include outdoor coffee mornings, crafts, arts and a harvest festival.

If you would like to be involved in planning and delivering these events please come to a meeting at Wellington Methodist Church on Tuesday 6th May at 19:30.

We are looking to garner creative ideas and willing hands from across the Circuit.

Look forward to seeing you

John Parkin (Local Lay Pastor - Project Coordinator)



Circuit Children and Young People Growth Group - Thursday 8th May.

There will be a meeting for all those involved in work amongst Children and Young People. The meeting will be held at Dunwell Methodist Church on Thursday 8th May. It will start at 19:30 and will finish by 21:00.

There will be some general discussion about opportunities for working together across the Circuit. There are some specific points on the agenda including:

- Circuit Summer Youth Event
- Plans for attending 3Generate

Appointment of Children and Young People Worker

If you are aware of anything else that needs adding to the agenda please let John Parkin know (john@telfordmeth.org.uk). John will be chairing the meeting on behalf of the Circuit Leadership Team.

Dear Friends,

I do a lot of "extreme" indoor rowing.

From 11th May, a group from my rowing class, will each be rowing 7 marathons in 7 days in aid of MND and Severn Hospice.

We are being encouraged to seek sponsorship from friends and contact groups etc.

If anybody is able to sponsor me for this event it will be greatly appreciated. I have attached the QR code for the giving page, but if anybody is not familiar/able to use this method, please let me know so that alternative arrangements can be made.

Thank you.

Dave

Dave Williams from Admaston Methodist Church

(Please contact Circuit office for Dave's contact details—thank you)



VE DAY 80TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN MUSIC!

All Saints Parish Church,
Wellington. TF1 1DG presents:

Musical Memories

Matthew Richards

**Returning
by popular
demand!**

Channel 4 "The Piano"

playing Piano and Ukulele

Saturday May 10th

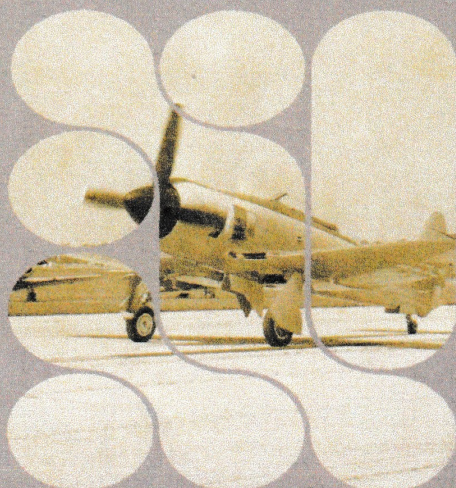
3.30 - 5.30 pm

**Cream Tea!
(Booking
essential)**

Free Entry!

**Retiring Collection : Alzheimer's Society +
All Saints Church Organ Fund**

**This is a dementia
friendly event.**



**To book your free cream tea
please use the QR code
below**

or phone:

07976 100321



A tribute to those who served

Singing the Lord's Song in a Strange Land

Holiness, letting go, and being a fully present Church today

A Day of Exploration

with Rev Dr Gary Hall

Saturday 17th May

10.30am at Church Stretton Methodist Church

Rev Dr Gary Hall is a Methodist Minister and tutor in preaching and ethics at The Queen's Foundation, Birmingham

"It's about trying to be faithful, relating to each other and being connected; in so doing being an example to the wider community"

Rev Dr Gary Hall

Please join us for a day of reflection and conversation as we explore what it means to be a faithful, present and adaptable church in today's changing world

Tea and coffee will be served from 10.00am

We expect to finish around 3.30pm

Bring a packed lunch, drinks will be provided



Scan this QR code

to watch an interview with Gary Hall

or go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=szjT2eb-RoQ>

Church Stretton Methodist Church is just off the A49, and very close to the railway station.

This is an initiative of the Shropshire and Marches Methodist Circuit.

Friends from other Circuits and ecumenical partners will be welcome to join us to explore faith together.

Advanced Safeguarding Course

Stephanie Bradley, Assistant District Safeguarding Officer is doing Advanced Safeguarding Training in the Telford Circuit on **Saturday 24th May 2025**, 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 1pm.

Please book directly with Stephanie by calling 07494 734 473 or email: StephanieBradley@birminghammethodist.org.uk

Thank you.

SAFEGUARDING
Creating Safer Space



Please get in touch if you have something to share.



Contact:

circuitssupport@telfordmeth.org.uk

or 01952 505108

Who Cares? An introduction to pastoral care



Who Cares?

In response to Our Calling, Methodist people are to help others to grow and learn as Christians, through mutual support and care.

Who Cares? is a series of four 2-hour online sessions that introduces participants to pastoral practice.

- Session 1: Introduction to Pastoral Care
- Session 2: Discipleship and Hospitality
- Session 3: Listening and Prayer
- Session 4: Pastoral Care in Difficult Times

The **Methodist Church** 

In response to Our Calling, Methodist people are to help others to grow and learn as Christians, through mutual support and care. *Who Cares?* is a series of four 2-hour sessions that introduces participants to the possibilities of pastoral care – creating appropriate environments and developing practices that welcome, support and care for others in their role. It draws on insights and underpinning knowledge in the areas below:

Session 1: Introducing Pastoral Care (4/6)

Session 2: Welcome and Hospitality in Pastoral Care (11/6)

Session 3: Listening and Prayer in Pastoral Practice (18/6)

Session 4: Care in Difficult Times and Self-care in Pastoral Practice (25/6)

All sessions will run from 7-9pm.

Link to [book](#).

DATE

04 June - 25 June

TIME

7:00pm - 9:00pm

ONLINE

This is an online event at On Zoom [Go to event website](#)

TAGS

[Pastoral Care](#)

CATEGORIES

[Open to everyone](#)

ORGANISER

[James Devenish](#)
devenishj@methodistchurch.org.uk
[07799902567](tel:07799902567)

Event website link:

[Who Cares? An introduction to pastoral care Registration, Wed 4 Jun 2025 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

JUN
4

Who cares? Training
for Pastoral Care (4
sessions)

By James Devenish

Bible Studies in the Circuit

Admaston meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month between 10-11:30am. They currently meet in the home of one of the church family but if the numbers increased they would be happy to transfer the bible study to church.

Cartway, Bridgnorth has 3 bibles study groups.

Shambles Group meet on 2nd Monday of the month at 10:30am

Orchard House Group meet on 3rd Monday in the month at 10:30am

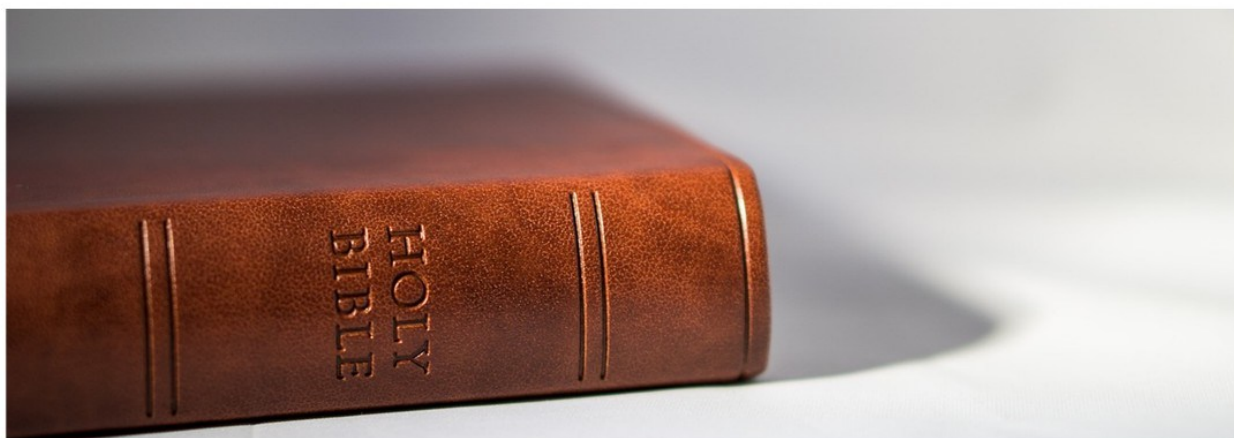
Greenfields Group meet 3rd Tuesday in the month at 2pm.

Dawley - Bible study group meets for two 5-6 weekly sessions each year. One during Lent the other during Advent.

Dunwell - has a bible study before church service each Sunday which (service starts at 10am)

Oakengates Bible Reflections Group meet for two series of 5-6 weekly sessions each year. One of these is in Lent and the other in the autumn. As they usually meet in someone's home, we do not include the venue in general publicity.

Online Courses: Monday afternoon at 1:30am, Monday evening at 7:30pm and Wednesday evening at 8pm. Please contact the Circuit office for the Zoom link. All are welcome.





The Church of
St Andrew
& Emily
Church
School



Dementia
Friendly Church
2022-23

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

Forget me not Group for people affected by dementia. **Third Thursday of** **the month at 2:00pm**

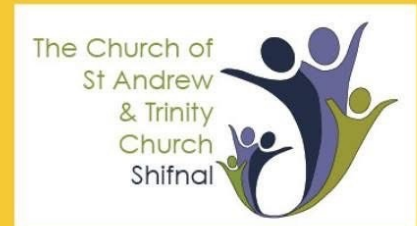
**Come and join us - there's a warm
welcome and a friendly atmosphere.**

For more information, or for if you want to have a
conversation about memory difficulties or
dementia, contact Sarah Thorpe on 07982 248949 or
sarah.thorpe121@gmail.com

2025



2025



Everyday Welcome

**We will re-open on Monday 13th January
at St Andrew's Church.**

**Wishing all our visitors and volunteers a blessed
and Happy New Year, and looking forward to
providing a warm welcome for everyone in 2025.**

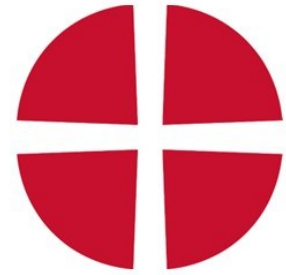
Open Monday, Wednesday , Thursday, Friday
10:30am - 2:00pm

Tuesdays 10:30-12:30pm

Come and join us for a friendly chat &
refreshments. Delicious light lunches served
from 12 Noon each day except Tuesday.

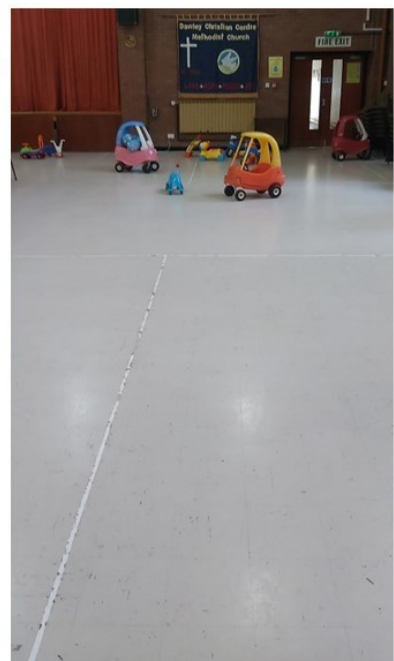
It's free. Donations welcomed!

**Stay & Play Under 5's Playgroup
at Dawley Christian Centre
High Street
Dawley
TF4 2EX**



**Every Monday & Tuesday from
9:30-11:30am.**

We have lots of space and plenty of toys so
bring the kids and let's make some noise!



Coffee Morning at Cartway Methodist Church, Bridgnorth

On the 1st Saturday of each month between 10am –12 midday there is a Coffee Morning at Cartway Methodist Church.

There's going to be a great raffle,.

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!**



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? **Thursday and Friday mornings** 10.00 - 12.30. £5.00 per session.

Wool Wanted

If anyone has any spare balls of wool they don't need, can you let Sharon (01952 505108) in the Circuit office know please?

At Dawley we are making knitted and crocheted blankets for the dementia patients at the Princess Royal Hospital.

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. They also provide a more homely feel to the wards. Thank you.

[Calling all knitters: blankets wanted for patients with dementia – SaTH](#)



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





Albrighton Methodist Church

Regular church activities

Cafe Central

Every Thursday 10.00 to 12.00

Excellent coffee!

Meet with friends, old and new.



Sing a Long

2nd and 4th Fridays in the month.
2.00 to 3.30

Join in with "Old Time" songs
and songs from the musicals.
£2 per head.



Monthly Cafe

First Saturday in the month 10.00 to 12.00

With high quality bric-a-brac and
book stalls.



Open Door

First Tuesday in the month
7.30 to 9.00

Wide variety of speakers
ranging from singing, wildlife,
travel logs, health related.....



£2 per head. Speaker usually puts fees to a charity.

The **calling** of the
Methodist Church
is to respond to the
gospel of **God's love**
in **Christ** and to live
out its discipleship in
worship and mission

Our Calling

The **Methodist Church** 