

Telford Methodist Circuit Newsletter

31st July 2025

Exciting times ahead for Hadley & Leegomery Methodist Church

During the Circuit Meeting on 12th March 2025, the Trustees of Hadley Methodist Church requested help from the Circuit to find a suitable other local church to merge with, to create a single group of managing trustees and asked the CLT to oversee the process.

Leegomery Methodist Church was open to the idea.

Both Church Councils have now met and, using Standing Order SO605a, have passed resolutions to merge the trusts of both churches in order to create a new church. This means that from 31 August 2025, Hadley Methodist Church and Leegomery Methodist Church shall cease to exist and on 1 September 2025 the Hadley & Leegomery Methodist Church shall come into being.

The individual assets and liabilities of Hadley Methodist Church and Leegomery Methodist Church shall become the assets and liabilities of the new Hadley & Leegomery Methodist Church.

As a separate resolution, Hadley Methodist Church Council decided that from 31 August 2025, they would no longer worship at Hadley Community Centre, but shall join in worship with the congregation currently known as Leegomery Methodist Church.

This is a new and exciting opportunity for the mission and presence of the Methodist Church in Hadley & Leegomery. Please celebrate this new venture and the opportunities that it generates.

The provision of the Standing Order used means that the decision is effected by the resolutions of both groups of managing trustees (Church Councils) and no further permissions are required.



A Leaving Service for Rev Rachel Parkinson took place on 26th July 2025 at Berkswich Methodist Church.

Here's what Rachel had to say:

"Feeling very much loved after a fabulous leaving service today. Thankyou to Berkswich Methodist and David Bintliff for hosting; to Jo Cox-Darling for planning the service and refreshments; to Helen Kirk for a fabulous preach; for Alan and Michele Combes who returned to the District having only just sat down, and brought their musical skills; to Jo Yair and Novette Headley for the vote of thanks; to others who prayed and read and blessed; and to Sue Culver who took contributions from the District and combined them to make the most fabulous quilt. And to all those whom I have managed to miss out (sorry).... "



Might you feel called to help lead worship? Are you a Worship Leader in need of refreshment?

We will be holding a **Worship Leaders' Introduction and Refresher course** at Cartway on Friday afternoons in the autumn, 2-3:30pm. These sessions will use *some* of the WL training resources but we will *not be covering the whole course*.

* No previous experience or materials needed... just a willingness to think, be open and engage.

5th September - Delving into the Bible: What is it? Who wrote it and when? How do we interpret it? How do we best read the Bible aloud in worship? How far do we trust the authority of the Bible?

19th September - Exegesis: How do we dive deeper into a Bible passage? What questions do we ask and why is this important?

3rd October - God talk: names, metaphors and language for God. A multi-sensory approach and meeting God in our actions.

17th October - Trinitarian God and the creeds: What are the creeds and how can we express the nature of God meaningfully in our worship?

31st October - Church: What is church and what is our calling? What does it mean to be Methodist and part of a wider Connexion?

14th November - Worship: How has worship developed over time? Different expressions and patterns of worship. Inclusivity.

28th November - Resources: Getting the most out of our hymn book and the lectionary, ways to present scripture, how music and art might enhance worship, writing prayers and alternatives to a sermon.



For more information, to chat about whether this is for you or to let me know you are coming, contact Jo Kudlacik Tel: 07840 596074 Email: jokudlacik@gmail.com

*If you would like to commit to full Worship Leader training, please contact Rev Adrian, who will be running the full course.

Eco News from the Telford Circuit



“The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.”

Genesis 2:15

I wonder, do you use the space outside your church? What does it say about you as God's family and about the abundant Creator you worship?

The spaces outside our circuit churches range from mature gardens to wild patches, carparks or just a bit of pavement, but we all have the potential to do something... even if it is just a window box. If you have children or young people at your church this might be a great way to engage them with caring for God's beautiful creation and perhaps to give them some responsibility within your church family, as they do at Dunwell Ketley. Using your outside space has also proved to be a great way to engage with your neighbours in the community.

From the Eco Church 'Land and Nature' survey, here are some questions to get you thinking about what might be possible...

Our church is intentional about leaving 'untidy' areas during the autumn/winter that support over-wintering wildlife: *dead flowers, seed heads / wildflower containers left 'untidy' / leaf piles, branches*

Our church supports wildlife-friendly (e.g. for birds, butterflies etc) planting on our land by: *planting in containers / planting in window boxes / creating a roof garden or vertical garden*

Our church actively encourages people to access and enjoy our land by providing: *nature display boards / benches or seats / a wildlife trail / a labyrinth / adaptations to improve accessibility*

Click [here](#) to look at examples and inspiration from other churches around the Connexion.

Challenge to all churches: Can you send me a photo of one thing outside your church which is good for nature? Send to jokudlacik@gmail.com by the end of August for publication during Creationtide in September.

Advanced Safeguarding Course

Stephanie Bradley, Assistant District Safeguarding Officer is doing Advanced Safeguarding Training in the Telford Circuit on **Saturday 6th September 2025**, starting at 10am at Wellington Methodist church

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:

Bradleys@methodist.org.uk

Once again if you are unsure if you need to attend you are always most welcome to contact Sharon in the Circuit office and she will check for you.

Thank you.

Safeguarding
Young people and vulnerable adults

Pray with us today....

You are the One, the Holy One,
who looks on all you have made, with love.
You gaze at me, and your faithful kindness overwhelms me.
I fall silent before you, my words stalling,
as my heart breaks open and pours out my thanks, my delight in you.
The more I gaze back at you,
the more I see through your eyes;
I am born again in your devotion to your creation.
Let my words fall before you,
but grant me the words and the acts of love
you long for me to have for
your world. Amen.

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



Hi.. I was sharing with colleagues earlier in the week about a precious little Ladybird book I had been given as a child, (on three separate occasions, one for writing poetry at Sunday School and then again at school, when I was about 10. And again, just last year (age: Not telling) It was the story of Naaman and the Little Maid.

Rev Roger was at the meeting and the following day he shared with me this lovely poem that explains the story perfectly. There's also an extra addendum from Terry Dean, who was one of Roger's church members from Ruislip. I hope you enjoy it too. Sharon

NAAMAN AND T'MUCKY BROOK 2 Kings 5:1-15

There was once a prophet in Israel,
Whose miracles brought him great fame,
Including the one I shall shortly relate;
Elisha were this prophet's name.

'Twere a period when Israel and Syria
Were allus at war with each other;
And some Syrian soldiers had took a young lass
And snatched her away from her mother.

To be took from her home and her country
Caused the young lass a great deal of grief,
But she soon became personal skivvy
To t'wife of Commander-in-Chief.

Now this was a general called Naaman -
A right gradely chap he's depicted -
But Naaman were struck with an awful complaint;
With leprosy he were afflicted.

He'd tried every doctor in t'country
(And he were a man of some wealth),
But none of the quacks could offer a cure,
Either private or national health.

Then the lass as was maid to his missus
Said, "He'll never get cured in this area;
He should get in his chariot and go, and consult
The prophet as lives in Samaria".

Naaman heard this and went and told t' king,
In his palace in t' capital city;
He said, "Thee get off to yon Israelite king;
I'll write thee a personal chitty".

So Naaman took gifts of silver and gold
And some Savile Row suits and a letter
Which said, "This here's my C. in C., Naaman.
He's a leper - I want him made better".

When the king in Samaria read this
His face turned a pale, ghastly white.
He said, "How does he think I can cure anybody?
He just wants an excuse for a fight".

Now, news of this came to Elisha,
And he wrote to the king with some feeling;
"Don't get in a sweat - just send him to me,
And I'll show them who knows about healing".

So Naaman went off in his chariot,
And arrived at Elisha's front door;
And when t' prophet's servant answered his knock
He explained to him what he'd come for.

Elisha was told who were calling.
But he just left him stood in the hall;
He said, "tell him to jump in the river,
And duck under seven times an' all".

When Naaman received this instruction,
With hot indignation he shook;
He said, "What! Have I come all this distance
Just to bathe in this here mucky brook?"

"He could have got up off his backside,
And called on his god for a cure;
Why, we've far better rivers in Syria
Than this Jordan, I'll tell you for sure".

With these words he jumped in his chariot,
And were going to drive off in a huff;
But his henchmen said, "Don't be too hasty -
What he's asking is easy enough".

"If he'd told you to do summat tricky,
You'd 'a' done it wi never a thowt;
Why don't you jump into the river and see
If you're cured when you get yourself out?"

So Naaman reined in his horse then,
For he saw their suggestion made sense;
Though he felt it inflicted a wound on his pride,
The benefit could be immense.

He went down and bathed in the Jordan,
Whose waters he thought so inferior;
And when he came out his skin were as soft
And as smooth as a baby's posterior.

And if you long to turn back the pages,
And recover that newly-born look,
You must wash off all pride in humility's tide;
Think on Naaman and yon mucky brook.

Rev. Basil Howard.

Terry Dean: revised addendum 2 Kings 5:15-

Now that's where the story normally ends,
And what happens next is left out;
Something shocking, excessive, and really unfair,
But it does give it more added clout!

Naaman was cured, he was in seventh heaven
and offered Elisha some suitable pay.
But the prophet was wise and would not accept;
He sent Naaman, his wealth, on their way.

Now Elisha had a servant, Gehazi by name,
Who had thoughts on what should be done,
So with greed in his eyes he hatched a plan
And after Naaman, in haste, he did run.

It wasn't too long 'til he caught them,
And lying through teeth quickly said;
"My master has had second thoughts,
We want silver and clothes now, instead."

Well Naaman was so overjoyed
That he no longer suffered so badly,
Two bags of silver he gave away,
And, now a changed man, he gave gladly.

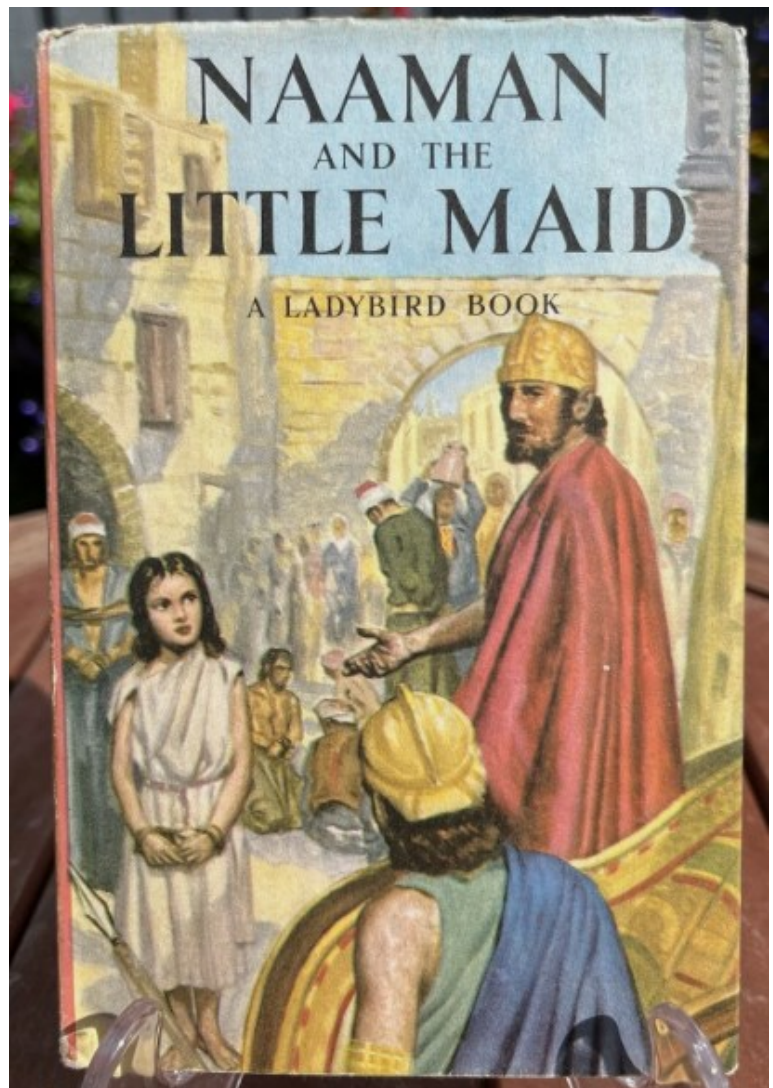
Gehazi knew well that he shouldn't have done it
So he hid away all of his stash,
But Elisha saw through it and made for to tell
That he'd always be cursed with a rash.

This is quite extreme, but it also would seem
That not only Gehazi would suffer,
But also his sons, and his daughters, theirs too,
And so on, and so on, forever.

So how could our God let this happen?
The answer is there for to see;
It will always be here, the affliction to fear,
But it's not really called leprosy!

Naaman and Gehazi were both, to their cost,
Obsessed with material things.
So make certain that you don't succumb;
You've been warned of the anguish it brings.

But both pride and greed can be caught
Like leprosy, from others - too well.
So if you catch them then warn us, please,
and be sure to ring that bell!



The Dawley Christian Centre sensory and prayer garden is looking rather beautiful today. Thank you Doug (Hughes) for sharing some of your photos.

All are welcome.



District Launch and Chair's Welcome Service

Join us to celebrate the launch of the new West Midlands District and welcome our new Chair Rev'd Rachel Deigh.

Saturday 30th August
3pm followed by refreshments

The
Methodist
Church
West
Midlands
District



Central Hall

Ablewell Street Walsall WS1 2EQ

Welcome to the Launch Service and Welcome for the new Chair of District!

Come join us at **Central Hall** as we celebrate the beginning of a new chapter. This event is the perfect opportunity to meet the new leader and connect with other members of the district. The service will begin at 3pm and join us afterwards for light refreshments and time to chat. Don't miss out on this special occasion to show your support and be a part of the excitement. See you there!

As part of the service we are going to creating a piece of weaving to symbolise our coming together - if you would like to contribute you are invited to bring a strip of coloured fabric – 5 cm width; up to 1 metre length.

[District Launch and Chair's Welcome Service Tickets, Sat 30 Aug 2025 at 15:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Admaston Methodist Church are looking for a cleaner.

Presently 3 hours a week

Details available from

amkiddamc@btinternet.com



Don't forget to visit this cute plant stall in Abbey Road, Arleston TF1 2GJ. Selling plants in aid of Oakengates United Church. Beautiful plants for sale. Happy gardening. Regards Sylvia (Bailey)



The President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference call on the UK Government to recognise Palestine as an Independent State

From the Revd Richard Andrew and Matthew Forsyth, President and Vice-President of the Conference.

We have been appalled and horrified by the pictures and first-hand witness accounts of the dire situation in Gaza, particularly around access to food for those existing there.

No-one could fail to be moved by the images of emaciated children and we have a moral duty to heed and act on the warnings from countless aid agencies of mass starvation and malnutrition.

We welcome the pause in military activity, but this is not enough. Red lines in international law have been crossed by the Israeli Government and they and Hamas must provide explicit acceptance of the right to peace, security and prosperity for all Israelis and Palestinians.

The Methodist Conference this year accepted a memorial (motion) from the Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury District Synod asking the Conference to write to the UK government urging it to recognise the independent state of Palestine, a position the Methodist Church has long held.

The motion stated that over the last twelve months, "the Israeli government has accelerated the seizure and annexation of Palestinian land, in violation of international law. This has implications not only for Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza who are forcibly displaced but also for any prospect of a future peace."

The time is now right for the Government to take decisive action to recognise the state of Palestine, its right to self-determination, and to ensure safety for all its citizens across the West Bank and we urge them to do this without delay.

We ask the Methodist people to continue to pray for those caught up in the violence in Gaza who don't know where their next meal is coming from. We also continue to pray for those in the West Bank who are living in constant fear of indiscriminate border closures and settler violence against them.

**Creator God,
you breathed life into this world and
us all. We long for an end to suffering in
Gaza and pray for freedom for all your
creation.**


**Give to those in authority wisdom to act
decisively for the good of all, so that we
may see a just and peaceful resolution
in Gaza, the West Bank and Israel**

**In the name of the Prince of Peace,
Amen.**


Explore the meaning of discipleship

'Discipleship' is a tricky word even for those who have been in church a long time. Four new stand-alone service outlines, co-created by members of the Connexional team, Methodist churches, and pioneer communities, encourage and challenge the spiritually curious and committed worshippers alike to consider who God is, and what it means to be a follower of Jesus in every moment of our lives.

Discover resources perfect for a Local Arrangement this summer, or for a pioneer community gathering at <http://methodist.org.uk/.../a-m.../mwol-service-outlines/...>



**Explore the meaning
of discipleship**
with four new stand-alone
service outlines



Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury District Chair's Travels - Rev Rachel Parkinson - Taken from her Facebook Page on 27th July 2025.

On my first Sunday practically (though not yet technically) Without Appointment, I joined the protective presence outside the Britannia Hotel in Wolverhampton. After the protests in Epping and Norwich this weekend outside hotels being used as accommodation for asylum seekers, it had been announced that there would be a similar protest at midday today in Wolverhampton.

The protective presence began at 11am and I found common cause with a wide range of Wulfrunians who had gathered. In the end only a couple of people seemed to appear for the protest. Was it because they'd heard about the counter protest, or was there never the momentum in the first place?

Difficult to say. But one of the things I love about Wolverhampton is that to a large extent, it's a city at ease with itself and its highly diverse population. That seems to offer a degree of protection against those who seek to stir up unrest. This doesn't happen by accident - it's a result of the hard work of many individuals and groups over decades. It's been my privilege to work with some of them.

In a tweet advertising the protest one person put that it was wrong that hotels are being "influxed by immigrants whilst many many natives are sleeping on the streets". It's absolutely right that there's a housing and homelessness crisis affecting the UK and this certainly affects Wolverhampton. I passed a number of shop doorways housing rough sleepers on the high street. If you want to know what we should be urging politicians to do in response there's a good summary by Crisis here (tip: it doesn't feature asylum seekers and hotels!). <https://www.crisis.org.uk/.../key.../housing/housing-supply/>



From 1st August 2025 Stephanie Bradley who looks after Advanced Training Course for the West Midlands District has a new email address: Bradleys@methodist.org.uk

Stephanie's phone number remains the same: 07494 734473

There are now 12 advanced courses available –
To book please visit:

www.eventbrite.com/o/stephanie-bradley-81147774823

September Saturday 6th 10am - Wellington Methodist Church

September Saturday 13th 10am - Lickey End Methodist Church

September Saturday 27th 10am - Upper Gornal Methodist Church

October Saturday 11th 10am - Brierly Hill Methodist Church

October Saturday 18th 10am - Bilston Methodist Church

November Saturday 8th 10am - Trinity Methodist Church

November Saturday 15th 10am - Selly Oak Methodist Church

November Saturday 22nd 10am - Mill Street Methodist Church

January Saturday 10th 10am - St Andrews Methodist Church

January Saturday 24th 10am - Mill Street Methodist Church

January Saturday 31st 10am - Ledbury Methodist Church

April Saturday 18th 10am—Mill Street Methodist Church

Thank you.

Safeguarding
Young people and vulnerable adults



Bereavement cafe

A support group looking forward, following loss.

Thursday July 3rd

Thursday August 7th

Thursday September 4th

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





HeartSpace

worship for today

HeartSpace on Sundays

10:30am

Trinity Centre

Upcoming Dates

Sunday 20th July

Sunday 17th August

Sunday 21st September

The Church of
St Andrew
& Trinity
Church
Shifnal



Contact:

heartspace@shifnalbenefice.org.uk



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

Table Top

S A L E

at

***DAWLEY CHRISTIAN
CENTRE***

on

Friday 15th August 2025

9.00am – 12 noon

**Come along and grab
a bargain.**

**To book a table for only £5 please call
Sharon on 01952 505108**

SALE

Every item!



5th September 2025

from 9 - 12 noon

At Dawley Christian Centre

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=RTZZa210Q1ZOWCtLTWk3NHoyWDVIQT09](https://zoom.us/j/96716434790?pwd=RTZZa210Q1ZOWCtLTWk3NHoyWDVIQT09)

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!



Bible Study

Meet, read, ponder and share together
on a Friday afternoon at Broseley
Methodist Church.

Our starting theme will be **PLENTY**.
What does the Bible have to say to us
today about Social Justice?

All are welcome, no previous knowledge
or experience needed!

Meeting on monthly at 2.30-4pm on

- Friday 12th September
- Friday 10th October
- Friday 21st November
- Friday 12th December.



For more information contact Jo on
jokudlacik@gmail.com or 07840 596074

Interested in an evening group? Contact Kim on
kimfitzwarine@gmail.com or 07816 374414

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

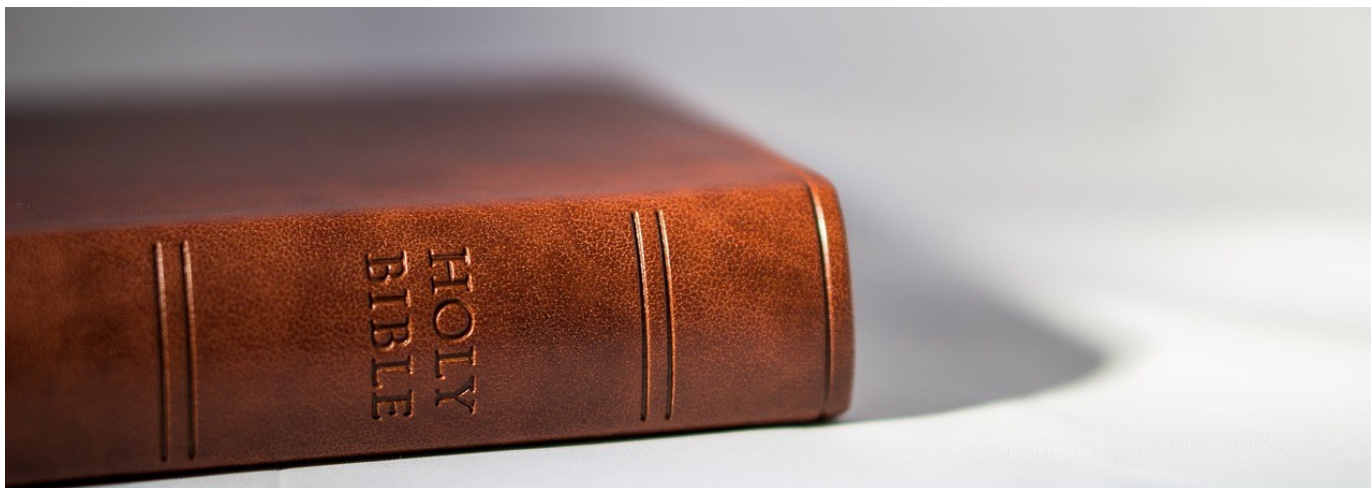
Greenfields Group meet 3rd Tuesday in the month at 2pm.

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 1:30pm, 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

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

All you keen or would be bakers please
Join us for Bread Church at
Dawley Christian Centre

On the last Wednesday
of every month between 1-3pm
And the last Saturday of every
month 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.

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** 