



Telford Methodist Circuit Newsletter

19th February 2026

Let go of idols - make room for God

Lent is often seen as a season of giving things up – chocolate, coffee, social media. But at its heart, **Lent is about making space for what gives life**. It's about loosening our grip on the things that promise happiness but leave us empty, and **opening ourselves to the presence of God**. This isn't about punishment or deprivation; it's about freedom. Freedom from the illusions that weigh us down and the false promises that keep us restless. To find out more subscribe to the Lent newsletter from The Methodist Church: [Lent and Easter Church Resources - The Methodist Church](#)

The Wilderness and the World (Luke 4:1-13)

The Spirit led where wild winds blew,
Where desert stretched with silent view,
For forty days, the hunger stayed,
And still, the Son of God obeyed.

The tempter came with sharpened voice.
"Turn stone to bread, if you've the choice."
But Jesus stood, though body weak,
And let the Word of God still speak.

"Not bread alone." The answer came,
"But every word in Yahweh's name."
The hunger stayed, but not the trust,
His hope was more than mortal dust.

The devil showed the kingdoms wide,
With flashing crown and throne of pride.
"All this." He said, "could now be yours,
Just bow and open power's doors."

But Jesus turned, His heart held fast,
"The Lord alone shall reign and last."
No shortcut path, no bargain made,
Just love that does not twist or trade.

Then high upon the temple's crest,
A dare to fall, a taunting test.
"Let angels catch your holy feet,
Prove God is real, and faith is sweet."

But Christ replied, "Do not demand,
The Lord is God, not at command."
And so, the tempter turned and fled,
While angels came with wings outspread.

Rev Nik Wooller (This is my body)



Can you provide a plain cotton T Shirt (both for men and woman) to someone in a mental health institution (Pantang Psychiatric Hospital) in Ghana?

The newly inaugurated Sussanah Wesley Mission Auxiliary (SUWMA) within the congregation of Dunwell Methodist Church, Ketley are making their Easter project to provide clothes to the people who are living in Pantang Psychiatric Hospital. They would very much welcome your support. Very often, when families take their loved ones to the institution, they are just left there. They don't get any visitors and there's little hope of them ever leaving. Their families don't provide for them, so it's left to a few people to look after them. And they are struggling.

People taken to the institution include those who have had a breakdown, life in Ghana can be very hard and people struggle to cope.

We can help make their lives more comfortable and respect their dignity by providing clothes. It's very hot in Ghana so cotton T shirts are ideal.

If you can help please pass your T shirts on to a Church Steward and we will arrange a way to collect them. Thank you.

Best sizes to buy/donate would be size 14 and above for woman.

Large for men.

Bright beautiful coloured T shirts would certainly brighten their day!

Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Feel free to add a note too which could be read to our friends in Ghana.

It's a wonderful way to show love to a stranger.



Plant Stall in PRIORSLEE VILLAGE

For more details contact Sylvia on
01952 299504

Sylvia Bailey has a new Facebook page to profile her plants, garden tools and equipment for sale on behalf of Oakengates United Church. You will find her under 'Plant Lady' ([Facebook](#))

Sylvia says, "I expect everyone is thinking of Spring now the sun is shining so attached are photos of my current stock or garden tools and equipment. The garden equipment is mostly listed on marketplace as well. Please get in touch with me if you are in need of garden tools and equipment.

The plant stall will be up and running towards the end of March. I look forward to seeing my customers again.

Regards.

Sylvia (Plant Lady of Priorslee Village)."



Blankets for Dementia Patients at Princess Royal Hospital

A huge thank you to everyone who has knitted or crocheted beautiful blankets to be passed on to dementia patients at Princess Royal Hospital.

Sylvia Bailey (from Oakengates Methodist Church) kindly passes them on for us and has been in touch to say we have reached the 200 mark!

Well done.. That's a tremendous effort.. There's also another 9 in the office waiting to go!

Keep up the good work ... they really do make a difference.

The blankets are given to the patients on arrival and they get to keep them and take them home. It also helps patients find their own bed whilst on the ward.

If you have any unwanted wool please pass them on to Dawley Christian Centre. We share them, so we can make even more!



For the last six weeks, we've prayed for Haiti - lifting our Voices for Haiti to God in prayer during a time of deep struggle for the nation.

Now, we invite you to take one more step of solidarity: write a prayer or record a short prayer video for Haiti and send it to us by 23 February. Together, we'll create a film that will bring hope and encouragement to our Haitian family as we continue to pray for Haiti in faith, hope and love.

The film will be shared in early March on our YouTube channel- stay tuned!

Act now and submit your prayers at <http://methodist.org.uk/.../submit-a-prayer-for-haiti/>

Thank you for your compassion, your prayers, and your commitment to hope.

Thank you for standing with Haiti



New Safeguarding Reporting Form

Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility, and clear communication is key to keeping our community in the Telford Methodist Circuit safe and supported.

A new **Safeguarding Reporting Form** is now in use across the Circuit. Copies have already been shared with your **Church Safeguarding Officers (CSOs)** and should shortly be **appearing on the Circuit website and your church safeguarding noticeboards**.

If you don’t see a copy, or if you have a safeguarding concern, please notify your **designated CSO** as soon as possible. If your church does not have a CSO appointed, you can contact:

Lauren Baxendale, Circuit Safeguarding Officer safeguarding@telfordmeth.org.uk | 07904 814741

Stephanie Bradley, Regional Officer for Safeguarding bradleys@methodistchurch.org.uk | 07817 808557

By reporting concerns promptly using the new safeguarding reporting form, you help ensure that issues are recorded appropriately, responded to quickly, and escalated where necessary.

Thank you for helping us maintain safe and welcoming places for all.



CHURCH SAFEGUARDING CONCERN FORM

(Any person can complete this form)

PLEASE NOTE: If you are worried about contacting us and giving your details, please be assured that we will do what we can to support you. Please telephone your District Safeguarding Officer and they can talk with you about this. Your District Safeguarding Officer can also help you to complete this form or take details over the telephone.

We can arrange pastoral care for you if you would find this helpful. If you would like this, please tick here or contact your District Safeguarding Officer.

Your details

Name:			
Role/Position:			
Tel:			
E-mail:			
Circuit/District:			
Date:		Time:	

Details of the person you are worried about

Name:			
Address:			
	Postcode:		
Tel:			
E-mail:			
Child or Adult:	Approximate age or date of birth if known:		
Role (if applicable):			
Church/Circuit:			

If the person you are worried about is a child or vulnerable adult, it would be helpful if you could give some details about their carer.

Parent/Guardian/Carer

Name:			
Address:			
	Postcode:		
Tel:			
E-mail:			

Please tell us what you are worried about, when this happened and where:

Could you tell us what action has already been taken (if any)?

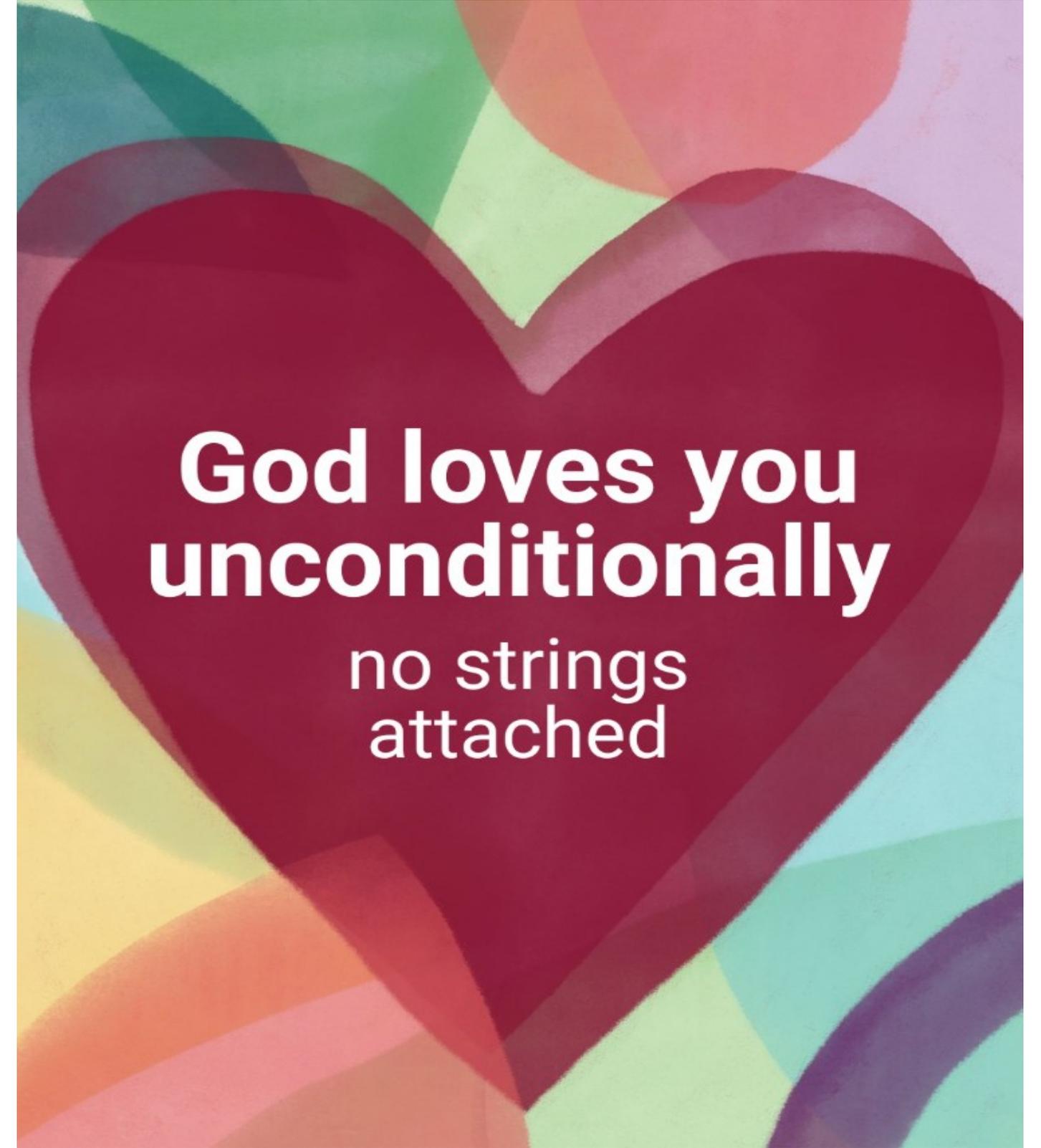
Please let us know of any other information you think would be helpful for us to know:

PLEASE NOTE:

We may need to share the information you have provided with other agencies to help ensure the person you are referring and others are safe. If the information is passed on to the statutory authorities your name may be disclosed to the person you are referring.

West Midlands District cares about your privacy and your trust is important to us. Our Privacy Notice explains how Local Churches, Circuits and Districts within the Methodist Church in Great Britain collect, use and protect your personal information. It also provides information about your rights (paragraph 9 of the Privacy Notice) and who to contact (paragraph 1 of the Privacy Notice) if you have any questions about how we use your information. You can find our Privacy Notice online (www.tmcpc.org.uk/about/data-protection/managing-trustees-privacy-notice). Your Circuit Safeguarding Officer will try to deal with any questions as a local point of contact. Alternatively, if viewing this form on line [click here](#) to read our Privacy Notice.

Thank you for completing this form.



God loves you unconditionally

no strings
attached

**PRESIDENT OF CONFERENCE COMING
TO KIDDERMINSTER SOON!**

At the LPWL District forum this week they said the
**President of Conference is coming to Trinity
Kidderminster on Sat 9th May.**

There will be a 'worship' themed day put on, with
the president as Key Note speaker and then lots of
workshops, relevant to anyone who contributes to
worship (Local Preachers, Worship Leaders, preparing
and leading Local Arrangements, musician etc. Expecting
more details to come from District soon!

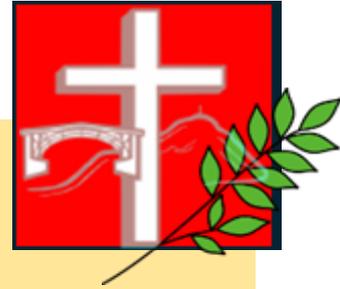
**Sunday 26th July '26
at 4pm**

**At Wellington
Methodist Church**

Farewell service for Rev Roger Dunlop



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*

This is God's first commandment! Can you delight in and tend to creation this Lent? How might we help others who feel far away from nature?

Lent Week 1

In this frenetic age, moments away from a screen are precious. During lent, let us pause and reconnect to the world outdoors on our doorstep and beyond; it is beautiful and has been gifted to us by God to tend and replenish. This week the challenge is to wonder at creation and get practical in caring for it!

Why care for creation this Lent?

We are now consuming 1.8 times faster than our planet can regenerate (see <https://overshoot.footprintnetwork.org/>). If we consumed within our planetary boundaries, nature would have space to replenish. Earth Overshoot Day 2025 fell on 24 July, meaning humanity exhausted Earth's yearly renewable resources in just seven months and for the remaining five months of 2025, we lived on borrowed resources from future generations. To sustain our current lifestyle would require 1.8 Earths—but we only have one.

This week's green lent challenges:

START SIMPLE: Spend 30 minutes outdoors daily – walk, sit, observe, pray

GO DEEPER: Find out more about nature. Read about oceans, soil, trees, or wildlife or watch a good documentary such as <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m002hgz7/wild-london> (Sir David Attenborough's latest urban nature documentary)

BIG LEAP: Join a local conservation group or sign up to the A Rocha website so that you can access their resources (including the Eco Church project) <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/>

Our Lent reflections and challenges are taken from Climate Stewards Carbon Fast. For more detail click [here](#)

Creator of all life,
You shaped the mountains, rivers, and skies,
and breathed life into every living thing.
In this season of Lent, teach us to walk gently upon the earth,
to fast from waste and greed, and to feast on gratitude and compassion.
Renew us, O God, so that when Easter dawns we may rise with Christ
to live in harmony with all that You have made. Amen.



WORLD^{DAY}
OF
SOCIAL
JUSTICE
—
FEBRUARY 20

World Day of Social Justice 2026: A Call for Fairness and Equality

World Day of Social Justice 2026 highlights the global fight for equality, human dignity, and fair opportunities for all communities.

World Day of Social Justice 2026, observed on February 20, draws global attention to the ongoing struggle for equality, dignity, and fairness in societies around the world. The day serves as a reminder that economic growth, technological progress, and political stability mean little if large sections of humanity are left behind.

Established by the United Nations, this observance emphasizes that social justice is not optional — it is essential for peace, development, and human well-being.

What Is Social Justice?

Social justice refers to the idea that all individuals deserve equal rights, opportunities, and access to resources, regardless of gender, race, religion, disability, or economic background. It seeks to eliminate systemic inequalities that prevent people from living with dignity.

At its core, social justice is about fairness — ensuring that institutions, policies, and systems do not favour a few at the expense of many. World Day of Social Justice 2026 highlights how deeply justice is connected to education, healthcare, employment, and human rights.

For more information please click on the link below:

[World Day of Social Justice 2026: A Call for Fairness and Equality](#)



God for All update

February 2026

New Places for New People and Church at the Margins

Faith-Rooted Community Organising,
2nd-4th June 2026

Many of us feel helpless in the face of hateful speech and unjust policies promoted by powerful people. Faith-Rooted Community Organising (FRCO) helps us discover and amplify the power in our communities for the flourishing, dignity, and wellbeing of all people. It's rooted in the belief that God created and cares for every one of us. Learn the practices and join the movement to enable the world as God intended it to be at the next FRCO training course - [sign up here](#).



Evangelism

National Wedding Show, 11th-12th April 2026



This year the festivals team will be at the National Wedding Show, celebrating the Methodist Church as a denomination offering flexible, inclusive and altogether wonderful weddings. If you'd like to be part of the team for this or any other festival this year, [apply here](#), or check out these [new resources](#) to support you with festivals where you are. And if you'd like to help shape plans for a 'Connexional Day of Outreach' (think Macmillan Coffee Morning for evangelism), [fill in the survey here](#).



Telford Methodist Circuit International Project 2026



together with

Ajumako Osedzi Methodist Primary School, Ghana



Our aims:

- 1) the provision of an outside canteen
- 2) the renovation and repainting of the classrooms & offices



Can you help us raise £6500 by the end of 2026?

District Pilgrimage 2026

The West Midlands District have organised a six-day Pilgrimage in Hereford over Easter Week, 5-10 April 2026.

Are you part of the West Midlands Methodist District? Would you like to pause, connect and deepen your faith journey?

Join us from 5-10 April 2026 for a gentle and reflective pilgrimage. You will connect with a “pilgrim community” of up to 12 people, gathering in Hereford (accessible by train) on the evening of Easter Sunday and finishing in Hereford the following Friday. Hereford is accessible by train.

During this six-day experience, we will walk, pray and eat together and share sleeping space in a number of Methodist and Anglican Churches. Luggage (including your airbed / camp-bed and bedding) will be transferred each day. Mileage will be around 7 to 11 miles, taken at a gentle pace on rural routes that may include stiles. We will share cooking within the group.

This is now a “tried and tested” formula which has been greatly appreciated by previous pilgrims. Being willing to be part of a short-term community is far more important than being super-fit, providing you can manage a modest amount of walking over a number of consecutive days, followed by nights on a church floor! The pilgrimage will be led by a small team of previous pilgrims. If means allow, we suggest a contribution of £140 to the kitty to cover food, accommodation and luggage transfer. Unfortunately, the living arrangements mean we cannot include children and young people, though they will be welcome to join us as accompanied day walkers (details later).

Numbers are strictly limited so if you are interested in joining the group this year, please don't delay.

Contact Roger Dunlop to book your space: roger@telfordmeth.org.uk



Table Top



at

DAWLEY CHRISTIAN CENTRE

**On Friday 20th February 2026
9.00am - 12 noon**

Come along and pick up a bargain.

IONA WORSHIP

for LENT

using words and music from the
Iona Community

WELLINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

New St., Wellington

Telford TF1 1LU

Sunday 22nd February 2026

5pm

ALL WELCOME

www.wellingtonmethodist.org.uk

www.iona.org.uk

Pray with us today.

Loving God, We give you thanks for those early Methodists who, “obsessed with salvation” and Spirit-filled, felt compelled to share with others the message of your transforming love and to demonstrate this good news in practical ways to the poor and needy. Lives were transformed as thousands believed.

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





Taizé Service
Trinity Centre
Sunday 22nd February
6:00pm

Come and join us for an evening singing beautiful taizé chants with times of silence and peaceful reflection.

A great way to start your week!



THE FILLING STATION

Haughmond & Wrekin

23 February 2026
7:15pm for 7:30pm - 9pm



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

Join us in February for Haughmond & Wrekin Filling Station, for worship, teaching, prayer, fellowship & great hospitality!

Future dates

- Saturday 23rd March
- Monday 27th April

Main Speaker

Kevin Roberts

A Former Archdeacon, Kevin was the Director of ReSource from April 2016 until his retirement in September 2021.



Converted as a student, he taught in Sudan and loves Africa. He led growing churches in Beverley, Reading, Shrewsbury and had a regional role in Cumbria. He is a supporter of Middlesborough FC!

More info at...

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



Slow Lent: Soup, Silence, and Space

This Lent, you are warmly invited to a simple Tuesday lunchtime gathering built around soup, scripture, poetry, music, and silence.

Rather than another Lent course to keep up with, Slow Lent offers a gentle pause in the middle of the day — a chance to slow down, breathe, and be attentive to God without pressure or expectation.

Each week follows the same unhurried rhythm:

- a shared soup lunch
- a short Bible reading, heard slowly
- a poem or brief reflection
- music and space for silence
- a small, optional take-home token to carry with you through the week

There will be no discussion groups, no preparation required, and no pressure to contribute. Silence is welcome. Tiredness is welcome. Simply being present is enough.

This gathering may be especially helpful for those who have journeyed through Lent many times before and are looking not for more words, but for space, stillness, and honesty.

Dates (Tuesdays in Lent) Starting from 1pm at Dawley Christian Centre.

- 24 February
- 3 March
- 10 March
- 17 March
- 24 March
- 31 March

You are welcome to come to all the sessions or simply drop in when you are able.

Come for lunch.

Come for company.

Come exactly as you are.

Lent

is a spiritual reboot.

A journey of pausing, breathing and
making **s p a c e** for God.

All you keen or would be bakers please

**Join us for Bread Church at
Dawley Christian Centre**

On Wednesday 25th February

between 1-3pm

On Saturday 28th February between

9:30-1:30pm (with a light lunch)



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

Please come along and give it a go.



Oakengates United Church

Coffee Morning



Saturday 28th February

10.00am - 12noon

**Delicious Bacon Butties, Toast,
Tea & Coffee**



We use Fairtrade Products

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

A service for everyone!

Friday 6 March

I will give you rest, come

Nigeria 2026

**11am at Wombridge Church,
Wombridge Road, TF2 6HT.**

Refreshments to follow

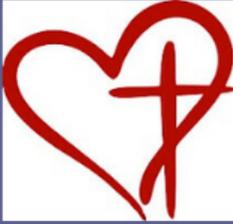


INFORMED PRAYER PRAYERFUL ACTION

24-7 365 Days a year Prayer movement Ecumenical International Women-led

wwdp.org.uk

Registered Charity Number 233242



HeartSpace

worship for today

HeartSpace on Sundays

10:30am

Trinity Centre

Upcoming Dates

Sunday 18th January

Sunday 15th February

Sunday 15th March



Contact:

heartspace@shifnalbenefice.org.uk



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



A Prayer Meeting is held at
Horsehay Methodist Church on the
first Thursday of each month

**For the Autumn/Winter months, the
meetings will start at the earlier
time of 2.30pm**

The Power of Prayer

Quiet Day

Saturday 18th April

9:30am - 2:30pm

Light lunch provided

Limited places

To Book please contact Evelyn and Jess on

07865 243183

Email revjessharper@gmail.com



Jesus Christ depicted in latest British Ironwork Centre sculpture in Shropshire which has taken years to perfect.

[The British Ironwork Centre](#), on the outskirts of [Oswestry](#) has revealed the artwork, which is being added to its Ironworks Faith Zone.

The intricately detailed sculpture is crafted entirely from scrap and recycled metal, and is positioned on a huge cross.

The first sculpture unveiled for the Faith Zone was [Lord Ganesha](#), with Jesus Christ being the second addition.

The centre said it plans to continue developing all of the gods for the zone. It added: "Christian faith centres on the belief that Jesus is the son of God, who is worshipped alongside God the Father, and the Holy Spirit, commonly referred to together as The Trinity. "We want to deliver one single memory through our sculpture Faith Zone to symbolise that there is just one human race, and even though we may follow various religions, we are all one people and should care for and look after one another."

Clive Knowles, chairman of the British Ironwork Centre, added: "We've spent two years preparing and perfecting this sculpture of Jesus Christ, as we know it will matter tremendously to our surrounding communities and our visitors."

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 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.

Circuit Online Bible Study

The new link for the Bible study on Mondays at 1:30pm will be (the same as Faith Space):

<https://zoom.us/j/95651019665?pwd=bGgyVEdvQ0cvNDRpWm5HTVB0UDRmdz09>

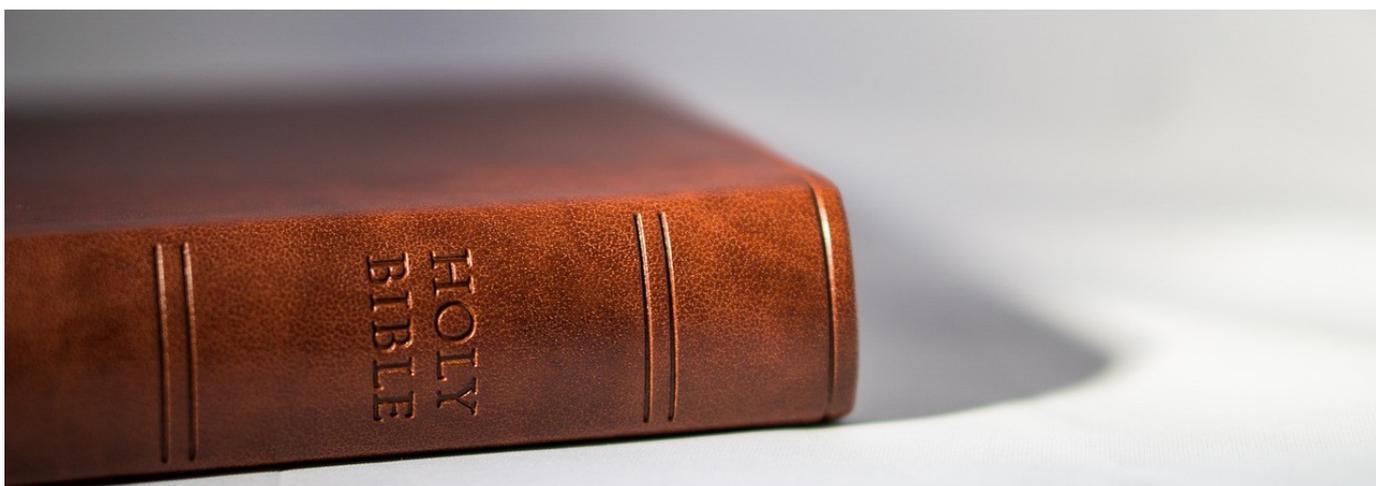
Meeting ID: 956 5101 9665

Passcode: 395669

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 (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.



Notification of Research Project involving the Telford Methodist Circuit

Dear Friends,

Most of you will know me as a Local Preacher and Local Lay Pastor. Some of you will be aware I have been undertaking some study at the Queen's Foundation in Birmingham. The last component of my current programme of study is a research paper. With the agreement of the Circuit Superintendent, I have decided to put our Circuit at the core of my research. The purpose of this letter is to:

- alert you to the area of Circuit life that I will be exploring,
- set out how I will be doing my research,
- explain how you can get more directly engaged in the research,
- advise you what will happen with the research.

What I am researching

My research considers the phenomenon of Ghanaian Methodists in the Telford Circuit. Building unity is at the heart of my research. The writer of Ephesians encouraged groups from diverse backgrounds to be "built together in the spirit into a dwelling place for God." (Ephesians 2v22) I hope my research will help us to work together to develop a unifying response to our new context. In the Telford Methodist Circuit, the proportion of the community who have a Ghanaian heritage has increased rapidly over a short period of time. I hope this has the potential to be a sign of unity across ethnic identities. In this research I want to explore the robustness of that unity and start a conversation about how we might strengthen it further.

How I will be doing my research

I have been part of the community of the Telford Circuit for over twenty years and so I am what is called an "embedded researcher", and this leads to my choice of method. The data I will use for my research will be my daily journal. Between 1st March and 31st May 2026, I will maintain a dedicated section of my journal, paying special attention to observations, conversations, and behaviours which relate specifically to the phenomenon of Ghanaian Methodists in Telford. I will be particularly alert to points of divergence where I sense differences in "unspoken rules, habits and styles." I will also be interested to note aspects of the community life where there seems to be greater convergence between Ghanaian and non-Ghanaian members.

The only data that will be collected during this research are the notes in my journal and this will be available only to me, my markers and my supervisor. No observations will be attributed unless someone specifically requests it.

How you can be more directly involved (if you want to be)

I think my observations will be richer if they informed by informal conversations with you as members of the Circuit community and I would like to hear many voices from across the Circuit. To avoid any risk of people being involved without their consent these conversations must be initiated by you. I am very interested in your experiences and perspectives, but this must be on a voluntary basis. I am happy to talk to both individuals and groups and am equally interested in talking to people with and without Ghanaian heritage.

The conversations will not be recorded or documented but will inform my journal entries for the days on which they occur. To avoid the risk that you think I am speaking on your behalf, I will be explicitly locating my findings as coming from my point of view as a white, middle-class male who kind of “knows the ropes” in UK Methodism.

For these conversations to be considered as part of my research they must take place between 1st March and 31st May 2026. If you or your group would like to participate then please contact me at john@telfordmeth.org.uk. If you are organising a group session, then it is mandatory that members of the group must have seen this letter in advance and must be given the opportunity to exclude themselves. This applies to everyone but is especially true of young people.

After the research period I will be undertaking reflection and analysis and placing my journal findings in conversation with some wider reading. The final part of my paper will be to suggest what my findings might mean for pastoral practice.

I have committed to the Superintendent that I will provide a summarised version of my findings, analysis and recommendations to them. My hope is that this summary will be a useful conversation starter that will help us move into a process of co-creating a unified future together.

The Superintendent and I are aware that any conversations about defining characteristics have the potential to surface strong and difficult feelings. If this applies to you then the pastoral team in the Circuit will be available to provide support and care.

I look forward to hearing from and learning from you.

Love in Christ

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Parkin', is displayed on a light blue rectangular background.

John Parkin
Local Lay Pastor, Telford Methodist Circuit

Opportunity to Serve the Telford Circuit as a Circuit Steward

We are inviting expressions of interest from members of the churches in the Circuit to serve as a Circuit Steward from 1 September 2026. Jo Kudlacik reaches the end of her term of office at that time and has indicated her desire to retire from the work.

Please read the which Job Description for a Circuit Steward which you will find in the following page. Recognise that in being appointed you would become part of a team. You would be working alongside others who are experienced Circuit Stewards and so you do not need to come with vast expertise or great experience for the role. You will be joining a supportive and encouraging team who will enable you to find your way into the role.

A Circuit Steward serves for a maximum of six years.

To express an interest in offering to serve the Circuit in this way, or wish to talk about the opportunity, please contact me through the methods indicated at the foot of this message.

Please pray about this and listen out for the call of God inviting you to serve in this way. Sometime God calls us through an email in our inbox!

With best wishes and kindest regards,



The Revd Dr Adrian Burdon

Superintendent Minister

11 Silverdale Close, Newport, Shropshire, TF10 9FA
01952 445035 | 07485 035673
adrian.burdon@btinternet.com | www.telfordmeth.org.uk

Circuit 3/18 | Registered Charity 1134372

I choose to work flexibly and send emails outside normal working hours. Please do not feel under any obligation to respond outside your normal working hours.

Job Description for a Circuit Steward



The circuit stewards are responsible, with the Superintendent and presbyters, deacons and probationers appointed to the Circuit, for the spiritual and material well-being of the Circuit, and for upholding and acting upon the decisions of the Circuit Meeting

What does a Circuit Steward do?

Circuit Stewards work as a team and share collective responsibility for leadership. This means that they should exercise a general pastoral care for the ministers (presbyters and deacons) and their families. They should meet with as a Circuit Leadership Team and keep themselves informed of the activities of each local church. Circuit Stewards will be appointed to attend church councils' meetings of allocated churches in the circuit. They will be members of the Circuit Meeting and shall take a lead in the occasional process of invitation of ministers (presbyters and deacons)

A Circuit Steward will be helped to become aware of District and Connexional policies affecting the circuit and its churches. This will enable them to play their part in developing a vision and plans for mission within the circuit, ensuring appropriate consultation.

What kind of person becomes a Circuit Steward?

A Circuit Steward is a member of a local church who senses a calling and has a commitment to serve the wider Circuit. They will be willing to be supportive and affirming of others. A Circuit Stewards will need to have personal credibility, be confident, committed, and willing to work in a voluntary capacity. They will be willing to work in a team and bring a contribution to the collective work. A Circuit Steward needs to be confident in engaging with the needs of the Circuit, being an agent of change where necessary. They do not need to have all the answers, or to be an expert, but they do need to be willing to learn and develop and to have a sense of when and where to ask for further help.

What Support will I be given in becoming a Circuit Steward?

The Methodist Church is committed to supporting all those who give their time in important roles within our churches and circuits. The Connexional Learning Team offers initial training and continuous support for those who serve as Circuit Stewards. A Circuit Stewards' Handbook has been produced which outlines the various tasks and skills required in the role.

You can read more about being a Circuit Steward on the Methodist Church Website at

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/equipping-circuits/offices-and-roles/circuit-stewards/>

How do I indicate my interest in becoming a Circuit Steward?

We are thrilled that you are asking that question and invite you to make contact with the Superintendent Minister at adrian.burdon@btinternet.com or on 07485 035673. There is a requirement for us to follow our Connexional safer recruitment policies and so we shall need some information from you and you will need to have an up-to-date DBS disclosure. Once you have expressed your interest, your name will be taken to the Circuit Meeting for appointment. We are looking for a Circuit Steward to join the Circuit Leadership Tea, from 1 September 2026. If appointed ahead of that time, the chosen person can have a transition period, running alongside the outgoing Circuit Steward.

Spiritual Abuse Awareness training dates 2026



Spiritual Abuse Awareness Training

Developed by the Methodist Church Safeguarding Team, Learning Network and Survivors Group in conjunction with Dr Lisa Oakley, Chester University & Thirtyone.eight

Course overview:

- What is spiritual abuse?
- What is the impact of the experience
- How to build healthy cultures

10.30 – 15.30

29th January 2026

4th June 2026

24th September 2026

19th November 2026

on Zoom

To book your place, please follow this link:
<https://imethodist-spiritual-abuse-training.eventbrite.co.uk>

For more information please contact Christine Kennedy (ckennedy@methodistchurch.org.uk)
Bridget Down (bridget@methodistchurch.org.uk) or David Knight (david@methodistchurch.org.uk)

The **Methodist Church**

We are pleased to announce 4 new dates for the Spiritual Abuse Awareness Training in 2026:
29 January

4 June

24 September and

19 November

All the sessions are on Thursdays, from 10.30 – 15.30

To book, please use the Eventbrite link: [Book on Eventbrite for Spiritual Abuse Awareness training](#)

See the [Spiritual Abuse - The Methodist Church](#) webpage for further details.

Download a poster [Spiritual Abuse Awareness training poster](#)

Cosy Cafe



Free Tea/coffee & Cakes Every Monday

10.30 a.m.—12.30 p.m.

We are an all age friendship group, meeting for chat, quizzes or join in with group games that are available. Refreshments are provided. It is a registered warm space and we welcome all who enjoy meeting others in a relaxed group of people.

Admaston Methodist Church, Bratton Road, Admaston. TF5 0AH



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.



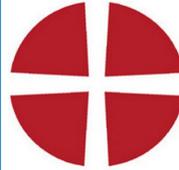
Open Door

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.



Broseley Bible Study (Friday afternoon group)

Read, ponder, share and grow
together at
Broseley Methodist Church

In 2026 we will base our conversations on
the **Methodist Way of Life**.

How can the Bible inspire and encourage us
in our discipleship?

All are welcome, no previous knowledge or
experience needed!

Meeting at 2.30-4pm on

13th February - Learn

13th March - Serve

17th April - Tell



For more information contact Jo on

jokudlacik@gmail.com or 07840 596074

Don't sit at home feeling cold and hungry.

Come and join us at the **Dawley Christian Centre**.
**Our Coffee Bar is open between 9-12:30pm from
Monday - Thursday as a Warm Space.** (We are open
Friday mornings as usual for cooked breakfasts.)

Between 11am—12noon we are offering a tasty
bowl of soup, with a slice of freshly made toast and
a refreshing cup of tea or coffee and **it's all free!**

We can get through this winter together.



Dawley Christian Centre
High Street
Dawley
Telford TF4 2EX



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 248049 or
sarah.thorpe121@gmail.com

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!



Please get in touch if you have
something to share.

Email:

circuitsupport@telfordmeth.org.uk

or phone 01952 505108



A 4 week series aimed at exploring Local Arrangements, creative worship and intergenerational worship.

Working out Worship is a series to help anyone who is looking to resource worship in their Local Church. For lay people, or ordained. For youth workers, Sunday school leaders, worship leaders, stewards, local preachers, ministers or those who are interested in starting to get involved in leading worship. Registration for one session is only for one session, please register for multiple sessions if you wish to attend more than one.

Working out Worship Spring 2026
- Session 1

Date: 2nd March • 19:00

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/working-out-worship-spring-2026-session-1-tickets-1976734883248?>

[aff=eivtefrnd&utm_share_source=listing_android&sq=dbf960d64fc839500ff0714e16d5e40c7d1f68ade8accf2bffd41c858acba3dbf519cf8b90e516546153b9975ec5630824093dd83e88b6d2017a1b880ec388937822fa814a4eac4596a7c49b](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/working-out-worship-spring-2026-session-1-tickets-1976734883248?aff=eivtefrnd&utm_share_source=listing_android&sq=dbf960d64fc839500ff0714e16d5e40c7d1f68ade8accf2bffd41c858acba3dbf519cf8b90e516546153b9975ec5630824093dd83e88b6d2017a1b880ec388937822fa814a4eac4596a7c49b)

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 Craft and Chat Group meet on the 2nd & 4th Friday of each month from 10am-11:45am.

There is a small charge but this does include a drink

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



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: 07817808557

Dear Friends,

Please see latest link for advanced courses -

We have courses on -

- 7/2/26 - Birmingham West & Oldbury Circuit
- 7/2/26 The Black Country Circuit
- 21/2/26 Birmingham Circuit
- 18/4/26 Cannock Chase Circuit
- 9/5/26 Bromsgrove & Redditch Circuit
- 25/7/26 Bromsgrove & Redditch Circuit

Safeguarding
Young people and vulnerable adults

www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/stephanie-bradley-81147774823?msocid=39ddb784e41769a00dcea183e5f8680a

Thank you.

Steph

Safeguarding Training – Now Available Online

The Safeguarding Foundation Course is now available online via [MCBX](#), making it easier than ever for church members to complete their safeguarding training.

This flexible option is ideal for those who find it difficult to attend face-to-face sessions, as the course can be completed at your own pace. MCBX (mcb.theologyx.com) is the Methodist Church's online learning platform, providing access to safeguarding training, supporting materials, and a downloadable certificate on completion.

This online course complements, rather than replaces, face-to-face and participatory training, which continue to be an important part of safeguarding learning.

If you need to complete the Safeguarding Foundation Course, please speak to your Church Safeguarding Officer for further guidance.



Lauren Baxendale

Circuit Safeguarding Officer

Dawley Christian Centre, High Street, Dawley, Telford, TF4 2EX
07904 814741
Safeguarding@telfordmeth.org.uk | www.telfordmeth.org.uk

Hi all

Please see link for online advanced if you have anyone who prefers online ~

<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/nd-methodist-district-safeguarding-training-4444573?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=creatorshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=odclsxcollection&utm-source=cp&aff=escb>

Dates available:

Wednesday April 29th 10am & 7pm

June 30th 10am & 7pm

Any questions please ask.

Thanks

Stephanie Bradley

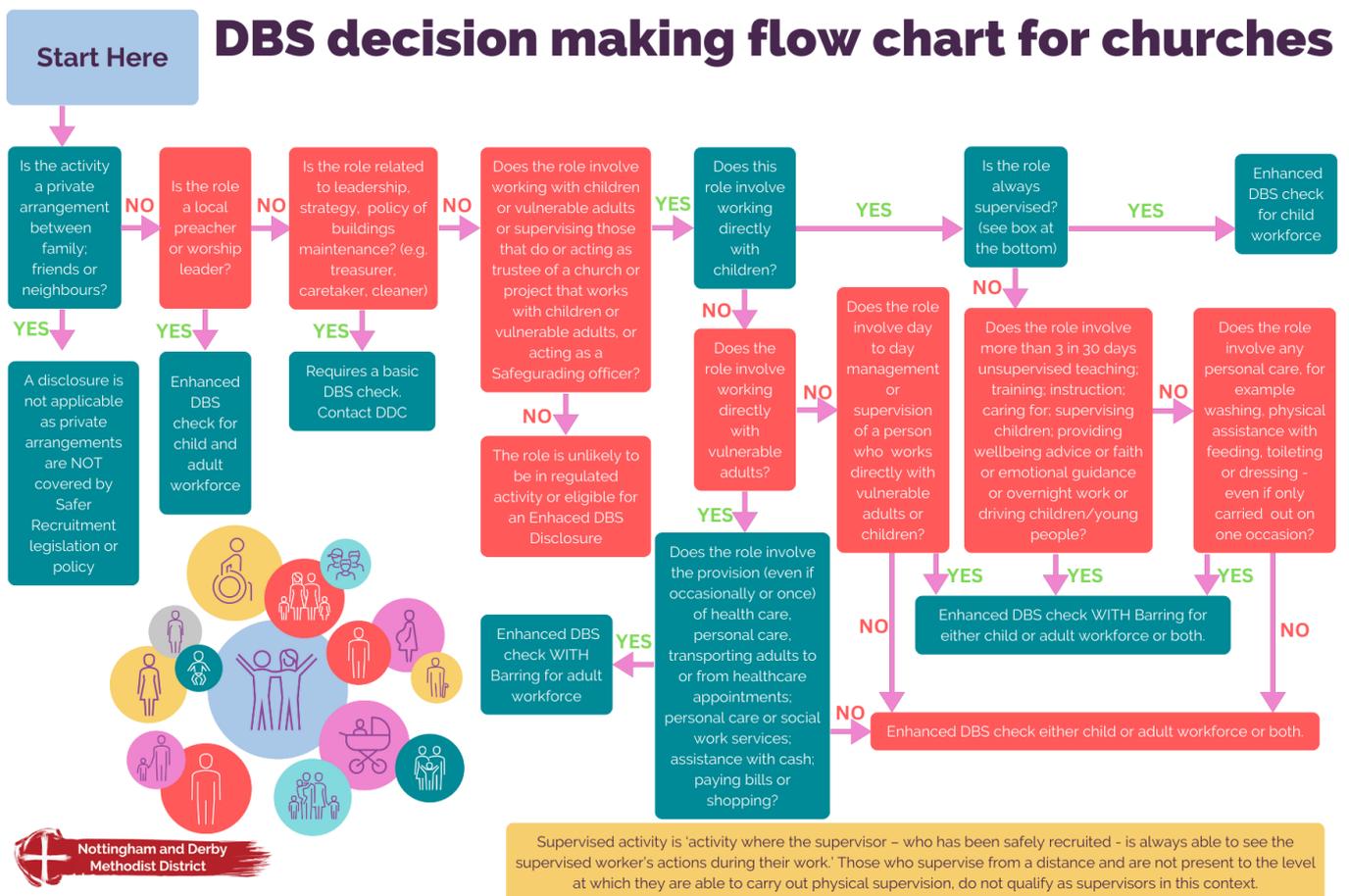
Regional Officer for Safeguarding - North West (West Midlands) |

The Connexional Team

Phone: 020 7467 5296

The **Methodist Church** 

Safeguarding
Young people and vulnerable adults





You can help families and individuals in need by donating the following food:

Baked beans

Biscuits

Sugar

Instant coffee

Tea bags

Jam

Pasta sauces

Pasta

Rice

Curry sauces

Hot dogs

Cereal & porridge

Tinned fish

Tinned fruit

Tinned spaghetti

Tinned vegetables

Tinned tomatoes

Tinned potatoes

Custard

UHT whole milk

Thank you for making a difference.

Dawley Food Bank, Dawley Christian Centre, High Street, Dawley,

Telford TF4 2EX Tel: 01952 505108

Email: sharon@dawleychristiancentre@gmail.co.uk

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** 