



# Telford Methodist Circuit Newsletter

23rd October 2025

# Rev Nik Wooller has written another fabulous poetry book - Little Things With Kingdom In.

From its striking front cover, that was design by Nik's friend Shirley Veater, to the simply beautiful poetry within, Nik's new book Little Things With Kingdom In, is a must for anyone who leads worship, but also, for anyone who wants to feel closer to God.

"Small things matter. Mustard seeds, crumbs, cups of cold water - the Kingdom is hidden in them all.

So are these poems. Born from worship and weariness, laughter and loss, they follow Year A's gospel journey from Advent's waiting to Christmas wonder, Lenten honesty, Easter's surprise, and the stubborn green stretch of Ordinary Time.

Church is messy. Ministry is exhausting. Faith is often a half-whispered maybe. And yet - there is grace.

Rev. Nik Wooller writes with honesty, humour, and hope for ordinary disciples, ministers, misfits, and anyone in need of mercy. These are not polished prayers for pristine saints - they are scraps of hope, stitched together in the trust that even small things carry the Kingdom in them."

If you were able to join us in the Dawley Bandstand this year for our Good Friday Service, you may recall that Rev Nik did the majority of the service to poetry, readings and prayer. You'll find these in Nik's first book 'This is My Body'. But in Nik's new book, again she doesn't disappoint, and has written the five movements of scripture, reflection and poetry, which could so easily be used as a starting point to the most fabulous of services. As would all the other chapters in the book.

Snippet from the book - The Burden Shared:

The soldiers twist thorns into a crown, press it down until blood runs red. They drape him a faded cloak, mocking the king they cannot see.

They strike him, spit upon him, laugh at the weakness of love, dressed as a prisoner.

The wood is laid across his shoulders, a crushing weight,
A tree of death carried by the one who gave us life.

He falters.

The cross drives him to the dust. And they seize another, Simon, bewildered, unwilling. a stranger turned companion.

Together they walk, step by step, a saviour and a stranger bound by the wood.

The burden is no longer his alone. The cross is shared,

and in the sharing, its meaning deepens.

Perhaps salvation is always this: God carrying us, we carrying him, the load lighter because it is borne together.

The book is available to buy on Amazon and local bookshops for £25 for a hard cover book or £20 for a paper back book.

There are also copies available from the Circuit Office at the bargain price of £20 for a hard back.

With Christmas coming up, this would make an excellent gift.



### Eco News from the Telford Circuit

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works Hebrews 10: 24



There are times when the task of protecting our planet seems overwhelming and what we can offer seems way too small. There are times when simply maintaining a Christian fellowship and worshiping presence in our communities seems as much as we can manage; we are tired, we are too few, the work is too great. Where does our strength and hope to continue to be God's stewards come from on those days?

There are numerous stories of hope and success from churches across the country; churches who have felt the same way we do, but by putting aside the notion that they were alone in their work and looking for allies in their community were able to create the conditions for God to work wonders. There will be young people and groups in your community who share your desire to pass on this beautiful planet in all its beauty to the next generation... they may not share every aspect of our faith, but there is enough common ground to give us hope if we are willing to support one another. Where we might be able to offer a room, a welcome and a cup of tea, others might be able to offer physical strength, time and ideas. This is enough to build on!

How can we start conversations and about the environment and build meaningful links with others? Partly it is about having an attitude of openness and awareness to the opportunities which God puts in our paths in the most random of conversations which might lead to something more. But it is also about intentionally creating opportunities for those conversations to take place.

The Methodist Church website has a range of resources from liturgy to board games, books and story-telling to science experiments, which are designed to start conversations and to engage with people of all ages in your community. Check them out <a href="heterogeneering-

To read and be inspired by the success stories and journeys of other churches like yours, click <a href="here">here</a>

Holy God, plant among us the seeds of your kingdom and show us how to water them and watch them grow. **Amen** 

Join us for a free, online event featuring special guest Guvna B – broadcaster, rapper, author, and advocate for young people.

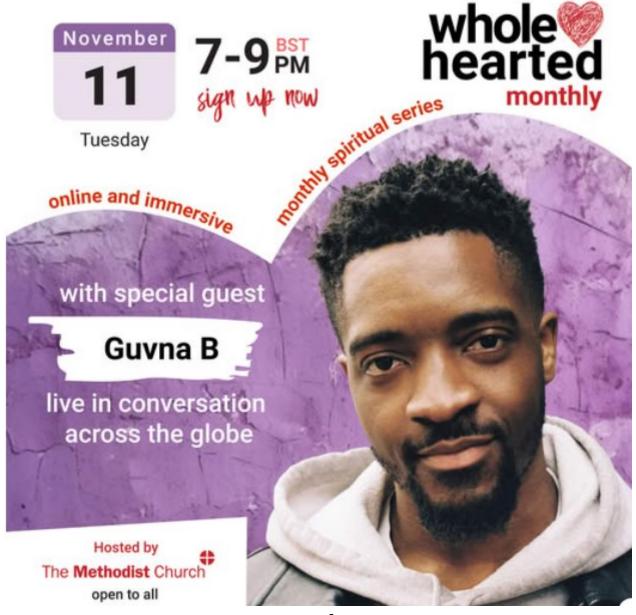
Guvna B (aka Isaac Borquaye) will speak about music, faith, raising children, and how the Church can learn about mission from children and young people.

We'll also hear testimony from youth leaders, as the Methodist Church commits to significantly increase the number of active young disciples.

### Tuesday 11 November, 7-9pm

Wholehearted is a free monthly online gathering of Christians learning, playing, praying and working for the transformation of the Church and world God loves.

Hosted by the Methodist Church and free and open for all. Book in at <a href="mailto:tinyurl.com/ea2ujc95">tinyurl.com/ea2ujc95</a> (When you register you'll receive a link that will work for every whole-hearted event).



### Safeguarding Reminder: Please Report Concerns to Your Church Safeguarding Officer

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

If you ever have a safeguarding concern, no matter how small or uncertain you may feel about its seriousness, please notify your designated Church Safeguarding Officer (CSO) as soon as possible. If your church does not have a CSO appointed, you can contact the Circuit Safeguarding Officer, Lauren Baxendale or our Regional Officer for Safeguarding, Stephanie Bradley, for advice and support.

Church Safeguarding Officers provide guidance, support, and ensure the right actions are taken in line with the Circuit safeguarding policy.

By reporting concerns promptly to your CSO, you help keep everyone in our community safe and ensure that any issues are properly monitored, addressed and escalated as needed.

Thank you for your vigilance and care. Together, we can maintain safe, welcoming places for all.

### **Contact details:**

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

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



For those who need to complete the Methodist Church Creating Safer Space Advanced Module Safeguarding Training. Opportunities are available both online, via Zoom, and in person.

If anyone chooses this route then please let me know as I need to enrol them on MCBX to complete the pre course work.

www.eventbrite.com/cc/nd-methodist-district-safeguarding-training-4444573? msockid=39ddb784e41769a00dcea183e5f8680a



### Pray with us today....

Storytelling Jesus, You invite us to make your story, our story. Your story reminds us God so loves the whole world. Teach us, Jesus, your arts of storytelling, singing and dancing that open up paths of healing and renewal. Help us, Jesus, to lean into and learn from your story; to make it our own, so justice, loving kindness and mercy may join hands around the world that God so loves. Amen

Karen McBride, Warden, Methodist Diaconal Order



methodist.org.uk/prayer

### A Service for the beginning of Advent

An online event which shall be led by the Revd Dr Adrian Burdon
7pm Monday 1 December 2025

Book the date!

Joining details nearer the time.



The Methodist Church Telford Circuit



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

On Saturday 25th October between

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

On Wednesday 29th October

between 1-3pm

**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**



Saturday 25th October

10.00am – 12noon

Bacon Butties, Toast,

Tea & Coffee



# IONA WORSHIP

# exploring the Pralmr

inspired by the Iona Community, Scotland

WELLINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

New St., Wellington

Telford TF1 1LU

Sunday 26th October 2025

5pm

ALL WELCOME

www.wellingtonmethodist.org.uk

www.iona.org.uk









### 27 October 2025 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 November for an afternoon of worship and praise with Rev Andy Ackroyd (speaker) & musicians.

### **Future dates**

Sat 22 November & Sat 24 January 2026 Both are 2-4pm (Winter)

### **Main Speakers**

### Mike & Susie Harris

Mike is a passionate evangelist, having formed Ignite Ministries together with his wife Susie.



Susie is a Christian Psychotherapist, a very rare combination, and supports Mike in Ignite Ministry work. Together they have supported projects in this country, Africa and Indonesia. Mike is a chef and has worked in a number of capacities including as community chaplain with Yellow Ribbon.

More info at...
www.thefillingstation.org.uk/station/
haughmond-wrekin







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

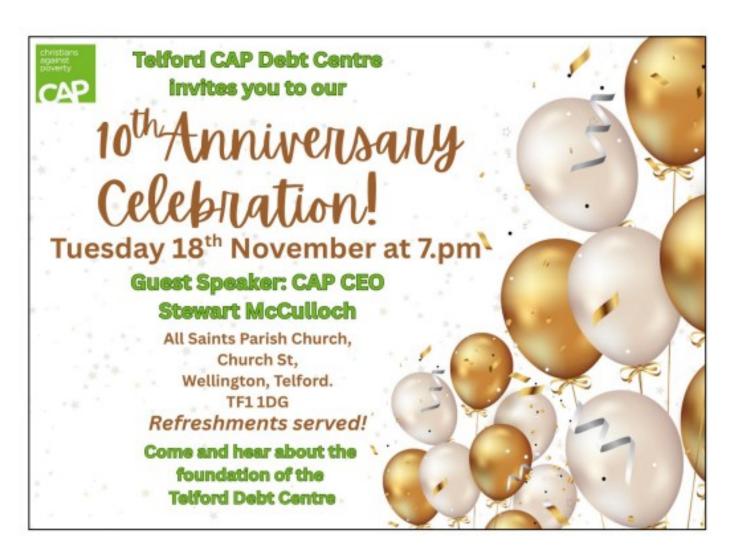
a refreshing cup of tea or coffee and it's all free!

We can get through this winter together.



Dawley Christian Centre
High Street
Dawley
Telford TF4 2EX





Please get in touch if you have something to share.

Email: circuitsupport@telfordmeth.org.uk or phone 01952 505108



# TABLE TOP SALE

at

### DAWLEY CHRISTIAN CENTRE

On Friday 21st November 2025

9.00 am - 12 noon

Come along and pick up a bargain.



# Christmas Carols in the Dawley Bandstand High Street, Dawley

### Friday December 19th at 10:30am

Come along and join the Dawley Christian

Centre as we get into the spirit of Christmas

by singing our favourite carols.

Complimentary hot drink and





### **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

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

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 12<sup>th</sup> September
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November
- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December.



Interested in an evening group? Contact Kim on <a href="mailto:kimfitzwarine@gmail.com">kimfitzwarine@gmail.com</a> 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.

### **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.



# 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 <u>Cartway</u> on <u>Friday afternoons</u> in the autumn, <u>2-3:30pm</u>. 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.

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

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

**28<sup>th</sup> 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 if 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.

# God promises to be our God and we His people

# 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!







Beaching out tagether to share God's amoring 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



## 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.

<u>Calling all knitters: blankets wanted for patients with dementia – SaTH</u>



### 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

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

This Advent and Christmas season, the Methodist Church invites you to join 'Gifted' with resources to support your worship, welcome, and witness – including service outlines, small group materials, outreach ideas, posters, postcards, digital assets and more.

Gifted is a message of good news to a weary world...

Together, all districts, circuits, local churches and fellowships of the Methodist Church are invited to remind people of their inherent worth and beauty – not because of what they've done, or what they can give – but because of who they are.



### Gifted:

- is for everyone in our churches and beyond: both believers rejoicing at God's gift of Jesus, and those who might find the season more wearying than wonderful.
- reaches out to people longing for transformation but feeling stuck. For those searching for something more, something real but unsure where to look.

Gifted is the Methodist Church's open invitation, speaking the good news to people that they matter. That they are Beloved. Created with infinite care. A gift to the world, just as they are.

Be part of Gifted: In your worship, your welcome and your witness.

### How can your church can get involved?

This Christmas, we're encouraging churches to share the good news of Gifted – and embody it!

### **Worship resources**

Download your *Gifted* resources, available in both PDF and HTML formats at the links below, in time for the festive season.

https://www.methodist.org.uk/documents/22420/Christmas 2025 Worship Resource.pdf

https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/christmasresources/gifted-worship-resource-pack/

https://www.methodist.org.uk/documents/22422/Gifted Blue Christmas.pdf

https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/christmasresources/gifted-worship-resource-pack/blue-christmas/

https://www.methodist.org.uk/documents/22423/Christmas 2025 Candle Liturgies.pdf

https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/christmasresources/gifted-worship-resource-pack/gifted-candle-liturgies/

https://www.methodist.org.uk/documents/22465/ Christmas 2025 Small Group Resource Pack alsTVqG.pdf

https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/christmasresources/gifted-small-groups-worship-resource/



### Mission and Development Co-ordinator

The Stafford Methodist Circuit is seeking a Mission and Development Co-ordinator to offer support to the Circuit's future mission goals.

Working initially with Berkswich Methodist Church as it develops its missional capacity and a building for the future.

We seek someone with the ability to work alongside other members of the staff and volunteer team in shaping church vision; someone with the ability to communicate the Gospel and equip communities for growth.

Applicants should have experience of building projects and/or project management.

15 hours per week

Salary: £29,161.60 pro rata

Start Date: 5th January 2026

Fixed term - until December 2027

Closing date for applications: 12pm 31st October 2025

Interviews week commencing 10th November 2025

For Job Description & Person Specification, please contact admin@staffmc.org.uk





### **Pastoral Support Worker**

The Stafford Methodist Circuit is seeking a Pastoral Support Worker, to support two congregations going through a significant period of transition.

Working with existing congregations offering additional pastoral support, assisting with communication with the community and congregation in those places.

We seek someone to assist in the transition journey using pastoral practice, someone with excellent listening and communication skills to help the communities in this period of uncertainty.

10 hours per week

Salary: £24,298.28 pro rata

Start Date: 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 Fixed term – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2026

Closing date for applications: 12pm 31st October 2025 Interviews week commencing 10th November 2025

For Job Description & Person Specification, please contact admin@staffmc.org.uk





### Circuit Youth Discipleship Co-ordinator

The Stafford Methodist Circuit is seeking a Circuit Youth Discipleship Co-ordinator, to support, develop and grow the youth ministry in the Circuit.

The Youth Discipleship Co-ordinator will work to build, with other staff and volunteers, a Circuit Youth Fellowship, encouraging youth discipleship and formation, while supporting existing congregational youth activities.

We seek someone who will nurture an environment of youth participation, learning and inclusion within the Circuit; someone who will promote youth ministry within the Circuit's mission and growth plan.

10 hours per week

Salary: £29,908.00 pro rata

Start Date: 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 Fixed term – until December 2027

Closing date for applications: 12pm 31st October 2025
Interviews week commencing 10th November 2025

For Job Description & Person Specification, please contact admin@staffmc.org.uk



### Creating Safer Space: Who Needs to Attend Safeguarding Training?

By Lauren Baxendale, Circuit Safeguarding Officer

As Circuit Safeguarding Officer, I've recently had a number of questions about who needs to complete which level of safeguarding training. To help clarify things, I've put together a guide outlining which people in which roles are required to undertake either the Foundation Module or the Advanced (Leadership) Module of the Creating Safer Space training.

The aim is to support all churches in ensuring the right people access the right level of training – helping us to build safe, welcoming communities for all.

### **Foundation Module**

This is the essential safeguarding training for those who work directly with children, young people, or vulnerable adults in any capacity within the church.

Depending on your role – and if needed – you can then progress to complete the Advanced (Leadership) Module.

### Required to attend:

- Active presbyters and deacons
- Pre-ordination students and probationers
- Lay employees and volunteers with pastoral responsibility
- Pastoral visitors
- Anyone working with 0–18s in the name of the church
- Those involved in activities targeted at vulnerable adults (e.g. lunch clubs)
- Church and circuit stewards
- Local preachers and worship leaders (including those in training)
- Safeguarding representatives / committee members
- Choir/music/drama leaders where children or vulnerable adults are involved
- 'Covenant of Care' group members
- Students undertaking Mission Placements

Young leaders (aged 16–18)

### Warmly invited (but not required):

- Mission/evangelism enablers
- Leaders of other groups using church premises with 0–18s or vulnerable adults
- Other group leaders working with vulnerable adults
- Property stewards and keyholders
- Caretakers
- Church/circuit meeting secretaries
- Administrators (church, circuit, or district)



#### Advanced (Leadership) Module

This module is for those in leadership or oversight roles, or those to whom others may go for advice, guidance, or decisionmaking in safeguarding matters. These individuals are expected to model good safeguarding practice and lead by example. Safeguarding

#### Required to attend:

- District, Circuit and Church Safeguarding Officers
- Members of District Safeguarding or Policy Committees
- All presbyters and deacons in active preaching or pastoral ministry (including relevant supernumeraries)
- Local preachers (including those on trial)
- Worship leaders (including those in training)
- Lay or employed leaders working directly with children, youth, or vulnerable adults
- Mentors for the Youth Participation Scheme
- Members of Connexional Complaints Panels, Discipline, Pastoral, and Appeals Committees
- Trainers who deliver the Foundation Module
- Those in pioneering, fresh expressions, or evangelism roles

Members of the Circuit or District Safeguarding Committee

#### Warmly invited (but not required):

Supernumerary ministers not engaged in pastoral roles

Others in leadership or oversight roles who would benefit from deeper safeguarding understanding

### Safeguarding Training Renewal - Every Four Years

All safeguarding training must be refreshed every four years — but only at the level appropriate to your role. If you have completed the Advanced (Leadership) Module, you only need to repeat the Advanced Module every four years — you do not need to redo the Foundation Module. If your role only requires the Foundation Module, then that is the course you repeat every four years. This ensures everyone stays up to date with safeguarding best practices relevant to their responsibilities. .

### **Further Information**

These training requirements and role lists were approved by the 2016 Methodist Conference (updated by the 2017 January Methodist Council) and remain the current basis for safeguarding expectations: www.methodist.org.uk/downloads/conf-2016-34-Past-Cases-Review-Implementation.pdf

If you're unsure which module you or someone in your church needs to complete, please feel free to get in touch. I'm always happy to advise.

Thank you for your continued commitment to safeguarding – it truly makes a difference.

With thanks,

Lauren

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

There are now 11 advanced courses available -

To book please visit:

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

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

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** 

