

# Telford Methodist Circuit Newsletter

20th November 2025

**CHANGE OF DETAILS TO LOG ON TO THE ONLINE ADVENT SERVICE ON MONDAY 1ST DECEMBER AT 7PM**

We have found a different way to set up the online Advent Service, which is easier and more secure than printing the link in the newsletter. Rev Adrian Burdon will be taking the service and will be using the webinar feature.

This means that if you want to attend, please click on the invitation below. You can click on the link in advance of the meeting and you'll receive the log-in details.

You are invited to register to attend the Circuit Advent Service online!

When: Dec 1, 2025 07:00 PM

Topic: Telford Circuit Online Advent Service

Register in advance to attend this service and you will be then sent the log-in details:

[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_0q-69XtZRHqCVzOKWOT7EQ](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0q-69XtZRHqCVzOKWOT7EQ)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the event.

See you there!

## The People who Walked in Darkness 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



The **Methodist** Church Telford Circuit



## Safeguarding Update: Strengthening Support Across Our Churches Lauren Baxendale, Circuit Safeguarding Officer

This term I've been visiting a number of churches across the Circuit to meet with each Church Safeguarding Officer. These visits have been a valuable opportunity to see the great work already taking place and to discuss how we can continue strengthening our shared commitment to safeguarding.

One of my key goals is to move towards a more consistent and cohesive approach across the Circuit. This includes ensuring that every church has clear, accessible, and up-to-date safeguarding information, presented in a way that is easy for everyone to find and understand.

Here are a few examples of church safeguarding noticeboards around the Circuit.



In addition to noticeboards, safeguarding information is being made available in accessible locations throughout our churches, including the backs of toilet doors, so that guidance and contacts are easy to find and use.

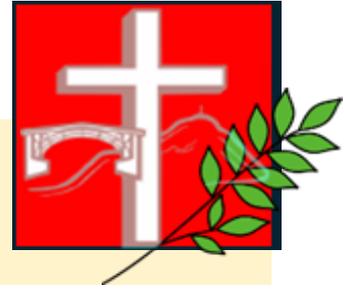
I have more church visits scheduled over the coming weeks, so if your safeguarding resources don't look like this yet, don't worry — they soon will. Thank you to all the volunteers and officers who have welcomed me so warmly and who continue to uphold our shared responsibility for creating safe spaces for everyone.

If you have any safeguarding questions or would like support before my visit, please feel free to get in touch.

**Contact details:**  
**Lauren Baxendale, Circuit Safeguarding Officer**  
 safeguarding@telfordmeth.org.uk | 07904 814741

# Eco News from the Telford Circuit

'The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world and all who live in it.' *Psalm 24:1*



## A short reflection

Look at the words above from Psalm 24. What do they mean to you? God cares about stuff! Physical, practical things. Everyday life choices. Nothing is too small or unimportant. And all things are connected; one thing leads to another and each small step in the right direction leads to the next.

So before we get too busy (I know, you are already planning your Christmas fairs and elbows deep in pudding mixing, knitting and wrapping) let's pause and reflect...

What springs to mind that you would like to do differently this Christmas?

What's stopping you? Time? Energy? Money? Not really knowing exactly what you are aiming for?

Who do you want to spend time with over Christmas? Which relationships are most important for you to invest in?

What is most important to you and what do you do because you feel obliged? Have you had a conversation about those things? You might be surprised to find others are not too bothered about them either

## Eco myth-busting

### ***'Nothing I do will make a difference'***

Every contribution matters... every one of us has a part to play in shifting habits and making a difference. Remember the widow's offering? Jesus *didn't* say, 'I don't know why she bothered!' Our God works miracles through small offerings.

As we celebrate the feast of Christ the King this Sunday, help us Lord to remember that all things belong to you and to treat the world around us with the respect it is due.  
Amen

## Cartway Bridgnorth - Mission Afternoon

It was some three years since we had a special speaker's afternoon for a Mission meeting but this month, the Rev Kina Robertshaw came to share the story of God's calling in her life and the Camino walk she did in Spain last year.

Kina actually told us the story of her life's journey - a Pilgrimage in itself from business woman in Zambia to vicar of the Highley group of Anglican churches here in Shropshire. Like many Zambians the church was part of her way of life, but gradually over the years she felt a call to work closer with her God, to walk closer to Him, questioning, looking and seeking where the next step in life should be.

Supported by her family through the years, she finally came to offer for the full time ministry. Kina had supplied us with a few photos for our church screen and occasionally she glanced back at photos and filled us in of the life's journey she had travelled. She had been led by God throughout her life, whether visiting friends overseas, or moving amongst her local church people - she felt God was there all the time, yes even walking with very different travellers on the Camino Walk in Spain last year.

Kina stressed we learn from other travellers, from the weight of our backpacks to the joy of sharing in God's work wherever He leads us, with whoever is walking on our path with us.

**Cartway Church** has had a uplifting year in Mission giving, the total of our boxes was up by £100 on last year. We shared a fun afternoon last month again raising funds for Mission watching a power point presentation of the journeys of church members on the Shropshire Historic Churches Days for Ride and Stride in the County. We are now regular supporters of SH Church Trust Ride and Stride day, where half the monies sponsored comes back to help our church building repairs and improvements. The team enjoys meeting members of other denominations on the big day out, seeing how God is moving across Shropshire in varied ways through different churches.

We concluded our November afternoon with the old hymn- "When you walk with the Lord in the light of His Word, what a glory he sheds on your way." This was followed of course by the usual Methodist Tea and Cakes and fellowship.

If any circuit church has any World Mission boxes not in use, please may we have them since London, no longer produces Mission boxes – and we are ever hopeful for new collectors.



**WORLD**  
**MISSION FUND**

## Pray with us today....

We thank you, loving God, that you have put us in a place where we can reach out and support all those who are active in bringing your word to your people. Let us be open to your Holy Spirit so that what we do brings blessings to others. May we hear the song you have placed in our hearts and be open to sharing it so that the beautiful music of your resurrection will be heard throughout the land.

[methodist.org.uk/prayer](http://methodist.org.uk/prayer)



**Please find an amendment to the story re the knitted bible scenes which were on display at Admaston Methodist Church. I wrongly assumed they were made by knitters who attend Admaston Church but they came from a Church in Hull! Thank you. Sharon.**

*Over the first weekend of November Admaston Methodist Church and St. Peter's Anglican Church in Wrockwardine displayed 36 knitted bible scenes from the old and new testaments, knitted by the ladies of a Church in Hull. The display is loaned out to churches all around the country. The display had been picked up from York, and was on its travels to Nottingham after leaving Shropshire.*

*It had already been on display at other village churches in Shropshire before coming to Admaston, and over the course of a few weeks had been seen by hundreds of people. Our Church was open for 2 hours for 3 days and nearly 100 people visited to see the bible scenes and enjoy refreshments.*

*It was a great Churches Together event, and a very creative way of communicating the stories of the Bible.*





## Christmas Raffle Prizes

A HUGE **Thank you** to our neighbouring shops for

**Raffle to be  
drawn on 12th  
December**

supporting us in raising  
money for the **Dawley  
Food Bank**, High Street,  
Dawley TF4 2EX

**£1 A  
TICKET**

**We have some wonderful prizes to give away!**

**1st Prize: Handmade Bed Blanket**

**2nd Prize: Tesco Gift Voucher for £25**

**3rd Prize: 10lb Turkey**

**Other Prizes:**

**Chocolate Hamper**

£25 Voucher for **Jenny Spoon Hair**

£10 Voucher for **The Indian Melting Pot**

£10 Voucher for **The Flying Fish**

A hamper from **Dawley Pet Supplies**

A cut and blow dry **from Tribe**

2 Delicious Jam Scones from **Amanda's Ow Bistro**

Box of cards and Wrapping Paper from **Dawley Card Shop**

A tray of Sweets from **Thomas Allsorts (Sweet Shop)**

**Tin of Chocolate Biscuits**

**Tin or Assorted Sweets**

**2 Soft Toys**

**Large Ornamental Reindeer**



# THE FILLING STATION

Haughmond & Wrekin

## 22 November 2025

### 1.30pm for 2pm start



Haughmond & Wrekin Filling Station, Rodington Village Hall, Shrewsbury, SY4 4QS.

Normally 7:30 - 9pm, every 4th Monday

Join us for our daytime gathering on a Saturday afternoon - an alternative to the dark nights of November

### Future dates

- 26th January 2026
- 23rd February

### Main Speaker

**Rev. Andy Ackroyd**

Andy is the Vicar of St Michael's, Madeley in Telford, and is Disability Advisor for Hereford Diocese. He is married to Sandra, and they live with their son Jacob. He loves sports, especially cricket and football and has an abiding passion for Leeds United.



Andy is an inspirational speaker and musician who loves to share the Good News of Jesus. He will be singing and playing guitar along with his great friend Nigel on the piano-keyboard and Sandra on the Cahon.

More info at...

[www.thefillingstation.org.uk/station/haughmond-wrekin](http://www.thefillingstation.org.uk/station/haughmond-wrekin)



**At Dawley Christian Centre on  
Tuesday 25th November, 2nd, 9th  
and 16th December at 1pm.**

**Join us this Advent to learn  
more about the greatest gift  
we've ever received... Jesus  
Christ.**

**A time to reflect on the meaning of  
Advent and prepare and anticipate  
the coming of Christ.**



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

**On Saturday 29th November between  
9:30-1:30pm (with a light lunch)**

**On Wednesday 26th November  
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.**



**Oakengates United  
Church**

**CHRISTMAS  
FAYRE**

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November**

**9.30am - 12noon**

**Cakes, Raffle, Christmas Stall, Games,  
Books, Christmas Tombola, New & Nearly  
New, Aladdin's Cave  
Bacon Butties, Toast, Tea & Coffee**

The Church in the Heart of Oakengates  
Caring for the Community

A celebratory poster for the 10th anniversary of the Telford CAP Debt Centre. The background is white with scattered gold confetti and a cluster of gold and silver balloons on the right side. The CAP logo is in the top left corner. The text is arranged in a clear, celebratory layout.

christians  
against  
poverty  
**CAP**

**Telford CAP Debt Centre**  
invites you to our

**10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Celebration!**

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November at 7.pm**

**Guest Speaker: CAP CEO  
Stewart McCulloch**

All Saints Parish Church,  
Church St,  
Wellington, Telford.  
TF1 1DG

*Refreshments served!*

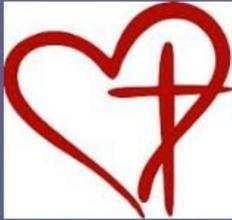
**Come and hear about the  
foundation of the  
Telford Debt Centre**

**Please get in touch if you have something to share.**

**Email: [circuitsupport@telfordmeth.org.uk](mailto:circuitsupport@telfordmeth.org.uk)**

**or phone 01952 505108**





# HeartSpace

worship for today

**HeartSpace on Sundays**

**10:30am**

**Trinity Centre**

**Upcoming Dates**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> November**

No service in December

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January**



**Contact:**

[heartspace@shifnalbenefice.org.uk](mailto: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**

# TABLE TOP SALE

at

***DAWLEY CHRISTIAN CENTRE***

**On Friday 21<sup>ST</sup> November 2025**

**9.00 am – 12 noon**

**Come along and pick up a bargain.**





# CONCERT

## All Creatures Great and Small

In aid of local Charities  
Saturday 22nd November  
at  
Horsehay Methodist Church  
7pm



Promoting International Orange the  
World 2025 Campaign  
Against Violence and Abuse  
to Women and Girls

**Admission £10.00**

Contact: Christine Hollis 07484 652999  
Email: [Christinejeanette843@gmail.com](mailto:Christinejeanette843@gmail.com)  
Robyn Davies 07929 984293  
Email: [Robyntrebleclef@gmail.com](mailto:Robyntrebleclef@gmail.com)





# CHRISTMAS FAIR



22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER  
2025

*At*

11:00 AM - 3 PM

DONNINGTON METHODIST CHURCH  
WREKIN DRIVE

FREE ADMISSION



SEE SANTA  
CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES  
SAUSAGE AND BACON BAPS  
EVERYONE WELCOME!



# Christmas Fayre

Wellington Methodist Church

**Saturday  
November 29<sup>th</sup>.  
10am - 12noon**

Cakes

Books

Puzzles

Bric-a-  
Brac

Toiletries

Crafts

Refreshments

We'll see you there >>>



Prayer in the way of  
**Taizé**  
for Advent

Sunday 30th November 2025  
5pm



Wellington Methodist Church  
New St., Wellington, Telford  
TF1 1LU

*All Welcome*

For more information on Taize see [www.taize.fr](http://www.taize.fr)  
For more information about this church see  
[www.wellingtonmethodist.org.uk](http://www.wellingtonmethodist.org.uk)



# HeartSpace

worship for today

**HeartSpace on Tuesdays at 7:30pm  
at St Andrew's Church, Shifnal**

**Upcoming Dates**

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**  
**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January**

Join for a cuppa from 7pm followed by relaxed contemporary  
worship and time for reflection from 7:30pm

The Church of  
St Andrew  
& Trinity  
Church  
Shifnal



**Contact:**

[heartspace@shifnalbenefice.org.uk](mailto:heartspace@shifnalbenefice.org.uk)

The  
Trinity  
Centre



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



**Oakengates United Church**

**CHRISTMAS TREE  
FESTIVAL**

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 7.00pm**

**Christmas Songs & Carols**



**With students from the Abraham Darby**

**Haberdashers Saxophone Ensemble**

*Mince Pies & Mulled Wine*

*Free Community Event*

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 10.00am - 1.00pm**

**Advent Coffee Morning**

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

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December 11.00am**

**Morning Service of Celebration with  
Rev Mark Rodgers**

*Church is open for viewing each day between  
10.00am & 4.00pm. Please join us for our Morning Service of  
Celebration at 11.00am on Sunday with Rev Mark Rodgers*

The Church of  
St Andrew  
& Trinity  
Church  
Shifnal



# Christmas Tree Festival

St Andrew's Church  
Shifnal

5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> December 2025



To sponsor a tree click  
on the QR Code



- Santa's Grotto** ★  
Open Saturday 12 Noon - 4.00pm
- Decorated Trees** ★
- Schools Singing** ★
- Tree of Memory** ★
- Christmas Gifts** ★
- Best Tree Vote** ★
- Refreshments** ★
- Hot Baps, Mince Pies  
& Cakes** ★
- Musicians** ★
- Craft Stall** ★
- Tombola** ★
- Raffle** ★

Adults £3.00  
Children free  
Visit Santa - £5.00 per child  
(Open Sat 12 Noon - 4:00pm)

- Friday 10.00am-6.00pm
- Saturday 10.00am-6.00pm
- Sunday 1.00pm-5.00pm

Tombola

Pickles  
& fudge

Hand  
painted  
cards

Lazer cut  
Wood-  
work

Hoopla  
prize  
game

Children's  
activities

# Horsehay Methodist Church

## Christmas Fayre

Saturday 6th December

11am-1.00pm

Free entry-- **CASH PAYMENTS ONLY**-- 100 square  
game- guess the name of the doll- guess the weight  
of the cake

Homemade  
preserves

Knitting  
& crochet

Refreshments

Embroidery  
& sewing

Books

Bric-a-brac

# Christmas Table Top Sale

Friday December 12th  
at Dawley Christian Centre

Feel free to dress up and  
have some fun :)

9:00am-12:00noon



Come along  
and grab  
yourself  
a bargain!



# CHRISTMAS CONCERT WITH JIGSAW CHOIR

*Admaston Methodist Church*



*Tuesday 16th December*

*Doors Open 7.00 p.m.*

*Concert Commences 7.30 p.m.*



*Ticket Only Event*



*£8.00 Adults / Children Free*

*Ticket Enquiries' : Phone Jane:*

*07976 957703 Or [amcenquiries@outlook.com](mailto:amcenquiries@outlook.com)*

*Refreshment's served during interval*

*Parking Opposite Admaston House*



*Off Pemberton Road*

*Profits shared between church and choir's charity*

# 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 mince pie provided.



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



For more information contact Jo on  
[jokudlacik@gmail.com](mailto:jokudlacik@gmail.com) or 07840 596074

Interested in an evening group? Contact Kim on  
[kimfitzwarine@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## **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.

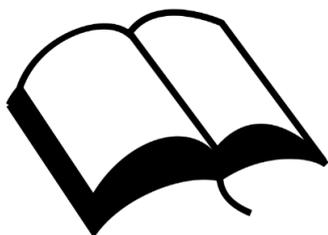


## Might you feel called to help lead worship? Are you a Worship Leader in need of refreshment?

We will be holding a **Worship Leaders' Introduction and Refresher course** at 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.

**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 is for you or to let me know you are coming, contact Jo Kudlacik Tel: 07840 596074 Email: [jokudlacik@gmail.com](mailto: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



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**

**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!**



The Church of  
St Andrew  
& Trinity  
Church  
Dorset



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 07983 248949 or  
[sarah.thorpe121@gmail.com](mailto: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.

[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.



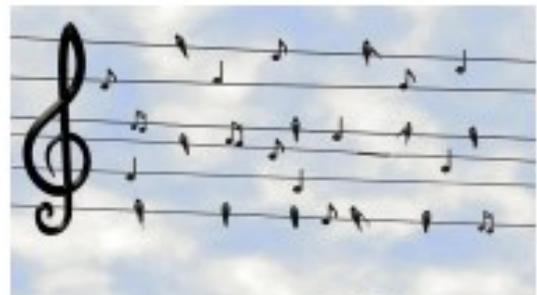
## Sing a Long

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/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/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/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/documents/22465/Christmas_2025_Small_Group_Resource_Pack_alsTVqG.pdf)

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

## **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](mailto:safeguarding@telfordmeth.org.uk) | 07904 814741

Stephanie Bradley, Regional Officer for Safeguarding  
[bradleys@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:bradleys@methodistchurch.org.uk) | 07817 808557

**Safeguarding**  
Young people and vulnerable adults

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](https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/nd-methodist-district-safeguarding-training-4444573?msockid=39ddb784e41769a00dcea183e5f8680a)

**Safeguarding**  
Young people and vulnerable adults

## **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)

**Safeguarding**  
Young people and vulnerable adults

## Advanced (Leadership) Module

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

### 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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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

**Safeguarding**  
Young people and vulnerable adults

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** 