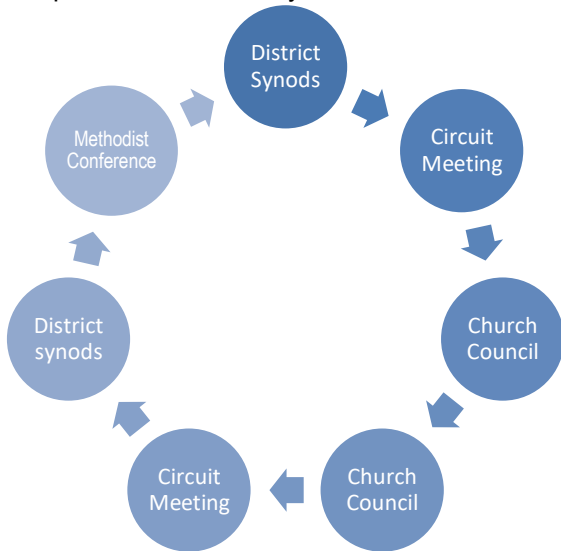




North Kirklees & Morley Circuit March 2018

Dear friends,
We are now in the second half of the connexional year; frightening isn't it where times goes.
The shape of the Methodist year looks like this



So when we start a new year with District Synods we are acting on what has been decided at Conference and ministers stationed by Conference begin new circuit appointments. Conference decisions then go through the layer of circuit and the local church; a sort of tumble down process. Because it is a circle or cycle then the process continues as the local church is able to feed back to conference through circuit and district as the cycle continues which is why we operate the way we do; the local informs and shapes the national and vice-versa (although most people experience it the other way around). At the centre, the hub of all of this is God's Mission as we seek to join in with his Kingdom purposes proclaimed by Jesus. I also realise that many of us may be concerned that the structure of the rim drives the hub rather than the other way round, but I am convinced that despite all that Methodism thinks and does it is the Almighty, the hub who drives all that we do on the rim.

As the churches ordained ministers (and all lay and ordained are ministers of Christ's Church) stationing begins in the autumn and is ratified at Conference ready for us to start a new appointment. For Ray Borrett and for me we are sure that the rim has been driven by the hub all along. Our prayer for Imran as he belatedly begins his first 6 months is that he will be equally sure and equally welcome and blessed, as well as being a blessing to those he serves amongst.

Tek Care

Nigel Rodgers



Safeguarding Trainers: Are you interested in the safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults in your church? The circuit is looking for enthusiastic people to help in delivering the Foundation and Foundation Refresher Module training. If you are interested please contact Rev Nigel Rodgers.

Fancy a film? How about one of these –
First Friday Film night, at St. Andrew's Liversedge: Friday 6th April - Murder on the Orient Express. When heavy snow stops the Orient Express dead in its tracks, the world's greatest detective, Hercule Poirot, is on hand to solve the mystery when a passenger is murdered. Starring Kenneth Branagh (with amazing moustache), Johnny Depp, Judi Dench and Penelope Cruz - a stylish production indeed.
Friday 4th May - Hidden Figures. Three brilliant African-American women working at NASA in the 1960s, show that despite prejudice and racism, they have the brains and determination needed to make significant contributions to the Space Race between the Russians and the USA at that time. Starring Kevin Costner and Octavia Spencer.
All films start at 7pm with free admission. Popcorn, ice creams etc as usual, with a donation towards refreshments if you are able. We look forward to seeing you

Thornhill Family Film Morning Sat 10th March 2018 at 10.30am, showing "Paddington 2". Free admission, donations towards refreshments would be appreciated. Children to be accompanied by a responsible adult. All welcome.

Batley Central Film Afternoon Good Friday at 1.30pm, after the Walk of Witness, showing "The Passion".

The Friends Café at Tingley Methodist Church - Good company, good food, good fun
The Friends Café is a joint venture between Tingley Methodist Church and the 12th Leeds Boys' Brigade Company. The monthly café is open to everyone although we decided to run it to give older people and people living with dementia and their carers a chance to have lunch, to relax and to meet and talk with other people. Food and drinks are provided free of charge at the Friends Cafe. However, if you feel able, we will be more than happy to accept a donation. All are welcome, please come and join us at our next café

West Ardsley 8th March: Messy church for young children & carers from 4 to 6 pm (doors open 3.30pm) for crafts, song and afternoon tea. **West Ardsley** are selling 2018 calendars with 12 views of local scenes, taken by church members. Price £5. Also available from the Resource Centre.

Prayer Breakfast on 2nd Saturday of each month, 8am. Next one is on Sat 10th March 2018. All welcome.

Coffee Morning 10th March 2018 and 14th April 2018, 10am-12, after Prayer meeting at 8am.

Mothering Sunday afternoon tea at the "Ebenezer Savoy", by ticket £7 adults, £3.50 children.

At the Circuit Resource Centre ...

Our contact details:
The Circuit Resource Centre,
Batley Methodist Church
Commercial Street
Batley WF17 5DS
01924 442535
email address:
admin@nkandmcircuit.org.uk



Our opening hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9am – 1pm
Thursday 9am – 3pm, Friday 9am – 1pm

We are ordering 'Real Easter Eggs' – see poster at your church – please let us know if you would like one, they will be available to order only.

Please note, due to holidays the Resource Centre will be closed on the following dates:
Easter break – closing 3pm on Thursday 29th March, reopening 9am on Monday 9th April

Birstall Methodist Church – all welcome

Community Coffee Morning: Thursdays 9.30-11am.
Cell Church group: Meets on Monday evenings 7.30-9pm. Contact Pat Martin.

Baby Coffee and Play: Coffee morning for Mums, Dads, Grandparents and their babies/toddlers March 9th, 9.30-11.30am, for more info contact Julie 01924-442324.

Batley Central Methodist Church

The Christian Coffee Break : each month up to November 2018, at 10.30am, with coffee from 10.10am and a light lunch available afterward ALL ARE WELCOME.

Friday Coffee Morning 9.30am-11.30am All welcome!

Fellowship Lunch: 2nd Sunday of each month, 12.30pm £4 adults £2 children for a two-course meal. Phone Bev on 07733150203 to book a place.

Lenten Studies: Fridays in Lent at 12-noon. Bring a sandwich, tea and coffee provided.

The Music of George Gershwin- with Daniel at the pianoforte. Sat 24th March 2018 at 2.30pm in the Brimer Hall. Admission to concert, including afternoon tea £6.

Hanging Heaton: Good Friday, 30th March 2018, 7.30pm, Dewsbury Concert Society perform "No Greater Love" by John W. Peterson.

Sat 24th March 10am-3pm, Spring Fair. £1 admission. Refreshments served all day, VARIOUS STALLS.

HOLY WEEK: Mon 26th March, "Agape" meal at St.Paul's Church hall.

Thurs 29th March 7pm, MAUNDY MEAL and service in the PRIMARY.

Lindley Band featuring Tower Brass, with a Royal Theme, at St. Andrew's Mirfield. Sunday 22nd April at 2pm. Tickets including refreshments £7, available from Alison 07392 751903.



The Annual Daffodil Rally will be held on Tuesday, 6 March, 2018 at 2.00 pm at Central Methodist Church, Batley.

Speaker - The Rev Trevor Grewcock Leader: -
The Rev Andrew Halstead

Duettists - Gloria Ellis and Jo-Anne Trevenna

Organist - Alan Littlewood

West Ardsley Film Night and Follow up Session

Tuesday 13th March 2018 - the internationally acclaimed film "The Shack" will be shown at 7.00pm at West Ardsley Methodist Church and an open invitation to attend is offered to everyone. The film is a moving fictional story that offers a great insight into many theological issues such as, faith, doubt, suffering, forgiveness and God's presence in all aspects of our lives (suitable only for persons aged 12 or above). Tea and biscuits will be served – no charge.

Tuesday 20th March 2018 (7.00pm) – "The Shack" follow up discussion (preceded by a faith tea) at West Ardsley Methodist Church. The discussion will be led by Rev Andy Halstead and will offer everyone the opportunity to ask questions and offer their own thoughts on the various issues which come to light in the film.

Ardsley and Tingley Churches Together

Ardsley and Tingley Churches together are running a CAP (Christians Against Poverty) Money Management course at West Ardsley Methodist Church in February/March. The course will take place over three consecutive Wednesday evenings, commencing on Wednesday 21st February at 7.00pm and concluding on Wednesday 7th March. Please note, that the first evening also includes a complementary meal. The course provides excellent advice on budgeting and money management, and is beneficial to everyone. If you would like to attend, or require further information, please contact either Lynda Curry on 07443482485 or Stephen Stokes on 07503160638 by Monday 11th February.

Drighlington Methodist Church: Every 2nd Friday of the Month 1.30pm – 3.30pm for people living with Dementia but all are

welcome! Details from Trevor

Martin, 01132854165

trevorjmartin@yahoo.com



Please note the new opening times for the Coffee Pot:
Monday & Thursday: 10 am to 11.30 am
Tuesday & Wednesday: 9 am to 11.30 pm
Our MP Andria Jenkyns visited our memory café and last Wednesday she asked in parliament (PMQ) if the Prime minister would join her in congratulating the members of Drighlington Methodist Church in providing a service to the community. She did!



Dementia Friends Information Session

at Drighlington Methodist Church. Mon 19th March 2018 at 8pm, coffee from 7.30pm. Led by Trevor Martin. Come along to this one hour information session to learn a little more about what it is like to live with dementia and turn that understanding into action! More information or to book a place contact Trevor Martin 01132854165

Church events . . .

March

7 th , 3.15pm	Messy Church	<i>Hanging Heaton</i>
7 th , 11.45am	Soup Lunch	<i>Trinity</i>
8 th , 3.30pm	Messy Church	<i>West Ardsley</i>
9 th , 9.30-11.30am	Baby Coffee & Play	<i>Birstall</i>
9 th , 10.30-12.30	Prayer Time	<i>Batley</i>
10 th , 10-12	Coffee Morning	<i>West Ardsley</i>
16 th , 6pm	Jumble Sale	<i>Trinity</i>
21 st , 11.45am	Soup Lunch	<i>Trinity</i>
24 th , 10am-3pm	Spring Fair	<i>Hanging Heaton</i>

April

3 rd , 7.30pm	Learn new hymns & tunes	<i>Drighlington</i>
14 th , 10-12	Coffee Morning	<i>West Ardsley</i>

Circuit & District events...

March

6 th , 2pm	Daffodil Rally	<i>Batley</i>
10 th , 10am	MWiB event	<i>Cleckheaton</i>
10 th	Oneword	<i>Batley</i>

This is an open worship event for all ages. There is a live band, interactive worship that you can be as much or as little involved in as you wish and a great sense of fellowship. email joanne@oneword.org.uk, find us on our facebook page or www.oneword.org.uk. We look forward to seeing you there!

April

29 th , 6pm	Easter Offering Service	<i>St. Andrew's (M)</i>
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LEGO WANTED FOR CHURCH PROJECT

Dear friends in Christ,

Some of you will know that I am having a Sabbatical from 9th April to 9th July, which is a wonderful gift from the church. During this time Judith and I are going on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Some of you will also know that I am an Adult Fan of Lego (AFOL) so for the rest of the time I am hoping to look at the possible uses of Lego in worship and small group study with both adults and children, and of course build a few Bible based models, possibly based on our trip to the Holy Land.

To do that I will need a good-sized collection of Lego, so if you have some that you no longer want or need then please can you donate it to my project. Alternatively, I do have a small budget to buy some at a reasonable price. If it belongs to your children then please ask them first, no matter how old they are now!

I am happy to come and collect it from you at a convenient time. [Alternatively, it can be left at the Resource Centre]. My contact details are 01274 681939 or email paul.martin0808@btinternet.com

Thank you. Yours in Christ

Rev Paul Martin

The April edition of Connect will be in churches on Sunday 1st April – Easter Sunday. Please send items for inclusion to the Resource Centre by **Wednesday 21st March, 10am – please note the earlier than usual deadline.**

Staff days off: Monday – Nigel Rodgers, Imran Malik Andrew Halstead; Thursday – Alison Crookes; Saturday - Paul Martin, Ray Borrett.

An augmented choir will present 'Olivet to Calvary'

by J H Maunder on Palm Sunday 25th March at 6.00pm with soloists Peter Cain (tenor) and David Hall (baritone) and organist Malcolm Hinchliffe.

Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm and any singers who know the music well are still welcome to join us for the last 2 or 3 rehearsals. Further details from alan.littlewood@tiscali.co.uk.

ACTS 435

The Cleckheaton Acts 435 team, through a link with the national Christian charity Acts 435, offers financial help to people in the area who are struggling to make ends meet. We are currently the only group connected to the charity in the whole of the North Kirklees area and we are receiving an unprecedented number of requests for help. We place requests on the website at acts435.org.uk and anyone who wishes to make a donation, can select a request and give directly towards their chosen request.

Our requests are changing all the time. They are listed on the website under the Yorkshire and Humber region and are normally located in Cleckheaton, Liversedge, Batley or Dewsbury.

Some of the people who apply to us are in desperate need. One lady we met with recently had only had 2 slices of bread to eat that day, which she had been given by a neighbour. She had no money for food or heating, and she still doesn't know when she will receive any benefits.

Unfortunately we are hearing stories like this with increasing regularity and it is often linked with the changeover to the Universal Credit system where people find themselves waiting for 6 weeks or more without any financial support.

Anybody who would like to be involved can help by becoming donors, which helps us raise the money which is needed more quickly and enables us to get new requests on the website. At the moment we have more requests waiting than we are allowed to have on the website at any one time.

Other churches and Christian groups are always welcome to get involved.

Our link with the Acts 435 charity offers us an opportunity for Christian outreach to those in need in our community, and is an opportunity for us to fulfil the commitment of Acts 4.35 (in the bible) to give to anyone who has need.

If you know, or come into contact with, anyone who is struggling to make ends meet, or are unable to afford items of basic necessity, please let us know. Email acts435@cleckheatonmethodistchurch.org.uk or call our special helpline on 07428 500620.