

## Circuit Information, Services and Events

**Local Preachers Reaffirmation Service:** 28<sup>th</sup> April, 6pm at St Andrew's Mirfield – all are welcome, to support our Local Preachers

**Easter Offering Service:** 12<sup>th</sup> May, 6pm at Batley Central

**AWE:** 17<sup>th</sup> March, 6pm at West Ardsley: 'Lent – Journey with God'

19<sup>th</sup> May, 6pm at Cleckheaton – this Pentecost Praise service will be preceded with a faith tea).

**Circuit Meeting:** Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm at Trinity

### **Circuit Youth:**

6.30 – 8pm, for ages 10 – 18 years. £1 subs per person please contact Heidi Curry for more details

17<sup>th</sup> March – at Cleckheaton

24<sup>th</sup> March – at Batley

29<sup>th</sup> March – at West Ardsley

### **Worship Leaders:**

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March: 7.30pm – **Get Together** at Batley Central.

Beginning Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April - **Worship Leaders**

**Course.** The course consists of 12 sessions in total throughout April, May, June and July.

To sign up or for further information contact Heidi Curry no later than Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March

Free to a good home- 17 stainless steel one-cup teapots, would be ideal for use in a cafe setting. If anyone could use them, or knows of anywhere they would be of use, please let Sara Lewis (St Andrews Liversedge) know on 07960862297.

### **SAFEGUARDING**

**Training –Advanced module** (organised by District) – please see

<https://www.yorkshirewestmethodist.org.uk/information-resources/safeguarding> .

Dates for **Foundation Module** sessions: to be arranged

**CONTACTS:** Assistant DSO, Laura Tunnacliffe

Tel: 07354 862617, Email: [adso@ywmetho.org.uk](mailto:adso@ywmetho.org.uk)

Circuit safeguarding officer, Judith Crowther – tel:

01924 442535 (circuit office), Email:

[safeguardingkm@gmail.com](mailto:safeguardingkm@gmail.com)

### **Dates and Deadlines**

April deadline: 10am, Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Email & printed copies ready by: Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>

March 2024 – these dates are earlier than usual, to allow for Holy Week and Easter events.

Please let Resource Centre know if your church would like more or less copies, or if you would like to be added to or removed from the emailing list.

Copies can be posted to churches on request – we will need to charge p&p.



## North Kirklees & Morley Circuit March 2024

**From Anthony Crowther:**

*'Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life.  
No one comes to the Father except through me.'*

*John 14: 6*

Hello. Welcome to the March edition of Connect. My name is Anthony Crowther, many of you will know me as a Local Preacher in our circuit. I am married to Judith, our Circuit Administrator. I have been a Civil Servant now for coming up to 38 years. Recently I have taken over from Andrew Sentry in the position of Circuit Local Preachers Secretary. Yes, the Circuit Administrator did nobble me to write this!

Looking around our world today it would be very easy to become overwhelmed by the bad things that are happening. Trouble spots abound. Just the names conjure up visions in our minds of what is going on. We, though, cannot really see or appreciate the awful things that are happening to people. People who, after all, are just like you or me. Trying to live their lives. But say Gaza, Yemen, Ukraine and other places that we might not even be aware of where some are suffering immense hardship, and we know that bad things can happen to good people.

In our own country we have the Cost of Living Crisis. Globally we have a Climate Crisis. Taken all together we humans seem to have made a right mess of our world and, individually, we might wonder just what we can do to help alleviate these things in our small corner. The Bible quote above is a very familiar one to us - sometimes a bit over familiar. In isolation, some of us might take great comfort from it. That Jesus is The Way. But Jesus' words are actually a response. Jesus said that they knew the place where he was going. Ever practical Thomas, though, states that they don't know where he's going so how can they know the way? This brings Jesus' response that He is the Way. Following on are the words that no one can come to the Father except through Him. Our wish to be closer to God has to be through Jesus. We need to respond ourselves in order to follow God's way.

In all those places that I mentioned earlier there are people making their response. In Humanitarian ways in war zones. Caring for the refugees displaced by fighting or famine. The provision of what we deem essential

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supplies. Things that will bring all those people hope. In the UK, food banks and support for those in fuel poverty have sprung up from many sources. If we wonder what little bits we CAN do maybe we can support those places around our own circuit that have already responded to these bad things. Giving to food banks, supporting the drop-ins for those affected by money or health issues. Looking for little ways to help our planet begin to heal itself. To give us all hope for the future.

There are signs of spring coming. The daffodils are coming into bloom, trees are budding. The birds are singing and the days lengthening. Hope is in the air. We are approaching Easter which is our ultimate moment of hope - when Christ was raised from death. A time of new birth and new beginnings. A time for looking at the bad things in our world and seeing the good things that come from them. Where people care for others so that despair does not win. Keeping their hopes alive. By us doing our little things, bigger things can happen. Never worry that what you are doing seems small.

Pray for all our hopes. That they may come to fruition. Pray for each other. That we all may come closer to God. Pray for our Circuit. That we might work together for the Glory of God. May He bless us in all that we do for Him. May our response to His words help us to follow His Way.

God bless, *Anthony*

**Staff days off:**

*Monday* – Nick Cutts, Marian Olsen, Al Henry

*Wednesday* - Alex Yesudas

*Thursday* – David Barker

**Batley: Coffee Morning**- Friday 9.30 -11.30am. **Batley Care & Drop in**, Mondays- 10am -12noon. 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2pm: Fund Raising **Fashion Show**, entry £3 (ladieswear & accessories)- see poster for more information

**Birkenshaw and East Bierley:** Monday: 9am **Fresh Art Takeaway** (Second Monday in Month - booking required), 1pm **Art Class**, 6-30pm **Brownies**. Tuesday: 11am **Sit and be Fit** with Prinadi - chair exercises + tea and biscuits afterwards with fun and fellowship, 2pm **Art Class**, 7pm **Pilates Class**. Wednesday: 10am **Fellowship Group** + Refreshments (First in Month), 12pm **Leisure Inclusive Day Care**. Thursday: 12pm **Leisure Inclusive Day Care** (Dementia). Friday: 10am **"Welcome In" Coffee Morning**

**Cleckheaton: Breakfast Drop in** - activities for kids (accompanied by adults) and free breakfast! Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February - 9 am to 11 am. **Meeting Place** – Fun, food and chat - Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February 11am – 2pm

**At the Circuit Resource Centre...**

The Circuit Resource Centre,  
Batley Methodist Church  
Commercial Street  
Batley WF17 5DS  
01924 442535, email address:  
nkresources@gmail.com



**Resource Centre opening times:**

Monday – Wednesday 9am – 1pm,  
Thursday 9am – 1.30pm. Closed on Fridays.

*Easter: Resource Centre will be closed on Good Friday and Easter Monday*

**Birstall: Baby and Toddler Stay and Play:** 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> March then closed until after Easter.

**Community Coffee and Chat** every Thursday morning 9:30 till 11am. **Light lunch** 7<sup>th</sup> March, Sausages with yorkshire pudding and vegetables followed by rice pudding or home made cake.

**Drighlington:** The hall is now closed due to the proposed building work. The following activities will take place in the church building: Mondays 1 - 3 pm; Tuesday/Wednesday **Coffee Pot** 9.30-11.30am; Wednesday **Girls Brigade** 6.30 - 8.30pm. Thursdays **Free IT training** 10 - 1pm; Thursdays **You're never too old** (YNTO) 1 - 3 pm; Fridays **Memory Cafe** - please check with Trevor Martin for times 07871577891

**Morley: Craft, Chat & Sing** – Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 11 am. **Messy Church** – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March from 3.30 pm. **Together on Tuesday Group** – Tuesdays 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 pm – various speakers. **Lunch Club** – each Wednesday (except 1<sup>st</sup> of the month) – At the moment we are full but please contact Lynne on 07792 996805 for names to be put on the waiting list. **Film Night** – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 7 pm. This month's film is: "The Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Society". All proceeds for Church Funds and Charity (Martin House Hospice). **Bible Study Group** – Our Bible Study Group meet every Thursday at Cucina's Café, 106A Queen Street, Morley, 2-3 pm where we can meet in a warm, relaxing place with like minded people who are interested in learning a little bit more about the Bible and how it relates with them today. Everyone is welcome and invited to be as involved as they feel able, with no pressure. **Coffee Mornings** – Every Friday – 10-11.30 am. **Grief Café** – 10 – 12 noon on the last Saturday of each month.

**St. Andrew's Liversedge First Friday Film Night** Friday March 1<sup>st</sup> 'Living Vivre', Friday April 5<sup>th</sup> 'Goodbye Christopher Robin'. Refreshments will be provided at no cost but a donation to charity would be gratefully appreciated.

**Gomersal: Coffee Morning:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month, 10 – 11.30am.

**Trinity Mirfield Soup lunches** 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 11:45am to 12:45 donation in excess of £3.50 appreciated. The two teams look forward to seeing you. **Warm Welcome Café:** Fridays, 10-11.30am.

**St. Andrew's Mirfield: Community Coffee Mornings** on Friday 1 & 15 March, 10am - 11.30am: join us for a chat and cuppa. **Baby & Toddler Group** meets weekly, Friday 9.30am – 11am during term time. All parents, grandparents and carers with children from birth to pre-school very welcome. **"Spring has Sprung" All Age Activity**, Friday 15 March, 6pm - 8pm. Lots of activities followed by refreshments. All welcome to come along and bring a friend. To help with planning please email [standrewsmethodistchurch274@gmail.com](mailto:standrewsmethodistchurch274@gmail.com) if you are coming to join us .

**Tingley:** Saturday 2nd March: **Friends Café** 1 - 2.30pm We are looking forward to seeing you all at our monthly get together. Monday 11th March: **The Soup Bowl** 12 noon to 1.30 pm Hopefully Spring is in the air. Join us for soup, sandwiches, hot drinks and a snack. Everyone welcome. Saturday 16th March: **Coffee Morning** 10am to 12 noon, come and have a cup of coffee with us. Our event this month is run by our Bowls Group. Wednesday 20th March: **Be Still** 7pm Our midweek service resumes this month. Join us for a time of quiet reflection. This will continue on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Saturday 23rd March: **Walking Group** at Outwood and Lofthouse Nature Park. We are meeting at Church at 9.30 am or parking on the road at Cargate Garden Centre, opposite the electric charging points at 9.45 am. The walk is about 4.25 miles and will take us to Robin Hood's Bridge, Lingwell Gate Lane to Lofthouse Colliery Nature Park. We will return to the Garden Centre for coffee and cake afterwards. It may be muddy. For more details contact [tingleymc.events@gmail.com](mailto:tingleymc.events@gmail.com) **Holy Week Stations Of The Cross:** The church will be open on Tuesday 26th March 6pm to 7pm and on Wednesday 27th March 2pm to 3 pm and 6pm to 7 pm for a time for personal reflection on the Stations Of The Cross. Please join us.

**West Ardsley Tuesday Chat & Crafts** - Every Tuesday, 2 - 4pm. **Messy Church** - Second Thursday of every month. Doors open at 3:30pm to start promptly at 4pm. A light meal is provided and children must be supervised by an adult. **Mosaic Café** - Every Wednesday - 11am - 1:30pm - 'A space to just be'. Serving drinks, light lunches & cakes. **Food Pantry** - every Friday, 3 - 4:30pm - Food available for anyone going through financial difficulty. No referral needed. **Coffee Mornings** - the last Saturday of every month.

**Longcauseway: Tuesday Tonic** every Tuesday, 10.30am – 12.30pm with **In Stitches and Praybake 3 strand Café** every Wednesday 9.30am to 1pm and Saturdays 9.45 to 11.45am. Different activities every Wednesday afternoon (see poster). **Bumps, Babies and Toddlers** every Friday in term time, 10.00 – 11.30am.

**Westborough:** Mondays – 10am – 12noon, **painting class;** Tuesdays 7.30 – 9.30pm, **craft group;** Wednesdays – 10am, **wellness class** (chat-yoga-drink) 1.30-3.30pm **Drawing class.**

### Around the Circuit – good news to share

It's always a pleasure to be able to share good news – please let us know of any that we can share here!

*Several of our churches are looking at the Eco Church awards - are there any hints and tips that we can share? It would be great to make this a regular part of Connect.*



**A.W.E**  
Alternative Worship Experience

**LENT**

**JOURNEY WITH GOD**

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March, 6.00pm at West Ardsley Methodist Church