

Circuit Information, Services and Events

1st December, 6pm: **AWE Advent Praise** at West Ardsley

Circuit Meetings:

Thursday 5th December, 7.30pm at St Andrew's Liversedge.



North Kirklees & Morley Circuit November 2024

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Details of the Methodist Church Advent and Christmas 2024 campaign, 'Hush the Noise', are now available at

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/christmasresources/>

From Rev. Godfrey Nicholson: Churches and Preachers may be planning to use the 'Hush the Noise' Advent material - always a helpful discipline. The words are taken from the well-known carol, 'It came upon the midnight clear.' The words were written by E H Sears, a Unitarian minister, and it is no surprise, therefore, that there is no reference to Jesus, even as we celebrate his birth. You might wish to include an extra verse to remedy this omission:

*For there within a manger laid
The Prince of Peace is born;
The Son of God is come to earth
Upon that Christmas morn.
Join we to sing the Saviour's praise,
And hail Him as our King:
Glory to God - our Jesus here,
Whom still the angels sing.*

(There is no problem over copyright for these extra words)

Circuit Youth:

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

SAFEGUARDING

CONTACTS: DSO, Emma Goodley: Tel: 07743

006413, email dso@ywmethodist.org.uk

Assistant DSO, Laura Tunnacliffe

Tel: 07354 862617,

Email: adso@ywmethodist.org.uk

Circuit safeguarding officer, Judith Crowther – tel:

01924 442535 (circuit office), Email:

safeguardingnkm@gmail.com

Prayer Quilts

Do you know anyone in your church who would benefit from the gift of a Prayer Quilt? Nomination forms are available from tingleymc@gmail.com, phone Victoria on 07981557029, or from Resource Centre.

Staff days off:

Monday – Marian Olsen, Nick Cutts

Wednesday - Alex Yesudas

Thursday – David Barker

From Rev. David

In December 2016, in what was described as 'the first step to enable humanity to consume pies with more elegance and comfort', a meat and potato pie was launched into the stratosphere onboard a weather balloon from Roby Mill in Wigan and then released to fall to earth again. The makers of the pie predicted that it would freeze on the way up and be cooked on its return journey, thus altering the molecular state of the pie, and potentially making it even more delicious. Once the pie was recovered from its landing spot in North Yorkshire, the pie researchers concluded that the flight had made no difference at all, and life in the meat and potato pie community returned to normal.

Another heroic failure, of course, but a brave attempt nonetheless. Over the years I have sat sadly in church meetings and watched far, far better ideas than that die at the hands of risk-averse church members, very keen to point out how the idea might fail, the thousand things that could possibly go wrong. Even worse, of course, is the smugness of the post-event analysis expert who tells us what we *should* have done (having failed to mention this earlier).

Of course, we need to assess risks sensibly, and of course blatantly stupid ideas need to be avoided, and of course we need to be prudent stewards of the resources entrusted to us. But do you think that, things being as they are, we need to be more open to taking risks, more ready to give things a try to see if they might work?

Abraham's story in Genesis is one of taking the risky first step in the full knowledge that this might not work – but, then again, it just might. And Abraham's openness to take those risks no doubt attracted its fair share of sadly shaken heads and slow sucking in of breath. Yet Abraham took the risk. God's people, it seems to me, are more often than we sometimes think called to leave the security of 'what we always do', to put our hand into the hand of God who travels with us, and to take the scary first step.

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As we continue to work through the implications of our Circuit Review, and as we continue to explore what God is calling us to do and to be in our place and in our time, may we have the courage to take risks, to try out those good ideas to see if they work, even to risk failure. And may we too catch some of the excitement of those pioneers, those explorers of unknown territory and hear the voice of God calling us on:

'So if you want to be with me all your days, keep up the moving and travelling on, you're the People of God.' (StF 473)

Batley: Care & Drop in, Mondays- 10am -12noon.
Friday Coffee Morning 9.30am to 11.30am in the Brimer Hall £1.50 for drink and biscuits. Refill 50p.
Sunday 1st December **Carlton Main Frickley Colliery brass band** concert 3pm Tickets £10 from Keith Dixon, Keith Webster, Circuit Resource office or pay at the door.

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**

Birstall: Coffee morning each Thursday 9:30 – 11am, with bric-a-brac and book stall, offering a Warm Space in the coming months. **Light lunch** - booking essential: Thursday November 7th: Fish and chips with mushy peas and bread and butter, followed by home-made cake; December 5th, Christmas lunch. **Baby and toddler stay and play:** Friday November 1st, 15th and 29th parents, grandparents and carers very welcome, No charge. Wednesday 6th November 2pm: concert by the **Spen Valley Ukulele band**. No charge but donations towards the work of the Yorkshire Air Ambulance welcome. A newly formed fellowship group meeting fortnightly, Mondays 11th and 25th November at 2:00 till 3:30

Gomersal: Coffee Morning 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month, 10 - 11.30am **Christmas Fayre** - December 7th, 11.00am- 3.00pm. Stalls include Christmas Flower arrangements, Craft, Christmas, Chocolate Tombola, White Elephant, Books, Refreshments.

At the Circuit Resource Centre...

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



Resource Centre opening times:

Monday – Wednesday 9am – 1pm,
Thursdays and Fridays 9am – 1.30pm

Volunteers needed!

Could you spare an hour or two to be part of a project? We are starting on a big project at Resource Centre to reorganise the materials that we keep. As part of this, we plan to rehome some of our books to a charity, but to do so we need to remove stickers from the covers. We're also clearing through lots of old papers, and need to shred things that are out of date. If you would like to get involved, please let us know when you would be available (using the contact information above) and we'll try to find suitable times – this will not commit you to anything long term. Tea/coffee/ squash freely available – we might even stretch to biscuits!

Dates and Deadlines

December/January deadline: 10am, Thursday 14th November 2024 – earlier than usual, to allow for Advent events and services

Email & printed copies ready by: Wednesday 20th November.

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.

Cleckheaton: Friday coffee every week 10 - 11:30am.

Meeting place: Saturday November 16th, 11am to 2pm for chat, food and drink, table tennis.

Drighlington: Foodbank: 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** (YNT0) 1 - 3 pm; Fridays **Memory Cafe** - please check with Trevor Martin for times 07871577891

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

Longcauseway: The **Repair Cafe** on the last Saturday of every month in **The 3 Strand Cafe** 10am to 12.30pm. **Tuesday Tonic's In Stitches**, 10.30am-12.30pm. The **3 Strand Cafe** every Wednesday 9am to 1pm and Saturdays 9.45am to 11.45am. Come and see our new recycling hub and drop off your used blister packs!

St. Andrew's Mirfield: Community Coffee Mornings on Friday 1st & 15th November, 10am - 11.30am: join us for a chat and cuppa. **Baby & Toddler Group** meets weekly, Friday 9.30am – 11am. All parents, grandparents and carers with children from birth to pre-school very welcome. **Pre-Christmas All Age Activities** on Friday 22nd November from 5pm until 7pm. Lots of crafts and games followed by refreshments. **Dewsbury Concert Society Performance** on Saturday 30th November at 2pm followed by light refreshments. For further details or to book onto either event please email: standrewsmethodistchurch274@gmail.com.

12 days of gifting - Take part in our reverse advent calendar this Christmas supporting Focus for Hope and Rainbow Baby Bank - more information coming soon.

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**. **Coffee morning:** 1st November, 6th December, 10.30 till 12, warm friendly space and all are welcome, no charge for refreshments. Donations at the December coffee morning will be split between Breast Cancer Now and MacMillan.

Morley: Craft, Chat & Sing – Saturday 16 November, 11am. **Together on Tuesday** Group at 7.30 pm: The first meeting is on WEDNESDAY 13 November – Talk on The Searchers by Andrew Stokes; on Tuesday 26 November, an evening of Dominoes arranged by Sue Turner. All Welcome. **Lunch Club** – each Wednesday (except 1st of the month) –At the moment we have no available spaces but if you want your name added to the waiting list please contact Lynne on 07792 996805. **Coffee Mornings** – Every Friday – 10-11.30 am. **Grief Café** – 10–12 noon on Saturday 30 November.

St. Andrew's Liversedge: Café every Monday from 10am until 2pm, followed by **knit & natter** - everyone welcome. **First Friday Film Night:** 1st November – 'One Life', 6th December – 'A Man Called Otto'. Refreshments will be provided at no cost but a donation to charity would be gratefully appreciated.

Tingley: Saturday 2nd November: **Friends Café** 1 pm to 2.30 pm: come for your Bonfire themed lunch. We are looking forward to seeing you all at our monthly get together. Monday 11th November: **The Soup Bowl** 12 noon to 1.30 pm: another Bonfire lunch. Join us for soup, sandwiches, hot drinks and a snack. Everyone welcome. Saturday 16th November: **Coffee Morning** 10 am to 12 noon: Come and join us for Coffee, Cake & Crafts. There will also be a raffle. Wednesday 20th November: **Be Still** 7pm. Our monthly service is a time of quiet reflection. Everyone welcome. This will be on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Saturday 7th December: **Gawthorpe Brass Band** 7.30 pm (**CANCELLED**) Unfortunately, this concert has had to be cancelled. For full refunds please ask any member of the Social Committee or contact tingleymc.events@gmail.com.

West Ardsley: **Tuesday Chat & Crafts** - Every Tuesday, 2 - 4pm. **Mosaic Café** - every Wednesday - 11am - 1:30pm - 'A space to just be'. Serving drinks, light lunches & cakes. **Messy Church** - second Thursday of every month (except August). Doors open at 3:30pm to start promptly at 4pm. A light meal is provided and children must be supervised by an adult. **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. **Dates for your Diary** Saturday 16th November, 6pm: **Domino Evening** & Pie and Pea Supper (suitable for all ages). Saturday 30th November - **Christmas Market** - 11am - 3pm: please come and support our local traders and enjoy some seasonal refreshments. For details about any events please email admin@westardsleychurch.org.uk.

Several of our churches are looking at the Eco Church awards ...prayers from A Rocha
(<https://arocha.org.uk/>)

Climate Change global conference: COP 29

As the climate conference begins in Azerbaijan (11 Nov to 22 Nov), pray for delegates entering into discussions about global climate issues. We pray in particular for Seth and Daryl from A Rocha Ghana who are in attendance and lobbying on behalf of the Atewa Forest, a biodiversity hotspot in danger of being sold for mining in Ghana. Please pray that the voices of those at the frontlines of the climate crisis be heard by policymakers.



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!

How wonderful to see **Girl's Brigade's special 90th anniversary celebrations** at Drighlington on the Methodist Church website! Unfortunately we don't have enough space here for all the wonderful pictures and information, but you can see them at:

https://www.methodist.org.uk/about/news/girls-brigade-celebrates-its-90th-anniversary-in-the-leeds-district/?utm_source=Methodist%20Church%20House&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=14709967_Methodist%20News%2017%2F10%2F24&dm_i=BVI,8RAA7,CEVCZV,10EK7X,1

Christmas Cards

For many years, Resource Centre has stocked Traidcraft Christmas Cards, but this has not been possible this year (other than a few packs that we have in stock). Instead, we have Christmas Cards produced by MHA, designed by residents, members, staff and volunteers and raising funds for this special cause. The cards come in packs of 10, and cost £2.50 or £3.50, depending on the design – see poster for more information.



Christmas Cards

Now available at the Resource Centre



This fun design was created by Kerrie Wilson, one of our head office staff members. Kerrie is a keen water colour painter and wanted to do something to support the charity she works passionately for.

**£3.50
PER PACK
10 CARDS
PER PACK**



This traditional design was lovingly created by Mike Phillips. After missing out on our last Christmas card competition Mike spent all year preparing. The winning green Father Christmas design was one of seven designs Mike kindly submitted.



This design of the band of Christmas lights was created by Jo Payne, one of our kitchen staff at Stones Place MHA care home in Lincoln. We chose this for the colours and beautiful message of joy and happiness at this time of year.



This lovely design was created by Gladys Gell, one of our residents at Hartcliffe care home, in Bristol. This design was chosen as it represented what Christmas should be about, vibrant, colourful and fun.



This design was created by Patricia Greenwell, one of our MHA Communities members from Swindon. She drew her cat 'Peaches' and what she imagined she would like for Christmas.

**£2.50
PER PACK
10 CARDS
PER PACK**



This design of the World as a Christmas pudding was designed by Geran Love, a staff member at Swallow Wood. We felt that the message 'Peace to the World' was very relevant in these trying times.



This design is an intricate drawing using a Zentangle design of a dove which will include a Bible verse inside. This was created by Anita Bulwer, a resident at Emmandjay Court.



This design of people gathered round a snowman was submitted by our Race for Change Network. We chose this one because it promotes inclusion and diversity within MHA and what we stand for as a charity.

Advent Praise

A.W.E
Alternative Worship Experience

From Darkness to Light

1st December at 6:00 | West Ardsley

www.nkandmrcircuit.org.uk

CIRCUIT ADVENT PRAISE SERVICE

Are you one of the many Christians who are concerned about the “over the top” commercialism of Advent and Christmas? As early as August, for example, our local garden centres are filled to the brim with flashing fairy lights, artificial Christmas trees, reindeers and giant inflatable Santa Clauses. However, what is more troubling and disconcerting, is the fact that however hard we look, we are often hard pressed to find anything at all that resembles a gospel nativity scene.

For various reasons, some of our lives throughout this past year will have been shrouded in darkness. As such, a focus on Jesus Christ, the light of the world, in Advent time can be a great source of comfort and hope, more so than the commercial razzamatazz that blights our lives from August until Christmas day.

As Advent 2024 fast approaches, therefore, I pray that we as a circuit can put to one side the secular commercialism of this time of the year and focus instead on the real meaning of Christmas i.e. the wonderful gift of Jesus Christ, Imanuel, the true Messiah.

With these thoughts in mind, the circuit will be holding an Advent Praise service on Sunday 1st December (6.00pm at West Ardsley) to help transform all of our lives from “darkness to light”. As such, we offer an open invitation to everyone, whatever our age, across the circuit and beyond. So, please come along (with a friend) and discover the real meaning of Advent and Christmas.

Oh, I nearly forgot, refreshments (including mince pies!) will be served after the service. See you all there!

Stephen (on behalf of the circuit AWE team)