

Circuit Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2022

Loving others as God Loves us



Coventry & Nuneaton
METHODIST CIRCUIT

1) A Word from our Superintendent

Hello Church,
As Christ's disciples, social holiness in our spiritual DNA is no less heightened than our sense of call to demonstrate compassion and assist people in need. For such a time as this, "we do not hope to ease our minds...by shifted blame, while Christ is homeless, hungry, poor". Certainly, our neighbours are affected by unemployment, low wages, rise in the cost of living, the gig economy and shift work, rural isolation, mental health issues etc. I strongly commend the efforts of churches aiming to meet the needs of their local communities - the neighbours of the church – with a demonstration of the gospel in tangible ways. Such churches may wish to share with other churches in the Circuit their transforming Christian practices. Others may actively wait upon the Lord for direction!

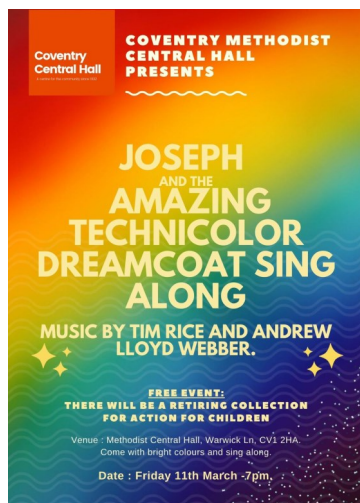
Also, in our demonstration of love in practical ways towards our neighbours, we are called to be sensitive to the Equality Act 2010. This asks for specific considerations of the following characteristics: Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Pregnancy and Maternity, Marriage and Civil Partnership, 'Ethnicity', Religion and Belief, and Sexual Orientation. These are known as 'Protected Characteristics'. The Equality Act aims to protect people from discrimination based on certain personal characteristics. As Christ's disciples, we must acknowledge that God has no favourites, how do we then share our lives, in the way we speak, work and worship, with people of the Protected Characteristics? Let's begin with empathy as a dedicated activity of openness to the experience of others.

During this 2022 Lent, while we engage with the disciplines of prayer, fasting, meditation and reflection on the Word, more intentionally, we'll also aim to encounter Christ in our neighbours in need with the required assistance.

Let's continue in prayer
Marcus

3) Sing-along to Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Friday 11 March at 7pm at Coventry Methodist Central Hall.
Free admission (retiring collection for NCH Action for Children)
Come and enjoy a fun evening – to sing away the cobwebs of covid. You are invited to wear bright colours and sing along!



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2) Engaging Everyone in Worship

March 12th, 2022, 10.30 am – 3.30 pm.

Venue: Balsall Common Methodist Church, Station Road, CV7 7EE. Short walk from Berkswell Railway Station: limited parking on site; disabled access.

A workshop day exploring how you can include a range of ages, spiritual styles, learning modes and all the senses in gathered worship. The day will include biblical and practical frameworks, plus lots of usable examples including singing, outdoor worship, reflective ideas and more.

This training day is open to all, particularly those who lead worship or would like to explore this topic further. Run by Sara and Sam Hargreaves from Engage Worship (see engageworship.org)

There is no charge but please register your place with: Jane Bennett, office@covnunmethodist.org.uk

Please bring your own lunch. Drinks provided. Costa coffee, deli, and butcher selling hot meat batches available in the village.

4) Circuit Calendar of Events

Ash Wednesday 2nd March 2022

Central Hall	1pm	Local Arrangement
Nuneaton	12.30pm and 7pm	Rev'd Marcus Torchon
27 th February	3-4pm	Children, Youth and Families Worship at Bedworth Methodist Church
23rd March	7.30pm	Circuit Meeting at Earlsdon Methodist Church
2nd April	10am-2pm	Ryton Methodist Church Indoor Table Top Sale, Tables £10 each bookable in advance by contacting suefrey29@gmail.com

Save the Date from Birmingham Methodist District

The Farewell Service for the current Chair of the Birmingham Methodist District, the Rev Ian Howarth, will be on **Saturday 16th July at 3pm.**

The Welcome Service for the new Chair of the Birmingham Methodist District, the Rev Novette Headley, will be on **Saturday 3rd September at 2:30pm.**

Both services will be at Coventry Central Hall. Further details will follow in due course.

5) Covid Restriction Advice

Under the new guidance, most of the previous legal restrictions have been removed with regards to mask wearing and social distancing.

However, there is still a strong encouragement and advice to consider these same practices for “vulnerable people and in situations and who do not normally mix.”

Churches may socially mix indoors after a service and have “tea and biscuits etc.” . Each church is still strongly advised to think through a safe approach to these matters, and to make local amendments to the church’s Risk Assessment currently in force.

Items to be considered in the revised assessment should include:

- Ventilation
- Hand sanitiser stations
- Mask availability
- Changing of signage to “invite” mask wearing and distance protocols
- Serving of wrapped biscuits, sugar and generally raising food hygiene practice in general.

7) The National Scout & Guide Concert Orchestra

On Saturday 9th April 2022 In conjunction with the Circuit City of culture we invite you to an evening with The National Scout and Guide Concert Orchestra at Coventry Central Hall at 7pm. Tickets are £8 per adult and free for U16.

To buy tickets go to:

tickets.nsgso.com or on 07517 693474



The Coventry and Nuneaton Methodist Circuit
invite you to an evening with

The National Scout and Guide Concert Orchestra
Featuring the National Scout and Guide Concert Band,
Strings Ensemble, Wind Ensemble and Big Band

And welcoming their guests - the Choir of the Birmingham Scout and Guide Gang Show

Saturday 9th April 2022 at 7pm

Tickets £8 Adult and FREE for U16
Tickets available at tickets.nsgso.com or on 07517693474

Coventry Methodist Central Hall, Warwick Lane
Coventry CV1 2HA

6) Poem by Paul Arnold Friswell 2013 What Profit A Man

I walked with the Devil and I held his hand,
While a man looking on at me cried.
The Devil he laughed as he held my hand tighter,
In my soul I knew that he'd lied.
But I couldn't escape from the pleasure he gave me,
For pleasure it always beats pain.
And I thought to myself if I lived my life over,
I'd probably live it the same.
And the man looking on reached out and he touched me,
I was held by the look in his eye.
For the words that he spoke in truth and with wisdom
I'll hear till the day that I die.

What profit a man if he gains the whole World
But ends up losing his soul.
For the riches you gain will only bring pain,
True love is worth more than your gold.

I stood there and listened to the words of this man
As the tears slowly rolled down my face;
And I wondered just what my life had become
And why I felt so out of place.
I knew that the words he had spoken were true,
And I vowed that I'd change my ways.
Well that was some years and a lifetime ago,
And I still look at life through a haze.
But, I remember the day when he reached out and
touched me,
I remember the look in his eye.
For the words that he spoke in truth and in wisdom
I'll hear till the day that I die.

What profit a man if he gains the whole World
But ends up losing his soul,
For the riches you gain will only bring pain,
True love is worth more than your gold.

And if all of the riches in this world were mine,
I swear I would give them away,
For one touch from that man who I well remember
And the words that I once heard him say.

What profit a man if he gains the whole World
But ends up losing his soul,
For the riches you gain will only bring pain
True love is worth more than your gold.

We welcome Churches and individuals to offer prayer concerns, news items, inspirational poems, moving testimony (up to 200 words), or even a Bible puzzle or crossword to be included in the next Newsletter. Please send any articles, by **Wednesday 9th March 2022** to the Circuit Office c/o Bedworth Methodist Church, Mill Street, Bedworth, CV12 8JZ, Email: office@covnunmethodist.org.uk, or Telephone: 07517693474