



1) A Word from our Superintendent

Hello Church,
In Christ Jesus, God created a richly green garden, with humans and all living things in mind. Before God created us, God envisaged and covered every aspect of our care so that we were, rightly so, created last (Genesis 1:27-31). Inherent in that grace of care that preceded Adam and Eve was our duty of care for that comfortable green garden (Genesis 1:26) because life depends on its harvest and habitable environment. Even so, human activities have been polluting such a green garden so that we're becoming irresponsible. What then can we do as church?

As citizens of heaven and residents of the earth habitat, by ways of a few examples, we can aim to:

- (1) create a culture of eco-friendly communities through seminars, workshops, Bible studies and prayer meetings.
- (2) encourage more people to recycle more often through the rigor of applicable eco-church policies.
- (3) help people to understand what to recycle, how to recycle, and where to recycle.

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(4) do small steps: (a) walking or cycling is preferable to public transport which is still a much better option than using the car; (b) a more efficient boiler, cavity wall and loft insulation and double-glazing help to reduce heat loss; (c) low energy light bulbs, more efficient appliances, remembering to switch off power on appliances – all can help.

No one person can mitigate this impending environmental danger to which we're moving, yet together, as a community in communion with God, we can.

Marcus

2) News from Connexion and District

The circuit was privileged to host the District Synod on 11th September. A key area that Synod looked at was the work of "Social Justice" and "Evangelism". Synod was asked to consider how we undertake these two aspects of our calling and reflect on the "Dead End" possibilities that:

- We are doing one of them but thinking we are doing both;
- We are not starting from a vision of God's new world;
- We are only really using one as a vehicle for the other.

Synod was encouraged to put a Vision of God's new world at the heart of what we do and reflect on Holiness as John Wesley defined it as JUSTICE MERCY & TRUTH. *This is a very brief report on what was a time of great discussion and, therefore, may not fully reflect the issues involved.*

Full details of this year's Conference can be found on the Methodist Church website (<https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-conference/conference-2021/>).

Some key areas that we will need to consider from Conference are:

- Marriage and Relationships
- Holy Communion and online worship
- Conversion Therapy
- Support for Pension Fund deficit
- Justice, Dignity and Solidarity (including engagement with Equality, Diversity and Inclusion [EDI])

Some further brief detail on these points can be found in the, 4 page, Conference Business Digest (<https://www.methodist.org.uk/media/22445/conf-2021-business-digest.pdf>).

3) Circuit Calendar

From the middle of September 2021	Statistics for Mission site is now open for Churches to submit their Annual Returns for year ending 31st August 2021 as well as their Statistics for Mission data for 2020/2021 — if you
Friday 29th, Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st October 2021	3Generate Youth weekend at the NEC—for details please contact our Youth Pastors Ruda Mvundura and Ady White

4) Banners at Coventry Central Hall

We are very blessed at Central Hall to have many banners, posters, and organ screens. The Stewards decided to sort and catalogue them all so they are more easily identifiable and so can be used more widely in our building.

We found 46 items and spread them all over the floor of the main church hall, delighting in their beauty, colours, and the skills of all those who have made them.

Each item was numbered (with masking tape), photographed, categorised according to the liturgical and seasonal festivities, measured, comments noted on how to hang them and if any repair work was needed. Numbers were then put on tape and sewn onto the back

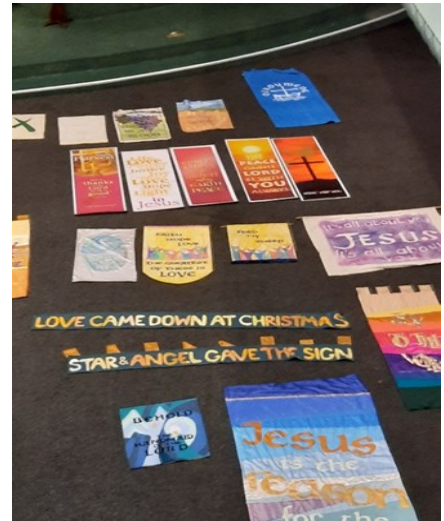
of each hanging and repairs made as needed. The organ screens had been made in memory of a loved one or donated and their names on them have been carefully preserved. Slots were sewn at the top so they can now be hung as banners.

The booklet has been created, one hanging per page, with all relevant information included, making it easy to see what is available, what is relevant to the time of the year etc.

Banners are now hung in the Aldersgate Chapel, and we hope, in time, to hang some in the Main Hall and other parts of our building.

This is not the end! Members of the Zimbabwean Fellowship are making banners and we hope other members of our church family will be encouraged to do so too. We also

hope some of our City of Culture Artists in Residence will make work to be hung and hold workshops for anyone to help too.



5) Evangelical Growth Action Plan of the Circuit: EGAP (Part 8)

How the Circuit Streams outwork into the Circuit Churches.

In this edition we will focus on Stream 4. Justice, Compassion & Peace.

Goal: To help provide food, shelter & clothing, offer safe space and comforting presence, listening ears to those in need, engage in radical advocacy for victims of social inequality, and care for the environment, our Planet Earth.

By:

- praying consistently for Church & Kingdom growth;
- hearing the cries of the oppressed, excluded, victims, of homophobia, racism, tribalism, sexual assaults, domestic violence and providing radical advocacy and hope;
- creating safer spaces for the vulnerable, lonely, outsiders, refugees and the destitute to be, to belong, and to share;

- fulfilling Matthew 25:34-40 through a variety of projects such as supporting foodbanks, providing school uniforms for children in need and working with underprivileged communities;
- fostering a culture of inclusiveness in which Christ unites and transforms and where all are welcome;
- responding to God's calling to care for the earth;
- developing other projects in response to community needs.

How can you help?

- Are you a good listener and able to relate to people?
 - Do you have any legal or advocacy experience on peoples' rights?
 - Are you appalled by the poverty and inequality in our country and world and want to help make a change?
- Then this could be your calling. We are looking for committed, compassionate disciples with a burning desire to help and encourage people across the Circuit to work for God's justice and peace alongside a dedicated Circuit Steward.

6) New Wellbeing Course

Skills for Breaking Negative Thinking Patterns

A 'taster' presentation for this, guided self-help course from the Balsall Common Methodist Church will take place in The Jubilee, 227 Station Road, Balsall Common, CV7 7FE on Thursday, 18th November at 2.30pm.

This non-religious course will be offered free to those of all faiths and none from 25th November through to the end of January. It will be centred on the book 'Breaking Negative Thinking Patterns' and help participants acquire the skills to do what the book's title promises. 'Breaking Negative thinking Patterns' is a more user-friendly name for an increasingly popular psychological remedy called

Schema Therapy. Schema Therapy helps people to understand and overcome negative patterns of thinking and behaviour.

The course will cautiously, help participants develop skills for dealing with moderate recurrent discomforts, giving them a platform for seeking additional help if this is needed.

The Wellbeing Group's courses aim to create a safe environment for learning, allowing scope for maintaining privacy or engaging in discussion, as preferred.

To attend the taster presentation simply email your interest to the course leader, Dr Hugh McCredie, at wellbeing42@btinternet.com

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 Friday 5th November 2021, to the Circuit Office c/o Bedworth Methodist Church, Mill Street, Bedworth, CV12 8JZ, Email: office@covnunmethodist.org.uk, or Telephone: 07517693474