

# CIRCUIT NEWS

**December 2025**



**Coventry & Nuneaton**  
METHODIST CIRCUIT

Welcome to the last circuit news of the year. Please look through, pray and enjoy your part in this circuit.

As we prepare for the 'grand finale' ... the celebration of 'God with us' at Christmas... we are glad that our friendships and community activities have made 2025 a better year, for many, than it would have been otherwise.

You will have made lots of plans for Christmas I expect.

Babies don't often come exactly when, or how, they're planned! As you go through this season of celebrations and worship I pray that you'll have moments of noticing that God is with you, maybe unplanned, in quiet or chaos.

However you celebrate Christmas let's rejoice that Christ makes all the difference in life, and death.

We look forward to 2026 with hopefulness.

## **Save the date!**

Circuit Service - Leaving Service for  
Rev Doreen Koffie-Williams  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 4pm  
at  
Radford & Holbrooks Methodist  
Church

As you will be aware Rev. Doreen Koffie-William will be leaving the circuit in 2026. Having gone through the stationing process, Rev. Doreen has been invited to the South Bedfordshire Circuit as Superintendent minister from September 2026, subject to conference and we are delighted, both for Doreen and for her new circuit, to receive this news. We will continue to uphold Rev Doreen, Samuel, Seth, and Shiloh in our prayers as they prepare for these changes in their lives and Doreen's ministry.

**Meriden Methodist Church** are singing Christmas carols in their church car park on Wednesday 17th December from 5.30pm onwards. Mince pies and hot chocolate afterwards.  
All are welcome.



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## Advent Arrangements 2025

### Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November

Ryton 10am Christmas Tree Festival Service – Deacon Sue Fry

### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December

Bedworth 10.30am Nativity Play – John Prickett

### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December

Atherstone 10.45am Carol Service – Tony Cashmore

Bedworth No morning service

5pm Candlelight Carol Service – Rev Jill Marsh

Central Hall 10.30am – Rev Becki Stennett

3pm Carol Service

Collycroft 10.30am AAW Nativity – Local Arrangement

No evening service

Earlsdon 10.30am Christmas Tree Festival – Penny McAinsh

Nuneaton 10am AAW Nativity – Rev Jill Marsh

### Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December

Balsall Common 6pm Local Scout Troupe Service – Rev Christine Crabtree

### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December

Arley No morning service

6pm Carols by Candlelight – Rev Christine Crabtree

Atherstone 10.45am Carols by Candlelight – Pam Deacon Balsall

Common 10.30am Christine Welham

3.00pm Longest Night Service – Rev Christine Crabtree

Bedworth 10.30am Carols around the tree – Mel Wheeler

Earlsdon 10.30am Karen Brooks

4pm Community Carol Service – Local Arrangement

Horeston Grange 6pm Lessons and Carols – Rev Allan Smith

Nuneaton No morning service

5pm Carol Service – Local Arrangement

Meriden No morning service

4pm Carol Service – Rev Neil Bishop

Radford & Holbrooks 10.45am Rev Graham Gee

6pm Carol Service – Rev Ian Coates

Ridge Lane No morning service

4pm Carol Service – Rev Keith Salter

Woodside No morning service

3.30pm Community Carol Service – Local Arrangement





**Coventry & Nuneaton**  
METHODIST CIRCUIT

## Advent Arrangements 2025 continued

### Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December

Balsall Common 4pm Family Carol Service – Rev Christine Crabtree  
Central Hall 6pm – Rev Becki Stennett  
Nuneaton 11.15pm – Rev Jill Marsh  
Radford, Earlsdon & Woodside - 4.30pm Joint Service (communion) taking place at  
Radford – Rev Ian Coates  
Ryton 11.30pm – Deacon Sue Fry

### Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day

Balsall Common 10am – Rev Christine Crabtree  
Central Hall 10.30am – Rev Becki Stennett  
Collycroft 10.30am – John Prickett  
Earlsdon 10.30am Ethel Martin and Heather Mills  
Meriden 10.30am Rev Ian Coates  
Nuneaton 10am – Rev Jill Marsh



*You are invited to join us for*  
**CAROL SINGING AT TESCO**

**Local Methodist Churches**



Once again we will be joining together to sing Carols at Tesco, Bedworth as part of our church mission to take the Christmas message out to the shoppers.

We will be singing on two dates,

Monday 15th December

11.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

and

Thursday 18th December

1.30 p.m. - 3.00 p.m.

Collecting for the  
local Air Ambulance Service.



*We need as many singers as we can get* - please join us if you can -and bring a friend!

**Don't forget to wear something 'Christmassy'!**



ARLEY METHODIST CHAPEL  
CHRISTMAS SINGALONG



Come and sing along to your  
favourite Carols and  
Christmas Songs



Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December 3.00pm – 5.00pm

Tea and mince pies will be served.

Donations Welcome for the Kenya Project







# You're Invited

COLLYCROFT METHODIST  
CHURCH'S CHRISTMAS  
FUNDRAISER

Festive  
fun!

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>  
December  
2025

12pm  
till  
2pm

A visit from Mr and  
Mrs Claus from 12pm  
1.30pm. £2 per child.

Refreshments available. Games, tombola, stalls  
and crafts.

All money raised will go towards our church funds, to  
keep this space open for the community.

COLLYCROFT METHODIST CHURCH,  
ORCHARD STREET, BEDWORTH,  
CV12 8BW.

Any questions, or for more information, please email  
[collycroftmethodistchurch@outlook.com](mailto:collycroftmethodistchurch@outlook.com).

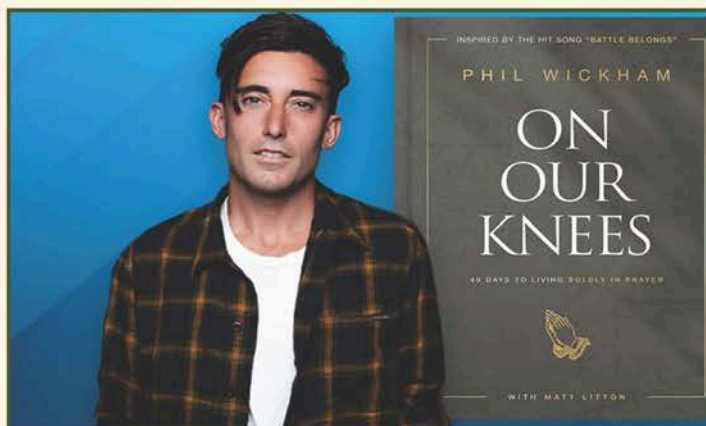


**Coventry & Nuneaton**  
METHODIST CIRCUIT

## "ON OUR KNEES"

### KEY INFO

Led by Trevor Gay, a Local Preacher in our Circuit, sessions are led on Zoom on a Wednesday evening from 8 'til 9pm, starting in January.



### WHAT IS THIS ?

This is a new 10 week course based on the 40 day devotional book "On Our Knees" by Phil Wickham

### WHO IS THIS FOR ?

Anyone can come - regardless of your roll - anyone who comes is welcome to join the course, all you need is an interest in prayer and a readiness to talk about it in a small group.

### TO FIND OUT MORE....

contact Trevor Gay on  
trevor\_930@hotmail.com  
or 07966-388195

### MORE ABOUT THE COURSE

This is an opportunity to talk to others about how prayer underpins scripture passages in both the Old and New Testament. Each week we discuss a set passage and share opinions, as well as enjoying a song from Phil.

### TESTIMONIALS

"I found it has given me a way to try prayers in a different way which is always a good thing"

"It was a special time together and I looked forward to it every week"





### Bite-sized rural mission (Jan – March 2026) By Sarah Hulme (Rural Mission & Ministry Officer)

#### Overview

A six session interactive course for rural lay leaders, delivered online. Monday evenings, fortnightly beginning 12 Jan, 7-9pm.

This course dips into bite-sized snippets of rural mission. It's for rural leaders who want to engage more widely with their local communities and reach new people. It's for those who are wondering how to help others grow in confidence in their faith and give things a go together. It's for lay folk who feel they have a responsibility when it comes to mission, but are busy people trying to keep the show on the road. It's for leaders who are questioning whether mission and growth is even possible in their rural context.

This is a free course\* for all leaders in the Methodist Church & associated LEPs (lay and ordained, paid and unpaid. Including, but not exclusive to; Local Lay Pastors, Pioneers, Children, Youth and/or Family Workers, Chaplains, Church or Circuit Stewards, or leaders of mission, social action or outreach projects).

\*There will be a small charge for other ecumenical friends to cover postage & resources, payable via the Arthur Rank Centre website, but please do still feel most welcome! In 2024 the Methodist Conference committed to continuing a Church-wide strategy for Evangelism and Growth, deepening our commitments to being a growing, evangelistic, justice-seeking & inclusive Church. Leaders are crucial for this commitment. This course aims to equip leaders in their contexts to: confidently model what it means to follow our shared calling; to intentionally prioritise and promote growth and to cultivate a culture of confidence in rural mission.

There are six sessions, each two hours long:

- Session 1: Introductions; contexts, spotting God at work, listening & discerning, giving something a go.

- Session 2: Agricultural community; connecting & supporting as mission.

- Session 3: Rural margins; visible & unseen hardships.

- Session 4: Intergenerational; rural mission with all ages, including schools ministry.

- Session 5: Methodist Way Of Life; rural, rooted missional small group discipleship.

- \* Session 6: Rural festival events & mission; joining in, co-creating, establishing new traditions.

The course will run from January 2026 over six Monday evenings, dates and booking link below:

Bite-sized rural mission (Jan – March 2026)  
Tickets, Mon, Jan 12, 2026 at 7:00 PM |  
Eventbrite

Session 1: Monday 12 Jan, 7-9pm

Session 2: Monday 26 Jan, 7-9pm

Session 3: Monday 9 Feb, 7-9pm

Session 4: Monday 23 Feb, 7-9pm

Session 5: Monday 9 March, 7-9pm

Session 6: Monday 23 March, 7-9pm

This course will run on Zoom. You'll receive an email with all the joining details closer to the time if you've registered. When you register for a course, please commit to attending all six sessions - if you don't think that's going to be possible then you'll need to let us know. If you have any questions please contact Sarah Hulme, Rural Mission & Ministry Officer on [hulmes@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:hulmes@methodistchurch.org.uk)



## Rural and Wild weekend - at Cliff College

Why not join us on the new  
Rural & Wild weekend course

6-8 Feb 2026 at Cliff College, Derbyshire S32 3XG

Come and gather with other ecumenical rural leaders to  
explore what outdoor community, mission & church can  
look like in the wild.

For further information & to book, please visit:

<https://arthurrankcentre.org.uk/ruralandwild/>

please contact Sarah Hulme, rural mission & ministry  
officer via [hulmes@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:hulmes@methodistchurch.org.uk) for further  
details.

If you would like to go please contact the circuit office to  
discuss about the payment.

[office@covnunmethodist.org.uk](mailto:office@covnunmethodist.org.uk)



### Meat Free Recipes

We continue our suggestions for the Autumn / Winter season, thanks to Christine Welham for the supply of recipes

#### SMOKY BUTTERNUT & BEAN STEW

Perfect for Bonfire Night,(or any other time!) this smoky dish is delicious with rice or chunks of artisan bread.

SERVES 4

Preparation time: 20 minutes

Cooking time: 45 minutes

- 2 tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 large onion, diced
- 1 butternut squash, peeled and diced
- 4 large cloves garlic, thinly sliced
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp ground turmeric
- 2 tsp ground cumin
- 1-2 tsp habanero paste
- 650g (22oz) passata
- 100g (3 1/2oz) green lentils
- 250ml (8 1/2 fl oz) vegetable stock
- 1/2 tbsp caster sugar
- 2 x 400g tins kidney beans, drained and rinsed
- A small bunch coriander, roughly chopped

1. Heat 1 tbsp of oil in a large, lidded pan over a medium heat and cook the onion for 10 minutes until soft. Next add the diced squash and garlic and continue to cook for 10 minutes until softening at the edges.

2. Add the spices and 1 or 2 tsp habanero paste, depending on heat preference. Coat everything well by stirring for a minute or so.

3. Add the lentils, passata, sugar and 250ml (8 1/2 fl oz) of stock. Stir, cover with a lid, reduce the heat and cook gently for 20-25 minutes (stirring occasionally and adding a splash of water if it begins to look a little dry) or until the squash has cooked through.

4. Now stir well and add the kidney beans, and most of the coriander. Cook for a further five minutes then serve with the remaining coriander.

(Editor's Note: I didn't have habanero paste, but used Red Thai curry paste - and it worked well!

#### Becoming an Eco Church

A few churches are already registered as an Eco Church. Those we have heard from are Fillongley, they have achieved Silver award and Earlsdon has Bronze (working towards Silver).

The steps for achieving an award have become more involved in the past year.

Here is the link to the a Rocha website to see about registering as an Eco Church.

<https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/how-eco-church-works/>

If you have any questions please contact Lois our Circuit Eco-Rep.

#### Outdoor Worship 2026

Our first seasonal gathering at Coombe Abbey is on Saturday 17th January at 11am. It may be cold; it may be wet! We will dress for the weather and meet to celebrate in God's winter world.

**Do send in your ideas, news and photos  
Lois Talbot (loismtalbot@gmail.com)  
Circuit Eco-Rep**



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# CHAPEL OF UNITY

at Coventry Cathedral

## ADVENT MEDITATIONS



The Chapel of Unity is hosting an on line via Zoom  
20-minute Poem Reflection at  
**6.00pm each Monday evening during Advent**

We will follow a selection of the poems taken from

**Malcolm Guite's book**

***Waiting on the Word***

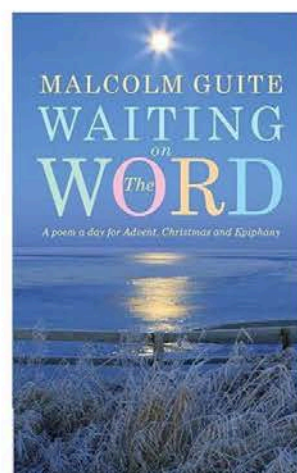
Hear the poem - share a reflection - end with prayer

1 December ***Autumn*** by David Baird

8 December ***Old Age*** by Edmund Waller

15 December ***Kenosis*** by Luci Shaw

22 December ***O Oriens*** by Malcolm Guite



Click: [Zoom link for Advent Reflections](#) or

Meeting ID: 864 9505 4646 Passcode: COUR2025



## Bedworth Methodist Church

On Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November  
Bedworth Methodist Church  
held a 180<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
service led by  
Deacon Sheila Dawson.



Eco dishcloth giveaway at  
Bedworth Church Fayre in  
November