

Circuit Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2021



Coventry & Nuneaton
METHODIST CIRCUIT

Loving others as God Loves us

1) A Word from our Superintendent

Hello Church,

Discouragement is a vicious enemy. It tends to limit our ambitions and nurtures negative attitudes. It has the capacity to attack the fibre of our morale as a virus infects the cells of our immune system. In adverse conditions, it may sap the energy of any given church and dent its passion. The discouragement that the current pandemic has breathed into some churches is a vivid example of how its presence may inspire the lack of commitment to mission and strive to distort the vision for growth we have received from our Lord. As servants of Christ, on the mission fields, we therefore need to remain attentive and be inspired by the Spirit to achieve the envisaged goal and earn the prize of victory.

In our church heritage, for example, John Wesley resolved to preach the message of renewal in church and society so that by the time of his death in 1791, Methodism became a dynamic spiritual movement. Still, in politics, William Wilberforce fought for the abolition of the slave trade for many years before the Abolition Act was finally passed in 1833. I note that in the entanglements of discouragement, both William and John were inspired by fellow MPs and spirit-led colleagues respectively to achieve what seemed to be impossible. They were further encouraged by their unwavering passion for the proclamation and demonstration of the Gospel in the Kingdom of God. Church, we must therefore unite in the Spirit to encourage one another and stamp out discouragement.

When things are not going our way, discouragements may be rooted in illegitimate preoccupations with ourselves. We're concerned with 'our' ministry, 'our' ambitions, 'our' feelings, 'our' reputation, 'our' security, 'our' achievement and 'our' church et al. Actually, strength from the Lord reassures us, "that it is not by might, it is not power, it is by my spirit" (Zechariah 4:6).

Let each passionate disciple, each local church nurture another to fight discouragement in the Name of Christ!
Marcus

3) Holiday to Austria and Oberammergau including the Passion Play 2022

Rev Richard and Mrs Olive Wilde (Woodside Avenue Methodist Church) are inviting you to join them for a week (11-18 May 2022) of fellowship with Christians from several churches journeying to the Austria/German border for a holiday including the Oberammergau Passion Play. These plays have been performed every ten years since the village was spared the worst of the Plague in 1633. The performances draw many thousands of pilgrims from all over the world transporting them back to the First Century through creative imagination.

It is a holiday rather than a pilgrimage. The play is only one day so there is site seeing, walking and coach tours to enjoy in the Alpine lakes and mountains. McCabe's

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2) Stream 4—Donations for Coventry Refugee Centre

You might be aware of the much-advertised plight of the refugees. Helen Bishop reached out to the refugee centre in Coventry to ask how we might be of assistance. They have advised us that they are in desperate need of basic toiletries. We are kindly asking for donations in the form of things like toothbrushes and paste, shower gel, soap, shampoo, men's shaving foam and disposable razors, deodorants, baby stuff, including nappies of all sizes, and baby wipes. We would appreciate it if people could bring donations to their home church. Helen and I, Perpetua, will be happy to come and collect when there are items ready. Once the donations have been collected from around the circuit, we will arrange delivery to the refugee centre as a combined donation from the circuit. If church members would like to get more involved as a volunteer, the contact number for the Coventry Refugee Centre is 024 7622 7254.

Please contact Perpetua or Helen if you need any further information.

Perpetua Sakuringwa 07943 531975 or Helen Bishop 07850 160 558

It is with sadness that we are informing you of the death of Rev'd Dr Robert Bean. His funeral took place on 11th November at a private family only service in Kent, where he went into the ministry. His wife Jacquie and family would greatly appreciate your prayers at this time.

Pilgrimages, who I have travelled with seven times, supply a local guide to make all our arrangements. In my experience hotels, coaches and guides have all been of a high standard as have been meals and venues. With my pilgrimages and holidays, I try and ensure there is ample time to meet others and make new friends as well as respecting the need to be alone or with a partner. We might gather in a lounge some evenings, for optional meetings including worship and prayer. It's a holiday in the original sense – refreshing body, mind and spirit. I'm hoping for a group of around 24 people.

If this appeals to you then please contact Kate: swc.katetennyson@gmail.com or Richard 07971 218356 (revrichardwilde@gmail.com) for more details.

4) CHRISTMAS SERVICES

	19th December Carol Service		Christmas Eve		Christmas Day	
Arley	6pm	J Braund	---	---	---	---
Atherstone	??	Carols by Candle light	---	---	10am	R Clemo
Balsall Common	10.30am	C Welham	11.30pm	J Braund	10am	J Braund
Bedworth	5pm	S Dawson	---	---	10.30am	at Collycroft
Central Hall	12th December 3pm	S Willey	4pm	S Willey	10.30am	S Willey
Collycroft	5pm	at Bedworth	---	---	10.30am	J Prickett AAW
Earlsdon	4.30pm	P McAinsh	5pm	D Koffie-Williams HC	10am	D Koffie-Williams
Fillongley	---	---	---	---	10am	Anglican HC
Horeston Grange	6.30pm	Live Stream lessons & carols	12-1pm and 6.30pm	Carols at the Coop and Community Carols	9.30am	A Smith/ Zoom
Meriden	4pm	Gail Bullivant	---	---	10am	I Coates
Nuneaton	10am	M Torchon	11.30pm	M Torchon	10am	M Torchon
Radford & Holbrooks	6.30pm	No preacher required	11.30pm	D Koffie-Williams	---	---
Ridge Lane	10.30am	B Taylor	---	---	---	---
Ryton	10am	S Fry	11.30pm	S Fry	---	---
Woodside	4pm	A & G Gee	---	---	---	---

5) Ryton Methodist Church Christmas Tree Festival

3rd-5th December 2021 Theme: Thankfulness
 Friday 3rd December 2pm – 5pm Carols outside at 4pm
 Saturday 4th December 10am – 4pm
 Sunday 5th December 10am Worship
 11.30am – 3pm viewing
 Refreshments and craft stalls throughout the event, apart from during the Worship.



6) Circuit Calendar of Events

23rd November 2021 7.30pm Circuit Meeting

5th December 2021 3pm Youth Christmas Event at Bedworth Methodist Church

8th December 2021 7pm Local Preachers Meeting

14th December 2021 7.30pm CLT Prayer & Discernment Open meeting via Zoom, facilitator Rev'd Kathryn Darby.

7) Evangelical Growth Action Plan of the Circuit: EGAP (Part 9)

How the Circuit Streams outwork into the Circuit Churches. In this edition we will focus on Stream 5 Staffing and Staff Wellbeing

Goal:

To welcome, nurture, support and care for our Ministers and Lay Employees so that they may fulfil their calling for the needs of the people in this Circuit to grow God's Kingdom.

By:

praying consistently for Church & Kingdom growth;
 · providing all our staff with HR and Pastoral support that enables them to feel loved & valued, and equipping them to serve God in fullness across this circuit;
 · exploring and responding to the changing nature of ministry across the Circuit and wider Connexion to adapt our approach to enable the people of the Circuit to best serve and be served in the love of God;

- embracing the great tradition of John Wesley we seek to recognise, nurture and empower the wealth of gifts that are held by the Lay people of our Circuit;
- re-imagining the Circuit's future vibrancy with a reduced ministerial (ordained) input;
- enabling churches to appoint Local Lay Pastors as necessary;
- developing other ideas in response to community needs.

How can you help?

- Do you have HR or staff management experience?
- Can you see someone's inner gifts & encourage them to use them?
- Are you a good listener who understands the need for confidentiality?

Then this could be your calling. We are looking for committed disciples with an interest in human resources and church leadership to work alongside a dedicated Circuit Steward.

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