

Sheffield Circuit Newsletter

15 April 2026

Please note we will be circulating the newsletter weekly, on a trial basis for 3 months. Let us know your thoughts.

Please note the next newsletter will be published on 22 April. Information for the newsletter should arrive before 12noon on the day.

New Church Gathering - Saturday 13 June

For anyone who is involved in leading (in any capacity), or preparing to lead, a new Christian community. An opportunity to spend quality time with the growing network of fellow pioneers following similar callings in other places across or affiliated to Sheffield Methodist District. Our hosts will be Manor Church & Community Project, a Christian charity rooted in Sheffield's Manor Estate. Our morning will be led by Mark North, our Faith Rooted Community Organising Lead, and will focus on the interaction between community organising and pioneering. Reserve [your space and free lunch here](#)

Methodist City Centre Network Sheffield Gathering

MCCN is visiting Sheffield on **Monday 20th April**. We will gather from 10.30a.m. onwards, starting with devotions at 11a.m., and finishing by 3.30p.m. Hope you are able to join us!

The day is a chance to spend time together in prayer and fellowship; learning and being inspired by our colleagues in Sheffield. We will spend some time in the morning hearing the local story, and a walk for prayers in Paradise Square where John Wesley preached.

In the afternoon our keynote speaker will be the **Revd Dr Inderjit Bhogal OBE** a past President of the Conference and founder of the City of Sanctuary movement in the UK. The title of his talk is "Hospitality and Welcome for all". How can we become a church of sanctuary? Click [here to book your place](#).

Killamarsh Open Day 6 June

As part of our 150th anniversary at Killamarsh - theme "Rooted, Relevant, Reimagined" we are going to dream about how to "be church" for the future - so we held a Breakfast church service looking at our current context. We certainly are no longer the pit village of 150 years ago. We hope to expand our visioning at our **Open Day on 6th June**, inviting more ideas from the wider community.

Action for Hope

Celebrate Earth Day 22 April 2026

Find here easy ways to help the planet every day, and with loads more ideas [see the Earth Day website](#).

- [Go pesticide-free](#)
- Take the [Sustainable Fashion Quiz](#)

- Shop at a local [Farmer's Market](#)
- [Plant a tree](#)
- Pick [up litter](#)
- Be plastic [free for a day](#), Buy [nothing for a day](#) etc.....

Methodist Church Eco Community – online 7–9pm

- **Wednesday 22 April:** It's All About the Money: where to go for grants and funds for greening up
- **Tuesday 8 July:** Forest Church and Outdoor Worship
[Click here to book.](#)

Lay Employees Retreat 3-6 June 2026

The lay employees retreat is like no other. It offers time and space away from work and busy diaries to relax, meet new people and catch-up with old friends. The programme is designed with plenty of choice. There are led sessions and reflections, creative opportunities and freedom to explore the wonderful gardens at Wydale and beyond. A rhythm of prayer and worship is offered, with ample time in the evenings for socialising, either in the bar or through organised activities.

Full details of this year's retreat, including how to book, can be found here:

<https://260603layretreat.eventbrite.co.uk>

Want to refresh your logos and letterheads?

The Circuit has received an offer to support churches across the Circuit in updating their logos and letterheads. This is an opportunity to refresh how churches present themselves. This could involve creating something entirely new or gently updating an existing logo or letterhead. If you are interested please [email us](#).

[A prayer for wisdom and strength](#)

Each day and each night, may the wisdom of the Wonderful Counsellor guide us, the strength of the Mighty God defend us, the love of the Everlasting Father enfold us and the blessing of the Prince of Peace rest upon us.

Amen.

Based on Isaiah of Jerusalem (eighth century BC)

[The Methodist Church](#)

Church Events & Information

Sponsored Hymn Sing - Saturday 16 May, 10am - 4pm

Hosted by Victoria Stafford Road with a bring and share buffet

Come and praise the Lord in worship songs, choruses, hymns and spirituals. **We at Victoria will depend on singers from other churches joining with us to make the day a success.** Let's make this a feast of divine music, supporting the Methodist charity [All We Can](#).

All We Can is an international development and relief organisation, working to see every person's potential fulfilled. Focused on serving the world's most marginalised communities, All We Can is rooted in the Christian faith.

Pause For Thought – the Revd Michaela Youngson

The Revd Michaela Youngson thinks about how spring arrives without our help on Pause for Thought. "It is easy to worry about the things we can't do and yet the world keeps turning." [Listen here](#).

Easter photos

A call for Methodist churches to share photographs of their Easter celebrations on Facebook received hundreds of responses. Take a look [across the Connexion](#).

Office workers' gathering - Thursday 30 April from 9am

The next Gathering for all those involved in church administration will be held at St Thomas Crookes. This is a great time to meet up with others in similar roles, to share experiences and good practice and to offer support and encouragement. It is organised by the UCAN (UK Church Administrators Network) but is open to all. To help with the catering, we do ask you book in so we know how many to expect: Book here [sheffieldmethodist.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=9f93955d2f15b52ed3b729445&id=1b7252a186&e=88a3dfbc5f](#)

Do pass this invite on to anyone you think might benefit.

Children and Youth Events

Young Leaders Community Gathering 25 April

On Saturday 25 April, we're gathering as a young leaders' community to share lunch, worship God, have fun, pray together and to make the voices of young people heard in our churches and throughout the Diocese! We'll be focusing on the idea of vocation and how God calls us as leaders, with some great input from the Diocese's Vocations team.

This event is open to Christian 10–18-year-olds from all backgrounds who are interested in leadership. The Young Leaders' Community is a place where Christian 10-18 year olds, supported by their local leaders, can grow in leadership both in their local churches and across the diocese.

Book here <http://www.sheffield.anglican.org/.../young-leaders.../>

Training

Responding to Bullying and Harassing Behaviour - 9 June

This programme promotes good working relationships and ways to manage bullying and harassing behaviour within the life of our churches and faith communities. [Click here to book.](#)

Please see the full Methodist Church [Learning and Development calendar](#)

Funding

New Action for Hope grants

The District is pleased to announce that they have been awarded Connexional funding, which enables us to make grants of up to **£10,000 for measures to help Bronze or Silver Eco Churches** make further improvements to the carbon footprint of their premises. Further details about these grants, subsidized energy efficiency surveys and our new district environmental policy are on the [district website](#).

Funding Surgery for Voluntary & Community Groups

Friday 1st May 2026 10am - 4pm

At Unit 2 Jordanthorpe Centre, Sheffield S8 8DX (Behind Heron Shop) with South Yorkshire Funding Advice Bureau

- Finding funding for your project or group
- Starting Up & Running a New Group or Project
- Volunteering / Volunteer Management
- Training

Book a FREE 45 minute appointment. Booking essential: to book email: Karen Walke karen@syfab.org.uk or call: 07529 323 342.

Building and Capital Funding

*National Churches Trust Deadline: 7 July - Up to £50,000 for [urgent repairs, kitchens, toilets and accessibility](#).

Young People & Community Projects

*South Yorkshire's Community Foundation Deadline: 24 April - Up to £123,353 over 3 years for [youth-focused projects](#).

Smaller / Activity Funding

*Parkinson's UK - Up to £3,000 for [physical activity programmes](#).

*The Arts Society - Up to £3,000 for [arts and heritage](#).

Briefing on the new Places of Worship Renewal Fund - Save The Date

A new grant scheme is being launched in April, called the Places of Worship Renewal Fund. It is funded by the government.

This will provide capital funding for listed places of worship in England (only). It will be administered by Historic England. It will distribute 23m per financial year, for four years.

HRBA are pleased to announce that Deborah Williams, Regional Director, Midlands at Historic England, will be talking by Zoom about the new Fund.

Date: Wednesday, 29th April 2026, at 2pm on Zoom (online)

More information about the event will be shared in due course but for now please save the date.

Safeguarding

Spiritual Abuse Awareness training

- 4 June 2026
- 24 September 2026
- 19 November 2026.

The course looks at what spiritual abuse is, the impact of the experience and how to build healthy cultures. All the sessions are on Thursdays, from 10.30 – 15.30. To book, please use the Eventbrite link: [Methodist Spiritual Abuse Training](#)

The details have been added to the [Spiritual Abuse - The Methodist Church](#) webpage.

Advanced Safeguarding Training

We have now updated the training page on the District website with details about the face-to-face training sessions which will be taking place in 2026. There is a risk of events being cancelled if the minimum number of places is not met, so please do book in early. Full details are here (<https://www.sheffieldmethodist.org/what-we-do/safeguarding/safeguarding-training.html>)

Other Information and News

Walking the Peak Wesley Way to raise funds for Africa's Gift

Thursday May 14 - Sunday May 17 2026

This is a pilgrimage led by Faye Ramsey Smith (Hope Walking) and Ken Dunn (Africa's Gift) to

raise funds for Eco Cookbags. Details here: <https://hopewalking.co.uk/peak-wesley-way-charity-challenge>.

Trussell's Walking Humbly 7 May 9-10.30am

Is your church a place where people facing hunger and hardship can belong fully? Join the launch of [Trussell's Walking Humbly resources online on 7 May](#). The resources include a booklet for church leaders and a series of Bible Studies to help explore how churches can be communities where all are welcomed and all voices are heard.

If you are unable to attend the webinar but would like resources, please let us know at churches@trussell.org.uk.

SOAR hiring a Family Coach

If you're motivated and want to make a real impact to local families in North Sheffield, we'd love to hear from you! We are seeking a compassionate Family Coach to provide early intervention support to families accessing Sheffield Children's Hospital services who are experiencing a range of complex needs. This role focuses on improving families' health, social and emotional wellbeing by simplifying access to services, strengthening community connections, and empowering families to take control of what matters most to them. www.soarcommunity.org.uk/job-vacancies

London Hearts providing life-saving heart defibrillators

We currently have funding schemes running which enables us to provide the equipment at reduced costs. For further information please complete the form at: [Apply For A Defibrillator | London Hearts](#). The only eligibility requirements are:

- You are based within the UK
- To share with any interested third party our free online recorded CPR/Defibrillator awareness training
- Responsible for ongoing maintenance
- External Defibrillators are for installation on an external wall and a power supply is required.

Sheffield District MWiB Programme

20 May - Quiet Day

Venue: Green Moor Methodist 10am for 10.30am. Led by Deacon Annabel Terry.

A space to retreat from everyday life, prayer stations to engage with, time to walk and explore the village. Time to talk to others and share life. You don't need to have been to a MWiB event before, we are here for all women in the Methodist Church.

Bring your own lunch and drinks provided.

July - District day

Venue: Hoyland and Birdwell Methodist church at 10.30m for 11am.

Leader - Co-Chair of MWiB, Olive Rizvidzo. Bring your own lunch and drinks provided.

Easy Fundraising

Please sign up and join today and you can raise free donations for Sheffield Methodist Circuit every time you shop online. All the big names (ebay, John Lewis, Argos etc) are ready to make a free donation at no extra cost to you. Please click [here to Sign Up](#).