

## Sheffield Circuit Newsletter

22 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 29 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](#).

### **Songs of Praise**

**Founder of the City of Sanctuary movement, the Revd Inderjit Bhogal was featured on Songs of Praise on Sunday 12 June.** He explained how he found a welcome in a Methodist church after arriving in the UK, an experience that sparked a lifelong commitment to meeting fear and hostility with hospitality and compassion. [Watch Songs of Praise](#) (BBC iPlayer).

### **Action for Hope**

**The Sheffield District Net Zero vision includes that by 2030 at least 18 of our churches will have received Silver Eco Church awards.** Across Sheffield Circuit we are aiming for at least 5 Silver churches by the end of 2027. We already have 4, including 3 LEP's, Christ Church Stocksbridge, Emmanuel Waterthorpe, St Andrews Psalter Lane and Killamarsh Methodist. Bronze awards can usually be gained without significant cost. Reaching Silver often involves spending money upfront to reduce the amount of fossil fuels burnt to keep our premises warm and lit – such as improved insulation or secondary glazing. The District already pays half the cost of energy efficiency surveys, to help churches understand what changes will have most impact on their energy use. These have already benefited 20 of our churches (8 of which are on the Sheffield Circuit)

Sheffield Methodist District is now also offering Action for Hope grants of up to £10,000 to help churches make practical steps to reduce the carbon footprint of their buildings. Look out for stories of how local churches are using these grants in future editions. We will also be sharing hints and tips for little lifestyle changes that we can all take to better care for God's creation. [Please see the District website](#) for more details as to how to apply for either grant.

## **District Gathering**

It was lovely to see so many folk at the gathering on Saturday. Planning this type of event is always a challenge as people will come with a variety of expectations. As usual, feedback is encouraged via a link which has been emailed out, and it is encouraging to already have quite a few responses. We do look at the comments and if possible will factor some into future plans. If questions are asked in the form, we will do our best to respond directly – although not everyone has left a name, so cannot guarantee this.

## **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](#).

## **The Methodist Church in Sheffield: Circuit Meeting News**

Our March Circuit Meeting took place on 26 March 2026 at Mount Tabor. Please see the [notes](#) to find out what's happening in your Circuit. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 22 June 2026.

## **A prayer that we might reflect God's love**

All loving and all-embracing God, our hearts overflow with gratitude when we think and feel your love, manifested in Jesus Christ and poured into our hearts by your Holy Spirit. Let our response be spontaneous praise, praying fervently, reading your words passionately and welcoming the strangers genuinely. Give us charismatic smiles, courteous words and sacrificial hearts when we approach others with your love. Help us to overcome the temptation of being engaged in pious acts to win your favour and instead teach us to live in solidarity with you and with the needy and suffering. Let us and our churches reflect your love in a love-hungry world, now and always.

Amen.

Israel Selvanayagam, supernumerary presbyter, Birmingham

[Methodist Church Prayer Hub](#)

## 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.*

### 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](http://sheffieldmethodist.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=9f93955d2f15b52ed3b729445&id=1b7252a186&e=88a3dfbc5f)

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

## Justice and Peace

### A Million Acts of Hope, 13 - 20 May

[Churches Together in England](#) is supporting [A Million Acts of Hope](#), which is a week of action to celebrate all those showing hope, compassion and kindness in the face of hate. Could your church, Churches Together group and community get involved?

We believe the local church across our nation is a key part of doing this great stuff. Creating safe places through drop ins, Warm Welcome spaces, friendship cafes, weekly lunches. Thousands of churches run food banks and support with debt crisis intervention. Register your activity or find resources available here <https://cte.org.uk/a-million-acts-of-hope-get-involved/>

## Children and Youth Events

### Sheffield Diocese - Bright Lights, Saturday 9 May

A day of fun and worship for church-based groups with children aged 5-10 years.

To [book click here!](#)

## Volunteering

### Peak Wesley Way at Cliff Festival

Cliff Festival will, as usual, be happening the 22 - 25 May. Peak Wesley Way will be part of the Festival on Monday 25 May. We will be hosting an information stall in the festival market place and will be leading a two hour mini-pilgrimage along Baslow Edge to Baslow chapel, returning along the valley.

**We would very much appreciate a few volunteers to join us in running the stall, walking the pilgrimage, or putting the kettle on in Baslow.**

Email [info@peakwesleyway.com](mailto:info@peakwesleyway.com) or phone Alex on 07864 351 609 for more information or offers of support.

### Trustee Roles at The Leprosy Mission Great Britain

Following a recent review the charity is seeking to appoint five Trustees, more details can be found [here](#).

*As you know we are an explicitly Christian charity. The ethos, function and decision-making of the Board is in keeping with the teaching and ministry of Jesus. Trustees must therefore be committed and mature Christians, able to demonstrate a personal commitment to Jesus Christ which is reflected in their devotional life and involvement in a Christian community.*

## Training

### Who Cares? Training for pastoral care

In response to Our Calling, Methodist people are to help others to grow and learn as Christians, through mutual support and care. Who Cares? is a series of four 2-hour sessions that introduces participants to the possibilities of pastoral care. Click [here for more details](#).

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

## Safeguarding

### Advanced Safeguarding Training

#### Saturday 16 May – Chapeltown Methodist Church

Please note that registrations close 20 days before the event date to allow enough time to receive and complete the preparation material before attending the core session.

There needs to be a minimum of 15 people registered for the session to take place, so please do encourage those in your churches who need to do this training to book early.

<https://25CSSAdvanced.eventbrite.co.uk>

As ever, if you have any questions or concerns, please give Alison Hill a call on 07483 362 735 or [hilla@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:hilla@methodistchurch.org.uk)

## Funding

### 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](mailto: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](#).

### 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](#).

## Other Information and News

### Support Dogs

This June, Support Dogs are holding a Coffee Morning Month and they would love you to be involved by holding a coffee morning in support of our charity! This could be at one of your existing coffee mornings or a totally new event.

They will provide all of the resources you need to make your coffee morning a success and you'll be part of a really exciting month raising vital funds to support people living with challenging medical conditions. For further information or to sign-up [please click here](#).

*Support Dogs, a Sheffield-based charity training specialist assistance dogs for autistic children and adults with epilepsy and physical disabilities.*

### Lift the Ban Fundraiser Concert

Lift the Ban will host its second fundraiser featuring incredible DJs, delicious food, arts & crafts, and much, much more. Every penny raised will help support the campaign to lift the ban on the right to work for people seeking sanctuary. [To book click here](#).

Date: Saturday 2 May

Time: 4:30am-9:30pm

Location: Arts in the Right Place (38 The Haymarket, Sheffield City Centre, S1 2AX)

### **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](mailto:churches@trussell.org.uk).

### **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](#).