

## Sheffield Circuit Newsletter

20 May 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 27 May. Information for the newsletter should arrive before 12noon on the day.

### Good News and a new role!

**Please join us in expressing huge congratulations to Rev Romeo Pedro (Co-Superintendent) who has been appointed as the designate Chair of the Yorkshire North and East District, from September 2026.**

This is a huge recognition of Romeo's gifts which we as a Circuit have learnt to value so much over the last 4 years. We will miss his leadership, collegiality and friendship, but are so grateful for everything he's taught us and enabled to happen within our Sheffield Circuit. May our God of love and grace continue to bless Romeo and his family for this new phase of their ministry.

(From the York Circuit weekly newsletter) *"Through the discernment process it became clear that Romeo had a clear call to this role, and will be able to help the District continue to grow from where we are now and respond to the leading of God's Spirit. We can't wait to see what God has in store!"*

**District Newsletter** - We have started to distribute the District Newsletter - Courageous Conversations: Listening to and working with communities, across churches. Please pick your copy up from your local church.

### A Rocha Eco church prayer forum

**Join us on Thursday 4 June from 12-1pm to connect with the wider Eco Church community and reflect, share, and pray together.**

The A Rocha UK churches team will lead us in a short reflection, and there will be the opportunity to meet in breakout groups to connect and pray with others in the Eco Church community – for the work of caring for creation in our churches and for each other. Feel free to share any prayer requests for your Eco Church journey in your groups.

All are welcome, whether you are completely new to Eco Church or have been with us for some time. [Register via Eventbrite.](#)

### World Bee Day today! (20 May)

By observing World Bee Day each year, we can raise awareness on the essential role bees and other pollinators play in keeping people and the planet healthy, and on the many challenges they face today. Here's a few ideas for you:

- plant pollinator friendly flowers
- put up a bee house

- buy organic, sustainable food choices
- buy honey locally

For the full history of World Bee Day and other ideas [please click here](#).

Please note there is a [World of Bees talk](#) at Greenhill on 2 June.

### **Action for Hope**

In our bid to live more sustainable and environmentally friendly lives you could consider running a babies/toddler clothes swap at your church. The benefits include:

- Reduce textile waste, not ending up in a landfill
- Extends the life of clothes
- Saves money and get a bargain!

### **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](#).

### **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.

### **Growing in Faith, Circuit Prayer**

**Every Wednesday 8pm**

Please see the details of the [Prayer for May - June](#).

### **A prayer that we might make Jesus' story our own**

Storytelling Jesus,

You invite us to make your story, our story.

Your story reminds us God so loves the whole world.

Teach us, Jesus, your arts of storytelling, singing and dancing that open up paths of healing and renewal.

Help us, Jesus, to lean into and learn from your story;

to make it our own, so justice, loving kindness and mercy may join hands around the world that God so loves. Amen.

**Karen McBride, Warden, Methodist Diaconal Order**

[Methodist Church Prayer Hub](#)

## Church Events & Information

### Thank You

Sincere thanks to the people and churches of the Sheffield Circuit who helped to make the sponsored hymn sing a memorable experience last Saturday, hosted by Victoria Stafford Road. The sum of £340 was raised for All We Can.

### MHA (Methodist Homes) Sunday 2026

Bring your church or faith group together to support older people. MHA Sunday is an opportunity for Methodist churches to reflect on later life, celebrate the contribution of older people, and support MHA's work through worship, prayer and, where possible, a charitable gift.

This year's theme is The Second Cup, which explores loneliness as a matter of justice. It draws on the parable of the wedding banquet in Matthew 22, where those on the margins are gathered in. The second cup is the one you share, the cup that makes room for someone else at the table.

You can find more about the theme and access supporting resources for this year's MHA Sunday here: <https://mha.org.uk/sunday>

- Suitable for Local Arrangements - The resources are designed to be easy for local preachers and worship leaders to use, and the theme works well as a circuit-wide focus.
- Flexible timing - Many churches will hold MHA Sunday on 14 June 2026, but you are very welcome to choose a date that best suits your circuit.
- Speakers available - If you would like an MHA speaker to support your service, please contact us at [chaplaincy@mha.org.uk](mailto:chaplaincy@mha.org.uk).

## Justice and Peace

### Defending the right to Protest

Last month, 19 faith leaders – including representatives from the Baptist, Methodist and United Reformed churches – signed a letter coordinated by Quakers in Britain defending the right to protest. The letter opposes the introduction of a “cumulative disruption” clause in the Crime and Policing Bill, which could impact a huge range of demonstrations.

Faith and belief leaders’ letter on Crime and Policing Bill, March-April 2026

*Dear Sir/Madam*

*We write as faith and belief leaders to express our opposition to the new ‘cumulative disruption’ clause in the Crime and Policing Bill.*

*Across our traditions, despite our differences, we share common principles of love and justice. Members of all our communities are led by their consciences to protest peacefully for a variety of causes. Peaceful protest is allowed by international conventions to be disruptive, and successful campaigns for positive change have always involved cumulative action, from the suffragettes to villagers standing up against proposed fracking sites.*

To [read the full letter on the JPIT site](#) please click here. Please note the President and Vice President of the Methodist Conference signed the letter.

## Children and Youth Events

### 3Generate 2 - 4 October, NEC

Join us on the way, for a spectacular celebration of the ever-unfolding journey of faith

Tickets are now on sale for 3Generate 2026! Be part of the journey from the 2-4 October to as we invite every child and young person, whatever their starting point, to take a meaningful next step with God. We are exploring the theme On The Way – a celebration of the lifelong, ever-unfolding journey of faith. Find out more and book your place at [3Generate.org.uk](https://3Generate.org.uk)

## Family Hubs toolkit for churches

[Family Hubs](#) are local spaces of intentional welcome that bring together different services in a ‘one stop shop’. Family Hubs offer holistic, wraparound support for children, parents, carers and extended families. From parenting support and youth mentoring to practical help like food banks and advice services, they provide a physical and relational gateway to wider services, and a place where families can connect and grow in dignity and community. They are designed for those who are:

- A parent or carer of a child aged 0 to 19, or 25 with special educational needs or a disability
- Pregnant
- A young person up to the age of 19, or up to 25 for a young person with special educational needs or a disability

Churchworks have produced a guide to help churches and local authorities collaborate. This toolkit is designed to help local churches and faith groups/places of worship explore how they can play a key role in the delivery of Family Hubs in their communities, in partnership with Local Authorities and other organisations.

It also equips Local Authorities to feel more confident in approaching faith groups, and in particular churches, to collaborate and work alongside them in their Family Hubs. The toolkit offers:

- Templates, examples, and scripts to start partnerships and design Hubs
- Training ideas for volunteers and Local Authority staff
- Case studies of effective partnerships
- Resources to support long-term sustainability and evaluation

[Find more details here.](#)

## Training

### Online Adult Mental Health First Aid

16 June and 18 June (4 sessions)

Teaches people how to spot the signs and symptoms of mental ill health and provide help on a first aid basis. [For further details or to book click here.](#)

## Safeguarding

### Circuit Safeguarding Update

We are in the process of simplifying the Pastoral Visitors Guidance for ministers and anyone who has a leadership role within the Methodist Church, along with the pastoral visitor's guidance leaflets. These should be ready to send out soon.

The Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) is a public body in England, Wales, and other UK jurisdictions that helps employers make safer recruitment decisions. I have recently sent out clarification regarding the different level of checks available and how to ensure the correct level of check is applied for. If you didn't receive the email or have any questions, please get in touch.

For your information, the next safeguarding foundation training dates are, Tuesday 23 June at 2 pm, Millhouses MC and Monday 29 June at 2 pm, Christ Church Stocksbridge. Please let [me know if you would like to book a place.](#)

## Creating a safeguarding foundation to have courageous conversations (part four)

This final week highlights where you can find further guidance and support when faced with a disclosure or a difficult situation.

There are three key documents or sources of information that you may find especially helpful. The first two should be displayed within your church, and the third is available online.

1. **Responding Well Flowchart** - This should be displayed on your church safeguarding noticeboard. If someone comes to you with a safeguarding concern and you are unsure what to do next, the first step is to assess the level of intervention required. My predecessor produced a clear and practical A4 Responding Well Flowchart.

2. **Key Contacts Poster** - Also displayed on the safeguarding noticeboard, this poster contains important contact details you may need, including emergency services (such as police and social care), helplines, and key contacts.

3. **Signposting Information** - This can be found on the Methodist Church in Britain website: [methodist.org.uk](http://methodist.org.uk) → Home → Safeguarding → Safeguarding Contacts → Other sources of help. Here you can access details of specialist support organisations covering a wide range of issues, including mental health, bereavement, homelessness, depression, self-harm and suicide, and support for children, young people and older adults.

Dealing with a disclosure of abuse can feel overwhelming, particularly if it is not something you encounter often. Remember, your church, circuit and regional safeguarding officers are available to walk alongside you. You are not alone.

**Alison Hill, Regional Safeguarding Lead**

## Funding

### TMCP Discretionary Funding

The current grants available, focus on:

- Property projects
- Pastoral support
- Staffing support
- Education and training

The next meeting for consideration of applications is on the 9th of July 2026. Applications should be submitted by the 11th of June 2026 to give us time to process the request and circulate papers to the committee. [Click here for all the details.](#)

## Other Information and News

### Education is a harvest that lasts!

All children should be able to learn and have opportunities to flourish. At harvest time, as we thank God for creation and the environments that cause vegetation to grow, we will think about the factors that hinder children in Sierra Leone. The Kingdom Jesus envisions is one of justice and

joy, where all can flourish under his care and live free of hinderances. Inspire your church with this vision at Harvest!

Sign up to be alerted by email to find out when the resources are live: [allwecan.org.uk/harvest](http://allwecan.org.uk/harvest)

## **Part-time CAP Debt Centre Manager**

### **Rock Christian Centre, Burngreave CAP**

The role involves supporting people struggling with debt through practical support, encouragement and partnership with local churches.

Key details:

- CAP Debt Centre Manager
- Part-time – minimum 16 hours per week
- £12.76 per hour
- Training provided
- Christian faith essential
- Application deadline: Friday 23rd May

For more information call: 0114 3503232