

## Sheffield Circuit Newsletter

3 June 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 10 June. Information for the newsletter should arrive before 12noon on the day.

### Solar Eclipse

**There will be a solar eclipse across the UK on Wednesday 12 August**, the last before 2090. Methodist churches are encouraged to use this as an opportunity to host eclipse parties – opportunities to invite local communities to come together for a once in a lifetime shared meaningful experience, during which we can gently and appropriately share something of the good news of Jesus. **Plus the district is offering grants to churches to help fund the parties.**

<https://www.sheffieldmethodist.org/.../eclipse-2026.html>

### The Great Big Green Week

[Great Big Green Week](#) is the only mass moment for nature and climate in the UK, and it belongs to everyone - UK's biggest celebration of community action to tackle climate change and protect nature.

Every June, thousands of events take place in towns, cities and villages across the country. From repair cafés and nature walks to community clean-ups and film screenings, people everywhere come together for good and make a real difference.

Thousands of events are hosted across the UK, that demonstrate the brilliant action communities are taking to tackle climate change and restore nature - everything from practical actions such as planting pollinator friendly plants to letter writing workshops, festivals to football matches, seaweed foraging to school assemblies. Here's an [A - Z of ideas for events](#).

### This is not normal

**Last week, the Climate Change Committee published a report emphasising that the UK must urgently adapt to climate risk.** This bank holiday weekend has seen a nationwide heatwave with temperatures shattering records.

We can't forget that this has been impacting the Global South for decades, but we are starting to see the reality of the climate crisis in the UK too. Meanwhile, companies and politicians continue fighting for fossil fuel extraction.

But we can still make an impact - get your church involved in Environment Sunday on 7th June.

Resources now available on our website [jpit.uk/environment](http://jpit.uk/environment)

Sources: *The Guardian, Stop Cambo, LSE School of Sustainability*

**The Easter Offering service (Methodist Women in Britain) due to be held Sunday 7 June 3pm, at Church of Christ in Darnall,** has been cancelled due to ill health. We apologise for the inconvenience.

We would be grateful if you could share this information.

## **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](#).

## **Contact Details**

*Have you recently updated your telephone number or email address and not informed Circuit yet? Do we have the correct contact details for you?*

Please [do let us know](#) your correct contact details, to ensure we can stay in contact with you.

## **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 of thanks for God's grace**

Loving God,

In all the stories that we tell of our yesterdays,  
remind us that your grace was always sufficient.

In all that we face today,  
remind us each step of the way that your grace is always sufficient.

In all that our tomorrows will bring,  
reassure us that your grace will always be sufficient.

In the familiar and in the unexpected;  
in the predictable and in the unknown;

in the welcome and in the unwelcome;  
may we look for your grace,  
see your power perfected in our weakness,  
and go on our way rejoicing. Amen.

**Rachel Deigh, Chair, West Midlands District**

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

**Every Wednesday 8pm**

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

## **Justice and Peace**

### **Tearfund Ebola Crisis Appeal: how you can help**

On Friday 15 May, Ebola was declared in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The outbreak occurred in Ituri, an area of the DRC where Tearfund has been working for ten years.

This is a densely populated area where hunger, conflict, and extreme poverty are rampant. News of the outbreak has devastated the area and sparked fear and uncertainty in neighbouring countries like Uganda, where cases have already been detected.

Will you show God's compassion [and donate here?](#)

## **Church Events & Information**

### **Faith at her Fingertips**

A salon in Sheffield has become a place of both beauty and encouragement. At its centre is Hannah Caval, a talented nail technician and member of Greenhill Methodist Church, who has discovered an unexpected way to blend her profession with her passion for sharing the message of Jesus Christ.

To read the full [story click here](#).

*With thanks to Samantha Roberts, Communications Officer, Sheffield Methodist District*

## **Volunteering**

We're looking for Streaming Leads and Moderators to participate in the Metal Methodist streams. These will be similar to the streams that James leads on a Friday. You can attend an online information session about this soon, so if you would be interested in leading streams or acting as a moderator host for streaming sessions, do get in touch.

We're also looking for a Steering Group Secretary to support our Steering Group meetings. This will be working with our Steering Group Chair and helping with setting up meetings and agendas.

We are also seeking a Safeguarding Officer for the Metal Methodist community. If you feel you can help support us by taking on this role, we'd love to hear from you.

If you're interested in any of these roles, do email me via [katemetalmethodist@outlook.com](mailto:katemetalmethodist@outlook.com)

## Training

### **Scripture Spirituality and Conflict 22 June, 9.30am-4pm (online)**

Deepen your understanding of the wisdom and impact of scripture in managing change and transforming conflict.

Our churches and faith communities are experiencing rapid change, which can sometimes result in difficult conversations and conflicted relationships. These experiences would be familiar to the early Christian church, where change and conflict were the norm, and heated conversations were regular occurrences. What can we learn from scripture about conflict and change? [Click here to book.](#)

## Safeguarding

### **District Safeguarding Review 2025-26**

District invites churches and circuits to take time to reflect on their safeguarding practice over the connexional year. *"I fully appreciate that this process requires commitment and effort; however, the benefits are significant. It supports Church Councils and Circuit Leadership Teams in fulfilling the requirement to "actively consider the extent to which they are succeeding in this area." It also enables me to gain a clearer picture of what is working well and where challenges may lie, so that I can facilitate targeted support and guidance where it is most needed.*

*To everyone involved in completing this year's audit, I would like to extend my sincere thanks. Your time and effort are recognised and deeply appreciated.*

The audit will open on Tuesday 9th June and close on 31st July. It can be accessed via the Sheffield District website by [clicking here](#).

**Alison Hill, Regional Officer for 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
- Monday 29 June at 2 pm, Christ Church Stocksbridge.

Please let [me know if you would like to book a place.](#)

## Funding

### Launch of Places of Worship Renewal Fund

The Places of Worship Renewal Fund has now launched. You can find out about it [here](#). Additionally, DCMS have issued a [press release](#).

We (HRBA) will now rearrange the delayed Zoom briefing on the new Fund. If you have any questions about the Fund which you are sure are not answered on the website, do let us know.

- Urgent fabric repairs
- Essential improvements: electrical upgrades, heating, toilets and step-free access
- In-year spend for four years, of £23m per year
- Listed places of worship in England

We would also like to draw your attention to the following points:

- The first deadline for an Expression of Interest is 14 June 2026. Full details of the information needed, according to the size of grant requested, are on the Historic England website.
- There will be future opportunities to apply, and the next one will be September

### Garfield Weston Foundation

The Foundation awards grants to UK registered charities in the areas of Welfare, Youth, Community, Arts, Faith, Environment, Education, Health and Museums & Heritage. The Foundation offers regular grants of up to £100k, which can be used towards capital, revenue or project costs.

Typically grants are made for a single year; however, the Trustees may consider a multi-year request for up to three years for previously successful applicants

Match funding is required. The Foundation recommends that applicants have around half of their funding identified before applying. Grants tend to be for 10% to 20% of the applicant's total project costs. [More info here.](#)

## Other Information and News

### Cliff Fest 2026

Cliff College's annual festival full of Spirit-filled worship, Bible teaching and activities for all ages took place over the bank holiday. You can watch the [wrap-up video below](#) – why not share it with someone as a way to invite them to Cliff Festival 2027?

### Father's Day with All We Can

**Are you looking for a Father's Day gift with meaning?** Look no further than All We Can's Father's Day Extraordinary Gift.

This [£15 Extraordinary Gift Father's Day card](#) has the ability to provide the tools to reintegrate dads into their community and train in a new vocation.

### Weston Park Cancer Charity - Time for Tea

The [Time for Tea campaign](#) is all about bringing people together over tea, sweet treats, and good conversation while raising vital funds to support people living with cancer. We'd love for churches within the Methodist Circuit to get involved if possible!

- Create a special purple-themed dessert / bake, with a donation from each sale going to the charity
- Host a Time For Tea day, encouraging the community to enjoy a coffee and cake
- Run a mini bake-off for your best purple creation
- Share your creations on social media to help spread the word and inspire others

We'll support you with promotional materials, and plenty of encouragement along the way, we have some [resources available to print here](#). If you are interested, please contact [hannahwilliams@wpcancercharity.org.uk](mailto:hannahwilliams@wpcancercharity.org.uk)