

Sheffield Circuit Newsletter

1 July 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 8 July. Information for the newsletter should arrive before 12noon on the day.

A prayer for God's forgiveness

Loving Christ, source of all truth and restorer of tunefulness, I have accepted a place in your choir, but spoiled its harmony by my pride. I have known your love song, but remained impervious to its transforming beauty. I have learned the music of your graceful story, but hindered the performance by my selfishness.

Forgive me.

Make me tender-hearted, that the power of your music might change me; make me modest, that I might humbly sing the part you give me; make me generous, that others might hear your choral symphonies. Loving Christ, source of all truth and restorer of tunefulness, sing through me, I pray. Amen.

Jonathan Hustler, Secretary of the British Methodist Conference

[Methodist Church Prayer Hub](#)

Growing in Faith, Circuit Prayer

Every Wednesday 8pm

Zoom circuit prayer 94411865948 999757

Totley Rise Methodist Church Quiet Garden

At Totley Rise we are blessed that our Church Building and TRM Centre stand on a plot of land that is large enough to accommodate a Quiet Garden and Car Park as well as the buildings. The Old Hay Brook which forms a large part of our boundary adds much to the tranquillity of our Church and Garden.

There is, however, a downside in having a water course as the boundary, as it is the nature of water courses that the flow of water will sometimes cause the riverbank to be undermined. At Totley Rise we have had three major, and very expensive, engineering projects, in 2013, 2019 and 2023, to stabilise the riverbank.

Following the first project in 2013 it was decided that we should establish a Quiet Garden including a simple trail based upon St Mark's Gospel. The trail started with a boat and the invitation to "come and follow me" went via a labyrinth and the cross and finished at the tomb.

We are affiliated to the Quiet Garden Movement and a picture of our boat appeared in the movement's publicity material.

The trail now renamed "Time Aside Trail," has recently been expanded to take in the final area of the riverbank.

The Quiet Garden is open to all during daylight hours.

It is used regularly by an after-school club and by Rainbows, Brownies and Guides who all meet on our premises. Other users include children from a local nursery, families seeking somewhere for the children to use up surplus energy and members of the public who just want somewhere quiet to sit and read their newspaper and or eat their lunch.

The recent addition of a shelter in the garden will allow more use by both church and non-church users.

What could happen if your church opened its doors for a screening of the People's Emergency Briefing?

Across the UK, churches are bringing people together to engage with the realities of the climate and nature crisis, reflect on what it means for our communities, and explore hopeful responses rooted in faith.

Hosting a screening can help: Connect people across your community; Increase understanding of the latest climate science; Create space for meaningful conversation.

The People's Emergency Briefing is a powerful resource, and a dedicated Church Resource Pack is available to help you host your own event. Find out more and [download the resource pack via the link.](#)

Office workers' gathering Tuesday 14 July

The next Gathering for all those involved in church administration will be held at Cemetery Road Baptist Church, Napier Road, Sheffield.

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](#)

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 June Circuit Meeting took place on 22 June 2026 at St Paul's Dronfield. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 17 September 2026.

Church Events and Information

MWiB District day July 17th 10am for 10.30am at Hoyland and Birdwell Methodist Church

The guest speaker is Co-Chair of MWiB Olive Ruzidzo do come along and make this a special day. Drinks will be provided please bring your own lunch. Everyone is welcome.

Justice and Peace

[Local churches answer call to become 'Welcome Churches' for refugees](#)

Read our guest blog for Refugee Week by James Lynch.

"[Welcome Churches](#) is a network of more than 1,420 churches offering friendship and practical support to refugees and people seeking asylum. Its vision is that every refugee in the UK would be welcomed by a local church."

JPIT is encouraging more congregations to join the network and explore how we can offer hospitality in our local communities. There are currently 174 Baptist churches, 31 Methodist churches and 15 United Reformed Churches in their network - could your church be another?

You can also find out more about Welcome Churches at their upcoming Welcome Conference on 16-17 October by registering [here](#)

Good News

Art of Welcome grant – Greenhill

Greenhill Methodist Church in Sheffield will be working with uniformed organisations and their community Munch Club to create a mural and freestanding gallery. This will begin with meeting people in the groups they are already part of, but also with invitation to a series of workshops to help people explore more deeply how they can use art to express themselves. Art of Welcome builds on Greenhill already having set a priority of not just thinking of church as doing things for the community but instead to "get to know you too".

To find out how your church can create its [own Art of Welcome click here](#).

Children and Young People Leadership Year for young adults

Do you know any 18-30 year olds who want to grow as a leader?

The Leadership Year is an exciting opportunity for 18-30 year olds in the Methodist Church who want to invest time in developing their leadership abilities. It is aimed at those who may just be starting out in a leadership role, or who are wanting to be involved in leadership, either within or outside of the Church. It includes 3 residential weekends (Nov, March, July), an option to meet with a mentor and being part of a small group. It is a chance for young leaders to meet with other young adults, to reflect on what it means to be a Christian leader (in church, secular workplaces, and local community) and to develop characteristics needed for self-aware, visionary, resilient leadership. There are 12 fully funded places available.

All details and application form are [here](#). Applications close on 20 Sept.

Training

What is unconscious bias? 7 July (2-3.30pm)

‘Unconscious bias refers to a bias that we are unaware of, and which happens outside of our control. It is a bias that happens automatically and is triggered by our brain making quick judgments and assessments of people and situations, influenced by our background, cultural environment and personal experiences.’

The online session will include watching the videos and joining in small group conversation/reflection following each of the 3 video clips. [Click here to book](#)

Funding

The Joseph Rank Trust

The Trust funds grants for capital expenditure or three-year grants for running (core) costs. What The Joseph Rank Trust supports:

1. Family workers at Church, Circuit or District level.
2. Youth workers at Church, Circuit or District level.
3. Other areas of local Home Mission work. This will follow the JRT’s interpretation of what Home Mission is, which can be expressed as supporting the Church’s role within the community.
4. Property schemes which improve the facilities for Church and Community use (we do not consider completed projects or delayed church maintenance).

The trustees are next meeting in October 2026. Please read through [the criteria carefully](#).

Other Information and News

Kingdom over Nation Kingdom Over Nation, share a new ecumenical resource developed through Churches Together in England to help churches engage thoughtfully and prayerfully with the rise in Christian nationalism and the growing challenges surrounding identity, discipleship, and public life. As leaders helping to foster unity and collaboration across churches and traditions on a national, county and local level, we believe this resource will help support important conversations within churches, leadership gatherings, local ecumenical partnerships, and wider community engagement. Through eight Bible studies and theological reflections, the resource explores discernment, empire, ideology, justice, nationhood, and Christian witness in a divided age. [Click here for the resources.](#)

Urban Theology Seminar - Girard, Refugees, Victimhood & Theology

Tuesday, 7th July, 11am–1pm, featuring guest speaker Paul Fitzpatrick (online)

Paul will present a thought-provoking session exploring how the ideas of René Girard intersect with contemporary questions surrounding refugees, victimhood, and Christian theology. Drawing on both doctoral research and practical experience, the seminar will offer valuable insight for anyone interested in urban mission, theology, social justice, and the lived realities of communities on the margins. To sign up and receive the joining details, please contact the UTU office:

office@utusheffield.org.uk

Pause for Thought on BBC Radio 2 – the Revd Dr Inderjit Bhogal

"Each day holds evening and morning, sunrise, sunset." In 'The beauty in endings' the Revd Dr Inderjit Bhogal considers this week's theme of making the most of the light, as he reflects on loss and the certainty of new dawns. [Listen here.](#)

Warm Welcome We want everyone to find a place of belonging and reconnection at a Warm Welcome Space near their home. A Warm Welcome Space is a great place to share a cuppa, connect with others, and make new friends. Find a [warm welcome space near you.](#)

BBC young chorister of the year 2026 - A Songs of Praise special

Songs of Praise and BBC Radio 2 invites you to a very special recording of BBC Young Chorister of the Year 2026 from the iconic Hall St Peter's in Manchester.

*Wednesday 8th July 2026 - Junior Semi-Final (doors open 10:30am)

*Wednesday 8th July 2026 - Senior Semi-Final (doors open 4:00pm)

Age restriction: there is no minimum age for entry, all ages are warmly welcomed but children aged 17 and under should be supervised by a responsible adult at all times.

Where: Hall St Peter's, Audience Entrance on Hood Street, Ancoats, Manchester, M4 6BF

To book tickets click here <https://lostintv.com/tv-show?id=1436>