

Sheffield Circuit Newsletter

15 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 22 July. Information for the newsletter should arrive before 12noon on the day.

A prayer for an end to violence

We pray for people around the world

Oh Bethlehem, house of bread,

under your skies the angels sang their song and in your humble surroundings the Creator's life on earth began.

Oh Bethlehem's child, Prince of Peace,

fill the world, we pray, with a hunger for justice that deep and lasting peace may come to the land of your birth.

Oh Jerusalem, city of God,

Outside these walls your divine hands were pierced, eternity held its breath as you were laid to rest in a borrowed tomb.

Oh Jerusalem, witness to your Resurrection,

we pray that new life may triumph over destruction, fear, violence, oppression and death, and radiate from these streets to the whole world.

In the name of the incarnate, crucified and risen God, Amen.

David Hardman, Methodist Liaison Officer, Jerusalem

[Methodist Church Prayer Hub](#)

Growing in Faith, Circuit Prayer

Every Wednesday 8pm

Zoom circuit prayer 94411865948 999757

Join us for Circuit Prayer - please see the [Circuit Prayer Plan](#) (8-29 July)

Sheffield Circuit Farewell Service, Sunday 19 July at 3pm, Handsworth Woodhouse

Join us to say farewell to Revd Michelle Deans, Revd Jonathan Haigh, Revd Claude Kimpinde, Revd Ian Lucraft, Revd Tracey Morris, Revd Romeo Pedro and Deacon Annabel Terry.

Please note this service will also be live streamed. Please click here to watch the service -

<https://www.youtube.com/live/8b3o15vOi3w>

Saturdays spent cleaning and repairing

On Saturday 6 June, Banner Cross, a Silver Eco Church, organised a well publicised litter pick in the neighbourhood followed by coffee and scrumptious cake in the church hall. Unfortunately it was raining that morning, which limited the turnout for the litter pick, but there were plenty of folk enjoying the cake! Peter Gilbert, one of Ecclesall Ward's two Green councillors, was in evidence. The Eco Group at Banner Cross's efforts to encourage greater biodiversity in the church grounds is paying off, with insects such as bees and butterflies much more in evidence.

Earlier, on 9 May, St. Andrew's Psalter Lane, another Silver Eco Church, had held a Repair Cafe, at which a number of people skilled in the art of repair volunteered to come and tackle whatever members of the public presented them with. These ranged from tools and furniture to radios and from computers to clothes. Most of the repairs could be executed then and there; sometimes advice was given on where to go for more advanced help, and occasionally the expert advised that the item had reached the end of its useful life. The cafe element was integral, enabling people bringing items to be mended to socialise while waiting. A Fair Trade Stall, helpfully provided on a sale or return basis by Good Taste shop at Broomhill also complemented the occasion. Proceeds exceeded £200 for Christian Aid. Future Repair Cafes are planned for 19 September and in January, May and September in 2027. - **Jenny Carpenter**

Circuit YouTube channel - Playlist updated

The Circuit YouTube channel has been updated with the latest streamed services across the Circuit.

[Catch up 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. Please see the [notes](#) to find out what's happening in your Circuit.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 17 September 2026.

Church Events and Information

MWiB District Day, 17 July, 11am-3pm

The Sheffield District MWiB are delighted that the guest speaker at this event will be the National Co-Chair of MWiB, Olive Ruzidzo. She will be speaking on the theme "The Table of Grace: Finding Community in the Transitions of Life"

All are welcome to come along on 17 July at **Hoyland & Birdwell Methodist Church**, Sheffield Rd, Birdwell, Barnsley S70 5XB. Refreshments will be available from 10:30 ready for a 11am start, and aims to finish by 3pm. Bring your own lunch.

Metal Methodist Worship Saturday 18 July 3:00 pm

Metal Methodist Worship will take place at St Paul's Methodist Church, Dronfield. Come along at 3pm on Saturday 18 July for chat, heavy music and worship with an alternative vibe. All welcome! Please get in touch with Kate, Metal Methodist Development Worker, for more info on

katemetalmethodist@outlook.com

Justice and Peace

Venezuela aid is gratefully received

More than a fortnight on from the devastation caused by two powerful earthquakes in Venezuela, the suffering continues.

However, the Methodist Christian Community in Venezuela is providing support to those affected. Methodists in Britain and Ireland have stood alongside this response by providing a 15,000 solidarity grant through the World Mission Fund.

Working with Nelson Largo's metalworking business in Maracaibo, the local church has provided bed frames and mattresses for those in need. This help is joyfully received. Watch the short video

https://youtube.com/shorts/2kTz1WLhOhQ?si=Yls1_EGfTFbkPu8z

Reparative Justice

The Revd Dr Sonia Hicks, Chair of the Northampton District, speaking on BBC Radio Northampton about reparative justice and the need to learn from the mistakes of the past. [Listen here \(at 27, 52\).](#)

Good News

Eclipse party grant – Brightholmlee

We have awarded another eclipse party grant, this time to Brightholmlee in Sheffield Circuit. In planning their event, the church have both considered the needs of community groups they know well, and have also reached out to other community leaders and partners across the Upper Don Valley to ensure that it does not clash with any other events.

The evening will include gentle, optional points of reflection — including short printed cards and display boards with a simple thought about wonder, creation, and light, connecting the eclipse to themes of hope and belonging. Not intrusive, but available for anyone who wishes to engage.

We are aware that other churches are still finalising plans. It's not too late to apply for a grant <https://www.sheffieldmethodist.org/news/news-stories/eclipse-2026.html>

Volunteers

National Church Volunteer Awards

Churches, chapels, meeting houses and cathedrals across the UK are being urged to nominate their volunteers as part of the National Church Awards.

Volunteers are an invaluable part of the day-to-day running of most churches. Their responsibilities are many and varied, ranging from welcoming visitors, caring for historic buildings and helping to support local communities. Their dedication helps churches to thrive; nominating them for a National Church Award not only celebrates their input but showcases the real difference volunteers make on a daily basis.

Nominations close on 11 August. Click [here for full details](#).

Job Vacancies Unlock - Resourcing growth & discipleship for Urban Christians are seeking:

- Senior Administrator, Finance and IT Manager
- Senior Administrator
- Finance & IT Manager

For details on these 3 roles and how to [apply please click here](#).

Training

Dementia Inclusive Worship Monday 12th October at 10am, online

Join MHA and the Methodist Learning Network to explore ways we can offer worship which welcomes and includes those living with dementia

Learn more: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1988316143108?aff=oddttdtcreator>

Safeguarding

Circuit Safeguarding Update

The Methodist Church 'Safe Storage, Retention and Sharing of Safeguarding Information Policy' has been sent out to Churches. Please ensure this is discussed at your next church council meeting.

An appeal will be sent out asking for volunteers to train as safeguarding foundation level trainers. If you would like to discuss the possibility of training for this role please get in touch with the circuit safeguarding officer for more information, Email: debbie.wheeler@sheffieldcircuit.org.uk

The online safeguarding foundation course is now up and running. This course is for anyone who has previously completed a Creating Safer Space Foundation Course, and would find it difficult to access face to face training.

The Circuit Safeguarding Support group are working on ways to simplify the activity risk assessment process and these resources will be available in the next few weeks.

Funding

Funding from Major Trusts & Foundations Funding, Wednesday 30th September

9.30am-2.30pm (online)

This new SYFAB course focusses on identifying and securing funding from charitable trusts and foundations, which are a growing source of funding for community, voluntary and charitable activities, events, projects and organisations, which are working to meet needs in communities.

- In this course, you will learn the basic skills, along with some tips and tricks that will support you to successfully fundraise the money needed to meet your group or organisations aims or aspirations.
- You will look at how to search for information on different grant-givers, how to approach them and crucially how to build a long-term relationship.
- You will then build your case for support, and we will also give you a deeper understanding of how grant-giving charities operate.

Cost: £80.00 (£40.00 for groups working in Sheffield)

[Click here for full event details](#)

Other Information and News

Exploring Embodied Spirituality, Saturday, July 25 10am - 4pm

Whirlow Spirituality Centre

This taster day on embodied prayer and spirituality invites you to explore wordless, playful and contemplative practice using your whole being – body, mind and spirit to worship, pray and encounter God. The day will be facilitated by Soobie Whitfield, a dance practitioner, who has been journeying with this practice for over 40 years. She describes herself as a fidgety contemplative. Click [here for further details on this session](#).

Local churches are responding to a national call to become welcoming spaces for refugees and people seeking asylum

Founded in Derby, 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, preferably within just a short walk from their accommodation. Diss United Reformed Church in Norfolk is among those taking part.

“We joined the Welcome Churches network when several Ukrainian refugees began attending Diss,” said Gabrielle Pagan, an elder of the church.

“We hosted a support group and, as part of Churches Together, collected funds for essential items. One highlight was discovering that two of the Ukrainian women were opera singers from Odesa. We

found them a professional pianist, and they performed concerts at the church and across the district, which were very popular.”

Apart from collecting funds and items, churches and community partners worked together to offer support, including running a weekly welcome café, English classes and sewing groups. The congregation also supported families placed in local hotels after arriving in the UK with few possessions.

James Lynch, CEO of Welcome Churches, said: “Welcome Churches exists to help churches welcome refugees and to offer connection, integration and a sense of belonging. It has been our privilege to support churches in their journey of welcoming, and we are delighted that there are 174 Baptist churches, 31 Methodist churches and 15 United Reformed Churches among those we are supporting. [Learn more about Welcome Churches.](#)

Sheffield City of Culture Survey

Sheffield has been longlisted to become UK City of Culture 2029. This is an exciting opportunity to celebrate everything that makes our city special and to share Sheffield's stories, creativity and communities with the rest of the UK!

As part of the next stage of the process, we're asking people across Sheffield to share their ideas, experiences and ambitions for culture in our city.

The survey takes around 5-10 minutes to complete, and you can answer as many questions as you like/are able. [Complete the survey here.](#) The deadline for submissions is 30 July.

Free summer holiday camps at Carterknowle Methodist Church

Scan the QR code or alternatively, you [can book here.](#)