

Sheffield Circuit Newsletter

12 August 2026

Please note the next newsletter will be published on 26 August (due to holidays). Information for the newsletter should arrive before 12noon on the day.

A prayer that our lives tell God's story

In the beginning was the Word: the Word inspires and infuses all of our words, our stories and songs. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us: God's story of hope and life was opened for all. This becomes our story, our song: all things work together for good for those who love God. May our lives tell your story, loving God and our song be for you, today and forever. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dan Haylett, Chair, South West Peninsula District

[Methodist Church Prayer Hub](#)

Growing in Faith, Circuit Prayer

Every Wednesday 8pm

Zoom circuit prayer 94411865948 999757

Sheffield Circuit Welcome Service - Wednesday 2 September at 7.30pm

The service will be led by Revd Vicky Atkins and held at Totley Rise Methodist Church (Grove Road, S17 4DJ). Join us as we welcome new Ministers Revd Andrew Atkins, Revd Gift Chanakira and Revd Naomi Kaiga to the Sheffield Circuit. **Please share!**

Rev Romeo Pedro Welcome Service - 28 August at 7pm

Click here to join Revd Romeo Pedro's [streaming link for the welcome](#) service.

To book tickets to join the [Welcome Service please click here.](#)

District Gathering - Methodist on Mission, Saturday 12 September

Everyone is welcome to this free event, whether you are coming for the first time, have attended previous District Gatherings, or are a member of our Synod. It will be a day of learning, sharing and worship with a buffet lunch provided as we offer an opportunity to renew existing connections across our District and meet new people.

The focus, following the feedback from previous gatherings, is aimed at exploring discipleship and scripture through a number of different lenses:

- Missional – What might God be inviting us to do?
- Pastoral – How does this connect with people's lived experience?
- Exegetical – What did this mean in its original context?
- Homiletical – How might we communicate this message today?
- Prayerful – What is God saying to me?
- Visual/Imaginative – What do we notice, imagine and wonder?

Our hope is that this will demonstrate the richness of Scripture and encourage participants to appreciate the different ways we can read the Bible together. [Book your place now](#)

Digital Transformation Programme - Discovery Report Released

For three months in the spring of 2026, we set out to listen. We wanted to understand what digital life is really like for people across the Methodist Church – what works, what gets in the way, and what people hope for. This is what we heard, in people's own words.

We are sharing it openly, because the listening belongs to everyone who took part.

The 5 things we heard and the next steps - click here to [read the full article](#).

Are your church details correct on the Circuit website?

On the Circuit website we list the details of all Circuit churches. To check your [page please click here](#). Let us know if your church details need to be updated by emailing admin@sheffieldcircuit.org.uk

District Office

The Office will be closed several times over the summer including the 24- 31 August. There are also likely to be the occasional day when Katrin will be working from home (or other places). If you do need to get in touch, an email is the best means of communicating.

Circuit News, Information and Events

Every September thousands of volunteers across England organise events to celebrate our fantastic history and culture. It's your chance to see hidden places and try out new experiences – all of which are FREE to explore. For details of open days at Circuit churches see the details below:

- [Brightholmlee](#)
- [Highfield Trinity](#)
- [St Andrew's Psalter Lane](#)

Circuit YouTube channel - Playlist updated

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

[Catch up here.](#)

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

Solar Eclipse Parties

Quite a few churches have taken advantage of the District Grant to put on a Solar Eclipse Party on Wednesday 12 August. We look forward to hearing the stories about how they all went! Here is the list of the ones we know about!
at **Brightholmlee; Manor Church & Community Project; Victoria Stafford Road and Handsworth Woodhouse**

Justice and Peace

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.” To read the [full article please click here.](#)

Children and Young People

YAMPS ENGAGE Opportunity - Applications Closing Soon!

Creative Arts & Crafts (Sheffield) - Manor Church & Community Project

Help create an outdoor mosaic as part of the Methodist Church's Art of Welcome initiative. A great opportunity for anyone interested in creativity, community engagement, and hospitality.

If you'd like to apply or find out more, get in touch at yamps@methodistchurch.org.uk ASAP!

All YAMPS Engage opportunities are free to Young Adults in the Methodist Church. We'll cover your travel, accommodation, and subsistence costs, so taking part won't cost you anything.

Safeguarding

Important DBS Update for anyone working with children: Action required before 1 September 2026

From 1 September 2026, changes introduced by the Crime and Policing Act 2026 will affect who is considered to be carrying out Regulated Activity with children.

The key change is that supervision will no longer be taken into account when deciding whether a role is Regulated Activity. This means that some people who were previously able to work under supervision without being in Regulated Activity may now fall within the new definition.

Who is affected?

In churches and other non-childcare settings

Volunteers and paid workers who teach, train, instruct, care for, or supervise children will be in Regulated Activity if they do so:

- Once a week or more, or
- On 4 or more occasions within a 30-day period, or
- Overnight between 2am and 6am.

This applies whether they are supervised or not.

What does this mean for churches?

This change is likely to affect those involved in children's and youth ministry, including activities such as: Children's groups; Youth groups; Messy Church and Other regular activities involving children.

What you need to do

We strongly recommend that every church reviews its local arrangements before 1 September 2026.

In particular, churches should:

- Review all roles involving children to identify any that may now meet the definition of Regulated Activity.
- Identify anyone who previously worked under supervision whose role may now fall within Regulated Activity.
- Ensure that everyone carrying out Regulated Activity, including existing volunteers, has the appropriate Enhanced DBS check with Children's Barred List check.

Please do not assume that existing role assessments remain correct. The removal of the supervision rule means many churches will need to revisit their local safeguarding arrangements and DBS requirements.

As ever, if you have any questions or concerns, please give me a call on 07483 362 735 or email me at hilla@methodistchurch.org.uk, Alison Hill

Funding

SYFAB Funding Surgery on Thursday 24th September, 10am-4pm Handsworth Methodist Church (S13 9BN)

Booking Essential! On any of these issues:

- Finding funding for your project or group
- Starting Up & Running a New Group or Project
- Volunteering / Volunteer Management
- Training and much more!

Book a FREE 45 minute appointment - Email: Karen Walke karen@syfab.org.uk or call: 07529 323 342.

More information email: enquiries@syfab.org.uk or call 0114 261 5141

Training Opportunities

Carbon Literacy Training Day - Emmanuel Methodist Church (Barnsley)

On 10 October a full day course, will be offered, free of charge, by the South Yorkshire Climate Alliance, for up to 12 people to learn about:

- why climate is changing;
- the impact this is having on all of us
- and what we, as individuals, families and communities can do about it.

A free lunch has also been donated! Carbon Literacy certificates are available for those who wish to obtain accreditation, but this is not obligatory. Please get in touch if you are interested in joining in and learning more - jan.eldred@icloud.com