

Sheffield Circuit Newsletter

2 September 2026

Please note the next newsletter will be published on 9 September. Information for the newsletter should arrive before 12noon on the day.

A Prayer for Nepal and Tibet

Loving God,

We pray for all those affected by the floods in Nepal and Tibet.

Be near to those who mourn the loss of loved ones, and to all who wait in uncertainty for news of family and friends.

Hold close those whose homes, livelihoods and communities have been swept away, and all who are shocked, displaced or afraid.

Strengthen rescue workers, local communities, churches and all who are searching, serving and offering care in the midst of this crisis.

Grant courage and resilience to those waiting for news, facing uncertainty, and fearing the days ahead.

As we witness the growing fragility of creation, renew our commitment to care for one another and for the earth of which we are a part.

In the name of Christ.

Amen.

From the Sheffield Methodist District newsletter

Methodist Church Prayer Hub

Growing in Faith, Circuit Prayer

Every Wednesday 8pm

Zoom circuit prayer 94411865948 999757

Please note there is no prayer session on 2 September.

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!**

Getting your building down to Net Zero

As Christians, we are called to be stewards of God's creation. There are many ways to do this, from protecting biodiversity to making lifestyle changes. Find more on [our Action for Hope pages](#).

One way we care for creation is through our work to reduce carbon emissions and reach Net Zero. Net Zero means the amount of greenhouse gas emissions added to the atmosphere is no more than the amount removed. This is reached by significantly reducing the emissions from our buildings & travel and removing any residual emissions, through purchasing renewable energy and offsetting. [Click here for 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@sheffielddcircuit.org.uk

Circuit News, Information and Events

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 at Wesley Hall.

Church Events

St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church Craft Fair - Saturday 12th September, 10am - 4pm

A selection of stalls selling a wide range of hand-made items plus hot and cold drinks, light lunches, and lots of cake! Free entry and free children's activities.

You are also welcome to look around our beautiful building, as we are open for Heritage Open Days. For more information contact Jan Owen: janowen@doctors.org.uk

Justice and Peace

Politics, Protest and Primitive

Methodists with Englesea Brook Museum

I sat down virtually with Ruth (Project Director) and Amy (Heritage Officer) from [Englesea Brook Museum in Cheshire](#) to talk about the intersection of heritage and justice, through the lens of Primitive Methodism. As a former history student, I have a firm belief that the past can teach us about the roots of systemic injustice, while inspiring us with strategies for change-making. The JPIT denominations frequently spoke out against both church and state injustice in their campaigns for a better world. By getting to know this history, we can rediscover the clear activist roots of our churches, empowering us to continue the work for peace and justice in the 21st Century. Click [here to read the full article.](#)

Children and Young People

National Day of Prayer for Schools

On Wednesday 9th September, Christians, churches and organisations across the UK are being encouraged to come together for a National Day of Prayer for Schools.

As we head into a new academic year, it feels like such a good opportunity to pause and pray for the schools, children and young people in our communities as well as the teachers, support staff and everyone working in education.

Perhaps you could:

- spend some time praying for local schools at your church prayer meeting
- make it part of a home group or small group
- give your youth group some time to pray for their schools and friends
- organise a prayer walk around a local school
- or simply encourage people in your church to pray throughout the day for the schools and young people around them.

There are also three online prayer gatherings happening during the day at 7am, 12 noon and 7pm so there are opportunities to join with Christians from across the country if that's helpful.

There is more information, prayer resources and links to the online gatherings here:

<https://www.message.org.uk/prayforschools>

Funding

Historic Buildings and Places of Worship

Historic England has announced two funding opportunities to support the repair and conservation of historic buildings across England.

Places of Worship Renewal Fund (Round 2)

- Expressions of Interest open: 4 September 2026
- Closing date: Friday 2 October 2026, 5.00pm
- Supports the repair of England's treasured places of worship, with a focus on those most in need.

Heritage at Risk Capital Fund (Round 2)

- Expressions of Interest open: 28 August 2026
- Closing date: Friday 18 September 2026, 5.00pm
- Supports the repair and conservation of secular historic buildings and sites at risk across England.

For more information and how to apply, click [here](#)

Dark Nights Funding Applications Now Open

Do you run a community group, charity, social enterprise or voluntary organisation in Burngreave, Firth Park, Shiregreen & Brightside or Southey?

The North East Local Area Committee is inviting applications for funding to deliver positive activities during the Dark Nights period between Halloween and Bonfire Night. We're looking for free activities for young people aged 8-18 that help provide safe, enjoyable alternatives and reduce anti-social behaviour in our communities.

Activities should:

- Be free to attend; Include refreshments; Benefit young people aged 8-18 and Run during the Dark Nights period

Application deadline: **Friday 25 September, 1pm**

For an application form or further information, please email NortheastLAC@sheffield.gov.uk.

South Yorkshire Funding Advice Bureau (SYFAB)

SYFAB supports voluntary and community groups find the funding they need!

Sign up to their very useful [newsletter here](#).

Safeguarding

Removal of the supervision exemption comes into force 1 September 2026 (applies to England)

Guidance for schools, colleges and childcare settings to understand what they need to do to comply with the change to regulated activity that will come into force on 1 September 2026. This is due to changes made by the Crime and Policing Act 2026.

The Act changes the definition of regulated activity by removing the supervision exemption. Under that exemption, unpaid activities such as teaching, training, instructing, or caring for or supervising children were not classed as regulated activity if supervised by someone who was in regulated activity (for example, a class teacher).

This means that all such activity is now considered to be regulated activity if it is carried out frequently, or if it meets the period condition. The period condition means: on more than 3 days in a 30-day period or overnight.

The main group affected by the change is volunteers. From 1 September 2026, all volunteers engaging in regulated activity will need to have an enhanced [Disclosure and Barring Service DBS](#) check with children's barred list information.

It is an offence for:

- a barred person to engage in regulated activity
- someone to permit a barred person to engage in regulated activity

Regulated activity: removal of the supervision exemption comes into force 1 September 2026 – GOV.UK

Training Opportunities

Dementia Inclusive Worship - 12 October 10am - 12noon

Click [here](#) to register.

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

- The joys and challenges of ageing
- What is worship and what makes for good worship?
- What is dementia?
- Using Biblical Movement to enhance participation

Other Information and News

Third Sunday: what brings me closer to God? With Andy Locke

Sunday 20th September 7-8pm

Free, no need to book

Andy Locke begins our Third Sunday series by talking about the impact that the painting The Light of the World has on him, and how the music of The Waterboys expresses something of the nature of his relationship to God. Come and join us as we look at the painting, listen to music, read lyrics together and reflect on our own responses to these. For further [details please click here](#).