

Sheffield Circuit Newsletter

30 September 2026

Please note the next newsletter will be published on 7 October. **Share our [newsletter sign-up](#).**

A prayer when overwhelmed with grief

Christ Jesus,
sometimes I don't know joy.
Sometimes all I know is grief
and sorrow.
Sometimes there is too much
pain and hurt.
Sometimes bad things happen
and my world goes to pieces.
Can you put me back together?
Can you hold it all?
Can you stay with me through this?

Mark Slaney, Chair, Scotland District and Shetland District

[Methodist Church Prayer Hub](#)

Growing in Faith, Circuit Prayer

Every Wednesday 8pm

Zoom circuit prayer 94411865948 999757

The Demolition of Hope

Having witnessed the emotional aftermath of a family home being demolished in the West Bank, the Revd David Hardman, Methodist Liaison Officer, Jerusalem, shares this blog.

As I stand looking at the house reduced to rubble, I cannot find any words to say to the man who spent years building it. He can barely bring himself to look at the remains. I simply reach out a hand to his shoulder and confess that I have no words. Tears well in his eyes, and we stand together in a helpless silence.

We are in a Palestinian village in the West Bank. The land belongs to the family whose home stands just a few hundred metres down the road. The father, a handyman by trade, built the now-destroyed house with his own hands, driven by the hope that two adult sons would one day return from abroad and make their lives in Palestine. Earlier, he told me, "They [the Israeli government] have demolished my house and my hope."

Standing amid the rubble, those words took on a painful clarity.

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

Church management platforms across the Connexion

What does your church actually run on? Help us find out

One of the issues we discovered during the Listening exercise was that we lacked a reliable picture of what churches and circuits actually use to run themselves: membership records, rotas, giving, room bookings, contact lists. Some of you pay for a platform. Some of you use a spreadsheet.

Click here to [complete a short survey!](#)

The Methodist Church in Sheffield: Circuit Meeting News

Our September Circuit Meeting took place on 17 September 2026 at Wesley Hall. Please see the [notes](#) to find out what's happening in your Circuit. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 24 November 2026, at Bents Green Methodist church.

Sheffield Circuit is seeking a Property Development Group Chair and Members

Please find attached role packs for:

- [Property Development Group Chair](#)
- [Property Development Group Member](#)

The pack includes roles and responsibilities for each opportunity and an Expression of Interest form. If you are interested, please complete the Expression of Interest form and return it to admin@sheffieldcircuit.org.uk by **Monday 5 October 2026**.

Circuit Photography Competition

We are running a photography competition, which gives you an opportunity for your photo to be added [to the Circuit website](#).

These photos will be part of the updating and freshening up of the site. Photos must fall into one or more of these categories:

- that represent your church - part of the local area, part of the community
- that represent the Sheffield Circuit
- represent the way you worship
- the groups, clubs you support, in your church

We will select the best 5 photos and add them to the Sheffield Circuit website, with your permission. Please ensure you have gained permission from any people in the photograph(s).

Please submit your photo(s) to admin@sheffieldcircuit.org.uk by **5 October**.

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.](#)

Church Events

Sheffield District MWiB - Annual Service of Dedication

Friday 16th October 2026 at 11.00am at Victoria Stafford Road Methodist Church S2 2SE

Preacher: Rev Liz Wills

Please bring your own lunch – tea/coffee will be provided. Following lunch Roger Thirlwell will give a presentation on Anna Chaplaincy

Safeguarding

DBS Workshops

DBS Update Service information session:

1. To support the new guidance, The DBS are holding a FREE information session which can be booked via the below Eventbrite links:
 - [Thursday 15th October – 1pm-2pm – Click to register](#)
2. Understanding eligibility for DBS Checks: The DBS are holding two Disclosure Eligibility workshops:
 - Wednesday 14 October at 13:00 – (waiting list)
 - Tuesday 24 November at 13:00

[Book on Eventbrite for Eligibility workshops](#)

Justice and Peace

Reflections on how we can all become peacemakers

from Rachel Lampard, Director of Social Justice and Social Action for the Methodist Church.

A church in my local area is hosting a Food and Friendship meal, organised by the local Women's Interfaith Network. It's an opportunity to share food together, to swap stories and recipes and to make new friends. It sounds like a great event – but what has it got to do with Peace Sunday?

At the Methodist Conference this year, members were invited to reflect together on where they saw God at work for peace in their communities or in the world. One of the most common examples was of intentional gathering across boundaries, particularly boundaries that some **may try to weaponise**, with people of different faiths, with those seeking sanctuary, across different world views or opinions. Click here to [continue reading this article.](#)

Funding

SYFAB Funding Surgery on Thursday 22nd October 2026

Time: 10.00am to 4.00pm

Venue: Brightholmlee Methodist Church, Main Road, Wharncliffe Side, Sheffield S35 0DQ

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

Booking essential - Email: Karen Walke – karen@syfab.org.uk or call: 07529 323 342

Book a FREE 45 minute appointment. More information: Email: enquiries@syfab.org.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](#).

Training Opportunities

Reparative Justice sessions - two online training courses available next month

These will provide practical tips for leading conversations on this important and sensitive topic.

Training will take place on:

- Thursday 8 October 7.00pm – 9.00pm
- Thursday 22 October 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Guided resources for running a session are now available. Book a [place and get resources](#).

Other Information and News

Donate to Sheffield City of Sanctuary

Our vision is for Sheffield to be a safe and welcoming city for refugees and people seeking sanctuary. Together, we can achieve this vision.

We build safe and welcoming spaces in Sheffield, that challenge the unjust constraints placed on people seeking sanctuary, and create communities that are a vision of the world we are working to build.

We provide direct support and advice, helping people navigate an incredibly complex asylum system and working to ensure that people have access to support and justice throughout this journey.

And our mission doesn't end there. We're actively working to effect systemic change with the asylum system, striving to create a more just and humane system for all.

It's your contributions that make this work possible.

With your help, we can ensure people seeking sanctuary are shown the compassion and support they deserve. [Donate here](#).