

Newsletter July 2025

This is our monthly newsletter. The newsletter can be received by anyone who has an e-mail address. To subscribe to this service please send your e-mail address to: northstaffscircuit@hotmail.co.uk.

Dear Friends

You are probably wondering what I did while on sabbatical, here is a quick snapshot. I visited 23 Cathedrals and Churches from York to Wells, including some in Wales. I spent time immersing myself in the experiences received through stained glass, art, creativity, connection, welcome and hospitality. Worshipping with a different Christian tradition on a Sunday, namely a local Salvation Army Corps and visits to some Methodist Churches around the country.

One of the things God spoke clearly to me about was the importance of Prayer through a quote by Samuel Chadwick "The Church that multiplies committees and neglects prayer may be fussy, noisy and enterprising but it labours in vain and spends its strength for nought. It is possible to excel in mechanics and fails in dynamic. There is a superabundance of machinery; what is wanting is power". I heard this quote on an online service from Cliff College, it has stayed with me since and invigorated my faith. On my return to Circuit I am now encouraging my Churches and Circuit to pray more. Let's become a praying Circuit and see God move when we are faithful in coming to receive His power through prayer.

I had a lot of wow moments and had the time to consider why. One of my highlights was the baptism window at Coventry Cathedral. A modern piece of stained glass, with lots of colour, set out in squares. Was it the window itself that was giving me the 'Wow moment' or its connection to baptism. After some reflection later I came to the conclusion it was the window and the symbolic nature of baptism through the font that made a profound connection.

Whichever Church I visited there was a special significance at the Alter/Communion Table. I consider it a deep privilege to be able to preside at the table of Bread and Wine that is open to all. During my Sabbatical I had time to reflect on some of the liturgies and to consider how I enable congregations to connect with Jesus through Bread and wine. What is the significance of Holy Communion for you?

Another two moments that were special to me before happened in Manchester. The Homeless Jesus statue outside St. Anne's Church and visiting the garden created in memory of those who lost their lives as a result of the Manchester Arena attack, not a Church but definitely a sacred space. I'm sure you will hear about these at some point soon.

I attended a Crochet for beginners workshop and as a result have created my first blanket and started a second, I like the rhythm of crocheting which helps me to feel calm and also focus. One of the special things I did at home was to do a jigsaw of the Last Supper, which has already started doing the rounds in the Circuit. If you haven't seen it yet your chance will come.

Wishing you all a prayer and Spirit filled July.

Rev Joy

North Staffordshire Circuit (11/22)

Preaching Plan – July 2025

					July			
					6	13	20	27
					14th Sunday in Ordinary Time	15th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Action for Children Sunday)	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time	17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Lectionary Year (C)					Isaiah 66:10-14	Deuteronomy 30:9-14	Genesis 18:1-10a	Genesis 18:20-32
(Principal Service)					Psalm 66:1-9	Psalm 25:1-10	Psalm 15	Psalm 138
					Galatians 6:(1-6)7-16	Colossians 1:1-14	Colossians 1:15-28	Colossians 2:6-15(16-19)
					Luke 10:1-11,16-20	Luke 10:25-37	Luke 10:38-42	Luke 11:1-13
Please Pray For:					Halmer End	Higherland	Madeley	St Luke's
Cross Heath	LS	11.00	StF	NIV	Irvine	LA	Davies T	B Harrison T
(23)		3.00	MSB		CS 3 pm @ Bradwell			
Silverdale	LS	11.00	StF	MM	Chadwick	Café Church LA	LA	Emmaus LA
(40)		5.00			CS 3 pm @ Bradwell			Refuel LA
Wolstanton	LS	10.30	StF		Chambers	Singleton B	Singleton HC	LA
(85)		3.00	MWB		CS 3 pm @ Bradwell			
Audley	JV	10.30	StF	SoF 1&2	Singleton HC	X	Chadwick	X
(27)		3.00	MWB	GNB	CS 3 pm @ Bradwell	Ventom	X	Ventom HC
Bradwell	JV	10.00	StF	SoF 1&2	X	Pritchard	LA	Ventom HC
(33)		3.00	MWB	NIV H&P	Singleton/White CS LP/WL Reaffirmation Svc			
Halmer End	JV	10.30	H&P	SoF 1&2	X	Davies T	Parkes HC	X
(23)		3.00	MWB	GNB	CS 3 pm @ Bradwell	X	X	Leprosy Mission LA
Madeley	JV	10.30	StF	SoF 1234	Ventom CA	N Jones	Barnett HC	R Jones
(23)		3.00	MWB	NIV	CS 3 pm @ Bradwell			
St Luke's	JV	10.30	H&P	GNB	Parkes	Ventom	LA	Parkes HC
(23)		3.00	MWB		CS 3 pm @ Bradwell			
Higherland	JP	10.00	StF	MM	LA	Parkes HC	Pritchard	Matthews
(36)		6.00	MWB		CS 3 pm @ Bradwell			Parkes Café Church
Printed Service for this week prepared by:					Ventom	Heap	Pritchard	Singleton
Baldwins Gate	JP				Wednesday 16th July, 2.30 pm - Holy Communion Service - Rev'd James Pritchard			

Eco Tips

Plastic Free July... this is a great opportunity to review where you might be able to reduce single-use plastics in your life. Being part of Plastic Free July will help you find great alternatives that can become new habits forever. Paying attention to what we consume and its effect on God's earth, can lead us not into guilt, but into action and prayerful determination to see change where it's possible. Read more about the effects of plastic at arochoa.org.uk/plastic-summer.

Foodbank – please click on this link [here](#).

Thank you to everyone across the Circuit who gives regularly to Foodbank through their church. Foodbank remains open through these troubled times and demand for food is high. Can I please ask you to all keep on giving by taking your donations to your nearest Foodbank.



Clayton St Luke's host a session
on Tuesday morning. 10.00am – 12 noon

All Saints, Madeley host a session
on a Monday morning. 11.00 am - 12.30 pm

Cornerstone, High Street, Knutton, ST5 6BX

On Wednesday afternoon 2.00 pm – 4.00pm

Chesterton Pentecostal church

on Thursday Morning. 10.00 -12.00 noon

Newcastle Congregational church

on Thursday afternoon. 2.00 pm – 4.00pm

St Thomas church Kidsgrove

on Friday afternoon 1.00 pm – 3.00 pm

or you can take your contribution to our warehouse on Unit 18 Brock Way, Silverdale, ST5 6AZ (Opposite the Post Office Sorting Office). on a Monday afternoon or Wednesday morning .

Your gifts large or small are very much appreciated and are a lifeline to those sadly more vulnerable than ourselves.

Please give us a ring if you want to drop your gift off at our house!

Carol and Marion Reddish TEL 01782 613265

If you would like to make a monetary donation to Newcastle Staffs Foodbank you can contact the Trustee/Treasurer Paul A Roberts for details: -

tel: 0300 102 9088 or email him on

accounts@newcastlestaffs.foodbank.org.uk.

If you would like to Gift Aid your donation please visit the website or contact Paul A Roberts for details.

People can also contact info@newcastlestaffs.foodbank.org.uk for details to donate food or money donations.

At the present time Foodbank are short of the following items:-

Tinned Tomatoes

Tinned Spaghetti

Sponge Puddings

Milk

Rice

Fruit Juice

Noodles

Washing Pods

Deodorant – male and female

Pasta Sauce

AMERICAN MEAL AND QUIZ NIGHT



Friday 4th July

(American Independence Day)

7:00pm

Cross Heath Methodist Church

Come and enjoy hotdogs, burgers, doughnuts, Coca Cola and other American delights, followed by one of our famous quizzes



Book your place: 01782 614436

£8 per person

Bouncy
Castle

Table
Tennis

Treasure
Hunt

LEGO



Table Crafts and Other Activities

Activity Day

Saturday 5th July 1.00 pm till 4.00 pm

Welcome to a free family fun session at Halmer End Methodist Church for children aged 5 to 11 and their parents/carers. Activities and games to share as we learn about the work of Action for Children. Refreshments available.

We conclude the day with Family Worship at 3.30 to 4.00 pm with the Rev. Joy Ventom.

Envelopes will be available for donations for the work of Action for Children.



The Day arranged by the Church with leaders of the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides.

Circuit Service

Please come and join us for our ...

Local Preachers' & Leaders of Worship Reaffirmation Service

On Sunday, 6th July 2025
at 3.00 pm
at Bradwell Methodist Church

Godly Play as Bible Study

Story is one of the most ancient forms of knowing. It is the way our Christian heritage has been passed down to us. And story forms the foundation of Godly Play. It invites you to sit as part of a circle and listen as the stories of the Bible are told through word and action. It allows you to immerse yourself in the stories as an act of meditation and prayer and ultimately to encounter God. As the stories are told you sit and listen and at the end of the storytelling you are invited to consider a number of 'I wonder questions'. Questions posed by the storyteller that ask you to reflect on what you have heard. Questions like:

I wonder what part of the story was most important to you?

Or

I wonder where you are in the story?

Or

I wonder if there is a part of the story we can leave out and still have all the story we need?

There are no right or wrong answers to any of the questions, they are a means by which you are invited to wonder deeply about the story and what it says to you. Then when the story is put away there is time to respond to all that you have heard and wondered about. It may be that you want to re-read the story again for yourself, paint, draw, model or write a response - the choice is entirely yours.

At the end of the response time we gather back together for refreshments before drawing our time together to an end. If this is something you think you might like to try then our next Godly play session will take place on **Monday, 7th July at 6.30 pm** at **Wolstanton Methodist Church**. Come and see, wonder, and reflect deeply about stories you thought you knew.

Karen Barnett



EXPLORERS!

At Halmer End Methodist Church
High St, ST7 8AD



Calling all Master builders!

Come and join us for building fun, 6.00 pm till 7.00 pm,

Meeting again on **MONDAY 7th July!**

Followed by a summer break until September.

Suitable for Reception to Year 6 children accompanied by an adult; Year 7 and above unaccompanied, but must have parental permission.

Contact: Helen 01782 722685 or David 01782 722014

See www.halmerendmethodists.org.uk & Facebook



*Bible Stories,
Drinks*



Fustian
&
Musical Misfits
SING-ALONG



Higherland Methodist Church

6pm - Saturday 12th July

Tickets £5 Each, Incl. light refreshments

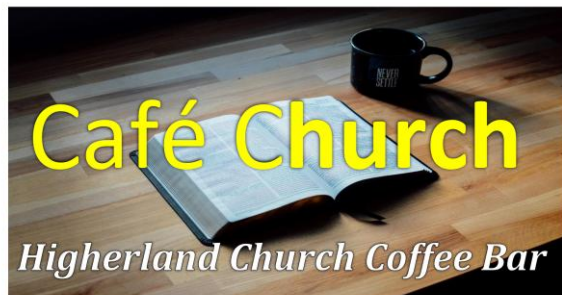
Call Kev: 07988 532 738

**Baldwins Gate
Methodist Community**
(Baldwins Gate, Newcastle, Staffs, ST5 5DA)

Mid-Week Service

Please note that the next service will
take place at 2.30 pm on
Wednesday, 16th July and will be a
Service of Holy Communion with
Rev'd James Pritchard.

**Please come and join us.
All are very welcome.**



Higherland Church Coffee Bar

*Friendly Chatter & discussion,
welcoming smiles & a good laugh,
Songs, poems, thoughts & Prayers
Drinks & biscuits.*

Come along @ 6pm

Sunday 27th July

Higherland Church Coffee Bar
2pm-4pm Monday 28th July



Everyone welcome to come and

Join in the chatter

Free snacks, cakes & drinks.

Circuit Manager
Alderley Edge and Knutsford Circuit
£30,000 p.a.

The Alderley Edge and Knutsford Circuit comprises five churches in Alderley Edge, Knutsford, Mobberley, Plumley and Mottram St Andrew.

The new position of Circuit manager has been created to play a central role in the operational management of the Circuit

A key member of the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT), the prime responsibilities are to manage the Church properties within the circuit; provide financial support and reporting services appropriate to each Church and to manage and develop circuit communications. Additionally, the role will provide administrative and compliance support to the Circuit ministry team and Circuit Leadership team.

As a key member of the CLT, the job holder will play a full part in the development of the Circuit's mission and ministry. Reporting to the Superintendent Minister, the role is full time, with flexibility over the pattern of hours worked.

Applicants will have experience of property management and finance and possess excellent communication skills. For an application pack please contact office@kmc.org.uk

01565 652251. The closing date for applications is 8th July 2025.



Cheshire South Methodist Circuit
requires a
Centre Community Administrator
for
Nantwich Methodist Church

20 hours/week, £13.10 per hour (= £13,624 p.a.)

Length of contract – 2.5 years

The Cheshire South Methodist Circuit is seeking a Centre Community Administrator for Nantwich Methodist Church to work with the Church trustees to support their mission plan focussed on the community and the use of their church sites.

For more information, or an informal chat about the post, please contact:

David Maidment
(maidmentrail@aol.com, 01270 627170)

An application pack can be downloaded from
www.cheshiresouth.org.uk

Completed applications to be sent to
1108info.cheshiresouth@gmail.com

by noon on 9 July 2025

Interviews 16 July 2025

Role to begin as soon as possible.

Book Swop at Bradwell Methodist Church

There is a new free book swop library outside Bradwell Methodist Church. Please take a look and if you have any unwanted books please pop them in.



Coffee Morning's at Audley Methodist Church

Refreshments, in a
welcoming
“WARM SPACE”
await you

Join us
every
Tuesday
10am to
midday



Coffee Morning

10.30am – 12.30pm

Every Wednesday at
Wolstanton
Methodist Church



Madeley Methodist Church
invites you to join us at our



Warm Space
Elevenes



On Wednesdays at 11am

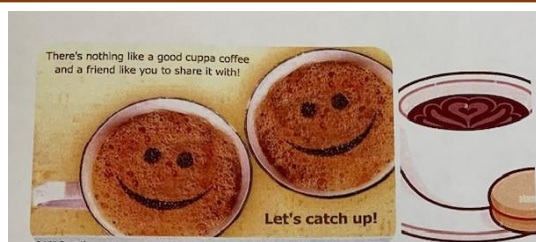
Chat

Free Refreshments

Activities

Everyone Welcome


PLEASE NOTE ... that during school holidays, Elevenes will meet at the cafe in the Madeley Centre not at the Church.



**WHY NOT CATCH UP
WITH FRIENDS OLD
AND NEW**

**BRADWELL METHODIST
CHURCH
THURSDAY'S 10 - 12**



 **Christian Resources for Life**
@ Methodist Book Centre
Support your local, independent
Christian bookshop



In Store

Online



www.crfl.co.uk
Gitana Street, Hanley, ST1 1DY
01782 212146

MAGIC MOMENTS

St. Luke's Methodist Church
Severn Drive
Clayton
ST5 4BH

FREE ENTRY



10.00am - 12.00 noon, last Thursday of every month.

Fun, explore together in lots of creative, interactive and fun ways.
A great opportunity to enjoy some time together.

For more information please contact Phil or Jeanette Hodges
on 01782 634766 or look on our Facebook page.



...PUT YOUR
HOPE
IN GOD,
WHO RICHLY
PROVIDES US
WITH EVERYTHING
FOR OUR ENJOYMENT.

1 TIMOTHY 6:17