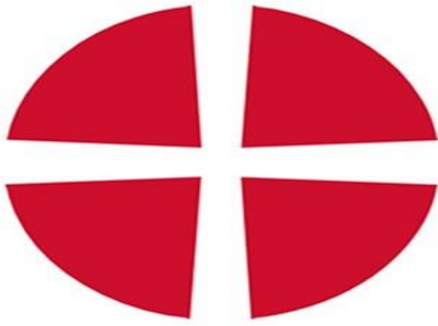




BURNLEY & PENDLE CIRCUIT THE METHODIST CHURCH

God's grace in love and action

Newsletter Tuesday 2nd September – Monday 15th September 2025

Prayer of the Day

A prayer for start of the new Connexional Year



O Christ of the morning,
You who sang the stars into being,
Sing again into our hearts today.

As a new year unfolds,
we walk into the next chapter of your story,
the next line of your song.

May the Spirit stir our memory,
reminding us who we are
your people, your melody,
each life a note in your unfolding hymn.

Guide us in courage,
hold us in love,
send us with hope.

In the name of the One who goes before us,
beside us, and sings within us

Christ our companion,
Amen.

Matthew Forsyth
Vice-President of the Methodist Conference 25-26



Please pray for the local schools as a new school term begins. Grant the students, wisdom to learn, confidence to grow in new experiences and strength to form new friendships. Bless the teachers and staff with patience, joy and renewed energy to guide and nurture. May this school year be a time of safety, discovery and faith. Amen.

Circuit Events in the next 2 weeks

Local Preachers' and Worship Leaders' Meeting this Thursday 4th September at Wheatley Lane at 7.30pm.

Circuit Prayer Breakfast on Saturday 6th September at 8am at Brunshaw. Rev Adrian Perry will lead this prayer time.

Circuit Meeting on Tuesday 9th September at 7.30pm at Padiham Road Church

Church Events in the next 2 weeks

THIS WEEK - Children's toys and books recycle drop -in 2nd-4th September at Wheatley Lane 8.30-10am and 2.30-4pm. Free light refreshments available. See poster below

TONIGHT What does eco really mean? Tuesday 2nd September at Wheatley Lane at 7.30pm. A short talk will be given by Dot McCarthy from Cronkshaw Fold Farm. Cheese & biscuits, fruit and drinks will be served. A great opportunity to meet with your friends plus to learn more about being environmentally friendly at home, at work and at church. **All are welcome.** See poster below.

Coffee Morning on Saturday 6th September 10am – 1pm at Briercliffe Road. See poster below

Brew it fair Tea & Coffee on Saturday 6th September 10am-12noon at Higherford. See poster below.

An Afternoon with 'The Lancashire Lad' on Thursday 11th September at 2pm at Higherford. See poster below

Dear Friends,

The 1st of September marks the first day of the Methodist Connexional Year and the start of my last year as the superintendent minister in Burnley and Pendle Circuit.

It also marks the first year for quite a few years that Christvin Edbarg and his family are not part of our wider Circuit family. Please join me in praying for them as Christvin begins his ministry as a probationer minister on the Isle of Man.

This time next year I will be starting ministry in a new Circuit. I did initially seek re-invitation, but God spoke to me through that process and made it clear that it is time for change; change for me personally as Sue and I will be living in a new place and getting to know new people, which is always exciting, and change for Burnley & Pendle Methodist Circuit as you get to know a new Superintendent.

This, of course, means that for the next few months I will personally be involved in Stationing and will, at times, have to concentrate on that. Similarly, the Circuit will be on the stationing process seeking my successor which will mark a very busy time for members of the Circuit Invitations Committee and, in particular, the Circuit Stewards. Please pray for me that I will be matched with a Circuit where I can use my particular gifts and graces; and for the Circuit that we will find the right Superintendent to come here next summer.

Times of change are always unnerving, but whilst our God is unchanging, our God is also a God who wants to see us change and grow as individual Christian people and as a Circuit.

I will do the best I am capable of this coming year as your Circuit Superintendent to serve the Circuit and its people. You will have my best efforts as you have had them since September 2021 as I continue to work collaboratively in leadership with the Circuit Staff and Stewards to undertake the ever-changing ministry God has given us to do in this place.

Yours in Christ.

Rick

Future Circuit Events

An Autumn Celebration - Hapton Heritage Event on Saturday 11th October. The 5 mile walk starts at 1pm and the 2 mile walk starts at 1.15pm both from Hapton church. An informative exhibition and light refreshments available from 2pm in the church. Good parking.

Circuit Mission Action Team (MAT) meeting on 17th October at 10am at 329 Wheatley Lane Road. This will be another joint meeting with the Circuit Bible and Prayer Focus group.

Future Church Events

Quiz Night and potato pie supper on Friday 19th September at 6-8pm at Briercliffe Road. See poster below.

Lego Church on Friday 26th September at 3.15-4.30pm at Wheatley Lane.

Coffee Hub Extra - Card-making Workshop on Thursday 2nd October 2-4pm at Wheatley Lane. Coffee and cake will be served. We hope you can join us and bring your friends too for a fun afternoon. Materials provided though small donations accepted for church funds. **All are welcome to this new monthly initiative.**

Community News

Date for diary Daoud Naser from the Tent of Nations will be at Hapton Methodist Church on Monday 22nd Sept from 1.30 - 3p.m. Please make every effort to attend, if you can, to show our solidarity to this Christian Palestinian Family in their struggle to keep their land from being taken by Illegal Settlers.
Thank you Bea .

‘Renew’ for women - Monday 13th October at 7.45pm (refreshments from 7.15pm) at St Mary’s church in Rawtenstall. ‘Reach out and touch’ (see poster below). Please contact Claire for further details.

Circuit Song or Hymn Competition

Only two months left to write a song or hymn as your entry for the Circuit Heritage Song or Hymn Competition based on 'God's grace in love and action'. The closing date for entries is 12 noon on Friday 31st October. Entries to Claire circuitoffice@2101methodists.org or 07752278664. Looking forward to receiving your entry.



Circuit Prayer Breakfast

We are looking for churches to host the following prayer breakfasts please: on the 4th October, 1st November, 6th December and 3rd January 2026. If your church can host one of these prayer breakfasts or you would like to lead one please contact Kath. asap. kathheyworth@hotmail.co.uk / 07861459918. Many thanks.

Circuit prayer breakfasts are a time to pray with others. Prayers can be spoken or they can be said quietly in hearts and minds. After the prayer time there is a free light breakfast along with shared fellowship. All are welcome. So if you

District

Resource! Refresh! Remember! A day for Local Preachers and Worship Leaders.

Wednesday 24th September, 10am - 3pm at Englesea Brook Chapel and Museum, Crewe, CW2 5QW. Lunch included. £15 per person (bursaries available).

For more information contact Ruth:

director@engleseabrook.org.uk

Conference Representatives 2026

Nominations are now being invited for representatives from the North West England Methodist District to the Methodist Conference 2026.

This is an open invitation to anyone who is a member of the Methodist Church within the North West England District. Please share this information widely and as quickly as possible, as the **deadline for receiving nominations is Saturday 6th September 2025**. Voting will take place at Synod on 13th September.

A nomination form is available from Claire at the Circuit office. Any further queries can be directed to the Synod Secretary, Carolyn Hothersall

Email: hothersallc@nwedmethodists.org.uk

Tel: 01772 372160 ext: 127

Summer Circuit Holiday Club

What an amazing Circuit Summer Holiday Club. The children loved going bananas!!

Thank you to Captain Adrian and his wonderful crew for making it an unforgettable experience for the children. By doing jobs in the home over a two day period the children raised £103 for Derian house.

Thank to everyone involved in this fantastic outreach activity.

Encounter August 2025

What an awesome Encounter we had last month when Rev Sharon Read shared her inspirational and humorous stories. We all left the event

have never been to a prayer breakfast then why not give it a go? A warm welcome will await you.

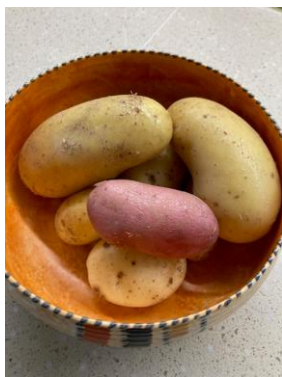
TONIGHT (2nd September) at 7.30pm 'What does eco really mean?' at Wheatley Lane Church. This is a great opportunity for churches within the circuit to come together in an informal environment to discuss their church eco journeys after a short talk by Dot McCarthy. Cheese & biscuits plus fruit will be served along with refreshing drinks. So, whether you know a lot about eco or very little this event will enable you to learn more and to develop the network you need to take your church forward on this important area. Looking forward to seeing you.

Wheatley Lane Coffee Hub

Every Thursday from 2-4pm the church is open for coffee, tea and cakes. Plus, on the first Thursday in the month there is Coffee Hub Extra - in October it is a card making workshop and in November a rag wreath making. Materials are provided and these workshops are open to everyone in the circuit. It would be lovely to see you.

Brierfield Foodbank

Did you know we have a weekly recycling of clothing and bedding enjoyed by our Foodbank visitors? If you have any bedding that you would be willing to donate to the foodbank we would love to hear from you. 07887 855 719 Thank you!



Also, our eco garden has produced a splendid crop of potatoes, garlic, herbs etc - enjoyed by those in BB9.

feeling enthused and excited about God's plans for each one of us.

Grateful thanks to everyone who came and to Wheatley Lane church for hosting and providing a delicious lunch. Donations of £104 were kindly given and this has been given to the host church.



The next Encounter is on Saturday 31st January 2026 when the format has changed slightly. We are looking for a few people from within the circuit to share a short story from their Christian journey. If you feel able to do this or you would like more information please contact Rev Tony Graff.

New discipleship series

Do you have a Local Arrangement coming up? Explore four new, editable discipleship outlines, designed to encourage and challenge worshippers to consider who God is, and what it means to be a follower of Jesus in every moment of our lives.

Click [here](#) for more information or visit [MWOL service outlines - The Methodist Church](#)

The next newsletter will be on Tuesday 16th September. Please forward any contributions to me before 5pm on Monday 15th September 2025. Thank you.

Claire Slack, Circuit's Communication & Information Coordinator - 07752278664
circuitoffice@2101methodists.org

Posters



Thirsty Thursday **COFFEE HUB**

Every Thursday 2pm - 4pm

WHEATLEY LANE METHODIST CHURCH

Fence, BB12 9ED

We will be open for coffee, tea, juice
and cakes.

(During food-bank drop-off)

Why not pop in for a crafty cuppa before school pick-up.

You are invited to:

What does **eco** really mean?



Guest Speaker
Dot McCarthy

7.30pm
Tuesday
2nd Sept

The talk will be full of
practical eco tips
for home and church,
plus,
a Q&A session.

Wheatley Lane
Methodist Church
BB12 9ED

Refreshments will
be served too.

For further information please contact Kath or Elaine
kathheyworth@hotmail.co.uk / 07861459918 or egreenall50@gmail.com



Toys & Books

Recycle drop-in

at
Wheatley Lane
Methodist Church

Tues 2nd Sept
Wed 3rd Sept
Thurs 4th Sept

Light refreshments
available too

8.30-10am & 2.30-4pm each day

Why buy new when there's good toys and
books that someone can't use but you can.
(Small donations accepted).



Children's Toys and Books
can be donated in August to Elaine or Kath
email: egreenall50@gmail.com
kathheyworth@hotmail.co.uk

HIGHERFORD METHODIST CHURCH



'BREW IT FAIR' TEA AND COFFEE

Saturday September 6th
10am - 12 noon



Bakes made using Fair Trade ingredients



ALL WELCOME



Toasted teacake or a slice of cake & a brew
£3.50 pay at the door

Please come along and enjoy the company, you will be made very welcome.



An Autumn Celebration Hapton Heritage Event

5 mile walk
starting at 1pm

2 mile walk
starting at 1.15pm

Both walks will start
and finish at
Hapton Methodist Church.

**Saturday
11th October
2025**

There will be an
exhibition of
Methodism in Hapton
and light refreshments
in the church
from 2pm

For more info contact
circuit office 07752278664
circuitoffice@2101methodists.org



HIGHERFORD METHODIST CHURCH

*An afternoon with
'The Lancashire Lad'*



Thursday September 11th 2pm

£7 including refreshments

EVERYONE WELCOME

Briercliffe Road Church
Melville Street
Burnley
BB10 3DY

QUIZ NIGHT

Quiz Night and potato pie supper
to be held at Briercliffe Road Church
on
Friday 19th September between 6 - 8p.m.
includes meat/meat and potato or cheese & onion
pie with unlimited brews.

There will ALSO be a Quiz sheet suitable for children.
£5 pounds per person tickets available or pay at the door
Come along and enjoy the fun.

*Renew
for women*

Monday 13th October 2025
St. Mary's Church, Rawtenstall
7:15 Refreshments for 7:45 Start

"Reach out and Touch"

Are you feeling lonely, fearful or in need of healing? Come along as we reach out and touch Jesus in prayer, believing for the miracle we need.

Free event - No need to book - just turn up!
For more information email renew@rossendalecafe.church