



# **BURNLEY & PENDLE CIRCUIT**

# **THE METHODIST CHURCH**

## **God's grace in love and action**

Newsletter Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2025

Please pray:

- For the Advent and Christmas services taking place in our churches, that through them we may share the good news of the love of God revealed in the gift of his Son, Jesus.
- For the people of Bethlehem in the occupied West Bank of Palestine. After two years without public celebrations for Christmas because of the war in Gaza, this year they have once again turned on the Christmas lights. We pray that the ceasefire in Gaza will hold and that the rights of the Palestinian people in the West Bank to live freely on the land that has been theirs for generations may be respected.
- On the night of the birth of Jesus the angels sang of peace on earth. May we learn how to hush the noise of conflict and war and hear again the love song that the angels bring. We continue to pray for peace in Ukraine and Russia; in Palestine and Israel; in Sudan; in Thailand and Cambodia and wherever there is war.
- We pray for those who live in deep darkness, those whose sadness feels even more intense at Christmas; those who have been bereaved, those who are homeless, those who are lonely, those who are separated from the people they love. May the light of Jesus shine on them and bring them comfort and strength.

### **Circuit Events in the next 2 weeks**

**Circuit Youth Gathering on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December 6.30-7.30pm at Fence Village Hall.**  
Poster below

### **Church Events in the next 2 weeks**

**Christmas Party on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December 12noon at Central.** Poster below.

**A Christmas old lang syne presented by Hapton Methodist church choir on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm at Hapton Church.** Poster below

**Candlelight Carol Service on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm at Briercliffe Road.** Poster below.

**Carol Service on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 11am at Padiham Road then South Pennine Singers Christmas Concert.** After the Carol Service there will be pie & peas lunch prior to concert at £4 each; combined ticket - lunch and concert £8. Lunch to be pre booked by 1 Dec by ringing 07850 435622. Posters below.

**Tuesday Fellowship on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm at Brunshaw.** Carol Service followed by Christmas cake and shortbread.

**Carols by Candlelight on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm at Higherford.** Poster below

### **Future Circuit Events**

**Circuit Prayer Breakfast on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2026 at 8am at St John's / The Exchange Project** led by Rev Tony Graff.

- For the Methodist stationing process which appoints ministers to circuits. For the matches that have been made for September 2026, especially Rick's with the North West Durham Circuit and that of Steven Donnison with us in Burnley and Pendle. We continue to pray for those ministers and circuits for whom matches have not yet been made.

### **Christmas Eve Services** (Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2025) in the Circuit

4pm – Brierfield Christingle led by Rev Tony Graff (all welcome please contact Anne if attending so they know numbers please 07887 855719)

6.30pm – Higherford led by Rev Adrian Perry

### **Christmas Day Services** (Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2025) in the Circuit

9.30am – Greenbrook led by Rev Tony Graff

9.30am – Hapton led by Bea Foster

9.30am – St Andrews led by Pat George

9.30am – Wheatley Lane led by Rev Adrian Perry

10am – Padiham Road led by Rev Rick Ormrod

10.30am – Higherford led by Rev Adrian Perry

11am – Briercliffe Road led by Christine Barnes

11am – Brunshaw led by Rev Tony Graff

11am – Christ Church led by Rev Rick Ormrod

11am - St John's led by Barbara Cole

### **Circuit Christmas Celebration**

Many thanks to everyone involved in last Saturday's Circuit Celebration which was a huge success. It was great to see the Circuit Choir singing together once again. Thanks to everyone who came along to support this event.

### **Future Church Event**

**'Decoupage Pots' workshop on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2026 2-4pm at Wheatley Lane.** All are welcome. Just bring yourself and a pair of scissors.

### **Circuit Facebook Page**

Don't forget to keep an eye on the Circuit Facebook Page to keep up to date with what is happening in the circuit throughout Christmas and beyond.

[www.facebook.com/burnleyandpendlemethodistcircuit](http://www.facebook.com/burnleyandpendlemethodistcircuit)

### **Thanks**

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed items to the circuit newsletters over the last year – without you there would have been no newsletters. This communication tool is a good way of promoting what is happening in your church both within the circuit and wider. So don't miss out in 2026 – please forward your items to Claire.

Special thanks to the dedication of the link people in each church for ensuring the circuit newsletters are circulated to people in their congregations. You do a great job every fortnight and without you no-one would get the opportunity to read the newsletters.

Finally, feedback to improve future newsletters is always welcome. Please forward your thoughts and ideas to Claire anytime over the next few weeks.

**There will be a short Christmas newsletter on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December then the next newsletter will be on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026. Please forward any contributions to me before 5pm on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 for the first newsletter in 2026. Thank you.**  
**Claire Slack, Circuit's Communication & Information Coordinator - 07752278664**  
[circuitoffice@2101methodists.org](mailto:circuitoffice@2101methodists.org)



# CHRISTMAS PARTY

Central Methodist Church  
Thursday 11th December  
12 noon

Pie & Peas, Cakes and  
Entertainment

Tickets £12 from Coffee Bar  
or ring 07566781347



## Candlelight Carol Service

Briercliffe Road Church  
On Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup> of December at 4pm

Music is led by a choir, organ and live musical accompaniment.

The service is followed by light refreshments.

All Welcome.

PADIHAM ROAD METHODIST CHURCH  
Brassey Street, BURNLEY BB12 8AD

### CAROL SERVICE SUNDAY, 14TH DECEMBER 2025, 11am

Our Carol Service will be held on Sunday, 14th December 2025, at 11am

This will be followed with a \*Pie & Peas Lunch at 12:30pm

At 2pm the South Pennine Singers will be performing their Christmas Concert

*Pie & Peas Lunch Tickets	£4:00 per person (Child £2)
South Pennine Concert	£5:00
Discounted price for Lunch and Concert	£8:00 per person (Child £5)

NB: For Concert only you may pay on the door.

\*Meat & Potato Pie OR \*Cheese & Onion Pie  
with Peas, Pickled Red Cabbage, or Beetroot

NB PLEASE PRE-BOOK your Lunch Ticket by Monday, 1st December  
with Kath on 07850 435622 or Margaret on 07980 077439  
or any of the Stewards, stating your choice of pie.  
Thank you.

## Hapton Methodist Church Choir

Presents:



# "A CHRISTMAS OLD LANG SYNE"



Fri. 12th Dec .

@ 7.30 pm

Adults £5 Children £3  
inc. Tea & Mince Pies



## South Pennine Singers'

# Christmas Concert

Sunday 14th December  
2pm

Padiham Road  
Church

Entrance £5.00

Refreshments



# Carols by Candlelight



Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December  
6.30pm  
Higherford Methodist  
Church

For Children in  
Year 6 & above

## Circuit Youth Gathering

**SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER**  
6.30-7.30pm at Fence  
Village Hall

Please contact Ian Wheeler, so we know  
who's attending..... or if you want to know  
more information.  
Email - [ianwheeler@2101methodists.org](mailto:ianwheeler@2101methodists.org)  
Tel - 07462 743587