Burnley & Pendle Methodist Circuit Newsletter

Tuesday 2nd May 2023

Prayer - Christian Aid week 14th to 20th May 2023
Christian Aid Week 2023 - Christian Aid

God, gardener of Eden, who flung stars into space
and nurtures the tiniest plant,
lift our hopes and dreams
above the loss and damage of our suffering planet,
that we might share
your long-dreamed vision
which values the pea as much as the plant,1
fill us with your life-giving hope
and inspire us with your creative Spirit
now, and in the age to come.
Amen

Prayer Points

Please pray for:

- for the coronation of King Charles III. For the nation as we celebrate community, faith and service. For the opportunity to think about how we may become a society in which people flourish and experience justice. For the events taking place in our churches to mark the occasion.
- for those using Food Banks following the Trussell Trust announcement that they are now giving out double the number of parcels they did five years ago. We pray that social security payments may be adequate to meet life's essential costs.
- for peace in Sudan. For those who have become refugees and those who are still trapped by the fighting. For those bringing aid to people who are living without shelter, food, water or medical care.

Circuit Events this week

TONIGHT Circuit Meeting on Tuesday 2nd May at 7.30pm on Zoom in which a vote will take place on Three Trees**.**

Circuit Prayer Walk - 8am on Saturday 6th May. This Saturday morning the monthly prayer gathering will be a prayer walk around the picturesque village of Barley.
Starting promptly at 8am at Barley church the prayer walk will cover approx 2km (1 mile) before returning for a free breakfast in the church hall. Flat sturdy shoes are recommended.
During the walk there will be time for praying together and also for private prayer.
This prayer walk is open to everyone so if you want to experience a different way of praying to God then why not come along? For those unable to participate in the walk then the church will be opened for prayer.
More information available from Kath Heyworth kathheyworth@hotmail.co.uk 07861 459918.

Church Events this week

Central

Afternoon tea and entertainment by Cliviger Ukulele Group to celebrate the King`s Coronation on **Thursday 4th May at 2pm.** Tickets are £2 and available from the coffee bar or ring 07566 781347

Central - "The Big Breakfast" on Sunday 7th May (this is the day for the Big Lunch) **10am** Breakfast in the hall, followed at 11am by a cafe style service led by Bea Foster.

- for the Circuit Messy Church event on Friday and Prayer Walk in Barley on Saturday.
- for Vocations Sunday on 7th May. That God will help each one of us to recognise our gifts and put them into action as we share together in God's work.

The Structure of The UK Methodist Church Part Two

The Methodist Church of Great Britain is still organised in a methodical way using many of the structures introduced by its founder, John Wesley. However, the Church is quite ragmatic, and is willing to make changes where they seem desirable.
Structures are there to enable decision making that takes account of all concerns and views within the Church. No one is given supreme authority – consultation is vital. At the same time, churches cannot simply arrange their own affairs, but have some shared disciplines and ways of working.
The Methodist Church has a number of levels in its national structure,
which are:
Church
Circuit
District
Connexion and Methodist Conference

I want to briefly consider each of these so that all of us in Burnley and Pendle Methodist Circuit have a better understanding of our church and how it works. To save information overload, these will be split over three weeks of the Circuit Newsletter.

The Structure of The UK Methodist Church Part 2 – District

The District is made up of one or more circuits. It exists primarily to advance the mission of the Church in a region by providing support for the circuits in line with the connexional priorities. Each District is led by a District Chair. As well as providing leadership within the district, the chair is a member of the Connexional Leaders'

Future Circuit Events

Easter Offering Service on Sunday 14th May 2023 at Christ Church at 3.00pm. This is a service for EVERYONE in the Circuit when we learn of those who benefit from World Mission Fund. The theme this year is 'NO BORDERS TO GOD'S LOVE. Please remember to bring your Church's Easter offering with you. Refreshments will be served after the service.

Forum, with an overview of the whole connexion.

The District Synod sets the policy for the district, serving as a link between the Conference and the Connexional Team on the one hand and the circuits and local churches on the other. It has oversight of all district affairs, formulating and promoting policies, through its various officers and committees to assist the mission of the Church, to give inspiration to the leaders in the circuits and to ensure the interrelation of all aspects of the Church's life throughout the district. The synod may bring matters to the Conference. The synod meets in representative session at least once each year. They also hold a presbyteral session of the synod for Presbyters, which is an opportunity for training as well as for debating issues.
Districts differ in terms of the kind of support they offer to local churches and circuits, but this can often include:
 encouraging connexional priorities
 offering or subsidising training
 giving pastoral care to presbyters, deacons and key lay people
 providing people who represent Methodism to the local media
 having an overview of legal obligations
 organising large initiatives
Districts are funded by the District Assessment which is paid by each Circuit in the District.

The next newsletter will be published on Tuesday 9th May 2023. Please forward any contributions to me before 5pm on Monday 8th May 2023. Claire Slack, Circuit's Communication & Information Coordinator - 07752278664 circuitoffice@2101methodists.org

Future Church Events

HIGHERFORD METHODIST CHURCH

NOSTALGIA PART TWO

Memories and objects from the past

Thursday 11th May at 1.30pm

With

Afternoon tea

Tickets £10.00
Please ring 01282 697765 to order tickets.
Thankyou

Community News

We refuse to be enemies - Tent of Nations

Building Bridges in Burnley are delighted to invite you to meet and hear from Daoud Nasser of the Tent of Nations at the Burnley Faith Centre, Barden Lane, BB10 1JD

Friday 26th May 7pm-8.30pm

The event is free, donations welcomed on the day

Tent of Nations is a farm run by the Nasser family just south of Bethlehem on the Palestinian Territories of the West Bank.

Daoud will present information and stories about the Tent of Nations, following which there will be chance to ask questions and discuss the situation for Daoud and so many other Palestinians struggling to stay on their land in Palestine.

For more information about Tent of Nations visit: tentofnations.com

For more information contact Bea on bea_foster@hotmail.com 07875 517043