



Quarterly Newsletter

As I write we are in the midst of a summer heatwave and, as usual, the most constant conversation item is the weather! How very British. It is also a time when many of us have a few days away on holiday. This year we went to Northumberland and had a week staying not too far from the sea. Our dog Tia loves some time on the beach so we enjoyed walking along the seashore. One day I found some sea glass and admired it lying on the sand. But I left it there for someone else to take if they felt so inclined.

However a couple of days later we were looking in souvenir and craft shops and came across jewellery made from sea glass, a silver bangle particularly caught my eye.£195.00!! Yes you read that right and no, it is not now residing in Derbyshire but still in the shop.



'Tia' the Dog



Rev Helen Penfold
Deputy Chair

Someone, somewhere discarded a bottle, which made its way into the sea, became broken and washed up on the shore, to be found by a craftsperson, polished and encased in silver before, hopefully, being bought for its beauty.

Eugene Peterson in The Message in 1 Peter 2 verses 9-10 says this "But you are the ones chosen by God, chosen for the high calling of priestly work, chosen to be a holy people, God's instruments to do his work and speak out for him, to tell others of the night-and-day difference he made for you—from nothing to something, from rejected to accepted." Just like the sea glass that became a valuable thing of beauty from something discarded, God takes us, moulds and remakes us and then chooses us to be holy, light-filled people of grace.
That's awesome.

This summer, search for the beauty in the world and inside yourself, and remember God is at work in each of us, the Holy Spirit filling us as we witness to the life we find in Christ.

Rev Helen Penfold

District Events between September 2025 - November 2025

Thursday 11th September

- **Meet the District Team (and officers)**
 - Opportunity for new ministers to the district to meet the District Team members
- **Venue:** Rivergreen Methodist Hub, Cliton.
- **Time:** 10:00 – 13:00

Saturday 13th September

- **District Gathering (Synod)**
 - *We will be joined by Rachel Heffer to share in leading the morning session on 'Avoiding Mission Drift'*
 - The afternoon will include worship and the business of Synod
- **Venue:** Urban Hotel, Grantham. NG31 7XT
- **Time:** 10:00 – 15:00



Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st September
President and Vice President Visit

Saturday 20th September
Time: 10:00 – 13:30
Venue : North Muskham / Balderton
President (Richard) to visit the area , to include public reception for Chapel Anniversary, NPNP project celebration in North Muskham and story of creating community space in Balderton

Saturday 20th September
Time: 14:30 – 16:30
Venue : Dwelling Place
President to visit

Sunday 21st September
Time: 10:00– 13:30
Venue: Christ Church, Long Eaton
President to share in leading worship, followed by lunch
Time: 15:30 – 18:00
Venue : Bridgeway Hall, Meadows
President to share in Sunday Supper and Worship



Sunday 21st September
Venue: Mayfield Road Church
Time: 10:45– 13:30
Vice President (Matt) to share in leading worship followed by lunch
Time: 13:30 – 14:30
Vice President to share his vision for 21st Century Mission
Time: 14.30 – 15:00
Circuit to share information with Vice President

Time: 16:00 onwards
Venue: Oakwood Church (LEP)
Vice President to share in leading worship

Saturday 25th October

- **District Celebration**
 - Matt Beckingham to share in worship.
- **Venue:** Clay Cross Methodist Church ,
- **Time:** 19:00 – 21:00

Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd November

- **‘Exploring Worship for All’**
 - Saturday is for everyone involved with Local Arrangements, plus anyone interested in leading worship or preaching; for student worship leaders and preachers, and for accredited worship leaders and local preachers keen to develop their skills.
- **Venue:** Christchurch Methodist/URC LEP Grantham NG31 6QZ
- **Time:** 10:00 – 16:00
- [Click here to book](#)

Save the Date

Ministers’ Retreat
Location: Launde Abbey
[Click here to book](#)

**Monday 2nd -
Wednesday 4th
February 2026**

District Celebration (7pm - 9pm)
Location: Melbourne Methodist Church

**Saturday 7th
March**

Presbyteral Session of Synod
Location: Rivergreen Methodist Hub

**Thursday
12th March
2026**

District Gathering (Synod)
Location: tbc

**Saturday
25th April**



Resourcing Opportunities

Safeguarding

Reflections on the Past Cases Review

It is now ten years since the Methodist Church produced a report looking at all known cases of abuse from the previous 50 years and committed itself to taking action. Following over 2,500 referrals, many hours of professional casework were undertaken and common themes emerged providing the Church with an action plan to improve and respond appropriately to victims and survivors.

Over the coming year, we are sharing monthly reflections on what this has meant for the Church. You can find the first of these reflections here:

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/safeguarding/reflections-on-the-past-case-review-10-years-on/>
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Safeguarding Training Update

All dates for 25/26 are now available to book via the District website or by following the link below which will take you directly to our NEW Eventbrite Safeguarding Training Collection [Click](#) here

There are a number of Advanced Module training sessions planned, plus the District will be facilitating another online foundation module session in November.

Contact Rosie Farrow with any training related queries padistrictsafeguarding@methodist-nd.org.uk

Resource for Circuits

Explore Taster Evening Autumn 2025

Date: 16th September

Time: 19:00

Link: [Explore Taster Evening Autumn 2025 Registration, Tue 16 Sep 2025 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

WLP Explore Weekend in Person (Modules 4 and 8)

Date: 1st November

Time: 10am

Link: [WLP EXPLORE WEEKEND IN PERSON \(Modules 4 and 8\) Registration, Sat 1 Nov 2025 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)



Methodist Church Eco Community Network

Dates: 17th September

Time: 19:00

Link: [Methodist Church Eco Community Network Tickets, Multiple Dates | Eventbrite](#)

Growing Through Change & Conflict

Date: 14th October

Time: 9.30am

Link: [Growing through Change and Conflict Registration, Tue 14 Oct 2025 at 09:30 | Eventbrite](#)



Circuit Stewards Community of Practice –

Dates: 24th September, 29th October, 26th November

Time: 19:00

Link: [Circuit Stewards Monthly Community of Practice Tickets, Wed 31 Jul 2024 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Circuit Stewards Gathered Session (Training)

Date: 28th October

Time: 10.30am

Link: [Circuit Stewards Gathered Session \(Following MCBX Course Completion\) Tickets, Tue 28 Oct 2025 at 10:30 | Eventbrite](#)

Circuit Stewards Gathered Session (Training)

Date: 26th September

Time: 15:30

Link - [Circuit Stewards Gathered Session \(Following MCBX Course Completion\) Tickets, Fri 26 Sep 2025 at 15:30 | Eventbrite](#)



Spotlight in a Circuit

Sherwood Forest Superintendent - Rev Stuart Ellis

The Sanctuary (Trinity Methodist Church)

A space to 'be' and reflect together on how Jesus journeys with us throughout our lives. This is an outreach aimed at sharing the gospel with people who declare themselves 'spiritual' but do not like established church.



Soup Kitchen (former Bridge Street Methodist Church)

Circuit members work with community volunteers to provide a weekly meal for those living on the streets.

Midweek Worship (Zoom online)

A weekly online worship via Zoom draws together those who are unable to attend Sunday worship and also people further afield in the UK and from abroad. This is proving an effective way for people to deepen their Christian faith.



Next Circuit Spotlight

Newark and Southwell

If you have anything that you would like us to consider including on our newsletter, email pa@methodist-nd.org.uk

If you would like to **opt in / out** of the email Newsletter email: pa@methodist-nd.org.uk

**Next Edition due
November
for Dec - Feb**