

The Methodist Church



Barnsley Circuit

Preaching Plan & Newsletter

**December 2023 to
February 2024**



www.barnsleymethodist.org.uk



Barnsley Methodist Community



Barnsley Methodist

Ministers:

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Rev Louise Carr | 01226 748402 |
| Rev Claire Rawlinson | 01226 780420 |
| Rev Lyn Gregg | 01226 663057 |
| Deacon Alison McCauley | 07974 988551 |

E-mail: superintendentbarnsley@gmail.com
E-mail: Claire.Rawlinson@methodist.org.uk
E-mail: lyn.gregg@methodist.org.uk
E-mail: amccauley@hotmail.co.uk

Circuit Office:

01226 321522

E-mail: circuitoffice@btconnect.com

Supernumerary Ministers

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Rev Harold Bowes | 01226 246455 |
| Rev Louise Dawson | 01226 730100 |
| Rev Eileen Sanderson | 01226 742644 |
| Rev Alan Saxby | 01226 203029 |
| Rev Mick Neal | 07740 119802 |

Local Preachers

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Samuel Aggrey | 07426 609724 |
| Wayne Ashton | 01709 585767 |
| *Richard A. Baxendale | 01226 711226 |
| Helen Bellamy | 01226 711745 |
| *Sally Burgess | 01226 496466 |
| *Harold D Craven | 01226 753091 |
| *Janet Crossley | 01226 286816 |
| Peace Furusa | 07861 773518 |
| *Des Gamewell | 01977 611621 |
| Heather Hague | 01226 709240 |
| Elizabeth Haigh | 01977 614771 |
| Christine Halliday | 01226 752063 |
| Edwin Hambleton | 01226 713654 |
| Denise Hollands | 01226 711259 |
| *Rose Latham | 01226 242772 |
| Keith Lodge | 01226 206766 |
| *Rachel Marsden | 01226 719629 |
| *Helen Neal | 07881 656311 |
| *Pat Paddon | 01226 202801 |
| Eleanor Peet | 07919 155101 |
| William A. Platts | 01226 759170 |
| Jackie Praed | 07940798323 |
| Mary Reason | 07712 243515 |
| Michael Sanderson | 01226 742644 |
| *George Senior | 01226 383825 |
| Linda Stammers | 01226 496832 |
| Ray Taylor | 07740 542025 |
| Barbara Tewson | 01226 745979 |
| Dawn Webster | 01226 388806 |
| *Elaine White | 01484 696174 |

On Trial

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| Debbie Evans | 07801 274557 |
| Linda Mellor | 01226 715553 |

On Note

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|---------------------|--------------|
| Genesis Padgett | |
| Geoffrey Buckingham | 07973 759676 |

**relieved from appointments this quarter*

Worship Leaders

SOUTH CHURCH

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Tony Johnson | 01226 742063 |
| *Sarah Kaye | 01226 756645 |
| *Susan Kaye | 01226 756645 |
| Janice Parkin | 07961 787919 |
| Maureen Roebuck | 01226 752168 |
| Hilary Simmons | 01226 287714 |

NORTH EAST CHURCH

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Sheila Butler | 01977 615305 |
| Richard Caley | 01226 725115 |
| Brenda Clarke | 01977 616180 |
| Marilyn Corney | 01226 382543 |
| Christopher Dand | 01226 383631 |
| *Margaret Goldthorpe | 01226 716130 |
| Daphne Irwin | 01226 727316 |
| Brian Laycock | 01302 722759 |
| Chene Makumbe | 01977 613113 |
| Janet Morris | 07887 714905 |
| Elizabeth Orange | 01226 387938 |
| Helen Parsons | 07885 905594 |
| John Pearson | 01226 284772 |
| Sheila Stather | 01226 213594 |
| Caroline Whitehall | 01226 709518 |
| Melanie Wilburn | 07854 590415 |

NORTH WEST CHURCH

| | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Doris Andoh-Kesson | 07450248667 |
| Kwesi Andoh-Kesson | |
| Joyce Barnes | 01226 383846 |
| Trevor Bissett | 01226 383668 |
| Mark Bulmer | 01226 419986 |
| Peter Clarkson | |
| Gloria Dawson | 01226 385449 |
| Elsie Dyson | 01226 292650 |
| John Feasby | 01226 288971 |
| Steven Harrison | 07976257208 |
| Michelle Lee | 01226 285330 |
| Christine Mulrooney | 01226 247652 |
| Peter Mulrooney | 01226 247652 |
| Christine Stamper | |
| Julie Stather | 01226 340164 |
| Susan Townsend | 01226 295475 |
| Allan Wearmouth | 07792 693010 |

Dear all,

It has been lovely to be welcomed, to meet people and enjoy so much hospitality, so many stories of faith. I am deeply grateful for all the lifts but along with those the stories and history of the Methodist Church in Barnsley. The gift of a lift comes with the gift of stories of faith, witness and community life. I have wondered whether it ought to be part of the induction of ministers. As a result of all this hospitality I am beginning to put names to faces in South Church but I am way behind that elsewhere. I will get there!



As I reflect on my moving and the tremendous welcome it reminds me of how difficult it must be to step into a church you don't know. It might be because you have moved or because it is a first time. Hopefully we are as careful in welcoming others as you are ministers!

One of the spectacular aspects of the circuit is your openness to serve and care for the community around you. The range of activities is immense, food banks, pizza lunches in school holidays, exercise, bring and buy, warm spaces, dementia care to name but a few. The involvement in care homes and schools, in offering youth work and Messy Church you are creating ways for people to enter church and begin to name themselves as part of it. I am thrilled to see so much going on and so many taking part.

The Methodist Church have prepared some material to help us to advertise ourselves at Christmas and to explore for ourselves the 'Out of the Ordinary' side of Christmas. If you haven't seen a sample ask a member of staff. I think these resources have the potential to deepen the meaning of Christmas for us all and for us to move forward with deepening within us.

In all of our work for and with God we need to be resourced and sustained in our faith and discipleship. We aim to build on the work of Holy Habits by committing ourselves to a Methodist Way of Life. We will be introducing it in the December Circuit meeting to build into our covenant services and our discipleship.

Once again thank you for your welcome and a Happy Christmas to you all.

Louise

Christmas Services

Christingle

17th Dec 3pm at Hemsworth – Deacon Alison McCauley
17th Dec 3pm at Buckley – Rev Lyn Gregg
23rd Dec 4pm at Emmanuel – Mrs Ellie Peet
24th Dec 4pm at Staincross – Rev Claire Rawlinson
24th Dec 4pm at Dodworth – Rev Lyn Gregg
24th Dec 4pm at Kexborough – Mrs Dawn Webster

Carol Service

14th Dec 7pm at Treddlehoyle
17th Dec 6pm at Emmanuel – Rev Lyn Gregg
17th Dec 3pm at Wombwell

Midnight Communion

24th Dec 11.30pm at Emmanuel – Rev Lyn Gregg
24th Dec 11.30pm at Hemsworth
– Rev Claire Rawlinson

Blue Christmas

21st Dec time tbc at Hoyland and Birdwell
– Rev Louise Carr

Christmas Day

10am at Hemsworth – Rev Claire Rawlinson
10am at Staincross – Deacon Alison McCauley
10am at Emmanuel – Rev Lyn Gregg
10am at Hoyland and Birdwell – Rev Louise Carr

Special Services moving into 2024

Week of Prayer and Christian Unity

21st January 2:30pm at St Peter's, Hoyland
21st January 4:00pm at Dodworth Methodist Chapel
23rd January 6:30pm at Darton Parish Church

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday 14th February 7pm at Emmanuel (tbc)

Dates and Venues for Lent Lunches to follow

| <i>December 2023 to February 2024 Barnsley 25/15</i> | 3rd December Advent Sunday | 10th December Advent 2 | 17th December Advent 3 | 24th December Christmas Eve | 31st December 1st of Christmas | 7th January Ord 1 | 14th January Ord 2 | 21st January Ord 3 | 28th January Ord 4 | 4th February Ord 5 | 11th February Sunday before Lent | 18th February Lent 1 | 25th February Lent 2 |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Principal Reading (Year B) | Mark 13:24-27 | Mark 1:1-8 | John 1:6,19-28 | Luke 1:26-38 | Luke 2:22-40 | Mark 1:4-11 | John 1:43-51 | Mark 1:14-20 | Mark 1:21-28 | Mark 1:29-39 | Mark 9:2-13 | Mark 1:9-15 | Mark 8:31-38 |
| Special Sundays | | | | | | | | Christian Unity | | | Racial Justice | | |

Streamed Worship weekly at 10.30am - Fb Link each week available on Barnsley Methodist Community Contemporary Worship 7pm - Brierley 6th Dec / 3rd Jan / 7th Feb and Emmanuel 20th Dec / 17th Jan / 21st Feb

North West - Rev Lyn Gregg

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|------------|----------------------------------|----------|---------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|
| Buckley | Saturday after coffee morning | 11:15 am | - | 9th - LA / CS | - | 23rd - McCauley | - | - | 13th - Rawlinson | - | 27th - Gregg | - | 10th - Hollands | - | 24th - Peet |
| Buckley | Sunday | 10:30 am | Gregg LS | - | Gregg Ctgl / 3pm | - | Circuit Service @ Staincross | Gregg COV | - | Tewson (Car) | - | Taylor | - | Gregg CA / GD | - |
| Pogmoor | Tuesday @ Treddlehoyle | 2:30 pm | 5th - Evans | - | - | - | | 2nd - Gregg COV | - | - | - | 6th - Gregg | - | - | - |
| Dodworth | Sunday | 10:30 am | Praed | Gregg LS | LA / CS | Gregg Ctgl / 4pm | | McCauley | Gregg COV | Hague | Peet | Mellor | Dawson | McCauley Café | Lodge |
| Emmanuel | Sunday | 10:00 am | E Sanderson | LA / N | Ashton AAW | McCauley | | LA | Furusa | Praed | Gregg COV | BS | Hague | Aggrey | Evans |
| Higham | Sunday | 4:00 pm | Gregg LS | - | LA / VCS | - | | Gregg COV | - | Aggrey | - | McCauley | - | Ashton | - |
| Kexborough | Sunday | 10:30 am | Junior Church | Girls' Brigade | LA / CS | Webster Ctgl / 4pm | | Mellor | Stammers | Gregg COV | Carr | Haigh | Praed | Hollands | Gregg LS |

North East - Rev Claire Rawlinson

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|---------------------|---------|----------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Monk Bretton | Sunday | 10:30 am | Haigh | Own Arr | Rawlinson UTD / CIG | Own Arr / CS | Circuit Service @ Staincross | Taylor | Rawlinson COV | Bellamy | Stammers | Ashton | McCauley | Rawlinson Café | Aggrey |
| Staincross | Sunday | 10:30 am | Bhogal CA | Rawlinson LS | Lodge CS | Rawlinson Ctgl / 4pm | McCauley Circuit Service | Aggrey | Praed | Rawlinson COV | Halliday (Car) | Webster Café | E Sanderson | Haigh | Hague |
| Brierley | Sunday | 10:30 am | Carr | Praed | Rawlinson CS / 4pm | Rawlinson LS | Circuit Service @ Staincross | Rawlinson COV | McCauley | Evans | Ashton | Gregg | Rawlinson Café | Dawson LS | Webster |
| Hemsworth | Sunday | 10:30 am | Rawlinson B | Taylor | McCauley Ctgl / 3pm | Halliday (Car) | | Haigh | Lodge | Peet | Rawlinson LS | Hollands | Platts | Stammers | Rawlinson Café |
| Ryhill | Sunday | 6:00 pm | McCauley | - | Rawlinson CS | - | | Rawlinson COV | - | Peet | - | Aggrey | - | Rawlinson LS | - |
| New Hope Fellowship | Tuesday | 2:00 pm | - | 12th - McCauley | - | 26th - No service | - | 9th - Rawlinson | - | 23rd - Hague | - | - | 13th - Rawlinson | - | 27th - Hague |
| Mapplewell Manor | Sunday | 2:00 pm | - | - | Rawlinson LS | - | - | - | Rawlinson LS | - | - | - | Rawlinson LS | - | - |

South - Rev Louise Carr

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|--------------------|--------|----------|----------|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|-------------|----------|----------|-----------------|--------------|---------|---------|----------------|
| Darfield Wesley | Sunday | 10:30 am | Taylor | Tewson (Car) | LA / CS | UTD at Wombwell | Circuit Service @ Staincross | E Sanderson | Carr COV | Dawson | UTD at Wombwell | Peet | Lodge | Carr | Own Arr |
| Great Houghton | Sunday | 10:30 am | Hague | Carr | Halliday (Car) CS | | | Peet | Ashton | Haigh | | Carr COV | Bellamy | Own Arr | Praed |
| Wombwell | Sunday | 10:30 am | McCauley | Haigh | LA / CS 3pm | Carr UTD | | Own Arr | Platts | Carr COV | E Sanderson UTD | Own Arr | Aggrey | Taylor | Peet |
| Hoyland & Birdwell | Sunday | 10:30 am | Ashton | Evans | LA / CS | UTD at Wombwell | | Carr COV | Taylor | McCauley | UTD at Wombwell | Tewson (Car) | Carr | Peet | Halliday (Car) |
| Pilley | Sunday | 3:00 pm | Peet | - | CS / LA | | | - | Carr COV | - | | - | Carr | - | Rawlinson |

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|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| AAW - All Age Worship | (Car) - Transport Required | CS - Carol Service | Own Arr - Own Arrangement |
| B - Baptism | COV - Covenant Service | GD - Gift Day | VCS - Village Carol Sing |
| BS - Be Still | CIG - Carols in Garden | Ctgl - Christingle | LS - Holy Communion |
| CA - Chapel Anniversary | UTD - United Service | N - Nativity | |
| LA - Church Stewards & Worship Leaders to make own arrangements for this service | | | |

Thoughts & reflections from members of our circuit staff team

Time is marching on.....

At the start of the new church year, the staff went to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park, for a day of team building, business, planning the mission of the circuit and obviously lunch! During the morning, to inspire our discussions, we were told to go out and wander, look at the sculptures and reflect on our mission here in and around Barnsley.

Debbie and Alison wandered around the art installation entitled '**Relics**' by Daniel Arsham. Huge sculptures were eroded and broken, some partially buried in the ground, some with holes in them where giant metallic looking crystals grew.

The artist says of the sculptures 'All objects become antiquated and in some way they all become ruins or relics.' **Time is marching on.....**

This gave us much food for thought. The giant rabbit to someone of Deacon Alison's age looked like Dylan from the 'Magic Roundabout'.

The Spaceman was more obvious but belonged to a time when man first landed on the moon.



The Pikachu model seemed modern to us, but in actual fact was a relic from the mid 90's, so it's really almost 30 years old!



We pondered how this related to our churches. **Did people 'of a certain age' recognise our churches, but the younger generation doesn't see them as we do? Are the things we think are new and modern, not actually as relevant as we think?**

Time goes by and things become unrecognisable or no longer relevant very quickly. A young boy walking past recognised the spaceman, but he had no idea what the other sculptures represented. That made us wonder, **what do people perceive when they see our churches?**

But in the decay and deterioration, shiny new crystals grew. The statues would never be the same. The crystals would not make them what they once were, but something new was growing out of the old.

Can we as a people here in Barnsley, take what we have and grow something completely new for God, letting God use the old and transform it into something similar but different for His glory?

We've just got to be brave enough to let the new burst out of the old.

And something else to consider-the young and not so young working together

Part of the discussions from the staff day included the staff breaking off into small groups to cover specific topics. Linda stammers & Daphne Irwin were partnered together to consider how they could use their Lay Worker roles to forge new inter-generational community partnerships with the schools and Care homes based in the North East Church **More to Follow in the next newsletter.**

Identify the requirements to become an Eco Circuit providing resources and training to enable Churches and the Circuit to fulfil them.



Becoming an ECO Church

Part 1: Steps along the way to an ECO Festival

The desire to become **ECO** churches is part of our shared mission and a priority declared by the Connexion, Sheffield District and Barnsley Circuit.

A small group from the NW Church has been leading the **ECO** Church development, as defined by the **A Rocha international ECO Churches organisation**. Criteria to gain three levels of award are set out, some of which follow. We felt a festival could celebrate what is taking place in Barnsley; help us to learn together about how to work with and in our communities and demonstrate our commitment, as Christians, to actively care for creation.

But what steps had we taken on the path to becoming **ECO** Churches?

One criterion suggests that we should contact and talk with our politicians and share our concerns. We had previously sent letters to local politicians asking about their policies and practices in relation to the COP conferences. An **ECO** theme in teaching, learning and worship - a further criterion - was relatively easy to achieve, with careful planning and preparation. Rev Louise Dawson, encouraged each chapel to hold a similar service and to write responsive, individual **ECO** pledges. Such promises help us all to publicly commit and see that every individual step makes a difference. Harvest Festivals offered great opportunities to reflect on creation, including learning about the impact of our behaviour on the climate and, consequently, on housing, community and food security.

Similarly, working alongside and contributing to Christian Aid's Climate Crisis campaign, helped churches to understand the global picture and how we can help to mitigate the impact. Being Fair Trade churches actively assists this understanding. We encouraged each chapel to use **ECO** cleaning products by buying large quantities and sharing them.

Work to enhance grounds and gardens of our chapels, is another key criterion. We involved young people in installing bird boxes and a regular group of 'gardeners' engage in maintaining grounds, planting shrubs and trees, to encourage insects or provide hibernation sites. Operating with Twiggs, the grounds maintenance organisation, and Barnsley Parks Department, members of chapels have planted trees in Dodworth and donated bird boxes to Kexborough. Many of these activities involved a further criterion of community engagement.

Some of the **ECO** Church criteria create different demands for chapels. Emmanuel found it difficult to re-cycle its rubbish, without incurring considerable expense; as the building is used by many groups a commercial service is needed. Individuals are urged to help by taking re-cyclable rubbish home with them. Other chapels have found that much easier to achieve, whilst struggling with other aspects.

Many of our buildings provide the biggest **ECO** challenge of all. The District grants towards building assessments have been matched by the mission fund of the Barnsley Circuit. This has included detailed reports on improvements chapels can make to conserve energy; reduce draughts and save money. Calculating our carbon footprints is an even bigger challenge.

In the spring, Emmanuel achieved a Silver **A Rocha** award (Birdwell and Hoyland had already gained Bronze award and Kexborough and Buckley are almost ready to submit for recognition).

So why did we decide to hold an **ECO** Fest? **Watch this space!!**

In the next newsletter, we will write about the event and how it contributed to many aspects of working towards becoming recognised **ECO** Churches.

For further information contact Barnsley North West Church **ECO** working group.

or <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/>

As part of our Circuit **Mission Plan 2021-2024** under the heading of

Service

we said we would,

Raise awareness across the Circuit of opportunities for service and engagement, especially through external groups seeking to meet the needs of local people.



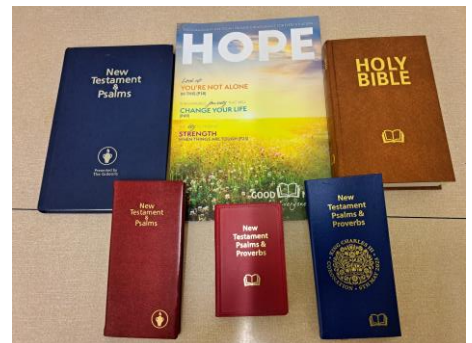
same work under the name of **Good News for Everyone.**

After a lengthy consultation on what the new name should be, the deciding factor was that we wanted to convey in our name what it is we essentially do, and bringing the **Good News for Everyone** as Jesus did - seemed to be a bit of a no brainer in the end!

Our philosophy is that the **Good News** of Jesus should be freely available to all and we aim to make it so. We are careful not to preach because that is something different – although we sometimes get invited to speak in churches and then we have a freer rein. But in the main we present the Testament without obligation and trust that by sowing a seed great things may come as a result – and we have many a testimony where this has been the case.

The Barnsley Branch are small in number but we try to carry out all our duties as best we can. **Interested in joining us or finding out more?** See contact details below.

What is it we do? We distribute Scriptures, completely free of charge, to all sorts of places and individuals as required by our constitution. These include schools, hotels, guest houses, B & Bs, hospitals, care homes, uniformed organisations, prisons, individuals on request, sports clubs (professional and amateur), police, armed forces and any other opportunities that might come our way.



A big part of our work is in schools. We aim to get into every High School in Barnsley, every year, to do a short presentation to the Year 7 intake and distribute the little red testaments which comprise the New Testament, Psalms and Proverbs. These presentations can take as little as ten minutes depending on how much time the school has available – we are really in their hands and are grateful for any time they can give us. In recent years it has been increasingly difficult to gain access to schools, for a variety of reasons. This has not just been a local issue but is reflected widely in the region and nationally. However, when we do get in we are always well received and the pupils generally appreciate what they're given. Some of the teachers have still got their own "red bibles" they first received at school many years ago.

When we place Bibles in hotels etc. it tends to be the complete Bible and you may have come across one in the drawer of your bedside table when you've been on holiday. Now you know how it got there!

How are we funded? and how do we pay for all of these free Bibles? Our Treasurer is in charge of basically two funds – the Local and the General – and these are generated by donations and fund raising. We don't receive any funding from the National Organisation in Lutterworth, but believe me when I say that the Lord always provides enough for His work to take place.

If you would like to know more about volunteering or donating, take a look at the website www.goodnewsuk.com or contact Ray bozspurs@hotmail.co.uk