

The Methodist Church



Barnsley Circuit

Preaching Plan & Newsletter

**March to
May 2026**



www.barnsleymethodist.org.uk



Barnsley Methodist Community



Barnsley Methodist

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On Trial

Mrs Debbie Evans 07895 597149
Mr Geoffrey Buckingham 07973 759676

On Note

* Genesis Padgett 07927 179196

**relieved from appointments this quarter*

Worship Leaders

SOUTH CHURCH

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*Susan Kaye 01226 756645
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Julie Stather 01226 340164
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Dear friends,

During the period covered by this plan we will continue to journey through Lent towards Easter Sunday, when we will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. And as I turn my thoughts to Easter, I am reminded of a story of some unwelcome visitors to a village in a remote part of the world.



The visitors, a colony of hungry termites, did irreparable damage to the simple wooden buildings of the village. Determined not to suffer the same fate again, the buildings were replaced with European-style buildings made of materials the termites could not eat their way through.

One of the buildings destroyed was the church. It too was rebuilt in an elaborate European style, with an intricately carved European crucifix placed on the altar, in the style favoured by the European missionaries who had brought the gospel to the village some years earlier.

The villagers were proud of their new building, but then one day something terrible happened. The termites ate Jesus, and he fell off the cross, splitting into splinters of wood.

A local sculptor was invited to carve a new Jesus in their native style. The carving finished, the sculptor couldn't bring himself to nail the new Jesus to the cross. He asked his friends, but none could bring themselves to hammer the nails into Jesus hands and feet either. Eventually it was decided the new Jesus should be suspended above the cross, providing a daily reminder of the new life offered to all through Christ's rising from the dead.

May the hope and the joy of the risen Christ be yours, each and every day.

God bless,

Lyn Gregg

| Easter Services | |
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| Maundy Thursday – 2nd April | |
| 6pm at Brierley 7pm at Emmanuel | |
| Good Friday Service – 3rd April | Good Friday Walk of Witness – 3rd April |
| 10am at Hoyland Common Co-operative - Hoyland and District Churches Together 10.45am at Higham – Christian Endeavour Service 3pm at Kexborough followed by tea 7pm at Staincross | 10.30am The Village Hall car park – Staincross Churches together 10.45am from Rosehill WRC – Dodworth Christians Together Group |
| Holy Saturday – 4th April | Easter Sunday – see preaching plan |
| 7pm at Hoyland and Birdwell | Easter Breakfast at Emmanuel 9am Easter Breakfast at Monk Bretton |
| Lent Bible Studies – TBC | |

| March to May 2026 Barnsley 25/15 | 1st March 2nd in Lent | 8th March 3rd in lent | 15th March 4th in Lent | 22nd March Passion Sunday | 29th March Palm Sunday | 5th April Easter Day | 12th April 2nd of Easter | 19th April 3rd of Easter | 26th April 4th of Easter | 3rd May 5th of Easter | 10th May 6th of Easter | 17th May 7th of Easter | 24th May Pentecost | 31st May Trinity |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Principal Reading (Year A) | John 3:1-17 | John 4:5-42 | John 19:25-27 | John 11:1-45 | Matthew 27:11-54 | Matthew 28:1-10 | John 20:19-31 | Luke 24:13-35 | John 10:1-10 | John 14:1-14 | John 14:15-21 | John 17:1-11 | Acts 2:1-21 | Matthew 28:16-20 |
| Special Sundays | | | Mothering Sunday | | | | | | | | Christian Aid Week | | Aldersgate Sunday | |

Streamed Worship every 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday at 10.30am - this can be found through the Barnsley Methodist Circuit YouTube channel. Contemporary Worship 7pm - Brierley 4th Mar / 1st Apr / 6th May and Emmanuel 18th Mar / 15th Apr / 20th May

North West - Rev Lyn Gregg

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|------------|--|----------|--------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Buckley | Saturday <small>after coffee morning</small> | 11:15 am | - | 7th - Gregg LS | - | 21st - No Service | - | - | - | 18th - Atkins | - | 2nd - Gregg | - | 16th - Gregg | - | 30th - Atkins |
| Buckley | Sunday | 10:30 am | Taylor | - | LA | - | Aggrey | Stammers LSe | Evans | - | LA | - | Gregg LS/LF | - | UTD @ Emmanuel | - |
| Dodworth | Sunday | 10:30 am | Gregg LS | M Sanderson | LA | Reason | Gregg CA | Taylor LSe | LA | Webster | Aggrey | Gregg LS | LA | Halliday (Car) | | Ashton |
| Emmanuel | Sunday | 10:00 am | BS | Gregg LS/GD | LA AAW | M Sanderson CA | Halliday (Car) | Webster LSe | Gregg | LA | Gregg LS | BS | Dawson | Taylor | Gregg | Evans |
| Higham | Sunday | 4:00 pm | Atkins CA | - | Gregg LS | - | Gregg | Gregg LSe | LA | - | Gregg | - | Atkins | - | Gregg LS | - |
| Kexborough | Sunday | 10:30 am | Attwood | LA | Gregg LS | Furusa | LA | Gregg LSe | Reid (Car) | Ashton | LA | Taylor | Aggrey | Gregg LS | UTD @ Emmanuel | LA |

North East - Rev Andrew Atkins

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|---------------------|---------|----------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Monk Bretton | Sunday | 10:30 am | Halliday (Car) GD | Reason | LA | Reid (Car) LS | LA | Atkins LSe | M Sanderson | Peet | LA | Aggrey | LA | Ashton | Atkins LS | V Atkins |
| Staincross | Sunday | 10:30 am | Evans | LA | Praed | Atkins LS | LA | Dawson Lse | Halliday (Car) | Taylor | LA | Gamewell | Atkins | LA | Buckingham | UTD @ Monk Bretton |
| Brierley | Sunday | 10:30 am | Peet Str | Attwood Not Str | LA Not Str | Aggrey Not Str | Webster Str | Peet LSe /Str | LA Not Str | Gregg Str | Reason Not Str | Atkins LS/ Str | LA Not Str | Stammers Str | M Sanderson Not Str | |
| Hemsworth | Sunday | 10:30 am | Gamewell | LA | Attwood | Taylor | Atkins CA | Reason LSe | LA | Stammers | LA | Ashton | LA | Atkins LS | Attwood | |
| Ryhill | Sunday | 6:00 pm | Gregg LS | - | Atkins | - | Atkins | Atkins LSe | - | LA | - | Attwood | - | Atkins | - | Atkins LS |
| New Hope Fellowship | Tuesday | 2:00 pm | - | 10th - Atkins | - | 24th - Gregg | - | - | 14th - Atkins | - | 28th - LA | - | 12th - Atkins | - | 26th - LA | - |
| Mapplewell Manor | Sunday | 2:00 pm | - | - | - | Atkins | - | - | - | Atkins | - | - | Atkins | - | - | - |

South - Rev Andrew Atkins / Rev Eileen Sanderson (Gt Houghton & Wombwell)

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|--------------------|--------|----------|--------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------|--------------------|-------------|--------|---------|----------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Darfield Wesley | Sunday | 10:30 am | LA | Aggrey | LA | Stammers | Peet CA | Gamewell LSe | Atkins | LA | Praed | Reason | Bellamy | LA | Taylor | Atkins LS |
| Great Houghton | Sunday | 10:30 am | Haigh | LA | Dawson | E Sanderson LS | LA | Ashton LSe | E Sanderson | Atkins | LA | Praed | LA | Furusa | E Sanderson LS | UTD @ Darfield Wesley |
| Wombwell | Sunday | 10:30 am | Atkins | E sanderson LS | LA | Gregg | LA | E Sanderson LSe | Taylor | Aggrey | Attwood | LA | E Sanderson LS | Reid (Car) | LA | |
| Hoyland & Birdwell | Sunday | 10:30 am | LA | Taylor | Atkins LS/CA | Ashton | Buckingham | Praed LSe | LA | Furusa | LA | Halliday (Car) | Evans | LA | Aggrey | |
| Pilley | Sunday | 3:00 pm | - | Gregg | - | Atkins | - | Atkins LSe/LS | - | LA | - | Atkins | - | Gregg LS | - | |

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| AAW - All Age Worship BS - Be Still (Car) - Transport Required CA - Church Anniversary LA - Church Stewards & Worship Leaders to make own arrangements for this service | GD - Gift Day LF - Ladies Fellowship LS - Holy Communion LSe - Extended Communion | Not Str - Not Streamed Str - Streamed UTD - United Service |
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❖ **promote cross-Circuit initiatives, such as supporting foodbanks, development charities and becoming an Eco Circuit**

Working to be an ECO Church at Emmanuel

Emmanuel Chapel (EMC) committed to be an ECO Church in 2021, following a Barnsley Methodist North West Church Council ECO Church commitment.

The A Rocha Gold/Silver/Bronze ECO Church framework (<https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk>) was adopted as our guide, covering multiple aspects of church life: worship, teaching and learning, buildings, gardens, carbon footprint and community engagement.

We have focused on seizing opportunities and addressing challenge and then reflecting on their contribution to the framework, rather than seeing the framework as a tick-box activity.

We have gained the Silver Award and are making good progress towards Gold.

Climate change and sustainability are enormous issues which face our very existence; how can we possibly make a difference?

We have used achievable approaches, including:

- * sharing monthly, seasonal eco-tips in our weekly newsletter
- * inviting congregations to make ECO pledges – and reviewing them
- * adopting environmental issues in our worship, especially during Creation-tide
- * sharing information about our activities through a large notice-board
- * engaging with Barnsley MPs in relation to the Conference of Parties (COP)
- * sharing ECO cleaning products across the NW Church chapels, supported by a Circuit Mission Grant
- * planting trees in Dodworth
- * taking part in the Greenpeace Big Plastic Count
- * supporting the Macmillan charity Christmas plastic chocolate box collection
- * actively supporting and promoting Christian Aid's work
- * conducting a 'travel to church' survey to help calculate our carbon footprint
- * encouraging people to take part in the RSPB Big Garden Watch
- * promoting the Olio free food service to prevent food waste to landfill.

What next?

We are always looking for new ideas; our future plans include:

- ❖ collecting plastic tubs for re-cycling
- ❖ planning our next ECOFest
- ❖ seeking advice and funding for a new heating system/boiler.

Has your chapel thought about what steps it can take to take better care of this wonderful planet God has given us?

**Would you like help to start the A Rocha pathway?
Please contact the Emmanuel Eco Team**

❖ **promote cross-Circuit initiatives, such as supporting foodbanks, development charities and becoming an Eco Circuit**



Our ECOfest

The central pillar of our community engagement has been our ECOfest events, attracting a wide range of voluntary, public and private organisations committed to sustainability, providing information, activities and items to purchase. These have been supported by the Mayor, local Councillors and our Barnsley Central MP.

Bigger challenges and initiatives

We used an energy assessment report of our building to inform changes, which included, adding pipework insulation, repairing closures on windows to reduce draughts, and installing LED sensor lighting in rooms/corridors.

The ECO team works closely with the EMC grants team who have applied to trusts and foundations to fund improvement work. Other grants were received via the local authority (LA) Positive Climate Partnership (PCP), a network of private businesses, public and voluntary organisations working to develop sustainable practices. This PCP collaboration has helped us to learn what others are doing, enhance our knowledge, share information, liaise with different organisations and promote our activities to wider audiences. **We can't face these challenges alone!**



We have engaged with Net Zero and Water Literacy courses through the PCP, which led to a successful application for funds from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) to install solar panels and a storage battery. We have subsequently received further UKSPF grant-aid to install additional solar batteries. The required match-funding came from other donor organisations and generous family donations.

As an ECO Church we pledge, step by step to continue making a difference, in 2026, to sustain our gift of Creation and the diversity of life it offers.

The Emmanuel ECO Team

Grants are available from Sheffield Methodist District for Eco audits.

What ideas do you have to make your chapel more energy efficient?

❖ **Provide opportunities and resources to help chapels offer a positive invitation to people and to be genuinely welcoming**

Remembering Pogmoor

Following the closure and sale of their building on Wade Street, the fellowship of Pogmoor Methodist Church has been meeting once a month at the Tom Treddlehoyle pub in Pogmoor.

Although numbers have remained low, an act of worship has been held in the conservatory during the warmer months, or by the log fire when it has been colder, on the first Tuesday afternoon of the month.

Worship has included everything that would be expected in our churches on a Sunday morning, with prayers, hymns, bible readings, a sermon or message and, on occasion, holy communion.

With a desire to be a witness in the community, two very successful carol services were held in December 2023 and 2024, with the pub being packed to the rafters on both occasions.

Sadly, time marches on, and the passing years take their toll on us all, and so it has been with heavy heart that the faithful regular attendees have decided now is the time to 'call it a day' on this, very particular expression of mission.

Whilst options for continuing were considered and discussed, it was agreed to meet in the Barugh House Meeting Room one final time for a carol service on December 8th. Following our worship, we were able to share memories of our time and journey together.

We are often reminded that we are a pilgrim people, and the members of Pogmoor Methodist Church have been on a journey that, although not unique, has been one not often travelled within the context of the Methodist Church. As a fellowship they have journeyed from the comfort and familiarity of their own chapel out into the heart of their community, finding a welcome in a pub. And now? Well, who knows where God will lead them next.

As a circuit we thank those pioneering pilgrims of Pogmoor for their courage, their faithfulness and their continued witness. You may never know what seeds you have sown amongst the people of Pogmoor but, one day, we know God will reap the harvest.

God bless, Rev Lyn Gregg

Evangelism – sharing the gospel good news.
Where could your fellowship reach out in the community?
What alternative venues could you use?