The Methodist Church

Barnsley Circuit

Preaching Plan & Newsletter

December 2026 to February 2027

Ministers

Rev Vicky Atkins	07356 276667 / 0114 312 3845 superintendentbarnsley@gmail.com
Rev Michelle Deans	07828 990487 revmichelledeans@outlook.com
Rev Lyn Gregg	01226 663057 lyn.gregg@methodist.org.uk
Deacon Mark Attwood	07469 805482 mark@thecairn.me.uk
Circuit Office	01226 321522 circuitoffice@btconnect.com

www.barnsleymethodist.org.uk
Barnsley Methodist Community
YouTube Barnsley Methodist

CIRCUIT LEADERSHIP TEAM

All Circuit ministers, Michael Sanderson (Chair and South rep) Alison Padgett (Safeguarding) Ellie Peet (Local preacher's secretary) Debbie Evans (Circuit rep) Linda Stammers (NE rep) **Vacancies (Circuit rep and NW rep)** Carol Jewkes (secretary)

Supernumerary Ministers

Rev Louise Dawson	louise@revdawson.co.uk
Rev Geoff Reid	07751 596579
Rev Eileen Sanderson	07786 947319
*Rev Mick Neal	07740 119802

NORTH EAST CHURCH – Local Preachers

*Mr Richard A. Baxendale	01226 711226
*Helen Bellamy	helen@hbellamy.me.uk
*Sally Burgess	01226 496466
*Janet Crossley	01226 286816
Des Gamewell	01977 611621
*Elizabeth Haigh	07780 372699
*Mrs Denise Hollands	denisehollands47@gmail.com
*Mr Keith Lodge	01226 206766
Mrs Linda Stammers	l.stammers@hotmail.co.uk
Mr Ray Taylor	bozspurs@hotmail.co.uk

Worship Leaders

Sheila Butler	07745 314775
Richard Caley	richard.caley@assistech.plus.com
Brenda Clark	01977 616180
Marilyn Corney	01226 896791
Christopher Dand	01226 383631
*Margaret Goldthorpe	01226 716130
Daphne Irwin	07895 597105
Brian Laycock	01302 722759
Janet Morris	janetmorris226@btinternet.com
Elizabeth Orange	01226 387938
Helen Parsons	heloonsplace@yahoo.co.uk
John Pearson	01226 284772
Sheila Stather	01226 213594
Caroline Whitehall	01226 709518

Reps to Circuit Meeting

Diane Charlesworth (Staincross), Elizabeth Haigh, (Hemsworth) Elizabeth Hambleton (Brierley), Jenny Pearson, (Monk Bretton) John Pearson (NE)

Vacancies: NE & Ryhill.

NORTH WEST – Local Preachers

*Miss Rose Latham	01226 242772
*Rachel Marsden	01226 719629
*Pat Paddon	01226 202801
Mrs Ellie Peet	elliepeet59@gmail.com
Dawn Webster	dawnrwebster@me.com
*Elaine White	elainewhite21@gmail.com

**On Trial*

Mr Geoffrey Buckingahm	geoffreybuckingham01@gmail.com
Mrs Debbie Evans	07801 274557
Genesis Padgett	07927 179196

Worship Leaders

Doris Andoh-Kesson	dorisandoh74@gmail.com
Kwezi Andoh-Kesson	kwesiakesson@gmail.com
Joyce Barnes	jbarnes1948@hotmail.co.uk
Mark Bulmer	01226 419986
Gloria Dawson	01226 385449
John Durham	john@durham71.com
Elsie Dyson	elsie.dyson@hotmail.com
Paul Gregg	01226 663057
Christine Mulrooney	01226 247652
Peter Mulrooney	01226 247652
Christine Stamper	christinestamper@hotmail.com
Julie Stather	Julie@stather.me.uk
Susan Townsend	susandcol@gmail.com
Allan Wearmouth	07792 693010

Reps to Circuit Meeting

Angela Findlow (Kexborough), Anne Hamby (Dodworth), Chris Harrington (NW), Les Howarth (Higham), Janette McDonald (Emmanuel)

Vacancies: NW & Buckley

SOUTH CHURCH – Local Preachers

Mr Samuel Aggrey	07426 609724
Mr Wayne Ashton	07519 922305
Mrs Peace Furusa	07861 773518
Christine Halliday	01226 752063
*Mr William A. Platts	01226 759170
Mrs Jackie Praed	07940 798323
Mary Reason	mary.reason@icloud.com
Michael Sanderson	07508 208426
*Mrs Barbara Tewson	01226 745979

Worship Leaders

Malcolm Birdsall	01226 891536
Tony Johnson	07763 472011
*Sarah Kaye	01226 756645
Janice Parkin	07861 787919
Maureen Roebuck	01226 752168
Hilary Simmons	fairfielder463@gmail.com
Peter White	peter-bmv@hotmail.com

Reps to Circuit Meeting

Joan Haywood (GT Houghton), Margaret McHale (STH), Catherine Mosley (H&B), Janice Parkin (Wombwell) Barbara Tewson (Pilley)

Vacancies: STH & Darfield Wesley

**relieved from appointments this quarter*

Dear Friends



Don't miss Advent on the way!

A few weeks ago, I popped into the supermarket to buy some cakes for a meeting. Nothing particularly unusual about that, except that as I reached the cake aisle, I found myself surrounded by mince pies, Christmas puddings and all manner of festive treats. It was only October!

Now, I have nothing against mince pies. In fact, I rather enjoy them. But I did find myself feeling a little irritated. The leaves had barely begun to change colour, the clocks hadn't gone back and we hadn't had our first proper frost. Yet here we were, already being hurried towards Christmas.

It made me wonder whether we have lost something of the art of waiting. We seem so accustomed to looking ahead to the next thing that we struggle to appreciate the season we're actually in.

The natural world doesn't seem to have this problem. Autumn arrives gradually. The leaves change colour, the evenings draw in and eventually the first frost appears. Each change gently prepares the way for the next. There is no rush to get to winter.

And perhaps this is one of the reasons why I've always appreciated the rhythm of the Christian year.

As we move through Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost and the long weeks of Ordinary Time, we're invited to experience different aspects of our faith. There are times for waiting, times for celebration, times for reflection and questioning, and times when we simply get on with the ordinary business of living out our faith.

I rather like that. Life isn't one long celebration, nor is it always a time of waiting or uncertainty. We need the different seasons, and perhaps the quieter ones are just as important as the great festivals. They give us space to reflect, to grow and sometimes simply to be.

And I think there's something rather wonderful about the Church beginning its year not with a great celebration, but with waiting.

Of course, Advent isn't just about waiting for Christmas. We remember the birth of Jesus and look forward in hope to God's promised future. But somewhere between remembering what has been and wondering what is still to come, there's also the present moment. And I wonder whether that's the bit we sometimes overlook.

I know I can be guilty of this myself, thinking about the next meeting or the next thing that needs doing rather than appreciating what's happening around me. Perhaps we do something similar in our churches, spending so much time thinking about the future that we forget to notice the good things already happening among us.

So perhaps this Advent we might give ourselves permission to enjoy the season we're actually in, to notice the people around us, the small kindnesses and those ordinary moments where God is quietly at work.

Christmas will come, as it always does. But let's not miss Advent on the way.

In faith and friendship,

Vicky

December to February 2027 *Barnsley 25/15*	6th December Advent 2	13th December Advent 3	20th December Advent 4	27th December 1st of Christmas	3rd January 2nd of Christmas	10th January Ord 1	17th January Ord 2	24th January Ord 3	31st January Ord 4	7th February Sunday before Lent	14th February Lent 1	21st February Lent 2	28th Febraury Lent 3
Principal Reading (Year B)	Mark 1:1-8	John 1:6-8, 19-28	Luke 1:26-38	John 1:1-18	Luke 2:22-40	Mark 1:4-11	John 1:43-51	Mark 1:21-28	Mark 1:29-39	Mark 9:2-13	Mark 1:9-15	Mark 8:31-38	John 3:14-21
Special Sundays							Week of prayer for Christian Unity				Racial Justice		

Streamed Worship now available alternative Sundays at 10.30am - this can be found through the Barnsley Methodist Circuit YouTube channel. **Contemporary Worship 7pm - Brierley 2nd Dec / 6th Jan / 3rd Feb and Emmanuel 16th Dec / 20th Jan / 17th Feb**

North West - Rev Lyn Gregg

Buckley	Saturday after coffee morning	11:15 am	5th - Gregg	12th - OA CS	-	-	2nd - Gregg LS/COV	9th - Gregg	16th - Deans	23rd - Gregg	30th - Evans	6th - Gregg LS	13th - Ashton CA	20th - Attwood	27th - Gregg
Buckley	Sunday	10:30 am	-	-	Gregg Ctgl@3pm	Circuit Service @Wombwell	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dodworth	Sunday	10:30 am	Webster	Buckingham	Deans		Gregg LS/COV	Padgett	Stammers	M Sanderson	Gregg LS	Praed	LA	Peet	LA
Emmanuel	Sunday	10:00 am	LA BL	Roots/Brownies N	Gregg LS		OA BS	Gregg LS/COV	Mark North	Ashton	Taylor	Deans BL	Gregg LS	Padgett	Peet
Higham	Sunday	4:00 pm	Gregg LS	OA CS	Gregg CS		Gregg LS/COV	-	Peet	-	Deans	-	Gregg LS	-	Evans
Kexborough	Sunday	10:30 am	LA Girls' Brigade	LA Junior Church	Dawson CS		Stammers	Ashton	Gregg LS/COV	Praed	Halliday (Car)	Webster	LA	Taylor	Gregg LS

North East - Deacon Mark Attwood

Monk Bretton	Sunday	10:30 am	Ashton B	Peet Café/Carols	Aggrey	Circuit Service @Wombwell	Attwood	Gamewell	Reid (Car) LS/COV	Utd @Staincross	LA	Buckingham	Stammers	LA	E Sanderson LS
Staincross	Sunday	10:30 am	Bhogal CA	Reid (Car) LS	OA CS		Aggrey	V Atkins LS/COV	Dawson	Attwood	LA	Gregg LS	LA	Attwood	Deans LS
Brierley	Sunday	10:30 am	M Sanderson Not Str	Gregg LS/Str	Halliday (Car) Not Str		LA Not Str	Attwood Str	Taylor Not Str		E Sanderson Not Str / COV	Attwood Str	Aggrey Not Str	Deans LS/Str	LA Not Str
Hemsworth	Sunday	10:30 am	Gregg LS	Attwood	LA CS		Evans	Aggrey	Attwood	Utd @Staincross	LA	Taylor	LA	Reid (Car) LS	Reason
Ryhill	Sunday	6:00 pm	-	Gregg	Attwood CS		-	Gregg LS/COV	-		-	Attwood	-	Deans LS	-
Mapplewell Manor	Sunday	2:00 pm	-	Attwood	-	-	-	-	-	Gregg	-	-	-	Attwood	-

South - Rev Michelle Deans

Darfield Wesley	Sunday	10:30 am	E Sanderson LS	Gamewell	LA	Circuit Service @Wombwell	Reason	Deans UTD/COV	Furusa	Gregg	Deans LS	Peet	Dawson LS	LA	Taylor
Great Houghton	Sunday	10:30 am	Deans LS	Padgett	Ashton CS		Taylor	UTD @Darfield Wesley	Webster	Deans B	Aggrey	LA	Reason	Halliday (Car)	LA
Wombwell	Sunday	10:30 am	Reason	Deans LS	Furusa	Deans	Deans LS/COV	LA	Peet	Aggrey	Evans	LA	Deans B	Ashton	Praed
Hoyland & Birdwell	Sunday	10:30 am	Taylor	Stammers	LA CS	Circuit Service @Wombwell	Halliday (Car)	Peet	Deans LS/COV	LA	Reason	Ashton	Gamewell	Furusa	Aggrey
Pilley	Sunday	3:00 pm	-	Praed	-		-	Deans LS/COV	-	Ashton	-	Deans LS	-	Peet	-

B - Baptism	**COV** - Covenant Service	**Str** - Streamed
BL - Be Lively	**CS** - Carol Service	**Not Str** - Not Streamed
BS - Be Still	**LS** - Holy Communion	**UTD** - United Service
CA - Church Anniversary	**OA** - Own Arrangement	
(Car) - Transport Required	**N** - Nativity	
Ctgl - Christingle	**LA** - Church Stewards & Worship Leaders to make own arrangements for this service	

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF BUCKLEY CHURCH

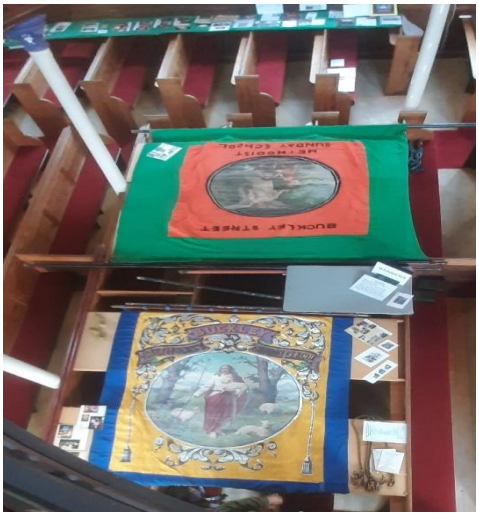
In 1876, the doors of the Henry Lodge Memorial Chapel were opened thanks to the funds raised by the congregation. They had outgrown the building next door, the first chapel on Buckley Street, built by the Primitive Methodists in 1869. In 1932 the Primitive Methodists united with other non-conformist denominations to form the present-day Methodist Church. The structure of the Barnsley Second Circuit (established in 1892) was retained for a further 2 years under the new name of Barnsley, Buckley Street Methodist Circuit. In 1934 all the Barnsley Methodist Circuits were restructured so Buckley Street Circuit ceased to exist. (1)



In 1967, the area around Buckley Street, Albion Street, Grace Street and other parts of the area known as Bare Bones, were demolished as part of a slum clearance programme. (2)

In 2026 we celebrate 150 years of the main church building, Buckley Methodist Church. A Heritage Open Day was held on Saturday 19th September, with an exhibition of photographs and memorabilia depicting the life of the church. Many of the items were provided by Marjorie MIcklethwaite who, now nearing her 101st birthday, has been a lifetime member of Buckley.

Some visitors recalled Sunday School activities including selling Sunny Smiles, having their Star Card stamped and receiving books as prizes for their attendance, being Sunday School Queen and days out at Canon Hall or Locke Park. They also remembered sitting on planks, balanced precariously on blocks under the pulpit, when it was the Sunday School Anniversary.



A big, shared memory was walking behind the banner on the annual Whitsuntide Walk from Buckley Street to Market Hill for the service.
The banners were retrieved from their box - the first time they had seen light of day for almost 40 years! Amazingly they showed little signs of damage except for some splits on the painted central pictures. Enquiries are being made as to future conservation and storage. (3)



Comments from visitors showed how much Buckley has impacted on their lives:

- "I'm leaving with a big smile on my face, just remembering what fun we had here".
- "Buckley was my refuge. Coming here on Sundays for services and Sunday School, gave me joy away from a difficult home situation."
- "It's the people I remember, the Harvest Home, the weekends away at Shelley, the Bazaars – there was always something happening at Buckley."

Buckley continues to make a difference to people's lives through weekly Coffee Mornings, lunches and fundraising activities as well as the regular services. There may be a small congregation these days but, with support from the local community, Buckley stands proud.

Sources: (1) Barnsley Archives A-2-N/1 (2) Barnsley, I Remember When (Facebook Group) 4/4/24. Coloured by Stuart J Sykes (3) Susan Stokes

Hymns & Harmony – a circuit celebration



Back in January 2026, over afternoon tea, the idea of bringing together a circuit choir for a day was born. Fast forward to September, and after months of preparation and planning, the day had finally arrived! More than 30 members and friends gathered to rehearse together, before sharing the fruits of their work in an evening **service of celebration,** enjoyed by an even wider circle of friends.

When choosing what to include in our Hymns and Harmony event we considered the following criteria.

1. A hymn with a good melody
2. Harmonies that add an emotional richness and texture
3. Thought provoking and inspiring words.

Our **Singing The Faith** was the place to find these hymns.
In the hymns chosen we found a common theme of celebration and gratitude for God's gift of music .
A quote from one of the hymns ……(STF, No.74, For the music of creation)



God, our God, the world's composer
hear us, echoes of your voice -
music is your art, your glory,
let the human heart rejoice!

During the day, there was plenty of laughter, but also moments of real concentration as we worked our way through the hymns, striving to create a rich and well-balanced sound.
In the evening, our friends who came to listen (and occasionally join in!) seemed to thoroughly enjoy what we shared, showing their appreciation with applause after each hymn – praise indeed!



What the choir thought…

The Hymns and Harmony idea brought together a group of people who love to worship in song.
It was wonderful to sing in harmony and share an afternoon and evening of fellowship and music making with friends. – ***Andrea***

It was wonderful to come together and sing some well-loved hymns in four-part harmony. A thoroughly uplifting and enjoyable afternoon and evening. – ***Ann***

Thank you for inviting me to take part in this wonderful event. The act of singing beautiful and meaningful hymns together in harmony (which we achieved most of the time !) created an atmosphere where we were able to worship God freely and joyfully. I was moved by the experience and look forward to more such events.- ***Gary***

I've enjoyed this so much it's added another year to my life. – ***Mary***

What next? – There was a real buzz in the room after such an amazing day, and plenty of enthusiasm for doing something similar again. Who knows what might come next – so watch this space!

Elizabeth & Dawn

Christmas Events around the Barnsley Circuit

Saturday 5th December	
Kexborough Christmas Fayre 10am to 12 noon	Ryhill Christmas Fayre and Christmas tree festival 9am to 12 noon
Thursday 17th December	
Kexborough Christmas Concert with Barnsley Concert Band 7.15pm to 9.15pm	
Sunday 20th December	
Hemsworth Christingle Service 3pm led by Deacon Mark Attwood	Buckley Christingle Service 3pm led by Rev Lyn Gregg
Thursday 24th December	
Christmas Eve Christingle Services	
Emmanuel 3pm led by Christine Stamper	Dodworth 3pm led by Rev Louise Dawson
Staincross 4pm led by Deacon Mark Attwood	Kexborough 3pm led by Lyn Gregg

Christmas Eve Midnight Communions		
Emmanuel 11.30pm led by Rev Lyn Gregg	Hemsworth 11.30pm led by Deacon Mark Attwood	Hoyland & Birdwell Evening Communion 7pm led by Rev Michelle Deans
Friday 25th December		
Christmas Day Sectional Service		
Kexborough 10.30am led by Rev Lyn Gregg	Staincross 10am led by Deacon Mark Attwood	Hoyland & Birdwell 10.30am led by Rev Michelle Deans