



North Kirklees & Morley Circuit September 2025

When somebody asked Jesus a question or he heard them complaining, they often received a story in reply. For instance, the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) was an answer for someone puzzled about the meaning of 'your neighbour'.

Luke chapter 15, gives a group of three stories which Jesus told in response to complaints about who he mixed with: a shepherd searches high and low for one lost sheep; a woman keeps on sweeping and looking for a coin until it is discovered; a father waits until his lost son eventually returns home. In these stories, Jesus painted a picture of a world in which every person matters, whoever they are, whatever they have done. Those whom some consider lost and worth leaving behind are precious to God and worth the cost of seeking out.

Through stories, Jesus gave his listeners something to ponder. He made what he said memorable. But his stories go further than that because they allow us to glimpse a different way of seeing the world and understanding the possibilities of what could be. In the parable of the mustard seed (Matthew 13:31-32), the tiniest seed grows into a tree large enough to provide shelter for the birds which come. The parable of the yeast (Matthew 13:33) shows the considerable effect that just a small amount can have through a large quantity. In the parable of the workers in the vineyard (Matthew 20:1-16), at the end of the day, all the workers receive what they need. Through his stories, Jesus offered messages of hope. As he painted word pictures in which the lost are found, the tiny amount makes a significant difference and everyone has what they need, Jesus showed people the world as God has made it and as God desires it to be.

At the beginning of a new church year, I wonder what lies ahead of us. What are the pictures of hope which we feel inspired to paint? If we can picture something, then we are more likely to find our way towards it.

Each time Jesus' stories are read and shared, their vision of welcome, inclusion and generous provision can come a step nearer. This is because stories can inspire and change the way that we live in the world. These messages of hope, when taken to heart, help us to see how to live lives which make a difference in the way God invites us to.

Take a few moments to imagine how you would like the world around you to be this time next year... as you let your imagination work, what hopes do you see? What are the important things to hold onto? Allowing God to prompt your thinking, what could you/we do to bring that vision of hope a bit nearer? When we look back this time next year, we may

find ourselves marvelling at what God has been able to do through our lives and our churches.

Please feel encouraged to share your hopes, dreams, thoughts and inspirations. May God in Christ and through the Holy Spirit keep on helping us to see the hope that is before us.

With love and prayers,

Marian

At the Circuit Resource Centre....

The Circuit Resource Centre,
 Batley Methodist Church, Commercial Street
 Batley WF17 5DS
 01924 442535, email address: nkmresources@gmail.com

Resource Centre opening times:

Monday – Wednesday 9am – 1pm, Thursdays and Fridays 9am – 1.30pm



***Please note that Resource Centre will be CLOSED on Tuesday 23rd September.** There may be another closure as we're being redecorated, and paint, computers and photocopiers don't mix well...! We will let you know when this has been arranged.*

Dates and Deadlines –

please also see note elsewhere in Connect: **October 2025 deadline: 10am, Thursday 25th September 2025.** Email & printed copies ready by: Thursday 1st October. Please let Resource Centre know if your church would like more or less copies, or if you would like to be added to or removed from the emailing list. Copies can be posted to churches on request – we will need to charge p&p.

Staff days off:

Monday – Marian Olsen, Nick Cutts

Wednesday – Alex Yesudas

Thursday – David Barker

SEPTEMBER CONNECT – PLEASE NOTE:

This edition of Connect is a 'fresh start' – we have not carried any information forward. Please make sure that we have your information – there's room for all!

St. Andrew's Liversedge: Film Night – Saturday 5th September at 7pm, this month's film is Mr Burton

St Andrew's Mirfield: Community Coffee Mornings. Friday 5th & 19th September 10am - 11.30am. Join us for a chat and a friendly cuppa. **Baby & Toddler Group:** meets weekly, Friday, 9.30am - 11am. All parents, grandparents and carers with children from birth to pre-school are very welcome. Includes play, colouring, action songs, snacks.

Trinity Mirfield: Stay & Play 9:15-11am Termtime Tuesdays. Contact 07889718504. **Soup lunches** 1st and 3rd Wednesdays (ex August), 11:45am to 12:45 donation in excess of £3.50 appreciated. The two teams look forward to seeing you. **Warm Welcome Café:** Fridays, 10-11.30am. **Beetle Drive & Supper** at Trinity Community Rooms Friday 12th September 6pm- £8. To book please contact Christine Sykes on 01924497612 or 07706738463

Morley: Craft, Chat & Sing – Saturday 20 September at 10.30 am. Everyone welcome. **Together on Tuesday Group** – 9th September at 7.30 pm – Andrew Stokes. 23rd September – Lynne Senior: Liverpool & Isle of Man. **Lunch Club** – Each Wednesday (except 1st of the month) – please contact Lynne on 07792 996805 for further details. **Coffee Mornings** – Every Friday: 10-11.30 am. Please pop in for a cuppa and chat. Everyone welcome. **Grief Café** – 10–12 noon on Saturday 27th September.

West Ardsley: Tuesday Chat & Crafts - Every Tuesday - 2 - 4pm. **Mosaic Café** - Every Wednesday - 11am - 1:30pm - 'A space to just be'. Serving drinks, light lunches & cakes. **Messy Church** - Second Thursday of every month. Doors open at 3:30pm to start promptly at 4pm. A light meal is provided and children must be supervised by an adult. **Food Pantry** - Every Friday 3 - 4:30pm - Food available for anyone going through financial difficulty. No referral needed. **Coffee Morning** - Saturday 27th September 10am - Noon. **Dates for your Diary** - Saturday 27th September - Film Night - 'King of Kings' - 6pm. Saturday 15th November - Domino Evening. Saturday 29th November - Christmas Market. For further details on any events or to just double check opening times, please email - admin@westardsleychurch.org.uk

Gomersal: Coffee Morning 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month, 10 -11.30am.

Tingley: Saturday 6th September: **Friends Café** 1pm - 2.30pm. We are looking forward to seeing you all at Friends Café this month. Monday 8th September: **The Soup Bowl** 12 noon to 1.30pm: Join us for soup, sandwiches, hot drinks and a snack. Everyone welcome. Saturday 13th September, 10am: **Macmillan Coffee Morning.** Wednesday 17th September, 7pm: **Be Still:** Our monthly midweek service of quiet reflection. Everyone welcome. Continuing on

the third Wednesday of each month. **Upcoming Event:** Saturday 11th October The Bluebird Singers will be returning. Tickets are £5 and available now. For more information, please contact tinglymc.events@gmail.com

Birkenshaw and East Bierley: Monday: 1:30pm **Art Class**, 6:30pm **Brownies**. Tuesday: 10:30am **Chair Yoga Class**, 2pm **Art Class**, 4-6pm **Yorkshire Tutors**, 7pm **Pilates Class**. Wednesday: 10am **Bible Study** (First in Month). Friday: 10am **"Welcome In" Coffee Morning**. Saturday 20th September **Oakenshaw Community Choir** Charity event, 6pm start, for more information please contact.

Birstall: Fellowship Group 1st, 15th, & 29th September 2pm. A time of sharing, bible study, prayer & friendship. **Coffee & Chat** Every Thursday 9:30am-11am with bric-a-brac & book stall. **Light Lunch** 4th September, first Thursday of each month, cottage pie & veg followed by homemade cake. **Bably Toddler stay & play** 5th & 19th September 9:30am-11am. All parents, grandparents & carers welcome, refreshments and no charge.

Several of our churches are looking at the Eco Church awards ...news from A Rocha (<https://arocha.org.uk/>)
Season of Creation

From 1st September to 4th October, Season of Creation is an annual, ecumenical celebration of prayer and action for creation. This year's theme is 'Peace with Creation'. This is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together. During the Season of Creation, we join our sisters and brothers in the ecumenical family in prayer and action for our common home.



JOB VACANCY

Batley Central are seeking to appoint an Outreach Development Worker to work with them on a fixed term contract for 3 years. The successful candidate will work in partnership with the church and local community to develop an outreach programme and recruit volunteers to support the services that are developed. They will support the Church Leadership Team and congregation to deliver the church's mission.

Main Responsibilities:

- Develop specific services to benefit the community.
Liaise with existing community groups and local charitable organisations to identify opportunities for the church premises to be used for the greater benefit of the community.
- To develop and engage in appropriate partnerships between the church, other local services, and the community to align with the mission of the church.
- Recruit and work with volunteers to support the work.
- Support the Church Leadership Team and congregation to deliver the church's mission.
- Create social media posts on platforms such as Facebook and Instagram that are relevant to the mission project and services provided.
- Establish relationships with existing users of the church buildings and help the church develop and strengthen those relationships.

Hours of Work: 16 hours per week, worked flexibly in agreement with the Line Manager, which will include some evening and weekend work.

Closing Date: Friday, 26th September 2025 at 12 noon

For more information and an application pack, please contact the Resource Centre

We will include job adverts in Connect if space allows

Circuit Facebook page

Have you seen our new Circuit Facebook page?

Here we share a weekly prayer for those in our Circuit, District and the wider Connexion, we advertise jobs from around the District and share information from the District and wider Connexion.

We will use the page to share circuit events but are not able to use this for publicising church events.

Circuit Information, Services and Events

16th September, 7:30pm: Circuit Meeting at Trinity

21st September, 6pm: AWE at Cleckheaton

Check the calendar on the Circuit website for more dates: <https://www.nkandmcircuit.org.uk/whats-on/events-calendar.html>

Circuit Youth:

Residential weekend 19th – 21st September

6.30 – 8pm, for ages 10 – 18 years. £1 subs per person please contact Heidi Curry (or see the Circuit website, <https://www.nkandmcircuit.org.uk/>) for more dates & details.

Safeguarding:

Please note that there has been a change to the email contacts for our Regional Safeguarding Officers:

Emma Goodley: Tel: 07743 006413, email goodleye@methodistchurch.org.uk

Laura Tunnacliffe: Tel: 07354 862617, email: tunnacliffel@methodistchurch.org.uk

Circuit safeguarding officer, Judith Crowther – Tel: 01924 442535 (circuit office), Email: safeguardingnkm@gmail.com

Training: Foundation Module – more sessions will be arranged during the Autumn and Winter. Advanced Module training is arranged through District. Follow the link at <https://ywmethodist.org.uk/safeguarding-training/> for more details of online and face to face training.

The Prayer Quilt Ministry is going from strength to strength as churches around the Circuit continue to request prayer quilts on behalf of members of their congregation, friends, family and community.

It is a joy to create the quilts, from sourcing fabric to the final stage of stitching on the label. The team gather weekly to cut, iron and stitch, and offer support to one another. This ministry is so much more than creating beautiful quilts for deserving people. At

its very heart it is a ministry of prayer, which is why the quilts are presented to the local church, and congregations are encouraged to say a quiet prayer for the recipient as they tie a knot on the quilt (which is required to hold all three layers together!).

71 prayer quilts have been created since the setting up of this Circuit ministry, and there are more in the pipeline. If you know anyone who is ill, bereaved, confined to home or going through a difficult time in their life and would appreciate the gift of a

prayer quilt - a tangible gift of love - then please let us know. All the information and the relevant form can be found on the Circuit website, or contact Revd Jane on nkmprayerquiltministry@gmail.com

Have you spotted the wonderful photos on the Circuit website? Would you like to send in a photo of something that means something to you within our circuit? Have a look at the photos we have www.nkandmcircuit.org.uk