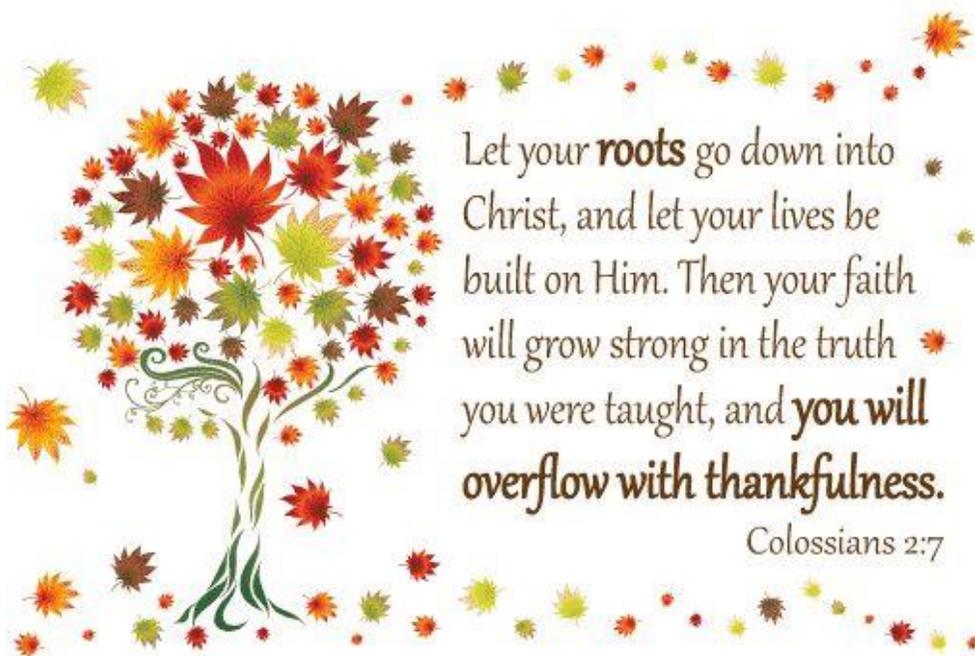


Circuit News



Let your **roots** go down into Christ, and let your lives be built on Him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and **you will overflow with thankfulness.**

Colossians 2:7

Calendar September

22	Keyworth	Mabel's Market 10 -12pm - a Keylink event
26	Bradmore Community Hall.	'I Daniel Blake' film, 7.30pm.
30	Keyworth	Nottingham and Derby Youth Event, 15:30pm until 19:00pm. For more information, visit: www.nddistrictyouth.org.uk

October

1	Bradmore	Harvest Supper and Auction, 6.45 pm
6	Bradmore	Family Fun – Noah's Ark with Lion Learners. 2:00-4:30pm.
21	Keyworth	Harvest Lunch 12.30pm - a Keylink event.
27	Keyworth	Charity Card sale 10am

November

3	Keyworth	Travelers' Tales of Ethiopia 7.30pm - a Keylink event.
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Advance Dates:

15&16 Dec Keyworth – Christmas Tree Festival - a Keylink event

24 Dec '18 Keyworth – Midnight Communion 11.30pm

23 June Keyworth – Garden Party 2pm–4.30pm - a Keylink event

Please send any articles, dates and other information for the December 2018 to February 2019 Circuit News to Nikki Geeson by **31st October** via email nottinghamcircuitnews@gmail.com

The next edition is expected to be available in churches on **Sunday 18th November**

Would you like to get the Circuit News up to a week earlier?

The Circuit News is also available electronically as a PDF file. If you would like to receive a copy please send an email to nottinghamcircuitnews@gmail.com and you'll receive an electronic copy up to a week before the paper copies arrive.

From our Superintendent

Yellow. It's got to be yellow, at least for one day. On Saturday 8th September the Tour of Britain will do Nottinghamshire. 120 cyclists and all the supporting vehicles and paraphernalia will be making their way through much of the circuit and passing the front doors of two of our churches. Hundreds, if not thousands, will line the route, decorating buildings with yellow, the official colour. We will be playing our part in Radcliffe, joining in with the rest of the village. I hope many of you will be doing that too at different points on the route.

Joining in with what's already going on can be a good start to mission. This is something many churches do well. We share with our neighbours and help to build the communities of which we are part. However, I think that many of us are wrestling with the question of how we build on that good start.

How do we connect with the hundreds and thousands who will line the streets on the Saturday, but wouldn't consider entering a church on the Sunday?

Last year I wrote one of these articles about the circuit's vision for growth. Churches will only grow if they find ways to keep on inviting people to take one step closer to Jesus. We are at the time where we now need to move beyond vision to action. I would encourage you to be part of the various conversations that will be going on in the different churches. We all have a part that we can play, we can all make a difference. With God's help, things that seem impossible can be made possible. I hope that sometime soon we will see big numbers in this area gathering in the name of Christ rather than in the name of a cycle race.

Mark

News from around the Circuit Bradmore

We will be showing 'I Daniel Blake' at our Community Hall on Wednesday 26th September, at 7:30pm.

This poignant film tells the story of a hard-working 59-year-old carpenter living in Newcastle who suddenly finds himself having to navigate the computer-based benefits system despite being computer illiterate. He befriends a single mum with two small children, forced up North from London by family circumstances. Together they try to keep their heads above water in the turbulent realms of the benefits system of today. With equal measures of humour, warmth and despair, this film will give you food for thought.

Entry is free, a cup of tea/coffee will be served, and all donations will go to the Friary, West Bridgford.

Pam, Friary volunteer.

'I Daniel Blake' sets the scene for our **Harvest Festival** on Sunday

30th September, and the usual Supper and Auction on Monday 1st October at 6:45pm. Having been well fed, we will auction off the donated harvest produce and gifts and all proceeds go to the Friary. We look forward to friends from other churches joining us again for this entertaining event. To book your meal please contact Jean, by September 15th.

The next Saturday, October 6th, our autumn Family Fun event at 2pm features '**Noah's Ark**' with Kristan of Lion Learners. There will be live animals (but probably not a lion!), crafts, games, refreshments, and finishing with a celebration in church. Numbers are limited to 25 children (plus their adults) so to be sure of a place please book with John or Andy. Anyone coming on the day without booking will be allowed in only if there are free spaces.

Sheila.

All We Can Partnership

In 2018/19 the Nottingham South Circuit will be partnering with All We Can. All We Can was formerly known as the Methodist Relief and Development Fund and works with local people and organisations in some of the world's poorest communities.

In our partnership with All We Can we will be raising money for projects in Malawi and over the course of the year we will have plenty of opportunities to find out more about the country and see the difference that our donations make.

We are going to launch the year with a circuit service on Sunday 9th September at 4pm at Keyworth where will hear all about the projects we will be supporting. Through the year we are then asking each church to have at least one fundraising event to support All We Can. We are planning a big circuit event on Saturday February 23rd and at the end of the year there will be another service to celebrate all that has been achieved.

Watch out for more information over the next few weeks and we look forward to an exciting year!

METHODIST WOMEN in BRITAIN

Diary Dates

Wednesday 17th October 2018- Day of Fellowship Willersley Castle. Coffee 10.30am. Afternoon speaker Judith Simms, MWiB Communications Officer. Theme European Festival in Germany. Cost for the day £16 including coffee and two course lunch. £3 deposit to Gill, balance by end of September.

2nd March 2019 District Day at Ashbourne Road Methodist Church. Speaker Dr Jill Barber on Engelsea Brook project.

Willersley Week 25th-28th March 2019. Speaker Jill Baker

Willersley Afternoon Tea 2nd May 2019.

News from around the Circuit Ruddington

During Christian Aid Week in May we held a Coffee morning with various stalls and, together with envelope donations, this raised a total amount of £450.

Following the success of the initial Ruddington Open Gardens event in 2016 it was repeated over a weekend at the end of June 2018. The Church participated in the event as a venue for the sale of programmes as well as providing refreshments. In addition, there were musical interludes in the church each afternoon provided by 'The Bling Singers' on Saturday and 'The Liberty Singers' on Sunday. We raised £400 towards the total amount raised of £2,300 which was divided between Save the Children and Action for Children.

Our weekday and evening groups for children and young people (Boys Brigade, Tuesday Toddlers, First Steps and Impact) continue to thrive. Ruddington Churches Together Holiday Club took place at the beginning of the school holidays and was a great success. The leaders are having a well-deserved break over the summer and look forward to welcoming old

and new faces to the groups when they recommence at the beginning of September.

Our service on 15th July led by Simon adopted a different format with the usual hymns and prayers but no sermon. Instead we had conversations in small groups on questions such as 'What has God said to me this morning?', 'Where has God worked in my life?' and 'What should church look like?' Although the groups were small everyone participated and provided much for us (and Simon!) to think about for the immediate future.

Our income from room hire continues to increase and has been helped by the launch in May 2018 of Ruddington & District U3A who are holding their monthly meetings in the church.

Planning is already underway for our Harvest Activities in October 2018 with our very popular Harvest Lunch on Saturday 6th October followed by our traditional Harvest Festival Service on Sunday 7th October.

Brian

News from around the Circuit West Bridgford Children and Youth

After starting at West Bridgford the end of February time really has rushed past. I have seen a great variety of weather in such a small period of time – and this still came as a surprise despite being from Wales! I have attended so many groups at the church, including the Guiding and Scouting groups that use our building to meet week to week. It really excites me to be at a church that opens its doors to so many people.

We had a wonderful Holiday Club this summer, our theme was Bible Heroes. Over three mornings we learnt together about David and Goliath, Queen Esther, and the apostle Paul. We had a great number of children who we got to share craft, games and stories with and there was a great buzz of excitement throughout the church. Despite being a helper for 8 years at a Holiday Club that lasted longer, I think I was just as exhausted after these three days.

In September we will be celebrating one year of Messy Church, and although I have only been involved for half of this I have loved being involved. We have a wonderful small group of families who are attending regularly and there is currently conversation on how we can reach out into the community to bring more people in and share worship each month. September brings much more excitement, possibly because it is the start of the Connexional year, where our circuit Youth Alpha will begin. It is being held at West Bridgford and I can't wait to get involved with discussions with young people and share our time together. I really do find it special when young people are given the safe space to explore their thoughts and develop their ideas about faith.

Abby
Youth Engagement Worker

News from around the Circuit

Keyworth

In case you missed it Rev Simon has moved and is now residing in the new Manse in Keyworth. We are pleased to welcome Simon and family into the village and trust they will enjoy happy times here and of course he remains close to his other churches at Ruddington and Bradmore.

By the time this is published we will have celebrated the 100th birthday of one of our dearly loved members: Leslie. Son Graham and daughter-in-law Maureen arranged an open afternoon in our village hall so his many friends and acquaintances could come and celebrate his long life.

Here at KMC we are answering the circuit vision of growing in numbers, in faith and in the community. We are fortunate to be growing despite losing some well-loved and committed members. Our activities of Prayer Group and Time to Discover in addition to Sunday worship enable members to grow in faith. Our premises are in constant use by groups in the community. We trust by God's grace these will continue and that recent comments that are very supportive of our care in the community will ensure we continue

to connect with the community. To further live out the vision we have joint services with the C of E and occasionally Baptists, also URC members join us when no services are at their church. Simon is exploring possible arrangements for alternative forms of service that would be attractive to younger people and families. He is also coordinating a survey researching recent and future growth potential. Our work amongst young people continues they took part in 'Love on the Rocks', painting positive Christian messages and Bible passages on 'rocks'. They were then hidden in public places. Other activities have included the Stathern weekend in June and Soul Survivor in August. This year's holiday club will be on the theme of Superheroes and use both ours and the CofE halls. In addition, Wednesday Toddlers and Toddler Praise on Fridays continue. Messy Church will replace Toddler Praise on half term Fridays during the year.

Alan

News from around the Circuit Clifton

On Thursday Mornings people are eager to visit us and stride confidently into the chapel which is a familiar place where friendships are forged and updates exchanged.

Gracefully, these families, real ones or daytime childminding ones, enter the main hall and record their names. Each one is known to God and now known to us so we can cater for them while they play.

The *freedom* to play in this large space, to ride or slide or move in a dance, shows us the joy of these pre-school years and the *joy* is infectious.

Alongside the children, the childminders, the grandparents and the new parents are people who listen and care, in the shadow of the pulpit, where God's story never ends.

If a word is given, the word is 'toast!' for this cry indicates that all is prepared. We break bread (and biscuit, fruit and the occasional coffee cup).

Baby conversations are heard from highchairs and celebrations have abounded, weddings, holidays and this too, the time of being a toddler before school begins, is celebrated

as all too soon the children start their full-time education.

This summer messy activities have made mornings complete as we explored sight, sound, smell, taste and touch, all gifts from God.

So, as we say goodbye to toddlers turning into Foundation children, we ready ourselves for another year where we show that the house of God is open for business and all are truly welcome here.

Maybe the school age children will spot our field from a tram and know that they played here once, but wherever life takes them may they know the *freedom* of a life lived for Jesus and the *joy* of a faith in God!

Helen

With thanks to Adam, David, James, Linda, Rev Rach and Ros.

News from around the Circuit Youth

Eight Full Days of Youth Engagement

“It has come home” is typically what people say on the rare occasion England wins the world cup. But this article is not about football, because in June and July the Methodist Conference returned to Nottingham after 46 long years. There were many changes made in those long years such as: Female Presidents, Tele-communications but also the Involvement of people under 24 years old. Yes, you read this right, Young people from across the country travelled to Nottingham to be District Reps, Conference Representatives, Stewards and more.

James, Clifton Methodist Church, participated as a steward which involved: directing people, taking messages and setting up for events. James has this to say about Stewarding:

“Stewarding was extremely fulfilling, I met many people from a variety of places such as Scotland, Yorkshire, Birmingham, Lincolnshire Stoke on Trent, London, Birmingham and Penzance. I gained a better understanding of Methodism along with a nice tan from sitting under the spotlights as a platform runner. The other stewards were extremely supportive.”

Bryn, Cotgrave Methodist Church and member of the West Bridgford Faith and Light group, conducted parts of the Sunday Worship including bible readings, prayer leading and flag waving. Bryn said this about his experience:

“When I arrived at conference, I felt nervous because there were a lot of people there, some important and lots that I didn't know. Speaking at conference made me feel happy because I had time to practice. My favourite part of conference was near the end when everyone was singing the last song because the atmosphere was more relaxed, and people appeared happy. If you are going to conference next year, be prepared for lots of people there and the opportunity to speak to a variety of people. Don't be nervous because everyone is friendly and helpful.”

Jasmine, Radcliffe on Trent Methodist Church, Methodist Representative for The British Youth Council and Represented Nottingham and District at Conference. Jasmine said this:

“I feel honoured to have been able to represent our district in such a way. Conference is the deciding body of the Methodist church so actually being able to be part of the big decisions on issues such as ministry (and not just that of ministers), reports on marriage and about whether ministry should be transferable with the Anglican Church. On top of this we have had workshops on interfaith conversations and reports from All We Can and Methodist Homes. However, my favourite point of conference was hearing the conference agree to resolutions, that will change the church, which came from the 3Generate manifesto. Hearing young people influence the wider church is always a joy! “

If you would like to watch parts of the conference, you can find recorded broadcasts online at: <http://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-conference/conference-2018/conference-programme/>

Although the conference is finished, there are many more opportunities for young people to participate. These are inside and out of the Nottingham and Derby District.

23rd to 25th November 2018

2018 3Generate Youth Assembly, Pontins Southport. Please speak to your Youth Worker about tickets or visit: <http://www.methodist.org.uk/our-work/our-work-in-britain/3generate/>

By: Bryn, Jasmine and James

Compiled by: James

With help from: Helen, Lynda, Martin, Amanda and Janet.



Figure 1: West Bridgford Faith and Light. Image from: <https://www.facebook.com/MethodistChurchinBritain/photos/a.426959397895.217842.366756972895/10155780907982896/?type=3&theate>