

Circuit News



Calendar

Last reminder: February 23rd Circuit All We Can Malawi Day at West Bridgford Methodist Church.

March

2	Bradmore Community Hall	Pancake Praise
9	Ruddington	"Mini-Sale" 10am-12 noon
9	West Bridgford	Concert. Further details within this circuit news.
9	Keyworth	Keylink Traveller's Tales of Kenya at 7.30pm.
28	Ruddington	Members of the congregation invited to join the children of First Steps 9.30am-12 noon

April

19	Keyworth	Good Friday Messy Church 10.30am
----	----------	----------------------------------

May

4/5/6	Cotgrave	Opening weekend. As yet the arrangements for the weekend are still in the planning stage but it has been confirmed the Rev Loraine Mellor will lead the dedication service on the Sunday morning.
12	Littleover	District Youth. Meet the Youth President. 3.30pm - 7pm
18		Circuit Walk.
25	Ruddington	Christian Aid fundraiser. 10am-12noon

Advance Dates:

8 June Keylink Mabel's Market and Plant Sale 10am – 12 noon

29 June 1-5pm Bradmore Open Gardens.

Please send any articles, dates and other information for the June to August 2019 Circuit News to Nikki Geeson by **30th April** via email

nottinghamcircuitnews@gmail.com

The next edition is expected to be available in churches on **Sunday 19th May**.

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.

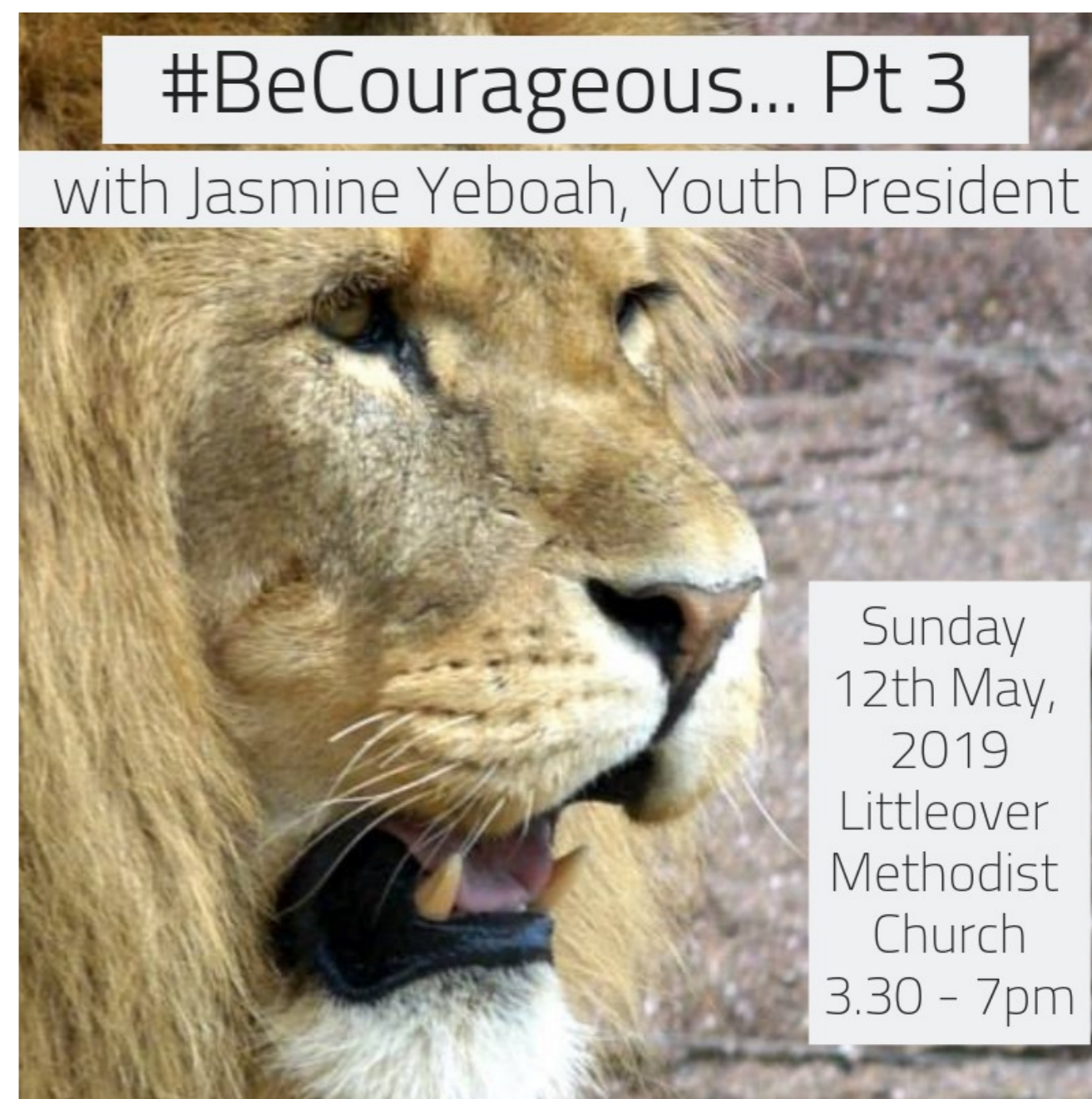
STOP PRESS

The 3Generate Representatives have changed! Thanks to our outgoing reps and a warm welcome to the first ever 3Generate Social Justice Rep who will report back to us soon (as he hails from Nottingham South).

The 3Generate reps start the year with a weekend at Cliff College alongside the Methodist Student Weekend for those in Tertiary education.

Helen and all the Children's and Youth Workers

With thanks to Sam, Ben, Jes, Megan and Georgie.



#BeCourageous... Pt 3

with Jasmine Yeboah, Youth President

Sunday
12th May,
2019
Littleover
Methodist
Church
3.30 - 7pm

News from around the Circuit

Youth

Connexion

The manifesto is now out for 2019 (see back cover)

" This is what we liked at 3Generate

food, especially chicken nuggets

gaming room

Agents of Change Tent (featuring All We Can)

the drop-in zone ran by Cliff College

the shop

outdoor play

8-11 zone

the Three Show (bit like The One Show)

...and the bedrooms were better than last year"

Sam aged 10 and Ben aged 12

District

Following on from the February 10th event, the next District Youth gathering is May 12th (with the Youth President)

District Youth is for 8 - 23s and involves great food, music and the chance to make friends from all over Nottingham and Derby District.

Share your talent by getting involved and dig deeper into the Bible in our worship sessions.

Find out more about some twenty-somethings with Five Questions, In February we heard about youth and children's work happening in the United States and South Africa.

Ask your children's or youth worker how you can join in!

Circuit

Cliff Festival is 24th - 27th May - " Into All The World"

" I am looking forward to

- having fun with our youth

- connecting more with God

- having a break from exams

- meeting up with friends from previous Cliff Festivals

If you are interested then check out this link: www.cliffcollege.ac.uk "

Jes aged 17

Church

" We are both 17. And we both feel that local preaching is a good way where we can share the impact God has had on our lives with other people.

Of course we would like your prayers as we embark on this journey."

Megan and Georgie

From our Superintendent

Zippin' up my boots, goin' back to my roots, yeah! Actually my boots lace up, but in January I did go back to my roots. For the first time in 33 years, I returned to the small Baptist chapel where I worshipped as a child. It was good to see some things hadn't changed, a few familiar faces in the congregation, and the chapel itself as I remembered it. It was also good to see what was new, a new hall, cafe church and many unfamiliar faces. We got a warm welcome and it felt like going home.

Our roots are important. Where we come from is often a key part of our identity. But roots are not just about the past. The roots of a tree are the source of its strength and the means of reaching the water that sustains it. We need our roots too when things get difficult. So what are the things that strengthen and sustain you when it gets tough?

Jeremiah writes about a tree that always seems to bear fruit, even when the rains fail and other trees struggle. Its secret is its roots which reach out into a stream of water finding a permanent source of refreshment and renewal. This green tree is like those who trust in God, writes the prophet. Other things may let us down, but God's love never does. Elsewhere in the Bible we are told that when we are rooted in Christ's love we are strengthened with God's power. Through that power at work in us, we can accomplish abundantly far more than we can ask or imagine.

So like a tree, look after your roots, look after those things that strengthen and sustain you. And remember that there is no better way to keep your roots healthy than to trust in God and in his love through Jesus Christ.

Mark

News from around the Circuit

Bradmore

We have often talked about holding a series of Lent discussions in Bradmore, but never seemed able to agree a day and time when people could get together. This year we have finally achieved that, and will be meeting during March and April to explore developing our faith. Your prayers for the fruitfulness of these meetings will be appreciated.

And just before Lent begins local families will be gathering for our popular Pancake Praise event – making, eating and even decorating pancakes, plus this year there will be activities on the theme of The Wise and Foolish builders, including sand! The session concludes with celebration in praise, story, songs and prayer, before finishing off any remaining pancakes!

After celebrating Easter, Bradmore families will be tending their gardens in preparation for this year's Open Garden Day on Saturday 29th June. The village is "open" from 1pm, refreshments in the Community Hall from 2pm. Entry is by programme (£4, children under 12 accompanied by an adult, free) available on the day. A hugely enjoyable event for visitors and participants alike. Each year we choose a charity with particular links to someone in the village; this year we are supporting the MND, the Motor Neurone Disease Association. We look forward to seeing many of you here on the day!

Sheila.



Circuit All We Can Partnership with Malawi

Back in September we committed ourselves as a Circuit to work with All We Can to partner projects in Malawi amongst some of the poorest people in the world.

On 23rd February we hope many of us will gather at West Bridgford Church to enjoy food, fellowship and fun as we share with Tim Baker from All We Can to learn more about the Malawi Partnership.

There are to be activities throughout the day beginning at 10am with a coffee morning. There will be a soup and cheese lunch at 12 noon and an afternoon of crafts and games followed by a Fish and Chip Supper at 5pm. Please make sure you let us know if you want fish and chips! The day will culminate in a Worship and Celebration at 6pm. We look forward to a great day together.

We are requesting that as well as this Circuit event each church does something else during the year to raise funds for the partnership and we hope we can share news of those activities in our Celebration on the 23rd February. Please let us know what you have been doing or are planning so that we can include your news.

On Saturday 13th July there is to be a sing a long of the musical Joseph at West Bridgford Church, so a date for the diary!

News from around the circuit

Clifton

On the Sunday before Christmas, friends at Clifton shared in a Christingle service led by Revd Rach. As we focussed on the physical light of the candles in our hands, we were encouraged again to think about the light of Christ and how it shines in the darkness of our world to show us the way. On the Sunday between Christmas and New Year, members shared their God given gifts by contributing to the leading of worship at part of a local arrangement service. Sharing God's word through reading the Bible, sharing his love through the leading of prayer, sharing his amazing gift of Jesus through the music and songs – all brought together through friendship, fellowship and our shared faith in our Lord.

At our church visioning day in November, we focussed our discussions on the needs of the church and the people in light of the future changes within the circuit, and how we could look forward to the year ahead with a sense of anticipation and purpose.

We also shared in an amazing meal cooked for us by our Chinese friends, Peng and Yu Ling, who joined our church fellowship in September to learn more about the British culture. It certainly was delicious but much more, it was the best of Christian hospitality and community.



Rosie

Circuit Walk 2019

This year the circuit walk will be on Saturday May 18th, starting at West Bridgford Church and ending at Cotgrave Church with a bring-and-share tea as a celebration of the completion of their refurbishment. Details and timing have yet to be finalised - but please keep the date free in your diary.



News from around the Circuit

Cotgrave

Community Engagement Project

In the TV series the A-Team Colonel John 'Hannibal' Smith's favourite saying was 'I love it when a plan comes together'. At Cotgrave after many months (blood, sweat, tears and sore feet!) we are beginning to see our plans come together. In our last Circuit News it was hoped that following the tearing down that the building up again would soon happen. Well it is happening and the walls are going up, steelwork is being erected, concrete has been poured and the new 'block and beam' floor installed. These are just the visible things that you can see. Please continue to pray that the site will be accident free.

Regular meetings are held with the architect and the building contractor. At the last meeting they informed us that the work was on target and should be completed towards the end of March.

There are still many things for us to consider such as decorations, flooring and lighting.

We are planning to hold the formal opening of the building over the weekend 4/5/6th May. These dates are dependent of course upon the completion of the building work but we hope and pray that it will be finished on target. We will need a few weeks to get used to the building before then and move the scattered contents back in.

It certainly has been an interesting time in the Scout and Guide Hall. One of the big concerns was that our faithful congregation would not turn out Sunday by Sunday, but they have!

Christmas Eve Carol Service

Thank you to Lynda (for organising things) and the Music group for leading our worship and to Martin and the rest of the family for setting up the PA and the lights to brighten the worship area and taking it all down after Christmas. One of the joys of worshipping in a hired building is that we have to set up and clear up afterwards every week. On the morning of Christmas Eve we all arrived at the hall to get things set up only to find the Bridge Club in residence and holding their Christmas Party despite having been assured that the hall had not been hired out on that day!

Thank you to our team who turned out again in the afternoon of a bitterly cold day.

We knew that was going to be a tight fit on Christmas Eve nevertheless we joyfully celebrated the coming birth of our Saviour.

Blessings to All

Ian

News from around the Circuit

Keyworth

Our Christmas Tree Festival was very successful with more than 20 trees created by local organisations. Over £800 was raised from refreshments and a collection box for our charity Self help Africa. Other charities also received donations. The Keyworth Choir and U3A Singing For Fun group provided vocal interludes and our own members led prayers.

Collections over the Christmas period were donated to 'All We Can' [Methodist Relief & Development Fund] and The Four Homes of Mercy. Over £200 was donated to each charity. It was hoped to send a collection of small teddies, knitted hats and scarves to the Four Homes. However due to a change of plan all could not be transported to Jerusalem. So the children's items were donated to Children in Distress and the adult items went to the Friary.

Our Mission in Britain [Home Missions] weekend was on Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th February. There was a Fundraising event in the Church Hall including a bric-a-brac, card stall, cake stall and introduced a new 'Bring a Scarf and Buy a scarf for £1'. Proceeds went to support missions at home, which this year is for Chaplaincy in both Hospitals and prisons.

Again we are entering a Team in our village quiz. This annual event, involves 24 local teams beginning in January. Our Church team started their challenge on the evening of February 4th versus the Probus team.

At our next round of committee meetings in February and March we will continue to consider our future growth, as part of our commitment to the circuit vision. We will also discuss our responses to the challenges we face with the loss of a circuit minister and how we will deal with the reduction in ministerial time. Things will have to be done differently, but which things? We don't know yet but lots of praying, talking, listening and working together will be required to discern God's plan for us.

'Creating Safer Spaces' - this circuit safeguarding training event took place in early February at KMC. The Foundation Module is a required training session for ministers, pastoral visitors, stewards, worship leaders, local preachers, workers with children, young people and vulnerable adults. It also includes volunteers in these roles.

Alan

News from around the Circuit

Radcliffe on Trent

Our Advent fair - combined with Community cafe - was very successful, and we raised just over £850.00 for "All we can".

There was a meeting after the Covenant service on January 6th when we were able to see the architect's plans for our church. This was followed by a general meeting on Monday January 21st when the architect came to answer questions and explain things more fully. This was an Informative meeting, and at the end there was a vote in favour of the plans.

We had a joint service in our church for all the churches in Radcliffe for the week of Christian unity which was well supported and led by Mark with contributions from the other churches.

On Sunday 27th January we shared worship - led by Simon- with friends from Cotgrave plus their Music group. It was good to worship together with them.

The stewards are seeking God's will and remembering the verse from Jeremiah,

"For I know the plans I have for you", declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future"

Jane

Saturday 9th March 7.00pm

As part of the 'March Project' at West Bridgford, we are hosting a concert which will feature 100 singers drawn from West Bridgford Social Singers and Everyone Can Sing, with proceeds to MHA, All We Can and our Scouts camp in Kandersteg, as well as charities supported by the choirs.

With a very popular programme, featuring particularly some songs by Queen and a number of songs from Les Miserables, it is sure to be a very enjoyable evening, and accessible to all ages. For those who wish, there will also be some opportunities to sing along!

The admission charge is just £5, and children free, and with an early start at 7.00pm it will make a good family night out. Tickets are available now, from John, but be quick as they are sure to sell out soon!

News from around the Circuit West Bridgford

Before Christmas we repeated our 'Singing Christmas Tree' from 2015. As before we invited choirs to come and perform on the impressive structure and we had no trouble filling the slots available and we had 8 free concerts over the time the Tree was up. Also a couple of schools came in the afternoons and made use of the Tree to perform with their choirs and orchestras to parents and friends.



At each event we asked for donations for 5 charities which we were supporting: Autism UK, Meadows Foodbank, Friary, Refugee Forum and Women's Aid Integrated Services.

Each of these charities was able to benefit by £800 after the proceeds were totalled.

Each of the charities had an opportunity to explain their work to the audience and we had an opportunity to talk about our faith and the reason for the season and how this event was part of our response to the love shown to us by Jesus.

A follow-up event for people interested in knowing more about this faith we profess was advertised and the 'Christianity Explored' course began on 15th January for 7 weeks. An opportunity to attend has been shared across the circuit.

A group of Pastoral Visitors participated in 2 sessions training in understanding how to support people living with dementia through experiential learning. Grace was excellent in her delivery and not only told us about different types of dementia and how it presents, but gave us a real insight into how people with dementia would feel and how as pastoral visitors we could reassure.

In the New Year our regular meetings began again, including a new youth group 'X-Plore' for those aged 9 – 13. Messy Church continues as we welcome new families and build on our relationships with existing families. The 'Home and Away' fundraising project in March will focus on an International Scout

Camp our scout group is going on, MHA and All We Can. Our prayer initiatives include offering prayer after each communion service where a group of trained people will be available. All of our groups help us to work towards fulfilling our strap-line of 'sharing, hope and love and we thank everyone who gives their time, talents and energy to further the mission of God in this community.

John

News from around the Circuit Ruddington

Once again our Church joined in with Ruddington's Christmas Event which sees stalls and entertainments throughout the centre of the village on the first Saturday in December, culminating in a visit from Santa and his sleigh. A variety of stalls gave us a very satisfactory profit of £800 for Church funds.

Simon led our Covenant Service on 20 January. This was followed by a memorial service for Grace— a faithful member of our Church who died the week before. It was good to welcome so many of her family and friends including friends from Ruddington Baptist Church. (And was this the first time that bagpipes have been played in our Church?)

February 22 marked the 190th anniversary of the opening of the first Primitive Methodist Chapel in Ruddington, in Chapel Street, built by the framework knitters and now owned by the Museum. Still serving the community after all these years this building was replaced in 1873 by the larger church we occupy today. (Ruddington also has two Wesleyan Chapel buildings still standing.)

Our first fund-raising event this year will be a "mini-sale" (which will include the popular ubiquitous cake stall) to be held on Saturday 9 March from 10.00am to 12noon.

Following discussions instigated by Andy to bring together the younger and older generations, on Thursday 28 March from 9.30am to 12noon members of the congregation are invited to join the children of "First Steps" for games, music, Bible stories, and of course tea, squash and biscuits. This new venture will clearly have benefits for all ages. Andy was inspired by the recent TV programme "Old People's Home for 4 Year Olds" filmed at Lark Hill Retirement Village in Clifton.

Our annual fund-raiser for Christian Aid will be held on Saturday 25 May from 10.00am to 12noon in the shape of a cake stall with some plants on sale too.

Lively prayerful meetings have taken place to plan our way forward, as we continue to be a witness in the growing village of Ruddington – a village with a rich heritage of Methodism beginning at the end of the 18th century.

Kathy