Airedale Methodist Circuit
in the Yorkshire West District

NEWSLETTER JULY 2025

This month's reflection is written by Edwin Tate, Circuit Finance Officer:

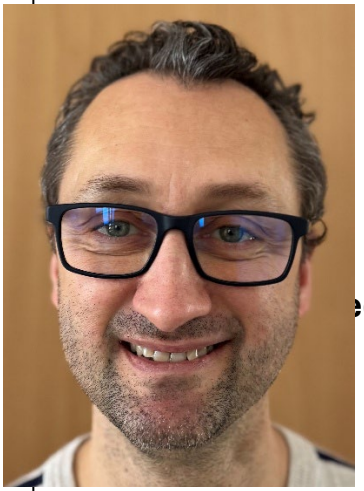
We live in a culture that attaches enormous significance to achievement and success, for example on the sports field or concert stage, where performers at the highest level are given celebrity status and influence. There is no doubt that extraordinary talent in any discipline can amaze and inspire. Yet the relentless pursuit to be the best can also have a very dark side. For some to win requires many more to lose, and even those with the greatest of prospects may find the pressure unbearable, as seen sometimes tragically in the mental health toll on some young budding stars.

Our Christian faith is more cautious about success – wary, even, perhaps taking note of Jesus's teaching in Matthew 20:16 that 'the last will be first and the first will be last'. St Paul writes at length about faith and works, and while this can be understood in different ways, I think what really speaks to me (after long experience of getting many things wrong!) is simply admitting that no matter how hard our efforts, we will never in our own strength be able to accomplish very much – whether we see that in terms of getting right with God or living the life in all its fullness for which we were created – and the more we try to go it alone, the more broken it soon becomes apparent that we are. It is only when we turn in faith to Jesus and to those around us and finally ask for help that our renewed relationships open up all kinds of hope and possibilities, through God's freely given love or grace, that we could never earn.

One of the lessons of Pentecost, celebrated in June, is that even the Disciples, who had experienced first-hand the wonderful events of Easter, needed the gift of the Spirit to transform their focus outwards, to effectively communicate their faith in ways that the people around them could relate to, which then led to baptising and transforming many more in turn.

In last month's newsletter Glenda mentioned the hugely encouraging signs of growth in faith in our country, including among young people, who need now as much as ever to hear the message that they are loved unconditionally for who they are. In our churches throughout the Circuit we are already blessed with trusting relationships, and so many positive interactions with people in our communities. This gives a really strong foundation on which to build opportunities to listen more deeply to others, and to share our stories authentically with them. As we develop our plans for mission, my prayer would be that the Holy Spirit would embolden and equip us to find new and engaging ways of communicating what God's love has done for us and what it offers to others.

(A belated) WELCOME TO DANIEL SPENCER!



Daniel joined the Circuit Finance team in February after working for 15 years in the Finance and Compliance departments in the worldwide Siemens organisation. Although mainly based in the Czech Republic (Ostrava and Prague), Daniel spent extended periods on corporate acquisitions in the United States and Portugal, and worked regularly with UK-based Siemens companies.

His interests include travelling, architecture and learning languages. His main sporting activities are swimming and hiking.

Many of you will recognise Daniel as he is a regular attender at Lees and Worth Valley Church services!

Daniel says "I am already enjoying my new job, and am looking forward to being part of meeting the challenges faced by the Circuit".

In case you missed it…. The New Place Updated gathering times:
On the fourth Wednesday evening of each month we meet for a simple tea at 5pm and then share together in an informal time of fellowship reflecting on the Methodist Way of Life. These times are open to all ages, and last about an hour or so.
On the third Sunday morning each month we gather for our Cafe Service at 10.30am. This will be a relaxed time of worship, prayer, and fellowship. Open to all ages. These services will last about 45 minutes.
We are a New Places for New People project however we do value the presence and witness of our faithful Airedale folk as we minister and worship together. Please chat with me if you'd like to know more. Revd Nel

WHAT'S ON (at the end of June and) IN JULY?

If you would like to join the weekly Monday morning Circuit prayers at 9.15am, please use these details:
Meeting ID: 930 6500 8118
Passcode: 584710

Methodist Women in Britain

YORKSHIRE WEST DISTRICT

Please join us for a

SUMMER AFTERNOON EVENT

(Speaker and afternoon tea)

on Friday, July 4th at 2pm at

St. Paul's Methodist Church, Wakefield Road, Dalton, Huddersfield HD5 8DE

Speaker: Rev'd Leonora Wassell, Co-chair, Methodist Women in Britain

She will share her travels and the events she has been to as she follows the theme of the 'Status of women going forward'.

For catering purposes please contact Jean Delaney by June 29th if you plan to attend. Pay in cash on the day.
Afternoon tea - £7.50 (recommended outside caterers)
Email: jn.delaney@btopenworld.com
Telephone: 01484 651960
MWiB Registered Charity No. 1156626

The Eldwick Gala is fast approaching Saturday 28th June This is an annual event which sees approximately 4 to 500 people travelling through our building in search of a sit down and refreshments. We need help serving our community in the church café – please consider signing up on the rotas to come and help set up / clear away / serve or bake a cake or make bacon butties / deliver them around the field etc. There will also be a plant stall looked after by Jeanette and Anne Brown, and we would love any contributions of plants. But perhaps more important is our presence on the field where we have a gazebo. Our presence will include displays of what we can offer here at The Eldwick Church. Whilst 500 people might travel through the café, well over a thousand people will pass our stall on the field. We need volunteers to help set it up and take it all down or to just be a presence in the Gazebo, chatting to folk.
Emma Drake is co-ordinating this precious outreach, please pray, sign up or chat with Emma or any of the gala volunteers.
Thank you



At St James' Church in SILSDEN

Silsden Proms on the Farm
Saturday 19th July 2025

Proms on the Farm returns on **Saturday 19th July** to Jacksons Field in Silsden and performing for us again, with 5 hours of varied music are
- The Tewit Silver Band,
- Hot Aire Concert Band,
- The 1960 Four
- and our local soloists April Elizabeth and Sarah Halstead.

There will be the opportunity to reserve a gazebo space with a prize for the best dressed gazebo and the best dressed chairs for those sitting in the arena.

Please note: No food or drinks are available to buy on site - please bring your own picnic and drinks!

Tickets from Silsden Post Office on Kirkgate or Olive & Green on Briggate - £15 adults, children free. £20 for a gazebo space



If you need help to attend Circuit meetings or events, please use a taxi!

You can either:
Book a taxi yourself, ask for a receipt and claim the cost back from the Circuit.
Or
Ring Esther on 07904 883288 and she will book one for you, at no cost to you.
(Please give her at least a week's notice as she works part-time)



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Please keep this page!
If information needs to be updated, a new version will be sent out in a future

Opportunities to pray and worship together (outside of Sunday Mornings):

@ Steeton Methodist Church
Prayer and Praise on the first Thursday of the month, 7pm to 8pm

@ Silsden Methodist Church
Prayer gathering, first Monday in the month, 7pm

@ St Peter's Methodist Church, Cross Hills
Weekday Communion Service, first Wednesday in the month, 10am
Prayer Service, St Peter's Cross Hills every Wednesday, 10am
(followed by coffee at 10.30am)

@ Silsden Methodist Church
Praise Service, fourth Sunday in the month, 6pm

@ Bingley Methodist Church
Communion, second Monday in the month, 1pm

@ The New Place
Methodist Way of Life Quiet Reflection, fourth Wednesday each month, 6pm
Evening Cafe Service, third Sunday each month, 5pm

@ Lees Methodist Church
Café Worship, third Sunday in the month, 1pm

@ Cullingworth Methodist Church
second Wednesday in the month
9.30am Prayer
9.45am Communion

@ Silsden Methodist Church
'Born in Song', every Friday, 10.30-11am

Messy Church

2nd Tuesday of the month:
Bingley Messy Church
3.45-5.30pm
Silsden Messy Church
3:30 – 5:30pm

3rd Saturday of the month:
The Eldwick Church
Saturday Church
1-2.30pm
(bring a packed lunch and eat together 12-1pm)

Saturday Church
THE ELDWICK CHURCH

'Messy Church logo © Bible Reading Fellowship 2021. See messychurch.org.uk'



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