

The Methodist Church

South Warwickshire Circuit



Inter-Church Walks
The Methodist Church
South Warwickshire Circuit
June 2019

Welcome to the series of walks between the churches which will make up the new South Warwickshire Circuit. As well as being an enjoyable afternoon out in the glorious sunshine (hopefully!) each Saturday and Sunday throughout June they also signify we are not alone as churches, but part of a larger community which supports each other.

Most walks will start at 2pm - though some longer ones will need to be earlier - and will start and finish with a short (15 minute) act of worship (see centre pages), with the added bonus of refreshments at the finish. Over the series of walks we will cover the book of Acts, which contains Paul's journeys. Transport will be provided back to the start. Please pay attention to the guidance on the back page.

You are welcome to join in even if you don't feel able to walk the route physically, for example by joining us at the start or finish, or by praying for the walkers as they journey, at church or at home. Feel free to use the material in this booklet.

As well as joining in the walk featuring your own church, why not take the opportunity to take part in others when you have a free afternoon.

I hope you enjoy the experience, physically and spiritually.

Every blessing.

Revd Peter Powers

Date	Churches Involved	Distance (miles)
Sat 1st June	Bidford to Welford	5
Sun 2nd June	Welford to Mickleton	7
Sat 8th June	Tysoe to Kineton	6
Sun 9th June	Fenny Compton to Knightcote	3
Sat 15th June	Stockton to Whitnash *	9
Sun 16th June	Whitnash to Cubbington via Radford Rd and Dale St	6
Sun 23rd June	Cubbington to Kenilworth	5
Sat 13th July	Kenilworth to Warwick (Northgate)	6
Sat 20th July	Henley to Stratford *	10
Sat 7th Sept	Wellesbourne to Stratford	7.2

All walks start at 2 pm except for longer walks (marked*) which start at 11 am

Saturday 1st June:

Bidford to Welford (5 miles)

Walk leader: Brian Bradley (Tel: 01789 488551; email: brianbradley@uwclub.net)

Route: via Barton, short stretch along road



Bidford Methodist Church
Chapel Close,
Bidford on Avon,
Alcester,
B50 4QB

Reading: Acts Chapter 9

Prayer:

Father as we begin the pilgrimage from Bidford around the new circuit, accompany us and grant us faith to walk with you this day, and to see the other with your eyes, to listen with your ears and to hold the other in your embrace, so that together we may be all that you intend us to be as we walk today to Welford. **Amen.**

Adapted from a prayer by Peter Barber.



Prayer :

Loving Lord as pilgrims on a journey from Bidford we have now arrived in Welford. We reflect on travelling. 'We can often feel uncertain about the path ahead; help us to remember that we are all held in your hands. Help us to learn more about how to trust in you so that whatever the future in life brings we can know that you are with us and will help us face it'. Keep us safe as we rest tonight and be ready for the journey to Mickleton tomorrow. **Amen**

Adapted from a prayer by John Howard.

Reading: Acts Chapter 10



Welford Methodist Church
Chapel Lane,
Welford on Avon,
Warwickshire,
CV37 8PX

Sunday 2nd June:

Welford to Mickleton (7 miles)

Walk leader: Fi Pethick (Tel: 07768 456646; email: fipethick@gmail.com)

Route: via Greenway and Broad Marston



Welford Methodist Church
Chapel Lane,
Welford on Avon,
Warwickshire,
CV37 8PX

Reading: Acts Chapter 11

Prayer:

Lord we trust you to be with us on this journey as our two circuits join together. As we walk together in the light of Jesus, we know that your blessing will be with us each step of the way, especially on this journey to Mickleton.

Amen.

Brian Bradley.



Prayer:

Father we greet these pilgrims today as we have welcomed people over the past 100 years in this church which is in the most northerly village of Gloucestershire. Mickleton is known as the gateway to the Cotswolds, may we be the gateway to others learning about Christ. Enable us to be faithful friends and true companions to everyone we meet. May all the pilgrims on this particular journey around the new circuit find joy in the travelling. **Amen**

Mickleton Stewards.



Mickleton Methodist Church
Chapel Lane,
Mickleton,
Chipping Campden,
Gloucestershire,
GL55 6SD

Reading: Acts Chapter 12

Saturday 8th June:

Tysoe to Kineton (6 miles)

Walk leader: Richard Wilde (Tel: 07971 218356; email: revrichardwilde@gmail.com)

Route: via Oxhill and Butlers Marston



Tysoe Methodist Church
Main Street
Tysoe
CV35 0SJ

Reading: Acts Chapter 13

Prayer:

God of green pasture, grant plenty to enjoy.

God of the valley, grant strength to persevere.

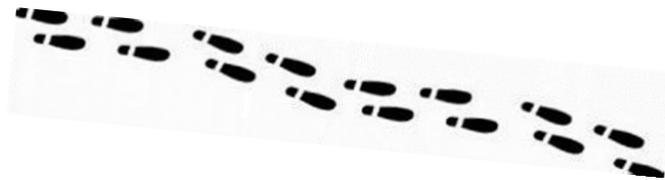
God of still water, grant grace to rest.

God of the mountain tops, grant perspective to guide.

God of city streets and winding paths, grant faith to follow.

God of wide open spaces, grant freedom to taste.

In all places and in all seasons, grant us the blessing of your presence.



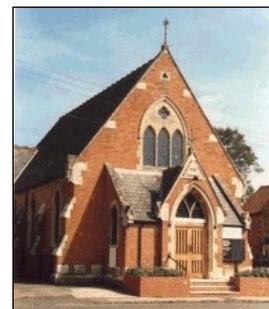
Prayer:

Lord our God,

We remember all those who have gone ahead of us in the journey of faith, those who have trod these paths before us, running the race set before them, and holding firm until the end. Grant to them and to us your eternal blessing.

Amen.

Reading: Acts Chapter 14



Kineton Methodist Church
Southam Street
Kineton
CV35 0LL

Sunday 9th June:

Fenny Compton to Knightcote (3 miles)

Walk leader: Dave Lusty (Tel: 01926 624859; email: dj.lusty@btopenworld.com)

Route: via footpaths across country



Fenny Compton
Methodist Church
High Street
Fenny Compton
Southam
CV47 2XT

Reading: Acts Chapter 15

Prayer:

Lord of all,

Touch our hearts through all Jesus has done,
so that we may be more ready to live as his people.

Teach us in our turn to do that little bit extra,
to go beyond peoples' expectations, to give and go on giving.

And so may people glimpse in us a little of the love we have seen
in Christ.

Amen.



Prayer:

Living God, We thank you for those people who are willing to go the extra mile.... those among our family and friends, in our fellowships and the wider Church, in our society or the world as a whole who give freely of themselves, going beyond the call of duty in the service of others. Teach us to give, as you have given to us in Christ.

Amen.

Reading: Acts Chapter 16



Knightcote
Methodist Church
Knightcote
Southam
CV47 2EF

Saturday 15th June:

Stockton to Whitnash (9 miles)

Walk leader: Andy Bennett (Tel: 01926 859649; email: andyxb@ntlworld.com)

Route: via Long Itchington, Grand Union Canal



Stockton LEP
St Michael and All Angels
Church
Church Road
Stockton
Southam
CV47 8JG

Reading: Acts Chapter 17

Prayer:

May the road rise to meet you;
may the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face
and the rain fall softly on your fields.
Until we meet again may God hold you in the hollow of
his hand.

Amen



Prayer:

Holy One, we offer you the life of Whitnash Methodist Church. We thank you for the new relationships developing through Knit and Natter and Messy Church. We praise you for the faithful worship and service which continues after more than 50 years. We place our future in your hands, trusting you to continue to lead us.

Amen

Reading: Acts Chapter 18



Whitnash Methodist Church
Murcott Road East
Whitnash
Leamington Spa
CV31 2JJ

Opening Liturgy

- ◆ Hymn
- ◆ Reading—see page for the day
- ◆ Prayer at the start of the pilgrimage:

We journey together.

Each person's stride their own.

Each person's load their own.

We journey together.

We started from different places.

We share whatever we can.

We journey together.

Some of us are limping; some of us are leaping.

All of us have stumbled at some point on the road.

We journey together.

Looking left and right for fellow pilgrims:

different, diverse but not divided.

We journey together.

We affirm this in the Name of the God who is at the end of the journey, the Christ who has gone before us, and the Holy Spirit who accompanies us.

Amen.

(©Paul Hutchinson, The Corrymeela Community)

- ◆ Prayer for the Local Church—see page for the day

Closing Liturgy

- ◆ Prayer for the Local Church—see page for the day
- ◆ Prayer for the end of the journey:
Author of faith – renew our trust in you and in one another;
Way of self-giving Love – strengthen us in our journey together;
Light of the World – guide us safely home;
Unite us in mission and worship that in our common life and witness all may see the glory of your love.
God of life, hear us. Amen.
- ◆ Prayer for the Circuit (see back page)
- ◆ Reading—see page for the day
- ◆ Hymn

Suggested hymns (StF):

611 Brother sister let me serve you

476 One more step

456 And are we yet alive

415 The church of Christ in every age

690 The Church's one foundation

329 Jesus the first and the last

Sunday 16th June:

Whitnash to Cubbington via Radford Road and Dale Street (6 miles)

Walk leader: Trevor Pethick (Tel: 07768 157559; email: trevor.pethick@gmail.com)

Route: mostly pavement via Radford Rd & Dale St



Whitnash Methodist Church
Murcott Road East
Whitnash
Leamington Spa
CV31 2JJ

Reading: Acts Chapter 19

Prayer:

Holy One, we offer you the life of Whitnash Methodist Church. We thank you for the new relationships developing through Knit and Natter and Messy Church. We praise you for the faithful worship and service which continues after more than 50 years. We place our future in your hands, trusting you to continue to lead us.

Amen



Prayer:

God of reconciling love, we give you thanks for our partnership in the Gospel with sisters and brothers of other traditions. We pray for the united witness of Radford Road Church as we serve our neighbours of all faiths and none. May our work, our welcome and our worship be signs of your love and light; may those we encounter each day reveal to us your truth and presence; and may all who are part of this community know your justice and peace; we ask in the name of Jesus, our brother, **Amen.**



Radford Road LEP
Radford Road
Leamington Spa
CV31 1NF

Reading: Acts Chapter 20



Sunday 16th June—continued:

Whitnash to Cubbington via Radford Road and Dale Street (6 miles)

Walk leader: Trevor Pethick (Tel: 07768 157559; email: trevor.pethick@gmail.com)

Route: mostly pavement via Radford Rd & Dale St



Dale Street Methodist
Church
Dale Street
Leamington Spa
CV32 5HL

Reading: Acts Chapter 21

Prayer:

For all the many facets of the life of Dale Street Church,
we pray O Lord.

- That the worship may be worthy and pleasing to You.
- That lives may be enriched and refreshed by the fellowship shared
- That Your light may shine as a beacon in the centre of Leamington.

We give You grateful thanks, Lord for the people, the place and the mission that is given to the church in Dale Street. **Amen**



Prayer:

Dear God,
let us not undertake our life's journey begrudgingly, but instead with love and thankfulness, saying, 'We thank you for this, my God'. We are travellers and strangers in the world, like so many of your people before us. Walk with us Jesus, and bless us.

Amen

Reading: Acts Chapter 22



Cubbington Methodist
Church
Queen Street
Cubbington
Leamington Spa
CV32 7NA

Sunday 23rd June:

Cubbington to Kenilworth (5 miles)

Walk leader: Rachel Hextall (Tel: 07980 420856; email: rachex29@gmail.com)

Route: via Stoneleigh Park



Cubbington Methodist
Church
Queen Street
Cubbington
Leamington Spa
CV32 7NA

Reading: Acts Chapter 23

Prayer:

Dear God,

let us not undertake our life's journey begrudgingly, but instead with love and thankfulness, saying, 'We thank you for this, my God.' We are travellers and strangers in the world, like so many of your people before us. Walk with us Jesus, and bless us. **Amen**



Prayer: To Catch a God Moment.

Creator God, We ask that each step be filled with love, laughter, sharing and supporting. In creating these steps a new story will unfold and be passed down just as it always has been.

We are people of the way.

A faith journey to be experienced in the here and now and for the disciples of the future. We pray that all walking today catch God moments in all their beauty.

We are people of the way.

Amen.

Reading: Acts Chapter 24



Kenilworth Methodist Church
Priory Road
Kenilworth
CV8 1LQ

Saturday 13th July:

Kenilworth to Warwick (6 miles)

Walk leader: Martin Brown (Tel: 01926 857682; email: martin-chris-brown@talktalk.net)

Route: via Abbey fields and Prospect Farm



Kenilworth Methodist Church
Priory Road
Kenilworth
CV8 1LQ

Reading: Acts Chapter 25

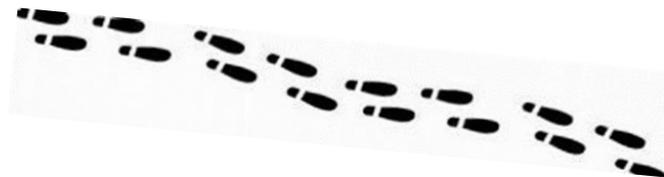
Prayer: To Catch a God Moment.

Creator God, We ask that each step be filled with love, laughter, sharing and supporting. In creating these steps a new story will unfold and be passed down just as it always has been.

We are people of the way.

A faith journey to be experienced in the here and now and for the disciples of the future. We pray that all walking today catch God moments in all their beauty.

We are people of the way. Amen



Prayer:

Loving God, we hold before you all that happens at Northgate in worship, fellowship and service. We give thanks for our Community Tuesdays, Guild, Sunday School and coffee mornings, making contact with the wider community. We pray for our forthcoming Holiday Club, offering a warm welcome to families. We thank you for all who encounter God here and will continue to do so.

Amen

Reading: Acts Chapter 26



Warwick Methodist Church
Barrack Street
Warwick
CV34 4TH

Saturday 20th July:

Henley in Arden to Stratford upon Avon (10 miles)

Walk leader: Peter Powers (Tel: 07941 328155; email: revpeter.mwc@gmail.com)

Route: via Wooton Wawen and the Stratford Canal.



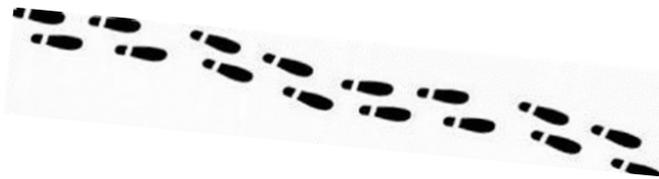
Henley in Arden
Methodist Church
High Street,
Henley in Arden,
Solihull,
B95 5AU

Reading: Acts Chapter 27

Prayer:

Gracious God as we leave Henley on our pilgrimage to Stratford ,
'if we find the way in life easy may we walk it joyfully; when the
way is hard may we walk it faithfully; and when the way becomes
unclear may we trust the one who walks beside us, Jesus our
companion and friend.' **Amen.**

Adapted from a prayer by Stephen Wigley



Prayer:

Gracious God as we build a new circuit we know that
'you go before us and we have the joy of following in
your footsteps. Shine a light when the road is dark and
we are afraid; clear the way when the path is
overgrown; lift us up when we stumble or fall. Forgive
us if we miss the path because we have not been
paying attention, or have been listening to other
voices, or we have fallen behind and can only distantly
hear your call. Help us, Holy Spirit when we hear your
voice calling us on, to quicken our step and keep in
step with you and with one another'. **Amen**

Peter Murray

Reading: Acts Chapter 28



Stratford Upon Avon Methodist
Church
Old Town,
Stratford-upon-Avon,
CV37 6BG

Saturday 7th September:

Wellesbourne to Stratford upon Avon (7.2 miles)

Walk leader: **Dave Lusty** (Tel: 01926 624859; email: dj.lusty@btopenworld.com)

Route: via Charlecote and Welcome Country Park



Wellesbourne
Methodist Church
Bridge Street
Wellesbourne
CV35 9LR

Reading: John 1:1-14

Prayer:

Father God, we pray for our shared worship and witness here at Wellesbourne. Help us to explore new opportunities while holding on to the best of what we already have. May we reflect your character in all that we think and say and do. Unite us in faith, hope and love, in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



Prayer:

Gracious God as we build a new circuit we know that 'you go before us and we have the joy of following in your footsteps. Shine a light when the road is dark and we are afraid; clear the way when the path is overgrown; lift us up when we stumble or fall. Forgive us if we miss the path because we have not been paying attention, or have been listening to other voices, or we have fallen behind and can only distantly hear your call. Help us, Holy Spirit when we hear your voice calling us on, to quicken our step and keep in step with you and with one another'. **Amen**

Peter Murray

Reading: Rev 7:9-17



Stratford Upon Avon
Methodist Church
Old Town,
Stratford-upon-Avon,
CV37 6BG

Prayer for South Warwickshire Circuit

God of grace & love,

We lay before you the congregations and folk of the South Warwickshire Methodist Circuit.

As we walk the Circuit on foot and in our prayers on to the opening of a new chapter in the journey of the people called Methodist in this county,

may we know the presence of your Holy Spirit which brings us life,
may we walk with Jesus who inspires and teaches us how to live,
may we experience your loving parenting of us that guides us and brings us home.

May your blessing be for us and to the communities where we live,
that all may hear and see our calling,
that all may be welcome,
and know the love of God for themselves.

In the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Information for Walkers

- Please ensure you bring strong walking shoes / boots and suitable clothing (waterproofs etc).
- Please bring your own water / refreshments and, where required, packed lunch
- We have tried hard to minimise walking on roads, but where this is necessary, please walk in single file on right hand side of road.
- There may also be some stiles to negotiate
- Please note, if the forecast is for inclement weather, the walk may be postponed—please check with the walk leader.