



May 2019

Circuit Newsletter ... Issue 3

Welcome to the third edition of the newsletter, in which we look forward to going on walks (even those who aren't walking!), profile two more churches, introduce Kate, one of our Circuit Administrators, and give a flavour of Synod. Thank you to those who fed back comments on the logos - please keep them coming.

As this edition goes to print we enter a short period of consultation regarding the superintendency of our circuit. Revd Peter Powers' appointment is currently due to finish in August 2020. If you have any views about our mission, worship or pastoral needs going forward please speak to your senior steward before June 7th.

On Saturday 11th May Stratford hosted the Birmingham District Synod. About 150 ministers, circuit stewards and church representatives gathered together to discuss equality, diversity and inclusion; formally approve the new South Warwickshire Circuit; and welcome some visitors from Zimbabwe. It was a very joyful occasion. Thanks to all those who worked so hard to make it happen.

Inter-Church Walks



It may seem daunting to complete the walks between each of the Local Churches in the new Circuit. But ... the walk could be a spiritual walk to accompany those on the physical journey. You can congregate at your church to follow on with those who are walking by praying the same prayers that will be said on the journey; you can pray for the walkers too.

We will be producing a booklet of prayers with pictures of each church, which will be available shortly.

If you are able to make the journey, do consider joining in with a leg which does not involve your usual church.

End of an Era and New Beginnings!

We say goodbye to our existing Circuits in July. The closing service in Mid Warwickshire is on Sunday 14th July at 3 pm in Warwick Church (Barrack Street, Warwick CV34 4TH) and in Stratford and Evesham it is on Sunday 21st July, again at 3 pm, in Stratford Church (Old Town, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6BG). We will miss the friendships and fellowship we have enjoyed over several years with Christians in other Local Churches. **But ...** we are poised on the threshold of a new dawn, a new Circuit, with the opportunity to make new friendships and fellowships with a wider community—a chance to spread the love of God shown in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus in a wider area; a chance to review our outreach and take on new challenges.

Sat 1st June Bidford - Welford

Sun 2nd June Welford - Mickleton

Sat 8th June Tysoe - Kineton

Sun 9th June Fenny Compton - Knightcote

Sat 15th June Stockton - Whitnash

Sun 16th June Whitnash - Cubbington via Radford Rd and Dale St

Sun 23rd June Cubbington - Kenilworth

Sat 13th July Kenilworth - Warwick

Sat 20th July Henley - Stratford

Sat 7th Sept Wellesbourne - Stratford



Wellesbourne



Wellesbourne is at the centre of both the existing Circuit and our new Circuit, so is soon to be the home of the Circuit Office. Most

Circuit Meetings are now taking place here.

We celebrated the centenary of the building in 2016. The church had a major refurbishment and update in 1988 and in 2015 the church was redecorated and pews were replaced with chairs. Our Sunday congregation averages 25 and we have a number of regular activities during the week including: Little Stars (for pre-school children and their minders), Fellowship Café, Craft and Cake, a Lunch Club (organised by VASA) and a popular weekly Saturday Coffee morning – sometimes serving bacon butties!

The Ten2 meetings held to consider our church's future as part of the Circuit Review were well supported, culminating in a monthly "Moving Forward Together" meeting. The initial focus for this is the opportunity presented by the recent opening of the village's new medical centre directly across the road from the church. We hope to provide refreshments and a meeting place for those visiting the medical centre soon and we are also considering longer term developments.

The premises are also used by a number of community groups during the week.

Introducing Kate Tennyson, one of our Circuit Administrators:



Hi, I've been in post for 2 years now, and they have been wonderful! I came to the role after a career break to have children during which

time I worked as a breastfeeding counsellor with the NCT. Previously I was employed in the NHS as a statistician. In my free time I write poetry and enjoy solving puzzles—so working on the Plan is a joy! .

Kenilworth

It is difficult to describe Kenilworth Methodist church in so few words - so come and visit us instead. We are just down the road from the new Kenilworth station, so we are easy to get to!

The original building, built in 1902, now serves as a church hall. A new building was added in 1968 and this was extended in 2002. Our congregation averages nearly 100.

As a congregation we have many acts of worship and study besides three regular Sunday services, including; Friday Bread Church, a Wednesday teenager study group, and many mid-week prayer groups, house groups, morning coffee., etc

Our rooms are used all week by uniformed organisations and a variety organisations from our community and we are happy to welcome them into our church. We share a Children and Families Missioner with Dale Street. We also provide an office for Kenilworth Youth for Christ. There is always a ready team of volunteers to help where needed. There are activities to meet all interests, but we are more than willing to add new ones.

We are keen to develop the faith of all our members and find exciting ways to carry our message beyond our four walls. Last Christmas we



knitted 400 angels and let them loose in the community, with a simple message of love and hope. In June, we will be opening our doors on Kenilworth

Carnival Day to provide a pit stop for all those on the floats.

We like to think of ourselves as a very welcoming bunch of people, and never resist an excuse to serve up a wide selection of cakes and deserts.

Logos: Thank you to everyone who has responded to our request for feedback on the logos. There is still time to register your views—contact Kate at the Circuit Office (07578 640013 or mwc.katetennyson@gmail.com)