



27th June 2021

The **Methodist Church**

South Warwickshire Circuit

Registered charity no. 1154830

Superintendent Minister: Rev Dr Iain Ballard

27th June is Conference Sunday – the Sunday which falls during the annual Methodist Conference, and on which ordinations customarily take place. This year’s Conference has been an on-again-off-again affair, as Covid restrictions have changed, but at the time of writing I believe it will be meeting in person at the NEC Birmingham. One of the ordination services, that of deacons, is taking place in our Circuit, at Kenilworth. David and I have been invited to take part in administering communion.

Attending an ordination service – I have been to six apart from my own – is a privilege and a joy. This one will be different – the diaconal vocation is different to that of a presbyter, and of course there will be no singing. I am sure it will nevertheless be a powerful and meaningful occasion. But while the focus will be on the ordinands, I expect that the preacher will remind all those present that vocation is not limited to those who are ordained. All of us have gifts and resources and the capacity to use them for God’s glory and to further God’s Kingdom.

Where we often fall down is by identifying calling with doing.... what am I called to **do** for God? That may start out exciting and energising, but over time can become wearying – especially if the church we belong to is small and has few or no young people coming through. It can lead to people feeling trapped in an increasing number of responsibilities they have taken on because there was no-one else to do them. Perhaps we should ask instead, “what am I called to **be** for God?” We are called to be loving, gracious, caring, compassionate – and we can do that anywhere. Once we have worked out and connected with what God is calling us to **be**, then we will know what we are called to **do**.

This is my last contribution to the Circuit service before David and I move down to Devon (where we will **be** for a while before discerning what we are meant to **do**.) So I thank you all for your love and support over the last five years, and entrust you to God who is so much more wise and faithful than we are.

Rev Barbara Greenwood

Reminder: Dial – a – Prayer, Methodist Church

Listen to a prayer: 0808 281 2514

Listen to news: 0808 281 2478

Sunday Worship and Daily Prayers

There are plenty of opportunities to join in worship if you have the internet, eg Methodist Central Hall (London) streams worship each Sunday at 11:00 am (<https://mchw.live/>)

Circuit Service

The Circuit continues to provide a pre-recorded service each week, via YouTube, Facebook and our website – see below for details:

Please access the YouTube video by clicking the following link or typing it into your browser:

tinyurl.com/SWCplaylist

or if this doesn’t work, try the long version:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLzyDSCOYMtQvpCroUvvxjE93MqkTWQomY>

If you regularly watch the Circuit Service, do consider subscribing to the Channel.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SW.Methodist/>

Website: www.methodist-swc.org.uk

A full text of this service is available on the website, and is being sent by post to all those people who do not use the Internet so they can join in too. These worship opportunities will be available and sent to you every Sunday. We will be offering worship in a similar way each Sunday as the health crisis continues.

District Messages: The Birmingham District puts out a message each week on their YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC65eOm7QtM4Wu1R6jTI7frw>

or you can search on YouTube for *Birmingham Methodist District*. We also have it on our website.

TV & radio opportunities for worship:

Radio 4, Sunday Worship, Sunday 8:10am,
 Radio 4 Long Wave, Daily Service, 9.45am Mon-Fri,
 Radio 3, Choral Evensong, Sunday 3pm.

BBC 1, Sunday Worship, Sunday 10.45am,
 BBC 1, Songs of Praise, Sunday 1:15pm
(The times of the TV services can alter, please check the times)

Daily prayers at 10am are led by members of the circuit via zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/328494818> - all zoom meetings are now protected by password – please contact Michael Sharman (see below) for the password. All members of the Circuit are invited to join, **you do not need a zoom account to join**. You can also join by **telephone**. Please contact Michael Sharman on 07412 401988 if you'd like help getting in.

Pastoral Support

A reminder that if you are in pastoral need of any kind please contact your own Minister direct by email or phone. We may also be able to arrange practical help with shopping and so on. Our details are below.

If in any doubt, please contact Rev Dr Iain Ballard and he will link you up with help locally to you.

Rev Dr Iain Ballard <i>(Day off – Friday)</i>	07368 875790	iain.ballard@methodist.org.uk
Rev. Barbara Greenwood <i>(Day off – Friday)</i>	01926 740846	barbara.greenwood@methodist.org.uk ,
Rev. Jeongsook Kim <i>(Day off – Tuesday)</i>	01926 426084	revjeongsook@gmail.com ,
Rev. Audrey Simpson <i>(Day off – Friday)</i>	01789 267971	revaes@gmail.com ,
Rev. Jemima Strain <i>(Part-time)</i>	07969 345389	jemima.strain@methodist.org.uk ,
Rev. Sam McBratney <i>(Part-time)</i>	07706 586860	s.mcbratney@methodist.org.uk ,
Rev. Richard Wilde <i>(Part-time)</i>	07971 218356	revrichardwilde@gmail.com ,
Chris Flood <i>(Part-time)</i>	07772 292033	chrisflood_erniescheu@hotmail.com ,

Keep safe. Keep caring. Keep praying. With every blessing to you and yours.
The Ministers and Stewards of the South Warwickshire Methodist Circuit of Churches