

District Prayer Diary

The **Methodist** Church
Northampton District



2022/2023

Day 1 Oxford

Oxford Circuit delights that all twelve of our congregations have opened again in worship and service following the periods of lockdown.

Give Thanks For

- We give thanks that you are always walking with us. In this way you share our hopes and dreams, joy and sadness, the ups and downs of life.

Please Pray For

- Be with our congregations and communities that rejoice in renewed premises, gathering again and new opportunities for ministry and mission. Be with those who live with uncertainty about what the future holds. Be with those who are having to lay things down, or put things aside for a season. Be with those who reach out to serve those amongst the least, in the name of Jesus.



**Be with us O God in our calling,
in our work with children
and young people,
refugees, climate crisis
and ecological
challenges.**

Superintendent
Rev'd Peter Powers



Ministers

Rev'd Brian Brown (Writer and Producer)
Rev'd Paul Carter
Rev'd Miriam Moul
Rev'd Stephen Spain
Rev'd Dr Ralph Waller (Farmington Institute)

Lay Workers

Alison Butler (mission and heritage, Wesley Memorial)
Mel McCulloch (children, families and outreach)
Libby Hawkness-Smith (lay community chaplain, Rose Hill)
Jo Godfrey (Circuit Administrator)

Supernumeraries

Rev'd David Bull
Rev'd Geoffrey Hunter
Rev'd Jean King
Rev'd Leslie Marsh
Rev'd John Rowland
Rev'd Michael Sawyer

Circuit Stewards

Chris Butler (finance)
Malcolm Dodds
Simeon Mitchell
Paul Spray
John Winterbottom (property)

Day 2

Wantage and Abingdon

Our circuit covers a large part of South Oxfordshire. We have nine churches, and a total membership of just under 450. Our Circuit is home to a number of scientific establishments and hi-tech industries. We are also an area in which a considerable amount of new housing is being built.

Give Thanks For

- Our Local Preachers and Worship Leaders. For their faithfulness in leading worship week by week. For new Local Preachers 'On note' and for Carol becoming a fully accredited Methodist Local Preacher.
- For new initiatives within the Churches
- Our Community Chaplaincy Project
- The desire to be more eco-friendly and sustainable as churches and a Circuit, reflected both in worship and in action.

Please Pray For

- The Circuit as we continue to look to the long-term sustainability of mission, service and ministry and how best to be God's faithful people
- Our Circuit Stewards and all those in positions of leadership
- Discernment for identifying ways in which our churches can build on and develop community relationships and new ventures.



**Faithful God,
We give thanks for the ways in
which you have guided us in the
past.
As we look to the future, may
we be courageous in seeking
your will.
Show us what we need to lay
down as well as what to pick up
- as we seek to be your people.
Amen**

Superintendent

Rev'd Keith Underhill



Ministers

Rev'd Jocelyn Bennett
Rev'd Ian Griffiths
Deacon Selina Nisbett
Rev'd Rebecca Peters
(Authorised Presbyter)

Supernumeraries

Rev'd John Anderson
Rev'd Eileen Appleyard
Rev'd Michael Appleyard
Rev'd Kenneth Blake
Deacon Maggie Blake
Rev'd Frances Blood
Rev'd Irena Byron
Rev'd Alan Grist
Rev'd John Stanfield

Community Chaplains

Libby Hawkness-Smith
Wendy Moorin

Circuit Stewards

Geoffrey Maunder
Anne Matthews
Carolyn Roche (Senior)
Gordon Skidmore

Day 3 West Oxfordshire

On the western edge of the District stands the West Oxfordshire Circuit, covering most of that civil district and some of the Cotswolds. 14 churches, mostly rural, with centres in Witney, Carterton, Faringdon and Chipping Norton. We welcome our new Superintendent Rev Andrew Biggs.

Give Thanks For

- Those new members and those new to faith
- The development of worship and fellowship
- The work of our Children and Family Worker
- The Chaplaincy work in Witney
- The pioneer work in Carterton
- The provision of Foodbanks, fridges and food parcels across the Circuit
- The faithful ongoing work of volunteers, Circuit and Church Officers

Please Pray For

- We seek God's blessing on our new Superintendent Minister Andrew Biggs, Circuit staff and volunteers.
- The continued outworking of our Circuit Mission Audit across all the churches
- God's provision for mission, projects, and those in need
- An increased passion for God's Kingdom among our members and a fresh anointing of Holy Spirit in our area
- We bless the people and communities of our Circuit in Jesus' name.



**O High King of Heaven,
Have mercy on our Land
Revive your Church,
Send the Holy Spirit for the sake
of the lost, the least and the
broken.
May your Kingdom come to our
nation,
In Jesus' mighty name.
Amen**



Superintendent
Rev'd Andrew Biggs

Ministers
Rev'd Jason Cooke
Rev'd Fred Ireland
Rev'd Ian Worrall

Part-time
Rev'd Malcolm Cook
Rev'd Charles Harris

Supernumeraries
Rev'd Nicola Blois
Rev'd David Buckley
Rev'd Stephen Bywater
Rev'd David Clark
Rev'd Elgin Crewe
Rev'd Richard Donoghue
Rev'd Roger Faulkner
Rev'd James Skinner
Rev'd Andrew Wigley
Rev'd Brenda Woods
Rev'd Alan Wright

Circuit Stewards
Ian Cotton (Senior Steward)
Rosemary Britton
Eddie Fowler
Ann Jerome
Martin Hannant

**Children and Families'
Worker**
Anna Pile

Circuit Administrator
Adrienne Clark

Chaplaincy Team Leader
Sonia Duraturo

Day 4

The Learning Network

Our team works across the Beds, Essex & Herts, East Anglia, Lincolnshire, Northampton and Nottingham & Derby districts, supporting churches, circuits, ministers, lay people and pioneers in the development of their mission and ministry. We are also increasingly involved in a wide variety of Learning and Development initiatives across the Connexion.

Give Thanks For

- The strength of our current team in terms of personnel, skills and relationships.
- The exciting opportunities we have to innovate new programmes of learning and development across the Connexion
- The privilege of walking with and supporting those faithfully living, learning, loving and leading throughout within our region and beyond.

Please Pray For

- A continued spirit and capacity to be creative, innovative and curious about all that God is doing across British Methodism and the global Church
- The ongoing development and delivery of effective, joined-up training across our region and the Connexion.
- Positive and effective relationships with both our district colleagues (including Safeguarding Officers, Mission Enablers, Chairs, Supers, Local Preachers Secretaries, etc) and our external partners (including LWPT, St Philip's Centre, Place for Hope, etc.)



**Help us, with simple words,
to explain the warmth within our hearts
that we experienced in that first
encounter
with your love and grace - the Spirits
flame,
still burning bright within -
that others, in their own journeys of
discovery
might reach out and touch the hand
that's always there,
and be embraced by love**

Prayer by John Birch

Team Co-ordinator

David Friswell



Biblical Literacy; W:LP, Candidacy

Michael Wadsworth

Children, Youth and Families, Pastoral Work

Gill Thomas

Mission;Leadership Development; Pioneers

Nigel Pimlott

Part-time; Positive Working Together; Safeguarding

Ann Howlett-Foster

Part-time, Digital Engagement;Creativity; Stewardship

Jenna Thorne

Day 5 Banbury

Banbury is a growing town with a number of outlying rural and town churches spread across Oxfordshire, Warwickshire and Northamptonshire. The circuit is served by two Presbyters and a Family and Children Outreach Worker.

Give Thanks For

- The commitment of people to witness to the love of Christ in their local communities.
- The growing work with our Messy Church families at Hinton & Marlborough Road churches
- The growing opportunities to reach out to local schools through our “Open The Book” teams
- For those who lead worship and our Local Preachers in training.
- For the growing on-line worshipping community

Please Pray For

- The refurbishment of Hinton Church
- For the ministry of our supernumerary ministers
- Those, especially men who have been bereaved, as we support them through our monthly lunch gathering
- For fellowships who continue to discern and make difficult decisions about the future work of Methodism in their communities
- Those taking up new posts within the circuit from September: Our Children and Families Worker and the Rev'd Phil Robinson and his family who joins us as a Probationer



**When opportunity and change are in the air
and there is real movement
and we are able to exercise direction
and choice.
Guide us by your Spirit in ways that
belongs to integrity and love
as we seek to serve your purposes.
Amen.**

Superintendent

Rev'd David Alderman



Ministers

Rev'd Philip Robinson

Ecumenical Colleagues

Rev'd Chris Gaynor (CofE)

Rev'd Lynda Spokes (URC)

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Malcolm Cook
(AP/Bap)

Rev'd Chris Eddy

Rev'd Jean Fletcher

Dcn Margaret Hale

Rev'd Robert Jones

Rev'd Mary Pheasey

Rev'd Jeff Smith

Rev'd John Warren

Circuit Stewards

Mrs Janet Jones

Miss Mary Tanner (Finance)

Mrs Cate Vokes

Children & Families

Worker

TBA

Circuit Administrator

Ms Clare Taylor

Day 6 Buckingham, Bicester and Brackley

The Bicester, Buckingham and Brackley Circuit takes in parts of the counties of Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire with three town churches and smaller churches in Gawcott, Thornborough, Steeple Claydon, Silverstone and Towcester. Its members emerged from COVID in good heart and we are now actively planning for the future.

Give Thanks For

- The Circuit Leadership Team who are forming a Transformational Leadership Learning Community, praying, learning and sharing together
- Brackley Vaccination Centre, a new places for new people Community Pop-Up in Brackley Methodist Church
- Thornborough's Lyrics and Lunch community, helping those with dementia and their carers come together for singing and good food
- Gawcott's recently introduced drop-in café
- Silverstone's Community Café every second Thursday and the closer working with our ecumenical friends of St Michael's
- Well Street United Church, with its richness of diversity and vibrancy of worship

Please Pray For

- Our developing and growing together as mission and discipleship teams across the Circuit, encouraging everyone to be part of a small group and following the Methodist Way of Life, praying, bible study, worship and meeting together
- Opportunities to support the large areas of new housing across the Circuit and discerning how our Church communities can have a presence.



**Loving Lord,
We heed your familiar call to walk
with you.
Enable us to have:
Openness to new ways in which you
are leading;
Courage to step into new places;
Vulnerability in sharing your love and
grace with those seeking
and those afraid of returning to
Church community life.
Amen**



Circuit Superintendent

Rev'd Steve Mann

Ministers

Rev'd Sara Cliff (Pioneer)

Rev'd Tim Edworthy (LEP Lead)

Community Mission Enabler

Mrs Katy Morris



Day 7 Leicester Trinity

We are a large circuit, encompassing the city centre, together with many of the suburbs and nearby villages. We rejoice in the diversity of our churches, and learn more about each other as we face the many challenges of our various situations.



Superintendent

Rev'd Paula Hunt

Ministers

Dcn Sharon Dilley

Rev'd Israel Selvanayagam

Rev'd Derek McLean

Rev'd Liam Dacre-Davis

Rev'd Daniel Yovan

Rev'd Ivan Bennett

(Associate Minister - CofE)

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Peter Brooks

Rev'd John Clarke

Rev'd Kathryn Cook

Rev'd Albert Mosley

Rev'd Anthony Pick

Rev'd Vincent Price

Rev'd Arthur Rowe

Rev'd Gordon Webb

Schools, Messy Church & Community Children's Worker

James Blackhall

Circuit Stewards

Charles Hilton

Peter Holdridge

Pedzi Katsande

Joy Pick

Julie Manning

Circuit Administrator

Laurie Rowell

Give Thanks For

- The work of the University Chaplaincy Team
- The emerging opportunities in the Belgrave area
- The mission of each church to its own local community
- Partnerships with other Christians, people of other faiths, and secular organisations (e.g. Foodbanks)

Please Pray For

- Our church communities as we recover from the lockdown restrictions, and seek to rediscover our purpose and our mission.



**Holy and Incarnate God, you have been present with us in our confusion, and you have guided us into this present moment. As your grateful people, we praise you, and ask that you will open our hands and hearts, deepen our faith and lead us into all hope.
Amen**



Day 8 Ecumenical Work

District Ecumenical Officers work alongside various denominations on your behalf towards unity in ministry, worship, prayer, and mission. We offer the distinctive gifts and graces of our Methodist tradition in order to enhance the whole Church of God in Christ.

Give Thanks For

- The Church of God in Christ, beset by change, but Spirit led.
- The opportunities to share with and learn from sisters and brothers who worship and witness differently to us.
- Local partnerships and single congregation working together to the glory of God.
- The uniting of witness and outreaching through ecumenical projects such as Foodbanks, Street Pastors, within new housing developments, and in many other ways.
- Churches Together in England and other ecumenical bodies.

Please Pray For

- The uniting of mission and outreach witnessing in areas of social deprivation, economic distress, and environmental crisis that the love of Christ be known, and the radical gospel message heard and witnessed.
- Places offering welcome and support to refugees, the marginalised, and the homeless.
- Churches working together as formal LEPs in the District.
- Places where there is growing unity of witness in a community
- Areas where relationships may be strained or ineffective.
- The DEOs in our District representing the Methodist Church on varying ecumenical bodies.
- Rev'd Canon Helen Cameron as Moderator of the Free Churches Group, & for other leaders of Churches Together in England.
- The Queens Foundation and Cliff College in their commitment to ecumenical learning and witness.

District Ecumenical Officers

Rev'd Andrew Farrington
Northamptonshire,
Peterborough and
Rutland

Rev'd Nicola Martyn-Beck
Buckinghamshire and
Milton Keynes

Rev'd John Anderson
Oxfordshire

Ecumenical Development Officers

Canon Vic Allsop
Leicestershire

Caroline Hutchins
Peterborough and
Rutland

Melanie Carroll (Mission
Enabler)
Lincolnshire



**All are one in you, Christ our Lord.
There is one Gospel to proclaim.**

**Inspire us Lord, by the power of the Holy
Spirit, to work as one:
holding together in creative tension both
unity and distinctiveness,
witnessing with joy and grace,
abiding in your vine of grace and goodness.**

**Bring us strength and patience, and wisdom
and vision, to so declare the Gospel that your
people will find peace, healing, and
transformation in their lives.**

To the glory of your name.

Amen.



Day 9 Leicester West

Leicester West Circuit comprises eleven churches both within the city boundaries and in the villages which surround it. All of our churches are back worshipping together and we also continue to use technology for both worship and fellowship. We are working to become a Eco-Circuit

Give Thanks For

- New friends and new members in several of our churches
- The progress made in becoming Eco-churches and Circuit
- New mission opportunities which are emerging across the Circuit
- The work on Glenfield's delayed 20-20 Project continues apace

Please Pray For

- Those churches who are struggling financially or to find members able to hold office
- May we have confidence and courage to grasp the mission opportunities God shows us
- That our Circuit prayer life will be strengthened
- For the Circuit Invitation Committee guiding the Circuit into the next stationing round



**Faithful God, guide us and direct us in your will and way to delight in ways new and old in which we might work to your praise and glory. Give us confidence, courage and commitment we pray in Jesus' name
Amen**

Superintendent
Rev'd Helen Bell

Ministers

Rev'd Judith Lincoln
Rev'd Joy Langford
(Authorised Presbyter)
Rev'd Jill Marsh – Connexional Team

Circuit Mission Enabler

Justin Moulder

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Douglas Brewer
Dcn Judith Wray
Rev'd Peter Sowler
Rev'd Graeme Jackson

Circuit Stewards

David Postlethwaite
Edith Cobley
Sandra Andrews
Carol Long

Circuit Treasurer

Liz Clarke

Circuit Administrator

Annabel Moulder

Day 10

Loughborough

The Loughborough Circuit sits at the north of the District with 11 churches surrounding the university town. We have a 12th church which is our online presence. All the churches aim to work with our ecumenical partners and strive for ways to make God's love known and to promote Kingdom values.

Give Thanks For

- The growth of the Chinese Church meeting at Trinity in Loughborough and their ministry among Chinese students
- The work of the Lay Worker at Sileby and the spirit of joy he has nurtured in the congregation
- The Circuit Leadership team who work well together and provide support and care for the Circuit
- The growth of the Friday Coffee Morning at Shepshed
- For our Girls' and Boys' Brigades and the opportunity to work with them

Please Pray For

- Those newly arrived from Hong Kong who are supported by the Chinese Church
- The work of the University Chaplaincy team led by Deacon Jan
- The Churches working with the District Mission Enabler looking for new ways to share God's love in their communities
- Guidance to recruit people with the skills needed to support our churches and to help them share the Good News with their communities



**God of love,
Fill us with love and care for all,
especially for those unnoticed
and unheard by others.
May our words and actions
reveal your care for those we
meet.
May our worship be full of joy
and may our church be a place
of welcome for all. Amen.**

Superintendent
Rev'd Andrew Lomax



Ministers
Rev'd Calvin Cheung
Rev'd Sandra Marshall
Rev'd Martin Swan

Chaplain
Dcn Jan Sutton

Supernumeraries
Rev'd David Blatherwick
Rev'd Hugh Cade
Rev'd Hedley Cousin
Rev'd Douglas Maw
Rev'd Donald Wilkes

Local Pastor
Chris Watkins

**Pastoral and Community
Worker**
Rob Newton

Circuit Administrator
Josephine Wills

Digital Lay Worker
John Pipet

Circuit Stewards
Trevor Ranson
Caroline Thornborow
Karen Ette

Circuit Treasurer
Rachel Thorpe



Day 11 Hinckley

The Hinckley Circuit currently comprises eleven chapels in towns and villages half-way between Coventry and Leicester. Like many circuits we face the challenge of changing patterns of ministry and of serving the present age with our worship, mission and evangelism and are seeking to develop lay leadership in each of our chapels to compliment the gifts and graces of ministerial staff.

Give Thanks For

- The faithfulness of God and of the Methodist people during the difficulties of the Covid pandemic and challenges of God In Love Unites Us
- The innovative ministry of our youth workers finding new ways to reach out using social media during lockdown
- The courage of our smaller congregations making brave and difficult decisions about their futures.
- The growth of Messy Church across our circuit with so many children coming into our chapels for the first time to encounter the Good News of Jesus.

Please Pray For

- Our Circuit Leadership Team as the circuit adjusts to new patterns of working this year, ahead of going into the stationing process for 2023
- Our local church leaders as they continue to explore the way ahead for the ministry and mission of their congregations
- Our Family and Children's Community Worker Claire as she begins her training for presbyteral ministry at the Queens Foundation in September



Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us - self on the cross and Christ upon the throne, past put behind us, for the future take us: Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

Superintendent

Rev'd Dr Tim Woolley

Ministers

Rev'd Patricia Mukorombindo
Rev'd David Haseldine

(Other Appointment)

Rev'd Vivienne Atter

Lay Local Pastors

Sheila Grice
Judith Cooke
Anne Haddon

Youth and Communities

Team Work Leader

Chris Newlyn

Children and Families

Community Worker

Claire Sutcliffe

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Graham Miles
Rev'd Stephen Hoggar

Circuit Stewards

Will Taylor
Sheila Grice
Rachel Cobb
Neville Spark
Arthur Bennett
Michael Holt

Circuit Administrator

Christine Bacon



Day 12

Melton Mowbray

Melton Mowbray consists of five societies across its market town and rural villages, all of whom serve their local communities and are engaged in worship and mission. The circuit is served by one presbyter and two lay pastors who contribute to good ecumenical links.

Give Thanks For

- Our outgoing Deacon Alison as she moves to a new appointment in another district
- Our local preachers, worship leaders and our supernumerary ministers, Rev'd Douglas Dennis, Rev'd Dr. Eric Lott and Rev'd Jeffrey Ward

Please Pray For

- Ongoing discussions around mission and the role of each church in the circuit that is considering the way forward and new ways of building the Kingdom
- The Superintendent Rev'd Patricia Olivent-Hayes and Local Lay Pastors, Jenny Oliver and Janet Norburn. Our Circuit Stewards Jenny Oliver, Janet Norburn and Pauline Holbrook and our Circuit Treasurer Barbara Cresswell
- The Pastoral Visitors of our churches
- The work and mission of the free Lunch Club at Sage Cross as it reaches out to those living on the bread-line in the flats around the church. Other mission initiatives at Long Clawson, Upper Wreake, Stonesby and Sandy Lane churches



Loving Lord we ask that that you will empower us to reach out to show your love in the communities where we live, work and worship. We ask that we may be obedient to your word and follow with grateful hearts. Help us to praise you for your faithfulness . Amen

Superintendent

Rev'd Patricia Olivent-Hayes

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Douglas Dennis
Rev'd Dr. Eric Lott
Rev'd Jeffrey Ward

Local Lay Pastors

Jenny Oliver
Janet Norburn

Circuit Stewards

Jenny Oliver
Pauline Holbrook

Circuit Treasurer

Barbara Cresswell



Day 13

Northampton

The Northampton Methodist Circuit serves the town of Northampton and the nearby villages. It consists of Northampton Methodist Church, a new multisite church with ten worshipping communities, and the Emmanuel LEP. As a circuit we are committed to the 'Our Calling' priorities and making new disciples of Jesus.

Give Thanks For

- The work of the Holy Spirit, who continues to equip and enable us as Christ's disciples to spread the good news of the Gospel
- The intergenerational mission work that happens in our communities, particularly amongst children, young people, families, the elderly, and the vulnerable
- The commitment to inclusion, diversity, and social justice in our communities as we hope and long for the flourishing of God's Kingdom

Please Pray For

- The new multi-site Northampton Methodist Church, as we grow in love and unity and through our commitment to Jesus, and our commission to spread the good news of the Gospel
- The challenges and opportunities around our resources and buildings, as we seek to use them effectively for mission
- Bible studies and small groups, as we seek to grow in our knowledge of the Word and deepen our discipleship
- New work amongst new people in new places, as we seek to follow Jesus where he leads us



Holy God, we thank you for your presence amongst us and our call to follow Jesus. Empower us, through your loving Spirit, to spread the good news of the Gospel in word and action. May we see your transforming power and may your Kingdom come. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Acting Superintendent

Rev'd David Speirs

Ministers

Rev'd Francis M'itiiri

Rev'd Ian Forsyth

Rev'd Rachael Warnock

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Alan Sharp

Rev'd John Smith

Dcn Richard Beckett

Rev'd Anthony Perry

Rev'd Ian Suttie

Rev'd Martin Swan

Rev'd Wendy Evans-Wood

Circuit Stewards

Elizabeth Hale

Pam Kirkland

Hellen Okello

Keith Brooks

Phillip Leeson

Administrator

Sarah Eason

Circuit Treasurer

Keith Brooks



Day 14 East Mercia

A newly formed from the Rugby and Daventry, Market Harborough and Kettering and Corby circuits. The 18 churches, service areas of wealth and poverty, history and opportunity, village and expanding market town, new roads and new housing set around an expanse of agriculture and farming. Jesus is inspiring us in our ministry and mission: from community chaplaincy to the growth and nurturing of new and established disciples.

Give Thanks For

- The inspiration, grace, patience, and enthusiasm which led to the joining of these areas of mission
- The opportunities to witness and share gospel values of care, welcome, and hospitality
- Fresh ways of working, especially team working with lay and ordained
- The histories of service that helped bring a stable start to this new circuit
- Opportunities for ecumenical working in Brownsover, Desborough, & Long Lawford

Please Pray For

- The staff team as they start in a newness of relationship and revised oversights
- The work of chaplaincy amongst communities in Broadwell, Corby, Daventry & Rugby
- The work to grow and nurture new families and strengthen discipleship in Burton Latimer, Harborough, Kettering, Kibworth, & Naseby
- Rev'd Jane Gaffney commencing new ministry 'at the margins' in Rugby and Lutterworth
- Areas of deprivation and need, that there is effective response and meaningful change in circumstances
- The Ukranian Community Hubs in Corby and Kettering. Place of welcome to refugees in Rugby & Harborough
- The sharing of gifts and graces, openness of hearts and minds, and a willingness to learn from each other
- Strengthened ecumenical working



**Lord,
Continue to bless and strength new ministries & partnerships.
Through fervent prayer, carefully listening, kind action, and gentle speaking enable
an openness of mind, flexibility of approach, and collaboration of energies and purpose.
May your grace flow throughout this circuit, overpowering into the communities we seek to serve.
By the light of your love shining may lives be transformed, hope renewed, healing realised, and your will be done.
Amen.**

Superintendent

Rev'd Andrew Farrington

Ministers

Dcn Georgina Brooks
 Rev'd Andrew Murphy
 Rev'd Diane Bussey
 Rev'd Noel Nhariswa
 Rev'd Jane Gaffney

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Robert Anning
 Rev'd Stephen Beer
 Rev'd Anthony de Boltz
 Dcn Fiona de Boltz
 Rev'd David Collinson
 Rev'd Christine Dybdahl
 Rev'd Margaret Hadfield
 Rev'd Jean Holyhead
 Rev'd Philip Horner
 Rev'd Martin Hounsfild
 Rev'd Brian Kennard
 Rev'd Peter Molcher
 Dcn Mary Neal
 Rev'd Iain Rennie
 Rev'd Trevor Thomas
 Rev'd Alison Tomlin
 Rev'd David Tomlin

Circuit Manager

Kate Tennyson

Community Chaplains

Caroline Barratt
 Lindsay Peloquin
 Kate Hitchcox

Lay Workers

Lucy Catling (Pioneer Pathways)
 Melissa Wheeler (Growth and Family Support)
 Ruth Henderson (Youth Worker)
 Lynne Bone (Pastoral)
 Janet Timperley (Pastoral)

Circuit Stewards

Peter Arnold
 Ian Basson
 Marilyn Calvert
 Peter Candlin
 Karen Miles
 John Over
 Carolyn Rice

Circuit Treasurer

Richard Huntington



Day 15 Stamford

The Stamford Circuit is the North-Eastern outpost of the District, numbering 9 physical fellowships and an online church. We exist to encourage and build up discipleship and to show and share God's love in deed and word.

Give Thanks For

- The unfolding Online Mission opportunities to engage with people beyond the Church with the Good News of Christ
- Willing and gifted volunteers who serve Christ in so many ways and enable the mission and ministry to which we are called

Please Pray For

- Churches and fellowship rediscovering their calling following months of restrictions.
- The appointment of a new Superintendent Minister to serve from September 2022 to develop, encourage and inspire growth and outreach.



**Gracious God,
Thank you for the hope you give,
The eternal advent of your
presence
Giving hope and peace as real
today as when you came in Christ;
As powerful as when you swept in
by your Spirit;
As fresh as a new voice calling
even in the wilderness.
Come, Lord, and lead us on. Amen.**



Day 16 Northampton District

Give Thanks For

- Our new ministers joining us in the District, especially our probationer presbyters Phil Robinson and James Pattison
- The work of the Justice, Dignity and Solidary Group
- Our faithful and attentive District Lay Stationing Representative Sue Walters
- Our gifted, able and really encouraging District Mission Enabler
- For all the faithful, hard-working, and generous people throughout the District seeking to serve and love their communities

Please Pray For

- Matt Forsyth our District Mission Enabler and the Mission Support Group
- Gill Crippen, Sue Ioannou and Pauline Jackson our District Safeguarding Team, with all our local Church and Circuit Safeguarding Officers
- The District Administrators Jenny, Claire and Susie and the new Personal Assistant to the Chair, Joanna Ormston
- Our supernumerary ministers, and the widows and widowers of those ministers who have died
- Local church and Circuit stewards, lay pastors and lay workers
- Chaplains across the District serving in a wide variety of settings
- Circuit Treasurers and Property stewards who offer us their skill and expertise



You are a safe home for the migrant and exile

You are warm touch for the frozen and homeless

You are air and light to the prisoner and the locked-in

You are comforting presence to the silent and helpless

You are joyous laughter for the weary

You are co-celebrant with the joyful

Come, our God, come with all your great love

Come and make your home with us. Amen

Chair of District

Rev'd Canon Helen D Cameron

Deputy Chairs of District

Rev'd David Alderman

Rev'd Kate Strange

Presbyteral Synod Secretary

Rev'd Alan Bolton

Representative Synod Secretary

Paul Spray

District Mission Enabler

Matt Forsyth

District Ecumenical Officer

Rev'd Andrew Farrington

District Treasurer

Andrew Lewis

District Methodist Council

Representative

Dr Hellen Okello

District Property Secretary

Chris Linford

Synod Representatives

James Blackhall

Dcn Richard Goldstraw

Janet Hinds

Charles Levitt

Rev'd Kim Shorley

District Safeguarding Officers

Gill Crippen, Sue Ioannou, Pauline Jackson

District Office Manager

Jenny Phillips

District Administrators

Claire Handley and Susie Palmer

PA to the District Chair

Joanna Ormston



Day 17

Justice, Dignity and Solidarity


The Strategy for Justice, Dignity and Solidarity aims at celebrating the theology that endeavours to see profound change taking place in the attitudes, practices and cultural of the Methodist church, working towards equality, diversity and inclusion, and to commit to ending all forms of discrimination

Give Thanks For

The work undertaken by the District Justice, Solidarity, and Dignity committee which will help us continue fulfilling our calling in response to the Gospel of Christ. It will make a real difference to the church, and we hope that you will help us by prayer and conversation. Please Pray for those experiencing racism, and other forms of discrimination.

Please Pray For

Please pray for the recruitment of the District JDS Chair, Secretary, and members, and that we might get more volunteers taking these roles. Remember to pray also for the work undertaken by the Regional Learning Network, Mission enabler, connexion Justice, Dignity and Solidarity officers, and all JDS Officers working at various levels of the church and the contribution they make to the Methodist Church.



God, you have given all peoples on common origin, and as one family in yourself, Fill the hearts of humankind with the fire of your love and with the desire to ensure justice for all. may we secure an equality for all. In the Methodist Church, we come from many different places, with different cultures. Open our hearts that we may be bold in finding the riches of inclusion and the treasures of diversity among us. We pray that in every circuit, they will endeavour to be more including through encouraging others to step forward in taking responsibility through and the sharing of their gifts. Amen.

District Justice, Dignity and Solidarity Group

Chair

Rev'd Francis M'ltiiri

Acting Secretary

Regina Owusu

Group Members

Anna Herriman

Janet Hinds

Titus Ayaji

Stuart Watkin (District Regional Learning Network)

Matt Forsyth (District Mission Enabler)



Day 18

New People for New Places

FEAST (Friends Exploring And Sharing Together) has been adopted as the District's New People for New Places project. Using the small group as its model, FEAST seeks to bring the Good News to those who engage with art, theatre, books, sports etc. outside of our existing buildings and existing fellowships

Give Thanks For

- Those involved in the vision process and in the running of the pilot schemes within the Nene Valley Circuit to help in the discernment process
- The provision of the funding for the project in its first five years, which has been made available by both the Connexion and the Northampton District
- The conversations already taking place in new places across our district to encourage people to explore faith with new people

Please Pray For

- Those recently recruited into the varying roles to support and enable FEAST to grow and flourish
- The Holy Spirit's prompting on those who may be interested in becoming facilitators and mentors to these new groups
- The work to establish a mapping tool, which seeks to learn where God has already been at work through those 'informal' groups that may have formed during the last few year – bible doodling, walking groups, gardening, etc.



God for all, and of all time, you are 'ever old and ever new.' Help us to keep on traveling with you as we journey into these new places. We pray that as friendships are being made, and as we explore and share our faith together, more people will become disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen

Sydney Carter's Hymn One more step along the world I go STF 476

District New People for New Places Group

Chair

Rev'd Helen Cameron

Year One Pioneer (Part-time)

Rev'd Kim Shorley

District Mission Enabler

Matt Forsyth

Vision Team Member

Mel Brown

Connexional Evangelism and Growth Officer

Nigel Pimlott



District Vocations Officer
Rev'd Ruth Charlesworth

Day 19

Vocations

Vocation and discernment providing opportunities for people to explore their sense of calling and how their gifts may be offered and used.

Give Thanks For

- Those who are serving in roles within the churches and communities as a result of this process
- Those who are continuing to explore a call to ordained ministry
- Those who are recognising God's gifting and call upon them to serve in a variety of ways

Please Pray For

- Those who sense a call but are afraid or feel inadequate
- Those who have yet to recognise what God is asking of them
- All who draw alongside and help within the discerning process



Holy and loving God, help us all to see your potential in each other and in ourselves. Help us to listen and respond, trusting in you to equip us as we step forward in faith and in trust. Amen



Day 20

Safeguarding

The Safeguarding Team in Northampton District consists of 3 employees each working part time for Northampton District, working with the District Chair and a Connexional Casework Supervisor.

The team have now been working together for the past 4 years working to the agreed safeguarding strategy of the District.

Team Leader Safeguarding

Gill Crippen

District Safeguarding Officers

Sue Ioannou

Pauline Jackson

District Chair

Rev'd Helen Cameron

Give Thanks For

- The District Safeguarding Team
- The Circuit Safeguarding Officers/The Church Safeguarding Officers who are mostly volunteers in the life of our churches

Please Pray For

- Our District Methodist churches as they have a number of challenges before them with falling membership numbers, a lack of volunteers and financial constraints. Give them continued hope and determination to get them through.
- We pray that our Church communities find renewed vigour and a sense of belief that we can again flourish and grow in our Methodist churches and that we ensure the safety and well-being remains at the core to the missional engagement, thus creating a safe space for all.



Gracious God, Lord of all, we thank you for all those who are engaged in any way in safeguarding in our Northampton District.

For those who are hurting and live with past hurt, grant your peace and healing.

As we pray for our communities in their worship and mission may they know safety and security in you. Amen



Day 21

Peterborough

Encompassing the heart of Peterborough, we minister from the suburbs, villages, and towns, and reach into the city. We have a heart for nurturing and shaping disciples. We are deeply committed to evangelism and social outreach. We have seen great things by working in partnership with other denominations

Superintendent

Rev'd Dr Langley Mackrell-Hey

Minister

Rev'd Janet Titterton

Circuit Administrator

Sue Moore

Give Thanks For

- The increase in scope and depth of our pastoral care
- Our ability to recognise where there is need, discern where God is leading us and to respond well, often with results that we could have never envisaged
- The continuance of our online ministry that has reached those who cannot connect with church easily because they are unwell, care for others or work shifts
- Our District and the wider Connexion in all their resourcing of us

Please Pray For

- Focus on the themes within God For All, especially small groups, evangelism, digital mission, and New Places for New People
- Consider how we can make the best use of our resources
- And please pray that our churches see the benefits of purposeful meetings and mission planning



**God of all,
By the power of your spirit give us a hope that will drive us forward, believing that we can make a difference. Give us the hope and faith that we need to entertain new ways of working. Give us the boldness we need to overcome our anxieties. Above all, help us to be attentive to how even the smallest changes in our own thinking and our gestures, can set in motion a great outpouring of your presence and purpose in the lives of others. Amen.**



Day 22

ECO District

**District Advocate for
Carbon Reduction**

Howard Warrener

Since 2013 Howard has volunteered as our District Advocate for Carbon Reduction. Green Champions employed on the Young Leaders Scheme encouraged him to register our Eco District aspiration, helped to develop the District Environmental Policy, and built a network of Green Links – people around the District sharing this interest

Give Thanks For

- Actions that help the environment
- Individual actions, in words and deeds
- Local church and Circuit actions, either formally towards Eco Church awards, or informally
- District actions, such as the 'Towards Net Zero' event 18th June 2022 and 'greening' of Synod
- Actions together with other Districts – Yorkshire North & East, Cornwall
- Actions by Conference and Council – 2030 net zero carbon target, Action for Hope

Please Pray For

- Hope, and the energy and ambition for change that springs from it
- Greater exchange of ideas across the District, for example with the Green Links
- Improved communication of what's happening, what's planned, where to get help, advice on meeting targets, etc
- Further actions that minimise and postpone the effects of climate change, felt now most by the poor, and to be felt more by future generations



**God, in your love for us, you lent
us this planet,
with plenty for all, if we learn how
to share it.
From its pollution, misuse, and
destruction,
good Lord, deliver us, world
without end!
Amen**

**(adapted from StF 727, Fred Pratt
Green, 1903-2000)**

Day 23

Nene Valley

The Nene Valley sits within North Northamptonshire, approximately six miles north of Northampton and eight miles east of Kettering. The Circuit is made up of seven churches and one class, covering both urban and rural areas, growing towns, and small villages. We are passionate about God and serving our communities

Give Thanks For

- The new contacts made during the reopening of buildings and the continued growth/development post-pandemic
- A spirit of growing confidence in our churches in being more open to talking about and sharing our faith
- The developing use of technology and social media in keeping us connected as a circuit
- The many gifts and talents shared by those who are now stepping down from the various roles held within the churches and circuit

Please Pray For

- The strengthening relationships in mission together with the courage to be open to taking on new opportunities as led by God
- The completion of the building projects both at Earls Barton and Raunds Methodist Church
- The ongoing visioning process across the circuit as it enters stationing
- All who have stepped into various roles across the circuit, as well as those who continue to support, serve and share in the worship and mission of God



**Holy God, help us to minister your inclusive and abundant grace to all that we encounter this day. Help us look for, and respond to, your guiding Spirit in support of our mission in this place: to Plant Faith, to Nurture Disciples, and to help Grow your Kingdom.
Amen**

Superintendent

Rev'd Lesley Dinham



Minister

Rev'd Kim Shorley

Circuit Administrator

Bradley Rignall

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Shirley Baker

Rev'd Gordon Chisnall

Rev'd Martin Dawes

Deacon Sylvia Kempson

Rev'd Michael Langstaff

Day 24 Prison



The prison population is approximately 80,000 in the 121 prisons in England and Wales, with a number across our District. Every prison has a multi-faith Chaplaincy Team who seek to support both prisoners and staff. They facilitate services, study groups and undertake pastoral care. The Free Church Group is part of that team, led by Rev'd Bob Wilson

Give Thanks For

- We give thanks for the ecumenical partnerships in our prisons today, supporting the prisoners and staff with the challenges they face in their lives
- We give thanks for the Official Prison Visitors who give of their time voluntarily to visit prisoners who have no one to talk with
- We give thanks for Prison Fellowship and the wider church communities for their ongoing prayer support
- We give thanks for the ever increasing desire to come to know Jesus more, through Alpha courses and fellowship, praise and worship, prayer and bible study. We thank you Lord

Please Pray For

- The staff and leadership of our prisons who face significant challenges on a daily basis, for their patience, strength, wisdom and resilience.
- The prisoners, who are reminded daily of the reasons they are here, and the potential for rehabilitation and personal change and growth.
- The prisoners who are facing release after a prolonged period and the anxieties, fears, challenges and excitement they face, but also remembering how others may feel about their release too.



Lord, we thank you for the opportunities to share the Good News in our prisons. That in coming to know you we are changed, changed for the better, shown a new way of life with you at the centre of it. Thank you Lord, for the staff, specialist support services and chaplains that offer light in the darkness. Amen



Day 25

Methodist Homes - MHA

MHA provides care, accommodation and support to more than 18,500 older people across the UK thanks to the commitment and dedication of its 7,500 employees and 4,000 volunteers. MHA offers residential, nursing and specialist dementia care in the sector in 90 care homes located throughout England, Scotland and Wales, including excellent facilities located in the Northampton District

Give Thanks For

- The staff and volunteers who go above and beyond to bring happiness, peace and joy to the residents of our homes and schemes
- The music therapists and chaplaincy teams who are able to bring light and life to those we meet through music, prayer, worship, bible study and pastoral support
- The residents themselves, that through their lives we are all so deeply enriched by their stories and experiences, that stay with us for ever

Please Pray For

- The residents, staff and volunteers of our homes and schemes especially in our District – Aigburth, The Homestead, Brookfields, Welland Place, Westbury Grange, The Limes, The Maples, Rushden Park, Hillside.



Lord, we thank you that through the work of MHA we are able to support the residents in our care and bring quality and purpose to their life. We pray for those who are leaving their own homes and familiar surroundings to start a new home with MHA. We pray for peace and joy for all in our care. Amen

Day 26

Milton Keynes

Milton Keynes Circuit has a rich ecumenical tradition and continues to expand with significant new housing that presents opportunities for new approach to mission and evangelism for congregations

Give Thanks For

- For two new Circuit Stewards who recently joined the Circuit Leadership Team bringing more depth and experience to the group
- For successful recruitment of the Circuit Administrator to enhance our communication within the circuit and churches
- For the work of our Safeguarding Team that has reached out to many in need of training
- The launch of a new Methodist Church in Zimbabwe Fellowship (MCZF) branch in the circuit
- For the work of Church Family Worker in Bletchley as it continues to expand from schools to other groups in the community
- For the work of Church Family Worker in Bletchley as it continues to expand from schools to other groups in the community

Please Pray For

- Success of the Northampton District World Church Service to be held in the circuit
- We pray for more resources to expand work of the Church Family Worker in enabling different community groups around the circuit
- More people to lead online services to cater for those unable to worship onsite
- New work for Churches Together in Milton Keynes



Our heavenly Father, you have been with us, protecting and guiding your church during the challenging times of the deadly pandemic. We rejoice in your unending love for us your children and in response you call us to do what is just, to show love and to live in humble fellowship with you God. Amen

Superintendent

Rev'd Nicola Martyn-Bell



Ministers

Rev'd Jo Clare-Young AP
Rev'd Edson Dube
Rev'd Barry Lotz
Rev'd George Mwaura AP
Rev'd Nicola Vidamour

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Chris Batten
Rev'd Peter Dudeney
Rev'd Dr Margaret Goodall
Rev'd Stephanie Hibberd
Rev'd David Marshall
Rev'd David Moore
Deacon Stephen Peck
Rev'd Beatrice Quaye
Rev'd Peter Sharrocks
Rev'd Barbara Winner

Circuit family worker

Mrs Jane Brough

Circuit Officers

Katy Gillam

Circuit Administrator

Ann Harris

Circuit Safeguarding Officer

David Jones

Circuit Treasurer

David Harbey

Day 27

High Wycombe

The High Wycombe Circuit is welcoming Rev'd Kate Strange as Superintendent this September. We remain committed to the Connexional God for All Strategy and have been encouraging our Churches to engage in missional activity especially outside our Church buildings and to grow deeper links with the communities which we serve

Give Thanks For

- The first anniversary of the Ark Cafe at Marlow which opened as lockdown restrictions eased and has provided a real place of hospitality for the community and volunteer opportunities for a wide sector of people, some of whom may have felt that they had little to offer
- Those Churches who took a first step of new outreach over the Pentecost and Jubilee weekend
- The visit of Matt Forsyth to the Circuit last November 2021 which has galvanised our Churches to look at mission in new ways

Please Pray For

- The work of Lynda Hopkins as she finishes her time as the Children and Family Worker at Marlow.
- Vicky Everitt, as she begins a new role as a Community Chaplain in new and existing housing areas from September.
- The members of the Avenue Church following the closure of their Pre-School and as they face an uncertain future but looking for new ways to serve their community.



**Come immense and awesome God.
Come as the water of life and immerse us with your goodness turning our lives always to you. Come as the Spirit of love freeing us from all that inhibits us. Help us to walk the way of Jesus more faithfully and delight your heart. Amen**

Superintendent

Rev'd Kate Strange



Ministers

Rev'd Vida Foday

Dcn Richard Goldstraw

Rev'd Georgina Bondzi-Simpson

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Alan Bolton

Rev'd Mike Hill

Rev'd Heegon Moon

Rev'd Angela Singleton

Circuit Stewards

Nigel Sweet (Senior Steward)

Pam Sweet

Neil Manthorpe

Circuit Treasurer

David Sparks

Circuit Meeting Secretary

Alison Simpson

Day 28 Amersham

The Circuit is situated at the southernmost part of the Northampton District, sweeping north and west from Gerrards Cross to Prestwood. Our Churches comprise one Methodist/URC and eight Methodist Churches. The Circuit seeks to use its resources in new and creative ways for the glory of God.

Give Thanks For

- The ministry of Church and Circuit Stewards
- For the Circuit YouTube channel and weekly worship online
- The continued mission of the C2C project
- The weekly prayer meeting that meets on Zoom

Please Pray For

- The new Probationer Minister, James Patterson, as he settles into the circuit
- The Circuit Vision Group as they look at the future mission of the circuit
- The St John's Future Group as they look into the potential future use of the site of St John's Methodist Church in Amersham after its closure at Easter 2022



**Holy God, help us to share
and to show your love, and
to serve you,
in our homes, in our
churches and the
communities where you
have placed us.
Amen.**

Superintendent
Rev'd E Adam Wells



Minister
Rev'd James Patterson

**Circuit
Administrator/Bookkeeper**
Lu Gigg

Circuit Stewards
Gill McAllister
Pam Sitford



Day 29

Vale of Aylesbury

Ours is a group of 16 churches 2 in East Oxfordshire and rest in Buckinghamshire. We have a mix of town centre churches and village chapels. The south of the circuit has much new housing and parts are living with construction of HS2, the north is more rural

Give Thanks For

- New members being made in a number of our churches
- The sensitive responses to discussing the same sex marriage questions
- The Rev John Amankwatia for his gentle grace in supporting our northern churches through a year of transition
- Places where people are wanting to talk more about their faith
- Those amongst us who champion causes and challenge the rest of us to consider

Please Pray For

- The Rev Noreen Daley Lee, her husband Lafton and son Emmanuel as they came to share with us
- The Rev'd Keith Edwards in his final year in the Circuit
- For an effective re-organisation of ministerial responsibilities
- For the church in Thame they face a period of change
- For the circuit churches as we look to developing our response to our communities and responding to the challenge of sharing more of their faith
- Our work amongst children that it may bear fruit



Lord, grant us the grace by which we might listen for your voice as we seek to live for Christ. Amen

Superintendent

Rev'd Richard Atkinson

Ministers

Rev'd Noreen Daley-Lee

Rev'd Keith Edwards

Rev'd Anthony Howells AP

Supernumerary Ministers

Rev'd Charlotte Collins

Rev'd Hayford Ofori-Attah

Circuit Stewards

Lynn Bernstone

Chris Sara

Barry Tarbox

Keith Wallace

Cathy Whiteway

Kathryn Trout

Circuit Mission and

Ministry Support/Enabler

Pete Honeyball

Circuit Safeguarding Officers

Louise Atkinson

Dawn Wright

Pastoral Workers

Jennie Marriner-Kyle

Arthur Sara

Circuit Treasurer

Pearl Doughlin

Circuit Meeting Secretary

Marilyn Storer



Day 30 Mission

As a District we are committed to the flourishing of Gods mission in each local context. In partnership we believe that together we can become a growing, evangelistic, inclusive and justice seeking church.

Mission Support Group Members

District Mission Enabler
Matt Forsyth

Members

Rev'd Sara Cliff

Phil Jones

Rev'd David Speirs

Rev'd Adam Wells

Rev'd Liam Dacre Davis

Give Thanks For

- We give thanks for the local churches and circuits response to the COVID 19 pandemic. For the emergence of new ways of being church and the opportunities to partner with what the Holy Spirit was and still is doing
- We give thanks for the local churches and circuits response to the COVID 19 pandemic. For the emergence of new ways of being church and the opportunities to partner with what the Holy Spirit was and still is doing
- We give thanks to for the grants used to help with property and personal opportunities. In the past year we have increased our number of successful missional start up grants. We give thanks for the new beginnings and partnership in the gospel.

Please Pray For

- The new places new people project FEAST. That it will inspire new Christian communities
- The mission support group as it seeks to aid the District Mission Enabler in their role and support the wider missionary work of the district
- The new support groups for lay workers and circuit missionary roles. May these groups develop fruit in solidarity and community



**Almighty God. Draw near to us as we draw near to you
Help us to discern together all that you are calling us to be
And all that you are calling us to do.
Assist us, by your Spirit, to become a more contemplative, more compassionate and more courageous Church
For the building of your kingdom and in the service of Our Calling
Amen.**



Day 31

Cameroon

In 2020 The Northampton District twinned with the country of Cameroon and the Presbyterian Church of Cameroon, based in the Mungo District. The PCC in the Mungo District has roughly 6000 members and is led by its Moderator, Reverend Fonki Samuel.

Give Thanks For

- Give thanks for the partnership in the gospel with the PCC
- For the ways the PCC is seeking to share the gospel and work
- The PCC Pharmacy Distribution Centre in Limbe distributes drugs to 18 hospitals nationally

Please Pray For

- Please pray for strategic leadership and management of the PCC
- Please Pray for the PCC-run Limbe Secondary Girls School. It has 360 students between the ages of 9-18 and 40 staff
- Please pray for The PCC Eye Hospital in Limbe which handles between 32-40 cases of cataract surgery each day
- Please pray for the church's national role in the midst of the conflict



Gracious God, We thank you Lord for the partnership in the gospel we have in the PCC. Bind us together in love and unity so that together we might be pilgrim companions together

Amen