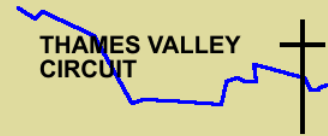




Thames Valley Methodist Circuit CIRCUIT NEWS



Latest news items added:

- Latest Circuit Meeting Minutes on the website See page 1
 - New Members of the Staff from 1st September See page 1
 - World Church Relationship News Bulletin See page 2
 - Circuit Annual Report for 2017-2018 See page 3
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NEW MEMBERS OF STAFF FOR THE CIRCUIT FROM 1ST SEPTEMBER

The Circuit Invitation Committee is pleased to announce that they have invited Rev Anne Ellis to be part of the staff team in the Thames Valley Circuit from September 2019. Anne has accepted and is looking forward to joining us. She will have pastoral charge of St. Andrew's Slough and Hampshire Avenue Methodist Churches.



In November the Circuit Invitation Committee was pleased to announce that they have invited Rev Carmel Ieraci to be part of the staff team in the Thames Valley Circuit from September 2019. Carmel has accepted and is looking forward to joining us. Carmel will have pastoral charge of High Street, Maidenhead, St Mark's Crescent and Woodlands Park.

Please join us in giving thanks to God for both matches and in praying for our two new members of staff during the coming months.

LATEST CIRCUIT MEETING MINUTES ON THE WEBSITE

With the recent changes in legislation (GDPR) there have been a number of changes made to the website. In particular, instead of the website being entirely "open", a secure **MEMBERS ONLY** section has been incorporated. This is specifically for Circuit Meeting members, and may include confidential information. Initially, this contains Circuit Meeting Minutes, but it will be expanded as necessary. The latest minutes added are those of the Extraordinary Circuit Meeting held on 8th January 2019.

The section is password protected. The password is available to *bona fide* members from the Circuit Webmaster.

WORLD CHURCH RELATIONSHIPS NEWS BULLETIN

The February edition of The World Church Relationship News Bulletin includes interesting articles about the impact of Methodism and our Mission Partners throughout the world:

- The privilege of ministry in Cambodia.
- An answer to prayer for the Bulgarian Methodist Church.
- An update from Methodist Women in Britain on developments in Bolivia.
- Volunteer mission in Argentina.
- Christian witness on a pilgrimage to India

[Click here to see it.](#)



CONNEXIONAL THEME FOR THE YEAR

Each connexional year the Methodist Church has a specific theme chosen by the President and Vice-President of Conference. This year it is “Radical Grace Transforming Hope”, and they have produced a booklet on this theme. Every member of our circuit should have received a copy, and there should be spares available in each church.



CIRCUIT THEME FOR THE CHURCH YEAR 2018 – 2019

Being a family!



Action for Children (AfC)

We are delighted to report that, in the last 12 months, the circuit has raised over **£5000** for AfC. This information was given at the AGM of the circuit AfC committee. To this will be added the amount raised by one church – whose representative was unable to attend.



THAMES VALLEY CIRCUIT ANNUAL REPORT

The Circuit’s 2018 Annual Report, for the connexional year September 2017 – August 2018 is available on the website. You can access it from the ABOUT US page of the website or by clicking [this link](#).



Methodist Church Fund, Opportunities for the Disabled

There is a small Methodist connexional charity, **Opportunities for the Disabled**, which provides bursaries to registered disabled people with artistic abilities to use their talents in the service of the Church. Projects such as painting, singing and dramatic productions were cited as being suitable.

If any Methodist church or circuit has any project that may align with these purposes, please contact [Sue Haworth](#) with full details and she will pass the request on.

MEDITATION WEBSITE

If you have a few minutes to spare, why not try one of the meditations at “TakeTime”! This is a recently-launched website, www.taketime.org.uk.

These meditations are inspired by the tradition of St Ignatius and the stories of Jesus. They are free and are meant to enable you to encounter Jesus in a new way through guided meditation – all you have to do is listen and relax! If you would like further information, go to the website or contact [Connie Jeffery](#).

PICTURES TO SHARE

The Circuit has two sets of illustrated books which are intended for use with people who have problems in communication, such as those suffering with stroke or dementia.

Each Church in the Circuit has at least one book which is available for use when visiting Care Homes, etc. If you wish to take advantage, please check with your church’s Senior Steward for details of the procedure for borrowing.
