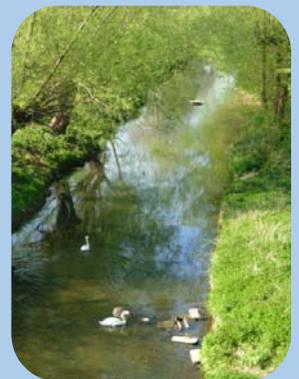
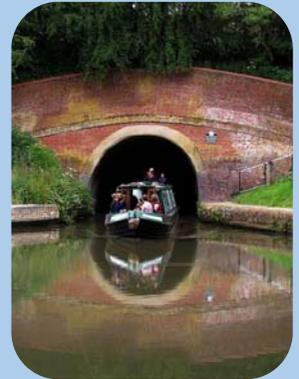


District Prayer Diary 2017/18



The **Methodist** Church 
Northampton District
enabling supporting challenging

Day 1

Amersham

Superintendent

Rev'd Anne Ellis

Ministers

Rev'd Nigel Wright

Supernumerary:

Rev'd César Guidi

Lay Staff:

Gill McNab

(C2C Mission Project)

Circuit Stewards:

John Hollands,

Ray Richards,

Paulette Tedd

Circuit Administrator:

TBC

The Amersham circuit lies within the Chilterns, Buckinghamshire, in an area of outstanding natural beauty and encompasses several medium-sized town and rural villages. It forms the southernmost part of the Northampton District and extends north-westerly from Gerrards Cross to Prestwood and Lee Common.

Give thanks for:-

- Rev'd Nigel Wright, Heather and Rebekah as they join the Amersham Circuit.
- Our ecumenical partners.
- The continuing development of local preachers and worship leaders, especially those who are still in training.
- Building relationships with children, youth and young adults.
- The continuing Movers & Shakers outreach programmes; C2C at Chesham.

Please pray for:-

- The generosity and selflessness of the many volunteers working in each of our churches and across the circuit.

The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. *Philippians 4:5b-7*

The Banbury Circuit is spread across two counties; Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire and is made up of 13 Churches, including the LEP St. Francis. Most of the churches are small village chapels within a rural setting, but there are a few town churches. Ecumenical work within the villages and town alike, is good and the Circuit works well as a whole. Circuit Services which are held at least once a quarter are well attended and are greatly appreciated.

Give thanks for:-

- God's presence and the work of the Holy Spirit amongst us
- A good proactive Circuit Leadership Team
- The commitment and hard work of all church members and their leaders
- The prayers and support of everybody within the Circuit in these challenging times.

Please pray for:-

- Hinton Church as it continues to put its 'Arms around the Community' on the new housing estate.
- Marlborough Road as it continues to seek guidance for its future
- Sowers and Harvesters, that the seeds of the gospel can be sown and reaped in this area of God's kingdom.

Lord God,

We know that 'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever.' (Hebrews 13:8) Help us to remember this, to trust in you and to know the constancy that you give us. Enable us to faithfully share the message of your constancy and of your love. Empower us to grow your kingdom for the future. Bless your people in all they do in your name. Amen.

Superintendent

Rev'd Lin Francis

Ministers

Rev'd Victoria Bravette

Rev'd Chris Gaynor AM

Rev'd Lynda Spokes AM

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Chris Eddy

Dcn Margaret Hale

Rev'd Barbara Halstead

Rev'd Robert Jones

Rev'd Mary Pheasey

Rev'd Jeff Smith

Rev'd John Warren

Rev'd Barrie Lawless AM

Mental Health Chaplain, Oxford Health NHS Foundation

Rev'd Jean Fletcher

Pastoral Community Worker

Hazel Stagg

Circuit Treasurer

Hugh Brooman

Circuit Administrator

Ian Philipson

Circuit Stewards

Jan Brooman

Janet Jones

Day 3 Buckingham, Bicester, Brackley

Superintendent

Rev'd Steve Mann

Ministers

Rev'd Tim Edworthy AP

Rev'd Patricia Olivent-Hayes

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Michael Langley

Rev'd Roger Lee

Lay Pastoral Worker

Katy Morris

Circuit Stewards

Peter Butcher

Linda Paice

Louise Williams

Circuit Secretary

Linda Paice

Circuit Treasurer

David Teckoe

Linking the three counties of Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire, but without a principal town or city, most of our members are looking out of the circuit for some dimension to their lives. Working towards a circuit identity must be balanced with attention to growing ecumenical partnerships and encouraging each church to engage with their community.

Give thanks for:-

- New initiatives within the circuit churches including a new youth club in Silverstone and Messy Church at Thornborough
- Good working relationships with other churches in most of the communities we serve
- All those who give their time and energy tirelessly for the work of God's kingdom – many of whom might have imagined themselves sat down by now!

Please pray for:-

- Our youth workers, Alex Hammerling and Cameron Ewart; children's worker, Joy Lewis and those others who work enthusiastically with our young people
- Exploration of the way God wants us to move forward as churches and as a circuit
- God continuing to stir up his gifts in our people.
- Remember Linda Paice as she steps up to be senior circuit steward and Peter Butcher who joins the Circuit Leadership Team
- Ability to respond to the opportunities arising from the new housebuilding around us including possible applications for a Methodist school

God of all power and truth and grace,
We are weak but you are mighty,
Enlarge, inflame and fill our hearts;
That as your living power remakes us,
Our lives shall sing how great thou art.
Amen

The Circuit's focus for this year is Evangelism. Although not much has been done outwardly, almost all churches in the circuit joined in prayers for evangelism under the banner Thy Kingdom Come between Pentecost and ascension. Next year the circuit will give prominence for Mission. Men's Fellowship which started earlier this year, is meeting regularly over supper.

Ecumenical projects in Upper Rissington and Shipston on Stour are continuing to thrive.

Give thanks for:-

- God's sustaining presence among his people and the signs of hope in local churches.
- the commitment and hard work of church leaders and members.
- Preachers and Ministers for their faithful service and ministry.
- The Curve Project in Upper Rissington and the Youth Project in Shipston, both reach out to many people.

Please pray for:-

- Churches and Congregations to have a clear vision and purpose for the future.
- Revival within our churches and communities.
- A deeper commitment for members to learn and grow in faith.
- Churches across the circuit working closer and feeling stronger.

Father, as I remember those I love in prayer, fill them and me with your spirit and your love. Let my prayers be not so much for faraway places or distant events, but for my brothers and sisters who struggle and suffer, live and die in the same world, under the same sun and moon and sky that covers me. Father of all, help us to help each other. Amen.

Superintendent

Rev'd Soba Sinnathamby

Ministers

Rev'd Malcolm Cook AM

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Stephen Bywater

Rev'd David Buckley

Circuit Stewards

John Bentley

Helen Blight

Alan Philips

Linda Souch

Treasurer

Liz Woolcock

Circuit Administrator

Ian Philipson

Day 5

High Wycombe

Superintendent

Rev'd Nick Thompson

Ministers

Rev'd Alan Bolton

(Other appointment in the Connexional Team)

Rev'd John Richey

Deacon Ruth Richey

Rev'd Iesinga Vunipola

Lay Workers

Vicky Everitt

(p/t Flackwell Heath Families Worker)

Carolyn Luscombe

(p/t Administrator for the Superintendent)

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Mike Hill

Rev'd Angela Singleton

Circuit Stewards

Nigel Sweet

(Senior Steward)

Pam Sweet

Alan Kingsnorth

Roberta Lunt

Circuit Treasurer

David Sparks

Circuit Meeting Secretary

Roy Slocombe

The Circuit is working to change its focus next year as we are seeking a Probationer Presbyter to work in a new Wycombe Town section based on Wesley and the Avenue Churches to work alongside our Deacon, Ruth Richey in the more urban part of the Circuit with a remit for mission. We are also exploring new ways of working in the community with an opportunity for work in new and established but unchurched Housing Areas. This year we are offering Circuit wide training in pastoral care as we seek to build up new teams of lay led visitors across the circuit.

Give thanks for:-

- The continuing growth of the Lantern services in Marlow Bottom led by the Anglican Team and the Methodist Church, which are attracting new families to worship and spiritual exploration.
- The growth in faith of a significant group of women outside normal church structures in High Wycombe led by Ruth Richey
- The Circuit morning service held in February which was very well attended and creatively led in diverse ways. This was a very encouraging day from which we plan to build further.

Please pray for:-

- The Alpha Course at Flackwell Heath that the whole Church and wider Community will experience a new sense of commitment and a deepening of faith as they explore faith in an open way.
- Marlow Church as they seek to employ a part time Youth and Family Worker and redevelop their premises to exercise a more overt ministry of hospitality.
- The members of Lane End as they become a class of the Avenue that all will be strengthened in their new relationships.

Gracious God, enfold your people and give us strength and new purpose in your unconditional love, seen in the life and death and rising of Jesus. Open our hearts and minds always to your endless possibilities to serve you in the world and to be Good News in the communities where we are placed.
Amen

The Hinckley circuit comprises eleven churches in towns and villages of south west Leicestershire. We are exploring Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations by Robert C Schnase, and we have welcomed Tim Woolley who comes as a Superintendent to the Circuit

Give thanks for:-

- The generosity of giving in terms of time, money, skills and energy in bringing CONNECT, the new building project for Burbage church to fruition.
- The gifts and graces released in so many members whilst the circuit has been through a period of readjustment in staffing.
- Churches trying new things in mission, evangelism and hospitality to make more disciples of Jesus.
- Good ecumenical relationships leading to joint approaches to mission and service in many places.
- The provision of AV equipment in many of our churches, leading to innovative approaches to worship. Please pray for:-
- The future development and direction of Messy Church in a number of our congregations.
- The continuing development of youth work across the circuit, under the leadership of our youth worker Chris Newlyn.
- The impact of the Five Practices of Fruitful Congregation in reviving and refreshing our congregational life and mission.
- A renewed desire for Bible Study and prayer across the circuit that we might be transformed by these means of grace.
- The congregation at Burbage as they seek to use their new premises to impact the village with the Gospel

May now Your church rise with power and love,
This glorious gospel proclaim.
In every nation salvation will come
To those who believe in your name.
Help us bring light to this world
That we might speed your return.

StF 405 v2 G Coates & N Richards

Superintendent

Rev'd Dr Tim Woolley

Ministers

Rev'd Wesley Hampton

Rev'd David Haseldine

Circuit Local Pastors

John Cooke

Judith Cooke

Anne Haddon

Youth Worker

Chris Newlyn

Supernumerary

Rev'd Keith Ledson

Circuit Stewards

Judith Cooke

Sheila Grice

Colin Haddon

Richard Smith

Will Taylor

Circuit Administrator

Christine Bacon

Day 7

Kettering and Corby

Superintendent

Rev'd Martin Swan

Ministers

Rev'd Neil Clarke

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Geoffrey Hawkrigde

Rev'd Jean Holyhead

Circuit Leadership Team

Ian Basson

Kathleen Butler

Joan Catherall

Wendy Curtis

Alan Joyce

Maureen Ownsworth

Don Spooner

Circuit Treasurer

Peter Candlin

Circuit Administrator

Paula King

As we enter a new season within the Circuit, may we continue to have our eyes fixed on God and His plan for us. May the future vision for the Circuit become apparent as we see growth in our congregations, our weekly Prayer Meetings and all the other things that take place within each of our churches and communities. And as we look at new ways of empowering people to step out in faith and responsibility, through short courses and encouragement, to use their God given skills and talents, may any obstacles be overcome.

Give thanks for:-

- God's continuing work in our churches
- Every small step taken towards uniting fractured communities
- God's strength and focus as we look at how the Circuit's future will look

Please pray for:-

- For the Circuit Leadership Team to be empowered by the Spirit for wisdom
- For new lay leaders as they come forward to offer their talent and gifts
- For the circuit administrator as she pulls together all the different strands of circuit life
- For all the changes, adaptations and focus within the Circuit over the coming months
- For the continued outreach initiatives, such as Street Pastors and Food Banks; for new people to look to serve in these areas as demand continues to grow

Lord Jesus, shine through our work, our witness and our loving.

Guide us into your perfect way.

For Your name's sake,

Amen.

This is a new Leicester Trinity Circuit for this year as the Leicester North and old Leicester Trinity Circuits have merged. The Leicester Trinity Circuit extends North, South and East from the city centre, through the suburbs and into the depths of rural Leicestershire. Our 20 churches include a Baptist/Methodist LEP and an Anglican/Methodist LEP. As a new Circuit we are looking forward to lots of learning, sharing and growing as we come together to face the challenges of a very diverse and vibrant city and in places very rural county.

Give thanks for:-

- A Circuit merger process that has energised us for all God is calling us to be and do
- All those who have served both previous circuits and led us to this point. Those ready to continue onward.
- Our three Community Cafe's at Bishop Street, Oadby and Syston
- Growing diversity, particularly in the city Churches, becoming more like the communities they serve

Please pray for:-

- The whole circuit that we be open to the Holy Spirit equipping us for the future
- The residents, staff, chaplain and volunteers at Aigburth and Foxton Grange (MHA).
- Our new superintendent and staff team.

Loving, living God, for all that you are and for all our experiences of you at work in our lives we praise you. We pray that you may open us to the power of your Holy Spirit that we may welcome all your gifts and graces. May we see, celebrate and share your loving, healing, reconciling presence in our lives and in our communities as you build your Kingdom

We ask you to form us more and more in your image and likeness, through our prayer and worship of you and through the study of your scripture, that our eyes will be fully opened to your mission in the world. Amen.

Superintendent

Rev'd Edson Dube

Ministers

Ivan Bennett

Lay Associate Minister

Rev'd Paula Hunt

Rev'd Jenny Impey

Rev'd Saidu Kanu

Rev'd Francesca Rhys

Rev'd Dave Warnock

Supernumeraries

Rev'd John Atkinson

Rev'd Peter Brooks

Rev'd John Clarke

Rev'd Jack Hanson

Rev'd Dr Albert Mosley

Rev'd Vincent Price

Rev'd Tony Pick

Rev'd Arthur Rowe

Rev'd Gordon Webb

Ministers in other appointments

Rev'd Steve Hoggar

Circuit Stewards

Diane Allen

Martin Briers

Richard Cawthorn

Julie Manning

Pete Molesdale

Fiona Pimm

Dunstan Vijayakanthan

Jennifer Weston

Circuit Administrator

Margaret Bagur

Laurie Rowell

Day 9

Leicester West

Superintendent

Rev'd Novette Headley

Ministers

Rev'd Stephen Clark

Rev'd Robert Kasema

Rev'd David Lawton

Rev'd Jill Marsh

(District Director of Mission)

Mrs. Claire Sutcliffe

(Family Worker)

Hospital Chaplain

Deacon Deborah Wilde

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Douglas Brewer

Dcn Judith Wray

Rev'd Peter Sowler

Rev'd Pam Bolas

Circuit Stewards

John Green

Edith Copley

Richard Keen

David Postlethwaite

Circuit Treasurers

Liz Clarke

Andrew Paul

Circuit Administrator

Marilyn Draycott

Our Circuit consists of ten congregations over eleven sites, situated in the inner and outer suburbs of Leicester city, extending west and northwards into the Leicestershire villages along the M1 corridor. We have fifteen active Local Preachers, four Preachers in training and thirteen Worship Leaders.

Give thanks for:-

- Our recently appointed Family Worker in the Huncote-Enderby section of the Circuit, and the newly started Messy Church.
- The Community Library based at our Huncote Church, and for the new relationships being formed with the wider community.
- The on-going Café Church and Taize Worship being offered by some of the churches in the Circuit, that provide a variety of forms of worship that appeal to different people.

Please pray for:-

- The Churches Together - Lubbethorpe Development Worker who is building community with the new families that are beginning to move onto the Lubbethorpe Housing Development.
- The Leicester Western Ward Linking Lives project, sponsored by the New Parks congregation, due to be launched in Autumn 2017. Please pray for our Co-ordinator, and the Volunteers being recruited for this befriending work amongst the house-bound.
- The Circuit Leadership Team as it tries to discern God's will for our future, and make plans for the Circuit's way forward over the next three years.

“To be the Body of Christ,

inspired by the Holy Spirit,

living out the love of God

in our communities”

The circuit serves both urban and rural communities, in the towns of Loughborough and Shepshed and the surrounding villages. Geographically we are in the centre of the nation, and seek to be at the heart of the communities we serve. Not hidden away but willing to go where God leads us, to live out our faith, graciously offering hope by being a good neighbour to everyone.

Give thanks for:-

- The Loughborough Chinese Congregation who are now formally part of the circuit.
- For the resurgence of MethSoc at Loughborough University serving Methodist students from home and abroad.
- Loughborough Churches Partnership celebrating 10 years of working together.
- Circuit wide enthusiasm for the circuit MANGO group as all the churches seek to engage with their local communities.
- For the ministry of Rev'd Douglas Maw who celebrated his 90th birthday this year and 65 years in ministry.

Please pray for:-

- Vision, as we seek to minister to the new mainly Cantonese speaking congregation.
- Guidance, as we consider the future of the Methodist International House overseas student flats, now that the original intention for them no longer exists.
- The Street Pastors, as they seek to recruit new volunteers to go out at night and be a friend to those in need.
- Quorn United Church's new Family Worker – Wendy Walker as she starts to build on the work with young families in the LEP.

Come build the Church – not heaps of stone
In safe, immobile, measured walls,
But friends of Jesus, Spirit-blown,
And fit to travel where he calls.

(StheF 679 by Brian Wren)

Superintendent:

Rev'd Andrew Lomax

Ministers:

Rev'd Dr Jonathan Gichaara

Rev John Pugh

Rev'd David Bowler AM

Chaplains:

Rev'd David Owen

(Loughborough Endowed Schools)

Dcn Jan Sutton

Loughborough University,

Supernumeraries:

Rev'd David Blatherwick

Rev'd Hugh Cade

Rev'd Hedley Cousin

Rev'd Denis Gardiner

Rev'd Douglas Maw

Rev'd Donald Wilkes

Local Church Pastors:

Margaret Williams

Chris Watkins

Granville Mercy

Eleri Bristow

Circuit Administrator:

Josephine Wills

Circuit Stewards:

Philip Thornborow

Margaret Williams

Les Longmire

Clara Concannon

Circuit Treasurer:

Jim Riddell

Day 11

Market Harborough

Superintendent:

Rev'd Andy Murphy

Supernumeraries:

Rev'd Stephen Beer

Rev'd Martin Hounsfield

Rev'd Brian Kennard

Rev'd Peter Molcher

Rev'd Trevor Thomas

Rev'd Alison Tomlin

Rev'd Dave Tomlin.

Associate Presbyter:

Rev'd John Rackley

(Baptist Union)

Circuit Development Worker (children and families):

Susie Colliss

Circuit Stewards:

Peter Arnold

Donald Clinton-Smith

Jeanne Moore.

We are a small Circuit consisting of four churches: Kibworth, Husbands Bosworth, Market Harborough and Naseby. There is a variety of ministry and mission taking place, from work with the elderly in retirement homes in Harborough, to children's outreach work at Naseby and Kibworth, and extensive schools work.

Give thanks for:-

- 9 new members and 4 baptisms last year.
- The much-valued and varied work of Susie, our development worker.
- The faithful ministry of the stewards, pastoral visitors, preachers, treasurers and secretaries across the Circuit.
- The ministries of our supernumeraries and associate presbyter, each contributing to the kingdom's work in unique ways.

Please pray for:-

- The chapel at Husbands Bosworth discerning a way forward and renewed sense of purpose in mission and worship.
- Young people growing in faith at Naseby.
- A renewed leadership team at Kibworth, and sense of vision.
- A new project at Harborough encouraging young adults to cook, and continued outreach work with young families.

God of Grace,

Help us to see you at work amidst the daily struggle of ministry;

Help us to find joy and delight in the small signs of your kingdom;

Help us to trust that our labours will never be in vain as the renewal of this earth is assured by the resurrection of your Son.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Melton Mowbray consists of eight societies across its market town and rural villages - all of whom are engaging in mission and worship, and in serving their local communities. The circuit is served by two ministers, one presbyteral and one diacanal, who contribute to good local ecumenical links.

Give thanks for:-

- Current Circuit Initiatives—Messy Church, Mother and Toddler groups, Bereavement Support Group, Pastoral Visiting, Time out and Tea Shop, Prayer Quilt Ministry, “Holiday at Home”— outreach to senior citizens in the local community.
- Work with ecumenical partners
- Work in local schools
- The Friday Shopper’s Service at Sage Cross
- Local Preachers, Worship Leaders and Supernumerary Ministers, Local Pastors
- Chaplaincy work on the Farmers’ Market and in the Town Centre

Please pray for:-

- Our outreach to all those who use church premises each week
- The continuing development of new and relevant forms of worship.
- For a growing understanding of what is to be a follower of Jesus.
- For all Circuit Churches that we may discover new ways to be God’s people for the present age.
- For all holding positions of responsibility at Church and Circuit level.

Be still, and know that I am God.

Psalm 46 v. 10

Supwerintendent:

Rev’d James R Skinner

Deacon

Dawn Canham

Associate Presbyter

Rev’d Canon Jeffrey Hopewell

Supernumeraries:

Rev’d Douglas Dennis

Rev’d Ronald Dyer

Rev’d David Key

Rev’d Dr Eric Lott

Rev’d Jeffrey Ward

Circuit Stewards:

Anne Yates

Sue Gowin

Pauline Holbrook

Jenny Oliver

(Finance)

Day 13

Milton Keynes

Area Leader

Rev'd George Mwaura URC AM

Superintendent

Rev'd Dawn Saunders

Ministers

Rev'd Ben Haslam

Rev'd Nicola Martyn-Beck

Rev'd Ruth Maxey URC

Rev'd Jenny Mills URC AM

Rev'd Liz Morris WA

Rev'd Heather Pollard URC AM

Rev'd Joseph Ribeiro

Rev'd Rosemary Smith URC

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Chris Batten

Rev'd Peter Dudeny

Rev'd Dr Margaret Goodall

Rev'd Alan Harvey

Rev'd Stephanie Hibberd

Rev'd John Lusty

Rev'd David Marshall

Rev'd David Moore

Rev'd Beatrice Quayle

Rev'd Ken Renouf

Rev'd Peter Sharrocks

Area Officers

Derek Beaumont

Graham Ghaleb

Rosemary Kearsey

Philip Arkhurst

Area Secretary

Geoff Emmins

Area Treasurers

Donald Jayne

Viv Wilson

Milton Keynes remains one of the fastest growing Local Authorities in England and the new property developments springing up across the area bring with them both challenges and opportunities. How do we welcome newcomers while maintaining stability for longstanding residents? How do we learn to act as both host and guest in our ecumenical setting? How can we meet the needs of both city and rural dweller in our diverse communities?

Give thanks for:-

- The Strong partnerships between denominations which allow for united mission in many settings.
- All those willing to hold office in local and area roles.
- Opportunities for churches to work with new communities in and around Milton Keynes

Please pray for:-

- A clear vision for future mission and ministry strategy in the area as we enter conversations with other denominations.
- The success of the Just One House initiative to meet the housing needs of Syrian refugee families making a new home in Milton Keynes
- Rev'd Helen Cameron as she takes up her new role as one of the five denominational presidents of the Milton Keynes ecumenical area.
- Rev'd Ben Haslam as he prepares to leave, after 5 years in 2018 for his next appointment.

Loving God, you come to us in your Son Jesus, the Lord of heaven who was both guest and host in earthly homes. May we learn from his humility and generosity that, as we receive and offer hospitality in both familiar and new surroundings we may truly be people of your kingdom. Amen.

We are a circuit of eight churches in the towns of Wellingborough, Rushden and Higham Ferrers, Irthlingborough, with its class at Yelden, and Raunds and the villages of Irchester, Earls Barton and Wollaston. A number of our churches are undergoing redevelopment schemes in Higham Ferrers, Raunds and Wellingborough as they look to serve their communities.

Give thanks for:-

- The prayerful and practical support of Supernumeraries, Local Preachers, Worship Leaders, Musicians, Stewards, Sunday School and Youth Leaders within the circuit.
- The ongoing and new missional ventures within the circuit, as we Day by Day remember to pray, give thanks, act, read and reflect, and keep silence.

Please pray for:-

- Our local preachers on note and on trial and for those exploring the call to become worship leaders; and for those that support them.
- Our members at Thrapston who have now 'ceased to meet' and the new mission initiative that it is hoped will occur within the building.
- The members at Kingsway and Great Park Street as they journey towards becoming one fellowship on the Kingsway Estate in Wellingborough.
- The Circuit Leadership Team and all our Church Stewards as together we discern and respond to God's guidance for the Circuit Manifesto leading us to 2020 and beyond.

We will walk the path that will cost us much
and embrace the pain and sorrow.

We will trust in One who entrusts to us
the disciples of tomorrow.

Jacqueline G. Jones Reproduced from Singing the Faith Electronic Words Edition, number 662 Words and Music: © 2008

Jacqueline G. Jones www.spiritualsongs.co.uk

Superintendent

Rev'd Margaret Eales

Minister

Rev'd Kim Shorley

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Shirley Baker

Rev'd Linda Brock

Rev'd Gordon Chisnall

Dcn Sylvia Kempson

Rev'd Michael Langstaff

Circuit Stewards

David Hill

(Treasurer)

Michael Ellis

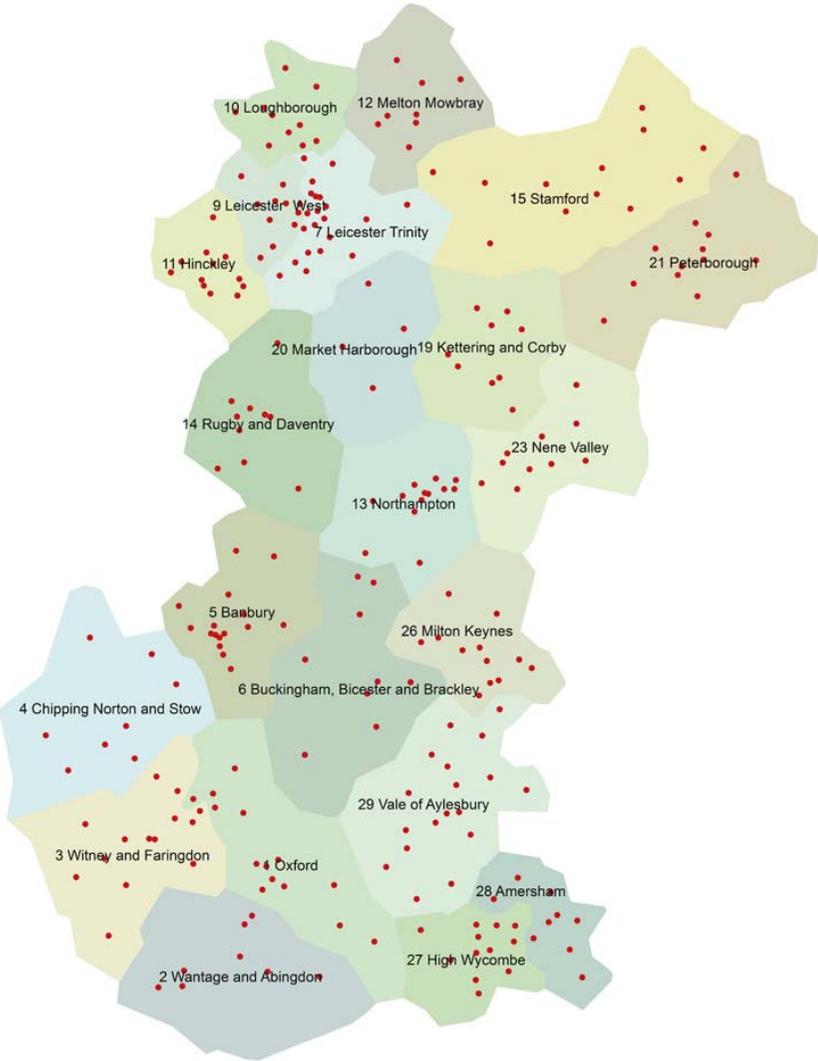
Josh Horne

John Hoyle

Jane Neild

Rachael Newman

Jonathan Thompson



As Methodist people of the Northampton District we rejoice that the abundant presence of God is known and celebrated by us in multi-cultural cities, rural villages, market towns, new housing developments and everywhere in between. As a District we seek to support, encourage and enable ministry and mission in these varied settings by the constructive use of our resources. We seek to offer faithful service in the particularity of our contexts and to do so with confidence and imagination. God has blessed us and promises to keep blessing us as we share the good news of the gospel with our neighbours and communities.

Give thanks for:-

- Those who serve as District officers and all those who serve on District Committees
- Work with candidates for ordained ministry, probationers and those called to lay ministry
- Growing work among young people including many attending the connexional 3-Generate event
- The financial resources we have to support creative ventures in mission
- The work of our District Office staff, Susie and Christine

Please pray for:-

- Imaginative and focused deployment and use of our resources of people, property and finance
- The regional staff of the Discipleship & Ministry Learning Network as they continue to provide training opportunities to the District
- Those ministers, churches and circuits involved in stationing matching processes
- Our sisters and brothers in the churches and circuits of this District.
- Our supernumerary ministers and the widows and widowers of ministers who have died

Almighty and everlasting God,
by your Spirit the whole body of the Church
is governed and sanctified;
hear the prayers we offer
for all your faithful people,
that in the ministry to which you have called us
we may serve you in holiness and truth;

through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ
who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God now and for ever.
Amen

District Executive

Rev'd Helen Cameron

Chair of District

Rev'd Lin Francis

Synod Secretary

Roy Slocombe

Assistant Synod Secretary

Rev'd Jill Marsh

Director of Mission

Rev'd Andy Fyall

Ecumenical Officer

Chris Linford

Property Secretary

Andrew Lewis

District Treasurer

Rev'd Novette Headley

Methodist Council

Synod Representatives

Wendy Curtis

Rev'd Ian Griffiths

Rev'd Helen Kirk

Dcn Ruth Richey

David Sparks

District Safeguarding Officer

Gill Crippen

District Administrators

Christine Thompson

Susie Palmer

Superintendent

Rev'd Tina Swire

Ministers

Dcn Richard Beckett

Rev'd John Marriott

Rev'd Romeo Pedro

Rev'd Philip Snelson

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Malcolm Beech

Rev'd Paul Coupland

Rev'd Alan Sharp

Rev'd John Smith

Lay Worker

John Brown

(Pastoral)

John Atkin

(District Schools' Officer)

Circuit Stewards

Margaret Littlecott

Keith Brooks

Desiree Kelly

Administrator

Sarah Eason

Circuit Treasurer

Keith Brooks

The circuit consists of 14 churches including the three churches which make up the LEP of Emmanuel. We are a united circuit but not uniform. Each society has its own unique gifts and graces to be about the life of God and service of Christ, whether they be rural or urban. What unites us is Christ and the desire for Christ to be known.

Give thanks for:-

- God's grace in Northampton
- Being called to be the whole people of God in a multicultural/intercultural church.
- The gifts of our leadership team, including Jenny Brooks, our Circuit safeguarding officer.

Please pray for:-

- Those who seek to discern God's calling.
- The guidance of the Holy Spirit we seek to respond to the challenge of how best to use our buildings and resources for God's mission.
- The opportunities and potential of living God's love in culturally diverse congregations truly being the whole people of God.
- As we seek to live our mission in Northampton and the world with integrity and authenticity.

God of grace, we trust in you. You are our way, our hope our life. Be with us as we journey ever onward, and ever deeper, in what it means to be the people of Jesus Christ. Let us embrace the solid foundations of our heritage, even as we trust in the eagles wings you give us. For you are with us, the hen with her chicks, ever hovering, ever loving, ever living.

In Christ's name

Amen

The Oxford Circuit serves the city of Oxford, its suburbs, and villages and market towns from Woodstock to Watlington. Public worship is offered in fifteen places, including the chapel at Oxford Brookes University's Harcourt Hill Campus, St Mary's Church in Chalgrove, Holy Family LEP in Blackbird Leys and Campsfield House detention centre.

Give thanks for:-

- The witness of Christian people, in the home, the workplace and the community;
- The work of Bladon Junior Church, and the completion of an ambitious redevelopment project;
- The completion of phases 1-3 of the Open Doors project at Wesley Memorial;
- The commitment of many volunteers, in and beyond the church;

Local churches serving their communities.

Please pray for:-

- James Garnett, working on Rose Hill as part of his Circuit Based Learning Pathway through the Queen's Foundation;
- Mel McCulloch, developing children's work and outreach at Wesley Memorial;
- Malcolm Bromhall, working with the lonely in Headington;
- Alison Butler, newly appointed Mission and Heritage Officer at Wesley Memorial;
- Rainbow House, a city centre drop-in for parents, carers and children;
- Opportunities arising from the building scheme at Bladon.

Faithful God,
 In all seasons
 You are our companion and our guide.
 Even when sorrow, fear or anxiety overwhelm us,
 And we feel that we have lost contact with you,
 You do not abandon us.
 Hold us in your love,
 And help us to be still, and to know that you are God,
 Now, and always. Amen

Superintendent

Rev'd Dr Martin Wellings

Ministers

Rev'd Dr Robert Bates
University Chaplain

Rev'd Brian Brown
Writer and Producer

Rev'd Rosemary Davies

Rev'd Adam Stevenson

Rev'd Dr Ralph Waller
Harris Manchester College

Rev'd Robert Whorton
Hospice Chaplain

Rev'd Heather Carter
Associate Presbyter

Lay Workers

Malcolm Bromhall
Pastoral & Development

Alison Butler
Mission and Heritage

Mel McCulloch
Children, families and outreach

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Philip Beuzeval

Rev'd David Bull

Rev'd David Clarkson

Rev'd Geoffrey Hunter

Rev'd Jean King

Rev'd Leslie Marsh

Rev'd Eric Prichard

Rev'd John Rowland

Rev'd Judy Turner-Smith

Circuit Stewards

Kate Dobson

Mike Goringe
Treasurer

Simon Mitchell

John Winterbottom

Day 19

Peterborough

Superintendent

Rev'd Dr Langley Mackrell-
Hey

Ministers

Rev'd Gareth Baron
Rev'd Sarah Gower AP
Rev'd Lesley Moseley AP

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Raymond Garfoot
Rev'd Joseph Goodridge
Rev'd David Parkes
Rev'd Dale Sherriff
Rev'd Douglas Stevens
Rev'd Graham Tooth

Lay Workers

Helen Crofts
(*Circuit Mission Enabler*)

Circuit Stewards

Simon Stewart
Sue Keeney
Nigel Lightfoot
Ann Tooth

Circuit Treasurer

Giles Armstrong

Circuit Administrator

Sue Moore

The circuit reaches into three counties as well as covering the city of Peterborough. Our work is in the context of city, market towns and villages, and includes three formal and one informal LEP.

Give thanks for:-

- Developments in new and pioneering forms of ministry and worship being discovered across the circuit.
- For renewed ministry and worship in long established places.
- Those who have responded to a call to preach and continue to grow through the Worship: Leading & Preaching training course.
- For the deepening sense of unity and shared mission with partnerships through the Winter Night Shelter; Hope Revolution Peterborough; Christmas Starts with Christ Campaign, Foodbank and Heart for the Hamptons, among others.

Please pray for:-

- The Maples (MHA) retirement apartments. Please pray for the residents, staff and chaplain Laura Martin.
- The Circuit Ministry Team which is strengthened through Local Ecumenical Partnerships.
- For growing ministry amongst children and young people.
- For CROPS (Christian Options in Peterborough Schools)
- Faithfulness' in discipleship, both making and being disciples.
- Wisdom in discernment as we respond to God shaping us.
- Courage and boldness to embrace all the opportunities to join in with God in His Mission.

Loving God, the best thing of all is you are with us.

Each moment of each day you are ever near and ever loving. In my weakness I seek your strength and goodness to live like Jesus.

Amen

We sit in three counties, have three motorways passing through, and have churches in three towns and four villages. There is lots of new housing; affluence alongside poverty; tradition alongside new expressions of faith and community. There is much to do and much to be thankful for.

Give thanks for:-

- Care for the homeless in the winter night shelters.
- New preachers and worship leaders.
- A new congregation in Long Lawford.
- Thriving toddler groups.
- An interactive telling of the Christmas and Easter stories experienced by hundreds of primary school children.
- Regular worship at Newbold after 8 years, and growing community.
- The Gift of Years Chaplaincy to Care Homes.
- Dementia care.
- Renewed confidence.

Please pray for:-

- A united circuit vision of mission in our communities.
- Workers to take on jobs.
- Our village churches. and our work in schools.
- A positive response to new housing.
- For our work among young families.
- Food-banks, Street Pastors, Christians against Poverty, Gift of Years, Hope4, Rugby Youth for Christ.
- The Extra Mile Project in Sierra Leone.

God, in love you invite us to join in with your work.

We accept your invitation.

Feed our imagination,

Lift us out of our rut,

Transform our worship,

And help us to serve the cause of Jesus Christ in love. Amen

Superintendent

Rev'd Andy Hardwick

Ministers

Rev'd Jane Gaffney

Rev'd Charity Madenyika

Dcn Georgina Brooks

Rev'd Diane Bussey (AP)

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Robert Anning

Rev'd David Collinson

Rev'd Christine Dybdahl

Rev'd Margaret Hadfield

Dcn Mary Neal

Rev'd Iain Rennie

Rev'd Tom Smith

Lay Workers

Miriam Sitch

Anna Pile

Lindsay Pelloquin

Circuit Stewards

Andy Brown

Andrew Downey

Rosemary Mason

Circuit Treasurer

Kathy Brooks

Day 21

Stamford

Superintendent:

Rev'd Andy Fyall

Ministers:

Rev'd William Booker
(Minister in Other Appointment)

Rev'd Ruth Charlesworth

Rev'd Sara Cliff (Minister
without appointment)

Rev'd Helen Fyall
(Hospital Chaplain)

Rev'd Leo Osborn

Lay Workers:

Luke Denley (Stamford
Youth Outreach Worker)

Phil Jones (Circuit
Mission Enabler)

VACANCY (Circuit
Children & Family Worker)

Lay Pastor (Ryhall):

Charlotte Pridmore

Supernumeraries:

Rev'd John Ansley

Rev'd Neville Ashton

Rev'd Christopher Bamber

Rev'd Richard Baggott

Rev'd Fred Day

Rev'd David Bosworth

Rev'd Julia Dowding

Rev'd Barry Gent

Dcn Roger Hensman

Rev'd Maureen Jones

Rev'd Peter Lemmon

Rev'd Brian Lewis

Rev'd Brian Newbold

Rev'd Dr Christine Pocock

Sister Eileen Rogers

Circuit Administrators:

Rowan Scholtz

Jill Marchlik

Circuit Stewards:

Sara Burke

Moyra Collins

Phil Jones

Ian Husbands

AnneMarie Niemann

Circuit Treasurer

Nina Rawlins

This Connexional Year sees the birth of the Stamford Circuit. The ten churches in the circuit have a deep desire to help people find a real and relevant faith, growing as disciples of Jesus Christ. Working, worshipping and praying together we sense a greater strength to serve Christ in serving the communities in which we have a presence.

Please pray for:-

- The Circuit Ministry Team in all its expressions as we explore how best to use our several gifts across the new circuit.
- A deepening sense of God's purpose and vision for all that we do in His name.

As expansive as the azure sky, Such is your presence, O God.
As wide as the ocean's bounds, Such is your presence, O God.
As gentle as the flowing brook, Such is your presence, O God.
As warm as the sun at mid-day, Such is your presence, O God.
As wonderful as creation's splendour, Such is your presence,
O God.
As close as the kiss of a lover, Such is your presence, O God.
As pure as a baby's smile, Such is your presence, O God.
Andy Fyall, Hubbards Hills, Louth

The Vale of Aylesbury Circuit stretches from East Oxfordshire to North Buckinghamshire and consists of 18 churches ministering in diverse communities from town centres in Aylesbury, Thame & Princes Risborough; new housing developments in Fairford Leys and rural villages of varying sizes. Like many areas we are experiencing substantial development as thousands of new houses are being built in Aylesbury and hundreds in the smaller rural communities, bringing significant change and growth.

Please pray for:-

- Donna Broadbent-Kelly as she begins as a probationer minister in the circuit; we give thanks for her calling and pray for her and her husband David and children Joseph, Hannah and William as they move home, jobs and school.
- Mel Brown, newly appointed family & youth worker at Aylesbury; give thanks for the growing number of younger people attending worship and pray for Mel as she begins this new role.
- Continuing ecumenical relationships, giving thanks for the many ways those churches of all denominations work & worship together in most of our villages and towns and praying for that ongoing witness.
- For the Circuit Leadership team and local church councils as we continue to seek ways of responding to the changes that are happening within our communities.

All loving God give us the courage to listen to for the whisper of your Spirit that we might dare to dream anew of your kingdom coming.

Creating God give us the audaciousness to hope in your transforming presence that we, present in our communities, might be bearers of hope and justice.

Sustaining God give us the strength to be still that we might better serve your broken world.

Superintendent

Rev'd Helen Kirk

Ministers

Rev'd Donna Broadbent-Kelly

Rev'd Charlotte Collins
(Other appointment)

Rev'd Keith Edwards

Rev'd Anthony Howells AP

Rev'd Dr Romilly Micklem
AP

Circuit Leadership Team

Peter Honeyball

Paul Ingram

Anne-Marie Lord

Steve Kemp

Jennie Mariner Kyle

Geoff Nicholson

Alf Rogers

Arthur Sara

Keith Wallace

Day 23

Wantage & Abingdon

Superintendent

Rev'd Keith Underhill

Ministers

Rev'd Ian Griffiths

Deacon Selina Nisbett

Rev'd Katherine Pickering

Hospital Chaplain residing in the Circuit

Deacon Deborah Wilde
Hospital Chaplain

Supernumeraries

Rev'd John Anderson

Rev'd Kenneth Blake

Deacon Maggie Blake

Rev'd Frances Blood

Rev'd Alan Grist

Circuit Stewards

Mary Hancock

Andrew Lockley

Carolyn Roche

Alan Smith

Our Circuit covers a large part of the attractive south Oxfordshire countryside and includes the towns of Didcot and Wallingford as well as Wantage and Abingdon. We have nine churches, including two LEPS, both of which are in Abingdon, and a total membership of over 500. Our area is home to a number of scientific establishments and hi-tech industries and includes Milton Park which is the UK's largest business and science park. We are also an area in which a considerable amount of new housing has been built and much more is planned.

Give thanks for:-

- The Ordination of Deacon Selina Nisbett.
- The appointment of Libby & Sarah, our new Community Chaplains for Great Western Park, the work they are doing, the welcome they have received and the positive start they have made.
- 30th Anniversary of the Toddler Group at Trinity Church - and it's continued work - still going strong!
- The ministry of hospitality within our churches reaching out to the wider community.
- Ecumenical co-operation across the Circuit.

Please pray for:-

- Rev'd Katherine Pickering (and Ian) as she goes into stationing for 2018.
- For the Circuit Invitation Committee as the Circuit seeks a new Presbyterian.
- The Circuit review & discussions that will be happening this year as we look to the future, seek to be more intentional and plan the best use of our resources for mission, service and outreach.

Creator God forge in us the strength to support others, loving God deepen in us the capacity to care, encourager God inspire us with hope for the hopeless, broken God challenge us with the weeping of the wounded, healing God bind all our hurts and make us whole.

Amen

(from Chaplaincy Essentials)

The Witney and Farringdon Circuit is situated mostly around rural West Oxfordshire in attractive villages and towns on the edge of the Cotswolds. We serve these places with committed folk who week in and week out provide a community of Christian love, activities and church life. We have 14 churches, including a number of smaller ones some of which are struggling for numbers in the rural countryside but also several big town churches for example, Witney. This balance brings challenges but also opportunities and we go forward with a sense that the Holy Spirit guides us and gives us confidence.

Give thanks for:-

- North Leigh Methodist Church, which will have closed in August 2017
- The commitment, week by week, of all those in each church despite the challenges of today's world
- The leadership of the Circuit rising to the challenges before them
- For the work with young people, especially in Witney
- Renewed optimism and a sense of mission

Please pray for:-

- The new Superintendent, Rev'd Rose Westwood, who starts in Sep 2017
- Rev'd Fred Ireland as he takes a sabbatical in this church year
- Senior Circuit Steward Ian Cotton and the CLT as they continue with the challenges in the Circuit
- Those churches in the Circuit whose existence is a struggle
- More leadership to step forward in each church
- Dcn Ellie's work with families and young people in Witney can continue into the future with lay leadership
- A greater mission and outreach focus through the Circuit

Let us dream. Let us prophesy. Let us see visions of love, peace and justice. Let us affirm with humility, with joy, with faith, with courage:

Jesus Christ is the life of the world. Amen.

(South Africa)

Superintendent

Rev'd Rose Westwood

Ministers

Rev'd Roger Faulkner

Open Doors

Dcn Ellie Griffin

Rev'd Fred Ireland

Rev'd Melanie Reed

Lay Workers

Anne Crawford

Dawn Haley

Supernumeraries

Rev'd Nicola Blois

Rev'd David Clark

Rev'd Elgin Crewe

Rev'd Richard Donoghue

Rev'd Hilary Ewing

Rev'd Michael Gilyead

Rev'd Brenda Woods

Rev'd Ian Young

Circuit Stewards

Martin Bucknall

Ian Cotton

Raena Farley

Eddie Fowler

Ann Jerome

Andrew Pote

Day by day dear Lord we pray that children may...

In the Autumn Term: See Jesus more clearly.

Through all the church groups they attend.

Be helped to see Jesus at home, school, college or work.

That through 3Generate in Southport in November, children and young people may see Jesus more clearly in their lives.



Give thanks for:-

- The outreach of our churches to children through many and varied groups.
- Outreach to families through Messy Church in many different forms.
- For Sunday Schools, Junior Churches, Sunday clubs and fellowship groups, membership and Bible Study groups and work in Schools.
- Weeknight activities, Youth and Children's Clubs, Uniformed Organisations and other ways in which the local church relates to children and young people.
- The dedicated work of all those who lead children and young people in their groups

In the Spring Term: Love Jesus more dearly.

By learning more about Jesus.

By showing Jesus love to others by their actions and words.

By listening to each other in our churches and at the District event in February.

In the Summer Term: Follow Jesus more nearly.

By helping children on their Faith journey.

By supporting them as they take exams.

'But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.' (Isaiah 43: 1 NRSV)

God calls us to witness to His grace in our lives. Each person has a unique ministry to fulfil; each person has gifts and talents to be used in making God's love known. Discerning a particular ministry is never easy but with the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the support of God's people, we seek to be obedient to God's call.

Give thanks for:-

- The variety of ministries being expressed within our District.

Please pray for:-

- The work of the District Candidates' Committee
- The Discipleship & Ministries Learning Network of our East Central Region.

Consider :-

- If God might be calling you to exercise a new ministry



Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow In you and you in me.

*(John Bell & Graham Maule,
1987 WGRG , Iona Community)*

District Safeguarding Officer

Gill Crippen

District Safeguarding Group

Jane Bingham

Jenny Brooks

Rev'd Helen Cameron

David Jones (Chair)

Rev'd Jill Marsh

David Sparks

Ian Wass

The District is now implementing the SAFEGUARDING STRATEGY for the coming years of our safeguarding work together.

2017 has seen new procedures for dealing with Safeguarding matters which we will be working on in the coming year.

So with those who are abused or at risk of abuse: the work of Safeguarding is a godly, holy response in those places.

Give thanks for:-

- The work of all those people giving their time to make our churches safer places for everyone to meet.
- Safeguarding, which is intrinsic to the mission of the Church and we give thanks for this essential work in our churches.
- The promise of the Gospel: 'I am come that they may have life, life in all its fullness'. Jesus, The 'shepherd' ensures the safety of the 'flock', both within the security of the fold but also as it ventures further afield.

Please pray for:-

- Our broken world in which there may be various potential sources of harm
- Our congregations where we seek to protect the vulnerable and minimise all possible danger, whilst welcoming everyone.

The mission of Christ is to enable human flourishing, to ensure safety for all people, and to foster the development of a confident and healthy community for this we earnestly pray.

The high priestly prayer of Jesus in John's Gospel reflects the desire of God that all Christians should be united in fellowship, purpose and mission. The District Ecumenical Officers, working alongside brothers and sisters of various denominations, work on your behalf in the hope that the Methodist Church will offer faith, worship, prayer and mission in unity with other Christians.

Give thanks for:-

- The Ecumenical Officers' Team in the District as we seek to encourage mission and ministry beyond and between us and those of other denominations
- The good and positive expressions of ecumenism around the district

Please pray for:-

- Churches in the District who are partners in an LEP - for wisdom and common purpose
- Expressions of God's love and presence where churches are working together for good; Foodbanks, Street Pastor Schemes, pay as you feel cafes, Christians Against Poverty, Praying & healing on the streets
- The DEOs in our district as they represent the Methodist Church on various bodies on behalf of the District
- The conversations around the joint Anglican / Methodist report regarding interchangeability of ministry : 'Mission and Ministry in Covenant'.

Gracious God, we have heard your word that you have reconciled us to yourself through your Son Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit transform our hearts of stone. Help us to become ministers of reconciliation and heal our churches' divisions so that we may better serve as instruments of your peace in the world.

Amen.

Prayer from the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2017

Ecumenical Development Officers

Canon Vic Allsop
(Leicestershire)

Oxfordshire
(Vacancy)

Rev'd Stuart Jenkins
(Northamptonshire)

Philip Hutchinson
(Peterborough)

Rev'd Barrie Cheetham
(Buckinghamshire)

Rev'd Canon John Robertson

(Ecumenical Director of Mission, Milton Keynes)

District Ecumenical Officers

Rev'd Andy Fyall

(Churches Together Northamptonshire and Peterborough)

Buckinghamshire
(Vacancy)

Rev'd Gordon Webb
(Leicestershire)

Rev'd Dawn Saunders
(Milton Keynes)

Rev'd Ian Griffiths
(Oxfordshire)



Day 29 Preachers and Worship Leaders

Let us build a house where hands will reach
Beyond the wood and stone
To heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
And live the Word they've known
Here the outcast and the stranger
Bear the image of God's face:
Let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome in this place

StF 409 v4 Marty Haugen(b. 1950)

Give thanks for:-

- For all who step out in faith for unity, acceptance, tolerance and love
- For Jesus and the gift of life in all its fullness
- For times of fellowship and worship where we see God in others and learn from their journey
- For Good News that is fresh, relevant, powerful and essential for all today
- For childlike joy in what God has done, a ready laugh and honest sincere praise - every waking moment
- For each new day and for the opportunity to be Jesus' disciple

• For all those we meet and the rich diversity of experiences they share

Pray that in our lives and churches:-

- The needs of our communities are recognised and responded to
- We encourage one another, recognise calling and invite action
- We speak love to one another and all those we meet
- We proclaim ourselves to belong to God; body, mind and soul and show this through the things we do
- We place God at the centre of all we do and hold no tradition or practice so dear that we will not give it up in order to better serve

Be kind
whenever
possible.

It is always
possible.

- Dalai Lama

Come to me all of you who are tired of carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke and put it on you, and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit; and you will find rest. For the yoke I will give you is easy, and the load I will put on you is light"

Matthew 11: 28-30, Good News Bible

The District MANGO group (Mission And Next Generation Oversight) helps the district's churches and circuits by:

- * supporting the Director of Mission in her work
- * being available for advice and encouragement with local Mission
- * developing ideas and proposals for mission strategy, activity and events

We are open to questions, suggestions and invitations and can be contacted via Jill Marsh or Margaret Williams (via the district office or email)

Give thanks for:-

- All the new initiatives which have come from the district Re-Imagine day
- New workers taken on by circuits to lead on new forms of work and church
- The vibrancy and faith of the District Youth Event, Acts 29, and the plans for the next one on Sat. 24th February 2018
- The mission projects supported with District Advance Fund and MANGO 1000 grants, including building developments for new work, community events, ministry and mission with older people, children and young adults.
- The conference decision encouraging every church to adopt a 'growth plan' or an 'end of life care plan' so that we can be intentional about growth in faith, service and numbers..

Please pray for:-

- The Re-Imagining Locally events which will be happening around the district during the next year, and for our own willingness to be inspired
- The young Methodists from this district who attended 'Rise and Shine' leadership training and those who will attend 3Gen in November: that we will all support the development of young people in faith and leadership
- All the churches who are beginning to engage with the people using their buildings with the intention of developing faith and helping more people become disciples of Christ during the next Methodist year
- Churches to be willing to finish the things that distract from their mission, and for each church and circuit to respond to whatever God is specifically asking us to do in this generation, including your own church

Living, loving God, you have changed our lives. You give us faith and you show us we can trust in your goodness in the face of all the realities of life. Keep us aware of your Holy Spirit day-by-day so that we are open to your prompting and ready to witness to your love in Jesus Christ, by our actions, our attitudes and our words. Amen.

District MANGO group members:

Rev'd Jill Marsh
(Director of Mission),
Margaret Williams
(Administration)
Rev'd Helen Cameron
(Chair)
Rev'd Jane Gaffney
Rev'd Dr Langley Mackrell-Hey
Rev'd Ruth Richey
John Atkins
Rev'd Robert Kasema



District Secretary

Pam Sitford

District Treasurer

Nina Rawlins

Representative to Forum

Nina Rawlins



Last October, our President, Janis Bayley, introduced the District to her project 'Inter Care' a service which takes medical supplies to parts of Africa where there is most need. Janis is willing to visit circuits and give more information on the scheme. We ask the District to pray for Janis and for this worthwhile project. We give thanks for the work that Nina Rawlins is doing as our serving member on the MWiB Forum, and offer prayers for her successor, Mary Gill.

Prayers are requested for MWiBs continued concern for Dalit Solidarity awareness. Caste discrimination is now common in UK – causing suffering, isolation and prejudice to 'low caste' or 'non-caste' people. MWiB is campaigning to ask the UK Government to add this to the Caste Equality Act 2010. MWiB is also active in Dementia Awareness and is campaigning for churches to consider becoming 'Dementia Friendly'.

We ask for prayers for the Connexional Team, Sandra Goodwin – Anne Browse - Judith Simms and Carolyn Lawrence and for the many women who serve the Lord through MWiB across the country in churches large and small. We pray for members in our District as they seek to keep MWiB alive in the Northampton area.

Lord, as we hold before you people with dementia, we are confronted by mystery and sadness, by ambiguity and confusion. We prayer for all engaged in research looking for ways to prevent or slow down the condition. We pray for all who seek to provide imaginative and creative patterns and structures for caring. May all who live with the disability find that they are understood, supported, cherished and cared for, and may