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BARROW UPON SOAR METHODIST CHURCH

Website: www.barrowuponsoarmethodistchurch.co.uk

Email: barrowmeths@gmail.com

Minister: Rev Karen Beecham

Telephone: 01509 219804

Lay Pastor: Eleri Bristow

Telephone: 07305 366423

Email: eleri@charnwoodmowbraymethodist.org.uk

Please contact the

Circuit Office – Email: circuitoffice@charnwoodmowbraymethodist.org.uk

Telephone: 07513 988341

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

10.00 am until 2.00 pm

NOTICES FOR SUNDAY 11th OCTOBER 2026 WEEKLY DIARY

Playgroup meets every day during school term time

Sunday 11 October	10.15 am	Local Arrangement Steward: Janet Coffee: Adrian and Sue
Monday 12 October	8.45 am – 4.00 pm 6.30 pm 7.30 pm	Playgroup Guides Sharing Scripture
Tuesday 13 October	8.45 am – 4.00 pm 4.30–7.30 pm	Playgroup Cosmic Theatre School
Wednesday 14 October	8.45 am – 1.00 pm 10.00-10.30 am 7.30 pm	Playgroup Playgroup using Vestry Circuit Leadership Team meeting
Thursday 15 October	8.45 am – 4.00 pm 10.00-10.30 am 7.30 pm	Playgroup Playgroup using Vestry Bible Study
Friday 16 October	8.45 am – 4.00 pm	Playgroup break up
Saturday 17 October	6.15 pm	Karate

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 18 October	10.15 am	Colin Lamb Steward: Philip Coffee:
Sunday 25 October	10.00 am	At Woodhouse Eaves
Sunday 1 November	10.15 am	Richard Oliver Steward: Heather Coffee:
Sunday 8 November	10.00 am	Churches Together Remembrance Service at Holy Trinity Followed by parade to the War Memorial
Sunday 15 November	10.15 am	Victor Poon Steward: Sandra Coffee:
Sunday 22 November	10.30 am	Circuit Service at Quorn United Church
Sunday 29 November	6.00 pm	Churches Together Advent Service Rev Martin Swan

As always, our thoughts and prayers are with anyone in need.

BIBLE READINGS FOR SUNDAY

Exodus Chapter 14 verses 19-31

Romans Chapter 14 verses 1-12

Matthew Chapter 18 verses 21-35

HYMN NUMBERS

24 Come, now is the time to worship

167 Colours of day dawn into the mind

545 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart

393 She sits like a bird, brooding on the waters

503 Love divine all loves excelling

NEW MONTHLY CIRCUIT PRAYER MEETING ON ZOOM

Rev Karen & Rev Nina would like to invite you to a Monthly Circuit Prayer meeting on zoom. This will be the first Thursday of each month 7.30- 8.00 pm, the next one being Monday 2nd November . If you would like to attend, please send an email to Karen asking for the link. We would love to see you there.

REV KAREN'S SABBATICAL LEAVE November 2026 to January 2027

You will hopefully all be aware that Rev Karen Beecham embarks on a much-deserved sabbatical later this month. Karen will be finishing her normal duties on Friday 23rd October for a week of leave, before starting her sabbatical on 1st November, returning on 1st February 2027. During this period, Rev Nina Austin will be taking on the role of Acting Superintendent for the Circuit.

A sabbatical support group, with representatives from each church under Karen's ministerial oversight, has met to identify the areas most likely to need support during this period. We have also considered how best to help Karen return to the Circuit's normal life after her sabbatical, without becoming overwhelmed.

I would ask everyone to take note of a few of the ground rules that will be in place:

- Please don't send any emails to Karen during the period 24th October to 1st February. If there is information that you think Karen would like to know on her return, please wait until that first week before sending. If there are several items, consider if it would be better to just write a quick summary and ask Karen to let you know if more detail is required (please note that each of the senior church stewards in Karen's section have been asked to prepare a brief summary of what has happened in each of the 3 months, so please check you will not be duplicating their effort).
- Karen will still need, for the records, copies of meeting minutes etc, but again please don't send these until after her return.
- Within Karen's Churches, anything that requires a Minister, please refer initially to either your Senior Church Steward, your Local Lay Pastor, Nina, or me.
- Please say hello if you see Karen or Brett in Tesco but avoid discussing Church or Circuit matters!

I am sure we all send Karen and her family our love and prayers as she embarks on this important time of refreshment in Ministry.

Finally, I thought it would be useful to share some of the background to the taking of sabbaticals in the Methodist Church

What is a sabbatical?

Standing Order 744 defines a ministerial sabbatical as 'a period of release from the ordinary duties of the presbyteral appointment, in addition to normal holidays, for the purpose of pursuing an approved programme of study, research, work or experience'. Sabbaticals are opportunities to 're-train, refresh and renew the very base from which future activity may spring' ('Sabbaticals for Ministers', Conference Agenda 1985, 240).

The term 'sabbatical' derived originally from the Old Testament and related to the Sabbath, the weekly day of rest and delight in God (Exod 34:21; Is 58:13-4), and the sabbatical year, in which, every seven years, complete rest was commanded for the land, with no sowing or reaping, and the remission of debts and release of Hebrew slaves (Lev 25:4; 1 Macc 6:49; Deut 15:1,12). By extension, in the nineteenth-century, 'sabbatical' became used by universities to denote a period of study leave for their academic staff, originally every seven years. Later, other professions and occupations embraced the practice, as a means of vocational development and refreshment.

Sabbaticals can be extremely beneficial both for the individual minister, and for the health of the wider Church. 'The stimulation and confidence deriving from learning a new skill, the refreshment and renewal of

a period in which one is distanced from regular commitments, as well as the direct benefit of spiritual and intellectual pursuits [can] only enhance the whole ministry of the people of God'

Best Wishes David Bristow | Senior Circuit Steward | Charnwood and Mowbray Methodist Circuit
a: 29 Nicolson Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 3SD
e: david.bristow@ntlworld.com
t: 01509 552571 m: 07591 157030
w: www.chnwoodmowbraymethodist.org.uk

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Come, O blessed Redeemer, in your kingship to save, in your priesthood to atone, in your prophecy to teach and in your divinity to bless.

Hannah Ball, Methodist Teacher and Leader (1733–1792)

NEWS FROM GIRLS' BRIGADE ENGLAND

Dear friends,

We wanted to share some positive news with you: Girls' Brigade England and Wales has been selected for the Big Give Women & Girls Match Fund - and our campaign starts on 6th October! Until 13th October, donations made through our Big Give campaign page will be doubled, helping us turn £10,000 into £20,000 to support our work with girls and young women. That means £5 becomes £10, £10 becomes £20, and even a £1 donation becomes £2. Whatever you can give, this is an opportunity to make your support go twice as far.

Through Girls' Brigade, girls and young women have opportunities to build confidence, develop skills, explore faith and find a place where they feel valued and supported. Will you help us continue this work?

You can find our Big Give campaign page here: www.bit.ly/GBEW-BigGive2026

Donations open on 6th October, so please save the link and give between 6th - 13th October to have your donation doubled. You can also share the link with your friends, family or church community to help us spread the word. Every donation and every share can help us reach our target.

Thank you for being part of the Girls' Brigade community and for supporting the girls and young women at the heart of everything we do.

With best wishes,

The Girls' Brigade team
GBCO@gb-ministries.org

WYMESWOLD METHODIST CHURCH

ARTS & CRAFTS EXHIBITION

COME AND SEE OUR ART EXHIBITION, INCLUDING TRIBAL ART, PHOTOGRAPHY & TEXTILES.

There will be an 11am service on the Sunday with local lay pastor, Eleri Bristow.

ITEMS/ART LOOKING FOR GOOD HOMES FOR A DONATION TO CHAPEL FUNDS!

REFRESHMENTS AND LIVE MUSIC DURING THE WEEKEND.

24TH & 25TH OCTOBER

SATURDAY (10-4):

- 2-4PM DROP-IN CRAFTS FOR FAMILIES
- 3PM STORYTIME

SUNDAY (2-4):

- 3PM STORYTIME



ARISE AND SHINE FOR..

World Federation Day 2026!

Collection for WFMUCW

Join us for a day of worship, workshops, and witness

Please bring a packed lunch

All are Welcome

17th October 2026
10:00-16:00

Stapleford Methodist Church, NG9 7EA



Methodist Women in Britain
News for the Northampton District, circuits and churches October 2026

As there is no District Committee active at present the District Ambassadors are taking responsibility for sharing news about the events currently available to all women in the District. We are working with the Ambassadors in the Nottingham and Derby District to plan future events.

The next event is a **World Federation Day** to be held at **Stapleford Methodist Church Nottingham on Saturday 17th October 2026 from 10.00 to 4.00pm.**

A poster is with this mailing with details of the day.

Rev Jenny Pathmarajah has written about the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women at the 15th World Assembly in New Zealand. Her article can be read here: <https://www.methodist.org.uk/about/our-stories/arise-and-shine/>

Next year's MWiB Conference at the Swanwick Conference Centre takes place Friday 9th – Sunday 11th April 2027, cost £210 per person. A deposit of £100 secures your place. **Booking will open on the MWiB website on Friday 6th November 2026.** Conference theme: Arise and Shine – Wellness.

There is one free place per District for someone who has not ever been to the Annual Conference. There are also generous bursaries available. The application forms will be on the website: www.mwib.org.uk

Finally, a reminder that we still have 2 vacancies on our new Board of Trustees. We are looking for a Lead Trustee Events and a Lead Trustee People & Volunteering. Please email communications.mwib@gmail.com if you would like to know more or to talk to someone about these roles.

Northampton District Ambassadors are:

Menesia Chikazi: northantstrustee@gmail.com

Mary Gill: richardandmarygill@gmail.com

Nina Rawlins: ninarawlins@yahoo.co.uk