

0203 481 5240 United Kingdom
0208 080 6591 United Kingdom

0203 901 7895 United Kingdom

Sunday 29th May

Rev Julie Minns

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6111649426?pwd=NWxiT2w0WXBqM2dzRDNmVG03QmV6Zz09>

Meeting ID: 611 164 9426

Passcode: 398104

0208 080 6592

0330 088 5830

0131 460 1196

0203 481 5237

0203 481 5240

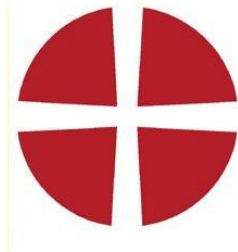
Thank you to everyone who has submitted articles, sent in their news or told us about their events. We really would like this to be a newsletter written and enjoyed by all across the circuit. We'd love you to share your news, prayers, events, tips for life or thoughts in general. The deadline for the June Circuit Newsletter is Wednesday 18th May

We welcome your feedback on the content, format and distribution of the newsletter. Please let us know your thoughts.

Anyone wishing to submit articles for the June Newsletter please send through to Caroline at the circuit office circuit.admin@hotmail.com by Wednesday 18th May please, we look forward to hearing your news.

If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter or information from Bury St Edmunds Methodist Circuit please ring 01284 731082 or email circuit.admin@hotmail.com

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Bury St Edmunds Methodist Circuit

Newsletter May 2022

Consider the Daffodils

Daffodils – crafters of sustainability. Emerging through, what one could perceive as unsuitable climatic conditions, they grow, flourish, and form beautiful flowers. They know the season to let go and rest – accommodating an unavoidable necessity of messiness from their fading foliage and flowers that feeds, nourishes, sustains and prospers the bulb. Then harness this to extend them – the creation of new bulbs - that, in turn, repeat the pattern; grow and flourish, rest and nourish, expand and replicate.

What can we learn when we consider the daffodils?

We emerge from a pandemic amidst a harsh climate of economic upheaval. The environmental crisis – creation - calls us to change our way of living, a fatigued NHS, public services exhausted, massive political unrest and turmoil, and a distressing time as war rages in Europe.

Within this Circuit Newsletter, there are many emerging events and services; in service to our local communities, in service of our faith; in service to the environment; in service to our creativity in living our calling – all places of nourishment: you'll find a thoughtful garden exhibition at a local food museum; recognition and reflection to long-service in local preaching; lunches for community fellowship; fundraising for crisis; creativity & crafts; online circuit zoom services; outdoor eco-services - and more. A panorama – a wonderful landscape.

As I consider the daffodils, ponder the contents of this Newsletter, reflect on recent Circuit Meetings – and all manner of meetings - and all the Circuit Membership; each unique local context:

I gaze in wonderment at our emergence amid these current conditions – it feels rooted and grounded in response to the whole landscape of what's going on locally and in the world.

I feel inspired – and I hope you feel inspired - and feel the possibility of generative growth that gives energy.

Like daffodils, as a circuit, we create a culture of nurture and support for each other, and we will flower and flourish – and dare to celebrate it as a circuit. And, in all this, I ponder what we feel we can let rest *and be okay about it?* Let fade those things that drain our energy and allow the inevitable messiness of potential endings, to allow the new beginnings as we harness our individual creativity, collectively, as a circuit.

And in this, I contemplate how we can nourish each other and create sustainability – a legacy - without burden. And may you and I flourish in this – and even enjoy it.

And in all this, let's take a moment to sit, gaze, ponder and consider the daffodils – they are crafters of sustainability.

Even when prevailing conditions feel unstable, may we invite all to the wonder, value and dignity of life, embracing our collective talents, receiving each other's gifts, called to be places of welcome and hospitality. Environments of deep listening and healing, being okay with inevitable messiness and daring risk that sets us on a journey of ever-new emergence and growth that will nourish and shape us.

We, too, resurrect, like daffodils from the ground – the ground of all being – God's good, sustainable, generative, and fertile soil.

We ask that the Christ of Resurrection will lead us. That we can learn as we consider the Daffodils.

Thanks for who you are, all you are, and all you do. Go well in all you do and in who you are this month of May. You ALL inspire me.

Revd Jason C Vinyard



Circuit Zoom Services

Sunday Zoom Services are at 6pm. Please see zoom links and passcodes below. You can access zoom on your landline by dialling any of the numbers below and inputting the meeting id and passcode when asked

Sunday 1st May

Rev Rita Carr

<https://zoom.us/j/85852814435?pwd=MFJNMGM1oMGhNWTViUmMzZkNScCtQQTO9>

Meeting ID: 858 5281 4435

Passcode: 004216

Dial by your location	0208 080 6591	0208 080 6592
	0330 088 5830	0131 460 1196
	0203 481 5237	0203 481 5240
	0203 901 7895	
Meeting ID:	858 5281 4435	
Passcode:	004216	

Sunday 8th May

Stella Davis

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81643294747?pwd=cnJ2NmJGMm4wNmpHU0JOMVNwQVVJUT09>

Meeting ID: 816 4329 4747

Passcode: 540493

Dial by your location	
0131 460 1196 United Kingdom	0203 481 5237 United Kingdom
0203 481 5240 United Kingdom	0203 901 7895 United Kingdom
0208 080 6591 United Kingdom	

Sunday 15th May

Hannah Stammers

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81643294747?pwd=cnJ2NmJGMm4wNmpHU0JOMVNwQVVJUT09>

Meeting ID: 816 4329 4747

Passcode: 540493

Dial by your location	
0131 460 1196 United Kingdom	0203 481 5237 United Kingdom
0203 481 5240 United Kingdom	0203 901 7895 United Kingdom
0208 080 6591 United Kingdom	

Sunday 22nd May

Rev Jason C Vinyard Holy Communion

(Please have your bread and wine alternative with you ready)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81643294747?pwd=cnJ2NmJGMm4wNmpHU0JOMVNwQVVJUT09>

Meeting ID: 816 4329 4747

Passcode: 540493

Dial by your location	
0131 460 1196 United Kingdom	0203 481 5237 United Kingdom

quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone for salvation, and an assurance was given me that he had taken away my sins, even mine and saved me from the law of sin and death."

Three days earlier, following his own 'conversion', Charles had written a hymn:

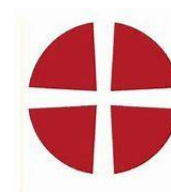
Where shall my wondering soul begin
How shall I all to heaven aspire?
A slave redeemed from death and sin,
A brand plucked from eternal fire,
How shall I equal triumphs raise,
Or sing my great Deliverer's praise?

Flowing from the complete assurance they felt in God's love and forgiveness, their faith was lived out in lives that went on to influence millions.

Charles went on to write over 6,000 hymns, while John used his organising genius to turn a spontaneous movement into structured body which became the origin of today's world-wide Methodist Church.



Circuit Sunday Zoom Services are at **6pm**. Zoom links for all services are later in the newsletter, there is also an option to 'dial in' via your telephone for these services. Please do join us in our circuit worship.



News from the Circuit: On Friday 6th May we welcome Vice-President Barbara Easton to the Circuit as part of her visit to the East Anglia District. It is hoped she will visit both Culford School and The Martins while she is here. Further details to follow.



Rev Ruth Ridge will be on Sabbatical from 16th May to 19th August. We wish her well in her pursuits during this time. Please raise any concerns or issues with Rev Jason and Rev Rita whilst Rev Ruth is away.



Caroline has increased her hours in the Circuit Office, and will usually be available Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 930am – 230pm.




News from Rev Val & the Martins: We had a happy time doing the Zoom Quiz for The Martins using Quiz questions set by MHA. There were over 30 participants and donations given were £250. Some quizzers are very good! Two 'screens' of competitors scored 38 out of 50 and we ended with a tie-breaker. In what year was the first Championship first played at the All England Tennis Club in Wimbledon? Our winners came back with the answer quickly - 1877. Amazing! Thanks to all who took part and all who gave a donation.

News from Old Newton: Towards the end of Lent we joined with our friends at Old Newton Parish Church to provide the opportunity to the children of our Village School to experience Easter in a new way and to learn about the importance the festival has to Christians.

Our premises were set out with three 'stations' each one depicting an event in the last week of Jesus's earthly life and the children were invited to travel through them in order. The chapel provide the setting for the Road to Jerusalem. It was entitled 'Hopes and Dreams'. The vestry became the entrance to the Upper Room where the children learned about the washing of the disciples' feet and the Servant King, after which they went through to the hall where they learned about the Last Supper entitled Remember Me.



The children then walked along the road to the Parish Church where they travelled through Gethsemane – Being Afraid and Good Friday – Suffering until they arrived at New Life on Easter Day. We hope the children benefited from this special experience and that is something they will long remember and think about. This shows the Chapel set out with the Road to Jerusalem waiting for the children to travel along it and to think about their Hopes and Dreams.

 We are delighted to say that we had a brilliant response to our Old Newton Coffee Morning appeal for support for the Ukraine Emergency Fund. With donations we were able to send £616.50 to All We Can to help with relief in this dreadful situation.

Wesley Day – taken from The Methodist Website

Aldersgate Sunday falls each year on the Sunday immediately preceding 24 May ('Wesley Day'), the day on which Methodists mark John Wesley's life-changing experience at a meeting in Aldersgate Street, London.

John and Charles Wesley set out for America in 1735, enthused at the idea of preaching the Gospel to Native American people. During the voyage the ship was struck by a terrifying storm. John was afraid. He prayed with the English passengers, one of whom brought him a baby to baptise in case they were all about to die.

Shortly afterwards he was at another service with a group of German Moravians when a huge wave engulfed the ship and water poured down into the cabins. While the English passengers screamed in terror, the Moravians continued singing - men, women and children seemingly untroubled. 'This was the most glorious day that I have yet seen' John Wesley, Journal 25 January 1736.

Later he asked one of the Moravians if they hadn't been afraid. He replied that not even the women and children had been afraid. None of them were afraid to die. John knew that they had something he didn't, an absolute trust in God. They were prepared to lose their lives because they knew that God was never going to let them go. John was deeply impressed.

His time in America was unsuccessful in many ways, and he and Charles returned home after two years.

All the time John was nagged by the thought that he did not have full faith in God. But this was about to change.

Both John and Charles Wesley returned to England deeply dissatisfied with their spiritual state. Still heavily influenced by the Moravians they met with in London, the Wesleys joined in a 'Religious Society', and in May 1738 both underwent a profound spiritual experience. John famously described this in his Journal for 24 May 1738

"In the evening I went very unwillingly to a society in Aldersgate Street, where one was reading Luther's preface to the Epistle to the Romans. About a

It has been a privilege to share in worship in so many churches. All churches are different as the people in them are so different. I've enjoyed meeting so many different people even when it involves getting up earlier than on working days or driving long distances in bad weather.

ROOM HIRE

We have 3 rooms to hire, ideal for children's parties, family gatherings or for clubs to use regularly.

Disabled access is available at the rear of the building together with an accessible toilet plus baby changing facilities. There is also a fully equipped kitchen.

Fellowship Room: 15' 10" x 19' 3"

Club Room: 34' 8" x 17' 10"

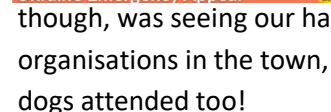
Annexe: 23' 6" x 17' 0"

£15 per room, per hour

Inclusive of light use of Kitchen & Facilities

Subject to Terms & Conditions of Hire

Email: northumberlandhallhire@outlook.com



A huge thankyou to everyone who supported our coffee morning to raise money for Ukraine via All We Can. To date we have raised over £450 which is amazing. The best bit for me filled with folk from many different churches, old and new friends, local neighbours, some pet

Also, at the end of the morning we were visited by a lady called Julia and her family. She is a Ukrainian living in Stowmarket, had seen our advert on either Stowmarket "facebook" or "nextdoor" and had come down to say thank you! It was good to talk to her for a while, her mum is still in Kiev, and she is understandably worried. She would like to be involved in future events. God works in amazing ways.

22nd May is our Anniversary and we are looking forward to our celebration service led by Josie Keys.
We will be holding a Church lunch afterwards.

EVERY GARDEN MATTERS – How to save the world one garden at a time. The exhibition launch at Stowmarket's Food Museum was successful and it has already received plenty of visitors and pledges for action. I have discovered this weekend that if you visit Abbots Hall only (where the exhibition is displayed) then entry is free, thanks to a local legacy. (You still enter through the Museum shop). I would definitely recommend the whole museum though, much work has been done in recent years and it is really switched on to Biodiversity. We are so lucky to have 75 acres of open air farming in the middle of town. Some of you may have heard the Radio 4 series recently "The Museums that make us" and the Food Museum featured on one programme. Where our food comes from, how it is produced and how we feed the world in the light of dramatic climate changes is a huge issue for today. Complementary to the exhibition, is an Insect Day on 14th May.



News from Trinity: Greetings from TRINITY. Isn't it lovely to see the blossom appearing on the trees and the flowers coming to life again. We had a good Maundy Thursday Zoom Service arranged by Rev. Val Spencer and Rev. Jason Vinyard followed on Good Friday with an emotional yet peaceful Service at 3pm on Zoom led by Jason. Our Easter

Sunday Service was very well attended and it was lovely to see some children there, making an Easter garden display, which was shown to the congregation with the help of Jason explaining to them about the plants. It has been great being able to have coffee and chat after our Sunday Services again and hopefully we can start thinking about future events enabling us to spread the word of our Lord Jesus Christ. Blessings to all from Linda Brandon. Senior Steward.

From Richard Rohr's Daily Meditations - From Rev Val Spencer

*the strength of the human spirit
bears witness to the Holy Spirit,
assuring us that, yes,
death happens –
it will happen to all of us
in the end –
and there will be
smaller and greater deaths
along the way –
but because Christ is risen
his (and our) suffering
is not the end, but only
'the end of the beginning.'
And what a new beginning
we shall see! Alleluia!*

30+ Years of Local Preaching – Dr Barbara Chipperfield

Last October, Stella Davis, the Circuit Local Preacher's Secretary presented me with a certificate for 30 years as a Methodist preacher local preacher I was very pleased to have this document signed by a woman President Sonia Hicks and woman Vice President Barbara Easton.

That was exactly 30 years since my recognition service in the Hull West Circuit, but preaching starts well before that. It was January 1989 when I first shared in a service 'on note' with an experienced preacher. After time, you are allowed to go alone 'on trial' with regular reports to the Circuit Preachers' Meeting.

"They won't be able to read your writing" said both my daughters when they realised that I would have to sit written exams. In those days there were five textbooks and for examinations Worship and Preaching, Old Testament, New Testament and Doctrine & Theology. Any help depended on people in the local circuit.

Hull West was one of the largest in England. There were 24 preaching places on the plan, which included a short evening service in the Methodist home for the Aged. Most of the churches were larger than any in the Bury circuit with only a few village churches. Only two were more than five miles from our home. Most preachers on trial gave their first brief sermon at the Methodist Home, but since the residents included several retired ministers, your theology was more closely examined than in most churches.

There is one church in Hull West which felt like preaching to the whole world. Many overseas students at the University lived around it and worshipped there. I was once asked to go out in a howling Gale to lay a wreath at a local War Memorial with four names after a Remembrance Sunday service. My husband who had played the organ stayed inside in the warmth! The strangest experience came when the three rows of people on one side of the back left as I started the sermon. The Steward explained afterwards that they had come out of the town for a Baptism and should have been in the Anglican church across the road.

After a few years as a Minister who moved to the Hornsea circuit asked for help when I took one service each quarter there - one fair-size church in the



www.arocha.org.uk/events

FoxeARTh ART DAYS

Foxearth Meadows Nature Reserve

The reserve is about a mile north of Foxearth village, between the River Stour and the lane north-west of Constable's Farm and Constable's Barn (private dwellings with postcode CO10 7HZ).

 **WHAT3WORDS** charm dragonfly townhouse

10.30 am onwards – with an epilogue at 3.00 pm for those who wish to join in.

Please come and enjoy a time of open air drawing or painting on the reserve. You don't have to be an expert—help will be provided if you'd like it. Basic materials available for a donation or bring your own.

Wellies or boots may be advisable and please bring your own Packed Lunch/drinks.

Children are welcome but must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times.

Dates

Sat 28 May

Tues 28 June

**Sat 2 July part of
National Meadows
Day Celebration)**

Tues 23 August

Tues 13 September

To book your place please contact
Stella Davis 07599398866
artwisestella@gmail.com

FACILITIES:

Compostable toilet, Parking



FOOD MUSEUM

Every Garden Matters

How to Save the World One Garden at a Time

9 April - 8 October 2022

Co-curated exhibition with
Stowmarket Eco Future Group

Suffolk
County Council

Drawings from pupils at Trinity
CEVAP School, Stowmarket

foodmuseum.org.uk

Food Museum, Crowe
Street, Stowmarket
IP14 1DL



Ixworth Methodist Chapel

Tigger says

**‘WELCOME to COFFEE and CHAT
Tuesdays 10am to 11.30am**

**We have re-started our Coffee Mornings and
there is a happy buzz about the place again on
Tuesday mornings.**

**We have the usual village support and
everyone is glad to be back.**

**We’d welcome you, too, if you’d like to join
us.**



'Footprints on the earth'

**Ascension Day Prayer Walk
Thursday 26th May**

Foxearth Meadows Nature Reserve

**Bring your own picnic and meet from 6pm
Prayer walk from 7.30pm**



**Private dwellings postcode CO10 7HZ
What 3 words - charm dragonfly townhouse**

Compostable toilet & parking available

"Caring for God's Earth"

Join us for an
Open Air Service
at
Foxearth Meadows
Nature Reserve

Sunday, 8 May 2022 at 3.00 pm

We are delighted to welcome as our speaker
ANDY ATKINS (CEO of A Rocha UK).

Andy worked for Tearfund in campaigning and as
CEO of Friends of the Earth before taking on his role
at A Rocha UK.



For comfort, please bring a chair or rug. We will be serving
light refreshments and invite people to come early to enjoy
the reserve or stay afterwards for a guided walk.

All are welcome.

FOXEARH MEADOWS NATURE RESERVE

The reserve is about a mile north of Foxearth village, between the River Stour
and the lane north-west of Constable's Farm and Constable's Barn
(private dwellings with postcode CO10 7HZ).

From Long Melford travelling west towards Clare (A1092), turn first left after GCB Cocoa
(formerly Philips Avert), signposted 'Pentlow Road'. Then take the next left (signposted 'Liston')
and the reserve is about 200 metres on the left.

Car sharing would be helpful. On site: ✓Car park ✓Composting toilet

Follow 'what3words':
charm.dragonfly.townhouse
Grid Ref. TL 8331 4598

For further information, contact Andy Jowitt
07584 751093 / andy.jowitt@arocha.org

arocha.org/events



You are warmly invited to...

C.A.M.E.O
(COME AND MEET EACH OTHER)

When?

The First Wednesday of each month
2.30pm

Where?

The Methodist Church
Northumberland Avenue
IP32 6NA

**ALL
ARE
WELCOME**



~ FREE PARKING ~ FULLY ACCESSIBLE BUILDING ~



Join us at
Christchurch
Needham Market

COFFEE MORNING

with

CAKE STALL

Books and Puzzles

Every 2nd Saturday

10am – 12noon

All welcome



You will learn new skills

In order to make-do and mend, you often need to have various skills from being able to darn socks and sew on buttons, to knowing how to use a power drill or rewire a plug. Obviously, most of us do not know how to do many of these things, but by resolving to fix one thing instead of tossing them out, we will have an incentive to learn, and once we have those skills, we can be more self-sufficient and potentially even use those skills to make money by mending things for others.

It can be a great hobby

When you commit to throwing out fewer things, and instead of fixing them, then you have a ready-made hobby to keep you occupied. Hobbies have been shown to lower stress levels, reduce instances of depression and give us more purpose in life, so this particular benefit of the make-do and mend attitude to life cannot be understated.

You can make money

Another great benefit of making-do and mending things is that you can buy up old broken things, fix them and then sell them on for a profit. This process is often known as upcycling and it is very popular right now due to environmental concerns, so it could be a great sideline for you. As you can see, make-do and mend is more than a quaint mantra – it is a very practical, very beneficial way of life for many people who want to save money, learn new skills and live a simpler life.



*Upcycled chair from
pallets*

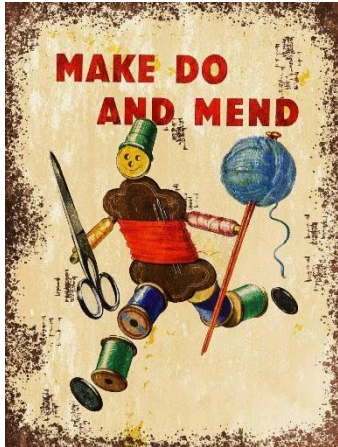
For upcycling/make do and mend inspiration please visit the websites below:

<https://pagouropcycle.com/blogs/news/101-upcycling-ideas-the-ultimate-list>

<https://www.pillarboxblue.com/50-cool-upcycling-ideas-for-the-garden/>

Make-do and mend for the environment

Articles from <https://www.simplisticallyliving.com/the-benefits-of-make-do-and-mend/>



Make-do and mend is the practice of fixing things and patching them up instead of tossing them in the trash and replacing them with brand new things.

The make-do and mend mentality has its roots in wartime Britain where citizens were encouraged to be frugal and make use of the things they already had due to rationing and the lack of new goods. However, it is just as applicable to modern life where we are all trying to do our bit for the climate crisis and save money as prices rise.

Why should you adopt the make-do and mend mantra in your own life? Here are some major benefits to consider:

It will save you money

One of the biggest benefits of making do and mending what you can is that it will inevitably save you money. If, for example, you find the parts you need to fix your leaf blower, you will see that buying them is cheaper than buying a new leaf blower, which means more money in your pocket. It's not always cheaper to make-do and mend, but often it is, and if you do just that, the savings will start rolling in.

It's great for the environment

There is no denying that, if you can fix up a broken old appliance or pair of shoes, instead of tossing them in the trash and buying a brand new paint, your impact on the environment will be much lower. You will have a smaller carbon footprint and you can feel great about your choices.

Friday 13th May

12.1. – 1.30

Chapel Hall, Old Newton

in support of Christian Aid



*Come and join us to enjoy a two course lunch
with tea or coffee afterwards.*

*This month we are supporting Christian Aid in
its humanitarian work in areas of conflict or
deprivation in the world including Ukraine.
We are asking for donations for the charity.*

TUESDAY, 17th May

10.45 – 12 noon, Old Newton Chapel

Do join us for coffee and nibbles with lively chat – a great opportunity for meeting up with old friends and making new ones. We'd love to see you.

Bury St Edmund's Circuit Day with Lay Community of St Benedict

The date for this Circuit event is the **Saturday 15th October** where we shall explore the life and times of St Benedict and his spirituality. The Lay Community of St Benedict have been invited to join us and will speak on St Benedict – his life & vision and the new monasticism. Workshops are planned, although not finalised: -

Lectio Divina, Art, Writing, Music (for ecumenical Eucharist)



Eco Update from the Circuit Office

At the last circuit meeting in March a new Draft Eco Policy was considered and will be continued to be worked upon. All members within the circuit need to consider how we can obtain eco awards by looking at Ministers/Preachers travel, environmental performances of the manse and commitment to reducing carbon emissions.

In the Circuit office we have begun purchasing 100% recycled, carbon neutral paper along with only printing when necessary. The Circuit Newsletters are emailed along with other relevant fliers/documents and information with only a limited number printed. The Circuit Newsletter will continue to look at environmental issues and encourage circuit members to participate in reducing their personal carbon emissions/footprint via the 'go green challenge'.



This month we are looking at the age-old principles of 'make do and mend' and 'upcycling'. With the cost of living rising and the impact of 'fast fashion', plastic packaging and our throwaway culture costing the environment dearly it's time to put our skills to the test! What's more, it can be an activity which has a very positive impact on our mental health.

This may be an opportunity to start a local church group where you may be able to teach each other useful skills, work as a team or simply feel like you are 'doing your bit'. Can you pass on your DIY skills, to save someone buying something new? Show someone how to cook a simple meal, so they don't need to buy a prepacked dinner? Are you able to show someone how to mend a hole in their clothing, saving the item from landfill? Or perhaps you can bring your gardening skills to others, saving the need for trips to supermarkets and plastic packaging? Don't assume that those in your community or family know how to do these things – it's important to pass your skills on!

Lifestyles

At the January 2022 meeting of the Methodist Council, the aim of encouraging Methodist members and adherents to reduce their carbon footprints, particularly via the three key areas of energy, travel and diet (the biggest contributors to individual emissions) will be proposed.

Updates and resources on living sustainably will be produced during the course of 2022.

Lifestyles: Resources already available

The Joint Public Issues Team (JPIT) have produced a number of resources and campaigns to help get you thinking:

Ethical shopping

Commitments to live sustainably - From 2019-2020, JPIT ran Living Lent which challenged individuals to sign up to one of six different commitments for creation. These include giving up single-use plastics, shopping locally, and reducing electricity consumption by 10%. It invited participants to recognise that changing our climate is not just an activity, but a lifestyle, by offering theological reflections and community. You can find the resource [here](#).

Timescales and working arrangements

The task group is currently working on:

Creating of a draft of the Action for Hope Plan that will be submitted to the April 2022 Methodist Council for approval before final publication in May.

Identifying how to measure progress against the aims and ensure that measuring is undertaken, particularly with reference to the Annual Property Checklist.

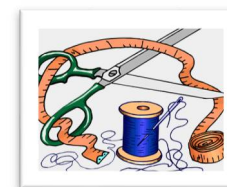
Creating resources and guidance to support progress against the aims, particularly building on resources already available via A Rocha, the Climate Coalition, JPIT and the Methodist website.

Meeting with representatives from the Central Finance Board, Chapel Aid, Methodist Insurance and the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes to explore options for green funding,

Supporting the districts and the Connexional Team in using the Plan and associated resources in their context, particularly encouraging Districts to incorporate progress towards net zero carbon emissions into their District Mission Plan.

We will keep you updated on plans and resources as they develop.

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-work/our-work-in-britain/environment-and-climate-change/action-for-hope/>



CRAFT CIRCLE

HELD MONTHLY AT OLD NEWTON CHAPEL

We meet every third Wednesday in the month

from 2:00 – 4:00p.m.

Our next meeting will be on 18th May 2022 when we will be working together on a banner to celebrate the

Queen's Jubilee.

Everybody is welcome to bring their own project to work on as well.

Our craft group has been meeting since 2016 and we are a friendly group of people who love to craft and enjoy sharing their knowledge and simply being together.

We love to welcome new members and the group is planning some exciting activities for 2022. The members pay £2.00 for tea and coffee per session and that funds our refreshments and helps to pay for demonstrations and treats like the summer strawberry tea in June.

GUARDIANS & TIDDLERS

New!

Baby & Toddler Group
Newborn - Preschool

£1
PER
FAMILY

STARTING ON
THURS 28TH APRIL
1PM - 3PM



The Methodist Church
Northumberland Avenue
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 6NA



Enquiries:

northumberlandtiddlers@outlook.com

guidance on listed buildings, new property projects and use of other fuel sources.

Much has already been achieved in recent years, notably in our investment policies and noting that the electricity used at Methodist Central House in London is from 100% renewable sources.

Assets: Advice already available

Historic buildings

Sustainable building projects

Reduction of carbon emissions from church buildings including guidance for small, medium and large churches on lighting, insulation, energy management and more, with accompanying case studies

Green energy purchasing, consumables, heating, campaigning, encouraging wildlife

Equipping children and young people for climate action

Wisdom

The main resource available is [Hope in God's Future](#). This was last updated in 2020 but it is planned that a further update will be issued in 2023. The report offers not just a statement on our approach to climate change but resources including for small group reflection and whole-church conversation.

The resource highlights the goodness and interconnectedness of all God has made and this together with the theology and practice of good stewardship informs much of the work of the Connexion from Oversight and Trusteeship, to the emphasis of the JDS strategy on the need for a fairer approach to Christian life together.

Wisdom: Resources already available

Hope in God's Future helps individuals and local groups to understand the position of the Church on climate change, become aware of a vital connections between climate change and the Christian faith, transform lifestyles through studying, praying and acting on the issues, and inspire others in the community to live in harmony with the whole of creation. The study guide offers questions to get you thinking, ideas for creative activities, prayers and liturgy, help and advice for leaders, and suggestions for group sessions. You can download your copy [here](#).

[God's World, Our Home](#) is a resource for children and youth groups, to equip them for climate action

The Revd Simon Topping has written a series of six blogs looking at the theology of climate justice. Find them [here](#).

Further resources are available [here](#).

Your church caring for God's Earth

[Eco Church - An A Rocha UK Project](#)

[Eco Circuit - Bury St Edmunds Methodist Circuit](#)

Action for Hope – from The Methodist Website

The Methodist Church has set an aspirational target of becoming a net zero carbon emissions church by 2030. Many districts, circuits and churches have already begun to work towards net zero goals, an Eco District award, or other aims in caring for creation.

To support this journey it was agreed at the Methodist Conference in 2020 that to enable the diversity of our church to fully engage, we needed to develop a range of key partnerships along the way.

With the endorsement of the Conference, we are working with **Faith Invest** who run the Faith Plans programme which help faiths to use their assets, investments and influence to drive practical action to benefit people and the planet.

The programme involves each religious group developing a long-term action plan to determine how they will manage their assets and resources over the next seven to ten years. We are calling our plan Our areas of focus

Action for Hope

The Methodist Church has decided to initially focus on three key areas:

Faith-consistent use of assets – including investments, purchasing power, buildings and land.

Wisdom – including theology, liturgies and prayer.

Lifestyles – including traditions of simple living.

In autumn 2021, a task group of Connexional Team members was appointed to take the work forward.

Assets

We have committed that by 2030 all travel, electricity and gas directly funded by the Church will have net zero emissions. More detail around these aims, along with guidance and resources to support work, will be produced, in collaboration with districts and circuits, in early 2022.

We will produce resources to support members and church leaders to reduce carbon emissions related to Methodist properties and activities as well as

Pilgrimage of Song for Abbey 1000 Celebrations

People are encouraged to join a Pilgrimage of Song as part of the Abbey 1000 celebrations in Bury St Edmunds this spring. The event runs from 9.30 am to 9.00 pm on Saturday May 14 2022 and involves a 7-mile walking route along the old Abbot's Way, from Chevington to St Edmundsbury Cathedral, singing a short service at churches along the way.

The day will start with a workshop at which attendees will learn the music repertoire for the day. There will be a variety of music styles, with a mix of unison singing and some 4-part harmony - some easy, some a little more challenging, but certainly something for everyone. The walk to the Cathedral then begins, with the group calling at churches and singing a short service in each. Once arrived at the Cathedral, the group will join Abiding Wisdom, also happening on 14 May. This event brings Benedictines from across the UK and on arrival, the Pilgrimage of Song group will join for a final service, a meal together, and a live Zoom talk on Benedictine Wisdom, with Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury. This Richard Hubbard, St Edmundsbury & Ipswich Music Development Director, said, "Pilgrimages of Song make a wonderful day out – you can enjoy fresh air, exercise and great conversations along the way, as well as engaging with God through music in Suffolk's beautiful local churches."

Those who can't walk the whole route may make other arrangements for travel between churches. There is a requested donation of £15 per person (under 18s free). The meal is an optional extra priced at £17.60. This is a joint event between the cathedral and Cantus Firmus Trust. Advance booking is essential at www.cantusfirmus.org.uk - booking closes at 9am on Friday 6 May.

The Pilgrimage of Song is part of the Abbey1000 series of events to mark the millennium of the founding of the Abbey of St Edmund. The Abbey 1000 Group (which includes St Edmundsbury Cathedral) are coordinating abbey 1000 celebrations, alongside The Abbey of St Edmund Heritage Partnership.

Jubilee Lunch



We are planning a special lunch on

Friday 10th June

as our contribution to the celebrations
for Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee.

It will be held in the Chapel Hall, Old Newton
starting at 12.15.

More details next month.

