



Kendal **Methodist** Circuit

GOOD NEWS FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT, as shared at June's Circuit Meeting.

At the recent Circuit meeting representatives were invited to share what has been going on in their churches.

Stricklandgate: The church is operating a prayer chain supporting the regular pastoral work that takes place. The Tuesday lunch club is hopefully being re-instated on a slightly reduced basis - not as a 3 course meal. Volunteers are being sought. The church is preparing for its General Church Meeting. Melanie is being kept very busy, perhaps too busy?

Arnside: Plans are well underway to set up a new Messy Church in conjunction with the Parish Church, which has good links with the primary school. First session will take place in August as a trial run with a launch happening in September. Thanks expressed to Peter Gregson from Kirkby Lonsdale for his advice and encouragement.

Levens: It is exciting to be using the refurbished building and there are a small team of people looking at plans to start the luncheon club. The church hopes to open a 'coffee shop' in the building on a day when the Post Office is operating from the premises. A very inspiring themed preach over 4 Sundays, based on The Methodist Way of Life, has taken place. Amanda Deaville [Circuit Steward who attends the Levens Church Council meetings] spoke of how amazing the building now looks and how encouraged she was by the enthusiasm shown by the church to 'get going' with activities.

Kirkby Lonsdale: The ecumenical Holy Week reflections and then open air services on Good Friday and Easter Sunday had been led by Rev James Tebbutt, Chair of District. The ecumenical Open Air service of Holy Communion on the Glebe Field on Easter Sunday had been particularly well attended and it had been good to be able to sing. Various church groups were gradually meeting or preparing to meet on church premises.

Sandylands: Messy Church, Sunday Club and Girls Brigade are all meeting and the church is open for worship. Some bookings have re-started and more groups will be re-launching in September. Thanks expressed to Helen Ainsworth and Bill Broekhuizen, part of the property team, for their encouragement and hard work in getting all the paperwork and necessary procedures/precautions in place. The church recently held a cake stall to raise funds for Christian Aid. Along with other donations they were able to give £946 to the charity. Thank you to all who took part.

Circuit: The circuit leadership team have been meeting over the last few months to discuss the on-going strategical plans for the circuit for the next 2, 5 and 10 years. Covid has meant that much has changed and yet the overarching Priorities are still relevant and fit for purpose. The PfA's have been updated slightly to reflect the changing times; and an interim document has been produced recognising all that the churches have been through and exploring how the circuit can offer support. A letter and summary of the update added to each of the Priorities is being produced and will be circulated to all in our churches over the next few weeks. The circuit stewards are arranging 3 sectional meetings with church members to find out what is happening / how things are going in each section/ church. These are planned for the end of August and beginning of September.

The meeting paused for prayer, giving thanks for all that is happening around the circuit.