



Kendal **Methodist** Circuit

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

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

Levens: It has been very exciting to see the refurbished building being used by the village shop, whilst work was going on in their own premises; the coffee shop run by the church operating alongside the PO outreach service; NSPCC used the building for an information event and during this time members of the congregation offered support and chat outside the building as people were coming and going. The vision of how the building could be used after its refurbishment is being realised.

Arnside: Held a practice 'messy Church session in August for church members and friends and then their first actual session last week with 4 families and 9 children present. It has been really good to work together with friends from the Anglican Church on this joint venture. The joint Covenant service took place last Sunday which was well attended by both Methodists and Anglicans.

Kirkby Lonsdale: The church will be hosting a class from the local primary school whilst building work is being done at school. Both church groups and outside groups are starting to return to the building. Messy Church continues. It has also been good to use the outside spaces, especially over the summer as groups started to re-connect – the garden at the Methodist Church and the space around St Marys. A labyrinth was laid out in St Mary's churchyard, which was well used by locals and visitors. There is also a bee trail around the churchyard. Muddy church is planned for October.

Stricklandgate: Groups are returning to use the hall, including a number of choirs. Plans for the simplified Tuesday lunch club continue to progress. It will be served after the Tuesday morning Communion service and the food will be prepared by a catering firm offsite and bought in by the church.

Sandylands: Most of the groups are re-starting/ returning to church. It's a busy time, and good to see people wanting to come out and meet together.

Circuit: We have someone who will be requesting a Note to preach at the next Local Preacher and Worship Leader meeting. Another person is exploring becoming a worship leader in their church. The three listening sessions, organised as part of the circuit's Priorities for Action update, have taken place. These sessions were a great opportunity to continue conversations between the circuit stewards and congregations; to hear hopes and concerns and for the circuit to offer support and encouragement wherever possible.

Having followed the stationing procedures laid down by Connexion the circuit is very pleased that Rev Wendy Thornton will continue to serve as a presbyter in the circuit for the next five years.