



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

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

Kirkby Lonsdale: The congregation have been worshipping in the hall over the winter months as it is warmer and more economical to heat. A few new families are regularly coming to worship so the Sunday Club have a joyful and busy time together. The churches are still producing the ecumenical worship service on You Tube for those not able to get to church. It is much valued and thanks goes to the ministers, local preachers and worship leaders who lead worship in all its forms. Messy Church continues to go well. Meet 2 Eat have extended their hours to provide a warm space at coffee time before lunch is served. 20+ people regularly attend. The Family Project leader and volunteers do an incredible amount of work with schools and engaging with children and families in the community. See & Know, supporting Mum's and Dad's with under 5's, has up to 30 attending – the building is very busy Thursday morning! Ecumenical relationships continue to flourish. Whilst KLMC had issues with the drains the congregation were warmly welcomed to join St Mary's. Bishop Rob will be leading Holy week reflections; a Passover meal is planned and the usual open air service in the market square will take place on Good Friday. Room bookings are good with community groups in most days; a vital part of the church's witness to the community and the income helps the church. The property team are exploring the possibility of installing solar panels.

Arnside: Delighted with the way Ti has settled in to his ministry in the area. His help and support in exploring ways of worshipping; and with grant applications has been really appreciated. Ecumenically it is great to see Ti, Hannah, the new Curate and Andrew the Priest in Charge working so well together. A Light Party was held at the school last year and recently a Pancake Party. There were joint services held at Christmas time, as well as a successful Charity Sale. Messy Church is going well. The Kent Estuary Mission Community have organised the Lent Groups this year. The church refurbishment is underway with money being raised from the congregation and a grant from TMCP. Hopefully further grants will allow phase two to go ahead. The new energy contract for church has meant a 166% increase in costs. During the refurbishment chairs and tables have been set out at the back of church and worshippers sat at the front. This has worked well and café church will be held on Sunday. To mark the end of one year of war in Ukraine a special service was held. Arnside is host to a number of Ukrainian families who have found a welcome in the church. It was a very moving service with words and music in English and Ukrainian.

Sandylands: The Warm Spaces and Drop in sessions continue to be popular. In conjunction with the Beacon churches Sandylands is running a Bible course using Bible Society material with roughly 35 people attending. The Newcomers Tea – where people/families that are new to the church can come and find out what is on offer - was a great success. There is a new house group for people aged 20-30. A Coronation Tea is being planned. The new solar panels are generating electricity and saving the church money. The regular 4C's monthly coffee morning continues to raise money for charity.

Storth: The church is pleased that 2 new musicians have joined the congregation and that it is wonderful to have organists playing rather than rely on CDs. It is also a blessing to have a Worship Leader in the church using her gifts and talents in worship. The regular coffee morning continues to welcome people from all over the village.



Kendal **Methodist** Circuit

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

Stricklandgate: It's great to now have the lay pastoral worker in post and getting in touch with elderly members of the congregation. The Thursday afternoon quiet space led by Jeff Thomas and Anne Pater is very much appreciated by all who attend. Tuesday Communion has re-started and will run until Easter, when it will be re-evaluated. The three Fellowship Groups continue to meet. A new couple from Wainwright Court have been coming to services, along with another new couple. Lots of people use the building and the Property Secretary does a brilliant job keeping in regular contact with them all.

Cowan Bridge / Barbon: It is a joy that the 2 church communities can continue to worship together, each respecting the other's traditions. The joint congregation have been exploring the question "What does working out our Christian presence in this village look like?" One result of this conversation is a monthly Coffee, Cake and Chat session is being held. There were 20 people at the first session, very encouraging.

MHUB/ M:OASIS [the old Methodist Church in Milnthorpe]: The worshipping community of M:OASIS meet two or three times a quarter at 2pm and would love to have visitors join them. The next service takes place on March 26th.

The coffee and bookshop is open each Friday morning from 9:30 until 12 noon. Please come along for a cappuccino, latte or Americano coffee or a cup of Lakeland tea and browse through the books on offer.

An open meeting to which everyone is invited will be held on May 10th when the future of MHUB will be discussed.

Circuit: The circuit is delighted to have Rev Tiras Dainty-Share working as a probationary presbyter alongside the churches in Arnside, Levens, Storth and M:OASIS at Milnthorpe. It is very encouraging to hear and see how well he has settled into his ministry amongst us. The sale of the chapels at Cowan Bridge and Fellside is progressing and we thank all those involved in the process. It is good to have Rev Wendy back amongst us and her churches are thanked for their support for her and Duncan. Kendal Circuit will be hosting the Cumbria Methodist Synod on Saturday April 22nd. We will need some help running the event, which will be held at Stricklandgate Methodist Church.

Several of our Local Preachers will be receiving Long Service certificates in May. Stuart Helliwell and Kelsall Huddleston have been preaching for 60 years, June Smedley who recently moved into the circuit, has preached for 50 years and Barbara Fryers for 40 years. We thank them for their prayerful, faithful service over this time.