



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.

Circuit: We are delighted that, subject to Conference, Rev Ti Dainty Share will be continuing his probationary period with us next year. Thank you to everyone who contributed to a successful Synod in April, preparing rooms, baking, serving refreshments, hosting, and leading worship. The Easter Offering service held at Levens was a beautiful yet challenging service. Thanks expressed to all who took part. Long service certificates have been awarded to the following Local Preachers:- S Helliwell (60 years), K Huddleston (60 years), Mrs. J Smedley (50 years) and Mrs. B Fryers (40 years). We thank them for the way they have responded to God's call to preach and lead worship for so many years.

Arnside: Are now using their newly refurbished hall and welcoming back users. Messy Church continues to grow and Arnside are back offering a range of different services at different times. Working together ecumenically, the churches are hosting 'The Big Party' later this month. In a new collaboration between the Parish Council, Westmorland Council, the local doctor's surgery, and church leaders the people of Arnside are joining together in a community conversation to explore how the health and wellbeing of Arnside residents can be improved. The hope is to hear local people's concerns and how we as churches, GPs and councillors can respond in helpful and valued ways. From Arnside Christians Together perspective we are also seeking to start a Healthy Healing Hub as a result of these conversations where people can explore being healthy and well from a spiritual and Christian perspective.

Kirkby Lonsdale: The church and local congregations continue to pray and offer support to Wendy and Duncan. She is missed. A big 'thank you' goes to the Stewards who are working hard providing leadership in her absence. Also, thanks to the Rainbow Team who have very kindly stepped in and presided at the services that require a Minister We praise God for the ecumenical relationships in the town. All our regular groups continue to flourish. Having appealed for funding the churches are delighted to be in a position to extend Lol's contract, [Family Project Leader], until 31st December 2024.

Levens: Rejoices that so much good ecumenical work goes on in the village. They have recently set up a couple of singing groups, Levens Warblers, run in conjunction with Dignity in Dementia, and Levens Little Larks, a toddler singing group. After much work, the congregation are looking forward to opening the garden as a place of quietness and peace, as well as a place to enjoy a drink and a chat. Their Coronation Acts of Kindness are continuing. Levens need an examiner for their accounts – can anyone in the circuit help? Speak to Chris Palmer if you can.

Stricklandgate: The Pastoral Worker has completed her 6 month trial period and the church is really glad to see how well she has fitted in and the relationships she is developing. Stricklandgate, too, struggles to fill vacancies but were pleased recently to appoint a new treasurer. Their current treasurer will continue as book-keeper. The church celebrated the Coronation with a well-attended afternoon tea. There are 5 new members of the congregation, which is encouraging. The CAP centre continues its work supporting those struggling with debt. Stricklandgate's congregation may be grey-haired but are a very loving and caring group of people. They are mindful they need to consider the future of the church but feel they have a lot to be thankful for.



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Sandylands: The church has hosted a Coronation lunch, which was open to all the community; and a Big Breakfast / hunger lunch for Christian Aid, which raised over £800. A working party got together and repainted the Youth Zone. The regular 4C's monthly coffee morning continues to provide a place for people to come together for a drink cake and chat and also raise money for charity. The church is hoping to build on the successful Bible course run earlier in the year in conjunction with Stricklandgate and St Oswalds, Burneside. The church asks for prayer for:- more, musicians; the possibility of another Alpha course; people to come forward to fill a number of vacant positions.

Cowan Bridge/Barbon: The whole church congregation enjoys Methodist Services and Methodist preachers when the circuit can offer them. 'What does a Christian presence in Barbon look like' is on the agenda of every church meeting. As a response to this, the church offers a monthly Coffee, cake and chat' in the village hall on the last Monday afternoon of the month. Monies raised are going to charity.

District: Following Rev James Tebbutt's visit to the Argentinian Methodist Assembly last November the District will be welcoming Bishop Americo from Argentina who will first be attending Conference then coming to Cumbria. He is accompanied by Revd Maria Esther Andersen who will be travelling around Cumbria whilst he is at Conference and on Wednesday 28th June will be visiting our circuit. She will drop in at Levens Coffee shop and move on to spend some time with the KEY Project youngsters, listening to the different ways they are engaging in cross-generational work and hear some of their stories.