



Kendal **Methodist** Circuit

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

Circuit news: Rev & Mrs David Crouchley have moved into the circuit. David is a supernumerary minister who was recently stationed in Sedbergh. They are worshipping at Kirkby Lonsdale and we are pleased to welcome them into the Kendal circuit. Rev & Mrs Bill Riley, who have lived in Kendal and worshipped amongst us for a long time, have moved to Burnley to be nearer family. The circuit stewards are very pleased to announce Stephen Hitchcock has agreed to become a circuit steward and look forward to all that he will bring to the leadership team.

Storth: A new couple have moved into the village and are attending Storth Village church. It is a real blessing to be part of a growing ecumenical fellowship. Thanks was expressed to all the clergy and lay leaders of worship from both the both Methodist Church and the Church of England. On the first Sunday evening of the month there is a new 'Singing from the heart' service [similar to Songs of Praise] which has attracted people who don't normally attend a Sunday morning service. Open the Book is restarting once a fortnight in the village primary school. It is also good to see the Kent Estuary Mission Community moving forward.

Arnside: The hall refurbishment is complete and appreciated by all who use the building. Busy Bees, the toddler group re-started after a break and some new Mums and toddlers are attending. There were 17 youngsters and families at Messy this month, which is really encouraging. There was a wedding at Arnside this month – the couple have been attending the church for a few months and it was great to celebrate their special day with them. Arnside Churches Together [ACT's] is planning a follow up to the Alpha course and the Harvest supper will be taking place shortly.

Barbon/Cowan Bridge: Coffee, cake and chat in the village hall is thriving - people come early and stay on. The church pays for the hall hire. Donations can be made to cover refreshments and people are very generous. This money will be given to charity at Christmas. The sale of the chapel building at Cowan Bridge has now been completed.

Kirkby Lonsdale: The bi-monthly Messy Church took place last week with some new families attending. About 30 people were fed, which is slightly on the low side, but September can be a tricky month. It is good to see new families in church with children coming to Sunday Club. Some parents are now helping run the sessions. The church has seen lots of visitors on a Sunday morning over the summer. Hall bookings are good, with lots of young people's groups meeting on the premises. Meet to Eat has restarted after a summer break. The church is grateful for the support Rev Richard Snow and Rev Anne Pettifor have given whilst Rev Wendy Thornton has been recovering.

Levens: The Community Garden is complete with a stone labyrinth. The stone had been brought into the garden but the church members were unsure how they would manage to make it. 4 young people turned up at a service one Sunday morning and stayed to build the labyrinth – an answer to prayer. 2 pews from Cowan Bridge are now part of the community garden. The lunch club, run by the church and people in the community, is much appreciated, as is the afternoon Knit and Natter sessions.

Stricklandgate: The church is hoping to re-run the successful evening Bible course during the daytime this autumn. A membership class may also be run in the coming months. A new couple



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are attending on a Sunday morning, one of whom plays the guitar. The Pastoral Worker is proving to be a real blessing as a number of the church fellowship is currently unwell. It is hoped that a mid-week Communion service will be held during Advent.

Sandylands: There are a number of families with pre-school and primary aged children coming to church, which is a blessing. It's good to see them supporting each other. Drop-in has restarted after the summer; Messy never stopped! The Girls Brigade has received an invitation for a small number of the brigade to attend the Service of Remembrance in London this year. Some funds from the Circuit Education and Youth fund have helped with accommodation costs.