

WOODSIDE AVENUE METHODIST CHURCH
COVENTRY, CV3 6BE
14th September 2025

Our service today is on the Circuit Plan as 'Local Arrangements'.
We are delighted to welcome Ray Williscroft to take part in this service.

MESSY CHURCH We welcome our children back to Messy Church after the summer break. We wish them lots of fun in their continued learning of our Christian faith, making new friends along the way.

WOODSIDE AVENUE CHURCH FELLOWSHIP: We enjoyed our "Last Night of the Proms" afternoon last Tuesday, listening to parts of a recording of the 100th season, joining in with the popular songs whilst waving our flags, and learning the history of this traditional festival.
Our next gathering is on **Tuesday, 23rd September, at 2pm**, at the Church. We will be enjoying a talk about **Guide Dogs** and all the hard work involved in the breeding, puppy raising and training of them for the valuable assistance work they do. **Who were the first guide dogs?** Come and find out and enjoy a refreshing cup of tea and biscuits.

MONTHLY COFFEE MORNINGS : The coffee morning last Saturday at the home of Marjorie Davies raised £160 for Mission in Britain Fund. Many thanks to all who contributed it was a lovely morning spent in the garden and the sun shone upon us.

Our next Coffee Morning is on **Saturday 4th October**, from 10.30am to 12 noon at the Church. It will be in aid of **Guide Dogs** - the training of these valuable assistance dogs is very expensive and we would like to raise as much money as possible. Make a note of the date, come and join us and bring your friends.

METHODIST PRAYER HANDBOOK: The new edition of the Methodist Prayer Handbook is now available at the back of the church. This includes prayers for every day of the month from all over the world where a Methodist presence is felt. Entitled "Our Story Our Song" it is a valuable resource for those of us find prayer easy and for those of us that do not. Well worth the money at £5.00. Please place in the envelope provided.

STRUCTURAL REPAIRS, RE-DECORATION AND CARPETS : Once again, thank you for the gifts and loans in support of the project. We haven't reached the total yet, so if you can, please make your gift or loan as soon as possible. Your gift can be made 'on-line' to
Woodside Avenue Methodist Church 40-52-40 00024640 . As a church and community, the response is heartwarming. *Ken*

PARISH NURSING NEWS

REFRESH is on Tuesday at 1.30: Please do pop in for a cuppa and bring a neighbour or friend or offer a lift to someone less able. The quiet reflective space will not be in action this week due to the chaos of the number one vestry as Judy, Lorraine and I will be trying to organise the lovely new cupboards between Refresh and meetings.

Wednesday is an all-day Parish Nursing Study day, right through to the evening. I may have to dip in and out of it – we will see.

Some of you may be concerned about the recent hospital league tables. Please remember they include such things as finances. Here is an excerpt of a CQC inspection at Coventry in March this year for the surgical dept.

We foundA strong safety culture was evident, where events were investigated, and learning was embedded to promote good practice. Good care and treatment was delivered in accordance with evidence-based practice, resulting in positive outcomes for patients. Staff were recognised for their kindness, compassion, and caring approach. The service was inclusive, ensuring that patients' individual needs and preferences were considered. Effective governance processes were operated by leaders, who used systems to manage performance efficiently.

The service did not meet NHS treatment standards due to the backlog caused by the COVID-19 pandemic across England. However, managers worked continuously to reduce waiting times and address the backlog, showing steady progress. The service collaborated with other healthcare professionals to ensure timely care, particularly for serious conditions requiring specialist input.

Most areas were graded good, and you can look at all areas on the CQC website

Saturday is **World Sepsis Day** . The importance of early diagnosis was really brought home to us by one of the mums at baby massage. She was unwell and pregnant and resisting family intervention to get her help. By the time she got to hospital she was rushed through and told if she had left it much longer, neither of them would have survived .

Guidance from the NHS website**Symptoms of sepsis**

Sepsis is life threatening. It can be hard to spotThere are lots of possible symptoms. They can be like symptoms of other conditions, including flu or a chest infection.If you think you or someone you look after has symptoms of sepsis, call 999 or go to A&E. Trust your instincts.

Immediate action required:Call 999 or go to A&E if:

A baby or young child has any of these symptoms of sepsis:

- blue, grey, pale or blotchy skin, lips or tongue – on brown or black skin, this may be easier to see on the palms of the hands or soles of the feet
- a rash that does not fade when you roll a glass over it, the same as meningitis
- difficulty breathing (you may notice grunting noises or their stomach sucking under their ribcage), breathlessness or breathing very fast
- a weak, high-pitched cry that's not like their normal cry
- not responding like they normally do, or not interested in feeding or normal activities
- being sleepier than normal or difficult to wake

They may not have all these symptoms.

Immediate action required: Call 999 or go to A&E if:

An adult or older child has any of these symptoms of sepsis:

- acting confused, slurred speech or not making sense
- blue, grey, pale or blotchy skin, lips or tongue – on brown or black skin, this may be easier to see on the palms of the hands or soles of the feet
- a rash that does not fade when you roll a glass over it, the same as meningitis
- difficulty breathing, breathlessness or breathing very fast

They may not have all these symptoms.

Find your nearest A&E

Do not drive to A&E. Ask someone to drive you or call 999 and ask for an ambulance.
Bring any medicines you take with you.

Urgent advice: Call 111 now if:

You, your child or someone you look after:

- feels very unwell or like there's something seriously wrong
- has not had a pee all day (for adults and older children) or in the last 12 hours (for babies and young children)
- keeps vomiting and cannot keep any food or milk down (for babies and young children)
- has swelling or pain around a cut or wound
- has a very high or low temperature, feels hot or cold to the touch, or is shivering

Do not worry if you're not sure if it's sepsis – it's still best to call 111. They can tell you what to do, arrange a phone call from a nurse or doctor, or call you an ambulance.

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DISTRICT AND CIRCUIT :

A lot is happening in the life of our District and Circuit. Our Birmingham District has now merged with the Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury District to become the West Midlands District, under the Chair, Rev Rachel Deigh.

SHAPE OF THE CIRCUIT MINISTRY from September 2026.

With the leaving of our minister, Rev Doreen, the Circuit is considering options for the future. Woodside stewards, along with stewards at Earlsdon and Radford/Holbrooks will be meeting with our Superintendent Minister, Rev Jill Marsh, on Sunday 21st September. Unfortunately, this may well be too late in respect of seeking another appointment for September 2026.

Our Church Council will meet on Tuesday 16th September at 6.45pm to consider our response to the Circuit meeting on the following day. As it stands at the moment, the Circuit Leadership Team does not recommend going into the stationing process for a successor to Rev Doreen. It is most important that all Church Council members attend and various exchanges of information will be shared in advance.

SAFEGUARDING

Following on from the notices last week about the increase in the district with the addition of the Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury district. This will affect the safeguarding with both Sue Holder and Stephanie Bradley moving office, this means both their email and phone number will be changed. At the moment we are still waiting for these.

All foundation and advanced courses will be run by Eventbrite training company.

It looks like all courses will be on line, but the district will pay the course fees.

We have no one to do the courses for this year, but some for 2026. I will contact each person needing to renew next year. I think very few courses will be face to face and if any are they will probably not be in Coventry.

BOOK LAUNCH: Please note our friend, Rev Clive Fowle's achievement in getting his book '**In spite of our differences**' published, about his ministry of mediation.

The launch will be on Saturday 4th October at Rugby Methodist Church at 2.30 pm. Please do join Clive, and some of his fellow peace-workers, if you can. We thank God for his ministry and for his work in this circuit too.

CHURCH FAMILY: Please continue to pray for those who would love to be able to join us in church but are unable to do so because of poor health or mobility and those who listen to the service on the telephone and/or watch the recorded service. With their permission, do keep us informed of any we may not be aware of who are in special need.

NEXT SUNDAY: Do join us for a service of Holy Communion, led by our own minister, Rev Doreen Koffie-Williams.

Our services are recorded and are available for viewing on our website later in the day and throughout the week. (woodsidemethodist.org.uk), also via the phone on 024 76932114.

If you would like anything included in the notices for next week and the rest of September please contact Jenny Holmes, email jen.holmes@gmx.com, Tel 024 76307539 or 07495652347