

1) A word from our Superintendent

Hello Church,
 Unless Christ opens our minds, we understand the Scriptures in terms of our contextual needs. We tend to apply them merely to our own realities. Interpreting the Scriptures in this way holds merit, after all. Otherwise, they are probably irrelevant to us. In Bible study, for example, we often ask each other what our understanding of a text is. Clearly, responses often resonate with past and prevailing dominant issues on our minds. This practice is fine and most times commendable.
 Even so, understanding the Scriptures simply from our personal realities limits the scope of God's revelation for humanity: communities, nations, and the church. We miss the big picture.
 The disciples, in their own contexts of fear and loss, could not comprehend that Christ fulfilled the prophecies of the Scriptures. Neither do they understand that their Lord would suffer, die, and rise from the dead on the 3rd day for the salvation of all. By opening their minds, Jesus outlined the breadth and depth of his mission, not purely for them, but the world. We all need a reference point, a teacher, to help us to make sense of personal issues and world events. I recommend the Scriptures as the reference point and Jesus as the mind-opener. As children turn to their parents, teachers, and carers with loads of questions, seeking undertaking of their worlds, likewise, as children of God it is imperative that we turn to Jesus to understand the Scriptures.
 Let us invite Jesus to open our minds with the gift of his Peace, in the Breaking of the Bread, the proximity of his presence, the power of the Spirit such that we may penetrate God's plan for his children, near and far, today and in days to come.

Marcus

4) Circuit Calendar of Events

Saturday 24th April 2021	Representative Synod
Monday 10th May 2021 at 7.30pm	City of Culture Open Meeting via Zoom
Thursday 13th May 2021 at 7.30pm	Ascension Day Service will be live and led by Rev'd Marcus Torchon at Woodside Avenue, Methodist Church, including communion. Due to Covid social distancing rules this service will be limited to 35 people. Those wishing to attend should contact Ken Holmes or Jenny to book in advance. If overwhelmed by those wishing to attend the service may be streamed.
Thursday 20th May 2021 at 7.00pm	District Testimony Service for Rev'd Doreen Koffie-Williams via Zoom
End of May to Sunday 4th July 2021	Student Presbyter - Rachael Moss will be shadowing Rev'd Marcus Torchon around the Circuit
Thursday 24th June to Thursday 1st July 2021	Methodist Conference in Birmingham
Sunday 27th June 2021 at 4pm	Ordination Service for Deacons at United Reform Church, Warwick Road, Coventry and also Ordination of Doreen Koffie-Williams at Shirley Methodist Church, West Midlands

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<p>2) Coventry & Nuneaton Circuit Church Project Application. For churches wishing to apply to the Model Trust Fund to support growth, please send MTF application forms</p>
<p>Dates for Churches to submit a Project Application.</p>
<p>Tuesday 13th July 2021 in readiness for Circuit Meeting</p>
<p>Thursday 23rd September 2021 in readiness for Circuit</p>
<p>Monday 24th January 2022 in readiness for Circuit</p>
<p>Friday 15th April 2022 in readiness for Circuit Meeting</p>

3) Evangelical Growth Action Plan of the Circuit: EGAP (Part 4)

"What's our Vision for Growth?"

- 1) Gracefully in prayer, spiritual disciplines, love, and faithfulness to pursue Jesus' vision, will and purpose (Acts 1:12-14)
- 2) Consciously in our advocacy for kindness & justice (Acts 4:32- 35)
- 3) Extravagantly in our generosity of time, treasure, and gifts (Acts 2:44-45)
- 4) Spiritually to perform deeds, signs, and wonders (Acts 2:43)
- 5) Wisely in our responsibility to appoint the right people, filled with the Holy Spirit, to the right ministries (Acts 1:20-25)
- 6) Confidently in our call to talk of God and tell the Story truthfully (Acts 3:11-25)
- 7) Increasingly in numerical strength (Acts 2:41)

5) News from around the Circuit

Bedworth Methodist Church

A few friends from our church gathered for a Good Friday Reflection following Covid safety guidelines. We began our reflection outside on our church steps for a few minutes led by Rev'd Keith Salter and Deacon Sheila Dawson, during which we read a short passage and placed the purple cloth and a crown of thorns on the Cross outside our church. We then went inside to share a time of quiet worship together,



leaving the Good Friday Cross outside for the folks of Bedworth to see and reflect on. On Easter Sunday morning we met together again and as we arrived, we placed flowers on the Cross to mark the Resurrection of Jesus and then went inside for a short Easter worship led by John Prickett. This was our first actual service since our 'non-singing' Christmas Carol service, so it was a double celebration, joy in being together and in the Resurrection of Christ our Saviour. The cross of flowers again bore witness of the Easter message to our local community.



Trinity Atherstone

We're pleased to report that repairs to the under-gallery ceilings at Trinity have been completed and we will be able to resume worship as and when we feel the time is right. In the meantime, we continue to worship via Zoom/telephone on Sunday mornings and a recording of the service is also always available for people unable to join us "live". We would like to thank our minister Rev. Dr Allan Smith and also lay preachers from the North Warwickshire Pastorate who lead us in these services. The "buddy" system of keeping in touch with members of our congregation continues. Prayer shawls and flowers are delivered where appropriate and of course in a socially distanced manner. Best wishes to all churches from Trinity and keep safe.

7) MWiB Information

Sad news was received about the death of Patricia Hughes, who was formerly a Connexional NetWork President. For more information on upcoming events and news please go to <https://mwib.org.uk/> If you would be interested in serving as a President for the Circuit regarding MWiB please get in contact with the Circuit Office.

The CLT and Bedworth Methodist are currently working on establishing a Circuit Office within Bedworth Methodist Church, we will keep you updated on the progress.

6) Circuit Churches reopened

Arley	Weekly
Central Hall	1st Sunday in May
Fillongley	Weekly
Nuneaton	Weekly
Meriden	2nd & 4th Sunday in May
Radford & Holbrooks	Weekly
Ryton	Fortnightly
Woodside	Weekly

We welcome Churches and individuals to offer prayer concerns, news items, inspirational poems, moving testimony (up to 200 words), or even a Bible puzzle or crossword to be included in the next Newsletter. Please send, by 10th May 2021, to the Circuit Office c/o Bedworth Methodist Church, Mill Street, Bedworth, CV12 8JZ, Email: office@covnunmethodist.org.uk, or Telephone: 07517693474

There are many Virtual activities happening across the Circuit: Prayer Meetings, Bible Study, Fellowship & Praise. If you would like to attend any of these, please contact the Minister.

Rev'd Marcus Torchon – 024 7673 4785 or 07722 488411

Rev'd Jane Braund – 016 7653 3737 or 07706 956070

Deacon Sheila Dawson – 024 7631 0707 or 07845 238921

Rev'd Doreen Koffie-Williams - 024 7671 3314 or 07534 453909

Rev'd Stephen Willey – 024 7625 2411 or 07599 011344

Deacon Sue Fry - 024 7631 7338

Rev'd Richard Wilde - 07971 218356

Rev'd Allan Smith - 024 7792 1338

Rev'd Keith Salter - 024 7634 5524

Rev'd Ali Massey - 07837 124509