



The Methodist Church

Glossop and Tameside Circuit

Ashton-under-Lyne, Glossop and Hyde & Denton

Circuit **Uniting** Newsletter

Issue **Two** April **2020**

Welcome to the second issue of this newsletter connecting our three Circuits as we move towards uniting together as **Glossop & Tameside** in September 2020.

On this page is a letter from Hazel Cook and Dave Hardman. On page 2 four more churches from our current Circuits are featured with a little bit of information about each one.

Dear friends

Our lives have changed dramatically during these weeks of lock down. Very quickly we have had to discover different ways of being church, in all circuits there has been an enormous effort to provide worship in a variety of different ways, to keep in touch with people pastorally, as well ensure our buildings are kept safe. We are acutely aware of those who have lost loved ones, those who face particularly hard times and those who are working in all kinds of ways on the front-line.

During these times our faith can be a strength, as well as helping us in our response to thinking about what is happening. We know life won't easily return to some kind of normality and we are aware also that there are huge lessons to learn and reflect on for



ourselves, for our church, for our society and the wider world.

Our three Circuits look to uniting in September to becoming the Glossop and Tameside Circuit and we are now back on track working toward this. We know that Methodist Conference will take place 'virtually' so the final permission for the merger will be given in the Summer. In order for this to happen the 3 Circuit Leadership Teams have drawn up a plan of action of things which need to be in place in order to be ready. There have been conversations and concerns about finance and these will no doubt continue in the coming weeks and months. Some of the things which relate to governance and the new Circuit structure and will be brought to the 3 Summer Circuit Meetings, which more than likely will take place via Zoom. For those not able to join in online, correspondence will be circulated by email and post.

In the conversations and plans we have had regarding the new Circuit the one thing that is paramount is the sense that we want to be mission driven, for people to be free to serve with their gifts and talents and various callings. A new Circuit gives us a once for all opportunity to be reshaped in the kind of

Church and Circuit that best suits the needs of the present age, to be led and open to God's challenge and guidance for us today.

It won't be easy and we won't get everything right first time. There will be a need to try again for the things that don't work out, but we are encouraged to go forward, despite lock down, with faith and courage, with a deep sense of being together, held in prayer and partnership with one another and the assurance of God's help, strength and life giving Spirit.

Blessings

Hazel and Dave

Shout to the North and the South Sing to the East and the West Jesus is Saviour to all Lord of Heaven and Earth

*'Shout to the North and the South'
from 'Men of Faith, rise up and sing'
Songs of Fellowship #921*

Martin Smith, Copyright © 1995 Curious Music UK

Contact details

www.ashtonunderlynemethodist.org.uk
admin@ashtonunderlynemethodist.org.uk

www.glossopmethodistchurches.org.uk

www.hydeanddentonmethodist.org.uk
admin@hydeanddentonmethodist.org.uk



50

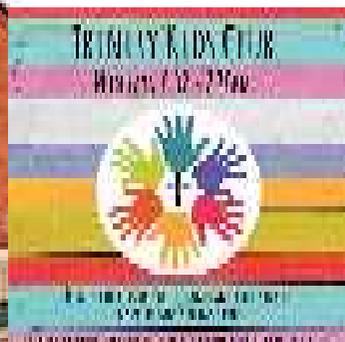
Waterloo Methodist Church celebrated their 50th Church Anniversary in 2018. Waterloo has very good links with the community, who use the building throughout the week.

West

Trinity Church Audenshaw is an LEP which makes this a wonderful congregation where the denomination lines are blurred but with a very clear focus on Christ. Three long established fellowships came together eleven years ago and worked hard to build a fresh a building warm and well appointed and links with the community. Mondays are especially vibrant with the morning Community Café open to all and the afternoon filled with children's groups and activities. Friday sees the youngest from the neighbourhood coming together with Mums and Tots.

Celebrations of birthdays, anniversaries, weddings and baptisms are regular features.

Of course, the week starts or/and ends with Worship every Sunday at 10:45am



Monthly some of the congregation worship in the afternoon at Joseph Jennings Court - sheltered accommodation, adjacent to the church. On a Wednesday morning there is a senior youth group, seeking to connect with the older members of our community. Waterloo appreciate when there are opportunities to engage in work with schools, such as the Experience Journeys, where the children come and explore a particular festival of the Christian tradition. Waterloo is in a mission partnership with Hurst Methodist Church and we worship together, usually once a month, alternating between the churches. All of this is underpinned in our weekly Sunday worship at 10:30am.



Gee Cross Methodist Church has a prominent place on Stockport Road so it is well placed in the local community. We are a small but committed congregation who enjoy being together not just on Sunday, but also for various other events and meetings. We know and care for one another well. On New Year's Eve we opened church and served hot drinks to people who wanted to have quiet prayer, light a candle or have a chat - a sign that the church is willing to have a go at something new even in small ways. The photo (right) is our well dressing in 2019. Notice that the angel's face is a mirror so when you look at it you see your face reflected back. What do you think that might mean.....?

South

North



Hadfield Methodist Church is small and friendly, providing a warm welcome for everyone. We're situated on Station Road in the centre of the town near the railway station and bus stop.

We seek to follow the calling of the Methodist Church to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out our discipleship in worship and mission in our community.

We have a variety of Sunday Services at 10:30am, with coffee following some of the services and a monthly evening service.

Thursday Coffee Mornings are preceded by Thursday Thought - a time for reflection and prayer. We run a Youth Club and a Toddler group on Fridays and also have a monthly luncheon for over 55's which is popular and always provides great value for money.

East

