

Accessing our Circuit Churches

In addition to circuit services, you can also access the following:

St David's Craig y Don Weekly worship is live-streamed, from 10am each Sunday via this link:

Conwy & Prestatyn Methodist Circuit Blog is accessed through this link: revbev.org.uk

and the Circuit website displays regular updates and information, found via this link:

<https://www.conwyprestatynmc.org.uk/>

Connexional resources which hold a multitude of resources, reflections, prayers and links to other live streamed services are found through this link: <https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/coronavirus/>

Conwy Food Bank Spyce Community Hub February 2022

Rhiw Road LL29 7TE 07305 197810

www.sanctuarytrust.org.uk conwyfoodbank@gmail.com facebook.com/conwyfoodbank

Opening hours Monday to Friday 10-2

Dear Supporters

We would once again like to show our appreciation for your continued support. The kindness shown by the Community is so encouraging, as there is still a huge call for help from people who are experiencing financial difficulties. As another year begins the figures keep rising, with a considerable increase over the last year.

The number of parcels issued in January was 166, 47 to families including 112 children, 102 to single people and 17 to couples.

We are so grateful to you all for your generosity

The Conwy Food Bank Team

Cytun

The latest Cytun Policy Bulletin is available on our Circuit Website.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee!

An invitation to all Methodist churches from "Hopetogether.org.uk"

Get out on your streets and celebrate - to go boldly and joyfully out into your neighbourhoods – to follow God into mission over the long weekend in June 2022.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, which is marked by an extended bank holiday weekend from Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June, is a chance to celebrate with your whole community.

It's a chance to meet people, to get to know them, to have fun together, to eat together, to laugh together, to celebrate community together.

It's a chance to extend a radical invitation to everyone in the neighbourhood, to include the lonely or isolated, to welcome people who get forgotten about or who don't join in very easily.

It's a chance to build relationships, share and hear stories, tell others you're a Christian, pray for your neighbours, be bold in your faith-sharing. This is a chance to join in with God's mission on the streets of your community.

Come along to **our webinar in February** to find out more and subscribe to the **Evangelism and Growth newsletter** for further updates.

Here's the challenge to you:

Get involved in a street party or community event. Either plan something as a Church or join in with others who are already planning something for the long weekend.

Extend the invitation to everyone. What can you do to make sure the whole neighbourhood can come along, especially those who are lonely, isolated, or marginalised in some way?

Pray for your community. The Jubilee weekend is at the same time as **Thy Kingdom Come**, the period when the whole Church focuses on praying for people to come to faith. When we join in with God's mission, it's essential we're praying about it! How can you pray for this in the lead up as individuals or a team, could you offer prayer at the event, and can you pray together afterwards for the people you've met?

Share your faith. We take our whole selves out onto the streets in celebration – we don't have to bottle up our faith and leave it safely at home. Community parties are a chance to be bold in our faith sharing. We talk a lot about needing to be better at evangelism, well, when we get to know our neighbours, God will give us opportunities to share our faith. We just need to listen to God, listen to others, and speak up about our experience of faith.

*Do you have a budding filmmaker in your midst? Perhaps a young person whose skills you'd like to champion. We will be collecting footage from events across the country to compile into a celebratory video. **Get in touch** if you'd be interested in taking part.*

Register now!

To receive mailings and resources to equip you for planning events, parties and outreach over the Jubilee weekend, **please register your event using the form here.**

All available at the following site: **www.theplatinumjubilee.com**

Video and Audio resources for you to use...

Now, in one convenient place, you can find a selection of topical Methodist video and audio content that can be shared and downloaded. It is ideal for use in online worship, e-newsletters or social media.

The aim is to update the page twice-weekly with audio reflections and prayers from the President and Vice President and interviews from our weekly podcast.

Click **here**, and bookmark the page so you can check it regularly for new items to use in your worship and online events.

World Council of Churches – Thursdays in Black

In every country, gender-based violence is a tragic reality. This violence is frequently hidden, and victims are often silent, fearing stigma and further violence.

We all have a responsibility to speak out against violence, to ensure that women and men, boys and girls, are safe from rape and violence in homes, schools, work, streets – in all places in our societies.

The campaign is simple but profound. **Wear black on Thursdays.** Wear a pin to declare you are part of the global movement resisting attitudes and practices that permit rape and violence. Show your respect for women who are resilient in the face of injustice and violence. Encourage others to join you.

Often black has been used with negative racial connotations. In this campaign Black is used as a color of resistance and resilience.

Share your Thursdays in Black photos on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, using hashtags **#ThursdaysinBlack** and **#WCC!**

<https://www.oikoumene.org/what-we-do/thursdays-in-black#about>

To find out about the inspiration behind the campaign, resources and how to get involved.

ROFJ

The next meeting of **Conwy Reach Out For Justice** is due to take place on February 22nd at 7.00pm, 20, Station Road, Colwyn Bay. The speaker will be Phil Roberts from the charity Christians Against Poverty. Please do come if you are able.

If you have any questions about this contact conwyrofj@gmail.com

Cytûn : Faith in the Future: Church buildings in Wales

The National Churches Trust and the Wales Places of Worship Forum (of which Cytûn and many of our member churches are part) is organising three Faith in the Future seminars

- building connections and engaging communities on 15th February at 1.30pm
- innovative ways to raise funds and income on 8th March at 1.30pm
- rising to the climate change challenge on 29th March at 1.30pm

Each webinar is free of charge, register on EventBrite.

Each seminar will provide an opportunity to hear from sector experts, with the latest research and advice. Perhaps more importantly we will also hear from volunteers at brilliant projects and examples of best practice at churches, chapels and other places of worship.

The group are looking forward to hearing your response to discussions and the feedback that you provide will help inform the future work of the Welsh Places of Worship Forum.

They will also encourage you to share ideas and questions with volunteers from churches, chapels and other places of worship taking part in the chat.

Safeguarding Training

We are pleased to offer a number of online training sessions for both the Foundation and Advanced Module over the coming months in the new year. These sessions are open to any and all who need to undergo or update their training. Please note that the Advanced Module requires some individual online learning to be completed before attending an online gathered session. Book onto courses via your church safeguarding Officer.

Supporting Vulnerable Communities in Venezuela – A Message from World Mission Fund

We are all aware of the rising cost of living in the UK. There are those in our communities who may be wondering how they will get through financially and there are families feeling the financial impact of the ongoing pandemic. But could you imagine if your wage was under \$10 a month, your country was experiencing hyperinflation, there was a chronic shortage of fuel and the public healthcare system had totally collapsed? This is the situation for millions of Venezuelans, who have seen their communities plunged into even deeper poverty during the pandemic.

Our partner church in Venezuela, the Methodist Christian Community in Venezuela (CCMV), tells us the following:

“Our country is currently experiencing the worst humanitarian crisis in its history. The economic situation is characterized by the constant devaluation of the currency, which results in hyperinflation in the basic basket of goods. The salary of a worker or a civil servant is less than \$10 a month- hardly enough to sustain someone for three days. The public healthcare system is completely broken and does not have the capacity or the medication to serve the population. We live in a permanent state of survival and emergency. As always, the greatest impact is on children, who are eating very little. Similarly, the medication situation is extremely difficult due to high prices. Our Church has been affected this year by all of this aforementioned situation. Almost all of our ministers and pastors have had COVID, in some cases very severely, complicated by double pneumonia. This is having a negative impact on our mission.”

The CCMV has always been committed to the welfare of those most in need within their communities. In May this year, with the support of a solidarity grant from the [World Mission Fund](#) the church was able to support 66 families. [Please give to the World Mission Fund here.](#)

The Methodist Church in Britain has recently approved another solidarity grant for £14,600 to support the CCMV at a time when it continues to seek ways in which to support three vulnerable communities and the pastoral families who serve them in the north-eastern city of Maracaibo. They will continue offering humanitarian aid for the same 66 families by providing them with food items, including rice, pasta, corn, wheat flour and canned meats. They will also use their extensive experience in leading community health initiatives to purchase and distribute over the counter medicine for those with COVID symptoms and the malnourished who are in need of vitamins. The grant funding will also be used to purchase two oxygen concentrators that CCMV volunteers will offer to individuals who have COVID and are experiencing respiratory difficulties.

Faith in Politics Podcast

The Faith in Politics podcast features JPIT Parliamentary interns Beth and Ryan interviewing public figures who straddle the worlds of faith and politics.

New episodes are released monthly and you can listen [here](#).

The latest episode is called ‘Why local politics’ with Mayor Adrian Nottingham

Join Beth and Ryan this week they speak to the Mayor of Stockport, Adrian Nottingham. They chat about what it means to work for justice on a local level and how to foster constructive spaces in politics.

Tearfund On Cop26—The Challenge Ahead

We came into COP26 calling for world leaders to close the gap to 1.5°C and deliver climate justice for the most vulnerable. We give thanks for the progress we have seen, but we lament that the talks have fallen short of delivering justice and a safer future for millions of people. Kuki Rokhum, Tearfund partner in India, summed up her reflections:

‘The Glasgow talks have not secured a 1.5°C future but we march on because we need justice for the poorest communities and indigenous peoples around the world whose lives and homes are being destroyed by extreme weather, droughts and floods. And we walk in faith that things can change. Together we each carry with us a hope that we will see action, not just words, from this UN climate summit. The time to act was yesterday, but we still have today.’

We also came into COP26 knowing the work would not end in Glasgow. Climate justice won't be achieved by a single person, decision or conference – but millions of us will continue to play our part and demand that world leaders play theirs. We will continue to pray, to act, to hold leaders to account and to call for justice. And we will continue to walk by faith and keep our eyes fixed on God who can do immeasurably more than we ask or imagine.

Please continue to pray for:

- those who will be most affected by the decisions made at COP26, whose daily lives are being impacted by the climate crisis
- leaders of high-emitting nations to step up urgently with stronger plans and short-term targets for emissions cuts in line with 1.5°C
- restoration, fresh vision and hope for those who tirelessly campaign and speak up for climate justice. **RUTH VALERIO**

Visit www.tearfund.org/action for information, ideas and resources to help you continue to take action on the climate crisis.

