

Circuit Calendar

For further information see also www.nydalesmeth.org.uk/calendar.html

Plan requests and Local Preacher availability should be sent in by Monday 31st May 2021

Dear Friends

We have put this plan together with hope and expectation, but also with realism, recognising that not everything may happen in the way that we would desire. For any special events it is important to double check with the Church Steward or the Contact for that Church beforehand. Moving forward we do not yet know how long we will need to socially distance and wear masks, or indeed when we might be permitted to resume communal hymn singing, so I beg your patience as we do our best to follow the changing guidelines. As tempting as it may be, please do not break the rules because you may inadvertently be putting someone at risk of contracting the Coronavirus. It is worth remembering that not all of us have yet had our vaccinations.

You may be aware that we are now allowed to sing outside as long as we remain within the Church grounds and continue to social distance. If this is something that you might like to do, please remember that a risk assessment must be completed beforehand. Your Property Steward, Church Steward or Church Safeguarding Officer will be able to help you with this. It is not a difficult task, but an important one so that we minimise risks as we strive to keep everyone safe.

Circuit services may feel like a thing of the past, but there is a real hope that we will soon be able to start gathering together again for special celebrations. There is one on this plan at Richmond on June 20th at 6.30pm. This is specifically a re-affirmation service for all Local Preachers and an opportunity to present long service certificates. As numbers will be restricted and it would be good to give priority to our Local Preachers, I ask you to contact the Church Stewards at Richmond Michelle Stonley (01325 718744) or Rachel Martin (01748 829539) to ensure that there is room for you to attend. You will also note there are some Circuit Cluster Services to mark Methodist Homes Sunday (MHA) which I have designated as August 15th, hoping that restrictions will have been eased considerably by that date. It will be so good to be able to come together to celebrate MHA.

I would like to thank Julie Greenslade for her wonderful support, she is a real asset to this Circuit, and tackles all the administration tasks that are thrown at her with a smile and a 'can do' attitude. We are blessed to have her.

Rev Julia Reid has sailed through her first year as a Probationer proving herself to be resilient, adaptable, and gifted and I ask you to keep praying for her as she continues to grow into the role. So many of you have shared how much you are appreciating her ministry.

You will have noted that Rachel Pinkney is not preaching around the Circuit like she has done in the past. This is because Rachel is well into her first year of training for presbyteral ministry and an important part of that training is that she has placements in other Circuits and leads services elsewhere. We are delighted to be able to support Rachel in this journey and I ask you to pray for her as she continues to juggle her ongoing work with the Schools in our Circuit alongside her training. She is also of course a mum, a wife, and a daughter, and we give God thanks for her.

The whole Circuit looks forward to celebrating with Rachel Martin as she nears the completion of her Local Preaching training. An exciting time for Rachel, and I would like to thank everyone for the support and encouragement that she has received.

Finally, a massive 'thank you' from me. It is a challenging time to be a Superintendent, but you are very gracious and very understanding as we seek to emerge from lockdown and test the waters to discover what God has in store for us as a Circuit.

With Love in Christ.

Rev Melanie Reed (Superintendent).