

Newsletter October 2026

This is our monthly newsletter. The newsletter can be received by anyone who has an e-mail address. To subscribe to this service please send your e-mail address to: northstaffscircuit@hotmail.co.uk.

Dear Friends,

This Harvest season arrives carrying a weight we cannot ignore. The fields around us have told a harder story this year: cracked soil, stunted crops, anxious farmers watching the skies for rain that did not come. We gather not in the glow of abundance but in the honesty of scarcity. And yet—Harvest still calls us together.

Harvest has never been only about full barns. At its heart, Harvest is a reminder of our dependence on God, our interdependence with one another, and our responsibility to creation. In a year of drought, these truths stand out more sharply.

We do not pretend that everything is fine. Many in our community have felt the strain—those who work the land, those who worry about rising food prices, those who carry concern for the global picture of hunger and climate instability. It is faithful to lament these things. Scripture gives us language for dry seasons: *“My soul thirsts for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water.”* Lament is not a failure of faith; it is an act of truth-telling before God.

And yet, even in drought, gratitude persists. We give thanks for every sign of life that has endured: the resilience of farmers, the generosity of neighbours, the quiet miracles of community gardens, the volunteers who keep our foodbanks stocked, the small mercies of rain when it finally comes. Gratitude does not erase hardship, but it keeps our hearts open.

This year invites us to widen our understanding of Harvest. Instead of baskets overflowing with produce, we celebrate the fruits of compassion, solidarity, and hope. We celebrate the ways God sustains us not only through the earth’s yield but through human kindness and shared responsibility.

Harvest becomes a moment to recommit ourselves to caring for creation—using water wisely, reducing waste, supporting sustainable farming, and advocating for climate justice. These are not political gestures; they are spiritual ones. They are part of our calling to love our neighbour and tend the earth God entrusted to us.

Drought is not the end of the story. The biblical witness is clear: God brings streams to the desert, restores what has been lost, and renews the face of the earth. Hope is not naïve optimism; it is trust that God is at work even when the ground looks barren.

We pray for rain. We pray for those whose livelihoods have been shaken. We pray for wisdom in how we steward the earth. We pray for a Harvest of justice, compassion, and peace. And we trust that God hears.

Every Blessing

Rev’d Joy

North Staffordshire Circuit (11/22)

Preaching Plan – October 2026

					October			
					4	11	18	25
					27th Sunday in Ordinary Time	28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Prisons Sunday)	29th Sunday in Ordinary Time	30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Lectionary Year (A)					Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20	Exodus 32:1-14	Exodus 33:12-23	Deuteronomy 34:1-12
(Principal Service)					Psalms 19	Psalms 106:1-6, 19-23	Psalms 99	Psalms 90:1-6, 13-17
					Philippians 3:4b-14	Philippians 4:1-9	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
					Matthew 21:33-46	Matthew 22:1-14	Matthew 22:15-22	Matthew 22:34-46
Please Pray For:					Cross Heath	Halmer End	Higherland	Madeley
Cross Heath	TS	11.00	StF	NIV	LA	Siwila HC	Barnett	Barnett
(23)		3.00	MWB					
Higherland	TS/KB	10.00	StF	MM	Willis HC	N Jones	R Jones	LA
(35)		3.00						
		6.00	MWB					Sutcliffe Café Church
Silverdale	TS	11.00	StF	MM	Café Church	Chadwick	Siwila HC	Emmaus
(51)		3.00						
		5.00						Refuel
Wolstanton	TS	10.30	StF		Siwila HF	Wakelin HC	LA	Davies T
(92)		3.00	MWB					
Audley	JV	10.30	StF	SoF 1&2	Rowley	US at Halmer End	LA prayer brunch	Williams
(25)		3.00	MWB	GNB				
Bradwell	JV	10.00	StF	SoF 1&2	Ventom HF	US at Halmer End	Harrison T	Matthews
(30)		3.00	MWB	NIV H&P				
Halmer End	JV	10.30	StF	SoF 1&2	LA	Ventom HC US	X	Chadwick
(19)		3.00	MWB	GNB H&P			Rowley CA	
Madeley	JV	10.30	StF	SoF 1234	Davies HF T	US at Halmer End	Irvine	Siwila HC
(23)		3.00	MWB	NIV				
St Luke's	JV	10.30	H&P	GNB	Barnett	US at Halmer End	Ventom + CC	N Jones
(22)		3.00	MWB					
Printed Service for this week prepared by:					Parkes	Ventom	Heap	Siwila

Eco Tips

Greening your home this Autumn. Tackle climate change and reduce your heating bills by finding and reducing the draughts in your home. Find the gaps that let cold air in and warm air out (keyholes, letterboxes and gaps around windows, doors, loft hatches and floorboards for example). Do what you can to fix these gaps - there are lots of tutorials on how to do this online. It's also a good time to prepare for winter by putting radiator reflector foil or baking foil behind the radiator. This will reflect heat back into your room.

A Rocha UK's Easy Eco Tips 2026 Calendar

Can you or your church give more to Foodbank?



I am aware demands on our goodwill giving becomes greater and greater as times are hard for all. However I am appealing for help once again.

Newcastle Foodbank has given **three days food supply** to **5820 adults** and **3088 children** in the **past twelve months**, which equates to **68,992 kilogrammes of food** providing **164,267 meals**.

At the moment we have 66 organisations on our system who refer clients to us, having determined them as someone in crisis. **No one is given food without that assessment.**

£40,000 was spent on buying food in the past twelve months to supplement your generous donations. **Sadly this is not sustainable long term, hence this appeal.**

Would you consider giving one item a week to help us to help those less fortunate than ourselves?

Or, if it is more convenient to you, can you help us financially on a regular or one-off basis?

We would love to hear from you if you want to know more.

I leave you with a few ideas as to what you may be able to contribute

Items we are short of include:

Bags for life

Cat food

Razors for shaving

Shaving foam/gel

Tinned fruit

Tinned vegetables

Tinned potatoes

Tinned custard

Baked beans

Rice sachets (microwavable)

Long-life milk

Toilet rolls

I can guarantee your contribution will be used wisely and be much appreciated.

Take care and look after yourselves too. If you would prefer contact details for our warehouse team I can supply them.

Thank you

Marion Reddish (Foodbank Volunteer) 01782 613265
marionreddish@btinternet.com

MENTAL GOOD HEALTH

"ARE WE ALL DEPRESSED?"

A day of exploration for Pastoral Visitors, Local Preachers, Ministers and all interested in discovering more about Depression and tips for pastoral sensitivity.

- What is Depression?
- Testimony and coping mechanisms.
- Biblical examples of Depression.
- Pastoral sensitivity.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 3RD
WELLSPRING METHODIST CHURCH, CANAL RD, CONGLETON



Places to be booked through Eventbrite:

[Chester & Stoke District: Are We All Depressed? Tickets, Saturday 3 October • 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM | Eventbrite](#)

The Dane and Trent Methodist Circuit
Seeks a
Pastoral and Outreach Worker

Full time or Job Share: £26,299 pa

The role requires a committed Christian to provide pastoral ministry in three churches in the Holmes Chapel area, and to lead the congregations in community outreach, in collaboration with the minister in pastoral oversight.

For an application pack please email:

office@danetrentmethodist.org.uk

Applications by noon 8th October 2026

Interviews 14th October 2026

For an initial conversation please contact

office@danetrentmethodist.org.uk

The Methodist Church is committed to safeguarding as an integral part of its life and ministry. Safeguarding is about the action the Church takes to promote a safer culture.



WOLSTANTON METHODIST CHURCH
Invites you to
'ELDERBERRIES'
embracing all ages and various interests

MONDAY 12th OCTOBER at 2.30p.m.
'HARVEST PLOUGHMANS'
[fully booked]

MONDAY 26th OCTOBER at 2.30p.m.
'FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD'
With Kath Reynolds

Chat & Refreshments.
An opportunity to renew friendships
and make new ones – come and join us



Bible Study on the book of Ruth

10 to 11.30am on the 2nd Tuesday of each month

11th August 2026

8th September

13th October

10th November

8th December

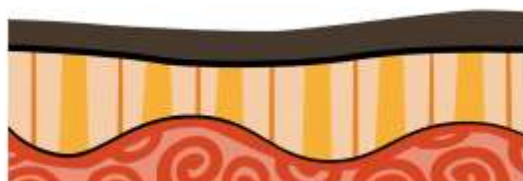
Break January and February

9th March 2027

13th April

Bring a Bible with you

St. Luke's Methodist Church ST5 4BH




Café Church
Higherland Church Coffee Bar

*Friendly Chatter & discussion,
Welcoming Smiles & a good laugh,
Songs, poems, thoughts & Prayers
Drinks & biscuits.*

Come along @ 6pm

Sunday 25th Oct

Join us for...

KnitWits

Craft & Fellowship

CHAT ♥ CREATE ♥ MAKE FRIENDS

Love to knit, crochet, sketch, or craft?
Looking for a relaxed space to chat
and meet new friends?

Bring your current portable project, grab a hot drink,
and join us for a purely social afternoon.

Crafting people. Kinder community. Happier days.

WHEN
Monday 26th October
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

WHERE
Higherland Church
Coffee Bar

Grab a coffee. Bring a project.
Enjoy the company.

See you there! ♥

Everyone Welcome

ALL SKILL LEVELS
ALL WELCOME

CHAT ♥ CREATE ♥
MAKE FRIENDS

KNIT CROCHET SKETCH CRAFT

WARM
DRINKS
CREATIVE
PEOPLE
BRIGHTER
DAYS

Good People Craft Brighter Days ♥

Good People Craft Brighter Days ♥

Stitch Create Chat Belong ♥

Crafting Fellowship Community ♥

All crafts and skill levels are completely welcome!

No agendas
No pressure
Just good company.

You are warmly
invited to join us for a

Memorial Service

Audley Methodist Church
15th November 2026 at 10:30am

There will be an opportunity
to light candles as we
remember our loved ones.

For more information, please contact the
office: 01782 722755 or
Email: audleymethodist@btccconnect.com

CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday 21st November
10:30am to 12:30pm

at Audley Methodist Church

refreshments & parking
available

XMAS CRAFT FAIR

FREE ADMISSION
CRAFTS, FOOD, JEWELLERY,
HOME DECOR, GIFTS,
GAMES

Saturday 21st Nov
10am-midday
Wolstanton Methodist
Church ST5 0HE

TABLES £13



FUSTIAN

&
Musical Misfits

CHRISTMAS
CONCERT

FEATURING SOLO PERFORMANCE FROM

Justine

HIGHERLAND METHODIST CHURCH

SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2026



DOORS OPEN
AT 5:30PM



CONCERT STARTS
AT 6:00PM



TICKETS £5 EACH

INCLUDES LIGHT REFRESHMENTS



TO RESERVE YOUR TICKETS
PLEASE CONTACT KEV ON

07988 532 738

Are you, or someone you know, looking for a group to join or an activity to take part in, there may be something happening at Wolstanton Methodist Church that will suit?



Every other Monday 2.30-4pm: Elderberries a church social group for older people normally with a speaker always with refreshments

1st Monday of the month 2-4pm: Trefoil Guild a social meeting for people connected with Girl Guiding

Monday 5.30pm- 8.30pm: [Workout with Mika](#) three different exercise classes from hula hoop fitness to boxing to rock music workoutwithmika@gmail.com

Monday 6.30-7.30pm Pilates with Nicola nicolajherd@hotmail.com

Tuesday 9.30am-10.30am Baby Signing and Tiny Talk for young babies under 1 year nicolaausterberry@tinytalk.co.uk

Tuesday 10am - 11am: [YogaJules.Stoke](#) yogajules.stoke@gmail.com

Tuesday 7.30pm-9pm: Church Music Group

1st Wednesday of the month Bible Study 2.30pm -4pm

Wednesday 10.30am-12.30pm: Community coffee morning - open to all

Wednesday 6-7.30: Brownies

Wednesday 7.30pm-9.30pm: [NULCO Newcastle under Lyme Community Orchestra](#) music rehearsals for shows and concerts secretary@nulco.co.uk

1st Wednesday of the month 7.30pm Sugar craft – fondant decorations for cake.

Thursday 10am -11am: [Tots of fun](#) music and play for little ones under 4 totoffunuk@gmail.com

Thursday 11.45am-12.45am Tots of Fun new mums social with coffee and cake for young babies and new mums totoffunuk@gmail.com

Thursday 7.30pm-9.30pm Jazz Orchestra / Flute ensemble alternative weeks

Thursday 6pm 7 6.45pm: Dog obedience classes
darwins-dog-grooming.square.site

Friday 9.30am-11.30am Tots of Fun Playgroup totoffunuk@gmail.com

Saturday 9am-10.15am: Spanish lessons for children
delia.alvarez@kidslingo.co.uk

**Book Swap
at
Bradwell Methodist Church**

There is a new free book swap library outside Bradwell Methodist Church. Please take a look and if you have any unwanted books please pop them in.



**Coffee Morning's at
Audley Methodist Church**

Refreshments, in a
welcoming
"WARM SPACE"
await you

Join us
every
Tuesday
10am to
midday



Coffee Morning

10.30am – 12.30pm

Every Wednesday at
Wolstanton
Methodist Church


Madeley Methodist Church
invites you to join us at our



Warm Space
Elevenes



On Wednesdays at 11am

Chat

Free
Refreshments

Activities

Everyone Welcome

There's nothing like a good cuppa coffee and a friend like you to share it with!

Let's catch up!

**WHY NOT CATCH UP
WITH FRIENDS OLD
AND NEW**

**BRADWELL METHODIST
CHURCH**
THURSDAY'S 10 - 12

Christian Resources for Life
@ Methodist Book Centre
Support your local, independent
Christian bookshop

In Store

Online

www.crfl.co.uk
Gitana Street, Hanley, ST1 1DY
01782 212146

MAGIC MOMENTS
St. Luke's Methodist Church
Severn Drive
Clayton
ST5 4BH

MAGIC MOMENTS

FREE ENTRY

Crafts

Activities

Games

Tea, Coffee & Biscuits

Bingo

Quiz

Stories

10.00am - 12.00 noon, last Thursday of every month.

Fun, explore together in lots of creative, interactive and fun ways.
A great opportunity to enjoy some time together.

For more information please contact Phil or Joannette Hodges
on 01782 634766 or look on our Facebook page.

REJOICE



REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS.
Philippians 4:4a

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