February 2024

'A warm welcome awaits you at our Church.'

Welcome

Welcome to our monthly Church Newsletter.

Take a look in this edition to see what is happening in the life of Cole Street and in the wider **Dudley & Netherton Circuit.** Remember to keep a check on our website and social media pages for the latest updates and news across the coming month. You are welcome to join us online via our social pages as well as at church in person.



Scan the QR code with your mobile device to visit our website

Join us online







facebook.com/colestreetchurch





Please consider the environment. Could you recycle your newsletter or pass them onto someone else to read?

Regular Activities

9:00 & 10:30am, 5:30 & 7:00pm Slimming World Mondays

Tuesdays check online calendar

Wednesdays 1:00pm Toddler Group (term time)

7:00pm DETRA (monthly)

Thursdays 10:30am Zumba **Fridays** 6:00pm Youth Group (bi-weekly - check calendar)

Saturdays 10:00am **Working Party**

Sundays 10:30am Family Worship & Sunday School Circuit Service (check location) 6:00pm

Dates for your diary

Sunday 28th January | 10:30am | Songs of Praise Service Friday 9th February | 6:00pm | Circuit Youth Group Sunday 11th February | 10:30am | Covenant Service led by Rev. David Alford Tuesday 13th February | 1:00pm | Holiday Club - Valentines Saturday 17th February | 10:00am | Breakfast Morning Sunday 18th February | 10:30am | All-age Café-Style Service Friday 23rd February | 6:00pm | Circuit Youth Group Saturday 24th February | 10:00am | End of month Working Party Thursday 7th March | 7:00pm | Church Council Meeting www.colestreetchurch.org.uk Friday 8th March | 6:30pm | Movie Night & Chippy Tea

> "Lent calls us to make daily choices that will help us to grow in our relationship with ourselves, God and others. When Easter finally arrives we can look back at all our preparations and efforts and know we can celebrate the resurrection with joy and faith."

Please remember in your prayers...

Ellie-Piper, Lillian Pallett, Marion Cooper, June Smith, Alice Parker, Mark Kelly, Graham Brain, Piper Richards, Marion Davies, Scott Waters, Anne Farrell, Margaret Willetts & Peter and Valarie Bratt.

Please pray for all those known to us individually who are ill or in need at this time.

Birthdays, Celebrations & Congratulations

A very happy birthday from all of the Cole Street family to all of the following people who are celebrating their special day during February (date in brackets):

Evie T (25th) & Jayjay W (27th).

A very happy birthday, and may God Bless each of you.

In this edition...

- Preaching Plan
- Foodbank News
- Items from Trinity
- Flower Rota
- Working Party
- Circuit News

- Property Update - Fundraising Events & Dates

View our Sunday Order of Service(s) online via our website

You will notice a 'QR' code pinned to the welcome desk when you arrive on Sundays. If you scan this graphic with your smartphone's camera, you will be able to view the order of service(s) for that Sunday and be able to follow along during the service.

Alternatively, you can visit: www.colestreetchurch.org.uk/order-of-service

Preaching Plan

February 2024

04.02.24 - 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:30am - Family Worship including Sunday School led by Mr. Richard French 6:00pm - Evening Circuit Worship at St. James' led by Mrs. Charlotte Harding

11.02.24 - 1st Sunday before Lent - Transfiguration

10:30am - Covenant Worship including Sunday School & Holy Communion led by Rev. David Alford

6:00pm - Evening Circuit Worship at Woodside led by Deacon Janet Heys

18.02.24 - 1st Sunday in Lent

10:30am - All age, Cafe Style Service led by Deacon Janet Heys

6:00pm - Evening Circuit Worship at Cole Street led by Rev. David Alford

25.02.24 - 2nd Sunday in Lent

10:30am - Family Worship including Sunday School led by Mr. Andrew Biggs

6:00pm - Evening Circuit Worship at Central led by Mr. Martin Rider

Flower Rota – February 2024

February 4 | by Jean Ellis & Jill Parrish in memory of the birthday of Bert Parrish

February 11 | by Liz Ralph in memory of Anne & John Priest

February 18 | available for dedication – see one of the stewarding team for info

February 25 | by Sylvia Holyoake in memory of May & Bill Totney

Property Update

Please continue to be mindful of energy consumption around our premises as this is becoming more and more expensive year on year. If you see a light on that doesn't need to be, please turn it off – or if you can boil a kettle on demand instead of using a water heater, please do so. Every small saving of energy helps costs and the environment!

Thanks to the Saturday Gang who have made a start on cutting back the perimeter hedges. Our extended thanks to Terry who is making multiple trips to 'the tip' to remove and recycle the green waste.

Please be careful as you make your way around the site during cold spells as untreated surfaces may be slippery. A grit bin is located by the rear door if you need to place any down before meetings etc.

FoodBank

We continue to collect donations towards the work of the Black Country Food Bank. Please place your physical donation into the box which can be found on the stage front.



If you prefer, you can make a monetary donation online on their Just Giving page: www.justgiving.com/blackcountryfoodbank.

Please continue to support the Food Bank if you are able. Our thanks again to Liz for transporting our donations to the office in Brierley Hill. Thank you to everyone who supports our collections.

The most recent statistics sent through are for December 2023 where we were able to donate 27kg of food and 1kg of non-food which was enough to provide 54 meal parcels and 1 toiletry pack.

Items in need are: 1ltr cartons of long-life milk & long-life fruit juice, multi-pack breakfast cereal, packet mash potato, pasta/cooking sauces, tinned soup, tinned fish, meat-free tinned ravioli, chilli, macaroni cheese, tinned fruit in juice.

Non-food donations: Shampoo, toilet rolls, roll on deodorant, shower gel & strong carrier bags. Thank you for your continued support.

Remember to keep in touch with what is happening round the Circuit by visiting the website: www.dudlevmethodist.org.uk

The Dudley & Netherton Methodist Circuit is about the Methodist people of God around Dudley and Netherton.

Information about the Circuit includes:

- Information about the churches in our circuit,
- · Where to find the church in our circuit,
- · A calendar showing what's going on throughout the circuit in events,
- · News articles about upcoming and past events,
- · The preaching plan,
- · And much, much more.



Working Party

We continue to meet to help clean & maintain our church on Saturdays at 10am. It is a great time of fellowship as well as 'getting jobs done' and always includes a warm drink (or juice!) and a chocolate or biscuit (or three!)

Jobs we need a hand with are as follows:

- Painting of the passageway walls
- Painting the kitchen ceiling
- Cleaning & tidying of the church rooms
- Cleaning windows (inside, outside or both!)
- Grounds tidying, trimming bushes, hedges, etc.

Any help at any of the working parties will be very much appreciated. For more info, speak to our Property Secretary: David Moss.

Socials & Events for the coming year

Thanks to those who attended the Ways & Means meeting a couple Saturdays ago. We have planned in dates for 2024 to our social and fundraising calendar.

We do ask that you support these events as much as possible to maximise our fundraising which is key to ensuring we can maintain a presence in the Darby End & Netherton community, place to worship, a place for friendship and fellowship and a place for the community – all of which we strive for as in our Mission Statement.

If you cannot attend events in person, please advertise and spread the word far and wide to maximise our reach out into the community; in person and virtually through our online presence.

Last year, with everyone's support, we had a record year of fundraising raising over £4000.00 across the year!

Pop the following into your diary today!



Breakfast Morning | 17.02.24 @ 10:00am – 11:30am

Our first fundraiser of the year is on Saturday 17th February starting at 10:00am and will be one of our famous Breakfast Mornings. Great food at affordable prices!

We are seeking people to donate food items and give any money in lieu – please speak to Gill W for more info. Some of the options include:

- Large Breakfast: 2 sausages, 2 bacon, mushrooms, 2 hash brown, egg, beans, tomatoes & toast £5
- Small Breakfast: 1 sausage, 1 bacon, egg, hash brown, beans or tomatoes & toast £3
- Extras: Mushrooms etc. 30p
- Bacon or sausage sandwich: £2
- Beans or egg on toast: £1.50
- Toast: 30p Tea: 60p Coffee: 70p Hot Chocolate: 70p Juice: 30p



Items from Trinity

As the sale of the building at Trinity continues, we are thankful that we have been able to rehome and repurpose some of the fixtures, fittings and furnishings which would otherwise be lost to the sale. Our thanks to Gary, David, & Theodore M and Wendy & David G who spent a few hours over the New Year at Trinity sorting and transporting items back to Cole Street.

These include items of AV equipment for an assigned project, card holders, offertory bags, (comfy!) chairs for the Guild Room, as well as some symbols and banners to remember Trinity by. Once installed, we will dedicate these items in the memory of Trinity's presence and now legacy in Netherton.



Covenant Service | 11.02.24 @ 10:30am

You are warmly invited and encouraged to join us on Sunday 11th February at 10:30am for our annual 'Covenant Service' where we renew our promises to follow Jesus joining in Holy Communion together.

Rev. David Alford will be leading our service this year.

Circuit News

The Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) met following the 'Strategy Service' during November. A proposal of a 'Community Hub' was mentioned and if the CLT are to progress with this, additional people who are truly interested in this are asked to speak with their CLT rep. This is so a working group can be put together to evolve the idea.

A Circuit monthly prayer meeting is going to be held. It will happen each month and will move days and venues around the circuit. The first one will be on Tuesday 13th February at 7:00pm at St. James'.

A message from Santa's Black Country Toy Appeal 2023

'Your kindness has helped us to reach thousands of children and young people across the Black Country, who would otherwise have not received a gift at Christmas. With heartfelt thanks for your support in helping our team of volunteers to bring some smiles and make a real difference for families who are struggling.'

The Spring Representative Synod will be held in person in the Shropshire and Marches Circuit on Saturday 20th April 2024. More details on this will follow.

Amplify 2024 will be taking place between 15th and 17th March 2024!

Amplify is a weekend away for 8-18s and their leaders from the Birmingham and Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Districts. The weekend is packed full of outdoor activities as well as our own programme of worship and activities.

For more information and to book tickets, please visit: www.birminghammethodist.org.uk/amplify

Our Mission Statement

The calling of the church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in church and in the following ways:

- through worship, increasing the awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love,
- through learning and caring to help people grow as Christians,
- through service by being a good neighbour to people and to challenge injustice,
- and through evangelism by making more followers of God.

We also seek to support the other churches within the Dudley & Netherton Circuit and seek to manage our financial and material resources in a responsible manner, ensuring the fabric of the building is appropriately maintained to afford a safe place in the heart of our community.

We seek to ensure a warm and sincere welcome to new individuals attending church and to provide an environment in which we achieve active Christian worship. Daily, we strive to demonstrate the love of God by forging closer and continued links with the local community and by working collaboratively with other denominations to proclaim the good news of God, our Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Church Contacts

Cole Street, Netherton, Dudley, West Midlands, DY2 9PA

website: www.colestreetchurch.org.uk email: info@colestreetchurch.org.uk

Church Copyright Licence No: 260980

Minister including Pastoral Oversight of Cole Street

Rev. David Alford Tel: 01384 869010 Mobile: 07913 062176

Church Stewards & Associate Church Stewards

Mr. G. Moss, Mrs. G. Waters, Mrs. W. Goodwin, Mrs. H. Kiteley, Mr. D. Moss, Mrs. S. Jewkes, Mrs. R. Faulkner

Church Council Minutes Secretary

Mrs. G. Waters

Church Treasurers

Mrs. E. Ralph, Mrs. S. Holyoake

Property Steward & Secretary

Mr. D. Moss email: property@colestreetchurch.org.uk

Pastoral Secretary

Mrs. J. Dunning

Cole Street Safeguarding Officer

Ms. C. Priest - In process of fulfilment

Notices Secretary

Mr. D. Moss email: notices@colestreetchurch.org.uk

Communion Stewards

Mrs. H. Kiteley, Mrs. J. Sheppard

Please send any items for consideration for the March 2024 Newsletter by email to David Moss by Wednesday 21st February 2024. email: notices@colestreetchurch.org.uk