



Cole Street Methodist Church

March 2025 Newsletter

Darby End, Netherton, Dudley, DY2 9PA

part of the Dudley & Netherton Methodist Church Circuit


www.facebook.com/colestreetchurch

www.colestreetchurch.org.uk

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March 2025

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


www.colestreetchurch.org.uk

info@colestreetchurch.org.uk

[@CSMChurch](https://www.twitter.com/CSMChurch)


Cole Street Church



Please consider the environment. Could you recycle your newsletter or, even better, pass it onto someone else to read?

'A warm welcome awaits you at our Church.'

Regular Activities

Mondays	9:00am & 10:30am	Slimming World*
	5:30pm & 7:00pm	Slimming World*
Tuesdays	7:00pm	Body Combat*
Wednesdays	1:00pm	Toddler Group
Thursdays	10:30am	Zumba*
	7:00pm	Legs, Bums & Tums*
Fridays	6:00pm	Circuit Youth Group (check calendar)
Saturdays	10:00am	Working Party
Sundays	10:30am	Morning Worship & Sunday School
	6:00pm	Evening Circuit Service (check location)

* = external group hiring our facilities

Dates for your diary

Sunday 2nd March | 10:30am | Sunday Service led by Rev. Rachel Parkinson
 Tuesday 4th March | 7:00pm | Church Council Meeting
 Friday 7th March | 6:30pm | Movie Night & Chip Supper
 Sunday 16th March | 10:30am | All-age, Café-Style Service
 Monday 17th March | 7:00pm | Circuit Meeting at Cole Street
 Friday 21st March | 6:00pm | Circuit Youth Group
 Saturday 29th March | 10:00am | End of month Working Party
 Sunday 30th March | 10:30am | All-age, Café-Style Mothering Sunday Service
 Friday 4th April | 6:30pm | Beetle Drive Fundraiser
 Friday 18th April | 10:00am | Good Friday Activities (tbc)
 Sunday 20th April | 10:30am | All-age, Café-Style, Easter Sunday Worship

Please remember in your prayers...

Lillian Pallett, Marion Cooper, June Smith, Alice Parker, Graham Brain, Marion Davies, Anne Farrell, Steven Bridgewater, Peter & Hilda Bick, Mark Wood, Emma Bailey, Sylvia Holyoake, Brian & Glenda Drew & Graham Howell.

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 the Cole Street family to the following people who are celebrating their special day during March (date in brackets):

Marvella (3rd), Luke S (8th), Sarah (12th), Lily-May A (15th), Revd. David (19th), Liz R (19th), Elizabeth A (21st), Sylvia H (26th), Gary M (29th) & Hazel K (30th).

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

In this edition...

- Preaching Plan
- Flower Rota
- Circuit Dates
- Foodbank News
- Prayer Handbooks
- Holiday Club
- Working Party
- Property Updates
- Fundraising 2025
- Breakfast Morning

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

March 2025

02.03.25 - Transfiguration Sunday

10:30am - Morning Worship led by Rev. Rachel Parkinson including Sunday School
6:00pm - Sunday@6 at Central led by Andrew Biggs

09.03.25 - 1st Sunday in Lent

10:30am - Morning Communion Worship led by Bill Jones including Sunday School
6:00pm - Evening Circuit Worship at Cole Street led by Martin Rider

16.03.25 - 2nd Sunday in Lent

10:30am - All-age, Cafe-Style 'Rock' Worship led by Kirsty Barrett
6:00pm - Evening Circuit Worship at Woodside led by Dr David Gallimore

23.03.25 - 3rd Sunday in Lent

10:30am - Morning Worship led by Andrew Biggs including Sunday School
6:00pm - Evening Circuit Worship at St. James' led by Dr Andrew Bagnall

30.03.25 - Mothering Sunday & 4th Sunday in Lent

10:30am - All-age, Cafe-Style, Mothering Sunday Worship led by the Stewarding Team & Sunday School
6:00pm - Evening Circuit Worship at Cole Street led by Rev. David Alford



Flower Rota – March 2025

- March 2 | by Rita & Graham Faulkner
- March 9 | by Ann Golding in memory of Frank Golding
- March 16 | by Brian & Glenda Drew
- March 23 | by the Willetts family in memory of Brenda, Terry & Margaret
- March 30 | by Hazel Kiteley

The flower rota for the forthcoming year (to August 2025) is available online via our website (click the 'resources' tab and then 'rotas & policies' tab). If you need to make any changes, please speak to Wendy.

Circuit Dates

Future Circuit Dates:

- 12.03.25 – 7:00pm – LPWL at St. James'
- 17.03.25 – 7:00pm – Circuit Meeting at Cole Street
- 19.03.25 – 7:30pm – A five-week Lent Bible series at St. James' titled 'You can be serious! Meeting Jesus afresh in John's Gospel'. Weekly on Wednesdays (19/03, 26/03, 2/4, 9/4, 16/4)
- 20.03.25 – 1:15pm – Circuit Prayer Meeting

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 & Gary for transporting our donations to the office in Brierley Hill. Thank you to everyone who supports our collections.

We will let you know of our most recent donation totals when we receive these from the Foodbank.

See the shopping list to the right for the latest shortages →

**BLACK COUNTRY
FOODBANK**

LOVE . CONNECT . INVEST

BLACK COUNTRY FOODBANK LOVE . CONNECT . INVEST	
<input type="checkbox"/>	TEA BAGS BOX OF 40'S
<input type="checkbox"/>	SMALL JAR COFFEE
<input type="checkbox"/>	LONG LIFE MILK
<input type="checkbox"/>	1LTR CARTONS OF LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE
<input type="checkbox"/>	TINNED FISH
<input type="checkbox"/>	TINNED VEG
<input type="checkbox"/>	INSTANT NOODLES
<input type="checkbox"/>	TINNED CHILLI CON CARNE
<input type="checkbox"/>	TINNED RAVIOLI
<input type="checkbox"/>	BARS OF SOAP
<input type="checkbox"/>	TOILET ROLL
<input type="checkbox"/>	SHOWER GEL
<input type="checkbox"/>	ROLL ON DEODORANT

**Remember to keep in touch with what is happening round the Circuit by visiting the website:
www.dudleymethodist.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.



Transferring Monies Online

We recognise and are grateful for all donations, collections and offerings we receive without which we wouldn't be able to continue our witness, worship and building of community in a safe environment in the building at Cole Street. We kindly ask that when donating online, via BACS or Online Transfer, that you use an up-to-date reference for the reason of transfer (eg. offering, collection) or alternatively, if it is for a specific purpose, (eg. prayer books, tickets, rent etc.). This is so the treasurers can keep track of monies within the church bank account and ensure that when 'books' are audited, everything cross-references correctly. If you have transferred into the church bank account before, it is usually the case that the previously used reference is saved and used again if not changed. If you require any further info, please speak to a member of the treasuring team or visit the 'giving' page on our website. Thank you for your support.

Methodist Prayer Handbooks – 2024/2025

We have one copy of the Methodist Prayer Handbook 2024/2025 available at a reduced price of £4.15 (reduced from £4.50 from the Methodist Church website). If you wish to purchase this, please speak to a member of the Stewarding Team.

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!).

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

The next dedicated working party will focus on a deep clean and tidy of the kitchen and toilets which will be held on Saturday 29th March 2025 at 10:00am. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Property Update – Sewers – Good news!!

We are grateful to Severn Trent who have completed work replacing the blocked sewer under the road of Cole Street. Following this, we thank Gary, David & Theodore who worked a good few hours ensuring all of the foul drains and storm drains we running clear following the issues which have existed since last August. Having opened all the manholes (9 in total), the system was well inspected, and it even resulted in them recovering a large chisel from the accessible toilet foul pipe (which must have been down there since the church was rebuilt in the 1950s!). We are glad to report all sewers are running normally and all toilets are once again open. A small amount of remedial work is still required on the storm drain by the Minister's Vestry and we hope to have this completed soon at minimal cost (it may even have been solved by the time you read this!). Please remember to flush responsibly to help keep our systems running well.

Property Update – Lots more improvements at no monetary cost!

Kind donations from people and places have helped us to further improve our facilities at no monetary cost. New secure and hygiene-friendly toilet roll dispensers have been fitted to both ladies and gents toilets as well as new hand soap pump dispensers reducing our plastic use further. Our thanks to Steve Dunning who has replaced a run of felt on the cabin roof following wind damage and for providing materials and labour replacing the old windows in the Sunday School room which are part way through completion (keep an eye on our social pages for updates!).

Heaters

Please take care to not cover or block the heaters in the main hall. Restricting airflow around the heaters can cause them to 'lock-out' which means that, until reset, these heaters won't function. Remember that the gas isolation and electrical isolation for these heaters are for emergency use only. Thank you.

Breakfast Morning – Thanks to everyone who supported us!

Thanks to everyone who supported our recent Breakfast Morning. It was lovely to welcome new and returning faces as we enjoyed food and fellowship together.

An on-the-day total of £316.30 was raised towards church funds – a fantastic amount. God bless you all for your continued support as we continue to worship, witness and build community in Darby End.



COLE STREET CHURCH 2025 FUNDRAISING EVENTS

WWW.COLESTREETCHURCH.ORG.UK

08 FEBRUARY
BREAKFAST MORNING | 10:00AM

07 MARCH
MOVIE NIGHT & CHIP SUPPER | 6:30PM

04 APRIL *TBC
BEETLE DRIVE | 6:30PM

17 MAY
CHARITY COFFEE MORNING | 10:30AM

14 JUNE
SUMMER FAYRE & TABLE TOP SALE | 10:30AM

04 JULY
QUIZ NIGHT! | 7:00PM

13 SEPTEMBER
MINI FAYRE | 10:30AM

18 OCTOBER
BREAKFAST MORNING | 10:00AM

29 NOVEMBER
CHRISTMAS FAYRE | 12NOON







WE'RE HAVING A

MOVIE NIGHT

7 MARCH | **6.30 PM - FOOD**
7.00 PM - FILM

FILM FREE TO WATCH
OPTION FOR CHIP SHOP
SUPPER TOGETHER
BEFORE THE FILM

GIVE YOUR INTEREST
TO DAVID TODAY!

FOODS ORDERS BY 3RD MARCH
TUCK SHOP | SOFAS | COMFY CHAIRS

Beetle Drive – Friday 4th April 2025 – 6:30pm - Circuit Youth Group

Plans are being put together by the Circuit Youth Group to host a Beetle Drive raising funds for Cole Street. Keep a look out on our website/social pages as well as for posters around church for the confirmed details.

Church Council

There is a meeting of the Church Council on Tuesday 4th March at 7:00pm in the Guild Room. Our thanks to Gill for providing minutes of the previous meeting which are on the noticeboard for perusal and for sending agendas online. Please hold the members of the council in your prayers as they once again discuss strategy, resource, and direction for Cole Street and we pray for a fruitful and productive meeting.

Circuit News

The next Circuit Prayer Meeting is being held at St. James' at 1:15pm on Thursday 20th March. All are most welcome.

A five-series of Lent Bible discussion session five sessions are being held at St. James' on Wednesday nights between 7:30pm and 8:30pm titled: **You Can Be Serious! Meeting Jesus afresh in John's Gospel** This inspiring York Course on John's Gospel, the most mysterious of all the gospel accounts of the life of Christ, invites us to meet Jesus afresh . . . an ideal study for Lent or any time of the year.

Serious yet full of life and humour, the course covers: 19th March - Session 1: Temptation, 26th March - Session 2: Strangers in the night, 2nd April - Session 3: The winner takes it all, 9th April - Session 4: I was blind but now I see, 16th April - Session 5: Them bones, them bones, them dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! All are welcome books or sheet provided.

Our Mission Statement – Being Christ-like as best as we can!

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

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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 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

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 April 2025 Newsletter by email to David Moss
By Monday 24th March 2025. email: notices@colestreetchurch.org.uk