



Cole Street Methodist Church

January 2026 Newsletter

Darby End, Netherton, Dudley, DY2 9PA
part of the Dudley & Netherton Methodist Church Circuit



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Cole Street Church

January 2026

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



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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*
Wednesdays	1:00pm 7:30pm	Toddler Group AA Group*
Thursdays	10:30am	Zumba*
Fridays	6:00pm	Circuit Youth Group (check calendar)
Saturdays	10:00am	Working Party
Sundays	10:30am 6:00pm	Morning Worship & Sunday School Evening Circuit Service (check location)

* = external group hiring our facilities

Dates for your diary

Saturday 17th January | 11:00am | Ways & Means Meeting
 Sunday 18th January | 10:30am | All-age, Café Church Service
 Sunday 26th January 10:30am | Covenant Service
 Saturday 31st January | 10:00am | Working Party
 Sunday 15th February | 10:30am | All-age, Café Church Service
 Tuesday 3rd March | 7:00pm | Church Council

Our fundraising and events plan for 2026 will be agreed at our Ways & Means meeting on Saturday 17th January at 11am. Please join us if you are able and bring your ideas for 2026!

Please remember in your prayers...

June Smith, Alice Parker, Graham Brain, Marion Davies, Anne Farrell, Steven Bridgewater, Hilda Bick, Mark Wood, Emma Bailey, Mabel Spence, Angie Hill, Ian Cadman and the family and friends of the late Graham Howell and the late Joseph Malpass.

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 January (date in brackets):

Millie P (8th), Vicki T-S (17th) & Maggie D (23rd).

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

2026

HAPPY NEW YEAR



In this edition...

- Preaching Plan
- Flower Rota
- Circuit News
- Foodbank News
- Working Party
- Property Update
- Ways & Means Meeting
- Easter 2026

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 or view this in advance of the service.

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

Preaching Plan

January 2026

04.01.26 - 2nd Sunday of Christmas - Epiphany Sunday

10:30am - Morning Worship led by Phill Bridgewater (inc. Sunday School)

6:00pm - Sunday@6 at Central led by Andrew Biggs

11.01.26 - 1st Sunday after Epiphany

10:30am - Morning Worship led by Dave Walker (inc. Sunday School)

6:00pm - Evening Circuit Worship at St. James' led by Dr. Andrew Bagnall

18.01.26 - 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

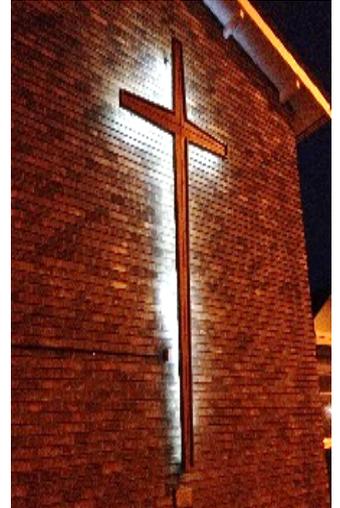
10:30am - All-age, Cafe Church led by Kirsty Barrett

4:00pm - Prayer for Christian Unity Service at Central led by Dr. David Gallimore

26.01.26 - 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

10:30am - Covenant Service with Holy Communion led by Revd. David Alford (inc. Sunday School)

6:00pm - Evening Circuit Worship at Cole Street led by Martin Rider



Flower Rota – January 2026

January 4 | available for dedication

January 11 | by Glenda & Brian Drew in memory of Harry & Florence Townsend

January 18 | by Terry & Sandra Jewkes in memory of Lily & Jack Gwinnell

January 25 | by Jean Dunning

The flower rota for the forthcoming year (to August 2026) is available to view on our website. Please look at the slots assigned for the year. If you would like to change dates, would like to fill any available slots (there are a couple available at the start of February), or would like to provide flowers for church and don't currently, please speak to or email Wendy.

Donation received in memory of Sylvia Holvoake

Cole Street have received a very generous donation from Ruth Holyoake-Turner and family in memory of Sylvia, as per Sylvia's wishes on execution of her estate. Cole Street's treasurers have 'ring-fenced' this donation pending conversations by the Church Council to assign to a particular project in memory of 'Our Wonderful Sylv' whose steadfast love and support for Cole Street continues to inspire us.

Snow & Ice risk – take care



With cold weather setting in, please be reminded to be cautious when moving around the site at Cole Street particularly if there is lying snow or frozen spells. Please be particularly cautious on the gradient on the rear car park and also on pathways around the building.

Remember to keep a check on our social channels and website where we will post any amendments to services, meetings or events held at Cole Street in periods of inclement weather.



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.

In the month of November, including our Harvest, we donated 18kgs of food which created 36 meals.

See the shopping list to the right for the latest shortages → Take a look at our FUNdraising Board to see what we have donated over the year to date!

BLACK COUNTRY FOODBANK LOVE . CONNECT . INVEST	
<input type="checkbox"/>	LONG LIFE MILK
<input type="checkbox"/>	1LTR CARTONS OF LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE
<input type="checkbox"/>	PACKETS OF MASH POTATO
<input type="checkbox"/>	TINNED VEG
<input type="checkbox"/>	TINNED MEAT (HOT DOGS/CORNERED BEEF)
<input type="checkbox"/>	CUP A SOUPS
<input type="checkbox"/>	JARS OF PASTA SAUCE/COOKING SAUCE
<input type="checkbox"/>	BREAKFAST CEREAL
<input type="checkbox"/>	TINNED FRUIT
<input type="checkbox"/>	TOILET ROLL
<input type="checkbox"/>	SHOWER GEL
<input type="checkbox"/>	BARS OF SOAP
<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.



Christingle Foodbank Donation

Thanks to everyone who contributed towards the Foodbank collection following our Christingle Service. We are pleased to say that we were able to give £65 to the work of the Black Country Foodbank enabling them to purchase items which they are facing shortages of. Thank you for your generosity.

Winter Coffee Morning

We rejoice that Cole Street was able to assist in hosting a 'Winter Coffee Morning', organised by Emma Raybould, raising funds for the work of the White House Cancer Support, Dudley. The event raised £1538.00 which has gone directly to the charity. Cole Street also received a very kind donation of £100 for use of the facilities (and some surplus reindeer food!) and a thank you card can be read on the noticeboard from Emma. An extended thanks to David, Gary a& Jean who helped on behalf of Cole Street to enable the event to take place.

Funeral of Joseph Malpass

The funeral service of Joseph Malpass will take place at Cole Street on Thursday 8th January at 1:00pm followed by a service of committal at Rowley Regis Crematorium at 1:45pm conducted by Revd. David Alford. We hold the family and friends of Joseph in our prayers.



Working Party & Property

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!). Thanks to those who assemble on a Saturday who keep the property looking spic and span.

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 is on Saturday 31st January 2026 at 10am where the focus will be on tidying of areas and deeper clean of the toilet areas. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Property Update

Our thanks to David M who has secured a new 18-month contract with PlusNet for provision of Internet access at church. The new contract sees us paying £5 less per month for the first three months and then £1 less per month for the remainder of the contract (compared to what we pay currently) with the download speeds being doubled from their current speed. Win-win!

Additional thanks to Pete S & David M who have installed additional rigging and cabling for stage lighting enabling even more atmosphere and special effects to add additional dimensions to our worship and property facilities. Also to Gary M who has completed the interim PAT Testing of appliances (particularly those used at Christmas). Steve D has also provided us with more boards for our Wayside Pulpit enabling us to retain annually used boards (such as those used at Remembrance, Christmas, New Year etc.,) which is reducing our waste and saving time in the future (well that's the plan at least!). Thanks Steve.

Ways & Means 2026 – Fundraising & Socials

The annual meeting of the Ways & Means Group who meet to discuss fundraising and social ideas are meeting on Saturday 17th January at 11:00am. 2025 was another bumper year of fundraising for Cole Street and this is really helping us to continue our work and worship in Darby End and the surrounding areas. For the third year running, with everyone working together, we were able to raise around £4096 for church funds plus the additional near £500 raised by the foil and cling film initiative.

A reminder that the meeting is open to ALL and EVERYONE is welcome and encouraged to attend – particularly if you have some good ideas for fundraising or social events for 2026!

Tea, coffee and biscuits provided if that helps!

Easter Experience 2026...

Easter 2026 will mark 20 years since Cole Street and friends met to host what became the first of a series of 'Easter Experiences' – retelling the story of Passion Week through performance. David M has some tentative works in the pipeline to produce a 'Passion Week Play' this year, 20 years on. The event would be held on Maundy Thursday (Thursday 2nd April 2026) at 7pm with rehearsals taking place on Thursday evenings at 7pm until 8pm (ish). Ideally, we would like to put together a choir and have a variety of theatrical performances on stage as well as having stage hands/tech to assist. If you are interested, please speak to/message David M by January 16th. A first read-through and choir meet would take place on Thursday 29th January 2026 at 7pm.

Circuit Dates / Notices

Circuit Prayer Meeting – Wednesday 8th January at 11am at Woodside

Bible Group Meeting – Wednesday 21st January – 7pm – St. James'



Thank you to everyone who attended, prayed for, gave at, led, organised, got very-orangey fingers or supported in any way our Christmas 2025 celebrations.

'Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.'
(Thessalonians 5:16-18)





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

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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

Mrs. W. Goodwin, Mrs. G. Waters, Mrs. H. Kiteley, Mrs. L. Abbot, Mr. D. Moss, Ms. C. Priest, Mr. G. Moss, Mrs. S. Jewkes & Mrs. R. Faulkner.

Church Council Secretary

Mrs. G. Waters

Church Treasurers & Signatories

Mrs. E. Ralph, Mr. D. Moss & Mrs. J. Dunning

Property Secretary & Deputy Secretary

Mr. D. Moss & Mr. G. Moss

email: property@colestreetchurch.org.uk

Pastoral Secretary

Mrs. J. Dunning

Cole Street Safeguarding Officer

Ms. C. Priest

Newsletter Secretary & Editors

Mr. D. Moss & Mrs. R. Moss

email: notices@colestreetchurch.org.uk

Communion Stewards

Mrs. H. Kiteley, Mrs. J. Sheppard

Order of Service Secretary

Mrs. W. Goodwin

Please send any items for the February 2026 Newsletter by email to David Moss by Friday 23rd January 2026.
email: notices@colestreetchurch.org.uk