



# Cole Street Methodist Church

## March 2024 Newsletter

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

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 [www.colestreetchurch.org.uk](http://www.colestreetchurch.org.uk)

  @CSMChurch

 Cole Street Church

March 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



[www.colestreetchurch.org.uk](http://www.colestreetchurch.org.uk)



[info@colestreetchurch.org.uk](mailto:info@colestreetchurch.org.uk)



@CSMChurch



[facebook.com/colestreetchurch](https://facebook.com/colestreetchurch)

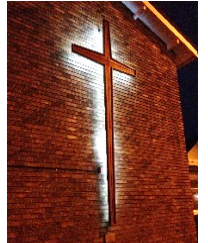


Please consider the environment. Could you recycle your newsletter or pass them onto someone else to read?



### Regular Activities

Mondays	9:00 & 10:30am, 5:30 & 7:00pm	Slimming World
Tuesdays	check online calendar	
Wednesdays	1:00pm	Toddler Group (term time)
	7:00pm	DETRA (monthly)
Thursdays	10:30am	Zumba
	7:00pm	Legs, Bums & Tums
Fridays	6:00pm	Youth Group (bi-weekly – check calendar)
Saturdays	10:00am	Working Party
Sundays	10:30am	Family Worship & Sunday School
	6:00pm	Circuit Service (check location)



### Dates for your diary

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March | 7:00pm | Church Council Meeting  
 Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March | 6:30pm | Movie Night & Chippy Tea  
 Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March | 10:00am | Working & Cleaning Party  
 Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March | 10:30am | Mothering Sunday Café Church  
 Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March | 6:00pm | Circuit Songs of Praise with Rev. David Alford  
 Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March | 6:00pm | Circuit Youth Group  
 Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March | 10:00am | Good Friday Creative Activities  
 Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March | 12noon | Good Friday Short Family Service  
 Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March | 10:30am | Easter Sunday Service with Communion  
 Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April | 6:30pm | Beetle Drive held by the Youth Group  
 Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April | 7:00pm | Church ACM



### 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 & Richard Dutton.*

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 March (date in brackets):

*Marvella (3<sup>rd</sup>), Luke S (8<sup>th</sup>), Sarah (12<sup>th</sup>), Lily-May A (15<sup>th</sup>), Liz R (19<sup>th</sup>), Rev. David (19<sup>th</sup>), Elizabeth A (21<sup>st</sup>), Ann G (25<sup>th</sup>), Sylvia H (26<sup>th</sup>), Gary M (29<sup>th</sup>) & Hazel K (30<sup>th</sup>).*

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

## In this edition...

- Preaching Plan
- Flower Rota
- Property Update
- Foodbank News
- Working Party
- Church Council
- Details of our Movie Night
- Circuit News
- Easter 2024 at Cole Street

## 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](http://www.colestreetchurch.org.uk/order-of-service)

## Preaching Plan

### March 2024

#### 03.03.24 - 3rd Sunday in Lent

10:30am - Family Worship (including Sunday School) led by Mr. Richard French

6:00pm - Evening Circuit Worship including Holy Communion at Woodside led by Rev. Michael Pullan

#### 10.03.24 - 4th Sunday in Lent - Mothering Sunday

10:30am - All-age, Cafe-Style Mothering Sunday Service led by the Sunday School

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

#### 17.03.24 - 5th Sunday in Lent - Passion Sunday

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

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

#### 24.03.24 - 6th Sunday in Lent - Palm Sunday

10:30am - Family Worship (including Sunday School) led by Mr. Bill Jones

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

#### 29.03.24 - Good Friday

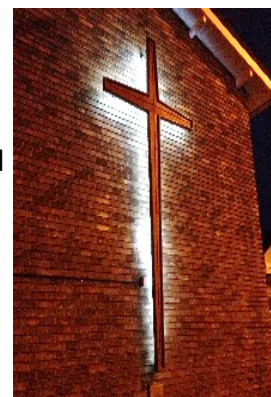
10:00am - Good Friday Activities for families

12:00noon - Family Good Friday Service led by Deacon Janet Heys

#### 31.03.24 - Easter Sunday - Resurrection Sunday

10:30am - Easter Sunday Family Worship (including Sunday School) & Holy Communion led by Rev. David Alford

6:00pm - Evening Circuit Worship at Central led by Mr. Andrew Biggs



## Flower Rota – March 2024

March 3 | by Rita & Graham Faulkner

March 10 | by Ann Golding in memory of Frank Golding

March 17 | available for dedication – see one of the stewarding team for info

March 24 | by the Willetts family in memory of Brenda & Terry

March 31 | available for dedication – see one of the stewarding team for info

## Church Council – 07.03.24 @ 7pm

There is a meeting of the Church Council scheduled for Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm. This meeting will be held in the Guild Room.

An agenda has been sent to those on the council by Gill. If you need to add anything to this agenda, please let Gill know as soon as possible. Please pass on any apologies for if you are unable to attend.

The ACM (the Annual Church Meeting) is scheduled for Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm.

## 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](http://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.

We haven't had an update as yet from the foodbank on donations since our Christmas appeal but as soon as we know some stats, we will share with you what we have managed to donate over the first bit of 2024.

**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.dudleymethodist.org.uk](http://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.



## Easter 2024 at Cole Street

**Friday 29th March | 10:00am**

**Family craft activities, Easter snacks & Easter reflection room**

**Friday 29th March | 12noon**

**A 15-minute family service led by Deacon Janet Heys**

**Sunday 31st March | 10:30am**

**Easter Sunday Family Worship (including Sunday School) & Holy Communion led by Rev. David Alford**

**During Holy Week (24.03 - 30.03),  
follow us on our social channel (@CSMChurch)  
for daily reflections and Bible verses  
marking Jesus' final days in his journey to the cross**

## GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Our warmest wishes and hearty congratulations to our dear friends Graham & Rita Faulkner who are celebrating their GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March.

Graham & Rita have been members of the Dudley & Netherton Circuit for many years having transferred their membership from Noah's Ark upon the closure of the building to Cole Street. Both are active members of our family here at Cole Street and regularly support our fundraisers, undertake stewarding roles, with Rita having played the piano for us, and support us in the upkeep of the church building and grounds (Graham has pretty-well repainted all of the internal walls at Cole Street at some point!).

God Bless you both – and here is to many more years of happiness together to come.

## Thank you for Breakfast Morning

Our first fundraiser of the year saw us come together for Breakfast at Cole Street. It was lovely to see new and returning faces. Some travelled from as far as Devon(!) (we'll pretend they weren't up visiting family 😊) and said how lovely and welcoming the event was. It was also great seeing members of the Toddler Group joining us also.

In total, our first fundraiser achieved a total of £270.00 towards church funds, the first bit of our way there towards our £4000 target for 2024!

Thanks everyone who supports our hard-working fundraising team allowing us to generate funds to ensure Cole Street is present for our family and local community.



## MOVIE NIGHT & CHIPPY TEA 08.03.24

We're joining on the evening of Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March for a Movie Night with the option of food beforehand.

The film, FREE to watch, will be The Greatest Showman starring Hugh Jackman. We will have snacks available – all we ask is for a donation. **The film will begin at 7pm.**

If you wish to have food beforehand, we will be having an option of fish & chips or sausage & chips **at 6.30pm** before then watching the film. The price of these will be: £6.00 fish & chips, £4.00 sausage & chips which includes a small donation to church funds.

If you wish to have this option, please let David know by Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March. (Sign-up and payment can be made at church on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>

## 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.

## Property Update

This month has seen a great deal of work undertaken at Cole Street including the transfer of remaining furniture from Trinity to Cole Street, further cutting of hedges, clearing of gutters, removal of waste and repair of the one faulty CCTV camera.

A special thank you to Brian and Nigel Drew for organising and donating bags of pea gravel which will be going towards patching potholes on the car park and to top up decorative areas of the site. Thanks to Terry for being on site to accept the delivery.

Also, a special thank you to Steve Dunning & Rob for replacing the 2 kitchen windows and ladies toilet window from single glazed glass with metal frames to double glazed UPVC windows. Steve has also improved the efficiency of the Sunday School windows to further reduce draughts and thus heat loss. Again, materials and labour has been completely donated by Steve for which we are extremely thankful and grateful.



before



after

## Circuit News

A Circuit monthly prayer meeting is being held and is moving times and venue around the circuit in a bid to be inclusive for all across the months. The next meeting to pray for our circuit will be at Woodside Methodist Church on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 11am. All are welcome.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*\*\*

Amplify 2024 will be taking place between 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.birminghammethodist.org.uk/amplify)

\*\*\*\*\*

The Circuit are again collecting Easter Eggs to donate to families this Easter. There is a collection box at Cole Street and any donations need to be placed into the box by the morning of 17<sup>th</sup> March so these can be passed onto Diane Robbins.

\*\*\*\*\*

The next Circuit meeting is on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March at Central at 7pm. (note the venue change)

\*\*\*\*\*

The Saltmine Group are hosting a Passion Play in Dudley this year on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April between 12:30pm and 2pm. There are chances to be involved in lots of capacities. For more information, visit: <https://saltminetrust.org.uk/thedudleypassionplay>

## Gas, Electricity & Energy

It is no new news (and no surprise) that our gas and electric bills are a significant expenditure to our church funds. Unfortunately, churches are not covered by the energy price cap, and can therefore be really quite high and, at present, we are spending hundreds of pounds per month on energy.

There are lots of simple ways in which you can help us keep costs down and inherently help to protect the environment as a result.

Please always ensure the following when using our church building:

- close doors to prevent draughts
- turn off lights in rooms if no one is in there
- only boil the amount of water you need when making hot drinks.

A thank you in advance to David, Sylv and Liz for their time and work on brokering deals to obtain deals in the best interest of the church with respect to energy. As our fixed tariff is coming to an end soon, we hope that prices, which are due to drop in April, will allow us to obtain an even better deal moving forwards.

# COLE STREET CHURCH 2024 FUNDRAISING EVENTS

[WWW.COLESTREETCHURCH.ORG.UK](http://WWW.COLESTREETCHURCH.ORG.UK)

**17** FEBRUARY

**BREAKFAST MORNING | 10:00AM**

**08** MARCH

**MOVIE NIGHT & CHIP SUPPER | 6:30PM**

**12** APRIL

**BEETLE DRIVE | 6:30PM**

**15** JUNE

**SUMMER FAYRE & TABLE TOP SALE | 10:30AM**

**12** JULY

**QUIZ NIGHT! | 7:00PM**

**14** SEPTEMBER

**MINI FAYRE | 10:30AM**

**19** OCTOBER

**BREAKFAST MORNING | 10:00AM**

**30** NOVEMBER

**CHRISTMAS FAYRE | 12NOON**



## 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](http://www.colestreetchurch.org.uk) email: [info@colestreetchurch.org.uk](mailto: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 Minutes Secretary

Mrs. G. Waters

### Church Treasurers

Mrs. E. Ralph, Mrs. S. Holyoake

### Property Steward & Secretary

Mr. D. Moss

email: [property@colestreetchurch.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:notices@colestreetchurch.org.uk)

### Communion Stewards

Mrs. H. Kiteley, Mrs. J. Sheppard

Please send any items for consideration for the April 2024 Newsletter by email to David Moss by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024. email: [notices@colestreetchurch.org.uk](mailto:notices@colestreetchurch.org.uk)