



BISHOP STREET METHODIST CHURCH

...serving people in Leicester City Centre (Reg. charity 1129068)
through welcome, worship and mission.

10a Bishop Street, Town Hall Square, Leicester, LE1 6AF.

Office tel. 0116 255 4111 E-mail: office@bishopstreetchurch.org.uk

Minister: Rev. Liam Dacre-Davis

SUNDAY 31st July 2022

Morning Service 10.45 am

led by

Sincere Makunde

The Sunday morning service will be recorded and the basic video will be available on an unlisted YouTube link from late lunchtime on Sunday. If you would like to be sent the link to watch later on Sunday or in the week, please request this from Miriam (mcg9@le.ac.uk).

ROTA for August: Please sign up on the ROTA SHEET located in the Vestry as a welcomer or refreshments volunteer. Thank you

Rota	Stewards	Welcomers	Refreshments
31 st July		Volunteer required	Volunteer required

SUNDAY SERVICES 10.45am August	
7 th August	Richard Cawthorn and Jessica Merryfield
14 th August	Rev. Liam Dacre-Davis (Holy Communion)
21 st August	Sincere Makunde
28 th August	Local Arrangements

The Sunday morning service will be recorded and the basic video will be available on an unlisted YouTube link from late lunchtime on Sunday. A recording has also been made of Sophia's funeral service. If you would like to be sent the link to watch later Sunday or in the week, please request this from Miriam (mcg9@le.ac.uk). We will also mount the link on the blog (see link below).

<https://bishopstreetmethodistchurchsundaystuff.wordpress.com/>

SUNDAY EVENING CIRCUIT SERVICES.

Bishop Street is part of the Leicester Trinity Methodist Circuit, a group of churches across the north, east and south sides of Leicester and Leicestershire. There are Sunday Evening circuit services each week to which all are welcome. They are held at 6.00pm via Zoom.

Zoom link for all these services is: -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87603771006?pwd=OTFSQ2JiL3hkWUp1NnU1b1ZiVDJudz09>

Meeting ID: 876 0377 1006

Passcode: 281338

If you wish to join by telephone, dial 0203 901 7895 and be ready to enter the Meeting ID and Passcode.

More news on Circuit Services: Midweek Holy Communion on Thursday mornings at 11am for 30 minutes. In rotation: first Thursday at Uppingham Road, second Thursday at Mayflower (Devotion Room) and third Thursday at Wesley Hall. No service on the fourth or fifth Thursday.

Proposed staffing changes in the Leicester Trinity Circuit from 2023.

These are the proposed changes to staffing in the Leicester Trinity Circuit from September 2023. These are being circulated and discussed now because the process of finding new presbyters has to start this August. The profiles of the churches to be offered to an incoming minister need to be finalised and submitted to the Chair of the District by the end of August. The circuit is looking to appoint 2 presbyters from September 2023. These are the proposed areas of responsibility.

New appointments - Christchurch, Clarendon Park (which is an LEP with the Baptist Church), plus Houghton on the Hill and Great Glen. This minister will also be the superintendent minister for the Circuit.

Wigston Magna, South Wigston, Countesthorpe, Blaby and Cosby plus ½ of the current Deacon's time.

Appointments for the current ministers in the circuit -

Bishop Street will be the responsibility of Rev Liam Dacre-Davies who will also take over the role of University Chaplain from Rev Derek Mclean who has asked to be part time from 2023.

Trinity Oadby remains the responsibility of Rev Derek McLean.

Mayflower, Wesley Hall and Uppingham Road and Edgehill remain with Rev Israel Selvanayagam.

Birstall, Syston and Rothley will be the responsibility of Rev Paula Hunt who will relinquish the Superintendency.

Rev Ivan Bennett remains in charge of Church of the Nativity, Cavendish Road.

The churches are being asked to consider ways in which they can co-operate more closely. Maybe looking at a single Church Council for a group of churches. To look at what they already do well and to find ways of building on that. Please consider what this means as we move on as a Circuit and pray for those churches who are facing change and are finding it hard to see their way forward. Mary Gill 14th July 2022.

Sophia Tineyi - 'Gogo' Sophia 1936-2022

A Tribute from Mary Gill

Sophia first came to worship with us here in Bishop Street over 20 years ago. She struggled to learn English, so communication was difficult at first, but she eventually achieved sufficient English to get by and we managed to understand each other.

Sophia was very determined woman and could make her views known. She was able to make friends with many members of the congregation and developed a close friendship with Tom and Betty Berry. She was able to come with me to their home when they found it difficult to come to church, and with our minister we were all able to share in Communion together. Followed by tea and biscuits.

Sophia was quick to identify a role for herself on a Sunday and became in charge of the hymn books which she prepared to hand out and welcome all who came to the service. She always placed hymn books for myself and also Robin, Miriam and Esther ready for us in our regular pews.

Sophia was very generous, and she loved to share her vegetables with us when she was able to grow these in her allotment and her garden at Phoenix Close. She would carry large bags of potatoes, onions and spinach to church for us to enjoy. I remember spreading these out on a table in our garden to photograph the results of her hard work.

Sophia was very hospitable. When you visited her, you knew she would be preparing food for you and there was no way you were to be allowed to refuse to stay and eat. Usually generous helpings of chicken and rice.

Many of our congregation came to know Sophia and will miss seeing her here worshipping with us and being such an important link between our two cultures.

Quite soon after Sophia came to join us here at Bishop Street, she was one of a group of women who met together, and they created this banner displayed from the pulpit.

Sophia insisted that a cup of tea should be included in this image, something we all share.

I am glad that we have this as a legacy of those times, and we have this as a reminder of Sophia. A woman whose Christian faith was strong and took her through both the happy times and the tragedies of her long life

May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

Benevolence Fund. Most Methodist churches have a Benevolence Fund. This is money which is used to help anyone linked to the church who is in urgent financial need.

An application for support goes to the Minister and is considered by a small group to see if it is thought a suitable request. Over the years this money has supported asylum seekers in their claims for asylum and supported others with unexpected expenses. Regular gifts are welcome at any time. However, it has been our practice to take up an extra offering at the end of the Communion service as well as an earlier regular collection for church funds. We will re-introduce this practice on Sunday 5th July. Any small gift will be welcome.



Ride and Stride on Saturday 10th September 2022

In aid of Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Churches Trust

Bishop Street Methodist Church will be open for 'Ride and Striders' from 10.00am to 4.00pm.

Help is needed:

To sign in and register the Ride and Striders.

To sell Heritage booklets.

To help guide visitors around the church and Heritage room.

The building is open to visitors for Heritage Open Doors Week, and we hope to have some Heritage material on display. Further information from Mary Gill.

3Generate - We're delighted to let you know that 3Generate, the Methodist children and youth assembly, will be taking place at the NEC in Birmingham again: the dates are **Friday 30th September to Sunday 2nd October 2022**. Do share this news widely across the District so the weekend can be pencilled into diaries. **3Generate** the event is part of Generate All Year Round (previously 3Generate 365), which seeks to create spaces where children, young people, their families and households can experience God as part of both the global and connexional church. In ways that recognise their innate spirituality and how God speaks and calls to them in the here and now. 3Generate and Generate All year Round seek to equip and enable children and young people to fully participate in an inclusive, diverse, justice seeking church that shares the good news through all it says and does.

Groups can stay on site for the entire weekend or visit for a day without an overnight stay. We know this flexibility is appreciated and means children and young people can participate in ways that suit them best. 3Generate 2022 tickets are on sale now until 31st July so groups can register and book tickets during this period, but payment isn't required until the first week of September 2022. More information can be found here. As a District, we are committed to supporting as many attendees as possible for 3 Generate. So here are details for you to access funding for each young person attending. We are also keen to hear of groups going so we can arrange a pre-trip gathering. If that's you get in contact with Matt at matt.forsyth@northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk. Lastly, there are opportunities to serve at 3Generate. Find out more here at the fulfilling roles that you can lend your gifts and talents to. We hope to see as many of you as possible at 3 Generate this year. Matt Forsyth

Monthly Bible Study by Zoom: last Thursday of the month at 7.30pm. For zoom link and study notes in advance, contact Julie Manning: manningsthe@hotmail.com 0116 276 7916.

Monthly interreligious meeting of Faith and Friendship Forum jointly organised by Mayflower, sectional Methodist Churches and St. Philip's Centre on the third Thursday at 7 pm starting with refreshments. The first event with the new arrangement will be held on Thursday 19th May at Mayflower. Contact James Blackhall jamesblackhall@gmail.com 0795 760 8617

Witnessing to Memory: A New Course at the Council of Christians and Jews (CCJ) This is an innovative new course being developed by the Council of Christians and Jews which will run from 8th September until November 2022, once a week for seven weeks, on Zoom. The interactive, seminar-based module is aimed at both Christian clergy and lay leaders in religious educational contexts (such as RE teachers, Interfaith Advisors, and others) who wish to deepen their knowledge and understanding of teaching on the topic of the Holocaust in relation to faith and religion. In addition to highlighting the imperative of teaching on the Holocaust, this course also seeks to explore the religious aspects of Holocaust education, both by identifying the religious elements of the Holocaust (for example, religious intolerance as a motivating factor of Jewish persecution and an appreciation of the complexities of religious identity) in addition to exploring the ways in which this can be communicated in a multi-faith, multi-cultural learning environment.

The seminar will be delivered primarily online, and CCJ will draw together world-class specialists from Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Educational Trust, UCL's Centre for Holocaust Education, Presence and Engagement at the Church of England, and other institutions. A centrepiece of the course will be a visit to the National Holocaust Centre in Nottinghamshire in October. The course aims to equip the participants with the knowledge and confidence to witness to the memory of the Holocaust, so that we never forget and strive to build a stronger, more tolerant society. Full details and an application form can be found on our website here: <https://ccj.org.uk/our-work/holocaust-education/witnessing> .

Bible Study. The Bible Study group meets every Thursday lunch time, 12 noon to 1.00pm, in the church. All are welcome to join the group who are currently studying the Gospel of Mark. For more information speak to Richard Gill.

Cell Group will be meeting on the third Wednesday in the month as usual, at 2pm in the vestry. The group would welcome some new members so please contact Dee on 241 8742. Next month the group is starting new book about reading and understanding Paul's writing and theology (in lay people's language!)

Chapel café. The café is open from 10:00-16:00 Monday to Friday and 10:00-15:00 Saturdays.

Weekly Offerings At the end of June, giving has dropped to 76% of what was budgeted for. Do check that your giving to the church is up to date or consider making a small increase if possible. Please either send a cheque to the church's Gift Aid Officer, Tony Moore at 46 Holmfield Road Leicester LE2 1SA, or you can make a BACS transfer to Bishop Street Methodist Church - please contact our treasurer - finance@bishopstreetchurch.org.uk - for further details. Alternatively, you can go to the Church's website www.bishopstreetchurch.org.uk and look for the 'Donate' button on the Home page and donate with a debit or credit card or set up a Direct Debit.