

BISHOP STREET METHODIST CHURCH

...serving people in Leicester City Centre
through welcome, worship and mission.

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

(Reg. Charity 1129068)

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

Minister: Revd Liam Dacre-Davis

**Notices for Sunday 8th September 2024,
10.45am Morning Service
Local Arrangement for Education Sunday
led by the Bishop Street Worship Team**

10.45am SUNDAY SERVICES for September 2024	
15 th September	Revd Liam Dacre-Davis
22 nd September	Revd Liam Dacre-Davis (Holy Communion) for Disability Awareness Sunday
29 th September	Miriam Stevenson (Harvest Festival). Note: At 4pm Revd Liam Dacre-Davis will be leading an important conversation for our congregation. See inside for details.

ROTA: Please sign up on the ROTA SHEET as a welcomer or refreshments volunteer.

RIDE AND STRIDE/HERITAGE OPEN DAY: Saturday 14th Sept. Volunteers needed for a sign-in rota. (see Mary Gill). Robin will be helping with a 'Ride Leicester' 10 mile cycle tour of 7 churches along the Soar Valley, starting at 10am at Town Hall Square. If anyone would like to join in, details are at <https://letsride.co.uk/rides/ride-leicester-ridestride-2024>

Robin is hoping for sponsors in aid of LeicesterShire Historic Churches Trust and Bishop Street Methodist Church, taking in the morning tour, plus an afternoon ride to the east of Leicester to see how many more churches can be visited. See Robin to sponsor in person, or visit his JustGiving page at <https://www.justgiving.com/page/robin-stevenson-sept-2024> .



Methodist Prayer Handbook for 2024-25 Praise and Protest

Take a look at the new Prayer Handbook to see if this is a resource you would like to use during the year. Please sign on the sheet provided if you take a copy for your own use.

If you are able, please make a donation towards the cost of the Handbook. Please add any donation to the regular church collection on a Sunday. (They cost £4.15 each.)

HARVEST FESTIVAL: On 29th September we will be celebrating our Harvest Festival. As we give thanks and bring gifts to share in God's kindness we will have a special guest, Zinthyia, whose Trust is based in our buildings and does so much to support and bring hope to women in difficulty and need. Zinthyia will be receiving our gifts on behalf of the Trust to share with those they work with. Zinthyia has asked for donations of dry rations such as pasta, pasta sauce, rice, tinned food (vegetables and fruits), tea and sugar. If you are able to buy one or more of these items over the next few weeks, that would be much appreciated. Please bring them on 29th September so that we can share the joy of the Harvest.

(In the next few weeks you might be able to pick up a tin or packet to donate, particularly something on offer as you do your shopping.)

CIRCUIT WELCOME SERVICE: A huge thank you to all who helped with preparations and on the day for last week's Circuit Welcome Service. Three ministers were welcomed into our Circuit. Revd Andrew Farrington is our new Superintendent Minister, and Revd Kim Alexander and Revd Christopher Andam join us from South Africa and Ghana, respectively. Rev Ivan Bennett (who was already an Authorised Minister within the circuit) was also welcomed to a new full-time post as part of the circuit team. Revd Christopher Andam also takes up the role of Co-ordinator of the Ghanaian Methodist Fellowship, and we enjoyed the contributions from the many members of the Fellowship's choir.

AN IMPORTANT CONVERSATION FOR OUR CONGREGATION

Sunday 29th September, 4pm (Bishop Street Methodist Church)

Light refreshments will be served.

In recent years, the Methodist Church in Britain has given its congregations the option of 'opting in' to celebrating same-sex marriage. The Methodist Church recognises that people's attitudes and understandings vary in response to such topics and encourages the Methodist people to 'live with contradictory convictions'.

This event offers the opportunity to celebrate that which holds us together as a worshipping community: the faith we share in Jesus Christ. It also gives us space to acknowledge our different understandings and experiences, especially in regard to marriage and relationships. The point of this event is NOT to argue from our different opinions, or to influence one another's theological understandings. The intention is to make space for one another in love, recognizing each other's faithful integrity, and celebrating the life that we share. In time, our Church Council will vote on the matter of 'opting in' to celebrating same-sex marriage. Therefore, I encourage the whole of our worshipping community to participate in this careful and compassionate conversation.

If anyone would like to talk with Rev Liam before these conversations take place, you can call or email (0116 257 1069/liam.dacre-davis@methodist.org.uk)

CHRISTIAN/PAGAN DIALOGUE: On Friday 13th September, 10am, there is an opportunity to take part in a dialogue session between Pagans and Christians. The intention is for this to be relaxed and conversational, with the possibility of further sessions being planned. The event will take place at St Philip's Centre (2a Stoughton Dr. North, Leicester LE5 5UB) whose work is supported by the Northampton Methodist District. You can talk to our own Rev'd Liam Dacre-Davis who hopes to attend, or contact the St Philip's Centre directly (admin@stphilipscentre.co.uk)

LEICESTER TRINITY CIRCUIT Sunday Evening services for 2024: You are welcome to join us online at 6.00pm. Please note: from September 8th there will be a new zoom link, which can be obtained from the minister: liam.dacre-davis@methodist.org.uk

BISHOP STREET ON THE INTERNET: The morning services are videoed each week, and posted on **Youtube** later the same day. They are 'unlisted', so the link each week, along with worship material relating to the Sunday worship, can all be found at:

<https://bishopstreetmethodistchurchsundaystuff.wordpress.com/blog-2/>

The Bishop Street Facebook Group share and hear news and keep in touch. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/bishopstreet/>.

Instagram Account for the Church. @bishopstreetchurch.

EASYFUNDRAISING: Bishop Street Methodist Church Leicester has been paid £34.44 this week thanks to our community shopping online! A huge thank you to everyone who supports us. Want to get involved? Sign up to easyfundraising so your online shopping at your favourite retailers turns into much-needed funding for us. It'll take you two minutes to sign up: <https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/bishop-street-met-ch>

BISHOP STREET WEEKLY 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 Luke. For more information speak to Richard Gill.

MONTHLY CELL GROUP: As we so appreciated Bishop Rowan Williams' knowledge and clarity of communication we have decided to study another of his books starting in June. It is called "Open to Judgement" This book is a collection of chapters, each written following either a lecture or sermon he had given and it addresses the challenges of living as a Christian in today's society. Anyone will be welcomed to join the group which meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 12-30 in the vestry. Please get in touch with Dee Brunning 0116 241 8742 or deebunning@yahoo.co.uk for further details

If you are new to Bishop Street Church and would like to keep in touch, we would be pleased receive your details via a Church contact form, available from the welcomers. These are passed to the minister who will ensure security and confidentiality.

To receive these notices by email each week, (or to unsubscribe) please send a request by email to Chris at the Church office: office@bishopstreetchurch.org.uk

CHAPEL CAFÉ. The café is run by the Zynthiya Trust and is open 10:00-16:00 Monday to Friday and 10:00-15:00 Saturdays, serving good quality affordable fair trade hot drinks, breakfast baps, soup, jacket potatoes, sandwiches, light snacks and delicious cakes.



BIG WELCOME: An article from the Methodist Recorder by John Aldridge.

Well over 200 worshippers from the Leicester Trinity Circuit, gathered in Bishop Street Methodist Church in Leicester City centre on September 1st for a service of welcome and celebration.

The newly appointed Chair of the Northampton District Rev Dr Sonia Hicks, welcomed the new Circuit Superintendent Rev Andrew Farrington and the Revs Kim Alexander, Christopher Andam and Ivan Bennett.

Mr Bennett is taking on additional responsibilities within the Circuit which have extended the scope of his ministry.

Mr Andam, in addition to being a Presbyterian in the Circuit, is also appointed as the co-ordinator of the Ghanaian Fellowship within the Methodist Church in Britain.

In recognition of this appointment 30 members of the Ghanaian Choir led the joyful singing during the worship.

The Old Testament lesson was read by Pedzisai Katsande (representing the Circuit Leadership Team) and the Epistle by Deacon Sharon Dilley (Representing the Circuit staff). The Gospel was read by a member of the Ghanaian Choir, Godfried Gyan-Addo.

Dr Hicks preached a challenging and inspirational sermon on the theme of the Good News. She encouraged the congregation to “see the world through the eyes of God” and “not to be afraid.” A recurring theme was “actions speak louder than words.” “We’ve forgotten how to fly” she asserted and asked the question: “Which would you prefer: cages or wings?”

A collection which raised £1,125.00, will be shared between the local MHA home “Aigburth” and “All we Can.”

The service, conceived and conducted by Rev Liam Dacre-Davis, concluded with the singing of “Great is thy faithfulness.” It was a wonderful start to a new and hopeful era for the Leicester Trinity Circuit.

John Aldridge