BISHOP STREET METHODIST CHURCH

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

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Office tel. 0116 255 4111 E-mail: office@bishopstreetchurch.org.uk
Minister: Revd Kim Alexander

Notices for ADVENT SUNDAY SERVICE 10:45am
Sunday 29th NOVEMBER 2026
led by Deacon Karen McBride
'Hope is Hiding in Plain Sight'.

Today is our Christmas Gift Service: an opportunity to donate items that will be given to people who may get few gifts this Christmas. (See inside for more details)

10.45am SUNDAY SERVICES for November/December 2026	
6th December	Revd Kim Alexander, ADVENT 2 *'A New Chapter Begins'.* Holy Communion
13th December	Deacon Karen McBride, ADVENT 3 *'God is nearer than we think'.* Christmas Carol Service
20th December	Deacon Karen McBride, ADVENT 4 *'God Interrupts for Good Reasons'.* Christmas service with Nativity Play, followed by Christmas bring-and-share lunch
Friday 25th Dec **10.00am**	CHRISTMAS MORNING CELEBRATION, led by Revd Kim Alexander: *'Jesus is Here'*

MIDWEEK COMMUNION: 12.30pm on Wednesday 2nd December, led by Revd Kim Alexander in the Church Prayer Corner. All are welcome

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

CHRISTMAS GIFT SUNDAY: Today (and next Sunday), we are receiving items to give to people who may get very little this Christmas. We will be sharing via the **Women's Refuge** and the **Community of Grace**.

Ben at Community of Grace gives useful guidance for all of these, as he says, "With our current work and the joint work with One Roof our basic food / clothing are met. What would be appreciated is nice chocolates, savoury treats, deodorant sets. Something that says 'You are loved / cared for', more than just an essential item".

Please bring unwrapped non-perishable presents on Gift Sunday or early in December so they can be directed to appropriate people. Thanks for anything you can donate.

We will also have a '**Christmas Postbox**' to share cards with other Church members, available from December, alongside an opportunity to send a 'collective card' to everyone at Church.

DAILY ADVENT REFLECTIONS - An invitation from Revd Kim:
Dear God's beloved, As we begin the season of Advent, I would like to invite you to consider joining us on a special journey as we prepare our hearts and lives for the coming of the Christ Child anew. This year, we are offering the opportunity to receive a short **daily Advent devotion via WhatsApp**, sent out each morning throughout Advent.

Each devotion will offer a thought, a reflection, or a little encouragement to carry with us into the day. In the busyness of life, it can be so easy to rush towards Christmas without pausing to reflect on the deeper meaning of this season. These daily moments will give us an opportunity to slow down, make space for God, and prepare ourselves afresh for the coming of Christ. My hope is that, by sharing these devotions, we can journey through Advent together as a community of faith, even as we go about our different daily lives. If you would like to take part, please sign up by completing a consent form available at Church / Church Office, giving permission for the daily devotions to be sent to you via WhatsApp.

May this Advent be a time of renewed hope, quiet reflection, and joyful expectation as we prepare to welcome Emmanuel, God with us. Shalom. Kim

JUST ONE NAME: On Remembrance Sunday we were hearing about those killed in 1916 at the Battle of the Somme, and Alison gave us the story of William Kingsley Callard, a Sunday School teacher and local preacher at Bishop Street, killed aged 19, by a shell on the first day of the battle. When BBC Radio Four's 'Broadcasting House' programme asked listeners to research a name from a war memorial in their local context, Alison wrote to them about William. They asked her to record a short description which they broadcast as one of three of the names they had received, last Sunday morning. If you want to hear Alison's item (in which she slips in several mentions of Bishop Street Church!) you can find it about 22 minutes into the program, available at https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m00349lt .

BISHOP STREET WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY. The Bible Study discussion group meets on Thursday lunch times and are beginning our reading through the Acts of the Apostles. A small group makes this happen at 12 noon to 1.00pm each Thursday and would welcome any Members and Friends who would like to join us in the Church Prayer Corner.

MONTHLY MIDWEEK COMMUNION. On the **first Wednesday** of each month we will have a short Communion Service at 12.30pm in the Prayer Corner. All are welcome.

MONTHLY CELL GROUP: Change of timing: We are continuing to meet on the second Wednesday of the month but at the earlier time of **12noon.** Anyone is welcome to join us as we engage with "Luke for Everyone" by Tom Wright, the former Bishop of Durham who uses his extensive research and knowledge to help ordinary people understand more aspects of the teaching and life of Christ.

LOCAL PREACHER NEWS: On Sunday 4th December at 4pm at Birstall Methodist Church, we celebrate with **Colin Rodway** as he is admitted as a Methodist Local Preacher, having successfully completed his training. All are welcome to join this act of worship, and support Colin on this special day.

LEICESTER TRINITY CIRCUIT Sunday Evening services for 2026: You are welcome to join us online at 6.00pm each Sunday. Please note: the zoom link can be obtained from the circuit office: office@leicestertrinitycircuit.org.uk

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.

CHAPEL CAFÉ – NOTE: CHANGE TO OPENING TIMES. The café is run by the Zinthiya Trust and is currently open all week **10:00-15:00 Monday to Saturday**, serving good quality affordable fair trade hot drinks, breakfast baps, soup, jacket potatoes, sandwiches, light snacks and delicious cakes.

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/

METHODIST WOMEN IN BRITAIN: Next year's MWiB Conference at the Swanwick Conference Centre takes place Friday 9th – Sunday 11th April 2027, cost £210 per person. A deposit of £100 secures your place. Booking is now open on the MWiB website. Conference theme: *Wellness*. Considering together our spiritual, physical and emotional wellbeing through fellowship, worship, Bible study, a wide selection of workshops and with our keynote speaker Deacon Karen McBride. We Arise and Shine as women of faith in our communities. There is one free place per District for someone who has not ever been to the Annual Conference. There are also generous bursaries available. The application form is on the website: www.mwib.org.uk or talk to Mary Gill.

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