

Quarterly Newsletter

Introducing our new District Mission Enabler: Rev Dr Simon Cartwright

I am delighted to be joining the Nottingham and Derby District. I am passionate about sharing in God's continuing mission to grow his kingdom.

What's my background?



Rev Dr Simon Cartwright

Well, I spent 10 years working in regeneration for councils, working alongside others to build partnerships and manage projects. 20 years ago, I became a vicar in the Anglican Church, where I felt a particular calling to an outward-looking and community-minded ministry. I always prefer to be out and about, making contacts, building relationships, identifying and meeting needs. For the last 3 years, I have led Transforming Notts Together, an ecumenical charity that sought to inspire, equip and connect churches around issues of poverty and justice.

The District Mission Enabler role is all about coming alongside the local church, to help connect with your community. Whether it be through praying together for God's vision, helping with mission planning, or practical training. I am available to help you.

If you want a coffee and chat
call me on **Tel: 07852 129542**
Email: dme@methodist-nd.org.uk

Simon Cartwright
District Mission Enabler



District Events between March 2026 - May 2026

Saturday 7th March

- **District Celebration**
- Worship led by Lucy Bunce
- Location: Melbourne Methodist Church, DE73 8EJ
- Time: 18:00 – 20:00

Tuesday 24th March

- **Reconciliation Group Training Day**
- Information and resourcing of the practicalities of being part of a District Reconciliation Group, using real life examples, appreciative listening and how to create reconciliation spaces effectively and efficiently.
- Location: Rivergreen Methodist Hub, NG11 8AU
- Time: 10:00 – 15:00
- Contact: pa@methodist-nd.org.uk

Monday 11th May

- **District Stationing Evening**
- For all those entering stationing and for all circuits
- Location: Rivergreen Methodist Hub, NG11 8AU
- Time: 19:00 – 21:00

Thursday 12th March

- **Presbyteral Session of Synod**
- Reflecting on ministeral wellbeing.
- Location: Rivergreen Methodist Hub, NG11 8AU
- Time: 10:00 – 16:00

Saturday 25th April

- **District Gathering (Representative Synod)**
- Keeping Christ at the heart of all our relationships – equality, diversity and inclusion is a Gospel imperative
- Location: Oldfield's Hall Middle School Uttoxeter ST14 7PL
- Time: 10:00 – 16:00

Tuesday 2nd June

- **District Circuit Steward Gathering**
- Support and sharing meeting
- Location: Rivergreen Methodist Hub, NG11 8AU
- Time: 19:00 – 21:00



Save the Date

District Safeguarding Conference
Littleover Methodist Church

**Saturday
13th June**

President and Vice President Visit
TBC

**21st - 23rd
August**

District Gathering (Representative session of
Synod)
Nutall Methodist Church

**Saturday
19th
September**



Training Events – Offered by Connexion

Monday 9th March

- **Reflective Line Management of Lay Employees in the Methodist Church**
- This course for first-time or long-time line managers offering a holistic approach and an exploration of good practice
- Online: 09:30 to 16:30
- [Eventbrite](#)

Wednesday 22nd April

- **Lay Orientation Training Day**
- A day for new Lay Employees to meet, explore their role, understand Methodism and get to grips with key employment practices and much more
- Online: 10:00 to 15:00
- [Eventbrite](#)

Tuesday 5th May

- **Dreaming Beyond – for small and rural churches**
- In a time when many small and rural churches face difficult decisions about their future, this online event offers space to reflect, connect, and discern
- Online: 13:30 to 15:00
- [Eventbrite](#)

Wednesday 20th May

- **The Staffroom, for Lay Employees**
- A 45 minute online space for lay employees in the Methodist Church to catch-up. There's no agenda, but each time we'll have a different conversation starter
- Online: 11:00 – 11:45
- [Eventbrite](#)



Safeguarding Section

Many of us are in the grips of **Traitors** fever once again, and find ourselves glued to the latest episode on a Thursday night. This show has led to many discussions in the safeguarding world, around grooming, power and how strong personalities impact others.

Fellow ROS, Rachel Bourne, has written an article on her viewpoint of the Celebrity Traitors, and how it can mirror our own church contexts. I found it a interesting read, particularly as we reflect on the Past Case Review, which was commissioned 10 years ago.

You can read Rachel's article [here](#).

The voices of survivors from the Past Cases Review continue to resonate. To learn more about how the church is responding today, visit [here](#).

Rosie Clements
Regional Officer for Safeguarding

A note from the District Digital Media Champion

My name is Tess and I became the Digital Media Champion for the District in 2023 and was able to make the role my own. I began an Instagram account for the District which now has over 150 followers. I have also been seen taking photos at Synod and other District events. A new focus of mine is the 'Mission Spotlights' project, where I visit churches to film clips of initiatives that are exciting, unusual, or just that you're really proud of! I then edit the clips into a 40-60 second video for our social media. The first video was from a day spent at West Bridgford Methodist Church in the Nottingham South Circuit, and you can see it here: [Mission Spotlight](#). Please get in touch if you would like your church to feature in a future video

..Alongside this, I am also available to offer support to churches and circuits regarding your social media or digital outreach. I can't run accounts for you but I can advise you on social media best practices, and help you work out your church and community's digital identity.

If you have any questions, something you want me to film/photograph, or just want to have a chat, don't hesitate to contact me! I work Tuesdays and Thursday mornings (generally) and my contact details are below.

Tess Clothier
digital@methodist-nd.org.uk / 07301 206394





Spotlight in a Circuit

Grantham & Vale of Belvoir

Dawn Brown

BINGHAM 10th ANNIVERSARY

It was at Easter 2016 that the new Methodist Church building in Bingham was completed and opened for worship. Since then we have been blessed not only with a wonderful facility but in seeing the Lord adding to our numbers and deepening worship and spiritual life. 10 years on the congregation are looking to discern the way ahead, assisted by a particular focus in Sunday worship. For 5 weeks the preaching will examine our vision, mission, values, worship and the way forward. We will then seek the views of all who worship with us as we prayerfully contemplate what God has in store for us and open our hearts and minds to His leading



CIRCUIT QUIET DAY

For the second year running a Circuit Day of Quiet and Reflection has been organised and will take place at Bottesford chapel on 14th March

One of our Worship Leaders first brought the idea to the Worship Leaders'/ Local Preachers' Meeting when it became apparent that, while we have an annual study day when we look in depth at a particular topic, there is not a time when we relax and reflect on our journey with God. It is an opportunity to listen to what He is saying to us as individuals and Circuit members

Rev Peter Taylor will be leading us again this year in times of silence, music and prayer. Our day will end around the Lord's table as we partake of the sacrament together.



Bottesford Methodist Church
14th March 10.00am—3.00pm
Refreshments from 9.30am

Led by
Rev. Peter Taylor
and
Jacque Dawson
on the theme Holy Spirit.

The event is open to everyone .

There will be spoken parts and parts of the day will be in silence concluding with Holy Communion.
Please bring a packed lunch, cake will be provided.

Spotlight in a Circuit (continued)

Grantham & Vale of Belvoir Dawn Brown



CHRISTIAN UNITY AT BOTTESFORD

At Bottesford the Week of Christian Unity was celebrated with local Anglicans and visitors to the weekly Warm Welcome cafe. Rev Dawn Brown and Anglican friends led the service, and members of the congregation joined with those attending the regular cafe session which provides a much needed social space for members of the local community.

HARROWBY LANE COMMUNITY EVANGELIST

Harrowby Lane Methodist Church in Grantham welcomed Community Evangelist Richard Thomas as their lay worker 18 months ago. His role was to work across the ages both in church and in the local community. The first priority was to support and develop outreach activities and to re-energise the congregation in evangelism, especially utilising the opportunities in front of them. Church members have been inspired to start new groups aimed at folks both inside and outside the church. A member has said, “The atmosphere has changed since Richard came and we are seeing some new faces at Sunday morning service.” The congregation has bought into the idea that evangelism is a community endeavour and not just an individual one; we all play a part because it is what we are all about



CAROL SINGING AT BINGHAM

Wrapped up well against the cold, a number of singers , plus two musicians entertained the Christmas shoppers in Bingham’s Eaton Place retail precinct. Their efforts were rewarded with a great response - £583 was raised for the 2025 church charity, Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) for Sick Children. Over the year a total of £4072 was donated to GOSH, where the daughter of one of our church family members has received treatment.