



Jersey
Methodist Circuit

Newsletter
January 2026

2026 Happy New Year



SUPERINTENDENT / CHAIR OF CI DISTRICT

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Dear Friends

As we step into a New Year, let us remember that time itself is a gift from God, and There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens (Ecc 3:1). This time of year, as we turn the first page of the calendar over or start a new diary, we have the opportunity, to look back with honesty, as well as look forward with trust and hope. The year behind us will have been filled with moments of joy and sadness, encased within familiar patterns amid unexpected turns and surprises. The year ahead, brings both uncertainty and promise and likely some changes.

Change is a reality of our life together as churches and as disciples. Some change comes gently, almost unnoticed; other change arrives unexpectedly and challenge us. Throughout Scripture we read that God's people are rarely left unchanged by their journey. Abraham sets out without knowing the destination. The exiles return to rebuild with mixed feelings of hope and grief. The disciples discover that resurrection does not restore the old world but opens a new one. God meets people not by freezing life in a comfortable moment, but by walking with them into what comes next, so perhaps we should think in terms of transformation rather than focus on the dreaded C word.

John Wesley spoke of a lifelong journey of going on unto perfection, a gradual work of God's grace through faith, empowering individuals to become more like Christ. This journey was not intended to imply we will be devoid of our flaws and brokenness, but inspite of them continue earnestly on our journey into God's love. We are a people shaped by grace that is, prevenient, justifying and sanctifying. Grace does not leave us where we are, it leads us forward.

So as we journey together into 2026, we do so with hope. Not a fragile hope, nor hope that rests in our plans, structures, or certainty, but rooted in the faithfulness of God who says, See, I am doing a new thing (Isaiah 43:19) and Behold, I am making all things new (Revelation 2:15). Whatever lies ahead for our circuit, our churches, our communities, or our own lives, God remains ever present.

May this year be marked by attentiveness to God's Spirit, courage to respond to change, and confidence that hope is not something we generate, but something we receive. Let us step forward together, trusting that the One who calls us is already there.

Yours in Christ

Dawn

Prayer for the Week: January

Sunday 4th January

Heavenly Father, thank You for bringing us into a new year. We praise You for new beginnings and fresh opportunities. Lord, as we step into January 2026, guide our steps and help us to trust fully in Your plan for our lives. Let this month be filled with Your grace and blessings. Amen.



Sunday 11th January

Lord, we ask You to calm our fears remove all anxiety and worry from our hearts and fill us with your love and peace and remind us that You are in control. Let Your peace guide us through every moment of this month. Amen.



Sunday 18th January

Lord in the midst of winter remind us that in the darkness your light still shines. Help us to trust You to be our provider in every area of life. Open doors of opportunity, bless the work of our hands, and meet every need that arises this month. You are the source of love and grace. Amen.



Sunday 25th January

Father, teach us to have a heart of gratitude, seeing Your blessings even in small things. Help us to thank You daily and glorify You in every season of life. Amen.



Catching up with the Methodist Homes for the Aged

We enjoyed a very meaningful and spiritual time at both of our homes, Stuart and Maison La Corderie, in the lead up to Christmas. Many community groups visited to perform and spend time socialising with residents, creating a wonderful festive atmosphere throughout the season.

It was especially lovely to welcome young children from several local primary schools. Their excitement for Christmas and their interactions with residents brightened everyone's day. We are continuing discussions with the schools to explore how we might build on these connections in 2026 and arrange more frequent visits.

We remain committed to providing residents with a varied and engaging programme of activities and would welcome hearing from anyone who may be interested in coming in to perform or help entertain our residents. Contact details can be found on our website mhajersey.org.

From everyone at Methodist Homes for the Aged we wish you all the best in 2026.

Gerard McCormack (Chief Executive Officer – MHA)



Bethlehem Film Night

- Saturday 10th January
- Bethlehem Methodist Church, St Mary
- 6.00p.m. for meal, 7.30pm for Film

Please let Dianne Huddleston know by the 7th January, if you are attending the meal (Tel: 07797747621)

Christmas at Bethesda

In a wonderfully decorated church, Bethesda enjoyed a beautiful Christmas Candlelight Carol Service on the Sunday before Christmas. The church was full and members had responded to the challenge of bringing someone with them. The carols and readings telling the story of our Saviour's birth were enhanced by individuals holding candles and being encouraged to share the light.



On Christmas Day the church was full again as Bethlehem folk and others from around the circuit were welcomed; Jo Goodhall helped the children to share some of their presents. The church was filled with bubbles and the excitement of other presents. Rev Peter led everyone in thinking about "If Christmas..." and the singing of the carols was inspiring.





Sign-up at:
www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/wholehearted-monthly-tickets-1082365166349

January
13
 Tuesday

7-9^{GMT} PM
sign up now

wholehearted[♥]
 monthly

online and immersive
 monthly spiritual series

with special guest
Cole Arthur Riley
 live in conversation
 across the globe

Hosted by
 The Methodist Church
 open to all

The Learning Network

The learning network provides free opportunities for everyone to expand their knowledge. Some online courses available through Eventbrite include:

- What is the next step that your church might take in its pathway to net-zero?
Methodist Church Eco Community
- **Growing through change and conflict** - How can your church manage conflict and change well?
- **Mental Health First Aid** - 2-day courses for those supporting adults and young people. There is also a half-day mental health aware course. All of these excellent courses are heavily subsidised by the Methodist Church.
- **What does it mean for our Churches to be sensory space aware?** - an equipping for equality event Book online at: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/what-does-it-mean-for-our-churches-to-be-sensory-space-aware-registration-1542467183869
- **Responding to Bullying and Harassment** - Online event on June 9th (9.30am to 4pm) - Book online at: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/responding-to-bullying-and-harassing-behaviour-registration-1541934079339

Follow the Learning Network on Facebook, through *The Learning Network (Methodist Church)* group.



Christmas Nativity

This Nativity tableau was built as part of the Messy Vintage session at Philadelphie on Tuesday the 16th of December. The figures were knitted by Doreen Munro several years ago.



Another wonderful Nativity scene, this time made by the young people at the Ebenezer Carol service on the 21st, which was lead by Rev Debbie Poole.

Ebenezer Pantivity

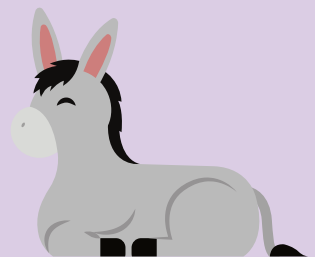


This years Pantivity tells the story of the nativity but from Joseph's perspective.

The annual Pantivity at Ebenezer took place on the 14th of December and was lead by Rev Dawn.



A true family affair, everyone was offered crowns and halos as they entered, although many had already come dressed up ready to join in.



There were lots of lines for wise travelers, shepherds, and angels, with lots of fun being had by all.

Growing through Change and Conflict

Monday 26th and Tuesday 27th January 2026
7pm to 9.30pm on zoom

A workshop over two evenings to consider how conflict works in ourselves and in our church community, and develop some simple tools to transform situations of tension, conflict and change.

Book your place here:

**[https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/
positive-working-together-
818889](https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/positive-working-together-818889)**



Contact Brec Seaton: seatonb@methodistchurch.org.uk

Bookings close on 18.01.26

The Methodist Church has a training partnership with Place for Hope and there will be a small charge for non-Methodists sharing with us on this day



Christmas at Georgetown



The 1st East Rainbows group, which meets at Georgetown, put together three hampers for Grace Trust for their Reverse Advent Calander, supplemented by donations from Georgetown members. They then went one step further by creating two small Christmas chocolate hampers and a few Christmas cards for the residents and staff at Maison La Corderie, which were accepted by Georgetown member Betty Nutter.

The girls have been working towards one of the new interest badges, the "Present Maker" and with all these hampers and cards they all managed to earn their badge!



The theme of the church's decorations this year was stars, which were assembled and arranged by the Monday group, 9th Greve d'Azette Brownies and 1st East Rainbows. A week before Christmas the members hosted a very well attended Soup and Carols, which brought in folk from around the parish. The displays reflected the Advent circuit course – you are a gift.





Boxing Day Community Coffee Morning at Georgetown



Approaching Christmas, Helen Higginson realised that many of the members and friends in the community would be tucking into their mince pies alone at home on Boxing Day.

So she organised the inaugural Boxing Day coffee morning at Georgetown and folk poured in to enjoy carrot cake, Christmas cake, fairy cakes, chocolate brownies, sausage rolls and, yes, mince pies with plenty of chatter and fun. Helen was supported by Rev Dawn with her husband Nick and daughter Ellie.



Local pianist sensation Aaron Le Maistre (who had played at a concert in August fundraising for young quadriplegic Lily McGarry) entertained with a wide range of light Christmas music.



Georgetown's super bakers Joyce Noel, Maggie Myers and Ruth Heaven relished a morning off whilst Betty Nutter, Melvyn Birch and church treasurer David Webber gave their thumbs up to the baking and craic!



All agreed that it was a very positive outreach initiative from Helen and they are already looking forward to next year's mince pies!



Encounter 2026

a Methodist exploration of discipleship & vocation

Ever wondered what God is calling you to?

Would you like to have a greater impact as a Christian disciple?

Make 2026 the year in which you join
with others to explore your gifts and faith

"Encounter was
a transformative
journey, offering
meaningful insights
into ministry pathways
within Methodism and
helping me to discern
how I might serve
within this community."

Munawar,
Encounter 2024

Encounter is...

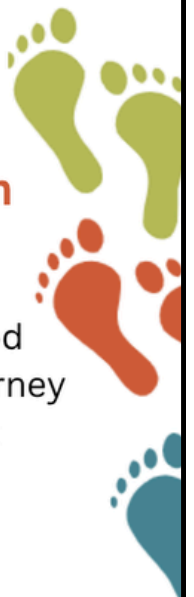
a place to deepen your awareness of God
an opportunity to reflect on your faith journey
a supportive small group environment
for sharing and learning together

starts February 2026 ~
ends November 2026

Taster sessions in January 2026
Thursday 15th, Monday 19th,
Tuesday 27th all @7pm

Find out more and
book your taster session

methodist.org.uk/encounter



Soup, Pud & Chat

Ebenezer Methodist Church welcomes everyone to join them at Trinity Parish Hall on:

- Tuesday, 27th January
- Tuesday, 24th February

Time: 12.15pm - 1.30pm

No booking needed and no charge to attend but donations will be welcome in aid of MIND Jersey.

If you have any questions or offers of help, please contact Rosemary on 07797 792242

Generations

Monthly sessions that bring together old and new generations to create a warm and welcoming environment filled with song and craft.

- Location: Ebenezer Methodist Church
- Time: From 2.45pm
- Session dates:
 - 30th January
 - 27th February
 - 27th March



Individuals and care home groups welcomed. For further information please contact Amy Britton on 07797 769186.



KAIROS
ARTS

Stories from India

FRIDAY 09 JANUARY | 6:30PM

St Martin's Methodist Church Hall

Missionary Disciples

An inspiring morning with
John McGinley

**Executive Director of Myriad
and New Wine Director of
Church Planting**

**Saturday 17th January
9.30-12.30pm
at St Paul's Centre**

**Discover how to live
authentically on mission with
Jesus & engage creatively
with the growing openness to
the Gospel**

**Open to all
Register now**



CIRCUIT DIARY FOR THE NEXT MONTH:

WEEKLY EVENTS:

- Monday: Drop in at St Aubin's Methodist Church - 1pm to 4pm
- Monday: Messy Bears - 9am to 12pm (Term-time only)
- Wednesday: Coffee Buzz at Samares - 10.30am
- Thursday: Community Coffee Morning at St Aubin's Methodist Church - 10am to 12.30pm
- Thursday: Community Coffee Morning at Georgetown Methodist Church - 10am to 12 noon
- Thursday: Bible study & soup lunch at St Helier Methodist Centre

SPECIAL EVENTS:

January:

- 6th - Circuit Leadership Team Meeting - Georgetown - 7.30pm
- 6th - Messy Church at Philadelphie - 3.30pm
- 14th to 15th - SMG2
- 20th - Messy Vintage at Philadelphie - 2.30pm to 4.30pm
- 20th - Circuit Meeting - St Martin - 7.30pm
- 21st - Local Preacher's Meeting - 7.30pm
- 27th - Soup, Pud & Chat at Trinity Parish Hall - 12.15pm to 1.30pm
- 30th - Generations at Ebenezer - from 2.45pm

February:

- 3rd - Messy Church at Philadelphie - 3.30pm

Remember to also check out the Circuit calendar on the Circuit website for a collection of all events happening across the circuit. If you want to have an event added, just email the circuit administrator with details of the event (circuit.office.jsy@gmail.com).

Connect:

- www.jerseymethodist.org.uk
- Facebook 'Jersey Methodist Circuit'

