



# The Methodist Church

**Northampton District**  
**Hinckley Circuit 23/11**  
**02 April 2026**

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**The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.**



'You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here'. Mark 16: 6

## **Office Update**

Please note, The office will be closed all week commencing 07 April. We will return Tuesday 14 April.

Please submit notices for the next newsletter to [hinckleycircuitoffice@gmail.com](mailto:hinckleycircuitoffice@gmail.com) before 21 April. Thank you.



Sunday services are live streamed each Sunday from 10.30 from Burbage Methodist Church. If you would like to join the worship, the link is:

[www.youtube.com/@burbagemethodistchurch/live](http://www.youtube.com/@burbagemethodistchurch/live)

## **Easter Services**

For Easter Sunday services in each church in our circuit – please see [www.hinckleymethodistcircuit.org.uk](http://www.hinckleymethodistcircuit.org.uk)

### **Maundy Thursday 02 April**

Burbage Methodist Church at 7pm. Including Holy Communion led by Colin Haddon

Hinckley Methodist Church at 7pm. Joint service with St Mary's including Holy Communion led by Rev'd Edward Sakwe

### **Easter Sunday 05 April**

Sapcote methodist Church sunrise service at 6.30am will include Holy Communion. Led by Rev'd Edward Sakwe.

**Warm Easter greetings from the Northampton Chair of  
District, Rev'd Sonia Hicks**

*Give thanks to the Lord, our King. His love endures for ever*



Please see overleaf for Sonia's letter – thank you.

Dear Beloved in Christ,

I love this time of year as we shake off the remnants of Winter and Spring beckons. It is wonderful to see the golden daffodils and the blossoms on the trees. Spring heralds warmer days, brighter mornings. There is so much that looks promising in the garden – new life is palpable.

And yet, the media is full of death, hatred, old ways of settling differences in the human family. Once again, dialogue takes second place to cluster bombs and missiles. Once again, the toxic rhetoric grows hour by hour and the voice of peace seems a mere whisper. The promise we see in nature is not echoed in our human discourses.

How bleak things must have seemed to the women hurrying to the tomb on that first Easter day! The person whom they loved and had followed faithfully had been cruelly executed. All their hopes, all their dreams had disappeared in an instant. They must have thought “Ah well, nothing will change. God has forgotten us – God has abandoned us.” It is easy for us to think that too as communities are reduced to rubble and lives are torn apart in the Middle East, in Africa, and in every other conflict that rages unabated. But God had neither forgotten nor abandoned the forlorn group of women mourning the crucified Jesus. Death did not have the last word and neither does war.

Easter is a constant light as we long for a world where discourses do not always end in conflict. Where women and girls can know freedom from sexual exploitation. Where the Good News isn't an aspiration but a reality which Christians seek to nurture in their lives and in their communities. What does the Good News look like in our churches and Circuits? What does Good News mean in our workplaces and neighbourhoods? It is possible to glimpse that reality people gather to seek common ground. We can see that reality when a community lunch becomes the place of reconciliation.

I wonder if going to the tomb, on that first Easter day, was in itself more real, more in keeping with God's ways than those women could ever have imagined. A prayerful act of defiance in the face of all the cruelty of the Roman Empire and the powers that be. What does prayerful defiance look like for us?

The hope for a better world is part of the Easter message. God has not forgotten us – God, in Jesus, has not abandoned us.

*When our hearts are wintry, grieving or in pain,  
Then your touch can call us back to life again,  
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.*  
[STF 306 v.4 © Trustees for Methodist Purposes]

May God's peace be a reality for you this Easter.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sonia". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



## **Safeguarding Training Course**

The next Creating Safer Space Foundation Module course will be at Burbage Methodist Church on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April 9.30am-1.00pm. If you need to train for the first time or renew your training (this is required every four years) then you are welcome on the course.

Please let Colin Haddon know if you think you will be attending [cchaddon@dunelm.org.uk](mailto:cchaddon@dunelm.org.uk) 01455 617692.

## **ECO-Church**

### **Caring for our world in April**

As food waste collections begin, we are increasingly aware of what we discard and put into landfill. This month you are encouraged to ensure all food waste goes into your new bin.

We also encourage you to collect used blister packs from medication. These normally end up in landfill but can be recycled by popping into the recycling box at Boots stores, including Hinckley and Fosse Park.

Just imagine the impact if you dug a hole and placed them in the ground in your own garden!!!

Thank you for reflecting, respecting and responding.

Rosemary

## Wellbeing Walks at Bradgate Park

By Liezl Laubschur



13th April

27th April

11th May

25th May

Meet 9.45am to 10am at Bradgate Park Newtown Linford Car Park.

Car Parking charges apply.

Walk starts at 10am prompt and lasts 90 minutes.

2 walks take place - a gentle stroll along the carriageway or a ramble into the Outer Park.

## Wholehearted – 14 April 2026, 7.00pm

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Wholehearted continues in April with guest speaker the Revd Charissa Suli, President of the Uniting Church in Australia. She is the youngest person and the first of Pacifica heritage to hold this esteemed position. She'll speak about her Presidential theme:

### **Threads of Love: Weaving Christ's Love Across Cultures and Boundaries**

Wholehearted is a free monthly online gathering of Christians hosted by the Methodist Church and open to all.

Free tickets available from:

[https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/wholehearted-monthly-tickets-1082366771149?utm\\_source=Methodist%20Church%20House&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=15411052\\_Methodist%20News19%2F03%2F2026&dm\\_i=BVI,96B8S,L0KQU5,12GJU9,1,0,0,0](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/wholehearted-monthly-tickets-1082366771149?utm_source=Methodist%20Church%20House&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=15411052_Methodist%20News19%2F03%2F2026&dm_i=BVI,96B8S,L0KQU5,12GJU9,1,0,0,0)

# District Study Day

Led by Rev'd Richard Andrew

President of the Methodist Conference 2025/26

'Our Story, Our Song: A Guide for Disciples'



Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2026  
9.45am - 3.00pm

taking place at

Thornborough Methodist Church  
The Green, Thornborough, MK18 2DL

In person & on Zoom



Please sign up with the District Office for  
attendance in person or online:  
[office@northamptonmethodistdistrict.co.uk](mailto:office@northamptonmethodistdistrict.co.uk)



Sapcote Methodist Church

Invites You To

# QUIZ NIGHT

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WITH FISH & CHIPS

AND A RAFFLE

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Saturday 25th April

7:00pm

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£12.50 a ticket

Tickets are available for purchase until 18<sup>th</sup> April

Enquire by Barbara Williams


07817 454819

## Hinckley Food Bank



### JOIN THE 300 CLUB

Small Gifts. Big Impact.

Just **£3** a Month Can Help Transform Lives 

We're inviting 300 people to give just £3 per month to support local individuals and families in crisis. Together, that's £10,800 a year, and even more with Gift Aid!

### Why Regular Giving Matters

- ✓ Helps us plan ahead
- ✓ Enables us to respond quickly in a crisis
- ✓ Builds a sustainable, community-led solution to hunger and hardship
- ✓ Reflects our shared faith in action

Standing order forms can be requested from the office or Hinckley Food bank

[info@hinckleyarea.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@hinckleyarea.foodbank.org.uk)

<https://hinckleyarea.foodbank.org.uk/>

**HINCKLEY CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY ACTION**  
**Hinckley Christians serving our community**  
**incorporating Hinckley Area foodbank**

Following the impending retirement of our current Foodbank Manager, Hinckley Christian Community Action together with Hinckley Area foodbank is delighted to be offering the post of Foodbank Manager.

We are looking for a self-motivated person with experience of managing projects to ensure the continued smooth running of the Foodbank project, seeking continued sustainable growth taking it onto new levels.

The successful candidate will have experience dealing directly with Clients 'front of house', and ideally experience as a Foodbank Centre Supervisor.

There is an Occupational Requirement for the successful candidate to have an active Christian Faith, and commitment to the Christian Ethos of the Charity and foodbank.

The successful candidate will need to demonstrate the following:

- Experience of managing and running community projects.
- Experience of managing and developing staff and volunteers.
- Excellent interpersonal skills.
- To be able to give presentations and communicate to large groups.
- To be willing to lead in prayer at Management meetings; and to pray with Clients and/or volunteers in a pastoral role where appropriate.

Closing date for applications	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
Interview date	W/C 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Hours of work	20hrs / week
Salary	£17.85 per hour, paid monthly
Employer's Pension contribution	5%
Mileage allowance	45p/mile

Further information and application forms are available from Hinckley Area foodbank:

- By email from [manager@hinckleyarea.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:manager@hinckleyarea.foodbank.org.uk)
- By phone on 01455 697390
- By mail to The Trustees, Hinckley Area foodbank, Barleyfield, Hinckley. LE10 0YE

# **Statement on the situation in the Middle East from Global Relationships**

**05 March 2026**

We note and share in [the grave concern expressed by the World Council of Churches to the widening hostilities across the Middle East](#) and the dangerous escalation of violence which is fuelling a spiral of retaliation. We stand in solidarity with all communities facing fear, loss, and growing instability and call for a renewed commitment to dialogue grounded in the rule of law, with all parties striving for peace and justice.

We hold in prayer all communities across the region and especially our partners, the Middle East Council of Churches, remembering the longstanding Christian witness in the region to justice and meaningful dialogue. We also remember those within our own communities who are part of the Iranian diaspora, their family and friends who are living in the midst of this conflict, and all who – whether at work or on holiday – are currently caught in the region waiting for a safe way home.

We share in the words of the Revd Dr Leão Neto, General Secretary of the World Methodist Council, that “The way of Jesus is the way of peace. He calls us to follow peace and reject war. Jesus said: ‘blessed are the peacemakers.’” In that spirit we offer a prayer for Iran, written by a member of the Methodist Farsi-speaking community.

## Prayer

Heavenly Father,

We believe that you are aware of the situation in Iran and its oppressed and defenceless people.

We pray that you would protect the people and not allow any bloodshed of the innocent.

We pray for peace, freedom and the war to end as soon as possible.

May your will as it is done in heaven be done in Iran and the Middle East. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

## And this prayer in Farsi

خداوند پدر آسمانی، ایمان داریم که از وضعیت کشور ما ایران و مردم بی‌دفاع و مظلوم آن آگاه هستی. دعا می‌کنیم که از مردم

کشور ما محافظت کرده و اجازه ندهی که خون بی‌گناهی ریخته شود. برای آمدن صلح، آزادی و آرامش دعا می‌کنیم. اراده تو

.آنچنانکه در آسمان مورد اجراست در کشور ما ایران و درخاور میانه اجرا شود. به نام عیسی مسیح آمین