



3 sides with 9 items

Prayers

We ask you to remember in your prayers this week the worship, work and witness of the congregation at **Pillowell**.

Circuit Dates, Event & Place: In Brief (further details on each below)

When		Where
Thursday 18 Jan 10.30am – 12.30pm	Dementia Awareness Training	Drybrook Methodist Church
Saturday 20 January	Pastoral Care Training Session	Tewkesbury Methodist Church
Sunday 21 Jan 6pm	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity	Christchurch Abbeydale

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The Superintendent's Lunch Club

12.30 on a Thursday. All welcome to sit alongside, eat and chat

18 January	The Belfry, Broad Street, Littledean, Cinderford, GL14 3JS
25 January	The Moon under the Water, Cheltenham
1 March	The Corinium, Cirencester
22 March	The Whitminster Inn, Whitminster

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News....

The Rev'd Ian D Young

Many of you may recall the Rev'd Ian Young who for some 22 years was a Supernumerary Minister at Cirencester Ashcroft, until his wife Joanna passed away early in 2017. At that point Ian moved to be with family in Oxfordshire. At an earlier stage in their lives some may also have known Joanna and Ian from their time at Lonsdale Road Methodist Church in Gloucester. Sadly, we have heard that Ian passed away peacefully after a short illness on Saturday 30th December, aged 88. The funeral will take place in Oxfordshire, and please uphold his family in your thoughts and prayers at this time.

Ian was a gentle, gracious and wise Minister, who faithfully served in many places throughout the Connexion, giving his life and service as a Methodist Minister. Those of us who knew him were enriched by his presence, and we give thanks for him, and his life and ministry.

Rev'd Dr James N. Tebbutt

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Mrs Rita Muff – Funeral Arrangements

As reported in last week's newsletter, we were sorry to announce the death of Mrs Rita Muff who passed away overnight between New Year's Eve and Day. Rita was the wife of the Revd Peter Muff, who was a minister of a number of the churches in the old Gloucester Circuit, before being for many years a supernumerary minister at Christchurch, Abbeydale.

The funeral will take place on Monday 22 January with a private family committal at Gloucester Crematorium at 2pm followed by a Service of Thanksgiving at Christchurch Abbeydale at 3pm.

Revd Dr James Tebbutt

Continuing...

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Spring Quarter Preaching Plan

A gentle reminder that all preachers will need to upload their individual availability into the Chrestos system, or return their hard copy form if one has been sent, by today please. Similarly, all church stewards will need to ensure that any service requests and arrangements are discussed with and sent via their ministers today, to allow for all information to be included in the plan. This will help allow us to publish the Spring Preaching Plan with a minimum of delay. If you have any queries or concerns, please contact the Circuit Office as soon as possible.

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MWiB President 2019 – 2021

MWiB are seeking a new President, commencing in June 2018 as Vice President, then two years as President, followed by a year as Vice President. Selection will take place at the MWiB Forum on Saturday 17 February at Hinsley Hall, Leeds. A full job description and application form can be downloaded from the website www.mwib.org.uk, by emailing admin@mwib.org.uk, or by calling 0300 030 9873. Further information can be found in the attachment. *Please note: the deadline for applications is Friday 5 January.*

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Dates for the Diary....

Dementia Awareness Training Thursday 18 January, 10.30am – 12.30pm Drybrook Methodist Church

Nina Summerfield, Dementia Friendly Community Enabler, will be leading this event. Coffee will be served from 10am. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please contact Revd Denise Hargreaves on 01594 825662 or at dkah26@icloud.com if you need more information or would like to attend.

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Pastoral Care Training Sessions Saturday 20 January Tewkesbury Methodist Church

In the Spring of 2018 the Revd Diane Daymond will be leading four Saturday morning sessions from 10am to 12noon on pastoral care and visiting in four venues across our Circuit. As well as being able to draw upon her own extensive experience in ministry, the Revd Diane was a lead member of the team that offered the Wesley College Bristol Pastoral Carers' Course for a number of years across the connexion.

**The first of these training sessions has been planned for Saturday 20 January at
Tewkesbury Methodist Church.**

It would help if you would let Russell Buley know before this date if you intend to come to this session or any of the others.

The other three sessions are on:
Saturday 3 February at Gloucester Lonsdale Road;
Saturday 24 February at Dursley;
Saturday 10 March at Coalway.

Our hope is that those involved in pastoral care and visiting in our churches will feel encouraged to attend one of these sessions. Individuals as well as church representatives are welcome to contact Russell Buley, Circuit Portfolio Holder for Learning & Caring, for further details and/or to let him know their intention to attend. Telephone 01242 244036 - email russell.buley@btinternet.com.

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Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Sunday 21 January, 6pm

Christchurch Abbeydale

The theme is Worshipping together as God's people in Gloucester, remembering we belong to a worldwide church. The preacher will be the Rt Revd Rachel Treweek, Bishop of Gloucester.

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Events happening outside the circuit and in other churches....

Bible Study Day

Saturday 3 February, 10am – 4pm

Highworth Methodist Church, Vicarage Lane, Highworth, SN6 7AD

Led by Revd Bev Thomas, the theme will be 'Who Do You See in The Kingdom of God?'

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Open Days 2018

Saturday 17 February, 10am & 1.45pm

Saturday 19 May, 10am & 1.45pm

The Queen's Foundation, Somerset Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 2QH

If you are being called to study Theology, you are invited to attend an informal Open Day and explore options for study. The Centre for Discipleship and Theology brings together students from a wide range of backgrounds and experience to explore various aspects of theological enquiry – be that doctrine or mission, Bible or worship. If you would like to attend, please contact admissions on admissions@queens.ac.uk.

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