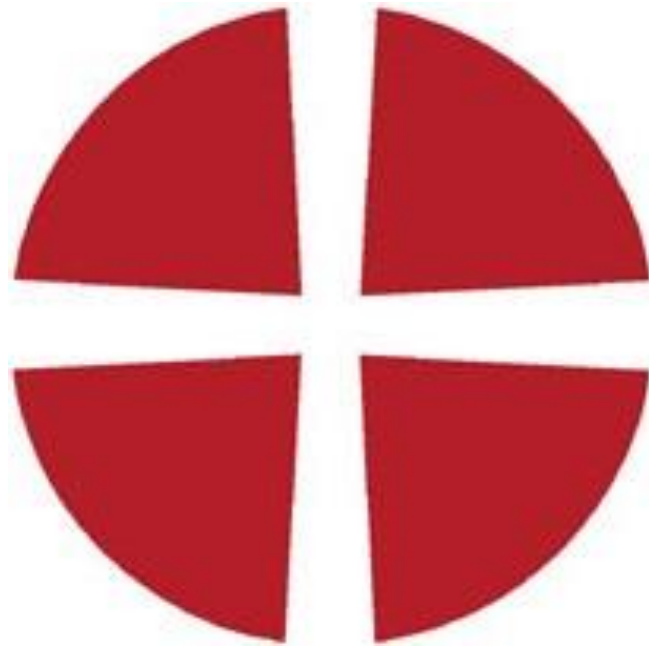


South Wigston Methodist Church

The Oracle



Happy New Methodist Year

September 2026

Cover picture: Methodist logo: The orb & cross. The Orb represents the world. The colour red, the traditional colour of Pentecost, may be taken to symbolise the Methodist conviction that through the power of the Holy Spirit, all humanity may be saved. The Orb is charged with a radiant Cross, which, like the field it is set on, is white, celebrating the glory of the risen Saviour. There is no boundary to the arms of the cross, just as there are no limits to the grace of God. Ours is a faith that addresses the deepest longings of the heart, but it is always turned outwards to the world and its needs.

Our Mission Statement

The people of South Wigston Methodist Church are called to live the good news of God's love through open hearts, open minds and open doors.

We strive to be a place where understandings of Jesus Christ can flourish.

We're called to be good neighbours to people in need, to challenge injustice, and to meet regularly for prayers, singing and learning.

One of the ways in which we seek to put this mission statement into practice is to ensure that our church is a safe place for all who use it by following the safeguarding policies and practices of the Methodist Church. The church's safeguarding policy is on the noticeboard in the lounge.

The Safeguarding officer is Margaret Edwards, with Mary Bryceland

South Wigston Methodist Church
Blaby Road, South Wigston LE18 4PB
www.swmchurch.org.uk

Revd Ian J K Hu (day off Tuesday)
ian.hu@methodist.org.uk 07546 474598

Deacon Sharon Dilley (day off Friday)
sharondilley@hotmail.co.uk 0116 277 0317

Senior Steward: Mary B. 0116 281 2625
Leicester Trinity Circuit, Charity registration number 1129943

Editor: Mary B. contact: pmmbry@gmail.com 0116 281 2625 or 07891 917768. Contributions always welcome.

Worship in September

Sunday 6th 10.15 Sue Moore (upstairs)

6.00 Circuit online evening service led by Revd Kim Alexander

Sunday 13th 10.15 Revd Ian Hu – the annual Covenant service (upstairs)

6.00 Circuit online evening service led by Revd Ian

Sunday 20th 10.15 Deacon Sharon Dilley (downstairs)

6.00 Circuit online evening service led by Deacon Sharon

Sunday 27th 10.30 at Wigston Magna MC. Worship led by Revd Shirlyn Toppin – the new Superintendent minister. **No service at South Wigston.**

6.00 Circuit online evening service led by Revd Andrew Farrington

Contact trinityeveningservice@leicestertrinitycircuit.org.uk for the Zoom link for Circuit services.



Bible Society Coffee morning Saturday 5th
September 10 to 12 at St Thomas Church.

Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust Ride & Stride

Saturday 12th September 9.30 to 4.00

Mary B is taking part and welcomes sponsors. Half the money raised comes back to the church and the Trust provides grants for churches across the County. Our church has received a grant in the past.

Saturday 26th September 9.30 to 12.00 Macmillan Coffee Morning. Donations of cakes are welcomed.



Date for your diary

The Harvest service will take place on Sunday 4th October. Gifts of canned & dried foods, and other items will go to the Food Bank. Donations of money will, as usual, go to WaterAid. **There will be a bring & share lunch afterwards.**

Church family

Happy birthday to

2nd Stuart

20th Margaret D

21st Margaret D

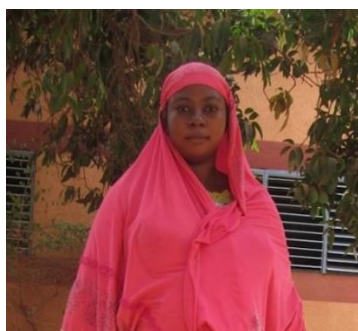
24th David

Church Flowers If you would like to have flowers in church to celebrate a special occasion, or in memory of someone, please fill in the calendar in the lounge or contact Margaret E. 0116 278 6616

6th Sue Hallam

20th Mary for her parents, Norah & Donald

Thank you for your donations for Mariam and her family in Burkina Faso.



We have supported them via Compassion for 11 years. Your donations can be placed in the pink box on the coffee bar – we send £30 per month plus money for birthday and Christmas presents.

Here is Mariam's latest letter – translated from French:

7/16/2026 Dear South Wigston Methodist Church, hello! We are honored by your letters. Thank you for this time and your availability you grant us. I got your letter and I am sorry for the heat you lived in June. Here, the month of June is the beginning of the rainy season. I agree with you about climate change. Our crops are affected because from June to July it rains rarely and the rains are not enough to make seeds push. It is just yesterday that we had a huge rain; people are worried because of the lack of rain.

We had a young pastor who came to support the main pastor in the ministry. We are in July and nature is blooming and there are fruits. It is also the month of the blood donation for those in need. Please pray that God grants us a good rainy season. *Mariam*

News from MHA (Methodist Homes) Aigburth 21 Manor Road, Oadby LE2 2LL
Saturday 12th September 10.30 to 12 Coffee morning and art show.
On Wednesday afternoons throughout the summer a group of amateur artists has been painting in the garden. Come and see the result of their work and, maybe, buy a painting.

The calendar of monthly fund-raising & social events is on the noticeboard.

The Aigburth Echo is published monthly and contains news about the residents and staff. A copy is on the Charities board in the lounge.



- UKRAINE
- MOLDOVA
- ROMANIA
- BULGARIA

JOIN US
HELP US, HELP THEM

FAMILY & ELDERLY SHOEBOX APPEAL



Link to Hope
Link House,
Ferring Street,
Ferring,
BN12 5JP

TEL:
01903 529333

Register Here



The annual Shoebox dedication service will be held on

Sunday 18th October at 10.15

Leaflets about what items to pack are available from church.

Introducing Deacon Karen McBride and Revd Shirlyn Toppin

Karen writes: Hello Friends, greetings in the name of the God of Love.

I am delighted to have been directly stationed to serve in the Leicester Trinity Circuit. I know Leicester a little and I am looking forward to meeting and getting to know you and also the City in more detail ... the Methodist Diaconal Order has already gifted me a Leicester City Football scarf! I am originally from County Durham and, despite the rest of my family's obsession with all kinds of sport, this has not really rubbed off on me – I am much more interested in art, craft, cooking and poetry! Whether we share similar interests or not, I am hopeful that we will have one shared interest – that of living in the Love of God and making such wonderful love visible!

Warmest regards, blessing and prayers, *Karen*

Revd Shirlyn introduces herself:

Shirlyn is from Trinidad and Tobago and is the youngest of three sisters. She is a proud aunt to three nephews and two great-nieces. After completing her ministerial studies in the UK, she began ministry in 2003. Her calling is shaped by a deep love for God, a warm pastoral heart, and a passion for sharing the gospel through word and sacrament.

I am delighted to serve the Lord in the uniquely placed Leicester Trinity Circuit. I look forward to walking alongside its churches and communities as they respond to those around them with grace, faith, and love.

Beyond ministry I enjoy reading and shopping – especially for shoes. *Revd Shirlyn*

Deacon Karen will work in the City centre and will be part of the chaplaincy group at the University of Leicester. She will be based at Bishop Street MC.

Revd Shirlyn is the new Superintendent Minister and will also have pastoral care of Oadby Trinity MC.

LEICESTER PRIDE

Saturday 5th September

Mary B will, once again, be joining *Christians at Pride* as they take part in the parade from Curve to Abbey Park where they have a stall.

Christians at Pride exists to provide a joyful, loving, inclusive Christian presence at Pride festivals in London and elsewhere in the UK. Whether you're young or old, catholic or evangelical, lesbian, gay, bi, trans, asexual, or straight, you'd be so welcome to come and join us. Supportive friends, allies, family members and church leaders all very welcome too. <https://www.christiansatpride.com/>



<https://www.publicdomainpictures.net/en/view-image.php?image=398993&picture=rainbow-heart>

South Wigston Methodist is listed as an inclusive church and the building is registered to host same-sex marriages. Rev Ian Hu is authorised to perform such weddings, as are some other ministers in the Circuit.

Houghton Methodist Chapel

Special Service of Celebration



A special service to celebrate and reflect upon 174 years of worship and ministry in the village of Houghton-on-the-Hill will be held at the Chapel on **Sunday 6 September 2026 at 6.30pm.**

All are welcome.

The service will be followed by tea and cakes.

As reported in the last *Oracle* the congregation requested permission to “cease to meet” and this will be the last service. Most members will be worshipping at Great Glen MC.

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product is a
person.**



**Fairness
shouldn't be
optional.**



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Whatever you do, however
you do it: Do it fair

fairtrade.org.uk



Fairtrade Fortnight 21st September to 4th October

A prayer for justice, dignity and care for creation

In 2026, the Fairtrade Foundation continues to campaign for fairer incomes and wages, safer working conditions, and practical climate support for farmers and workers globally. Written by Revd Michael Harrison, Fairtrade Campaigner, and Eleanor Harrison OBE, CEO of the Fairtrade Foundation, this prayer reflects on our shared responsibility to build a fairer world for people and planet.

Lord, you have created a world for our use in which everyone is equal in your eyes. Help us to recognise the many ways in which we have forgotten or ignored your generosity to us and the equality which is part of your plan. Help us to be courageous in building a more socially just world.

Lord, you have created a world for our use in which the natural world is pivotal for our sustenance, shelter, wellbeing and joy. Help us to respect and care for the planet you have given us. Help us to be courageous in taking accountability and making changes to our daily lives, work and play so that future generations may enjoy it too.

Lord, you have given us agency and power in this beautiful world you have created for our use. Help us to unlock and use this agency and power with thought and grace. Help us to use our voices, our purchases and our gifts to enable fairer pay, safer working conditions and ensure we are fairer to the planet.

We pray this in Jesus' name.

Amen

Regular events

South Wigston Food Bank (SW Congregational Church)

Organised by the Lions Clubs International (Oadby & Wigston branch), this is a self-referral food bank. If you need help, you can just turn up, bring photo ID, proof of address, your own shopping bags (or trolley), and the suggested fee of £2. You will be provided with two bags of food for you and your family.

Donations are always required especially tinned vegetables, fruit etc. and dried goods. There is a box in the lounge with further information. **Dates:** 14th & 28th **Time** 9.45 to 10.30



Stamps for RNIB – please trim your stamps leaving 1 cm gap all round and divide into UK and foreign stamps. There is a box in the lounge.

Newspapers are being collected for Leicestershire Animal Aid where they are used for bedding. Please put them in the storeroom off the prayer chapel. Sheets, pillowcases and towels can also be donated.

Tuesday evenings Wigston & District Male Voice Choir rehearsal. New members welcome – just drop in. <https://wigstonmalechoir.org>

Wednesdays 6.00pm Gaynor Merry's weight loss group 07977 686824 gaynor.merry@ntlworld.com

Friday coffee morning 9.00 – 10.30 - a cooler space, free drinks & toast.

Saturday morning coffee 9.30 - 11.30 come along to this warm space and have a bit of company. Home-made cakes are usually served.

Saturday morning walking group (non-church) The group meets at 9.15 and sets off at 9.30 for a walk of up to 1 hour returning to church for coffee and chat. Walkers go at their own pace. No charge. Mary B. and Sue C. are regular walkers – please ask them for more details.



Let's do Coffee Morning

Do your bit for better cancer care

Come along and help us do whatever it takes
to support people living with cancer.

Place: SOOTH WIGSTON M.C.

Date: SATURDAY 26th SEPT.

Time: 9.30 to 12.00

Contact: MARY

mail@soomchurch.org.uk



Simply scan this QR code with your
phone to donate direct to your host's
Coffee Morning.

It's easy, quick and secure. Thank you.



Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (604). Also operating in Northern Ireland. 70605_Invite_Thank_You_Poster

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