

South Wigston Methodist Church

The Oracle



Memorial service

25th October 2026

Cover picture: Dharra owner of DigitalPrimeCraft

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 October

Sunday 4th 10.15 The Harvest service led by members of the congregation. 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**

6.00 Circuit online evening service led by Revd Kim Alexander



Sunday 11th 10.15 Moleen Chikumba (downstairs)

6.00 Circuit online evening service led by Revd Ian Hu

Sunday 18th 10.15 Shoebox dedication service (downstairs)

6.00 Circuit online evening service led by Revd Andrew Farrington

Sunday 25th 10.15 Memorial service led by Revd Ian Hu

A chance to remember family and friends. The service will be held in the downstairs schoolroom. A collection will be taken in aid of LOROS.

See Revd Ian's letter on page 4.

6.00 Circuit online evening service led by Deacon Karen McBride

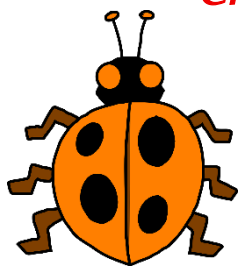
Contact trinityeveningservice@leicestertrinitycircuit.org.uk for the Zoom link for Circuit services.

A big THANK YOU for your support.

The Macmillan Coffee morning was very well attended and raised £130.

I raised £115 for Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust by walking 5 ½ miles over 2 ½ hours, and visiting 9 churches in Wigston, South Wigston and Countesthorpe. *Mary B.*

Churches Together in South Wigston social event



Beetle drive

Saturday 10th October 7pm

St Mary's Catholic Church

Bring some food to share!





A message from the Minister

May the blessing of God surround us.

May angels and friends share our journey.

May we be wise and strong and creative.

May we celebrate beauty and love.

Ruth Burgess

Dear Friends,

As we move into autumn and the gradual shorter days and lengthening nights, South Wigston Methodist Church has been working on its Harvest observations, preparing our annual Shoeboxes for distribution at Christmas time, and we are preparing for a special service scheduled for Sunday morning 25 October 2026 at 10:15 am.

On this special Sunday, we will be worshipping downstairs and we will be celebrating the lives of many much-loved church family members in a Memorial Service in advance of All Saint's Day on 1 November 2026. This will be an opportunity for us to gather, reflect, remember, laugh and share in memory of many wonderful people who are forever part of the fabric of life at South Wigston Methodist Church. There will be an opportunity to light candles in memory of our loved ones, to name them and to share in fellowship and prayer together. You are very welcome to contact our Stewards, Sue Hallam or Mary Bryceland, or myself to confirm you are planning to attend. We are hoping to be able to share this time of love and affirmation during this celebration together.

Earlier in the month, Churches Together in South Wigston are inviting all of our local churches to St Mary's Catholic Church on Saturday evening 10 October 2026 at 7 pm for a 'Beetle Drive' and bring and share supper. We will be looking forward to an evening of fellowship and sharing a communal meal together. Please do plan to come along for an enjoyable evening together!

Thank you all for being the Church!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ian J. K. Hu", written over a horizontal line.

Rev. Ian J. K. Hu

Church family

Happy birthday to Sue C who celebrates on 4th October.

Happy anniversary to Margaret & Tony who celebrate their 68th anniversary on 4th October.

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



25th Pat for her Mum & Dad

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.

What happened to the hymnbooks?

In August, with Revd Ian's permission, I removed from the upstairs worship area nearly 200 copies of *Hymns & Psalms* (the blue book) which we haven't used for years.

The copies which had dedications were put in the prayer chapel for people to take any which were dedicated to their family members.

The dedications from the remaining books have been put in a folder in the prayer chapel – do go and have a look. The illustration on the cover of the folder is the same as on this Oracle.

A small number of copies: ordinary and large print, and music editions are in the book case in the prayer chapel. If we need the words for future services they can be photocopied or projected.

The books were then sent for recycling. *Mary B.*

MHA Aigburth Coffee morning with various stalls

Saturday 31st October 10.30 to 12.00

In aid of the garden & amenity funds.

MHA Aigburth Residential Care Home
21, Manor Road, LE2 3RG

Auction

Saturday 3 October

3 – 4.30pm

Auctioneer: Michael Mays
Arts & Antiques Surveyor



Approximately 100 lots including homemade cakes and preserves

Draft catalogue on request johnalan76@hotmail.com from 20.09.26

News from Link to Hope – much more than shoeboxes!

Ukraine Support Programme We support an amazing couple Z & A in their work amongst the people of Zaporizhzhia (E. Ukraine) to help the most vulnerable people who are suffering in the present war. Z & A station themselves between another European country and Ukraine and frequently travel backwards and forwards making very dangerous journeys to get to their destinations. This is a short report:

“This trip to Ukraine was particularly difficult. The economic situation in Zaporizhzhia is very dire. Constant shelling of shops and large shopping centers has disrupted supply chains; store shelves are emptying, and people are scrambling to buy essentials out of fear of future food shortages.

That is why we decided to allocate some of the funds not only to our regular feeding program but also to support those who physically cannot come to us: the elderly living alone, people with disabilities, and large families. We are putting together food packages for them and delivering the supplies directly to their homes.

I believe that your support is especially vital right now and will help people who have virtually no other way to get the help they need. We plan to use these funds at least through the end of September.”

Helping the most vulnerable. Cornel looks after some of the poorest and most vulnerable people in his area. With the funds that Link to Hope send him he has been able to help in the following ways:

Emergency Help for Ivan

Part of the funding received was used to help Ivan, an elderly man living in the village of Prunu, Romania, who lost his home completely in a fire.

Ivan managed to escape the fire with his dog, but nothing could be saved from his home. He has no pension and survives on approximately €118 a month. Following the fire, he was living outside under plastic sheeting with nowhere safe or warm to stay.

Working alongside the local community and volunteers, funding has been used to buy building materials, transport materials and volunteers, and help construct a small room where Ivan can live. Good progress has already been made. The walls have been built and received their first layer of plaster, and a chimney has been installed so that a heating stove can be fitted. The aim is to complete the room before winter, giving Jan somewhere warm, dry and secure to live.



Supporting Elderly and Vulnerable People

Part of the funding has been used to provide practical help to elderly, widowed and vulnerable people who have little or no other support.

The project keeps a list of people in particular need and provides help according to their individual circumstances. Funding has been used to buy food, medicines and essential medical supplies, pay for urgent needs and help people attend medical appointments.

For those living alone or struggling on very limited incomes, this practical support can make a significant difference. It also ensures that vulnerable people know they have not been forgotten.

As James 1:27 reminds us, caring for those in need is an important part of putting Christian faith into action.

.....I was sick and you came to me ...



<https://linktohope.co.uk/>



- 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, downstairs, on
Sunday 18th October at 10.15

Leaflets about what items to pack are available from church.



COSBY METHODIST CHURCH

Park Road, Cosby, LE9 1RN

**CELEBRATING 104 YEARS
OF WORSHIP**



OPEN CHURCH

Saturday 17th October | 10am – 2pm

Come and join us to:

- View old photographs & memorabilia
- Exchange memories and stories
- Enjoy refreshments and a light lunch



Everyone Welcome!



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 18th October | 10.30am

Rev Ian Hu to lead worship

Join us for a special church service as we celebrate
104 years of worship.

All Welcome

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:** 12th & 26th October, **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.

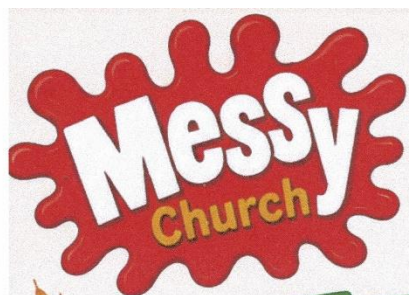
Tuesday evenings Wigston & District Male Voice Choir rehearsal. New members welcome – just drop in. <https://wigstonmalechoir.org>

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.



CELEBRATING THE HARVEST FESTIVAL

Faith, Fun and Family for Everyone!

FUN ACTIVITIES!



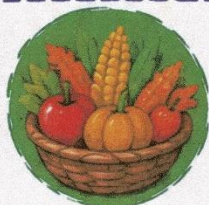
1. HARVEST STORY TIME

Enjoy the story of harvest and giving thanks to God. ♥



2. MAKING SCARECROWS

Get crafty and make your very own scarecrow to take home! ♥



3. HARVEST CRAFT

Create a lovely harvest picture or decoration to take home! ♥



4. DECORATING BISCUITS

Decorate delicious biscuits with icing, sprinkles and plenty of fun! ♥



5. SONGS, GAMES AND MORE!

Sing, play and have lots of fun together! ♥



DATE: FRIDAY
OCT 23rd
2026



TIME:
11am - 12:30pm



WHERE:

SOUTH WIGSTON
METHODIST CHURCH



IF POSSIBLE
PLEASE BRING
A TIN OF FOOD
OR DRIED FOOD
THANK YOU! ♥

To Go To THE FOOD BANK

Let us give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;