

1-Apr	A MWoL <u>WORSHIP</u> : <i>We will pray daily.</i> April Fool's Day ... and yet Paul reminds us (1 Cor 1:25) that God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom. Think of a situation that is puzzling you. Pray that God will gift you wisdom to know what to do next.	8-Apr	A MWoL <u>LEARNING & CARING</u> : <i>We will care for ourselves and those around us.</i> Looking after ourselves is not a luxury but a necessity. Today (or this week) what one thing could you not do, so that you had time and space to do something 'nice' for yourself, alone or with others? Go on ... do it! And thank God for this blessing!	15-Apr	John 19:20b AMP <i>'He said, 'It is finished!' And he bowed his head and [voluntarily] gave up his spirit.'</i> Take time to ponder: Jesus gave up his life by choice for you. What might it mean for you to 'give yourself up' this Easter?
2-Apr	This month we pray especially for our circuit facing many changes. At times the situation will puzzle us, maybe frustrate us, yet always invite us to trust God. Give thanks today that God knows our prayers.	9-Apr	We pray for church and circuit ministry with young people, remembering Sharon our Children and Family Development worker. We ask God's blessings on all who help nurture our young people in faith.	16-Apr	John 19:38 <i>'Joseph of Arimathea – a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, for fear of the Jews – asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus.'</i> In this day of waiting, we ask God for the courage of Joseph to speak of Jesus and believe that God's church in LSW will grow.
3-Apr	Philippians 3:13b <i>'Forgetting what is behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press onwards towards the goal...'</i> We are shaped by the past for our today and tomorrow. Let us pray today for our Circuit that we may have courage to learn from the past, not live in past.	10-Apr	Philippians 2:9-11 <i>Therefore God has highly exalted him ... so that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bend ... and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.</i> Meditate on these verses. How will you 'bend the knee' and confess Jesus as your Lord this Easter? Ask God to help you	17-Apr	John 20:8 <i>'Then the other disciple... also went in, and he saw and believed.'</i> On this Easter Day, as you look at the empty tomb, what do you see? What do you believe? Ask Jesus to reveal himself to you in new ways this Easter time.
4-Apr	Pray today for the leadership team of your local church and for Sunday stewards if different. Give thanks for all who help shape the direction of travel for your local church; ask God what part you have to play in the church's ongoing ministry.	11-Apr	Pray for your church treasurer. In the tasks and responsibilities they carry, we pray God's wisdom and blessing.	18-Apr	John 20:21 <i>'Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you.'</i> Breath in Christ's peace ... and as you do so, remember that God sends us out in power of the Spirit ... we do not go alone.
5-Apr	Pray today for those who hire the church building. How is your local church offering hospitable space? Pray the church's public interface will be a good Christian witness.	12-Apr	We pray for the Circuit Leadership Team. Holy God, as they seek to discern the next steps for this circuit, may they be open to your voice of wisdom and hope.	19-Apr	Pray today for your church minister, and the minister who will hold pastoral charge from September. Pray that they will know God's re-charging after this Easter season.
6-Apr	Be honest with God – what would you miss if your church was not there? Give thanks to God for that part of church life.	13-Apr	Pray for your local church – for courage to ask the hard questions and for honesty as we seek God's direction forward 'for such a time as this.'	20-Apr	Pray a blessing today on Cathy and Erica in the office, giving thanks for their gifts and ministry of administration.
7-Apr	Pray today for the Methodist churches nearest to your local church. Pray for grace to be open to God's Spirit for ways you could worship and work together.	14-Apr	A MWoL <u>SERVICE</u> : <i>We will help people in our communities and beyond.</i> This Easter, could you maybe put an extra gift in a food bank collection, or make a donation to support refugees, asylum seekers or those struggling with rising costs.	21-Apr	We pray today for the churches in the circuit who host MHA 'Live at Home' schemes, for their leaders and volunteers, and all who attend these places of fellowship and hope.

22-Apr A MWoL EVANGELISM: *We will live in a way that draws others to Jesus.* In what ways is your life drawing others to Christ? How might the way you speak or act not be a good advert for the Christian life? Offer both of these reflections to God.

23-Apr Today is St George's Day - we pray for those who will use this day as an excuse to promote nationalism and racism. We pray for those who will be most affected by the [Nationality and Borders Bill](#), and for the work of JPIT as it seeks reform for this bill.

24-Apr **John 20:21** *'Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I send you.'* What does this verse mean for you, not least amidst the Circuit's opportunities and challenges? As you offer Jesus your response, pray for courage and strength to 'be sent.'

25-Apr Even as we look at ways forward in our church communities, it is important to ask individually and corporately: What does it mean for you to trust in God? Are there areas of your life where you'd rather keep control? How might Jesus be asking you to trust him more? Pray for yourself and ask for the gift of trust!



26-Apr Be honest with God – what would you not miss if your church (building and community) was not there? Ask God to help you re-discover afresh the purpose of church for those who belong, and those who do not yet know Jesus' love.

27-Apr We pray today for our Superintendent, Rev Jo. In the busyness of her workload, may she know renewing times of rest and relaxation, holding precious time with family and friends.

28-Apr What excites you most about the future of our circuit and the changes we are facing? What changes might God be asking of you in order to grow a deeper confidence in sharing faith, in speaking of God in your every day life?

29-Apr A MWoL WORSHIP: *We will look and listen for God in Scripture and the world.* As you read or watch the news today, imagine Jesus sitting with you. Have a conversation Ask Jesus to show you where God's Spirit is at work, and where you can join in.

30-Apr Pray for yourself ... how do you feel when things you felt certain are changing? Remember the God who sets us on a journey will stay with us as we travel, even when we don't yet know the destination! Ask God to deepen your trust

God who sets us on a journey to discover, dream and grow, lead us as you led your people in the desert long ago; journey inward, journey outward, stir the spirit, stretch the mind, love for God and self and neighbour marks the way that Christ defined
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Prayer Diary

April 2022

As we face changes in our circuit, we pray especially this month for the Methodist Churches and communities of Leeds South & West Circuit



The Circuit Staff wish you a blessed Easter

