



Dear friends,

Our District has challenged us to get involved in the 'Real Love' campaign as we move out from the Easter season ...it's an opportunity this Pentecost to find ways of showing God's love to our local communities.

We know that many of us have been engaged in local and global acts of kindness and caring for years beyond count. We know too that the pandemic has drawn out of people reserves of love beyond any expectation. We know that local churches are often a coordinating focus for the love we seek to show, and are the places where many individuals themselves find care and support so that they can continue be God's loving people in other settings.

The Real Love campaign as a whole seeks to support us to think about the 'why' of the love we offer, as well as the 'what'...and to continue to learn to speak of God's love which makes such a difference to our lives, and the life of the world.

The District is also using this as an opportunity to help Circuits connect with one another – so you may see news from Circuits circulated on social media and in other ways...maybe even in Wesley's blog!

**If you're busy this week read from here!**

**Thinking about this Circuit and the next few weeks specifically:**

The team are very aware that much of our care for one another over this past year or so, and especially our Circuit and Junior Church mailing, has been dependent on the work of postal workers. We would like to say thank you!

We are writing a formal letter of thanks from the Circuit to Royal Mail in Leeds (see overleaf for text), but it would be amazing if you would feel able to thank your delivery person too... You might like to adapt our wording, or find your own way to say 'thank you'.

Enclosed in this week's mailing (or as an attachment to your email) is a post card with the Circuit logo on it if you would like to use it.

- **Please do not engage in this activity if you, or anyone in your household or bubble has symptoms of Covid-19, is waiting for the results of a Covid-19 test, or is self-isolating**
- If you are able, please further decorate the post card as you like, and add a message of thanks for the work of the person or people who deliver your mail.
- Quarantine the card for 48hrs (place it somewhere where it will not be touched, maybe in a bag or box)
- Please wash your hands thoroughly for 20 seconds or use hand gel **and then** attach the card to your door in the week 24<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> May (we know not everyone has a postal delivery every day) for your delivery person to collect

If you are a preacher or leader of worship, please could you also include our postal workers in your prayers of intercession on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May, if you are able. Thank you.

Thank you for helping us to say 'thank you' to some of the people who have supported the work of the Circuit during the pandemic!

Peace, Jo (and the Circuit Leadership Team)

*Our message of thanks which will be sent to the management of Royal Mail in Leeds...*

## THANK YOU!

As a group of churches, we have had a very unusual year. Many of our church buildings have been closed for some or all of the time. Much of our worship has moved online, but we have many members for whom digital connection is not easy, or not appropriate. And this is where you have come in...

We would like to say a huge 'thank you' to all the postal workers who have worked so hard to deliver mail through this very challenging time. We are especially grateful because you have helped us to deliver weekly written worship to over 300 people, who otherwise might have had little contact with their worshipping community. You have also enabled us to send weekly activity packs to our youngest members, and have ensured that all the letters and notes, the little gifts and words of encouragement that people have prepared, have reached their recipients and brightened their days. We know that this has entailed risk and challenge for many of you, and we are grateful. Please be assured of our ongoing prayers.

Peace,

Revd Jo Lightowler

Superintendent Minister

On behalf of the staff and people of the Leeds South and West Methodist Circuit