

NEW PLACES FOR NEW PEOPLE UPDATE (NPNP)

Over the past few months, members of our circuit have been engaged in a deeply prayerful discernment journey, seeking to understand how God might be calling us to become involved in the Methodist Church's commitment to *New Places for New People* (NPNP), with Otley at the heart of our focus.

The imminent sale of the building that has housed Otley Methodist Church for over a hundred years has brought a time of transition, with the opportunity for the existing congregation to redefine their identity beyond those walls and for the circuit to engage with people not yet involved in any established expression of church.

Between April and July, a small discernment group met together regularly to report on their conversations within the local community in Otley. These gatherings were marked by openness, creativity and a shared longing to respond faithfully to the needs and hopes held within this town. Through this process, a clear and compassionate call began to emerge: to develop a community focused on wellbeing in Otley, with a particular focus on mental health support for young people and their families. The need is real, and the invitation from God feels unmistakable, particularly in the context of our circuit's year-long commitment to pray for "young minds." We believe this hub can become a place of inclusion, empowerment and belonging - a space where lives are nurtured and hope is restored.

We are thrilled to share that the Connexion has confirmed matched funding to support this vision. This means we are now able to appoint a full-time **Missional Wellbeing Pioneer**, who will lead the development and implementation of the NPNP in Otley over the next few years. The post has been advertised, and we ask for your continued prayers as we seek the right person to help bring this vision to life.

Thank you to everyone who has prayed, listened, and supported this journey so far. Your faithfulness has helped shape something beautiful and necessary. We look forward to sharing more in the months ahead—and to walking together as this new place for new people begins to take root.

With gratitude and hope,
Rev Wendy Walker



JOB VACANCY

MISSIONAL WELLBEING PIONEER

We are seeking a Missional Wellbeing Pioneer to work as part of our Circuit Team.

This role is all about pioneering with others to prayerfully and bravely let God bring dreams to life!

Its aim is to work collaboratively with circuit colleagues and a Steering Group to develop and implement a New Place for New People (NPNP) which, from our initial listening, we believe will be shaped around supporting mental health and wellbeing in the community of Otley, West Yorkshire, particularly in relation to young people and their families. Key themes include empowerment, belonging, inclusion and support. We envision that this project will enable people to live life to the full and develop their faith journey in creative, practical and unexpected ways. You can find more information about NPNPs at www.methodist.org.uk/npnp

This project follows a circuit commitment to enable discipleship and evangelism in Otley at a time of transition, given the imminent sale of the Methodist Church building. This will allow new shoots of life to develop alongside the existing Methodist congregation in Otley, who will play a prayerful role in supporting the development of the NPNP.

The successful candidate will become part of the Methodist Pioneer Pathway Community which offers community of practice gatherings, pioneer ministry training and coaching.

The appointment requires an enhanced DBS disclosure and satisfactory references and an occupational requirement exists for the postholder to be a practising Christian.

NEXT STEPS & MAIN TERMS

Hours of work:	35 hours per week, to be worked flexibly in agreement with your Line Manager, including some evenings and weekends. Actual days, start and finish times will be variable in accordance with the needs of the Employer. The days of the week on which you may be required to work are Monday to Sunday. You will not be expected to work on more than five days in a calendar week.
Contract:	Initial Three Year Fixed Term Contract
Salary:	Between £28,210 and £31,850 per annum, depending upon experience and qualifications, with enrolment in the Circuit's workplace pension scheme.
Location:	Based at the Circuit Office, Menston Methodist Church, LS29 6NB and/or your home address but with ministry focussed in the town of Otley.
Next steps:	For more information and an application pack, please contact our Circuit Manager, Juliana Caukwell, via circuitmanager@wandamethodists.org.uk or 07544 165040.
Closing date:	Monday 1 st September 2025 at 12 noon
Interview date:	Thursday 18 th September 2025
Start date:	As soon as possible

To learn more about our Circuit and the work that we do, please visit:

www.wandamethodists.org.uk

