

Dear Friends

What can I say? Farewell and 'thank you', for my husband and I have thoroughly enjoyed living amongst you in the beautiful Dales. I would also like to add that it has truly been a privilege to have served as the Superintendent in the Circuit, not always easy, for ministry often involves the nitty gritty and messiness of day to day living as well as the fun, but I would not have missed it! So truly, 'thank you'. I know for sure that in the future amongst my remembering will be many precious faces, some, sadly, no longer with us, as well as a myriad of services, events, and concerts. We have faced some challenges together, Covid being the biggest, but there have also been financial and property pressures, and although I still joke that perhaps when I retire I should be awarded 'Estate Agent of Year', I have not faced any of this on my own, but with the support, wisdom, and hard work, of many, both Circuit Staff and generous volunteers, who have been a joy to work with and alongside. I am also grateful to have known and worked with excellent ecumenical colleagues, seeing the strength in working and worshipping together.

As a Circuit you will have seen Ministers come and go, and, in the grand scheme of things, five years is but a blink of an eye, but this juncture does mark a new Chapter for both me and my husband, as well as for you. I am excited about retirement and what that might begin to look like as we move to Scotland and embrace a new way of living, and yet another new accent for this Cornish lass to tune into, so please pray for me and Paul. Hopefully, you too, are excited at welcoming a new Superintendent into your midst, for I have no doubt that Rev Jo Brown will bring her own gifts, skills, and experience to share amongst you as she begins to navigate the path that God lays before her. It can be daunting coming to a new Circuit and trying to get up to speed, so to speak, no matter how good your handover notes are, so I will pray for you and Jo, and Jo's partner Charlotte, with confidence that you will all be as generous in your welcome as you were with us almost five years ago.

Saying 'goodbye' isn't always easy but very important so please, if you are able, it would be lovely to see you at my final service at Tennants on Sunday July 14th at 10.30am.

I understand that, after a while, there may be those of you who might like to hear how we are settling in so I will leave my new address with Julie Greenslade and my email address will remain the same.

For now I finish with one of my favourite Celtic blessings (not Cornish or Scottish but Irish!):

*May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun, shine warm upon your face;
the rains fall soft upon your fields,
and until we meet again,
may God hold you in the palm of His hand.*

With Love in Christ. *Rev Melanie Reed* (Superintendent).

Additional dates for your diary

Thursday 6 th June	LP Meeting 7pm at Leyburn
Wednesday 19 th June	Circuit Meeting 7pm at Richmond
Monday 5 th August	King's Club 11-3pm Leyburn Methodist Hall
Wednesday 7 th August	King's Club 11-3pm The Market House Hawes