

Walking The Way - A District Challenge

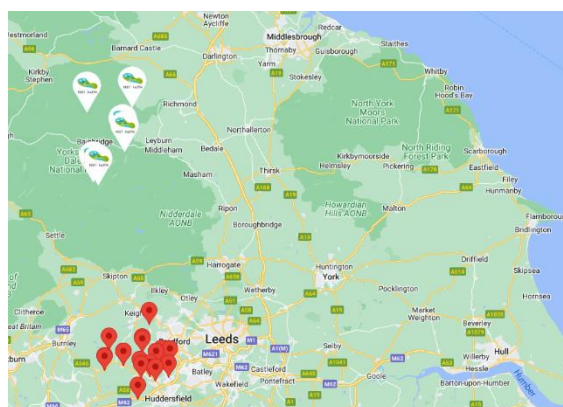


Rev Andy Lindley - Assistant Chair

Throwing Down the Gauntlet!

My friend, Revd Paul Welch, has for several years been combining his passion for photography and his love of walking to offer short guided walks in his local area. Both a 'New Places for New People' (NPNP) and 'Pioneer Minister' from West Yorkshire, his walks vary, but offer a combination of worship and meditation in the beautiful outdoors. Some walks include prayers and some liturgy, but all have a little guidance on directions, photographs of landmarks or features and some encouragement to stop and reflect or pray. What is wonderful, is that Paul has then uploaded these walks, onto the Calderdale Circuit Website. This has enabled others to undertake the same walks, as individuals, or groups, in their own time. Paul is shortly moving to the Liverpool

district and in conversation, we formed the idea of creating an online Spiritual Walks resource, that might become a resource across the North of England. To that end, I have created a page on the Kairos Website, with an interactive map, which allows you to locate a walk, and download the guide. I've added Paul's walks (in Red) and others from Susanna Hinton who offers Spiritual guided walking retreats in the Dales (feetoffaith.co.uk). My challenge to the Yorkshire North and East District is for there to be a new walk created surrounding every Methodist chapel and church. Paul doesn't always develop his walks alone – he has friends who develop the walk and take photos, and he then creates the reflections and prayers to accompany them. Could you work with others in your circuit, to develop some walks in your circuit? You might then lead a walk, inviting others and experience this gentle opportunity for exploring the spirituality of the natural world, and discover the faith conversations it generates. You might even use it to start your own New Place for New People. If you can capture your walk in a document, as Paul has and send them to me, I will add them to our map, which will grow into a resource for everyone to share and enjoy!



<https://www.kairosmovement.org.uk/walking-the-way/>

Challenge accepted?

Rev Andy

Explore the walks at <https://www.kairosmovement.org.uk/walking-the-way/>

Send your walks to newstreams@yorkshirenemethodist.org.uk