

Sinfin Moor Church (LEP)

Arleston Lane, Sinfin Moor, Derby DE24 3DH

(Anglican, Methodist and United Reformed)

Formed 1970

The first single congregation in Derbyshire

A Local Ecumenical Partnership serving Sinfin Moor and Stenson Fields

Find us at: www.sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk



Parish
Profile
2019



Thank you taking the time to read our Church profile which is intended to give you a flavour of who and what we are.

We are a single congregation Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) formed in 1970 (see page 3) for a little more on our history.

Our Church Mission Statement states:

"We are a Christian Fellowship (including Anglican, Methodist and United Reformed ministries) committed to serving God and sharing the Good News of Jesus with everyone."

We are a team of 6 Stewards who represent the three denominations for legal reasons two of us are Churchwardens although we are all equal. We work well together as a team and represent the congregation as the lay leadership.

This profile will tell you something about our uniqueness of being an LEP of 48 years, how we operate, and how we work together to be a Christian witness in our community, in Derby, and beyond.

We are praying for the right person to come along to lead and share with us in the next stage of our journey.



Amanda
Ian
Julie
Margaret
Melanie
Melvin



A little bit of history

We are a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) between the Anglican, Methodist and United Reformed (URC) Churches and have been established here since 1970. In its Anglican capacity it is the Parish Church of Sinfin Moor (and Stenson Fields), in its Methodist guise it is the local Methodist Chapel and in its URC form it is the local Church. No other Churches are included in the pastorate.

The Church operates as a single united congregation encompassing all 3 partner denominations. This means that we all worship together as a single church with our normal Sunday service taking place at 10.00 am each week. We were the first single congregation LEP in Derbyshire and as far as we know, one of the first in the UK. We just celebrated our 48th Anniversary.

The Church began life as a house church meeting at the Minister's home. We progressed to an initial building where 2 semi-detached houses were built with no middle walls. Subsequently the present building was erected and we have worshipped here since 1975. There are three bays separated by sliding screens. The front bay is our sanctuary, middle bay is carpeted and the back bay has a hard floor. There is a kitchen, coffee bar and meeting/activity areas.

Over the past few years the building has had much work done including new kitchen, new toilets, a complete new roof and a new entrance that we call our Welcome Area. Most of the radiators in the Church have been replaced this year.

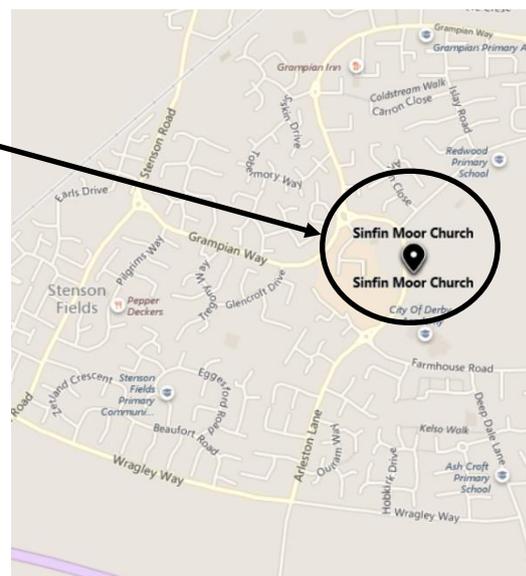
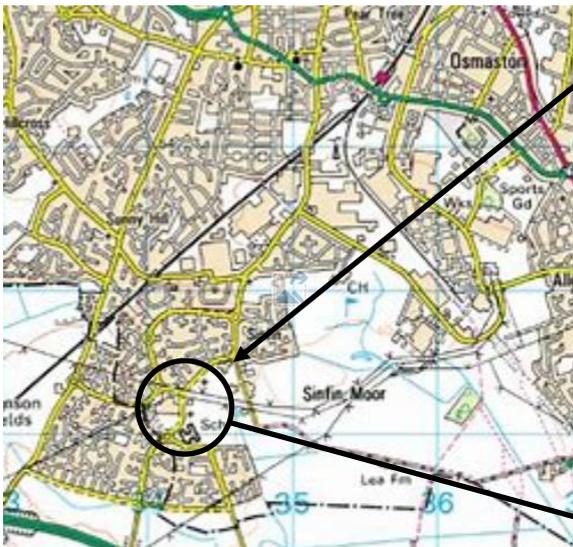
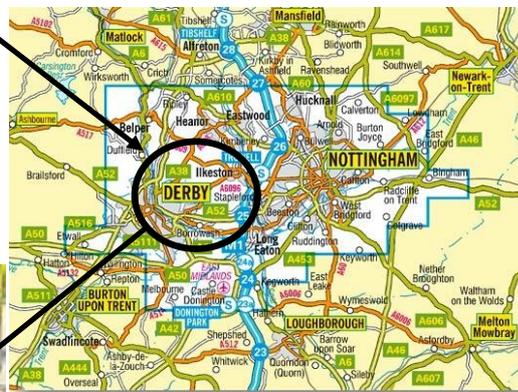
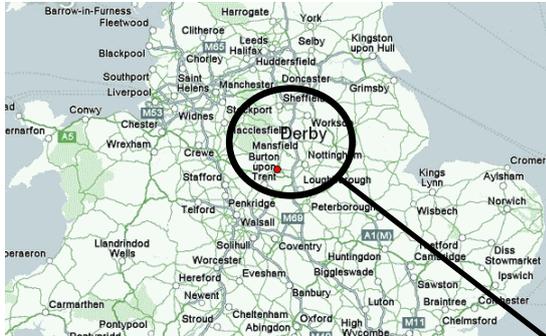
We are licensed for Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals.

The Church is sponsored by Churches Together for Derbyshire (CTD) and operate to a formal Constitution that has been agreed by the three denominations and CTD.

Numerous groups and organisations use our facilities on weekly basis and these are listed for your information (see pages 10 onwards).

Location

You will find us in the south of the City of Derby although part of our parish in the City and part in Derbyshire.



The Appointment

This half-time appointment comprises one church in a large and growing suburb on the South side of Derby City. **Sinfin Moor Ecumenical Church** is a well-established Anglican/Methodist/URC LEP with a membership of 54 plus adherents, which was formed in 1970. All 3 denominations are equal partners; it should be noted that the church is the Parish Church of Sinfin Moor (comprising Sinfin and Stenson Fields). As an LEP it is part of the Derby Methodist Circuit, URC East Midlands Synod and the Derby Diocese partnered in a Mission and Ministry Area with the neighbouring Parish of St Stephens (Sinfin). In the past the church has had alternating Ministry, most recently a Methodist presbyter and prior to that URC ministry. It is more than 10 years since we have had a Anglican Minister.

Worship is varied, both creative and liturgical with active participation from the congregation e.g. bible readings, drama etc. It does not follow any particular denominational pattern and the congregation are used to a variety of styles and approach. Communion is held on the 1st and 5th Sunday.

There is a pastoral network whereby each church member is under the care of a pastoral contact.

We work hard to be represented at the necessary meetings held by all three denominations and for an LEP like ours, this triples the number of meetings and can prove challenging to be involved in all.

The parish population is over 12,000 but current and planned building work will increase this number considerably.

It is estimated that some 700 people use the building each week.

These include an Asian men's group, parent and toddler group, Live At Home, dancing classes, Derby City Council Livewell, Slimming World, Brownies, Guides, Cubs, Beavers and Scouts as well as regular Church events. This covers a large section of community life in Sinfin and Stenson Fields.

The church is also a member of the Sinfin exchange project, recycling equipment and resources where possible.

We are looking for:

- *A person to become more missional and culturally relevant in order to engage with new people in meaningful ways*
- A preacher and pastor capable of building up a church whose premises are in a prime position at the heart of the community.
- A strategic leader who can guide the church's response to the challenge of the new housing to be built in the area over the next few years.
- A person with an ecumenical heart, who can make people from a variety of Christian traditions feel that this is their spiritual home.

There is scope for the church to further develop its role as *the* church for Sinfin Moor. It is prominently situated in an ideal location, after significant building work we are now able to open up our Church to the local community, we are excited about this especially as there are a large number of new houses being built in our area. We have appointed a welcome centre manager and also a prayer co-ordinator so that we can open our church for one morning a week for prayer. In the past, people have travelled out of the area to attend a church of their specific denomination, we hope to change this.

- It is essential that the person appointed has an understanding of

the other Christian traditions involved in the partnership, and the ability to navigate their sometimes conflicting polity. It is important to continue our involvement with the Anglican, Methodist and URC Churches.

- The Church would want to work closely with the presbyter to seek the best way to facilitate worship and ministry in what has been and will continue to be a part-time appointment.

Strengths and Weakness

People within the Church are willing to contribute to Worship and help with the various ministries within the Church using their own skills. 98% of the congregation live within the local community.

The Church Stewards and Council have long experience of the denominational complexities of running an LEP. The vicarage is close to the church, which in some respects may be considered an advantage and in some respects a disadvantage.

The most obvious weakness we can identify is the lack of children and young people in our congregation and our input into the five schools in our Parish.

Other Information

The Church sees itself at the centre of community life in the area and this is reflected by many users and varied use it gets through an average week.

We reach out in to the community by providing our facility free-of-charge to both the Live at Home Scheme and the Parent and Toddler Group as well as special rates for the Uniformed Groups.

Our latest outreach is the prayer and refreshments provided each Monday morning giving a time for friendship, fellowship and prayer

using our Welcome Area and the Front Bay. This is open to all and is regularly attended by non-church and church folk alike.

Like most Churches, we see ourselves as friendly, welcoming and open to all. Our Services are relaxed using modern and traditional forms of worship. We have a multimedia projector and sound system to enhance our worship together.

We hold a Church Weekend each year (in August) and there is a Bible Study Group who meet fortnightly.

The Vicarage

Address	72 Redwood Road, Sinfin, Derby DE24 9LA
Location of vicarage relative to church, schools, hospitals etc:	150 metres from Church. Very close to shopping precinct with ASDA store and other shops. Most of the parish accessible on foot. 4 Primary schools all within $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, City of Derby Academy very close, hospital 4 miles
Public transport links:	Good bus links into the City Centre and the railway station 3.8 miles.
Number and measurement of rooms:	Ground Floor: Lounge - 6.70 m x 4.42m, Dining Room - 3.13m x 3.05m, Kitchen - 3.96m x 3.13m, Utility Room - 2.44m x 1.52, Study L shaped 5.79m x 4.88 overall, toilet/cloakroom First Floor: Bedroom 1 - 4.88m x 3.13, Bedroom 2 - 3.66m x 3.05m, Bedroom 3 - 3.66m x 2.44m, Bedroom 4 - 2.33m x 2.33m, bathroom and separate toilet.
Study facilities:	Large study downstairs.
Heating arrangements:	Gas Central Heating and gas fire in living room.
Size / nature of garden:	Large garden with mostly grass.
Parking / garage facilities:	Detached garage for one car and space for a second car in front of it.
Arrangement for disability access:	The house would present difficulties for a wheelchair user.

See the next page for a photograph of the Vicarage



The Church Building (see front cover for the photograph)

This comprises 3 more-or-less equal size bays separated by screens which are not soundproof. The front bay is our Sanctuary with a raised dais on which sits a communion table, font, banner and chairs. The dais has a communion rail all the way across the front. The main lectern and reading lectern are on the church floor. The chairs in the front bay were recently purchased. There is an electronic organ and chairs for our Music Group. It is carpeted and provides a pleasant and relaxing environment for worship and prayer.

The middle bay has no fixed furnishings other than a carpet and for Sunday morning worship, the screens are open to the front bay to provide an extended area of worship with more recently purchased chairs.

The back bay is a hard floor and the screen can be open to the middle bay to provide space for large services and special events. With it having a hard floor this is used extensively by our various groups some of which need the extra space provided by the middle bay.

Down one side of the building is the Welcome Area with its multicoloured seats and a bar where refreshments can be served. There are modern toilets including a disabled and baby-changing facilities.

The opposite side of the building has a Vestry/Office, a Coffee Bar with comfortable seating and a fully-fitted kitchen.

The rear of the building has a number of rooms including a Boiler Room, Activity Room, storage areas and also a facility for the uniform groups.

We have our own car park with about 20 spaces and a grass area to the rear which provides space for outdoor activities.

Our User Groups and Activities (in no particular order)

Prayer and Fellowship Group - Meeting every Monday for, as the name suggests prayer and fellowship offering a relaxed atmosphere with refreshments. Led by our Centre Manager and Prayer Co-ordinator and is open to all.

Cubs - This uniform group meet on a Tuesday Evening using back bay doing all the things that cubs do.

Footlights Stage School - These are one of a our major users with an adults tap class on a Tuesday (after Cubs), an adult ballet class on a Friday evening and various classes on a Saturday for all age groups and abilities. They hold singing lesson in the activity room during this time as well.

Slimming World - You have to be early on Thursday morning because there are two sessions with the first starting at 8.00 am followed by a second at 10.00 am. This has proved a popular group for those who need this support and provides a nice income for the Church.

Live at Home Scheme - Wednesday afternoon in the middle bay provides a time of friendship for the elderly. They enjoy entertainment as well as friendship, fellowship and refreshments and cake. Our photograph shows them lined up.



Brownies - Meet early on Wednesday evening in the back bay doing all the things that you would expect Brownies to do.



Guides - Led by one of our Church Stewards, the Guides are a very active group doing many varied activities which includes helping and getting involved occasionally on our morning worship and they also do things like having sleepovers. They have even provided us with breakfast after our early morning service on Easter Sunday. The photograph shows that although they are taught some serious stuff like 1st Aid, they can also have fun!

Parent and Toddler Group - Providing a time for parents (and grandparents) to meet on a Thursday afternoon and let their little ones play in the large area of the back and middle bay. They have lots of things for children to play with and plenty of space for the adults to supervise whilst having a chat and drink. The photograph shows a typical session using the middle and back bay.



Beavers - Meet early evening on a Thursday using the back bay for activities of craft and games. The photograph shows the Beavers who have been interviewing the greyhound.



Scouts - These follow the Beavers on Thursday in the back thus fulfilling the provision for all ages to progress from Beavers, Cubs and then Scouts.

Asian Over 60's Men's Group - Unusual as this may sound, this group of senior citizens meet in our Coffee Bar area for a time friendship and fellowship every afternoon Monday to Friday. On a Friday they lunch together (usually fish and chips) after which they play their usual games, read newspapers or just chat.

Saturday Coffee Morning - Held usually on the last Saturday every month (except August when it's holiday time and December when it's held a week earlier because of Christmas. This is our main fund-raising event and we utilise the front bay and coffee bar. A best seller here are the bacon and sausage cobs.

As well as these regular activities we do have occasional lettings and these include:

- Polling Station for the General Election and local elections
- Livewell an NHS funded advise, diet and exercise class
- Expert Diabetes - an NHS 6-week course.
- Neighbourhood Board - Christmas meal for lonely and isolated people in the community.
- Ashcroft School and Cotton Farm School annual Christmas

Carols (over 250 children come from the two schools for this).

Summary

We have tried to give you a flavour of our Church in Sinfin, there is much more that could have been included. Maybe some things we have forgotten too. We are what we are, and we commend ourselves to you for thoughtful prayer in the hope you may want to find out more about us and what we trying to do for the kingdom of God.



Contact Numbers for further information:

Assistant Area Dean - Rev'd Dr Simon Cartwright 01332 367690.
revscartwright@gmail.com

Church Steward - Ian Sant 01332 721927 (answerphone) or 07725 637485.

ian.sant@ntlworld.com