



September 2025

In Touch

The monthly news bulletin of the
Herefordshire (South and East) Methodist Circuit

Dear Friends, here we are in another September, and another Methodist New Year. Let's take a moment to reflect like the Wesley's did at their annual conference:-

*And are we yet alive,
and see each other's face?
Glory and praise to Jesus give
for His redeeming grace!*

Yes, all three of our churches are very much alive, and as we look around and see each other's faces, and new faces and old faces, let us continue to praise Jesus.

*What troubles have we seen,
what conflicts have we past,
fightings without, and fears within,
since we assembled last!*

Yes, we've been through a lot together, and we are still here, in fact I think we are thriving. There's a lot going on in the world, much conflict, too much strife and war, yet we persist, we look after and care for each other, and we show that care and love out into the world. Through our love and activism we have a voice, we have the power and strength of the Lord at our Elbow. So.....

*Let us take up the cross
till we the crown obtain,
and gladly reckon all things loss
so we may Jesus gain.*

We take up our cross, we do what we can to work alongside our Lord and follow the path he forms towards the Kingdom,
let's pray for the kingdom to come,
and let's follow Jesus to the beautiful
place of the Kingdom!.....Cont....

The **Methodist Church**

Herefordshire (South & East) **Circuit**



Let's continue in the theme of hymns and songs, which is the theme of our Presidency this year. A song we sang at Greenbelt this year, and in our Christian Aid Services in 2018, really resonated with me. Reminding us we really do have a voice, and we need to use it.

The Song of Kingdom Come

Chorus: I have a voice
You have a voice
We have a voice and when we sing together
A line is drawn; and hope reborn
This is the song, the song of Kingdom Come.

(repeat)

We heard the cries / of distant neighbours
The dispossessed / the refugee
And God's command to feed the hungry
And set them free / and set them free
We heard the Word / the New Commandment
And we reclaimed / the prophet's call
To love the world without condition
God's love for all / God's love for all

Chorus

A reckless love / that knows no borders
That speaks the truth / to those in power
That shines a light on cruel indifference
This is God's hour / this is God's hour
When we will stand / against injustice
With all who live / against the grain
Until their poverty is over
And love shall reign / and love shall reign

Chorus

We won't stand by / while sisters suffer
Or turn blind eyes / to ruthless wrong
Our psalm of praise will be compassion
This Kingdom Song / this Kingdom song
A song of love / and liberation
Of healing hope / and lasting peace
A taste of life in all its fullness
God's masterpiece / God's masterpiece.

Chorus (x 2) repeat last line

So as we enter the new Methodist year of 2025/26, let's remember we do have a voice, and let's join our voice to the voice of many others.

There are many it seems who want a different Britain to us, one of intolerance, one of "sending people home. (Perhaps my family who came over with William the Conqueror in the 11th Century need to go back to France!

Or we can be a people of love, and hope, care and inclusivity, a people who welcome, a people who stand with their siblings, a

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Kingdom Hope people—let's be Kingdom Hope People.

You can watch the song on YouTube—

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aQDQrhpyY2Q>

Every Blessing Phil.

Baton of Hope 2025

Herefordshire: 2nd October

Following the huge success of our very first tour in 2023, the Baton of Hope is working with teams across the UK for an even bigger event in 2025!


Please help us to 'Stand Up To Suicide' as we spread the message of prevention far and wide.

We are delighted to unveil our plans and invite you follow our social media for regular updates.

THE BATON OF HOPE IS COMING TO HEREFORDSHIRE

THE UK'S BIGGEST
INITIATIVE TO RAISE
AWARENESS AROUND
SUICIDE PREVENTION AND
MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT.

SAVE THE DATE:
TOUR COMES TO
HEREFORD
2ND OCT

 Herefordshire
Council

 BATON
OF
HOPE

TALK COMMUNITY

Jesus and his scriptures (Part 1)

When Jesus went to the synagogue, a couple of scrolls would be selected for the day's readings from a wide range of Hebrew literature. These included the law - the first five books of the Bible (Torah), history, drama, poetry, the prophets, ethics and songs. Taken together the literature used in worship was known as the Tenakh, which became our Old Testament.

It is interesting to see how Jesus used these scriptures in his teaching. Matthew arranges some of this material in the "Sermon on the Mount", which is, in part, a commentary on Torah. As in every religion, we can see a division between those who are rather literalist in keeping to old texts and those who interpret them more freely. Jesus' discussions with the Pharisees illustrate this very well.

To look at some examples, we see that Jesus criticises those who apply tax rules too rigidly. Their "income tax" was by tithing a tenth of all produce and more zealous officials would insist on including even the poorest patch of herbs. Jesus believes that the law is there to benefit people and not to burden them.

The same principle leads to his questioning the sabbath laws regarding work - whether in the lesser case of gleaning in the cornfields or in the more important issue of healing. Once again Jesus places humanitarian considerations over and above what the scriptures actually say and he insists that: *"The sabbath was made for man, not man for the sabbath"*.

A similar question involves the dietary and purification laws - on the grounds that we must look to the heart and not to outward observance: *"It is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a man, but what comes out of it"*.

We could say that Jesus is be looking for the Law that lies behind the laws that were written down by scribes centuries before. He was ready to approach a woman when many would avoid her as 'unclean'.

We could say that Jesus was more liberal or progressive but this is not always so. Sometimes he stayed close to the law when others looked for a loophole to avoid their responsibilities. When men sought a religious excuse to avoid giving a divorced woman her due, Jesus refers them back to the fundamental law of marriage. He was conservative on this issue because he would be aware that practice could leave women without support.

It is surely his concern for women that is one of the motives behind his dramatic challenge when a woman is accused of adultery. Whatever the law may prescribe he shames the crowd -. *"let him who is without sin cast the first stone"*.

We can see that Jesus was guided above all by compassion, so continuing the tradition of the prophets, when priests and legalists might insist that obedience to God's rules must take precedence.

Graham

Around the Circuit

Bromyard news

On Saturday September 20th at 3.00pm, we are holding an Afternoon Tea with musical entertainment from "Sounds Familiar", a trio of very talented young ladies! We are raising funds for Motor Neurone Disease Association, which supports people with this terrible disease. Please come and support us and MND. Cost is £10. For more information, please contact Sandra Gale 01885 482362

On Sunday 7th September we are delighted to welcome Julia Mapstone to lead us in our worship. Julia is a captain in the Salvation Army and has joined us in our activities on several occasions when visiting her Mum, Linda Williams, a member of our church. We look forward to hearing her message.

On Sunday 14th our Tea Church will include the BMUE (Bromyard Methodist Ukulele Ensemble) playing for the Hymns; we look forward to some joyful singing! Our 'Tea Church' services are quite relaxed as we enjoy a 'Cuppa' and cake around the table as we worship.

It is good to report that our Church Drive/Parking area has been retarmacked and is looking very smart with a lovely smooth approach to the church. Also we now have Full Fibre connection for our church WiFi with wonderful download and upload speeds!

Our 'Warm Space' continues on Wednesdays 10am to 2pm and is very well-attended, averaging 40 to 50 visitors each week. We are very grateful for the support from members of St. Joseph's Catholic church who are there every week working alongside us helping to make it a very successful venture.

Ledbury News

Quite a lot of “work in progress” at the moment!

We held an Awayday at the start of August where the church’s life was looked at, and we tried to identify those areas we might develop or concentrate on. It’s a case now of “watch this space”.

As you may know, we have also taken on the maintenance of the small garden just across the road from the church, and this is bearing – well, perhaps not fruit, but certainly blooms, with a very encouraging display of sunflowers.

We also sang a Christmas carol in August!! An afternoon was spent video-recording *Joy to the World* to a pre-supplied backing tape, and this has duly been sent off to the Connexion who will edit it and clip it, and hopefully come up with a “collaborative carol” as part of the Methodist nationwide campaign to deliver a Christmas message.

In early September, at the start of a new Methodist year, we will be sharing in the Covenant Service and – even if yours doesn’t happen till January – we know you will be praying for us, just as we will for you in due course.

Brian Hudson

St. John’s

Hello, hasn’t it been a wonderful summer for sun lovers? As I write in the fading days of August the gardens are gasping for water and so we all welcome the balance of the predicted cooler, wetter days ahead.

Remembering the last couple of months we can appreciate the break from routine which July and August offer. Over the summer, four households hosted Tea in the Garden events, raising a total of over £600 for: Mind, Church funds, West Mercia Women’s Aid and The Living Room. The company was excellent and the cakes were delicious. (It’s just possible that an equivalent number of inches were added to our collective waistlines!)

The knitters have been busy, resulting in a number of stump socks which are now on their way to amputees in Ukraine.

Some of the house groups continued in July and August, as did Bible Study, albeit with reduced numbers. As we look forward to September, normal service will be resumed. (Does anyone else remember that message on the early 1950’s BBC television sets when the blank screen indicated a problem with connection or similar blip?!)

Nigel Williams co-ordinated a group cleaning day at the church and now everything is gleaming! It was a time of great fellowship too.

As we look forward, one of our much appreciated services of Harvest Festival will take place at St John's on Sunday, September 14th. It will be led by Richard Wilde, the Methodist Rural Officer. Further details to be announced.

In the meantime, stay safe and well....and do let one of the stewards know if you need any help in any way. We may be able to point you in the right direction.

Pat Peden

Alzheimer's Society Trek 26



Many thanks to all those who sponsored me for my walk back in early July. Sadly, an unexplained hip problem meant that I had to stop at the lunch stop just over half way along. I hope to go back and do the second half of the route at a later date. However, I managed to raise almost £2,000 for Alzheimer's Society, money which they will use to fund their vital support services and their research to find a cure to this terrible condition.

Tony Pitt

Organ Recitals at Clehonger Church

A series of organ Recitals at

All Saints Church

Clehonger

HR2 9SE

4th September: Stephen Power

11th September: TBC

18th September: Roger Judd

Thursdays from 1.30pm

Free admission, Retiring collection

St John's Singing for Fun Group

The Singing for Fun Group meets on the second and fourth Friday of the month at 7pm in the lower hall.

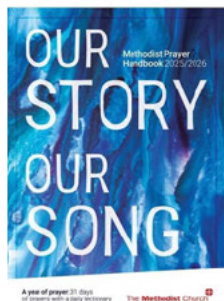
This group was set up in response to a number of people saying they missed the opportunity to sing and, as a group, we recognise that singing is good for our mental wellbeing. We sing a variety of music and you don't need a knowledge of music or to have been in a choir previously to join us. If you feel like a sing, please join us – all are welcome! If you have any queries, see Di Price, Pat Little, Gervase Guy or Deborah Williams.



Methodist Prayer Handbook

The Methodist Prayer handbooks have arrived and been distributed to those who'd ordered them.

If anyone forgot to order one and would like one, there is one spare available - contact Rosi Taylor at St. John's.



Hereford URC

A new memorial garden is being constructed at Hereford URC and a dedication service of this will be held on Sunday 7th September at 2.30pm when Hereford URC will also be rededicated. Families of former members of both Hampton Park and Eignbrook churches are invited to attend, along with former ministers of both churches.



The
United
Reformed
Church

House Groups at St. John's

Omega Home Group

Several members of the group enjoyed a meal at Istanbul, Union Street, on 14th August, where, as well as eating an enjoyable meal, we discussed and arranged our future dates.

We will meet at Val's house in King's Acre Road at 2.30pm on the second Saturday of each month as follows:

- Saturday 13th September
- Saturday 11th October
- Saturday 8th November
- Saturday 13th December – which will be a Christmas Celebration with reading and poems as well as food.

Any queries to Beryl Williams on [REDACTED], please.

River House Group

Would you like to join the River House Group? If so, you would be very welcome.

We meet at St John's on the third Thursday in the month at 2.30pm to 4.00pm. There is no charge and we have tea/coffee and a biscuit. We have varied meetings ranging from a general chat to following a set topic.

We are a friendly group so do come along.

Christine Guy

Rose Garden House Group

This group also meets on the third Thursday of each month, from 3.00pm. Meetings are held in the library at the Rose Garden, Ledbury Road, and are open not only to St. John's folk but also to residents at the Rose Garden. For more details please speak to John Thompson.

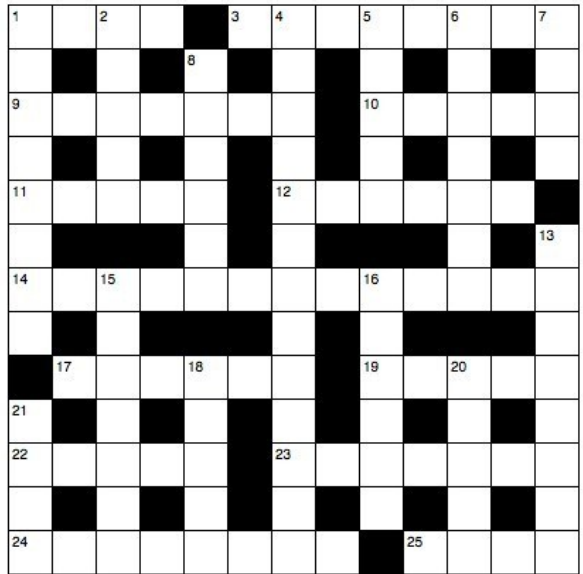
Stretton House Group

Meetings are notified through the diary held in the foyer at St. John's and also on Sunday notice sheets. For more details of meetings please speak to Roy Little.

Crossword

Across

- 1 'A little later someone else saw Peter and said, "You — are one of them"' (Luke 22:58) (4)
- 3 Giving (1 Peter 2:5) (8)
- 9 They came to Jerusalem seeking an infant king (Matthew 2:7) (3,4)
- 10 'An athlete... does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the — ' (2 Timothy 2:5) (5)
- 11 Pacifist, temperance advocate, open-air preacher, leading 20th-century Methodist, Donald — (5)
- 12 'Come quickly to — — , O Lord my Saviour' (Psalm 38:22) (4,2)
- 14 'The God of Abraham, — — — , the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus' (Acts 3:13) (5,3,5)
- 17 Sear by intense heat (Revelation 16:8) (6)
- 19 'It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust — — ' (Psalm 118:8) (2,3)
- 22 Goods (Nehemiah 13:15) (5)
- 23 i.e. train (anag.) (7)
- 24 Surrounding area (Luke 24:50) (8)
- 25 'Righteousness will be his — and faithfulness the sash round his waist' (Isaiah 11:5) (4)



Down

- 1 Elegant and creative (Exodus 31:4) (8)
- 2 'Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all — , but we will all be changed' (1 Corinthians 15:51) (5)
- 4 'I... delight to see how orderly you are and how firm your — — — is' (Colossians 2:5) (5,2,6)
- 5 Enlist (2 Samuel 24:2) (5)
- 6 Of the Muslim faith (7)
- 7 Sharp intake of breath (Job 11:20) (4)
- 8 Woven cloth (Ezekiel 16:13) (6)
- 13 Plentiful (Romans 5:17) (8)
- 15 CIA char (anag.) (7)
- 16 Paul and Silas stopped him committing suicide after an earthquake in Philippi (Acts 16:27-28) (6)
- 18 One of the ingredients in the making of incense for the Lord (Exodus 30:34) (5)
- 20 Episcopal headwear (5)
- 21 Inhabitant of, say, Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia or Bulgaria (4)

Ukraine Freedom Company

About a year ago I became aware of the existence and activities of the Ukraine Freedom Company in Hereford whose main focus then, as I thought, was making up and delivering comfort boxes to frontline troops in Ukraine. I started making up a monthly comfort box which I then dropped off at the First Light Cafe for onward transportation to Ukraine. When the First Light Cafe closed I learned that the Ukraine Freedom Company had rented office space at St Peter's Church and started dropping off my monthly comfort box at their office where I met those involved and got to learn a lot more about what they do.

I used to get a shoe box from one of the shoe shops and fill it with things from the suggested contents list for comfort boxes such as toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrush, soap, lip salve, wet-wipes, tissues etc), treats and snacks (sweets, chocolate, tea, coffee, pot meals etc), first aid items (bandages, antiseptic cream, foot powder etc) and personal items (socks, thermal vests and pants, small towel, candles, matches, etc), in fact, anything I could think of to make life easier and better for those on the frontline defending Ukraine from invading Russian forces.

However, it was found that cardboard shoe boxes were not ideal for sending items to frontline troops as cardboard disintegrates when it gets wet and it is easy for rats to access whatever is in them, so the next step was to collect and pack comfort box items in plastic chocolate boxes (to keep the contents dry) and metal biscuit tins (to prevent rats getting at the contents). I now collect plastic chocolate boxes and biscuit tins when I can get hold of them and deliver them to their office (more like a warehouse now!), together with whatever things I buy to fill the boxes, where the boxes and tins are packed.

Once they have a van full of packed boxes they have some volunteers who drive the vans to Ukraine for delivery to the Ukrainian forces. In this regard they are helped by the Hereford Elgar Rotary Club with fuel and other costs involved in the transportation of the things to Ukraine. I have since learned that they also collect medical equipment to help rehabilitate injured service personnel as well as civilians. They accept donations of crutches, Zimmer frames, plastic fracture boots etc which would normally be sent for recycling if returned to the NHS. These are disinfected/sterilised before being sent to Ukraine. They also will take in-date medication which can be used for service personnel or civilians. In fact, some months ago they got hold of an NHS ambulance which had come to the end of its service life with the NHS and, through sponsorships and donations, they were able to restore it, service it and bring it up to full MOT standards before loading it with medical equipment and driving it to Ukraine and giving it to the relevant authorities there.

The Ukraine Freedom Company also collects items which can be used by the Ukrainian armed forces, such as binoculars, as well as some electronic items, such as old mobile phones (these are sent to Ukraine where their GPS chips are removed and installed in drones for guidance purposes).

Items can be dropped off at the Ukraine Freedom Company's offices on the first floor of church office building at St Peter's on Tuesdays and Wednesdays between 10am and 4pm and on Fridays between 1pm and 4pm or you can give them to me when you see me and I can pass them on when I go to their offices.

Unfortunately, there are no car parking facilities in front of the offices but an arrangement can be made for things to be collected if a large number of things need to be dropped off.



Andrew Pantland

The company can be contacted as follows:

0345 646 1766

contact@ukrainefreedomcompany.org

TWINS & TOTS

Every Tuesday
in term-time,
10am to 12 noon
£1 per family.
Lots of toys &
fun!

Everyone
welcome!

The Methodist Church
St John's Methodist Hereford
St Owen St, Hereford, HR1 2PR

Twins & Tots

A reminder of this group which runs at St. John's every Tuesday morning in term time.

Everybody with pre-school-age children is welcome but currently we have very few actual twins - so disappointing for any twin families who come expecting to meet other families who know what it's like! So please spread the word and let everyone know about this great group.



Hereford Twin Club Tamba

News from Toby

After Dad Alan died and went to heaven, Mum's heart was broken. Then she broke her leg and strangers had to take me for walks.

Then we moved; Newcastle and the NHS helped her leg to heal. And a miracle happened: Jesus healed our broken hearts and now we smile again.

She takes me for walks and her friends give me treats because I am a good dog! (Well, sometimes!)

Woof! Woof!

Toby



Just before In Touch went to press, I received a call from Joyce to say Toby had died, peacefully in her arms, at the ripe old age of 17.

RIP Toby

Tea Church at St. John's

4.00pm on the 3rd Sunday

21st September

19th October

ALL WELCOME!



Bible Study

Rev'd Roy Crew will lead our Bible studies in September and October. The dates will be September 12th & 26th, October 10th & 24th. They will be held at 2.30pm at St John's.

The theme will be 'A Sensational Week With Mark', covering Chapters 14 - 16.

New members will be most welcome. Do try and share lifts if you are able.



Truly a Hive of Activity!

At the Methodist Church in New Road Bromyard, we welcome anyone, young or not so young, and, very often, dogs! Not just on a Sunday for worship but throughout the week when various groups meet. The activities are not all run by the Methodist Church but different groups hire our facilities. In fact there is something happening on most days so you could be sustained not just spiritually but nutritionally, physically, socially and musically.

We do not judge anyone; we do not discriminate and all abilities are welcome. We have disabled access and facilities.

On Mondays, Age Concern run a cooking group for anyone who wishes to enjoy preparing, cooking and eating a simple meal.

If you pass the Church on a Tuesday evening you will hear wonderful “melodious sounds” coming from the hall when the Bromyard Choral society meets.

Methodist and Roman Catholic friends offer a “Warm Welcome” to ever yone on a Wednesday 10.00 – 12.00 for free coffee, tea, toast, scones and cake. A place to meet old and new friends for a chat. Also “The Food Share” (free food which is ex supermarket) takes place here at that time. Open to all.

The Community Singers and Ukelele groups meet here alternately on Thursday afternoons.

Children meet here for dancing classes, Rainbows and Brownies also. Not forgetting those who wish to keep fit! There are classes in Zumba and Pilates!

There is a free small car parking area, which has recently been resurfaced! We support many charities and occasionally host fundraising events.

Sandra Gale

Get something out of it

Coming out of church, the wife asked her husband, “Do you think that Johnson girl is tinting her hair?” Her husband looked vague. “And that dress Mrs Hansen was wearing,” she continued, “Really, don’t tell me you think that’s the proper costume for a mother of two.” Her husband looked blank. “Oh, for heaven’s sake,” snapped his wife. “A lot of good it does you to go to church!”

The Good, the Bad, and the In-betweens

The news, as ever, seems to be full of upsetting stories of crime, war, exploitation, greed and selfishness. These things seem to be everywhere; we wonder at how the world can be so evil. Yet, when we look around us, at our friends, neighbours, families and those we meet day-to-day, we see other things, we see love, goodness, unselfishness, support, sympathy and understanding. Not 100% of course, but more than enough to remind us that we are not all bad by any means, and that human society contains huge reserves of goodwill, generosity, and willingness to 'abide by the rules' and try to make life better for each other.

It seems such a pity that these everyday positives do not seem to be recognised in our public life, and especially in our media, which is so fixated on the destructive, on the sensational, on all the things which undermine what we used to call 'decency', and which drives us to pigeonhole people into categories, and applaud or condemn them accordingly. (immigrants – bad; soccer stars – good; Rock musicians – some good some bad; politicians – our party good, another party bad; etc) This is crazy, because we don't normally judge people that way in daily life when we meet each other! We recognise there is good and bad in all of us.

Don't we? Well, yes, probably. Do we?

And do we as Christians? Are we, as Christians, any better at being charitable to others than Joe Ordinary? Might we, in fact, be worse? Do we categorise, even privately to ourselves, others as 'sinful'/ as more selfish/ disrespectful/ ignorant/ wrong about things than ourselves?

As a child, I remember a poem (I can't remember how I learned it now) which went – 'one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, all good children go to heaven, eight, nine, ten eleven, twelve, all bad children go to hell.' Nowadays of course, that would not be acceptable to be taught in Sunday School (I hope), but it reflects a common misconception about Christianity - if you are squeaky clean you go 'up there', but if you are not, you go to 'the other place.'

This suggests a basic unfairness. Who is to say who is 'good' and who is 'bad'? God? Where is the red line? How does God decide whether someone has been good enough to go to heaven or not? Is there some sort of pass mark? Is Christian doctrine condemnatory? Judgemental? Intolerant?

Some Bible Texts set it out quite starkly. Matthew 25 v 46 promises that those

who do not care for others 'will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.' And in 2 Thessalonians 1 v 9 we are told that those who do 'not obey the gospel' will suffer 'the punishment of eternal destruction'.

Where is the love in this? Where is the sympathy, the understanding? Are we expected to live our lives in the shadow of fear, constantly looking over our shoulders to make sure we do not slip unawares down the slope to hell? There were times in the past when this was exactly what was taught and expected, and there are still pockets of such beliefs today.

But meeting God on a personal level reveals the full story. John 3 v 16 and many other similar verses tell us that 'God so loved the world, that He gave his only son, so the everyone who believes in him may not perish, but may have eternal life.'

So, God's love is the key, belief is the key; no pass mark, no standard of 'goodness' to meet, or standard of 'badness' to avoid, but belief in God's love and Jesus's message of salvation by taking Him into our hearts, accepting Him and His way of life, and turning away from things we have done in the past which came between ourselves and God.

I, myself, am certainly not all good, but I'm not all bad either. Like everybody, I am an In-between (and a pretty mediocre one at that). But nevertheless, by a miracle of grace, Jesus died on the cross for me, and all In-betweens. He enriches my life here and gives me assurance about 'up there.'

So, my belief turns my life around; I can commit to the path which Jesus expressed in the simplest of terms - 'love your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind and with all your strength and your neighbour as yourself.' (Mark 12 v 30 - 31). This is echoed by Micah, in one of the loveliest verses in the whole Bible - Micah 6 v8 - 'What does the lord require of you? But to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.' This applies to all of us, Good, Bad, and In-betweens alike.

Chris Knight



THE METHODIST CHURCH

A PLAN TO HELP US CHANGE AND WELCOME NEW PEOPLE

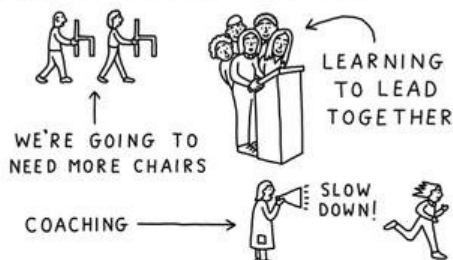
1 A CHURCH FOR EVERYONE



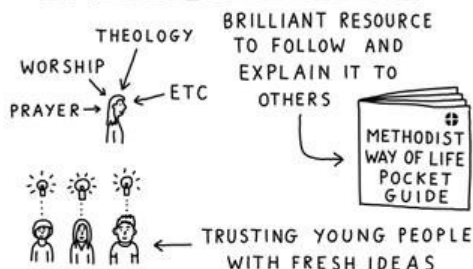
2 TELLING OUR STORY



3 PUTTING MISSION FIRST



4 LIVING AS CHRISTIANS



QUESTION: WHERE DOES GOD WANT YOU TO START?

AS FOUND IN THE
IT'S A GOOD DOC
GOD FOR ALL
STRATEGY

- 1 NEW PLACES FOR NEW PEOPLE/ CHURCH AT THE MARGINS
- 3 MISSIONAL GROWTH AND LEADERSHIP

- 2 EVANGELISM
- 4 DISCIPLESHIP/ METHODIST WAY OF LIFE

The Methodist Church

davewalker.com



"Delivery for whoever ordered the trendy alternative to a basket of groceries..."

Crossword answers

ACROSS: 1, Also. 3, Offering. 9, The Magi. 10, Rules. 11, Soper. 12, Help me. 14, Isaac and Jacob. 17, Scorch. 19, In man. 22, Loads. 23, Inertia. 24, Vicinity. 25, Belt.

DOWN: 1, Artistic. 2, Sleep. 4, Faith in Christ. 5, Enrol. 6, Islamic. 7, Gasp. 8, Fabric. 13, Abundant. 15, Archaic. 16, Jailer. 18, Resin. 20, Mitre. 21, Slav.

Lectionary Readings

7 September

Ordinary 23

Jeremiah 18:1-11

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18

Philemon 1-21

Luke 14:25-33

14 September

Ordinary 24

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

Psalms 14

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-10

21 September

Ordinary 25

Jeremiah 8:18 – 9:1

Psalms 79:1-9

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Luke 16:1-13

28 September

Ordinary 26

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15

Psalms 91:1-6, 14-16

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Luke 16:19-31

5 October

Ordinary 27

Lamentations 1:1-6

Canticle: Lamentations 3:19-26 or

Psalms 137

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Luke 17:5-10

'Take Action - Go on Strike'

Call for an end to genocide and famine in Gaza.

Participate in a global strike every Thursday, which calls on everyone to cease buying goods or services on Thursday to halt global trade until genocide stops.



Church Services in September

Sunday 7th September		<i>Ordinary 23</i>	
Bromyard	10.30am	Captain Julia Mapstone	
Ledbury	10.30am	Rev. Phil Warrey	<i>Covenant</i>
	2.30pm	Rev. Phil Warrey	<i>Relaxed</i>
St John's	10.30am	Rev. Ruth Eldridge	
Sunday 14th September		<i>Ordinary 24</i>	
Bromyard	2.30pm	Rev. Ruth Eldridge	<i>Tea Church</i>
Ledbury	10.30am	Mr. Chris Knight	
	6.00pm	Mrs. Caroline Warrey	<i>Iona-style</i>
St John's	10.30am	Rev. Richard Wilde	<i>Harvest</i>

Deadline for October In Touch

Sunday 21st September		<i>Ordinary 25</i>	
Bromyard	10.30am	Rev. Phil Warrey	<i>Holy Communion</i>
Ledbury	10.30am	Gillian/Stephen Chowns	
St John's	10.30am	Mr. Tony Pitt	
	4.00pm	Mr. Roy Little	<i>Tea Church</i>
Sunday 28th September		<i>Ordinary 26</i>	
Bromyard	2.30pm	Rev. Phil Warrey	<i>Tea Church</i>
Ledbury	10.30am	Rev. Phil Warrey	<i>Harvest, AAW</i>
St John's	10.30am	Rev. Peter Grimwood	<i>Holy Communion</i>

Churches Together in Hereford

Open meeting, 7pm on Thursday 25th September
at Holmer Parish Centre (just off the A49 north of
the roundabout with the Roman Road).

The purpose of this meeting is to establish mem-
ber church representation, so do come along if you
would be interested in finding out if you could be a
St. John's
representative. Light refreshments to follow.

Speak to Sallie or Rosi for more information.



Diary Dates in September

Thursday 4th September

2.30pm Church Life Committee, St. John's

Friday 12th September

2.30pm Bible study at St. John's

Thursday 18th July

2.30pm River House Group meets at St. John's

3.00pm Alpha House Group meets at the Rose Garden

Time? Local Preachers and Worship Leaders meeting
at St. John's

Thursday 25th September

7.00pm Churches Together in Hereford Open Meeting at
Holmer Church Centre (see p. 19)

Friday 26th September

2.30pm Bible study at St. John's

Keeping InTouch

Circuit contacts:

Rev Phil Warrey: t: 01531 634242 m: 07917 077785

e: phil.warrey@methodist.org.uk

Rest day: Usually Friday

Circuit Website: www.herefordshiremethodists.org.uk

Circuit Administrator: admin@herefordshiremethodists.org.uk

The deadline for the October edition of In Touch is **Sunday 14th**

September; ideally, please send material by email to

hfdscircuitnews@gmail.com

Or by Post to 18 Southbank Close, HEREFORD HR1 2TQ