

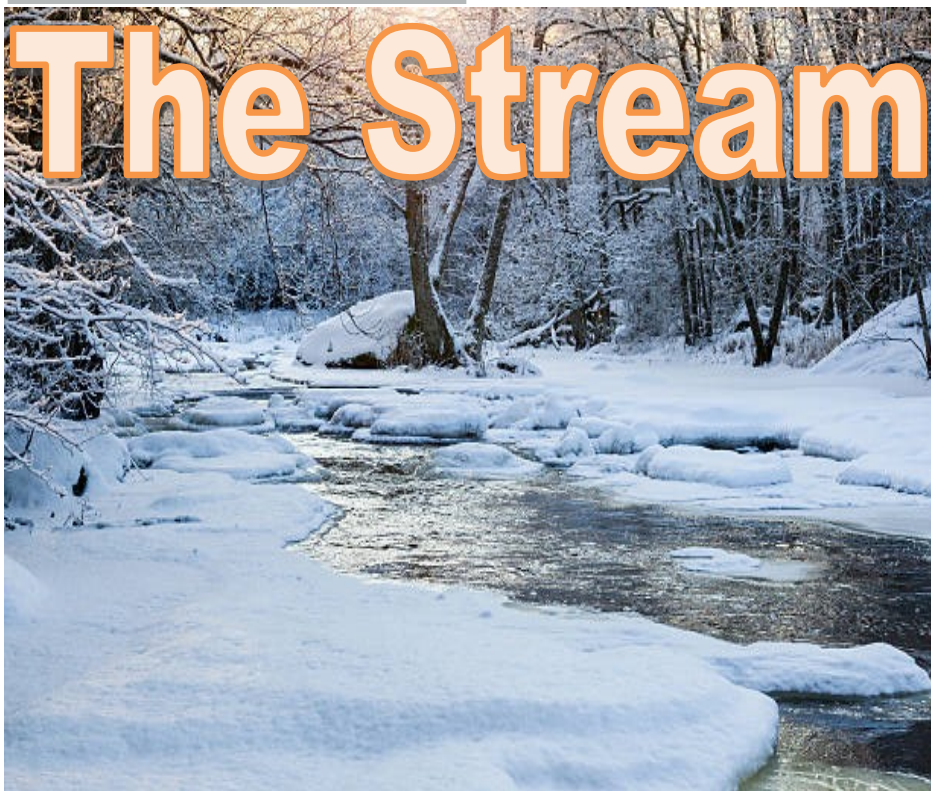


Encouraging Discipleship

**SOMERSET MENDIP CIRCUIT
THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**December 2022-
February 2023**

Charity Registration No. 1134237



Superintendent Minister: Reverend Tina Swire
Chairman of Bristol District: Reverend Dr Jonathan Pye
President of Conference: Reverend Graham Thompson
Vice-President of Conference: Anthony Boateng
2022 to 2023

<http://www.somersetmendipmethodists.com>

Also on Facebook

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***Thank you for your contributions to this
magazine.***

Please send articles to:
The Circuit Administrator at the Circuit Office,
Wells Methodist Church, Southover. Wells BA5 1UG
Email: smcwells2019@outlook.com, phone [01749 677106](tel:01749677106)

Articles need to be in by:
MONDAY 16TH January 2023



*Please note that -
The Stream is uploaded onto the SMC website.
If you **do not** want your article to appear online,
please inform the Circuit Administrator when you submit
your article.*



Encouraging Discipleship

The Somerset Mendip Circuit

Mission Statement



OUR VISION

*Our vision is of a circuit
where people experience and share
God's love, justice and joy*



OUR PURPOSE

*Our purpose is to
encourage, support and challenge
one another in fulfilling our vision.*

*Somerset Mendip Circuit of the Methodist Church
Charity Registration No. 1134237*

Pastoral Letter

Rev Collin Moore



Transition

As we enter the fourth month of living in the UK, we feel so privileged to call this beautiful part of the world home. We are also humbled and grateful to so many wonderful people who have shown us love and support in amazing ways. From cleaning the manse and clearing the garden, to donating furniture and showering us with flowers, treats, and visits. We must be the most pampered immigrants in Britain!

As we settle in, one of the unanticipated difficulties I'm having to come to terms with, is the prospect of an endless winter. Moving in September from the Southern to the Northern Hemisphere means that 2022 will be one long winter for the Moore's!

I don't like the cold and if I were God (isn't that a scary thought!) I would have made only one season. None of these other cold wet and windy seasons for me thank you, bring on the endless summer! Come to think of it, if I were God, why stop at the seasons, why not make every day 'perfect'? No more erratic unforeseen situations. I'd take the most ideal day, the best moments and the perfect kind of weather and just have that all the time. Can you imagine, no more worries or need for the weather channel; no more jerseys (sorry jumpers) or rain-coats, every day just predictable and perfect!

But as brilliant as it sounds in my head, I know in my heart it wouldn't work, it's not sustainable. I know in my spirit that there is a rhythm to life, a breathing in and out. I must be reminded that I'm not in control, I am not at the centre, that things change, and life requires my constant transition, my moving with its ups and downs, keeping in step with its cycles of consolation and desolation, work and rest, birth and death.

It sounds common sense but I'm still learning that change means leaving the old to embrace the new. Every change in life requires this. When I got married, I had to say goodbye to my bachelor life to properly welcome married life. I see now that as long as the bachelor Collin lived, the married Collin would not have a happy existence. Both Collins could not remain, one had to be let go. When Claire and I first had Grace, it took us a while to transition from our old to our new way of life. Our old life had to die before we could receive parenthood with joy. I imagine a similar transition happens at retirement where a whole new way of life suddenly transpires.

We long for adventure and newness and God compels us to change, to embrace the new, but we put off the change we resist the transition, and this can make for the most unhappy existence.

The most difficult changes are when previously good things come to an end, when it's time for us to let go of something that used to be good, especially if it was good for a long time. How much time and energy we waste fighting for the good things that just aren't any more, battling for the way things used to be. God's wonderful promise is to turn every end into a transition to new life, relentlessly turning every dead-end into a new-beginning.

As I write this, I wonder what transition you might be facing, or avoiding. Perhaps like me you anticipate a long winter. Whatever we might be struggling with let us draw encouragement from Jesus who trusted in the new life God brings, even as he faced a transition towards death on the cross he said these assuring words,

Anyone who holds onto life just as it is, destroys that life. But the one who is reckless in their love, lets it go, will have life, real and eternal.
John 12:25MSG

The winter may be long but I won't be forever.



Prawn Cocktail Sauce

2 tblsp Mayonnaise
Dash Worcestershire Sauce
2 tblsp Tomato Sauce
1 tblsp Brown Sauce
Dash Lemon Juice
Cayenne Pepper
Salt
¼ lb Prawns (shelled)



Dash Lemon Juice

Cayenne Pepper

Salt

¼ lb Prawns (shelled)

Mix together the mayonnaise, Worcestershire sauce, tomatoe sauce, brown sauce and lemon juice. Add salt and pepper to taste. When satisfied with taste add the prawns.

Barbeque Sauce

6 tblsp Soy Sauce
2 tblsp Tomato Puree
2 tblsp Orange Juice
1 tblsp Honey
½-1 tsp Grain Mustard

Mix everything together, and adjust to taste.





At Safe Families we know that every child deserves to thrive, and we recognise that to do this children need to be loved and secure in their own family. The problem is that when families are isolated and struggling their children can feel upset and afraid. Facing life alone is hard, and when families feel like there is no one there to help it's a scary place to be.

Which is why Safe Families volunteers stand alongside thousands of families every year. We train and support volunteers and connect them with isolated families, so they can build relationships that bring hope. We need volunteers to befriend and encourage families in this area by visiting or calling once a week (Family Friends), or by hosting children overnight (Host Homes), or perhaps you have resources that could be donated to a family (Resource Friends) – could you join us?

If you have questions please contact Dawn on

dawnholmes@safefamilies.uk or 07384 218826 or apply straight away at <https://safefamilies.uk/volunteer/>

**Submitted by Leanne Hibberd
Lay/Community Worker**

Reminiscences of a Navy Chaplain.

One of the recent speakers at Coleford Guild was a Navy Chaplain. He told us that the Chaplaincy in the Royal Navy can trace its existence back to Henry V111 through evidence found on The Mary Rose.

There are about 60 Chaplains in the Navy today. They are not officers but are treated as such as they are appointed by the King.

They must first be ordained by their own church, whether that is Anglican or other denomination. Then they go through a selection process to become a Naval Chaplain, followed by the normal training that any sailor gets. After that they may volunteer for the extra training that marines go through. This is some of the most rigorous training in the world.

We were told of training in Norway that showed sailors how to survive in cold sea and how to get out of the sea onto ice/snow.

This involved plunging into a hole dug into the ice over the sea, swimming across the hole, and then using your ski poles to haul yourself out. But first you must recite your name rank and number. In his case, the NCO then asked him to recite the ten commandments. He replied that he was not a Jew, and so had only two commandments, which he recited. The NCO then said and what are the ten commandments. He eventually got out of the freezing water and dried off by rolling in the snow.

He has served on many ships and many land bases, also he has done two tours in Afghanistan. Chaplains are not allowed to carry a gun, but they are allowed to carry alcohol [communion wine.] This led to some interesting situations.

Before going out on a night patrol with some Ghurkhas he asked what to do if they came under fire. He was told to snap his glow stick and wave it about and they would come to rescue him. He pointed out that this would also alert the enemy so they said that he should lie face down and they would come back for him. The patrol went off without a hitch.

One Christmas Day he conducted seven services. This was necessary as personnel came and went on duty through the day. One group asked about singing the carols. He told them that one had a descant. What's a descant? he was asked. It's part of the hymn when some sing a higher part. Later he noticed that some personnel had left the service. This can happen when the situation can change suddenly, so he took no notice. When the singing started, he heard singing coming from a nearby roof. Afterwards he asked why they had moved to the roof. We were singing the higher part, the descant they replied.

He also went through many harrowing situations and there are some things that are impossible to forget.

He was once meant to join some personnel in the middle of the desert, so was going to arrive by helicopter. When they arrived at the rendezvous point, in the dark, he was told that the helicopter would not land, but hover very low and he could jump the rest of the way. He was not very happy about this, but after his kit had been thrown out, he did not have much choice, so he jumped. The helicopter departed and he was alone in the middle of nowhere in pitch darkness. He waited for a bit then ventured a quiet whisper and was very grateful to hear a reply in a Scottish accent.

He sent many coffins home, particularly on the second tour. One was of a Ghurkha. He found the Buddhist prayers for a funeral and had them translated into Nepalese. Later the Ghurkhas thanked him for this and said that although they had said those prayers many times, this was the first time that they had said them in their own language, so this was the first time that they had truly understood them.

On his daughter's 21 birthday, he had to stop off at a hospital to visit the wounded before taking her out to dinner. She asked to go with him and he said that it would not be an easy time as the wounds would not be pleasant to see. She still wanted to go, so off they went. He was later told that his visit had done more for the patients moral than anything else that they could do. He was very pleased and said that he would try to come again. No just send your daughter was the

reply.

He told us of some very harrowing situations. Some very difficult times. One time he had a meeting with a local Mullah. He was a very reasonable man, and they agreed on many matters. Later he was told that the Mullah could not leave his home ever again as he was now considered a traitor. Eventually the Mullah was not killed, but his son was. This is one reason why the Chaplain prays every day for 'The Peacemakers'.

Submitted by Mary Pearce

Coleford





Remember Remember

This photograph was taken in Wells, my friend Christine and I spent an amazing day there during the Literary Festival. In the afternoon we were privileged to listen to the author Michael Morpurgo in Cedar's Hall.

It was a real highlight in my October calendar. We came out full of hope during a time of doom and gloom in politics, a war raging in Europe and the prospect of so many facing financial hardship.

Michael Morpurgo is deemed to be an author for children. His subject for the afternoon was how he writes about war for children. We all draw on our own experiences when we remember. Born in 1943, and remembers his uncle dying at twenty one in the RAF. On his way to school Michael would see a wounded soldier sitting with a folded trouser leg

With a dog at his side. His father survived the war but his marriage to his mother did not. War brings consequences that linger. Memories stay with us of many things in life. How do we deal with them?

During the talk Michael spoke of a diary written by a twelve year old girl Yeva Skalietska. He compared it to the diary of Anne Frank, but this one has been written partly this year. In his recommendation of the book he says "Yeva speaks a truth that all of us, young and old must listen to" If you crave a stimulating read then you absolutely must read this. Yeva and Granny are now safe in Dublin. This is a very different outcome to the other famous War Diary. Many people have lost their lives on the Russian and Ukrainian side.

The author says that her dream is to have her own place again.

The author says that she wants to go back to school, to my friends

The author says that she is tired of explosions, and that she really wants to hear the sounds of peacetime again, birds singing and the sound of rain.

The parents of Yeva were working abroad to provide money, for her education and help granny bring her up.

Diary Book Name - You don't know what war is. Yeva Skalietska

What we remember is so important faithful souls we have met on our Christian journey. Dark memories and bright ones help mould our stories.

I guess we all need to use them in a positive way and as we learn lessons to move forward .

Whilst writing this I am reminded of all those whose memories are fading. We think and pray for those in homes receiving care for dementia. Many of us in the circuit have not experienced War first hand. On a visit from Our Methodist friends in Germany ,Barry Speddings arranged a visit to Coventry Cathedral. It is the home town of Barry and Margaret. The Frome congregation shared in a service in the Chapel of Reconciliation.We bound our own crosses.

As Christians the resurrection of Jesus brings us the hope we need.He asked us to remember Him in Holy communion. In this we recall the healing and sacrificial life of God's Son Jesus Christ.

Let us thank and praise God that we can remember.



By Gwyneth Phillips

I was reading the book about Malala, the young girl who was shot by the Taliban. She quotes a poem that her father kept in his pocket. He spoke out saying the Taliban was against his people and against Pakistan. The poem was by Martin Niemoller, who had lived in Nazi Germany. The poem is:

First they came for the communists, and I didn't speak out because I wasn't a communist.

Then they came for the socialists and I didn't speak out because I wasn't a socialist.

Then they came for the trade unionists and I didn't speak out because I wasn't a trade unionist.

Then they came for the Jews and I didn't speak out because I wasn't a Jew.

Then they came for the Catholics and I didn't speak out because I wasn't a Catholic.

Then they came for me and there was no-one left to speak for me.

A lot of folk would know this poem . It's a bit like the song "If you tolerate this, then your children will be next" by the Manic Street Preachers.

Love Chris Gossling



Whilst picking blackberries in August, my mind wandered off on its own. These are its thoughts.

Blackberry picking is much like life.

It starts off quite
move on with life or
it gets more difficult
stretch to achieve
after gaining a few
stings, you start to
Then both life and
both become easier



easy, then as you
black berry picking
and you must
more. Eventually
scratches and
feel weighed down.
blackberry picking
with a walking stick.

Eventually you reap a great reward, either a big bowl of lovely, tasty blackberries, or a place in heaven.

Mary Pearce

Celebrating 40 Years of Thursday Lunches in Churchill



Amazingly, although the Thursday Lunches crew has changed over the years, there is still one of the original ladies welcoming and serving diners after 40 years – Janet Brown (third from the left). This incredible story of community service started in a very humble and insignificant way.

After the very ample Harvest Supper at Churchill Methodist on Saturday 9 September 1982, there was plenty of food left, so Mary (wife of then Minister, Rev. Douglas Westington) and Mary Pockett served a lunch the following Monday in the 'library', a small side room, for 11 people. The following week, they put on another lunch and enlisted the help of Churchill & Langford Minibus Society (CLMS) to bring local folk who were without transport: 19 people came to enjoy the lunch with cheer and chat. This partnership between the Thursday Lunch team and CLMS continues steadfastly today.

As the reputation of Thursday Lunches spread, the number of diners outgrew the 'library' and moved into the much larger 'schoolroom', now known as the Methodist hall. Rev Douglas was keen to be involved, so he rolled up his sleeves to wash the dishes most weeks. No-one expected the lunches would be so popular. Surprised that they were still serving about 35 weekly lunches after 12 months, this celebratory photograph was taken for a newspaper in January 1984. Back then, the price of a 4-course lunch was good value at £1. Before the pandemic, the delicious homecooked lunches were great value at £5.

Frugally saving a tiny weekly profit, the team managed to purchase matching sets of cutlery to replace the 'mix and match' collection of church cutlery. By 1984-5 the heavy wooden trestle tables were becoming a nuisance, so Rev Douglas paid £400 for a set of new-fangled Gopak tables, which were much lighter to handle and easy to clean. The team started a weekly sales table which eventually repaid

him. It was a very sound purchase because the tables are still in regular use, both on Thursdays and for many other events.

As the number of regular diners increased towards 50 each week, the church had to buy a larger cooker. By 1987, the elderly kitchen units were well past their 'sell by' and were replaced with modern 'flat pack' cupboards, fitted by church members Roger Rowe and Mike Evans. In fact, over the years, the number of diners had to be limited to 60, in order to ensure the dinner was still hot by the time the last people were served.

Janet remembers an unplanned menu change one particular day...Mary W had prepared a chicken casserole and left it in the kitchen on Wednesday evening. However, as there was no fridge and the room was warm overnight, the casserole spoiled and the team had to throw it away on Thursday morning. Thinking on their feet, Monica Moore was dispatched to buy cheese from Luke's Cider Shop, Shipham, and Janet went to Yatton for sausages. Later, the diners enjoyed cheese and potato pie with sausages!



In 2014, the kitchen was refurbished and updated. It now has 3 ovens, a microwave, fridge and freezer, together with a dishwasher (though washer uppers are still needed). The original cutlery wore out and the sales table funded another set, bigger pans and new crockery, as well as contributing to the church funds.

Due to the pandemic, although it is 40 years since Thursday Lunches were first served, there have actually been only 38 years of diners. Founder Mary Westington is now 92 years old, living in Gloucestershire and Doreen Warford (from one of the early crews) lives in Bleadon. Other people in the top photograph have all been called to higher, heavenly office.

Post pandemic, the menu changed to 'Soup and Pudd'. Of course, the legacy of Thursday Lunches – to bring warm welcome, cheer, hospitality and community to local seniors - has passed to the current team: Janet, Niamh, Queenie, Sue, Sandra, Maureen, Angela. Janet hopes to continue serving lunches, so long as her health allows because, as she says, 'I believe that the company, friendship and care we share at Thursday Lunches is so vital for wellbeing.'

Top photograph left to right: Mary Pockett, Rev Douglas Westington, Janet Brown, Mary Hibbard, Mary Westington, Monica Moore, Maureen Herrstein.

Middle photograph showing typical diners in Churchill Methodist Hall.

Bottom photograph left to right: Janet Brown with Doreen Warford (who served lunches for many years) reminisce in August 2022.



CHRIST-MAS

The Holy One of virgin birth
From realms of glory can to earth.
No human voice was heard to sing.
To tell the coming of The King.

Yet Heaven burst with glorious song.
He comes you Saviour promised long.
Heaven's bells ring out to tell,
Christ comes to conquer death and hell.

In wintery stable, cold, forlorn,
The Holy Son of God is born,
At Bethlehem in winter's cold,
As the prophets had foretold.

Dark the palace of the King that night,
Not the King but Shepherds saw the glorious sight.
Those men by Man despised on Earth,
God chose to show Messiah's birth.

Wise Men travelled from afar,
Guided by the Christmas star.
The Holy Son of God they sought,
Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh they brought.

Precious oil of Frankincense
Speaks of holiness so pure, intense.
The gold proclaims a Royal King,
The myrrh against his burying.

Christ's love those Christmas angels knew,
Oh that we may know it too.
That Holy Child now reigns above,
Prince of Peace and King of Love.

Two thousand years have come and gone,
Yet still we hear the angels' song,
Still so holy, still so clear,
Our Saviour Jesus Christ draws near.

Written by Brian Jelliman
For the Cry in the Dark charity. Charity No.1071517

REGULAR WEEKLY/MONTHLY EVENTS



Mondays

At Castle Cary - Lunch Club - 2nd Monday in the month at the church.

At Churchill - Bible study 7.30pm in the Oasis Room - If you are interested in attending during August please contact Jeanette in advance. (Jeanette 01934 852500) **(Not yet restarted)**

At Churchill (During Term Time) - Baby & Toddler Group 9.00-10.30am, 10.30-11.30pm & 13.00-2.-30pm in the School Room. (Jacqueline 01934 844134)

Frome Wesley - every 3rd Monday, Free Children's Clothes Exchange in the church 9.30-11.00am

Wells Methodist Church - 1st & 3rd mornings **Crafty Hands** 10-12 noon

Wells Methodist Church - 2nd & 4th afternoon in the month, **Bible Study** with Bethan Foister, in the church 2.30pm - 4pm

Keinton Mandeville - (During Term Time) - **Knit & Natter** 2-4pm

Glastonbury Methodist Church - open on Monday mornings from 10.00am-12noon for prayer for the Ukraine. Please join us if you are able, for however long or short a time as you would like, to pray for our brothers and sisters in the Ukraine and surrounding areas. If you cannot come in person, please share with us in prayer wherever you are.

Tuesdays

Keinton Mandeville - (During Term Time) - **Chapel Toddlers** 10-12 noon

Keinton Mandeville - **Breeze and Flow** 6.30pm

Sandford & Churchill - Fellowship Group 2.45pm. (Ann 01934 823234)

Churchill Methodist Church (During Term Time) - **Tuesday Jam** 6.15-7.30pm ages 8-13yrs (Jacqueline 01934 844134) Help required.

Wesley Frome (During Term Time) - **Little Rascals Toddler Group** 10-12pm

Pilton Methodist Church - **Village Voices**, a fun choir 7.30pm at the Chapel

Coleford Methodists - **Afternoon Guild** 2pm for 2.30pm start.

Wednesdays

Castle Cary - Coffee for All every Wednesday at the church.

Norton Down Methodist Church - **Coffee Morning** 10.30-12 noon

Churchill (During Term Time) - **Guides** 6.45pm (Ruth Beadle 01934 852910)

Churchill - **Choir Practice** 7.30pm (Paul Beechey 01934 514363)

Wells Methodist Church - 2nd & 4th Wednesday's, **Southover Bible Study Group**, meet in the church 2.00-4.00pm

Wells Methodist Church - 3rd afternoon in the month **Memory Café** 2pm-4pm, a relaxed drop-in for people with memory problems and their carers/family

Cheddar Methodist Church - 1st Wednesday in the month 12am **Prayer Meeting** (monthly)

Cheddar Fellowship Club - 3rd Wednesday in the month 2.30pm with various speakers (monthly)

Cheddar - Knitting for Charity Group 10am - open to all



Thursdays

Churchill Methodist Church - Lunches, soup & a pudding, 12.30pm in the hall (Janet Brown 01934 852197)

Glastonbury Methodist Church - Flexercise weekly, 2.30pm, £3. Contact Helen Wade on 01458 210885, for more information.

Street Methodist Church - Knit & Knatter at Leigh Road, 2-4pm. Bring any craft work or just come for a natter and cup of tea. (Sally 01458 441870)

Somerton - (During Term Time), **Rainbow Rascals, Toddler Group** 9-11.30am in the Schoolroom

Keinton Mandeville (During Term Time) - **Chapel Toddlers** 10-12 noon
(Not yet restarted)

Fridays

Wedmore Methodist Church - 3rd Friday in the month - (Not during August) - **Coffee for All**, in the Methodist School room 10.30-12 noon. Pop in for a quick cuppa or stay longer, Tea, coffee & biscuits will be served. Bring along a craft to do whilst chatting if you wish. 'Well behaved pets welcome' (Not yet restarted)

Churchill - Rainbows 6.00-7.15pm (Lucy Cowgill)

Saturdays

Wells Methodist Church - 2nd Saturday in the month, **Coffee Morning** 10-12 noon

Street Methodist Church - 3rd Saturday each month (except in December), **Coffee Morning and stalls** 10-12 noon

Cheddar Methodist Church - 2nd Saturday each month , **Coffee Morning with a Lite Bite Lunch** (Not yet restarted)

Sundays

Churchill - Create Sunday, 3rd Sunday in the month, 4.00-6.00pm. Nature inspired family faith activities with free buffet tea. (Jacqueline Seel 01934 844134)

Frome Wesley - every 1st Saturday, Kindness Café in the New Room 10.00 -12.00 midday. Donations for drinks and cakes gratefully received.

Mondays - Saturdays

Pilton New Room Community Coffee Shop - 10.00am - 12.30pm. Follow the signs for the Methodist Church from the main road through the village.



PRAYER PAGE



Spare a thought for Orthodox Christians in Eastern Europe at this time. The Russian - Ukraine conflict has a faith dimension with the Ukrainian Orthodox Church having broken away from its Russian counter part. In some ways we question Orthodox thinking e.g. their lack of recognition of the role of women in ministry; in other ways they have much to teach us, especially about the importance of the Incarnation.

- * PRAY ABOUT conflict between and within church families. Jesus prayed that his followers might be one, not for the sake of unity, but so that the wider world could find faith.
- * PRAY ABOUT the Incarnation story. How can we respond, as Mary and Joseph did, to the intervention of God in our lives?
- * PRAY ABOUT our local community and its needs, and the involvement of our church family. May it be said of us that we did more than just keep the church doors open.

Rob Haskins

LECTIONARY READINGS — Year A

4th December - 2nd of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 Romans 15:4-13 Matthew 3:1-12

11th December - 3rd of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-10 Psalm 146:5-10 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11

18th December - 4th of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-16 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-25

25th December - Christmas Day

Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

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### **1st January - 2nd of Christmas**

Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm 147:12-20 Ephesians 1:3-14 John 1:(1-9) 10-18

### **8th January - 1st in Ordinary Time**

Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 29 Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-17

### **15th January - 2nd in Ordinary Time**

Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 40:1-11 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 John 1:29-42

### **22nd January - 3rd in Ordinary Time**

Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalm 27:1, 4-9 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-23

### **29th January - 4th in Ordinary Time**

Micah 6:1-8 Psalm 15 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Matthew 5:1-12

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5th February - 5th in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12) Psalm 112:1-9 (10) 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16)
Matthew 5:13-20

12th February - 6th in Ordinary Time

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Psalm 119:1-8 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 Matthew 5:21-37

19th February - Sunday before Lent

Exodus 24:12-18 Psalm 2 or Psalm 99 2 Peter 1:16-21 Matthew 17:1-9

26th February - 1st of Lent

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 Psalm 32 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11

‘PRAY WITHOUT CEASING’ AND QUIET REFLECTION

REGULAR TIMES FOR PRAYER AROUND THE CIRCUIT

*As part of our ongoing Prayer Pilgrimage, we encourage folk to visit
and support one another in prayer, whenever and wherever...*

AXBRIDGE

After worship and coffee on the third Sunday of the month

CASTLE CARY

Every Monday 10am, in the church

CONGRESBURY

First Wednesday of the month, 11.00am to 12.30pm

GLASTONBURY

Monday mornings from 10.00am - 12noon for prayer for the Ukraine.

Please join us if you are able, for however long or short a time as you
would like, to pray for our brothers and sisters in the Ukraine and
surrounding areas.

If you cannot come in person, please share with us in prayer wherever
you are.

RODE

Ecumenical Prayer Group Meeting on 1st and 3rd Wednesday evening
of the month 7.45 for 8pm

Contact Bill Jackson on 01373 830411 for further details.
The Group becomes a Study Group which meets weekly
during Lent (6 weeks) and Advent (4 weeks)

SOMERTON

Every Tuesday, 10.30 to 11am

STREET

Last Tuesday of the month, 1.30pm

WELLS

Every Thursday 2.30 to 3.30pm in the church



*If there are any changes, omissions or additions to make to this list, please
let The Circuit Administrator at the Circuit Office in Wells know, to include
in the next edition of The Stream.*

*All opinions expressed in 'The Stream'
are those of the author*

JOB VACANCIES ON THE CIRCUIT

Trainers - for local preachers/leaders of worship - 2 vacancies

Eco Champion - to chair the circuit group and be a representative at district level.

Lay Pastoral & Community Workers - 2 vacancies. 1 in the Frome area, and one in the west side of the circuit (Meg's area). Job adverts will be out soon.

If you would like to discuss any of these vacancies, then please get in touch with Rev Tina Swire, Superintendent on 01749 595759 or tina.swire@methodist.org.uk

Circuit Representative for Connexional Interests

Action for Children (formerly NCH) - promote the awareness, organise the Worship Sunday, normally the 2nd Sunday in July, and fundraising.

Methodist Women in Britain (MWIB) - meeting together for worship, activities, events and fundraising. Representing the circuit at district level.

Mission Link -

World church -

World Development -

Youth Support -

Mission in Britain -

For more information please look at the Methodist website for all the roles above. Any questions please contact Rev Tina Swire, details above.

[https://www.methodist.org.uk/role you wish to look at](https://www.methodist.org.uk/role%20you%20wish%20to%20look%20at) or use your search engine, Methodist church [role you wish to look at](#)



ADVERTISING

To advertise please can you send the details into the office,

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Email: smcwells2019@outlook.com

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CARING FOR THE EARTH

The Environmental Policy of the Methodist Church

Christian mission includes caring for God's earth and sharing in God's creation

God's way, revealed in Christ, is a generous sharing of the divine love

~~~~~

Methodists are encouraged to: conserve resources in the Church and at home, develop more sustainable lifestyles and become involved in local, national and global environmental issues.

## ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES

To promote awareness within the Methodist community of the issues and to ensure commitment on the part of office holders to them.

To ensure efficient use of energy and to avoid the pollution of water.

To reduce waste and ensure of its responsible disposal.

To use sustainable materials and locally-made goods wherever possible, to offer electronic communication where appropriate, to maximize the use of recycled resources, and to show concern for the environment in food production and distribution.

To conserve and enhance the natural and the built environment, and to be aware of the impact of church activities on the local environment.

To make every effort to reduce air pollution and energy consumption by reducing and sharing car travel and by supporting public transport.

Submitted by Barry Speddings and the working party.

| PROTECTING OUR PLANET STARTS WITH YOU                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <br><b>BIKE MORE<br/>DRIVE LESS</b>                                                                                                          | <br><b>reduce<br/>REUSE<br/>recycle</b><br>Cut down on what you throw away. Follow the three "R's" to conserve natural resources and landfill space. | <br><b>choose sustainable<br/>seafood</b><br>Learn how to make smart seafood choices at <a href="http://www.FishWatch.gov">www.FishWatch.gov</a> .                                                 | <br><br><b>PLANT<br/>A TREE</b><br>Trees provide food and oxygen. They help save energy, clean the air, and help combat climate change. |
| <br><b>EDUCATE</b><br>When you further your own education, you can help others understand the importance and value of our natural resources. | <br><b>CONSERVE WATER</b><br>The less water you use, the less runoff and wastewater that eventually end up in the ocean.                             | <br><b>-SHOP-<br/>WISELY</b><br>Buy less plastic and bring a reusable shopping bag.                                                                                                                | <br><b>Don't send<br/>chemicals<br/>into our<br/>waterways.</b><br>Choose nontoxic chemicals in the home and office.                                                                                                        |
| <br><b>Volunteer!</b><br>Volunteer for cleanups in your community. You can get involved in protecting your watershed too!                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <br><b>Long-lasting<br/>light bulbs<br/>- ARE A -<br/>BRIGHT<br/>IDEA</b><br>Energy efficient light bulbs reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Also flip the light switch off when you leave the room! | <br><b>oceanservice.noaa.gov</b>                                                                                                                                                                                           |