

**Salisbury Methodist Church  
St Edmund's Church Street Salisbury**

# **Newsletter**



Flowers appear on the earth;  
the season of singing has come,  
the cooing of doves  
is heard in our land.

Song of Songs 2:12

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The June Newsletter was produced by

Rachel and Simon Clarke.

Items for the July/August Newsletter should be sent to Rachel Clarke

**no later than Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2024**

email: [newsletter@salisburymethodist.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@salisburymethodist.org.uk)

Material for consideration should be as follows:

An A4 Word or other editable text document in Arial font size 14pt

Please ensure you have consent for any material submitted.

**If you need help creating a document, please contact Rachel Clarke.**

01722 338392

## **Worship in June**

Sunday 2 June            10.30 a.m. Revd Rosemary Fletcher HC

Sunday 9 June            10.30 a.m. Captain Martin Davison  
4.00 p.m. Revd Cecil King and Mrs Fi  
Waddingham MB

Sunday 16 June           8.00 a.m. Revd Dr Stephen Maunder HC  
10.30 a.m. Mrs Valerie Liversidge MH

Sunday 23 June           10.30 a.m. Mr Dan Bishop

Sunday 30 June           10.30 a.m. Mr Paul Emerson LA AA  
Hakuna Matata Choir

Children and Young People on Sunday (CHYPS) offers activities for children linked to the church service each Sunday, except when there is an All Age Worship.

Additional Information:-

AA All Age

HC Holy Communion

LA Local Arrangement

MB Mixed Blessings

MH Methodist Homes

## June 2024 Minister's Letter

### Messengers

It suddenly strikes me

With overwhelming force:

It was women who were first to spread the message of Easter –  
the unheard of!

It was women who rushed to the disciples,  
who breathless and bewildered  
passed on the greatest message of all:

He is alive!

Think if women had kept silence

In the churches.

Maria Wilhelmsson

There are always many anniversaries in any given year and this year some of them are about women's ministry.

This year Methodism celebrates the 50th anniversary of the ordination of women to the presbyterate (priesthood). Whilst earlier Methodist groupings such as the Primitive Methodist Church and the Bible Christians had ordained women, it was not until 1974 that the Methodist Conference ordained the first women presbyters following Methodist Union in 1932.

And this year the Church of England celebrates 30 years of ordination of women to the priesthood. Both Churches had had women deaconesses and deacons before these dates. And not forgetting that this year is 10 years since the July 2014 General Synod voted to allow Church of England women priests to become bishops.

In the 1950 the Methodist Conference had declared that there were no theological reasons why women could not be ordained to the presbyterate but at the time there were conversations taking place with the Church of England about re-union and women priests were a stumbling block to the then Church of England. So, the Methodist Church kept their decision on hold (the Congregational and Baptist churches in England already had women ministers ordained to preside at the Sacrament of Holy Communion). So many women who felt a call to a priestly ministry within the Methodist Church had a long wait. And an even longer one within the Church of England. When the Anglican/Methodist Covenant talks failed, the 1972 Methodist Conference voted to allow women to be trained as presbyters. So,

on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1974 the first women were ordained presbyter in the Methodist Church at the Bristol Conference. In November 1992 the Church of England synod voted to allow women to be priests, so 1994 was a year of great joy as I attended ordinations in cathedrals in Bristol Cathedral in March (the first one of colleagues in the Bristol Diocese (I was working in ecumenical parishes in Swindon at the time) and the next month in St Albans Cathedral of friends I had trained with at Queen's Theological College. Interesting that both firsts happened in Bristol.

On Saturday 15 June 2024 Salisbury will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the first women's ordinations in the Church of England with a special service held at Salisbury Cathedral. The Bishop of Sherborne, The Rt Revd Karen Gorham will preside, and Bishop June Osborne, former Dean of Salisbury, will preach at this service as one of the first woman to be ordained in 1994. Other female priests ordained in Salisbury at this time, as well as those currently living in the diocese, will be personally invited by the Bishop of Salisbury.

All are welcome to come and join this special service at 11:00am on 15 June in Salisbury Cathedral and enjoy hearing the girls' choir sing!

It is worth noting that within the worldwide Anglican communion the Reverend Florence Li ministered in Hong Kong and Macau during the chaos of the Second Sino-Japanese War and World War II. She was ordained first as deacon (1941) and then as priest (1944), which was very controversial at the time. So, 80 years since her priesting!

As some of you know, James and I worked as Mission Partners in Sri Lanka (2005-2010) teaching in the Theological College of Lanka where Anglicans, Methodists and Baptists trained for the Ministry, and we were privileged to be present in the Cathedral of Christ the Living Saviour in Colombo in September 2006, when the first women deacons were priested there. Shame it does not end in a 4!

I had a Roman Catholic colleague once who was very committed to the ordination of women to the priesthood in the RC Church and he rejoiced in the ministry of women and said that the Risen Christ was neither male nor female and transcended all human barriers.

Charles Wesley wrote a hymn about the first Easter that has not found its way into any hymn books, reflecting that it was the women who stayed at the foot of the cross who were first at the empty tomb.

More courageous than the men,  
When Christ his breath resigned,  
Women first the grace obtain  
Their living Lord to find;  
Women first the news proclaim,  
Know the resurrection's power,  
Teach the apostles of the Lamb  
Who lives to die no more.

“Women first” – a bold statement for Wesley’s day, and even more striking for Jesus’ time. Dorothy L Sayers wrote, “No wonder that women were first at the cradle and last at the cross. They had never met a man like this man”, a man who treated them as totally human. Not only last at the cross but first to know of the resurrection, and the first witnesses to the life changing news. At first their testimony was discounted as an idle tale, but they soon became “apostles to the apostles.”

Remembering that we are called to be Easter people throughout the whole year, we give thanks for this fuller expression of the truth glimpsed on that first Easter morning and that we are all called to be witnesses to the risen Christ, and work for his Kingdom here on earth.

Every Blessing

Rosemary

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**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June**

**St.Peter’s Churchyard, Pitton**

**Drop in from 10.30-16.30hrs**

Adults and children are invited to help us identify and record plants, trees, creepy crawlies, reptiles, amphibians, mammals, birds etc. who live in our churchyard!

No experience needed. Spotter’s guides available!

Tea, coffee, juice and biscuits being served.



You may like to download the [iNaturalist app](#) to use at this event, then submit your sightings to the "[Beautiful Burial Grounds](#)" project.

Contact Sarah Sankey for more details 01722 712581



## Pastoral News

We give thanks for the life of Peggy Smith who died peacefully aged 98, on 25 April. She was a graceful lady with strong faith who enjoyed attending worship regularly for as long as she was able. She loved chatting with folk, whether over coffee after the service, at Wednesday coffee or Thursday lunches. As a result, she was delighted to discover that some members of the congregation had lived in the Great Missenden area where she spent her earlier years and greatly enjoyed sharing stories with them. She had a lively mind, was very creative, loved her garden, and kept in daily contact with a number of friends. Her very dear friend Vera has fond memories of their many bus outings together. Peggy spoke lovingly of her family and was so proud of all their achievements. She will be missed and remembered with great affection by all who knew her, and we hold all her family and friends in our thoughts and prayers at this time.

May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

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We continue to remember all those who need our prayers at this time. They are known to God and may they be assured of His constant loving presence.

**Lynton:** Lynton was Angela Emerson’s guide dog for ten years. Sadly, he has recently died. We will miss him being at her side when she is welcoming on Sundays.

**Joys to share:** We send our love and congratulations to 2 couples who gave thanks for special wedding anniversaries in May: Allwyn and Reshma Joseph celebrated 20 years of marriage on 12 May, and David and Janet Currass 60 years on 16 May. David and Janet met as teenagers at our youth group and were married here at ‘Church Street’.

We send our love and warm Happy Birthday greetings to Eileen Rattue who will be 104 on 17 June and Joy Sparrow who will be 90 on 18 June. We wish them a very happy day.

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### **A Caring Community?**

As a Christian community we are all called to care for one another, whether we have an official pastoral responsibility or not. At our last pastoral team meeting we looked at good practice and Revd Philip stressed the importance of quickly following up if people were no longer attending. *‘My church didn’t bother even though I had been there a number of years’*, was a common reason given for leaving

a church. Just such an absence was noted recently at SMC – thankfully the concern was passed on to the pastoral team by a member of the congregation and could therefore be dealt with appropriately. It is not always easy as people don't attend every week, but if you miss someone you are used to seeing, please do mention it! A quick phone call or note through the door may be all that's needed and is an important way of reflecting God's love and care for all.

**Get Connected:** The next drop-in session will be on Tuesday 18 June, in the Hall, 2.00pm – 4.00pm. If you need friendly and expert help with your phone, tablet or laptop, do come along. These sessions are free and open to all.

**It is good to share church family news, so please let your Pastoral Visitor know of anything you wish to share with others through the Newsletter. *(Please ensure that you have permission from the people concerned or their relatives before sending items to Monica Gillings, [pastoral@salisburymethodist.org.uk](mailto:pastoral@salisburymethodist.org.uk))***

**Please contact your Pastoral Visitor or Monica Gillings (01722 743700), Sandra Gunstone (01722 412847) or Margaret Rutt (01722 331013) if you or someone you know would like to speak to a Minister. If you would just appreciate a friendly chat, we are always here for you!**

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# **CAMEO AT SMC**

## **HELP**

Our CAMEO Group at Church has been so successful that we need some more volunteers to help us to run it. This would involve help with setting up, welcoming people, making drinks and serving refreshments and clearing up.

If you feel this is something you could do on a Thursday afternoon from 1.45 pm to 4.30 pm please contact Carolyn Clarke (01722 325103) or Janet Ings (01722 346957).

Your help would be much appreciated.



## Christian Aid

Many thanks to all those who helped in the Christian Aid service including the young people and adults who read, Liz who prepared the slides, Jonathan who rescued me from a musical mix-up, the AV team and everyone who made the service go smoothly.



Charlotte Scott, Christian Aid's British Churches Relations Officer, came and spoke to us about how UK charities have learned from experience that the best aid is that which gives local people control of their futures. Christian Aid week focused on the story of Aline from Burundi, who had overcome enormous obstacles with help of training (delivered by one of Christian Aid's local partner organisations) in micro-finance.

Aline founded, and benefited from, a Village Savings and Loans Association. Friends and neighbours in the same village each contribute regular amounts of money. These can be very small, but lumped together and loaned out to individual members they can fund significant changes.

Aline was able to start and develop her own business and become financially independent. As a result she has built her own house and been re-united with her children.

Christine gave us examples of how Christian Aid itself can provide relatively small sums that are used to meet locally-identified needs. This might be maintaining a vehicle in Ukraine that provides a lifeline to people in isolated villages, or funding solar powered lamps that enable children in Burundi to complete their homework after dark.

The poor are always with us, the needs of the world can seem endless, but your donation does go towards making life better for someone.

Thank you.

*Paul Butler*

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The next Poetry meeting will be on Friday June 7th at 10.30am in Room 1.

The subject will be JOY.

We will be pleased to see new members.

*Mary Mitchell*

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“When things fall apart, the children of the land scurry and scatter like birds escaping a burning sky....They will never be the same again because you cannot be the same once you leave behind who and what you are, you just cannot be the same....Look at them leaving in droves, despite knowing they will be welcomed with restraint in those strange lands because they do not belong.”

*NoViolet Bulawayo*

# The Vine



Jesus said, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.



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The branches (us) need to stay connected to the vine (Jesus) if they are going to produce any fruit. The branches get all their nourishment from the vine. Just like the juicy grapes on the vine, Jesus wants us to produce good fruit.

**I wonder what you think the 'good fruit' is.**

**I wonder what things you could do to stay connected to Jesus.**

A	C	W	G	R	E	E	N	D	J
D	B	R	A	N	C	H	E	S	E
R	Q	F	T	T	A	R	P	U	B
A	W	V	I	V	E	W	R	N	M
Y	P	R	U	N	I	R	U	S	D
E	E	E	R	G	A	N	N	H	V
N	I	A	F	X	S	E	E	I	M
I	S	E	P	A	R	G	Y	N	A
V	P	S	U	S	E	J	G	E	I
O	Y	C	M	P	O	D	O	G	T

Can you find these words in the grid?

Branches  
Fruit  
God  
Grapes  
Green  
I am  
Jesus  
Prune  
Red  
Sunshine  
Vine  
Vineyard  
Water

Dear God,

Thank you for Jesus, the vine. Help us, the branches, to stay connected to Him so we can learn from Him and produce good fruit. We love the way Jesus's stories help us to understand your love through everyday things. Please help us to help others know of your love.

Amen.

## SCAMS

Recently there has been a particular increase in calls to landlines purporting to come from the police at Bourne Hall. A number of members have also received emails supposedly from someone known to them requesting money or an amazon voucher.

Do you know what to look for?

- Incomplete or misspelled words
- Uses emotions – fear, curiosity, greed - to manipulate you into providing personal information, passwords, logins etc.
- Often asks for urgent action to avoid a negative consequence, or gives an excuse why they cannot phone you.
- Includes attachments or links to a fake website.
- Tells you you have won something, or offers something that seems too good to be true.
- Impersonates legitimate companies, organisations, or individuals to gain the recipient's trust. An email address that is close but not quite right:  
amazon<accounts@mazon.com>

Do you know how to report 'Phishing'? – come along to the next '**Get Connected**' and ask.

Do you know how to report a spam text? – Use 'Block and Report' from the menu or forward it as a text to 7726 (this spells s-p-a-m on the keypad).

If you are worried you may have been targeted please tell a trusted friend before responding.

*Diana Noble*

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“We must remember that refugees are almost always people whose homes, family members, and everything they once loved and held dear are either destroyed or seriously at stake...They are simply trapped in a zone in which staying under such circumstances and swallowing humiliation in the “host” countries is unbearable; going home is impossible, because often there is no 'home' to go to anymore; and going elsewhere is rarely an option either. This is precisely what “trapped” feels like.”

*Louis Yako*



## Raising funds for The Listening Place

A lively afternoon full of noise and laughter with the occasional victorious shout of “Beetle!” raised over £300 for The Listening Place on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April. A lovely mix of families and individuals of all ages enjoyed tea with delicious homemade cakes and there was a sweet stall and a bring and buy table to add to the entertainment. In a Beetle Drive the biggest challenge is to gain an elusive 6 in order to start the process of constructing a beetle - head, body, wings, antenna, legs and all! It was such good fun that some bonus rounds were added after the initial 6 beetles had been completed, as no one wanted to stop playing. Thank you for all your support.

*Sue Robbins, Manager*

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### Fairtrade News



Some of you may have noticed that there was no mention of Fairtrade Fortnight in the church’s calendar this February/March. That was because it has yet to be. It has been moved to September 2024 to coincide with the 30th anniversary of the launch of the Fairtrade logo - now a symbol with which we are familiar and one which denotes the life-changing impact for farmers and workers across the world. To quote from Quarterly Return, the journal of Shared Interest: *From its modest beginnings in 1994 with one chocolate, one coffee and one tea on shop shelves, Fairtrade in the UK has grown to 450 companies now licensed to trade 6,000 Fairtrade products.* So, watch this space for September 2024.

**Stock news:** We have some new items for you to try including Green Tomato Chutney and jars of Sweet Piquante Peppers from Eswatini. Apparently, the peppers are a favourite at True Origin headquarters. They can be eaten straight out of the jar as a delicious snack or *‘they can be stuffed with cream cheese, or sliced and put on sandwiches, pizzas, pastas, salads’ etc.* They are at the special trial offer price of £3.00. Traidcraft Muesli was always very popular but has been unavailable for some time. ‘We are Fair Trade’ are now offering a Fairtrade Fruit and Nut Muesli once again which we’re looking forward to trying. We will also be trying Ecoleaf toilet rolls as we’re not happy with the quality of the current brand! Mango jam is also back in stock. Having kept the price of Divine chocolate bars at the special offer price of £2.00 for a very long time, they will be going up to £2.20, still a bargain compared with other outlets.

Shop takings from 24 March to 17 April were approximately £700, plus £60.00 from a Zaytoun sale. Over the last 4 weeks sales have totalled approximately £360.00.

*From the Fairtrade Team*



## Flower Demonstration

In aid of Action for Children

**Wednesday 19 June 2024**



Come and enjoy an evening of

### “Floral Delights”

With Martina Coleman

At

**Salisbury Methodist Church**

**St Edmunds Church Street**

**Salisbury SP1 1EF**

**Doors open 7pm - Start time 7.30pm**

**Tickets £10.00 in advance** (to include refreshments)

**Email:**

**[tickets@salisburymethodist.org.uk](mailto:tickets@salisburymethodist.org.uk)**

**or Telephone 01722 743700**



## BECOME A BETTER LISTENER

***A course to improve and practice your skill at listening to other people***

**at Bemerton Methodist Church,  
Roman Road, Salisbury SP2 9BHs**

**on Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2024,  
from 10am to 4pm.**

Course fee: £20 Please bring your own lunch

*If, after attending this day, you want to develop your listening skills, there will be three further Saturday courses:*

**19<sup>th</sup> October - Extended listening through mirroring**

**26<sup>th</sup> October - Experiences in listening**

**2<sup>nd</sup> November - Being a listener for the Listening Place**

*There is no fee for these courses  
All will be held at Bemerton Methodist Church except the last course which will be held at Salisbury Methodist Church.*

**To book a place on the course:**

telephone: 01722 325 294

or email:

[salisburylisteningplace@gmail.com](mailto:salisburylisteningplace@gmail.com)

## **Pause for Prayer**

### **Prayer for Methodist Homes Sunday which SMC will remember on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

God of love and hope, of encouragement and challenge, we thank you for the work of Methodist Homes.

We ask you to bless those who live in our Homes, Schemes and Communities, and those who care for them. We thank you for those whose vision and research enable new ways of caring, for those in the organisation who direct and manage and for those who support this work with prayer and by raising funds.

We acknowledge our need of one another and ask for your gifts of wisdom and understanding, that the love of Christ may be shown in all we do.

Amen

### **Sunday June 16<sup>th</sup> 2024 is also Father's Day**

God, bless all the fathers in the world.

Guide them to be good role models and loving to all their children.

Help them to be a father like You are.

Give them grace and patience to handle situations in a loving way.

Amen.

### **Refugee Sunday (June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024)**

Eternal and merciful God,  
whose Son became a refugee and had no place to call his own;  
look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger,  
homeless and hungry.

Bless those who work to bring them relief;  
inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts;  
and guide the nations of the world towards that day when all will rejoice in your  
Kingdom of justice and of peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## The Methodist Conference 2024 will be held from

### 27 June until 3 July in Leeds

The Conference is the governing body of the Methodist Church and meets annually to discuss matters affecting the life of the Church, the nation and the world.

You can watch it live online via [www.methodist.org.uk/conference](http://www.methodist.org.uk/conference)

### Ordinations to both the Presbyteral and Diaconate will take place on Sunday June 30<sup>th</sup> 2024.

### Prayers for those preparing for ordination

Lord Jesus, we pray for all those preparing for ordination at this time in the Methodist Church, the Anglican church and in other churches.

We ask you to fill them with the fire of your love,  
that their ministry may reveal your presence in the Church.

By your Holy Spirit,  
put your word on their lips and your love in their hearts,  
to bring good news to the poor and healing to the broken-hearted.  
Amen.

**THE GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK**  
8th - 16th June 2024

Let's swap together for good

**ECO EVENT**

At St Marks Church, Salisbury  
Saturday 8th June 2024  
10am-2pm

Local eco-friendly stalls, displays and information

Children's activities

Plant stall, book stall, bric-a-brac, recycling

Lunch & refreshments

[www.stmarkstandrew.org](http://www.stmarkstandrew.org)

## JOIN US FOR A VOLUNTEER EVENT

We're excited to invite you to our upcoming  
Volunteering Event.

Looking for a volunteering role?  
Come and see what local Charities have  
available and see if you can help.

7 th June, 2024

Start at 2:00P.M Finish at 6.00 P.M

Old Sarum & Longhedge  
Community Centre, Pheasant Drive,  
SP4 6GH



## From the Stewards

On 25<sup>th</sup> April the Church General Meeting appointed two new stewards. Your stewards now are Paul Butler, Helen Browncross, Jo Throp and Kate Newton. Please feel free to approach any of us about general church matters.

Under the heading “Conversation on the Work of God at SMC”, the meeting was asked to consider four statements about SMC, derived from our review of how we work with our children and young people.

1. We understand that growing in faith as a young person (and adult!) takes a community of loving people supporting each other in faith.
2. We understand that God speaks to each of us differently; we want to respond by reviewing All Age Worship so that the whole Church family can have opportunities to praise God in different ways.
3. We think young people should have opportunities to serve the Church family and live out their faith through experience; we should offer roles and opportunities to young people so they can, if they choose, serve others.
4. We think it is important for us to play a role in understanding the factors influencing young people today and our culture’s impact on their faith, or barriers to being open to God, so we can respond effectively.

The meeting was asked to discuss these statements in small groups and respond by indicating enthusiasm, hesitation or a need to know more.

Statement 3 attracted a high level of support, and the stewards will now be looking at ways to put this into practice. Statement 2 was also popular, with support both for improving how we do All Age Worship, and for alternative forms of service such as cafe church. Implementation of this may have to await Mark’s return! Full details of the feedback from the discussion groups will be included in the CGM minutes in due course, and copies of these will be available on request.

*Paul Butler on behalf of the Stewards*

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“A refugee is someone who survived and who can create the future.”

*Amela Koluder*



## **Hosting Refugees (and people seeking sanctuary)**

As we approach Refugee Week (17 – 23 June) Diana and I have reconfirmed with Refugees at Home (Registered Charity: 1177765) our availability for “emergency hosting”. Diana wrote previously about our long-term guest during Covid – an amazing man from Syria who had suffered terribly both there, and on his journey but who is now settled in London with a good job, contributing much through the charity he and other refugees founded. Through my continuing role at a Community Hub run jointly by International Care Network (Registered Charity 1099400) with Migrant Help at a church in Bournemouth our spare room has been needed sometimes by asylum seekers and refugees including a referral for “emergency hosting” from Refugees at Home. “Reza” came to us via a very complicated set of 3 separate bus journeys from Plymouth, via Bristol and Warminster one late evening a few weeks ago. Refugees at Home had contacted us a few days before to ask if we would take him, so we had time to prepare the room etc. He had been granted refugee status; an Iranian academic who objected to the regime in Bagdad and no longer accepted Islamic teaching. We were only a temporary refuge for 10 days until his longer-term hosts near Portsmouth were back from holiday and ready to take him. Given his background as a University academic, proximity to UK universities such as Portsmouth and Southampton made sense.

We are now waiting for our next “emergency” guest. Since Salisbury is not a city which has Home Office asylum accommodation we tend to be asked for short-term hosting when people are “exited” from hotels or shared homes once they receive their refugee status. Increasingly this is happening with only a few days’ notice such that many of them risk becoming street homeless, so we expect to receive more guests from places like Plymouth, Bournemouth, Bristol and even Taunton. (At least we know the bus route options from Plymouth now!).

So, if you are thinking of doing something practical to recognise Refugee Week, Diana and I would heartily recommend offering a spare room to Refugees at Home. They provide excellent support and information for Hosts and Guests and they check in with you while the Guest is staying. You can also limit your offer to short term/emergency hosting. We have asked them for their information leaflets ready for Refugee Week but their website is also very comprehensive:

<https://refugeesathome.org/>

*David & Diana Noble*

## Methodist Homes:



On 16<sup>th</sup> June, we shall have our Methodist Homes (MHA) Sunday.

Methodist Homes began more than 80 years ago to provide homes for poor elderly people. Now it is one of the largest not-for-profit care providers, giving care and support to people in later life – and in a variety of ways.

MHA has care homes and nursing homes and residential homes and retirement villages. There are also homes which provide specialist care for people with dementia.

Some elderly people want to continue living in their own homes, and to support them MHA has 76 local “**Live at Home**” schemes, providing activities, advice and friendship to more than 9,000 elderly people.

MHA’s **National Befriending Scheme** ends loneliness and isolation for people by enabling contact – by telephone, online or face to face – with a friend.

And there is a free **MHA Active App** which gives access to an interactive world created for an older audience.

Methodist Homes Sunday will encourage us to give money to MHA, which is to fund the particular provisions by which MHA enables people to live later life well:

- **Chaplaincy:** there is a dedicated chaplain in each MHA care service; the chaplain is there for all residents and their families and for members of staff.
- **Music Therapy:** MHA has pioneered music therapy, which is proven to reduce the isolation and symptoms of dementia.
- **The Final Lap:** This programme empowers MHA staff to talk openly and positively with residents and their families about death and dying. MHA helps each person to find meaning and purpose in life, even at the end of life.
- And the Live at Home schemes, the National Befriending Service and the free MHA Active App are all funded from the charitable giving to Methodist Homes.

The Bible passage for Methodist Homes Sunday is Jesus’ parable of the mustard seed, a small seed which grows to a big tree (Mark 4:30-32). Likewise, a simple gesture of conversation can grow into an enriching friendship, which makes all the difference to someone’s life. The ministry of an MHA carer, chaplain or volunteer visitor can make all the difference at MHA.

*Cecil King*

## **Hakuna Matata Choir Comes to Salisbury**

It will be a real privilege to welcome this Kenyan Children's choir to Salisbury Methodist Church at the end of June. The choir are aged between 12 and 16, and all are from the Connect a Child orphanage in Kenya. The visit is part of a UK tour intent on spreading God's love while raising awareness of orphans and vulnerable children in Kenya.

The high spot of the visit will be the Sunday service on June 30<sup>th</sup> at SMC at 10.30 when the choir will sing and dance and tell their story. Afterwards the children have been invited to sing in The Cathedral and after a free tour they will get the chance to experience Evensong. The following day they will visit two Primary Schools to perform and meet the children.

The choir and their accompanying adults will be welcomed as guests by ten generous host families for four nights with a room set aside for lessons at SMC.

Please join us for this rich, cultural worship experience so different from our normal services and learn more about the life of many children in Kenya.

A collection will be made at the service for their work.

*Judy Johnson*

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## **Worship**

One of the strengths and in my opinion joys of the structure of Methodist worship is the range of preachers who lead our services. This has been highlighted during Revd Mark's sabbatical. June will be no exception when in addition to our Methodist ministers and local preachers we will again welcome Captain Davison from the Salvation Army, and hopefully the Hakuna Matata choir (visas permitting). On behalf of the SMC congregation thank you to all those who have led and will lead worship during the 3 months of Revd Mark's sabbatical.

Faith has now finished her Duke of Edinburgh's Award service section when she has been a valued member of the welcome team on a Sunday morning. Hopefully she and Angel will find time to continue with this important service, it has been a pleasure to be welcomed by their broad smiles as we enter the building. If any other young members of the congregation wish to offer their time in the welcome area or to assist the worship stewards before and after the services, please have a word with me.

*Jim Gillings Worship Team Leader*

## Our Zambia Link

In a “normal” year, this is the end of the rainy season in Zambia. But this year, the rainy season hardly began; most of the maize crop, Zambians’ staple food, has failed. In many rural areas there is not enough food and a shortage of water.

In the towns and cities, the effect is to raise prices, especially of food, and also daily power cuts.

Most of Zambia’s electricity is generated by water – hydro-electric schemes, and there is not enough water in Lake Kariba or the rivers generating electricity.

Pray that the aid Zambians desperately need will be given and delivered very soon.

In June, the United Church of Zambia (UCZ) observes Health Sunday, praying for and supporting especially the hospitals and clinics the UCZ runs. Pray for Gina Siatwinda Oliver, UCZ Health Secretary, whose contract ends in August. Give thanks for her work and pray for the appointment of a successor.

On 26<sup>th</sup> June, UCZ churches will have Mission Sunday, giving thanks for the growth of the church and for its ministry in witness, caring, education, healing and work for social justice. Pray for the renewed commitment of each church member to mission.

At our linked congregation of St John’s UCZ, Mtendere, Lusaka, pray for the congregation as they pray for us. Pray for the new minister to be appointed for St John’s and for Revd Godfrey Gama, Chair of the Chelston Consistory, of which St John’s is part.

*Cecil King*

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“The mud is too thick, clinging like coconut caramel to my mother’s legs. She finds she cannot carry my sleeping self while keeping up with everyone else. On her left side she carries a bag with an extra set of dark clothes for both of us, food and water; her right arm forms a nook cradling me, her right hand encircling my skinny thigh while I cling to her neck and look behind her shoulder. Three gold rings are sewn into the folds of her dark pants and shirt. We are fugitives now, all wearing black, simple clothes, dimly lit forms barely visible in the humid night.”

*Tuan*

# WOODFALLS METHODIST CHURCH

**Our 150<sup>th</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY!**



**Friday 7th June 7-9**

**Church story and Village story through photos and video clips etc. With light refreshments.**

**Saturday 8th June**

**10-12 Stories by Zig Zag Class from MV & W School, plus Paul Butler telling stories. Followed by lunch.**

**7pm Redlynch Players tell more stories, including Refreshments.**

**Sunday 9th June**

**11.00am Service led by Rev Jenny Dowding (Past minister) Followed by lunch.**

**2.00pm Walk round the sites of local churches**

**4.30pm Cream Tea**

**6.00pm Service led by Rev Veronica Batchelor, with music by Woodfalls Band**

# Five Minutes for the Planet

## Spring in the Garden

Hoping that your plants are green and thriving, here are a few green ideas for the garden:

- Does your garden twine get tangled, or does the loose end disappear inside the ball? Try putting the ball of twine in a plastic flowerpot and pulling the loose end out through one of the holes in the bottom.
- Surplus plastic flowerpots? B&Q will now accept them for recycling – the box is between the tills and the exit door.
- Surplus compost bags? These can be recycled at a bin in Wilton Garden Centre car park.
- The contents of your green bin is composted by the Council, and at Salisbury tip you can now buy sacks of compost made from this waste. It only costs £3 for a 20 litre bag.

*Paul Butler*

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"Many thanks to all who supported the Big Breakfast at Woodfalls. Graham, Anita and their hardworking team served 106 breakfasts and raised over £1000 for Christian Aid."

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*Paul Butler*



## SALISBURY REPAIR CAFÉ

Bemerton Methodist Church Hall SP2 9BH

From 9.30 - Last entry 12.00



BIKES



SMALL ELECTRICALS



TECH HELP



CLOTHES/TEXTILES

BOOKS, JEWELLERY, ORNAMENTS, TOOL SHARPENING, WOODEN OBJECTS, TOYS AND MUCH MORE

### 2024: SECOND SATURDAY EVERY MONTH!

13 January	13 July
10 February	10 August
9 March	14 September
13 April	12 October
11 May	9 November
8 June	14 December

Sign up for our email updates at the website:

[salisburyrepaircafe.org/update](https://salisburyrepaircafe.org/update)

Or check social media:



SALISBURYREPCAF

## SALISBURY REPAIR CAFE

There are all kinds of ways for us to find ourselves at Bemerton Methodist Church. Recently I found myself there for a completely new (to me) experience and it was great. The place was buzzing with activity as those with particular skills put their hands to fixing damaged items and there was a lovely sense of community and friendship as we sat and waited over cups of coffee and the like for the return of our repairs and their new life.

*Barbara Hickman*

## Musings from the Outreach worker

The express train was a deep shiny green, five coaches headed by a sleek locomotive and tender. It sped along the track propelled by a small, chubby hand. The train set is always popular at toddler group. 'Choo choo' the boy said as he pushed it through the tunnel. Nearby sat a smaller boy by another circuit of track clutching a wagon in each hand. He placed them on the track but wasn't sure how to make them into a train. So he sat, watching the express train. The first boy came over and showed him how the magnets connected the wagons. Together they built a long freight train. After playing for a while the smaller boy excitedly took some wagons over to his mum, showed her his new discovery and introduced her to his new friend. He then moved about the hall showing anybody who would pay attention. His excitement was contagious and brought smiles to all.

It's often said that we can learn much from children. As I opened my bible to look through the Pentecost readings I thought of these two toddlers. I read of the disciples, not sure quite what to make of their situation, waiting and watching in the city, a sudden helper bringing them power to make connections, an excitement and determination to share their experiences and knowledge.

Both my little toddler and the disciples were open to receiving the help. That is the key. The disciples were waiting expectantly, looking for what would come next. Are we? Or do we get so busy that we miss what God is offering? Do we push on in our own strength not allowing the Spirit to empower us? This Pentecost season may we all pray to be filled anew with the Spirit and, like that small boy, allow ourselves to be filled to overflowing with the courage and determination to share what we have found.

*Fi Waddingham*

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"A child's cry touches a father's heart, and our King is the Father of his people. If we can do no more than cry it will bring omnipotence to our aid. A cry is the native language of a spiritually needy soul; it has done with fine phrases and long orations, and it takes to sobs and moans; and so, indeed, it grasps the most potent of all weapons, for heaven always yields to such artillery."

*Charles H. Spurgeon*

**Sunday 30th June 10.30 Service**

**Led by Paul Emerson**

**Dance, Song, Stories and Testimonies.**

The choir is here to praise God and raise funds for a new dormitory at their orphanage



# **Hakuna Matata Children's Choir**

Tickets are not necessary, but donations accepted  
at the end of the service.