

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

# **Newsletter**



Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

*Psalm 119:105*

**No. 398**

**May 2024**

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The May Newsletter was produced by

Rachel and Simon Clarke.

Items for the June Newsletter should be sent to Rachel Clarke

**no later than Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 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 May**

<b>Sunday 5 May</b>	10.30 a.m. Mr Paul Butler CA
<b>Sunday 12 May</b>	10.30 a.m. Rev Katharine Robinson HC 3.00 p.m. Rev Cecil King and Mrs Fi Waddingham MB
<b>Sunday 19 May</b>	8.00 a.m. Rev Steve Hawkes HC 10.30 a.m. Mr Michael King AA
<b>Sunday 26 May</b>	10.30 a.m. Rev Cecil King

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 Worship

CA Christian Aid

HC Holy Communion

MB Mixed Blessings

**christian  
aid**



**JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST  
SATURDAY 18th MAY  
8-11AM**

**Woodfalls Methodist SP5 2LH**



**EVERYTHING FROM  
TOAST TO A FULL  
ENGLISH FOR A  
DONATION**

**Including Vegetarian & gluten free**

**All profits to Christian Aid.**



## Minister's Letter for Ascension-tide

It always seems a shame to me that Ascension Day is a Thursday, and Ascensiontide a very short season, and so the doctrine remains a great perplexing mystery to most worshippers, or an irrelevancy or one we just do not think about except when we say the Creed. So, I am taking this opportunity to share some thoughts with you. This year Ascension Day falls on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May, 40 days after Easter Day. In my last appointment we, at Marlborough Road Methodist Church, worked closely with our sister Anglican Church of St Peter's and our first act of worship on Ascension Day was to climb the tower and sing hymns for Ascension Day and look out over St Albans. It was especially beautiful when Ascension Day coincided with the pink blossomed cherry trees being in bloom. And in the evening, we had a Eucharist Service together. By the way, there are services at the Cathedral on Ascension Day Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May – such as the 5.30pm Choral Eucharist. But no tower climbing!

One of the reasons why the doctrine of the Ascension is difficult is because the story of Jesus ascending into a cloud really is too much for most of us. But what does the story signify? Jesus' departure was described as upwards. In the Old Testament the clouds are symbols of God's glory and Jesus' union with God is symbolised by his absorption into a cloud. But these are not the only difficulties.

What was the Ascension?

Certainly not an event like the Crucifixion or even the Resurrection. At most the Ascension was the final appearance of the Risen Christ to his followers. If you like, an explanation as to why they no longer saw Jesus with them. Only St. Luke who has a keen sense of history and chronology describes the event.

But if the Festival of the Ascension is so difficult and there are so many questions, what are we left with?

1. The Ascension of Christ symbolises the heavenly realm, of which we are now a part, through the life and death and resurrection and ascension of Christ. All that was human in Jesus is taken up into God. All that is human in our lives is made holy.
2. The Ascension is also the declaration that Christ reigns in glory. The Christ who is glorified is the Jesus who walked the way of love, who was crucified, died and rose again.

3. John and Charles Wesley saw the connection between Ascension and the Eucharist and were influenced by the writings of Daniel Brevint who said that “now Christ has gone to heaven, He sends down on earth his graces that spring continually from his everlasting Sacrifice, and from the continual intercessions which attend it. .... the sacred body of Jesus fills with atonement and blessing the remotest parts of this temple.”<sup>1</sup> (Kenneth Stevenson: *All The Company of Heaven*)

Christ is King of peace and love who longs for his rule to be supreme overall. His mission to establish God's peace and justice on earth must become our mission.

We as Christ's followers live in two worlds; the world as it is, and the world God longs for it to become. We are called to share in the tasks of God of uniting the two worlds, so that the Kingdom of this world becomes filled with the qualities of God.

And so, it seems to me that the Ascension expresses truths about our faith in this way:

Firstly, we are called up into the Godhead and God is united with us and secondly, we are not only with Christ, but we are also with a Christ who reigns over all and in all and through all and who seeks to work through us in redeeming the world. This is why causes such as Christian Aid, Amnesty International, climate justice, environmental issues and links with Zambia, Fair Trade, the World Church, the Listening Place, the Circuit Justice and Peace Group, concern about Gaza, the plight of refugees and many other issues in which we as a Methodist Church and Circuit are involved are important. Through imperfect human institutions and we frail human beings, God works for the redemption of all humanity and the whole of creation.

Mark wrote about our need to be a Justice Seeking Church last October and this links in with Ascensiontide.

Ascensiontide make it clear that we are to be witnesses of the Good News of Jesus Christ – and this means that we must live our lives according to his example and his word. Christ’s message is one of peace, reconciliation and justice – and we cannot separate our faith from the needs of our world...

An old legend recounts the time when Jesus ascended back into heaven after He had died on the cross and rose from the dead. According to the legend, the angel Gabriel met Him. Gabriel frowned when he saw the marks of Jesus' scars of His

torturous years on earth, especially the wounds of His crucifixion. Gabriel said, "Master, you suffered terribly for those down on earth." "Yes, I did," was Jesus' reply. Gabriel continued, "Do they all know now about your life and your forgiveness? Have they all heard about your death and resurrection?" "No, not yet," said Jesus. "Right now, only a handful of people in Palestine know about my death and resurrection."

Gabriel looked perplexed. "Then," he asked, "Well... How will everyone learn about your wonderful life, sacrificial death, and your resurrection and ascension?" "I have asked Peter, James, John, Mary and Martha and a handful of friends and followers to tell others about it. And when other people hear and believe, they, in turn, will tell others. And Gabriel, by and by, the whole earth will hear the message." Still frowning, the angel responded, "But, hmmm, you know how people are on earth. What if they... What if Peter, James, and John get tired and Martha is too busy? What if they tell the story, and the next generation gets involved in other pursuits? What if, way down in the 21st century, people aren't committed any longer to their commission? Have you made other plans?" The Lamb of God looked directly at the angel of God and said, "I have no other plans. I am counting on them" (Author Unknown).

*Taken from <https://www.groupbiblestudy.com/post/i-have-no-other-plan-i-am-counting-on-them->*

Jesus is counting on each one of us within the body of Christ to serve and share the gospel's message.

Every Blessing

The Reverend Rosemary Fletcher

Acting Superintendent April 1<sup>st</sup> – July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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“Unless God has raised you up for this very thing, you will be worn out by the opposition of men and devils. But if God be for you, who can be against you? Are all of them together stronger than God? O be not weary of well doing!”

*John Wesley*





## Pastoral News

Sadly, in the last month, 2 dear members of our faith community have died: Bernice Allott and Barbara McRory, both remembered with great affection and both a good friend to many.

We were shocked and saddened to hear of Bernice's sudden death in SDH on Friday 5 April. Since moving into Salisbury 5 years ago, she had been an encouraging and supportive member of our community, a regular warm and friendly presence in the coffee bar, at Sunday worship and at Cameo, always enthusiastic and ready to help others. She will be greatly missed. Her funeral service will take place at SMC on Friday 17 May at 12.30 and will be taken by Revd Judy Davies.

Barbara McRory was a long-standing member and is remembered as a very cheerful and sociable person, always interested in others and appreciative of lifts or visits. Her faith was very important to her - she loved being part of Sunday worship and supported church events whenever she could, always so elegantly and immaculately dressed. Increasing frailty led to her move 2 years ago to live with her daughter in Herefordshire but she enjoyed keeping in touch via the Newsletter. She died peacefully in her sleep in hospital on Friday 12 April and her funeral service will take place in Cheltenham. More details to come in the weekly notice sheet.

We give thanks for their well-lived lives, for all that they meant to us, and commend them into God's safe keeping. We hold their families and friends in our prayers at this sad time.

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**A message from Carol Bray:** *Carol would like to thank everyone who was so kind when her mother, Madeleine Bailey, passed away, with a special 'thank you' to those who worked so hard to make the day of her funeral run smoothly.*

We continue to remember those known to us who are suffering the pain of bereavement, and those struggling with increasing frailty or ill health, whether in hospital, care home or at home. May they and their families know God's loving presence with them, a constant source of help, strength and comfort.

**Congratulations:** We send our love and fond Happy Birthday wishes to Revd Derek Chapman who celebrates his 90th birthday on Monday 20 May.

Our love and congratulations also go to John and Siobhan Forster as they celebrate their 10th Wedding Anniversary.



We wish Jackie Weddell every happiness and blessing as she settles into her new home.

**Computer available!** –In response to our recent appeal for unused computers, we now have a computer available which is free to a good home. It has Windows 10 and is suitable for basic functions such as emails, shopping online, browsing the internet but has limited memory capacity and would not be suitable for games. Please contact Monica for further details if you feel this would be of use to you.

**Get Connected** : The next drop-in session will be on Tuesday 21 May, in the Hall, 2.00pm – 4.00pm. If you need friendly and expert help with your phone, tablet or laptop, do come along. We are extremely grateful to Andrew for providing these sessions for us.

**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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In the evening I went very unwillingly to a society in Aldersgate Street, where one was reading Luther's preface to the Epistle to the Romans. About a quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone, for salvation; and an assurance was given me that He had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death.

I began to pray with all my might for those who had in a more especial manner despitefully used me and persecuted me. I then testified openly to all there what I now first felt in my heart. But it was not long before the enemy suggested, "This cannot be faith; for where is thy joy?" Then was I taught that peace and victory over sin are essential to faith in the Captain of our salvation; but that, as to the transports of joy that usually attend the beginning of it, especially in those who have mourned deeply, God sometimes giveth, sometimes withholdeth, them according to the counsels of His own will.

*John Wesley*

## From the Stewards

I am always grateful for the work that Rachel and Simon put in to produce this newsletter, but it can be frustrating that the copy date often seems to fall just before (or after) some forthcoming event. (I suspect it would happen whatever copy date was chosen!). My thanks also go to those who have responded to last month's pleas for new Stewards, but anything that happens at the Church General Meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup> will have to be reported in the next edition.

I recently had the opportunity to go to Bristol and to visit John Wesley's New Rooms there: it was very well presented and certainly worth the visit. One display sets out succinctly the objectives that Wesley pursued in his lifetime:

- Reduce the gap between rich and poor.
- Seek to ensure full employment.
- Introduce measures to help the poorest, including a living wage.
- Offer the best possible education.
- Empower individuals to feel they can make a difference.
- Promote tolerance.
- Promote equal treatment for women.
- Create a society based on values, rather than on profits and consumption.
- End all forms of enslavement.
- Avoid engaging in wars.
- Avoid narrow self-interest and promote a wider world view.
- Care for the creatures with whom we share our planet.

I don't claim to know where all these principles are expressed in Wesley's writings, but as it is still possible that we might have a date for a general election by the time the next newsletter is printed, you might like to measure our future candidates against them.

*Paul Butler on behalf of the Stewards*

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“Children live in a world of dreams and imagination, a world of aliveness... There is a voice of wonder and amazement inside all of us; but we grow to realize we can no longer hear it, and we live in silence. It isn't that God stopped speaking; it is that our lives became louder.”

*Mike Yaconelli*

## **A prayer or Ascension-tide from the Church of Scotland's Book of Common Order (1994).**

Easter - tide ends on Ascension Day which is May 9<sup>th</sup> 2024 and Ascension-tide lasts until Pentecost which is May 19<sup>th</sup> 2024

*Lord Jesus Christ,*

*We acknowledge your rule over every realm of life:*

*Subdue the world by the might of your love.*

*Son of Mary: consecrate our homes.*

*Son of David: cleanse our politics.*

*Son of God: grant us eternal life.*

*Jesus the Carpenter: hallow our daily work.*

*Jesus the Saviour: save us from ourselves.*

*Jesus the Life-giver: renew your Church.*

*Jesus the Crucified: reveal your love and power to all who suffer.*

*Jesus the King: raise us to live and reign with you for ever.*

*Jesus the Word of God: perfect your creation*

*And bring the world to the knowledge of your love. Amen*

### **For Pentecost**

Your Spirit,

present from the beginning

of beginnings,

present in the message

of the prophets,

present in provision

for your people,

present in the life

and words of Jesus,

present in the Cross

and crucifixion,

present in the lives

of the apostles,

present in the church

that you empower.

Your Spirit,

the presence of God

in hearts and lives!

For the Spirit of Peace

that calms our mind

and stills our life,

we give you thanks.

For the Spirit of Love

that touches hearts

and reaches out,

we give you thanks.

For the Spirit of Joy

that lifts our soul

and gives us faith

we give you thanks.

For the Spirit of Power,

that gift of grace

for this your church,

we give you thanks.



# **Flower Festival and Village Singers Concert**

**Woodfalls Methodist Church**

**View flowers**

**Friday 10th May 3-8pm**

**Saturday 11th 10-6pm**

**Sunday 12th 2-6pm**

**Refreshments available**

**Concert 7pm Saturday 11th May**

**They will sing a wide variety of music in many different styles.**

**Come relax and hear the lovely acoustics of the Church where they rehearse, and enjoy tasty refreshments in the interval**

**Retiring collection for Medecins Sans Frontieres, specifically for their work in Israel - Hamas conflict zone.**

## **From the Outreach worker...**

It seems almost impossible to think that I have now been in post for almost seven weeks. What a whirlwind! Several folk have asked what I've been up to so I thought I would give you an update.

It has been a joy to get to know so many lovely families whilst facilitating the toddler groups on Tuesdays and Fridays. I've brushed up on my children's songs and nursery rhymes and thoroughly enjoyed some very thought-provoking conversations with 3 year olds.

Little Blessings have created some lovely craft to offer in their worship and proved to be a very thoughtful and welcoming bunch.

At JAM we have sought to get to know each other better and started to explore ways of expressing ourselves and our faith through music. We have some great plans in place for the next few months.

The uniformed groups Easter eggstravaganza gave me a chance to meet families from outside the church whilst making Easter cards together. I had great fun with Café on the Green's Easter event too exploring the Easter story through crafts, video and singing. It has been lovely getting to know more of our church family through the family lunch at Sarum college, Lent breakfasts and other church events. Exploring difficult topics, such as health, education and the cost of living crisis, that are very real for families in our city through the Lent lectures at the Cathedral brought home just how important our work amongst local families is. Many feel that no one cares.

The visit of the National Methodist Youth Brass Band was particularly special as young adults shared what they gain from belonging to a group of supportive like minded Christians and how it helps to sustain their faith journey. The visit took a lot of behind the scenes work and I am grateful to all who got involved, particularly Christy-Anna.

As with any role there has been the necessary admin and training to ensure we that we care for all who we cross paths with in the most loving and safe way. It has been a pleasure getting to know new colleagues both locally, across the District and ecumenically.

In reflecting on my first few weeks and through the studying I've been doing alongside I am struck by the need to remember to underpin all that we do with prayer. We are not asked to work alone but with each other and in the strength of the holy spirit. I invite anyone who is free on a Friday lunchtime to join me for a short time to pray for the work of SMC. There is so much of great value happening in our church, let's make sure that we support it with prayer. If you cannot join me but

would like to know what to pray for within the children and families work please ask. As I turn the page of my diary to yet another busy week I am reminded of the poem 'The Difference' and leave you with its words.

*God Bless, Fi*

### **The Difference**

I got up early one morning  
And rushed right into the day;  
I had so much to accomplish  
That I didn't have time to pray

Problems just tumbled about me,  
And heavier came each task.  
'Why doesn't God help me?' I wondered.  
He answered, 'You didn't ask.'

I wanted to see joy and beauty,  
But the day toiled on grey and bleak;

I wondered why God didn't show me.  
He said, 'But you didn't seek.'

I tried to come into God's presence;  
I used all my keys at the lock.  
God gently and lovingly chided,  
'My child, you didn't knock.'

I woke up early this morning,  
And paused before entering the day;  
I had so much to accomplish  
That I had to make time to pray.

*Author Unknown*

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Rest is a decision we make. Rest is choosing to do nothing when we have too much to do, slowing down when we feel pressure to go faster, stopping instead of starting. Rest is listening to our weariness and responding to our tiredness, not to what is making us tired. Rest is what happens when we say one simple word: "No!"

*Mike Yaconelli*



## **Our Zambia link:**

The drought in Zambia during the first months of the year- the months of the rainy season – has ruined the harvest and resulted in food shortages, water rationing and power cuts, because there is not enough water to generate electricity through the hydro-electric schemes Zambia depends on for power. Pray that the necessary food aid will be given and delivered.

The outbreak of cholera, which killed hundreds of people in Zambia is now under control. We give thanks for that and for the work of vaccination, treatment and prevention.

Bishop Lordwell Siame of our linked Lusaka Presbytery of the United Church of Zambia was in the UK briefly, mainly to attend the induction of Rev Dr Michael Hopkins as the Moderator of the United Reformed Church Wessex Synod on 23<sup>rd</sup> March. This expresses the commitment of both Wessex Synod and Lusaka Presbytery to sustain and strengthen our link.

Continue to pray for our link UCZ congregation – St John's, Mtendere – as they await the induction of a new minister. Pray for the former minister of St John's – Rev Godfrey Gama – in his new appointment.

The suffering in Zambia does not hit our headlines. Let us with our particular link to the UCZ keep up our concern and prayer, as the people of St John's continue to pray for us.

*Cecil King*

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## **Did you know there are regular religious programmes on the Radio?**

### **Daily**

Radio 2 – Pause for Thought – 2.45am 5.45am 6.50am and 7.15am – maybe some of those are for those people working shifts or suffering from insomnia!

### **Monday to Saturday**

Radio 4 – Prayer for the Day – 5.43am

Radio 4 – Thought for the Day – 7.48am

### **Monday to Friday**

Radio 4 extra – Daily Service – 9.45am to 10.00am

### **Monday**

Radio 4 – Beyond Belief – 4.30pm

### **On every Sunday**

Radio 4 – Something Understood – 6.05am

Radio 4 – the Sunday programme – 7.10am

Radio 4 – an Act of Worship – 8.10am to 8.50am

Radio 3 – Choral Evensong – usually 3pm – sometimes 4pm

### **And on television on Sundays**

BBC1 10.30am Sunday morning live

BBC1 Songs of Praise - usually 1.15pm sometimes 1.30pm

*The Reverend Rosemary Fletcher*



## John and Charles Wesley

John & Charles Wesley are both remembered on May 24<sup>th</sup> in the Anglican cycle of prayer

Born at Epworth Rectory in Lincolnshire, John Wesley was the son of an Anglican clergyman and a Puritan mother. He entered Holy Orders and, following a religious experience on this day in 1738, began an itinerant ministry which recognised no parish boundaries. This resulted, after his death, in the development of a world-wide Methodist Church. His spirituality involved an Arminian affirmation of grace, frequent communion and a disciplined corporate search for holiness. His open-air preaching, concern for education and for the poor, liturgical revision, organisation of local societies and training of preachers provided a firm basis for Christian growth and mission in England.

Charles shared with his brother John the building up of early Methodist societies, as they travelled the country. His special concern was that early Methodists should remain loyal to Anglicanism. He married and settled in Bristol, later in London, concentrating his work on the local Christian communities. His thousands of hymns established a resource of lyrical piety which has enabled generations of Christians to re-discover the refining power of God's love. They celebrate God's work of grace from birth to death, the great events of God's work of salvation and the rich themes of eucharistic worship, anticipating the taking up of humanity into the divine life.

John died in 1791 and Charles in 1788.

Collect

God of mercy,  
who inspired John and Charles Wesley  
with zeal for your gospel:  
grant to all people boldness to proclaim your word  
and a heart ever to rejoice in singing your praises;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The Reverend Rosemary Fletcher*

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### Poetry Group

The next Poetry meeting will be held in Room 1 at 10.30am on Friday May 3rd.

The subject will be HUMOUR.

Everyone is welcome to join us.

*Mary Mitchell.*

## **Worship**

At the recent Worship Consultation, it was agreed to put forward the name of Sarah Sirengo to the Church Council as a Worship Steward. We look forward to Sarah officially joining the worship team. The concert given by the National Methodist Youth Brass Band and the service the following morning were both joyous and uplifting occasions. The weekend could not have happened without a lot of hard work from the team planning beforehand and in the kitchen over weekend. Thank you to everyone involved.

In recent weeks there have been collections for the Easter Offering and the Local Preachers and Worship Leaders Trust. The monies raised for the former goes to support partner churches of Methodist Women in Britain around the world, and the latter towards the training of preachers and worship leaders in different denominations in Britain. Thank you to all who contributed to both these causes. In future weeks and months, we will be supporting a number of appeals both ecumenical and Methodist. These will include Christian Aid, Methodist Homes, and Action for Children. All 3 of these will be linked to morning services at SMC. We ask that you give your support to these both with prayer and money where this is possible. If you wish to know more about these charities and their work information can be found online, or please talk to Paul Butler or myself.

*Jim Gillings Worship Team Leader.*

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## **Peace In Gaza Now**

These are the words on the banner we hold as we stand in silence outside the Library every Saturday between 5.00 and 5.30 pm. So what goes on in our hearts and minds at this time? For me these words act as a kind of mantra to call me back to attention whenever my mind strays to those passing by. Some are turning away, some pause to read posters etc, some come to join us and want to know more. Currently we are holding doves of peace. Previously we held a card naming one of the thousands of children killed in this conflict with their age. These cards later are gathered together and taken to the Cathedral to be placed there for prayers of intercession. These names are to be found on an Aljazeera webpage and it occurs to me that holding a child in your prayers in this way could be something that could be done at home.

[https://interactive.aljazeera.com/aje/2024/israel-war-on-gaza-10000-children-killed/?fbclid=IwAR3vLhSR57EQB1iVRVprakkiw9A5pdV8Y2qOpYtR61UOm\\_AvRx0k1QIL3o](https://interactive.aljazeera.com/aje/2024/israel-war-on-gaza-10000-children-killed/?fbclid=IwAR3vLhSR57EQB1iVRVprakkiw9A5pdV8Y2qOpYtR61UOm_AvRx0k1QIL3o)

*Barbara Hickman*

## **How 5 Shillings, Faith and Belief inspired the beginning of the Probation Service**

Did you know the forerunner of the modern Probation Service was established in Victorian London with a donation of only five shillings?

This was a world where many endured desperate poverty and hardship. Early work undertaken by missionaries included setting up jobs, accommodation and opportunities. Some stories are heart-breaking – a boy turned out onto the streets after his father sold his boots to buy beer. But there was hope! Many were placed on farms and elsewhere and learned skills including poultry, pig and cattle farming as well as trades.

In this new touring exhibition from Englesea Brook Chapel and Museum you'll learn the origins of the Probation Service and how early Christian values and principles behind the work would go on to be rolled out across the world.

**This Exhibition will be at the New Room in Bristol from May 1 - June 29.** As a former probation officer and inspired by its Christian roots I hope to go (by train) and would welcome the company of others. Please speak with me if you are interested and also pass word to others.

*Barbara Hickman: 01722 349740*

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## **Prayers for Justice and Peace, May 15, Trinity Chapel, Cathedral 12.00-12.30 pm.**

On this occasion Justice and Peace Prayers coincide with Christian Aid Week and are being led by Canon Treasurer, The Revd Kenneth Padley. It is also an occasion to invite all those involved with Christian Aid Week throughout Salisbury (collectors and supporters alike) to come together to pray for the work of Christian Aid. It also coincides with a Christian Aid exhibition in one of the side chapels and a new art installation in the Cathedral itself which focuses on the impact of climate change on homes and daily lives, with the Christian Aid exhibition highlighting the effects of climate change on the countries it is working with.

*Barbara Hickman*

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“the measure of society is how it treats the weakest members”

*Thomas Jefferson*

## Five Minutes for the Planet

### The Library of Things

If you haven't come across the Library of Things, it describes itself as:

*"A social enterprise which gives the community access to borrow things they need, without it costing the Earth".*

In other words, rather than buy an expensive tool you will only use for one job, or something just for a single event, you can borrow it at a very modest cost. So many things end up languishing in the garage, or even being thrown away after several years gathering dust. You do have to go to Churchfields to fetch it, and return it when you have used it, but you save money and the planet benefits because there is no need for yet another thing to be made, purchased and eventually disposed of.

There is an amazing range of things available: you can hire an air fryer, strings of bunting, champagne glasses, a dehumidifier, and electronic keyboard, a flipchart, a garden hose, a hacksaw, an infrared thermometer and Giant Jenga ... and so on all the way through the alphabet.

All the details can be found online at [sharesalisbury.co.uk](http://sharesalisbury.co.uk)

*Paul Butler*

Woodfalls Methodist Church is 150 years old this year

To celebrate we are organising some extra events.

10th-12th May Flower Festival (Thanks to Forest Edge)

11th May Concert by Village Singers

7th-9th June Telling the story of the church, the village. Etc. Including Woodfalls Band, Morgans Vale and Woodfalls CE Primary School, The History Society and Redlynch Players

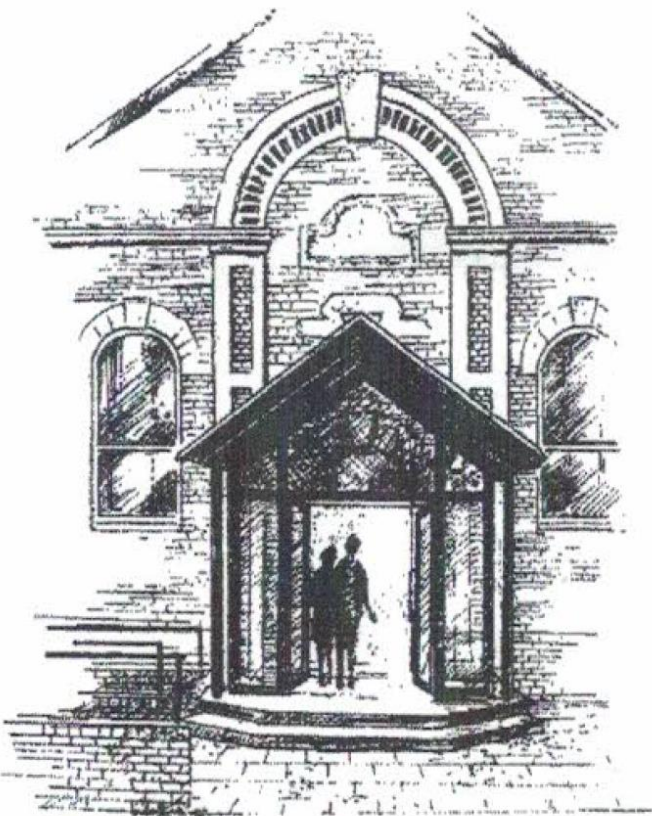
27th-29th September Jigsaw Puzzle Festival

6th-8th December Nativity Festival

Plus our usual Christmas Market on 9th November and of course, Ecumenical Big Brekkie Breakfast for Christian Aid on May 18th

**EVERYONE WELCOME AT ALL EVENTS**

PLEASE PUT THE DATES IN YOUR DIARY



## Christian Aid Week

12-18 May 2024



Once again we are approaching Christian Aid Week. There are lots of events locally through which to support Christian Aid. Here are a few:

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May** - SMC Christian Aid Service 10.30. Speaker will be Michael Mosselmans, Christian Aid's Head of Humanitarian Programmes.

**11<sup>th</sup> May** - Maerefolk and Friends, a concert of traditional music and stories in support of Christian Aid, 7.30 pm at St George's Hall, Harnham. Tickets £10 including refreshments, either from Paul Butler or on the door.

**11<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> May** - Christian Aid exhibition in St Lawrence's chapel, Salisbury Cathedral (alongside their new art exhibition "Our Earth"). Entrance to the Cathedral is free for local residents (SP1 & SP2 postcodes).

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May** - Prayers for Justice and Peace 12 noon in the Trinity Chapel at Salisbury Cathedral led by Canon Kenneth Padley (30 minutes approx).

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May** - Coffee morning at St Thomas' Church, 9.30-12 noon.

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May** - People in the Park 10-4 in Elizabeth Gardens – Christian Aid will have a stall there.

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May** - Big Breakfast at Woodfalls Methodist Church, from 8am!

During the week 5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> there will be much sorting of envelopes for the Christian Aid Week collection around Salisbury, and these will mostly be delivered on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Paul Butler will be contacting existing supporters, but if you want to get involved please contact Paul on [stewards@salisburymethodist.org.uk](mailto:stewards@salisburymethodist.org.uk)

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“Rest is the ultimate humiliation because in order to rest, we must admit we are not necessary, that the world can get along without us, that God's work does not depend on us. Once we understand how unnecessary we are, only then might we find the right reasons to say yes. Only then might we find the right reasons to decide to be with Jesus instead of working for him. Only then might we have the courage to take a nap with Jesus.”

*Michael Yaconelli*



# Pentecost



**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May** - read the exciting story about the **Holy Spirit** in **Acts 2**

Find the words in the grid. The unused letters spell out a secret phrase. (©Sally Dixon Creations 2023)

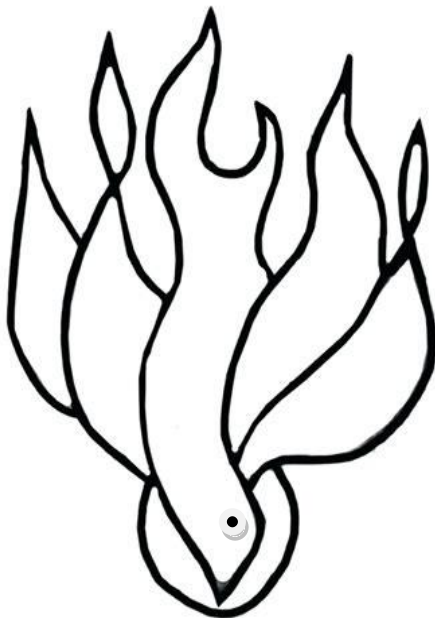
P	R	O	P	H	E	S	Y	T	D
O	F	L	A	M	E	S	O	E	N
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E	L	O	R	D	E	A	I	G	E
R	U	E	P	T	S	R	M	D	N
J	S	S	E	O	I	S	E	E	T
G	O	P	O	P	U	R	F	L	E
R	U	E	S	F	E	R	L	V	C
E	N	A	L	H	D	A	O	I	O
A	D	K	T	N	C	D	J	G	S
T	R	A	I	B	O	L	D	O	T
E	G	W	Y	H	O	L	Y	D	Y

- awe
- bold
- call
- day
- dove
- flames
- gathered
- God
- great
- Holy
- Joel
- joy
- Lord
- name
- Pentecost
- Peter
- pour
- power
- prophesy
- saved
- sound
- speak
- Spirit
- wait
- wind

SECRET PHRASE:

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Colour the picture in fiery colours.  
See the flames and turn it on its side to see a dove.



*Thank you, God, for your gift of the Holy Spirit. Help us to stop and take a breath when we are getting so busy we forget we have this help; and when we feel the wind blowing and the heat warming us, and see a dove flying in the air, may we be reminded of you moving through our lives. Amen.*





Find a letter that can go after the first word and before the second word to make new words. Put them in the middle column and see what reads down the column?

(Answer below)

BUS		ARROW
HELL		MEN
PEA		EAVES
PAST		EAR
PACE		HEARS
RAM		RICE
ANT		CON
BLAZE		AMBLE
TAX		RATE
COME		ERROR

Answer: **HOLY SPIRIT**

### Why Do We Celebrate Pentecost?

Pentecost is important because even though Jesus was not with his disciples any more, they were seen as worthy to spread the message of God, which is why He sent them a Helper to do this. The Holy Spirit equipped the disciples to spread the message of God by telling people about Jesus, God's Son. The Spirit gave them gifts to perform miracles and speak in different languages so everybody there, from many different places, understood what they were saying. Many people were baptized on that first Pentecost because of what they heard and saw. Pentecost is believed to be the point where the Christian church started (its birthday if you like) and broke away from the Jewish faith, basing its beliefs on Jesus and His teachings rather than on Jewish laws or doctrine.



**South Sudan is the newest country in the world, and one of the poorest.** Within its capital city, the **Juba Diocesan Model Secondary School** is one of the **most successful secondary schools** in the country.

Unusual in South Sudan, the school educates both boys and girls in roughly equal numbers, providing a boarding house for some of the girls to avoid them having to travel daily through the dangerous streets of Juba. If anyone can help solve the problems of violence, poverty and corruption in this country - to say nothing of managing the hoards of refugees from war-torn Sudan to its north - the alumni of this school stand a very good chance.

JDMSS took in its first 90 pupils in 2007. The initial set-up costs of the school were largely contributed by St Francis church in Salisbury. More than 900 pupils are at the school now, many of them supported by a bursary scheme so that those who cannot afford the fees may also attend.



**You are all welcome to the JDMSS Eye-Opener event at St Francis church on Saturday 11th May at 10.00am**, ending with a light lunch - to hear about the current situation in South Sudan and how the school is living up to its strapline of “Let there be Light”.

*further information from Jenny Wilson 01722 327309*



# Maerrefolk & friends



**11 May,  
7.30pm**

**ST GEORGE'S  
HALL  
HARNHAM**

**£10 entry  
including  
refreshments**

Modern and traditional folksong and story telling.  
Tickets on the door

**Supporting Christian Aid**