

Salisbury Methodist Church
St Edmund's Church Street Salisbury

Newsletter



“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”

John 1:5

Minister:

Revd Dr Mark Cheetham

☎ 01722 697841

email:

minister@salisburymethodist.org.



Outreach Worker:

Fi Waddingham

email:

outreachworker@

salisburymethodist.org.uk

Salisbury Methodist Church, St Edmund's Church Street, Salisbury, SP1 1EF

www.salisburymethodist.org.uk

☎ 01722 322755

email: admin@salisburymethodist.org.uk

9							1	
			6	5			2	
		7			4	3		
		8						4
	9		2		6		3	
1						2		
		6	7			1		
	5			8	9			
	4							7

The November Newsletter was produced by
Rachel and Simon Clarke.

Items for the December/January Newsletter should be sent to Rachel Clarke
no later than Friday 21st November 2025

email: **newsletter@salisburymethodist.org.uk**

Material for consideration should be as follows:

An A4 Word or other editable text document (in Aptos font size 15pt if possible).

Please ensure you have consent for any material submitted.

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

01722 338392

Worship in November

Sunday 2nd November

10:30 a.m. Revd. Dr Mark Cheetham HC

4:00 p.m. Revd Dr Mark Cheetham (All Souls)

Sunday 9th November

10:30 a.m. Revd. Jane Taylor (Remembrance)

3:00 p.m. Mrs Fi Waddingham (LB)

Sunday 16th November

8:00 a.m. Revd. Dr Philip Luscombe (HC)

10:30 a.m. Revd. Rachel Borgars (Church Anniversary AA)

3:00p.m. SANDS Service

Sunday 23rd November

10:30 a.m. Revd. Dr Mark Cheetham

Sunday 30th November

10:30 a.m. Mrs Sue Holmes (Advent 1)

6:00 p.m. Revd. Katharine Robinson (Advent Carol Service)

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

LB Little Blessings

HC Holy Communion

Dear friends,

As a new minister, the past few weeks have been full of welcome, introductions and trying to remember new names, not something I count myself good at, forgive me. My family and I are delighted to be stationed in this circuit and want to express our thanks for the welcome we have received. If you'll excuse me focusing on myself briefly, here are some "frequently asked questions" and answers:

What is your background?

I worked as a Signalling Design Engineer in the railway industry, responsible for designing safety-critical control systems and their interfaces with the rest of the railway. I also enjoyed mentoring colleagues and was a Mental Health First Aider, both of which were expressions of ministry in that place. Have you reflected on how you are part of ministry in the every-day places you are in?

I became a Christian as a teenager and later joined a Methodist Church in 1999, getting involved in a worship band playing violin or guitar. I was a Worship Leader for several years before training as a Local Preacher (accredited 2020), also serving in other roles in the church and circuit.

What made you become a Minister?

In a word: God! A friend who served in the armed forces likens commitment to Christ to the army saying, "you only volunteer once", which I find particularly true in the light of Methodism's Covenant prayer. When I felt called to Local Preaching, God called others at the same time creating an excellent tutor group, so when I heard the call to ordained ministry, I knew that God could make it possible. When I spoke to my Superintendent he responded "I've been expecting it", and through the process of Candidating, the Methodist church affirmed this calling.

God more than makes it possible, I have been astonished at the wonderful area I've been sent to and how good a match it is. A beautiful area, positive churches, and close enough to town that I can return to cycling (I had frozen shoulders making life rather awkward), what blessings!

What form does ministry training take?

All British Methodist student ministers now train at Queens Foundation, Birmingham, generally over two years full-time or three years part-time prior to

stationing as a Probationer. I took the part-time option which involves a mixture of time at Queens, weekly online seminars and working with a “Link Church”. Again, it was a time full of blessings, as well as learning, formation and juggling.

As a Probationer, formal learning continues; although not all probationers study for academic qualifications, I will be working towards an MA. All Preachers should continue to study and equip themselves throughout their ministry, but during probation we have an allocated study day to help form a good routine. In what ways are you learning, deepening your faith, and perhaps helping others to do so?

What is your role in the circuit and at SMC?

My role includes ministering with Bemerton, Bourne Valley and Shrewton Methodist Churches plus being part of the pastoral team at SMC. This means that when there is a need for “support on life’s journey” (to borrow a phrase from the Railway Mission), it might be me that responds.

It’s a big change from being an Engineer?

Yes, it is! Not one that I would have chosen left to myself. In the Bible we see God choose people who are not the obvious ones in human terms – Moses angered God with his reluctance and excuses (Exodus 3-4), Jonah ran away, Jeremiah felt himself too young and not competent, Jesus called a remarkable collection of fishermen, zealots, tax collectors. I can sympathise with these stories of being called into roles that could not be done based on our own ability, but these lives and many others were transformed so that they became the people God needed – apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers (Ephesians 4:11) and so much more.

I encourage everyone to reflect on the roles in which they are called to serve and minister, both within church and outside. It may be unexpected what we are called to take up, or to entrust to others, to continue building one another up (1 Thessalonians 5) and bringing people to Christ. For me I am putting down being an engineer and a local preacher to become a minister. It can be uncomfortable, and also exciting, but it’s a good thing that we must rely on prayer, grace and the Holy Spirit.

Every blessing, Revd. Dorothy.



Pastoral news

We are entering the season of remembrance when our thoughts turn to ‘those whom we love but see no longer’. We continue to hold in our prayers all those who suffer the pain and grief of bereavement. In their loss may they know the assurance of God’s loving presence alongside them, and that they and those they love are eternally held in God’s embrace.

Our All Souls Service this year is on Sunday 2 November at 4.00pm, all are welcome. Below is a beautiful hymn composed by Revd. Judy Davies and sung at last years’ service:

Tune: Ar hyd y nos (All through the night)

Names remembered, lives recalling,

Love will remain;

Light of morning, darkness falling,

Love will remain.

Through the pain of loss and grieving,

Precious memories never leaving,

Hope will find us still, believing

Love will remain.

In our joys and in our sorrows

Love will remain.

Present cares and new tomorrows,

Love will remain.

Friendships that no grief can sever,

Missed for now, forgotten never,

Through this life, and then forever

Love will remain.

A number of our church family are currently struggling with debilitating health problems - for some it entails frequent hospital visits, tests and anxious waits for results. We hold in our thoughts and prayers all those who are in particular need at this time, along with their families and friends. We also give thanks for the expertise and care of the staff at Salisbury District Hospital for which many of us have had cause to be grateful.

Over the last couple of months, it has been a joy to welcome new folk into our midst, and we look forward to getting to know them better in the coming weeks.

Congratulations: We send our love and congratulations to one of our young Members, Greg Waddingham, who has been selected to attend the World Scout Jamboree in Poland in 2027, a wonderful and well-deserved achievement! What an experience it will be for him, and we look forward to supporting him in the future fundraising efforts.

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)



**A community space provided
by Salisbury Methodist Circuit at
Hampton Park Pavilion
Bishopdown Farm**

This **POP-UP CAFÉ** is Open **THURSDAYS 9am-12 noon** (Term time only)
It's a friendly and relaxed space where all ages are welcome



**Join us for drinks and light refreshments
There is also a space to play for children**

HELP NEEDED!
Can you spare 1 morning a
month to help us bring a
Christian presence to this area



Contact Mel

Outreach@salisburymethodistcircuit.org.uk

Christian Aid

Red Lines for Gaza



Christian Aid is taking part in this multi-agency campaign, as actions previously thought to be “crossing a red line” happen time and again in the Middle East. You can send cards, contact your MP, or undertake some symbolic “red line” action.

Details of the campaign can be found at:

www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/red-line-gaza-church-action

Simplest of all these actions is to adopt this prayer, written by The Most Rev. Dr. Hosam E. Naoum, Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world:

In your mercy, provide for all those in Gaza and beyond who suffer from hunger and starvation, that they may be given both physical bread to nourish their bodies and heavenly bread to sustain their souls.

By the power of your Spirit, bring a speedy end to this cruel war, the release of all captives, care for the sick and wounded, comfort for those who have lost loved-ones, and the opening of a pathway for a just and lasting peace here in the very homeland where your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ministered during his earthly life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Paul Butler.

Safeguarding Spot November 25

We all know by now that safeguarding should happen at all times, all the days of the year, in all our spaces and is something everyone can contribute to. However, one Sunday a year is recognised as ‘Safeguarding Sunday’ – for us at SMC this is the 23rd November. Come along and meet your church safeguarding officer.

Diana Noble

Items you can recycle at **Boots in Silver Street, Salisbury**

- Plastic toothpaste tubes
- Plastic eyeliner or concealer pen
- Plastic concealer or eye shadow tubes (inc applicator)
- Plastic mascara tubes (inc brush, wand)
- Eyeshadow & brow palettes & compacts
- Plastic make-up tubes
- Plastic lip balm pots
- Plastic body, hair and face cream pot and tubes
- Plastic body lotion, hand cream and sunscreen tubes
- Plastic refill pouches
- Plastic sachets, samples and hotel bottle minis
- Plastic dropper bottles
- Plastic roll-on and stick deodorants
- Plastic combs
- Plastic contact lens cases
- Face and hair mask packaging (single use)
- Wipes packets
- Plastic lipstick or lip balm tubes
- Toothbrushes or electronic toothbrush heads

Boots also has a bin for collecting Blister Packs



Diana Noble



Scout Post Stamps @ 40p each available from David Miles.

There is a post-box in the welcome area for cards.

Ecumenical Prayers for Justice and Peace

in the Cathedral Trinity Chapel

12 noon, all are welcome

Third Wednesday of every month

Next date

Wednesday 19th November

'To all our babies, always loved, never forgotten'

A Service of Remembering

Sunday 16th November 2025

3pm

Salisbury Methodist Church

St Edmunds Church Street

SP1 1EF

A family friendly and relaxed environment for this sensitive service to remember babies.



THE NEW SARUM SINGERS

Present



“Peace on Earth”

The New Sarum Singers' celebrate Christmas with a full programme of carols and songs, inspired by the Christmas story and resonating with our Christmas message

Peace on Earth. These works, both traditional and modern, will bring joy and an emotional connection to the listener. There will, of course, be the usual opportunity for the audience to join in with some well-known carols. The concert is free and in support of the Alzheimer's Support Wiltshire charity, so why not join us for a merry musical treat.

Musical Director : Benjamin Baker

Accompanist: Mary Douglas

Monday 1st December 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

**Bemerton Methodist Church,
Roman Road, Salisbury, SP2 9BH**

Free Admission and Parking with a retiring collection
in aid of the **Alzheimer's Support Wiltshire** an award-winning local charity which
exists to improve quality of life of families affected by dementia in Wiltshire
(Registered Charity 1048314)

Visit <https://newsarumsingers.wordpress.com/> for more information



Action For Children Mini Bring and Buy Sale

November 23rd in the hall after the morning service
Daphne will accept donations in advance on 16th November or
bring them on the day.

Many thanks

Daphne Torok and the Action for children support group

Prisoners of Conscience

The June 2023 Circuit Meeting adopted an idea from the Circuit Justice and Peace Group that each month we would share a particular Prisoner of Conscience with the members of the Salisbury Circuit.

The Salisbury Amnesty International Group adopts a particular Prisoner of Conscience each month and shares with various local churches, and the Salisbury Circuit have joined this.

We encourage you to pray for the person both privately and publicly and encourage people to write as indicated each month.

Different churches publicise the person in different ways but at SMC the person is mentioned in weekly notices and in the North Corridor noticeboard.

This is part of our being a justice seeking church. The Methodist Church's statement of purpose is "We are called to be a growing, inclusive, evangelistic and justice-seeking Church"

But who are Prisoners of Conscience?

Amnesty International's prisoners of conscience are people who are imprisoned or detained because of who they are or what they believe, and who have not used or advocated violence. The term, coined by Amnesty's founder Peter Benenson, applies to individuals held for their peaceful expression of beliefs, including those related to politics, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or other personal characteristics. The organization campaigns for the immediate and unconditional release of all prisoners of conscience.

What defines a prisoner of conscience?

- **Peaceful and non-violent:**

The individual has not used violence or advocated violence or hatred in connection with their detention.

- **Imprisoned for beliefs or identity:**

The person is detained because of their political, religious, or other conscientiously held beliefs, or because of who they are (e.g., ethnic origin, sex, colour, language, sexual orientation, gender identity).

- **Coined by Amnesty International:**

The term was first used in the 1960s to describe individuals persecuted for their peaceful beliefs.

Reverend Rosemary Fletcher

Methodist leaders have welcomed the appointment of Bishop Sarah Mullally as the new Archbishop of Canterbury.

In a statement the President and Vice-President, and Secretary of the Methodist Conference expressed their encouragement at her appointment and the assurance of their prayers.

The full statement follows:

“We warmly welcome the news of Bishop Sarah Mullally’s appointment as Archbishop of Canterbury. We pray God’s blessing upon her for this profoundly important ministry. May God guide Archbishop Sarah in her leadership within our public life, within the Church of England and among the worldwide Anglican Communion. The Methodist Church and the Church of England are covenanted partners: in local communities across the country Methodists and Anglicans are growing together in responding to the gospel of God’s love in Christ, enriching one another’s discipleship, and sharing in worship and mission.

"As church leaders, we look forward to walking alongside Archbishop Mullally in that same spirit of partnership in the coming years. Our present age demands a confident and united witness by the Church, to the love and grace of God that can mend divisions and overcome the fears of our world. We are encouraged by Bishop Sarah’s clear commitment to making the Church a safe space for all, where all are welcome and can thrive. We will keep Bishop Sarah and her family in our prayers as she takes up this significant and demanding global role. ”

The Revd Richard Andrew, President of the Methodist Conference

Mr Matt Forsyth, Vice-President of the Methodist Conference

The Revd Dr Jonathan Hustler, Secretary of the Methodist Conference

An Introduction to the Gospel of Matthew

Advent Sunday 30th November 2025 – we move to year A of the Lectionary – Matthew- and as in previous years here, we have an opportunity for further study of the Gospel by the Reverend Dr Kenneth Padley, who is an excellent scholar.

Booking for this is on the Cathedral website

An Introduction to the Gospel of Matthew

[Talk](#)

Date: Wednesday 12 November 2025

Price: Adult tickets £10, Student tickets £5, Under 18 Free

Timings: 7pm

Doors open 6.30pm

Location: Salisbury Cathedral - North Transept

A talk with Canon Kenneth Padley exploring the Gospel of Matthew

Matthew's gospel is the longest account of the life of Jesus. Heavily influenced by Judaism, the evangelist portrays Jesus as the one who fulfils yet transforms Jewish expectations of a Saviour / Messiah.

The Church year which begins at Advent 2025 will source most of its Sunday gospel readings from St Matthew. This evening is an opportunity to get ahead of the lectionary by diving into the priorities and values of the first evangelist.

Some of the most famous stories and sayings of Jesus are only found in the first gospel: the star-led wise men, parables of wheat and tares, sheep and goats, wise and foolish virgins, and many details of the crucifixion and resurrection are only found in Matthew. This evening will explore why these were important for Matthew and what they might mean for us today.

Booking Details

We are trialling a charge for this event. This is to cover the costs of the evening and support future adult learning opportunities at the Cathedral. If you would like to attend but cost is an issue, please contact k.padley@salcath.co.uk

Reverend Rosemary Fletcher

“Life in a prison cell may well be compared to Advent; one waits, hopes, and does this, that, or the other- things that are of no real consequence- the door is shut, and can be opened only from the outside.”,

Letters from Prison – November 21, 1943”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

**November 22nd is the day when our Roman Catholic Sisters and Brothers
remember St Cecilia, the patron saint of Musicians**



So let us give thanks for all our organists and musicians and singers who enhance
our worship at SMC

A Prayer of Thanksgiving from the RSCM

Bountiful God, we praise you for all the blessings of this life
and in particular for your gift of music.

We give you thanks for the wonders of human imagination and creativity
that can inspire and lift the soul when life is difficult.

and we give you thanks for the musical beauty and skill
of those who can raise our hearts to the very gates of heaven.

Grant us the discernment to value these gifts

and to nurture them in humility,

knowing that you alone are Lord.

For Jesus Christ's sake, Amen.

Reverend Rosemary Fletcher

Prayer of Commitment for Remembrance Sunday

Copyright © John Birch, posted on Faith and Worship—Prayers and Resources.

<http://www.faithandworship.com/>

God of Love, God of Peace
This fractured word
Cries out in pain
Burns deep into my soul
And challenges me
To make a difference

God of Love, God of Peace
God of this world
Scarred by grief and tears

Ignorance and fear
Soften hearts of stone
And begin with mine

God of Love, God of Peace
Create within me
A heart for people
A desire for change
For new beginnings
To start this day

Pastoral Prayer for November by John Birch

<https://www.faithandworship.com/>

The Church is full of people
in the Autumn of their years.
Some have led colourful lives
leaves bronzed and golden
through exposure to the elements
their appearance the centre of
attention.
Others have been exposed
to more extreme conditions
branches bowed and scarred.

Some go unnoticed,
yet stand tall and steadfast
against wind and rain.
All have a story to tell
all can offer support and shelter
for saplings which grow beneath
their leafy canopy.

What are you waiting for?

Have you ever had to wait for something or someone? Can you think of some things you had to wait for? Perhaps a turn with a toy or on a playground. In a restaurant, waiting for the food when you're hungry. At a fair or amusement park, waiting in long lines for a ride. Sitting in a waiting room at the doctors or dentist. You might even have waited when you're taking a long car ride, or for a bus or at an airport. Waiting can be hard! I wonder what you do while you wait. It's safe to say, though, that good things are worth the wait. We are willing to wait if we know that we are waiting for something special.

The 30th of November 2025 is a special day as it is the first Sunday in Advent. Advent is a time for waiting. The word Advent means 'coming'. So, what or who is coming? What or who are we waiting for?

Yes! I think you've got it – we're waiting for Christmas to celebrate the birth of Jesus! Prophets had spoken of the coming of Christ and people waited for hundreds of years for a saviour, even if they weren't sure exactly how or when it would be. They were willing to wait because they knew it would be worth it. During this Advent season perhaps you and your family and friends can talk about preparing for the birth of Jesus which we remember and celebrate at Christmas time and, while you're waiting, I wonder if you can think of other ways you can get ready to greet Jesus, apart from getting presents and having a good party because Jesus is certainly a special gift well worth waiting for!

Think of a letter you can put after the first word and before the second to make two new words. If you're correct, the shaded column will spell out new words.

SINE		EAR
SULTAN		WAY
SCAMP		SLANDER
TWEE		HERE
CHILL		DEAL
CROW		OUGHT
STUN		LAD
SINGLE		ROUGH
TAX		RATE
MINI		EMBER
WAG		ASTER

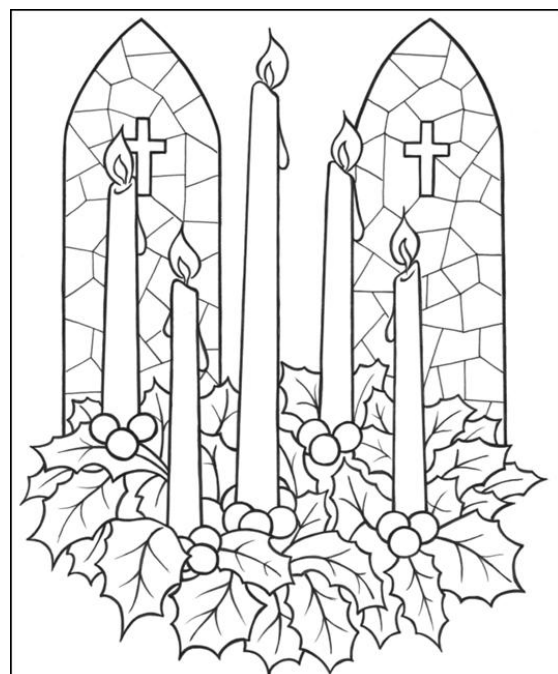
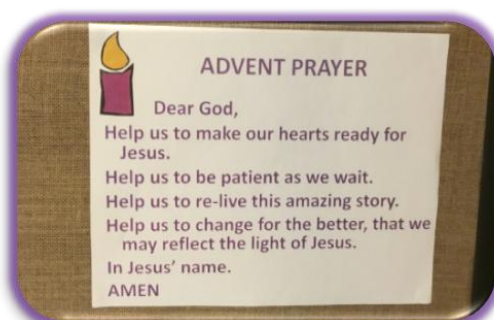
Y	B	D	R	P	U	G	I		M	U	C	Y	W
C	J	O	D	H	O	P	E		C	H	R	A	V
O	W	G	N	I	T	I	A		W	C	I	S	M
M	P	J	A	Q	A	S	R		H	T	A	T	K
I	D	B	N	D	Q	E	H		I	O	Y	E	N
N	L	I	G	L	V	J	N		T	G	S	H	O
G	H	U	E	T	O	E	O		B	A	Z	P	S
E	V	O	L	Q	C	S	N		I	W	E	O	R
X	H	N	S	F	H	U	U		T	D	V	R	K
I	A	C	F	O	X	S	E		C	A	E	P	W
P	G	S	E	L	D	N	A		C	L	Q	B	O
A	V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

Advent	Angels	Candles
Coming	God	Hope
Jesus	Love	Peace
Preparing	Prophets	Son
Waiting	Wreath	

Advent Acrostic
The first one is done for you

Prophets

R
E
P
A
R
E



waiting for Jesus

JOHN 11:10

Answer: Waiting time

Compiled by Linda Hayman

Immigration – some replies

“We are being overrun by refugees”

Refugees only make up 0.7% of the population – but the services we all need are stretched due to decades of underfunding.

“Small boats are the problem”

Migrants arriving by small boats make up less than 5% of total inward migration – but they are an easy target for politicians and the press.

One in six people arriving in a small boat is a child; they are the ones most vulnerable to conflict and trafficking.

“Refugees take away resources from people born here”

1 in 5 NHS workers is a migrant, now working, paying tax and keeping our services running.

Migrants are estimated to contribute £3.3 billion to UK public finances by way of taxes, skills and new businesses.

Source: Safe Passage.org uk, a charity working with child refugees

Paul Butler

Do you need a money course?

Are your finances not adding up?

- Ever wondered where your money goes each month?
- Need help managing your bills or spending?
- Worried about managing your Universal Credit payments?
- Want to learn some practical tips to make budgeting easier?

Community Money Advice South Wilts are running ‘**The Money Course**’, starting on **Monday 3rd November** at Salisbury Baptist Church, 41 Brown Street, Salisbury SP1 2AS. The course runs weekly from 10.00 to 12.00 for a further 4 Mondays until Monday 2nd December (last session).

Want to book a free place?

Email: hello@cmasouthwilts.org.uk with your name, email address and phone number. We will contact you to arrange a place or provide more information.

<https://cmasouthwilts.org.uk/>



New Manager for The Listening Place

At the recent Listening Place Open Evening, Sue Coakley, the new Manager, received the keys to The Listening Place from the retiring Manager, Sue Robbins. Sue Robbins summarised her achievements from fourteen years at The Listening Place. Not only had the Listeners been able to help clients overcome their troubles, big and small, but courses had been run for local groups such as Practice Managers, The Foodbank and Wardens of local Alms-houses. The skills involved in listening without offering well-meaning advice, judgement or interruption had been passed on to benefit many more people in this way. They and their feelings had been listened to and truly heard.

Sue was presented with a Garden Centre voucher, flowers and a Memory book. A clearly delighted Sue exclaimed “I wanted to buy a tree – now I can buy a wood!” A special ‘Thank You’ cake was enjoyed by all after the talk by Alex Ewing, Director of the Bridge Project.

Alex remarked on the synergy between the service provided by Chaplains in schools to pupils, staff and parents and that of the Listening Place. He said “The Chaplains provide a space – safe, unhurried and welcoming. A space where young people, staff and families can breathe. A space where they are not judged, assessed or hurried along. A space where Chaplains can help bridge the gap between silence and being heard, between isolation and belonging, between despair and hope. Listening changes everything – knowledge we share with the Listeners at The Listening Place”

The Bridge Project works in 23 schools, both primary and secondary, across Wiltshire and north Dorset. Its vision is for a future where every young person is given the space to grow in wellbeing and spirituality, enabling them to live life in all its fullness.

The Listening Place is based at Salisbury Methodist Church, St Edmunds Church Street, Salisbury, SP1 1EF and is open on Wednesday and Saturday mornings, 10am – 12 noon and Monday evenings from 5.30pm – 7. 30pm. It is a free, confidential drop-in service for face-to-face appointments.

To contact the Listeners: 01722 325 294 or salisburylisteningplace@gmail.com.

For further information:

www.thelisteningplace.org.uk



Here are some upcoming highlights among the varied programme of courses at Sarum College. Don't forget to use your discount codes when booking: **SMC2025** for 20% off selected courses.

And if you're looking for somewhere for friends and family to stay while visiting Salisbury, they can get 15% off a B&B stay with the code **SMC15**.



Evangelism in Times of Climate and Nature Crisis

5 November
10am to 4pm
£70 onsite

A day to think holistically about evangelistic ministries and contemporary environmental concerns.

Cate Williams, a priest and freelance trainer specialising in "earthed" faith.



Theology Catch Up: The Council of Nicaea

20 November
12pm to 2pm
£25 online

Online sessions over lunch on the latest thinking about a theological topic to explore what, how and why we believe.

Beth Dodd, Programme Leader for Postgraduate Study Programmes in Theology, Ministry and Mission.



Poetry for Matthew's Gospel in Advent, Christmas & Epiphany

6 November
10am to 4pm
£70 onsite

Poetry and art to deepen reflection on Matthew's Gospel around the birth and revelation of Jesus.

Mark Pryce, Director of Ministry for Birmingham Diocese and Visiting Scholar at Sarum College.



Touching God: Dementia and the Bodies of Christ

26 November
10am to 4pm
£70 onsite

Reflect theologically on the faith journey of people who live with dementia.

Peter Kevern, Professor of Values in Health and Social Care at the University of Staffordshire.



Photography with Deeper Vision

14 to 16 November
Friday 6pm to Sunday 2pm
From £220 onsite

A hands-on exploration of the contemplative potential of photography.

Philip Richter, visual theologian.



Lived Mission in 21st Century Britain

1 December
10am to 4pm
£70 onsite

Explore the theologies and practice of mission today with four authors of Lived Mission in 21st Century Britain.

Ben Aldous, Principal Officer for Mission and Evangelism at Churches together in England and other chapter authors.

When I needed a neighbour
Version for Christian Aid anniversary service,
Westminster Abbey, 12 June 2025

When I needed a neighbour
Were you there, were you there?
When I needed a neighbour
Were you there?
And the creed and the colour
And the name won't matter,
Were you there?

I was hungry and thirsty,
Were you there, were you there?
I was hungry and thirsty,
Were you there?
And the creed and the colour
And the name won't matter,
Were you there?

When I needed a shelter
Were you there, were you there?
When I needed a shelter
Were you there?
And the creed and the colour
And the name won't matter,
Were you there?

In the storm and the earthquake
Are you there, are you there?
In the storm and the earthquake
Are you there?
All the world is our neighbour
And our love still matters,
Are you there?

When the conflict is raging
Are you there, are you there?
When the conflict is raging
Are you there?
All the world is our neighbour
And our love still matters,
Are you there?

When you call out for justice
I'll be there, I'll be there,
When you call out for justice
I'll be there.
All the world is our neighbour
And our love still matters,
We'll be there.

Words and Music by Sydney Carter, with additional verses by Ally Barrett
Arrangement for gospel choir and piano by Marsha Morrison with the assistance of Marc Morrison
© Copyright 1965, 2025 Stainer & Bell Ltd, London, www.stainer.co.uk. All rights reserved.

Fairtrade News

A selection of reasonably priced Christmas cards is now available and already selling well, along with the chocolate Advent Calendars. Transform Trade have informed us that stocks on some cards are getting low so do shop early to have the best choice! We are happy to take orders but can't guarantee availability. Small olive wood holding crosses are back in stock and make excellent and thoughtful gifts. Christmas chocolates and of course delicious dates and nuts etc will all be available for the festive season.

Barbara has news of fairtrade knitwear available locally:

Those of you who frequent the Market may have seen a lovely range of Pachamama knitwear from Nepal. This is sold under the International Fairtrade Network UK. The stall is the Hat Shop and they also have a shop in St Thomas' Square. The strap line says: *Handmade with love from Nepal*. Bobble hats, wrist warmers, gloves/mittens and ear warmers are made in a mixture of blended merino wool (or some from recycled plastic bottles). The results are a delight and could be a welcome Christmas present or a treat for yourself in anticipating colder days ahead. Unfortunately, they only seem to cater for adults. Prices start from £20.

Shop takings for the past 4 weeks totalled approximately £480, plus £485.90 from the October cathedral stall.

Monica Gillings on behalf of the Fairtrade team

Five minutes for the planet

Computers and other tech

Computers and laptops have become a fact of life, and I expect that there are a number of people reading this who are running an elderly device and getting the dreaded notifications: "support for Windows 10 is being withdrawn". This, and other running problems, made me decide to replace my PC last month. New computers use large amounts of energy in manufacture, rare minerals, labour and transport. It will almost always be more planet-friendly to buy something refurbished.

The church has previously used *refurbishedlaptops.co.uk*, based in Allington, who will supply you with a nearly-new device by post. More recently I have discovered Jamie's Computers, an offshoot of the Society of St James, a charity which runs several projects tackling homelessness and addiction in Southampton and Portsmouth. They not only replaced my PC for rather less than half the cost of a new one, but they also transferred all the data from my old PC and took the poor old thing for recycling. As well as selling refurbished PCs and laptops, they run a busy online spares service, employ Probation clients to dismantle old machines and recycle unusable and broken parts. (Many such things have value in bulk, like the cables we collected at SMC recently).

Jamies can be found online at *jamies.org.uk*, but to buy from them you will have to visit their industrial unit in Bevois Valley, Southampton. If that's not possible, the Computer Centre in Fisherton Street also sells some refurbished devices.

Paul Butler

Making our voice heard

So many people in the world long for free and fair elections; that is why it is important that we all avail ourselves of this democratic right and have our say in the way we are governed and how our taxes are used - hopefully for the benefit of all. I see on the Wiltshire Council website that now is the time for those not already on the electoral register to register. To register to vote you need to:

- be 18 or over on the day of the election (polling day)
- be a British, Irish or [qualifying Commonwealth](#) citizen
- be resident at an address in the UK
- not be legally excluded from voting

If someone needs to be added to the property, they need to complete an application to register by using the [Register to vote - GOV.UK](#) website.

Barbara Hickman

Worship

As often happens in November the SMC worship calendar is very full. Our regular 10:30 am services will include the Remembrance Sunday service led by Revd. Jane Taylor and the Church Anniversary service led by Revd. Rachel Borgars. In addition, there will be an All Souls service at 4:00 p.m. on 2nd November led by Revd. Mark for more information please see the pastoral page in the October newsletter. On 16th November at 3:00 p.m., we will be hosting the SANDS Baby Loss service organised by the Chaplains at SDH. If you would like to be part of the singing group for this service, please contact Jenny Robert or Monica Gillings. Sunday 30th November is the first Sunday in Advent, to mark this occasion there will be an Advent Carol service led by Revd. Katharine Robinson at 6:00 p.m. Hopefully the AV team will be able to use our new lighting system to provide a suitable atmosphere for this service. This year our Advent Liturgy is entitled "Gifted" and may be found on the national methodist website. If you wish to plan ahead the link is: - [https://media.methodist.org.uk/media/documents/Christmas 2025 Candle Liturgies.pdf](https://media.methodist.org.uk/media/documents/Christmas_2025_Candle_Liturgies.pdf)

Jim Gillings Worship Team Leader

"Friends come into our lives and friends leave our lives. But friends never leave our hearts. And best friends always get to stay in the best places in our hearts."

John M. Simmons

Our Zambia link

On 24th October Zambia celebrated the 61st anniversary of the nation's independence and sixty years of peace, stability and development. The celebration was preceded, on 18th October, by a National Day of Prayer, praying especially for reconciliation.

In 1964, on Independence Day, few people gave Zambia any chance of peace or prosperity or real political and economic independence. In five of the countries bordering Zambia there were wars. Landlocked Zambia, a thousand miles from the sea, had no good route to the coast to export the copper on which the economy depended - only a long dirt road to Dar-es-Salaam. There was no university, and there were very few secondary schools for Africans; nearly all skilled professional jobs were done by foreigners.

The borders of Zambia – formerly Northern Rhodesia – had been drawn by European politicians in Berlin in 1885, with no regard to or knowledge of the people who lived there. So Zambia was an artificial creation with more than 70 different languages spoken and people's primary loyalty being to their extended family and home area.

Give thanks to God that Zambia has been an independent democratic peaceful nation for 60 years, despite the big problems it was born with.

There have been setbacks – times of economic hardship, the AIDs pandemic, devastating drought, leading to the failure of electricity generation from Kariba Dam, some corrupt government, crop failures, the COVID pandemic.

There has also been huge expansion in schools and universities, great improvements in road links especially to previous isolated areas and, for some people, higher living standards.

Christian churches have multiplied and the number of church worshippers has increased enormously.

Give thanks for Zambia and for the United Church of Zambia. There are four United Church of Zambia ministers serving as circuit ministers in British Methodism; Zambia sends ministers to us –

a rapid change from 40 years ago, when Britain was sending ministers to Zambia.

Continue to pray for the United Church of Zambia, as they continue to pray for us.

Cecil King

CHRISTMAS POST

Last Day of Posting *Wednesday 3rd December 2025*

40p
a stamp

**6p of which will
go towards**



40p a card using the
**Scout Christmas
Stamps.**

Delivered only
in the **locations
listed below.**

Post in the **special
boxes** located
throughout
the area.

**Do not put
in the Royal Mail**

***Locations where cards can be delivered:**

Alderbury, Allington, Amesbury, Barford St Martin, Berwick St James, Bodenham, Boscombe, Boscombe Down, Bishopstone, Bowerchalke, Broadchalke, Britford, Bulford, Burcombe, Charlton All Saints, Chilmark, Cholderton, Clarendon, Codford, Coombe Bissett, Dinton, Downton, Durnfords, Durrington, East Grimstead, Ebbesbourne Wake, Farley, Figheledean, Firsdown, Ford, Fordingbridge, Fovant, Gomeldon, Great Wishford, Hale, Hamptworth, Harnham, Homington, Hurdcott, Idmiston, Landford, Langfords, Larkhill, Laverstock, Longhedge, Lopcombe, Lover, Morgans Vale, Netheravon, Nomansland, Netherhampton, Newton Tony, Nunton, Odstock, Old Sarum, Orcheston, Pitton, Porton, Quidhampton, Redlynch, Salisbury, Shrewton, South Newton, Stapleford, Stoford, Stratford Tony, Tilshead, West Dean, West Grimstead, Whaddon, Whiteparish, Wilsford, Wilton, Winterbournes, Winterslow, Woodfalls, Woodfords, Wylke.

We cannot deliver cards outside of advertised area.

Any such cards can be collected by arrangement. Tel 01985 850325

Cards can be posted at **Salisbury District Scout HQ, Kingsland Road, Salisbury** and various other locations throughout the area.