

Salisbury Methodist Church
St Edmund's Church Street Salisbury

Newsletter



***Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.***

Thomas O. Chisholm

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The September Newsletter was produced by
Rachel and Simon Clarke.

Items for the October Newsletter should be sent to Rachel Clarke

no later than Friday 18th September 2026

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 September

Sunday 6th September	10:30 a.m. Revd Dr Mark Cheetham HC
Sunday 13th September	10:30 a.m. Mrs Beatrice King 3:00 p.m. Mrs Fi Waddingham LB
Sunday 20th September	8:00 a.m. Revd Dr Mark Cheeetham HC 10:30 a.m. All We Can Harvest Festival AA
Sunday 27th September	10:30 a.m. Revd Dr Mark Cheetham

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

LB Little Blessings

Organ Reopening & Thanksgiving Concert

16 September

7.30pm.

At last! The work on our pipe organ was completed in June, and I am arranging a little reopening concert for Wednesday evening 16 September at 7.30pm. Our organist will be Hugh Morris, Director of the Royal School of Church Music, who will play a selection of pieces in contrasting styles plus a hymn or two, and we'll include a short act of thanksgiving and rededication.

To enable others to benefit from the blessings we have received enabling the refurbishment, there will be an opportunity to contribute to the work of the RSCM in a retiring collection.

Jonathan Robinson

Ministers letter.

Dear Friends,

I am hopeful that this letter encourages you to consider whether you are called to help develop our small group life across the church. I hope to do this by showing, below, the very real value in having a small group space that you can trust and be present in, that encourages exploration of questions; and considers how God's word broken open in our hearts and lives today guides our living.

So, to scripture, if you were to read Gen 1:3 you read something like "And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light." Note the causality, God said, and there was. Now read Genesis 1:6–8: "And God said, "Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water." So, God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so. God called the vault "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day."

We can see an interesting development in this text compared to the first. Gen 1:6-8 "And God said, "Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water." So, God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it." Did you catch the difference? 'And God said, So God made.' God followed his speaking with making. Sometimes prayer looks like creative speech. Other times, prayer looks like creative speech followed by a particular and likely creative action.

Imagine a neglected room or cupboard in your home, a place you stuff everything you have no place for or otherwise don't know what to do with. The room has no windows and the lights no longer work. This room or cupboard is so full you can't walk inside. Now imagine one day, out of habit, you go to the room/cupboard to try and stuff in one more box of stuff. You flip the light switch and, miracle of miracles, it works. For all the glory of a working light, it only serves to expose the depths of the chaos. Formless, empty, no longer dark, but deeper than you imagined.

"So, God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so. God called the vault 'sky'." The light unexpectedly working reveals the shape of the chaos. Now God speaks formation to that which was formless. He takes some of the water from the depths and places it in the heights and in between he creates space: atmosphere, if you will. It's the same with our now-lit chaotic room/cupboard. Miracle must lead to making, which requires

moving, which leads to more miracles (like finding your long-lost most prized possession or the file containing family birth certificates). Only now you discover an impending change in your life and this room/cupboard you had formerly written off as formless chaos begins to take on all sorts of new possibilities in your mind's eye.

Sometimes God moves mountains in an unmistakably sovereign way. More often, he moves us, by the strength of his Spirit, to move all the old furniture out of the chaotic storage space/room. Sometimes a word will get it done. Other times to that word we must add rolling up our sleeves. It's all God, though. And all good. I think that this is how prayer can be understood as creative speech, and yield particular work to be done. Okay, prayer doesn't work. This is how God works, which is what prayer is.

As a stand-alone thought I hope you find the words above helpful. But I also hope they invite you to wonder in which space you can/might/would explore such elements of life in. And then a next step, can you see yourself as being involved in helping SMC develop small group work to enable such spaces that people can trust, explore and grow within?

Best wishes,

Rev Mark

A request for soup makers.

Salisbury Methodist Church has a wonderful team of vegetable soup makers and deliverers, but we are always looking for more people to join us.



We deliver soup on Tuesday evenings, to the bus station, throughout the autumn and winter months, October until the end of March.

Each volunteer will make 4 litres of vegetable soup, once in the autumn and once in the winter.

If you feel you can help and join the 'Super Soupers', please contact me:

Many thanks. Susan Bates pands.bates@gmail.com

Pastoral News

It was with sadness that we learnt of the sudden death of Denis Grocott on 28 June, in Monument Place, his home for the last 3 years. Denis was brought up in Salisbury and was well known by some of our older members. He had an enquiring mind, loved scientific experiments and, on leaving Bishop Wordsworth's, completed his apprenticeship at Boscombe Down pursuing his passion for science, technology and aviation. He helped to develop the Harrier jump-jet, Tornado & Typhoon aircraft, eventually becoming Principal Scientific Officer and enjoying a fulfilling career until retirement at 70. He and Sylvia were married at Church St (now SMC) in 1960 and, along with their 3 children, Rachel, Richard and Philip, played a full part in the life of the church. He was a devoted family man, always offering enthusiastic support and encouragement to the children, wherever their interests led them. In later years he and Sylvia moved to Downton and became stalwart members at Downton Chapel, quietly getting on with whatever needed doing in that community. Another of Denis's enthusiasms was baking (his father was a baker) and the Belletones have fond memories of his delicious cakes when they went to play there! We give thanks for his full, well-lived life in the knowledge that he is now reunited in God's presence with his beloved Sylvia.

.....

Bring and Share Lunch on 5 July - 58 of us enjoyed this happy occasion and the international theme encouraged a wonderful variety of tasty dishes from around the world, a veritable feast and something for everyone. The older CHYPS group contributed delicious flatbread which they had made during their morning session, and we were also very grateful for their help in setting up and clearing plates etc. setting up and clearing plates etc. We're including 1 recipe in this issue for you to try – the very popular Texan 7 Layer Dip with Tortilla Chips from the Kerr-Herally family. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed so generously and for all the help on the day. Also on 5 July, during morning worship, Revd Mark formally welcomed Helen Boyd into our fellowship, a special day all round.

Get Connected – Practical help with your phone, tablet or laptop.

Our application for £500 grant funding from Salisbury Area Board was successful so we are able once again to employ Andrew Stewart to run these free monthly drop-in sessions on the third Tuesday of each month, 2pm-4pm, starting on 15 September. The 10 sessions are also being sponsored by the church at a cost of £220, so any donations from church folk would be welcomed. 2 people will be needed to provide a welcome and tea and biscuits so please speak to Monica if you are able to help.

Congratulations: We send our love and congratulations to Meg and Bernard Crome who will be celebrating 69 years of marriage on 7 September. We wish them a very happy and special day. We also send very belated happy birthday greetings to Paul Emerson who celebrated his 80th birthday in July.

It is a joy to report lovely news from the Browncross Piper family: ‘Edward Alfred Browncross Piper was born at 8.15am on Saturday 15th August at Salisbury District Hospital, weighing 10lbs 2oz. Mother and baby both doing well.’ We look forward to welcoming baby Edward in due course!

.....

At the beginning of a new academic year, we hold in our thoughts and prayers all our children and young people who are facing a time of transition. Whether starting school, changing classes, moving to new schools or colleges, or moving away from home to university, may they know that God walks alongside them as they step into the future.

Lord, we ask that you surround our students with peace as they begin a new year of classes. Give them a passion for learning new things and bless their hard work over the coming months. Surprise them with unexpected moments of joy. Guard their hearts against peer pressure and help them to be a light to those around them. Amen

We also hold before God all those known to us who are going through sad, difficult and stressful times. May they be strengthened and upheld in God’s loving embrace.

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Beyond Dementia Memory Walk

Saturday 19th September at Wilton House.

This is an important fundraiser for Beyond Dementia which provides vital support across Salisbury and the surrounding areas through Day Clubs, Home Support Services, and Community Groups, services which have been of great help to church folk. Everyone is welcome, whether walking or not. There will be refreshments, live music, stalls, children’s activities etc. See poster for more details.

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

The Listening Place

Open Evening

Tuesday 22nd September

6.45pm for a 7.00pm start

Salisbury Methodist Church, SP1 1EF

Engaging with Homeless People in Salisbury

Guest speakers: **Leah Palmer** and **Jasmine O’Leary** from **Alabaré**

Wilton

A Walk to Remember
& Fun Day

Saturday 19th September

Every step supports people living with dementia in Wiltshire

Choose from two scenic routes:

Wilton Estate Circuit

5.5 miles

Wilton Gardens Walk

1 mile ideal for families or anyone seeking a shorter route including wildlife nature trail

📍 Wilton House, SP2 0BJ

🕒 Registration starts at **9.30am**, walk begins at **10.30am**



Sign up via the QR Code



SCAN ME



**Explore stalls with handmade gifts,
enjoy kid-friendly fun, live music, tasty
treats, and more...**

We'd LOVE you to join us!

www.beyonddementia.org.uk

Our Zambia link

At the time of writing (August 19th), the results and consequences of the presidential, parliamentary and local elections on August 13th are not known. Controversy surrounds the fairness of the elections and of the vote counting. It is reported that Hakainde Hachilema has been elected for a second five year term as President. Continue to pray for the people of Zambia – for peace, and that the people elected – to the National Assembly and to local government - and will work together honestly for the common good.

We are linked with the United Church of Zambia (UCZ) in Lusaka, where the growth in the number of members and the number of congregations has led to the creation of a new presbytery (equivalent of district in British Methodism). Lusaka Presbytery has been split; a new Lusaka East Presbytery has been created. Pray for the Bishop of Lusaka East Presbytery, the Revd Harriet Kaira Kapeya, and for the presbytery secretary, the Revd Cynthia Kabanda Shanzi. Our linked congregation in Mtendere is in Lusaka East Presbytery.

September 6th is Temperance Sunday, praying for people who are addicted or who spend a high proportion of their wage on beer and seeking to persuade people away from drinking too much.

September 20th is Health Sunday, praying especially for the ministry of the UCZ in the two rural hospitals and seven health clinics the church runs, amid shortages of medicines and equipment and continuing widespread malaria and HIV/AIDS. Pray for the health and healing ministry of the UCZ and for the Revd Emmanuel Bwalya, UCZ Health Secretary, in his work to ensure that the church hospitals and clinics have the staff, equipment and supplies that they need.

Pray especially this month for school pupils beginning their final term before school leaving examinations.

Continue to pray for our linked congregation – St John's, Mtendere, for the minister, the Revd Mwaka Phiri, and her family. And pray for Deaconess Majorie Mvula, giving thanks for her marriage to Mr Alex Chanda on 25th July.

Cecil King



To celebrate refurbishment of organ

SOUNDS FROM THE LOFT:

Organ music for all

Salisbury Methodist Church SP1 1EF

12noon

Saturday September 26th: JOHN CHALLENGER
Assistant organist, Salisbury Cathedral

Saturday October 3rd: OLLIE MACMULLAN
Organ scholar, University of Exeter

Tickets: £10 from Eventbrite or £12 on the day.
Light lunch available - donations welcome



ALL IN AID OF CHRISTIAN AID

Five minutes for the planet

Water, and updates

Whether you have enjoyed this summer's weather or not, it has made us all think about water and how we use it. The day before I sat down to type this article, Wessex Water introduced their first hosepipe ban for over fifty years – then last night it rained!

As the hot weather went on, we have taken more notice of the water that went to waste when, for example, you are waiting for the tap to run hot, or emptying the kettle. We began to save this water to put on the garden, and my tomatoes have survived for the last month or so mainly on this supply.

This water does not contain soap, but you can even recycle some of that for the garden or for flushing the loo – search “using grey water” on the internet: several water companies have information. We are being told that it will take a long time for the water supply system to recover from this summer, so perhaps we should be recycling more water even when it is raining occasionally.

Recycling News

Diana has relabelled the recycling boxes at SMC – there are no longer special collections for bread bags or Pringles tubes, but we do have a box for the bags that say “recycle at large stores”.

In addition to **candles** and sealed **medical supplies**, introduced last month, we can now recycle used **pens and pencils**.

And if you are trying to get rid of a **piano**, go to <https://pianorecycling.co.uk>, who may even collect it from you!

Paul Butler

Pip & Bruce Carter (part of the cathedral congregation) are planning to take a minibus to Pilsdon Community in Dorset for their annual open day on Sunday 18th October. This includes an opportunity to worship with the community. Cost £20 per person. Please contact Pip on 07854 827233 if you are interested or would like more information.'

Pip Carter

Christian Aid News

Encouragement



There can be a tendency to think of charities as the bearers of bad news, telling us about things that need fixing – but there is good news too.

If you want a bit of encouragement today, I do recommend the video that Christian have made to show what has happened in the project that was the focus of this year's appeal. It shows how the urban gardening programme in Nairobi has progressed, and the benefits that people are getting from it. It stresses how the shanty town residents are eager to help themselves, and their gratitude for the opportunity to make their lives better. Go to Christianaid.org.uk and look for "Christian Aid Week – Find out more".

Scroll down to the video headed "Thank you for taking part". It really is full of joy – look out especially for the little boy at the end.

Paul Butler

Kairos Palestine 11 Document.

This is a plea from our Christian brothers and sisters in Palestine to recognise what is happening, not only to them but to all who live in today's Palestine. Unlike its forerunners in 2009 and 2012 Kairos 11 has been 'heard' by the Church of England and it has been received and supported by the Methodist Church and The Friends. The Revd Pat Clegg of Harnham is planning study groups to reflect on the Kairos 11 document. There are free booklets available to aid our learning produced by Sabeel-Kairos. The study group will take place on four consecutive Tuesday mornings during September at the URC church in Fisherton St. The dates are September 8, 15, 22 and 29; the time 11.00 to 12.00 noon with coffee being available there from 10.00 a.m. Donations will be requested for the cost of the hire of the room.

This is an open invitation to all. For further information please contact:
pat.clegg@btinternet.com.

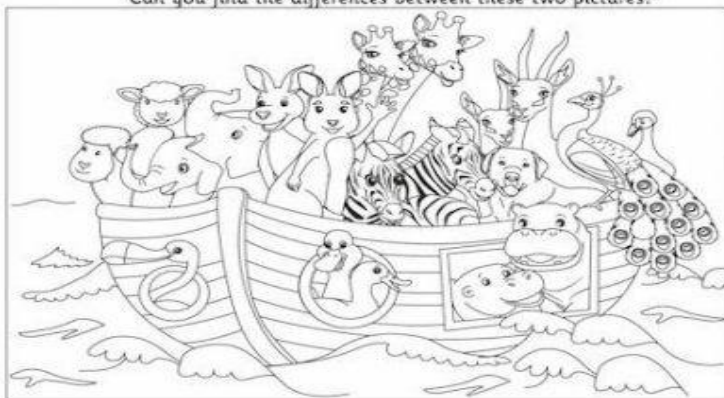
Barbara Hickman

Fresh Starts

Every day presents us with the new beginnings, reminding us that we can seize today for a fresh start. The Bible is full of stories of new beginnings (*I can think of Noah's Ark – I wonder if you can think of any*), symbolising hope and renewal. God is always at work in our lives, bringing new opportunities and possibilities. Whether in our relationships, education, careers or spiritual journey, we should look for the new paths God provides. By embracing these new beginnings, we can let go of our fears and insecurities, trusting in God's love and guidance. We should walk confidently into the future, knowing that He creates newness all around us – we just have to look and see!

I am about to do something new. It is beginning to happen even now. Don't you see it coming? I am going to make a way for you to go through the desert.

I will make streams of water in the dry and empty land. (Isaiah 43:19 (NIRV))



Copyright © www.ActivityVillage.co.uk - Keeping Kids Busy

EVERY
DAY IS A
FRESH
START

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

Can you find these words in the grid above?

Abraham	Isaiah
Birth of Jesus	Job
Creation	Joseph
Exodus	New beginnings
Fresh start	Noah
Holy Spirit	Resurrection

Compiled by Linda Hayman



Stole presented to Revd Anna Bishop – Sunday 2nd August



Education Sunday 2026

Education Sunday 2026 takes place on **Sunday, 13 September 2026**. It is a national day of prayer and celebration across England and Wales dedicated to students, teachers, parents, and everyone involved in the education system.

This year's Theme is: "Living Well Together," focusing on community, mutual respect, and the 500th anniversary of William Tyndale's Bible translation, **Education Sunday 2026** invites churches to reflect on the theme **"Living Well Together"**, using the lectionary readings for 13 September as a starting point for prayer, worship and action. Drawing on Scripture's vision of reconciliation, forgiveness and mutual responsibility, these resources encourage us to consider how we can build communities where people from different cultures, backgrounds and beliefs can flourish together.

At a time when society is often marked by division, hostility and mistrust, education has a unique role in bringing people together. Schools, colleges and universities are places where children, young people and adults learn not only alongside one another, but also from one another. Education shapes habits of thought, patterns of judgement and ways of relating to others. The question is not only what we learn, but what kind of people we are becoming.

This year's Education Sunday takes place during the 500th anniversary of William Tyndale's translation of the Bible into English. We are encouraged to explore Tyndale's conviction that engagement with Scripture transforms lives and communities. His commitment was not simply to literacy, but to ensuring that ordinary people could encounter God's word for themselves and be shaped by it. The theme of living well together is reflected especially in Romans 14:1–12, where Paul calls Christians to accept one another, to resist judging one another, and to remember that none of us lives only for ourselves. These resources invite churches to consider what this teaching means today: in our schools and educational settings, in our neighbourhoods, and in the life of our congregations.

Prayer for Education Sunday 2026

Lord God, your Son Jesus Christ sat at the feet of others to learn, and sat on the mountains to teach:

Bless those who teach and those who learn, those who seek and those who find;
So that our homes, schools and churches may be filled with a longing to learn and to grow, to serve and to give;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Worship

Welcome to the start of another year in the Worship Life of Salisbury Methodist Church. September will see two events which I encourage you to attend. As I am sure you are aware the organ repair and upgrade is now finished. Hymns and songs during worship are now accompanied by the music group, the piano and the organ. Hopefully you will be aware of the “Organ Reopening and Thanksgiving Concert” on Wednesday 16th September at 7:30. This has been arranged by our music co-ordinator Jonathan Robinson. On behalf of you all I would like to thank him for his leadership during the period of refurbishment. The second occasion is our annual Harvest Festival service on Sunday 20th September. This will be led by a representative from All We Can. If you are not aware of this branch of the Methodist Church, below is a quote from their website:

We are an international relief and development charity, rooted in the Christian faith. We have a tradition of challenging injustice and striving for a world where every community has the power, dignity, and resources to lead their own futures.

We will have the opportunity to make a financial contribution to the work of All We Can via the envelopes which will be available.

In addition, during the service we will be making a collection for the Salisbury Food Bank to help local people who are suffering food poverty. Please see the separate page giving details of items the Food Bank require.

Jim Gillings Worship Team Leader

The Listening Place - New Training Dates

Date: Saturday 17th October

Training to be a listener

This further training day is for anyone who would like to consider volunteering as a listener for the Listening Place.

Date: Saturday 24th October

Details and registration

Time: 10am – 4pm

Venue: Salisbury Methodist Church, SP1 1EF

To register for either or both courses, please contact:

manager@salisburylisteningplace.org.uk 01722 325 294

Pause for Prayer

British Methodists are encouraged to hold the people of Colombia in prayer after a powerful 7.4 magnitude earthquake struck the west of the country on 10th August.

The quake struck at 07.34am local time in Chocó Province, with its epicentre near San José del Palmar. Shaking was felt for around two minutes and was felt across Colombia and neighbouring countries of Panama, Ecuador and Venezuela.

Local officials report at least 132 people have been killed and more than 480 injured, with the number expected to rise. The government has also recorded 1,575 damaged homes, 18 damaged health centres and 52 affected schools. Significant damage has also been reported to transport infrastructure, with roads and airports affected across the region. As at 13th August 2026

President Abelardo de la Espriella has declared a state of national disaster and activated national rescue and disaster relief teams, stating that the immediate priority was to rescue those trapped beneath collapsed buildings.

The Colombian Methodist Church has reported that one of their congregations in Cali has been affected and is working with local pastors to respond with support for these communities.

Methodists across the Connexion are invited to pray for those who have lost loved ones, for those bereaved or injured, for rescue workers and for the Methodist communities in Chocó, Valle del Cauca and surrounding departments as they respond.

A prayer for Colombia:

Loving God,

We hold the people of Colombia before you today.

We pray for those who are grieving, for those who have been injured, and for those whose homes, livelihoods and communities have been affected by the earthquake.

We give thanks for the courage, compassion and resilience being shown by neighbours, community leaders, emergency responders and churches as they care for one another. Strengthen all those who are responding to this crisis.

We pray especially for the Colombian Methodist Church as it accompanies communities, joining in with the work of recovery and offering your hope to the people they encounter.

Keep us mindful that we are one body in Christ. As communities across Colombia respond with resilience and compassion, help us in Britain to join with them in prayer, friendship and hope.

Amen.

Season of Creation

The theme for the Season of Creation 2026 is living water, inspired by the prophet Ezekiel 47:1-12. God's life-giving water flows from the temple of God, growing deeper, restoring barren land, reviving waters, and sustaining flourishing ecosystems.

The vision invites human responsibility: recognising ecological damage, embracing interconnectedness, we are called to immerse ourselves in the water, and actively safeguarding and working for the renewal of creation so that environmental healing and human well-being may flourish together.

A Prayer for the 2026 Season of Creation: Living Water

*God of life and source of all renewal,
you send forth your life-giving water to revive the dry and weary earth.
We give thanks for the rivers, lakes, and oceans that sustain every living creature.
Forgive us when we treat your sacred gifts as mere commodities, choking the waters with waste and indifference.
Melt our hardened hearts and let the pure currents of your justice flow.
Refresh us with your Living Water and guide our hands to protect our watersheds,
heal broken ecosystems, and stand in solidarity with the vulnerable.
May your river bring healing to the nations, restoring all creation to abundant life.
In the name of the Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit. Amen.*

(The Church of England website)

Rosemary Fletcher

Fairtrade Shop



It is good to be able to report that 2 more of the products we stock have been awarded 1* in the Great Taste awards 2026.

Firstly the Zaytoun Extra Virgin Olive Oil. From Zaytoun: *'This award recognises outstanding flavour and quality, and is a testament to the skill, care and resilience of the Palestinian farming communities who continue to produce exceptional olive oil under the most*

challenging circumstances.

Thank you to everyone who chooses Zaytoun and supports Palestinian farmers through fair trade.'

Secondly the new True Origin Peach and Ginger Jam (from Eswatini). From the judges: *"A beautifully made jam with a true peach taste. The texture of the jam is soft. The ginger is well judged and balanced. It has a pleasant acidity on the palate at the finish. A very moreish jam."*

On another positive note, the Medjoul date harvest starts this month and the Zaytoun date suppliers are thankful for a modest increase in yield, and good quality fruit this year: *'This is one piece of good news after a year of intensifying settlement expansion and settler violence, rising costs, fuel shortages and a struggling local economy.'* The courage and resilience of Palestinian farmers is humbling.

We have had to change supplier for our peanut butter, one of our best-selling lines, which has unfortunately meant a rather large price increase. However, it is still good value for such a top quality product!

For those of you who like to get ahead, we now have catalogues for the Transform Trade Christmas cards so please do take one, have a browse and place an order if you wish. We will be placing a bulk order, thereby obtaining a 20% discount on the catalogue price.

Fairtrade Fortnight runs from 21 September – 4 October, so if you haven't yet seen what the shop has to offer, do come and have a look.

Takings over the last 9 weeks totalled approximately £942, plus £302.10 from the July Cathedral Stall and £216 for a special Zaytoun order.

Monica Gillings

“And Summer dreamed sadly, for she thought all was ended
In her fulness of wealth that might not be amended;
But this is the harvest and the gathering season,
And the leaf and the blossom in the ripe fruit are blended.”

William Morris



Sounds From The Loft: Organ Music For All



Come and enjoy two Saturday lunch time organ recitals at Salisbury Methodist Church in September/October. The first will be on September 26 by John Challenger, Assistant Organist, Salisbury Cathedral; the second on October 3 by Ollie Macmullan, Organ Scholar at Exeter University. Both will start at 12 noon and last for 50 minutes and offer a varied programme; both will celebrate the refurbishment of this church organ; both will raise money for the work of Christian Aid with tickets in advance at £10 (through Eventbrite, QR code left) or £12 on the day.

A light lunch will be available following each recital with an additional donation welcomed.

*Salisbury Christian Aid
Committee*

Harvest - A Short History

Harvest is from the Anglo-Saxon word *hærfest*, "Autumn". It then came to refer to the season for reaping and gathering grain and other grown products. The full moon nearest the autumnal equinox is called the Harvest Moon. So in ancient traditions Harvest Festivals were traditionally held on or near the Sunday of the Harvest Moon. This moon is the full moon which falls in the month of September.

An early Harvest Festival used to be celebrated at the beginning of the Harvest season on 1 August and was called Lammas, meaning 'loaf Mass'. Farmers made loaves of bread from the fresh wheat crop. These were given to the local church as the Communion bread during a special service thanking God for the harvest.

Nowadays the festival is held at the end of harvest, which varies in different parts of Britain.

Farmers celebrated the end of the harvest with a big meal called a harvest supper.

The modern British tradition of celebrating Harvest Festival in churches began in 1843, when the Reverend Robert Hawker invited parishioners to a special thanksgiving service at his church at Morwenstow in Cornwall. Victorian hymns such as "We plough the fields and scatter", "Come ye thankful people, come" and "All things bright and beautiful". Dutch and German harvest hymns in translation helped popularise his idea of harvest festival and spread the annual custom of decorating churches with home-grown produce for the Harvest Festival service.

(source Wikipedia)

A prayer for the Season of Harvest by John Birch

You have given us
a world of beauty,
and we have spoilt it.
A world to feed us,
and so many go hungry.
A world of riches,
and we are unwilling to share.
A world to care for,
and we think only of ourselves.
Forgive us, gracious God,

every time your heart is saddened
by our selfishness,
every time we have no thought
for others, no cares but ours.
Enable us to see this world
as a gift from you
that can be shared,
and those who live on it
as our neighbours.
We ask this that your name
may be glorified
through the beauty of this world
and the service of our lives. Amen.

Photos and Recipes from International bring and share lunch



Texan 7 Layer Dip with Tortilla Chips

Ingredients

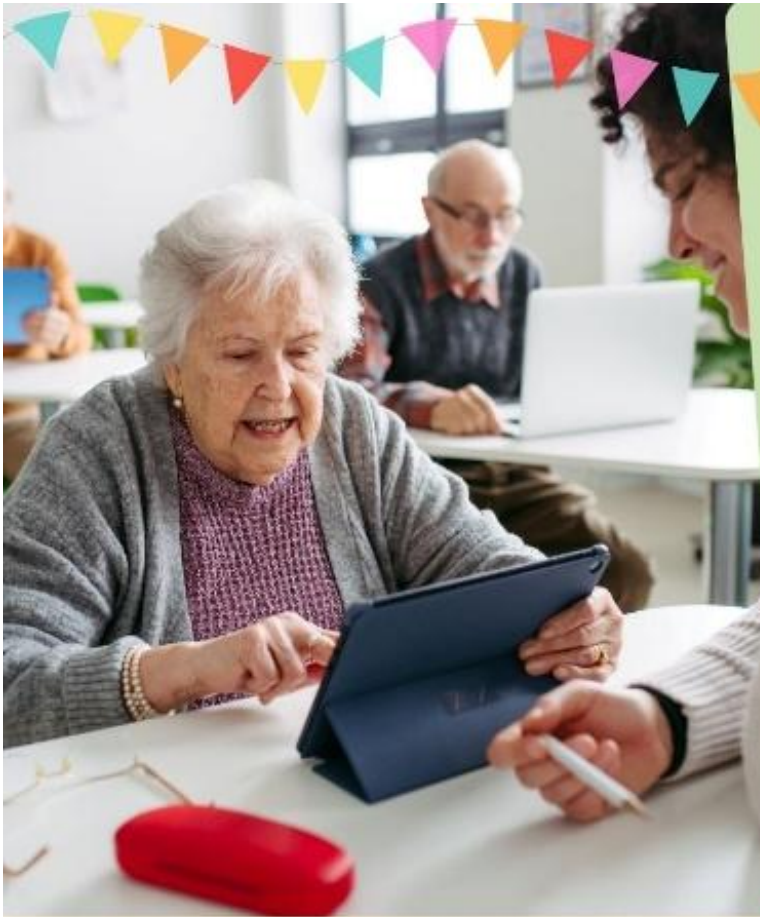
- 1 (454 g) can refried beans
- Guacamole: 1½ cups ≈ 345 g
- Sour cream: 1 cup ≈ 240 g
- Salsa or pico de gallo (drained): 2 cups ≈ 480 g
- Monterey Jack cheese – substitute cheddar or mozzarella (grated/shredded): 2 cups ≈ 226 g
- Black olives (sliced, drained): about 85 g
- 2 spring onions, chopped/sliced

Instructions

- In an 8x8-inch (20x20 cm) or approximately sized dish, layer all ingredients beginning with a base of beans, then guacamole, sour cream, and remaining ingredients in whatever order you choose.
- Serve with tortilla chips.

Lauran and Eric Kerr-Herally





GET CONNECTED

Join us for free
practical support
with your phone,
tablet, i-pad or laptop

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

 **Drop in on the third Tuesday:
Sept/Oct/Nov 2026 and
Jan-July 2027**

 **2.00pm - 4.00pm**

 **01722 743700**

 **[monica.gillings@salisbury.
methodist.org.uk](mailto:monica.gillings@salisbury.methodist.org.uk)**

No need to book, just turn up!

**Salisbury Library, Market
Walk, Salisbury, SP1 1BL**

Every Tuesday morning

9.30am, 10.15am, 11.00am

01722 324145

**Places must be booked for
the library sessions**



BOOK NOW

Flower Arranging for Harvest Festival



Harvest Festival is being celebrated this year on 20th September.

We are especially asking for help in decorating the church prior to this.

Help is particularly needed on Saturday morning, mainly with assisting Alison as she decorates the church.

Early harvest donations will also be welcomed if you are unable to attend on Sunday. These can be then be included in the decoration.

This is a great opportunity to discover that joining this team is something you would like to do.



Please call the office on 01722 322755 to give your contact details or speak to one of the stewards.

Items required by the Salisbury Food bank

We are short of

- Tinned meat/meals
- Fruit juice (long life)
- Coffee
- Biscuits
- Jam
- Tinned potatoes
- Tinned fruit
- Deodorant
- Shower gel

- Chocolate

THINGS WE CANNOT ACCEPT

- Formula milk
- Toys, books, clothes and baby equipment
- Medicines
- Food beyond its BB date
- Home made items



Celebratory ORGAN CONCERT

at
**SALISBURY
METHODIST CHURCH**

St Edmunds Church Street,
Salisbury SP1 1EF



WEDNESDAY
16th SEPTEMBER 2026

at 7.30pm

GUEST ORGANIST

Hugh Morris

Director of the
Royal School of Church Music



FREE ADMISSION
with retiring collection
to the work of the **RSCM**