



# Congresbury Methodist Church News

Weeks beginning 29th December 2024

Minister: Rev. Andrew Bell Phone: 01934 900183

Circuit Website-[www.somersetmendipmethodists.com](http://www.somersetmendipmethodists.com)

Please Note we have a Facebook Page @ CONGRESBURY METHODIST CHURCH



## Church Services & Events for DECEMBER 2024

**Sunday 29th 11.00am Morning Worship led by the Worship Leaders**

## Church Services & Events for JANUARY 2025

**Sunday 5th 11.00am Morning Worship led by Rev Michael Pullan**

**Wednesday 8th 10.30am Prayer and Fellowship at Mary's house**

**Sunday 12th 11.00am Morning Worship led by the Worship Leaders**

**Sunday 19th 11.00am Covenant Service and Holy Communion led by Rev Andrew Bell**

**Sunday 26th 11.00am Morning Worship led by Tony Stevenson**

**CHRISTMAS DAY OFFERING** The Offering received on Christmas day for Action for Children was a total of £164. Thank you all for your support to this most worthy cause



## Ladies Friendly

The next meeting is on Wednesday

January 22nd at 7.30pm

in The Methodist Hall

Speaker: Mr Walker

The History of Walker & Ling / store, Weston-Super-Mare

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME**

The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the Gospel of God's love in Christ and to live it's discipleship in worship and mission



There is a very warm welcome to everyone worshipping our Lord in this place. After morning worship there is refreshments and an opportunity to have a chat.



## PRAYER AND FELLOWSHIP

Our prayer and fellowship meetings are on the Second Wednesday of the month. The next one is on the 8th January starting at 10.30am Mary has kindly offered to continue holding the meetings at her house (21 Pauls Causeway) there will be refreshments on offer when we can have the opportunity to have a chat with one another and everyone is very welcome to come. JOHN

**The Stewards take this opportunity to wish everyone a Healthy and Happy New Year**

**PRAYER** Father God after almost a century of mistrust and fratricide, you inspired Jews, Christians, and Muslims to take the path of reconciliation in the Middle East. We ask for your forgiveness, O God, yet we find it hard to forgive our past enemies. May Your Words touch those who still stray in the wilderness of vengeful violence forgetting your command to forgive those who trespass against us. We pray, even in this late hour that you will hear our prayers that peace and justice can be experienced by all.

We ask this in Jesus Name. Amen

**Lord Jesus, we ask your guidance for the New Year as we face so many uncertainties. More than ever before, it seems. Amen**

**My thoughts for this week** Whatever happened to Christmas? this time last week we were running around like headless chickens trying to get everything ready for Christmas. Then the important day arrived. if you happened to have been in Congresbury Methodist Church on this day what an exciting time we had. Andrew our minister had us all rapping out the Christmas story, which included mentioning many chocolate bars names. You had to listen very carefully indeed as when and only if you heard the name of a chocolate bar you put your hand up. One of Andrew's two willing helpers rushed a chocolate tin in front of you to receive a chocolate; this really got you listening intently!! And then he ended our service by doing a Christmas Congo around the church There was such hilarity but you know it really made us laugh and enjoy it; and then when later recalling it back to our family who we were sharing Christmas lunch with, we realised just how much we could recall of the Christmas story told in a different way—exciting but very clever on Andrew's part !!!!

So now where do we go? straight into a new year. Are we thinking of all the things we are going to do differently or all the things we are going to give up? if you are anything like me New Year's resolutions get forgotten as soon as I thought of them. Actually I feel we should be trying to improve the whole year through. Just as a simple suggestion how often do we think to say thank you for the simple thing that are done for us? It so easy to just walk away without saying anything but imagine how the person receiving the praise would feel if we did just say a simple thank you!!

So as we approach 2025 I wonder what this year will look like? Will there be less talks of wars and countries falling out with each other? I do so hope this could be true or at least less fighting against each other. We pray that Gods love will reach out to them all and it will soften their hearts and help them all think of peace, and now I would like to end with these words from a poem by Minnie Louise Haskins which was quoted by King George VI in his 1939 Christmas Day broadcast to the British Empire.

***'And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:***

***"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."***

***And he replied:***

***"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.***

***That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."***

***So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.***

***And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.'***

**Kathleen Chaplin (SS) (WL)**

**Happy  
New Year!**

