

Congresbury Methodist Church News

Weeks beginning 21st September 2025

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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

Church Services & Events for SEPTEMBER 2025

Sunday 21st 11.00am Morning Worship led by Jacqueline Cobb

Saturday 27th 10.00—12noon CHURCH OUTREACH/OPEN day

Sunday 28th 11.00am Morning Worship led by Tony Stevenson

Church Services & Events for OCTOBER 2025

Sunday 5th 11.00am Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev Michael Pullan

Wednesday 8th 10.30am The regular Prayer and Fellowship meeting at Mary's house (21 Pauls Causeway) Refreshments will be on offer afterwards as usual.

Sunday 12th 11.00am Service of Celebration of witnessing 175 years of Methodism in Congresbury led by Rev Robert Channon

CIRCUIT SERVICE 4.00 –5.30pm Shared tea followed at 6.00pm by an evening celebration led by our minister Rev Andrew Bell which includes a visit from Congresbury Brass Band

Sunday 19th 11.00am Morning Worship led by Rev. Ian Bowley

Saturday 25th 10.00—12noon CHURCH OUTREACH/OPEN day

Sunday 26th 11.00am Morning Worship led by Heather Gale

175 years of Methodism in Congresbury

Come and celebrate the Christian witness with us on Sunday October 12th. 11.00am. Service of Celebration with Rev. Robert Channon
6.00pm Circuit service and Celebration with Rev Andrew Bell and the Congresbury Brass Band

Before the evening service there is a shared tea at 4.00pm-5.30pm

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.



Food bank

Early Monday morning saw John and myself heading out to the Food-bank Our car was well loaded with all the wonderful food gifts that had been brought to our church for our Harvest Festival. Also we had £80 in money. When we arrived Lucy was nowhere. to be seen but as usual there were two or three ladies busily packing parcels ready for clients to come and collect. Straight away they came forward and welcomed us. 'wow' was the first word the first lady said when she saw how full our boot was and when we said it was from our church's Harvest Festival the second lady said it can't be that time of year yet can it!! But they were so impressed with the amount totalling 53.80kg which we had brought and then also the money we had to give them. That's when Lucy arrived back from collecting gifts from one of the local food store. Before she could even get in the door they both shouted out its harvest and look how much much these kind people from Congresbury Methodist have brought us. 'Wowee' was the word from Lucy's lips 'it is so welcome. This year we have begun too struggle but it quite understandable the way the cost of living has gone up. People are struggling to feed their own families but yet there are those kind people like yours at Congresbury Methodist who never forget us' KATHLEEN



A MORNING PRAYER Lord, thank you for this new morning. Thank you for the gift of life and your continuous love for me.

I pray for your protection and guidance, Lord. May you bless this day ahead. AMEN

My thought for the week Moving Forward

The last two times I have put 'My Thoughts' on paper for our notices I have titled them 'New Beginnings' in July and 'Setting a Goal' last month. This month the first thing that comes to mind as a title to add to this is 'Moving Forward'

Well, the decluttering has this month been partly put on hold as much has been needed to be done, as many of you know, regarding preparing for the special services and events, namely the 150 years anniversary in the life of our church followed by our Harvest service. Some of the preparations were more than one can imagine! And there is more to come, isn't there?

On 12th October there are two services not to be missed! We celebrate having 175 years of Methodism in the village. Rev Robert Channon will be leading the worship at 11.00am. In the evening at 6.00pm there is a Circuit Service led by our minister, Rev Andrew Bell. We welcome the Congresbury Brass Band to this service who will be leading the singing. We pray that the whole day will be great as we sing praises to our God for his faithfulness to us and the past generations here in Congresbury.

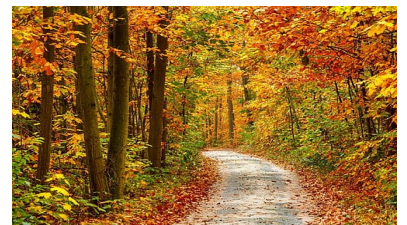
Before this date, though, we have our Open Outreach morning on Saturday next which is September 27th at 10.00am til noon. These mornings have proven popular recently which we believe is through the power of prayer and from now on they are intended to be held on the fourth Saturday of most months. The doors will be open wide and one can stay for a short time or for the full two hours. There will be music played and refreshments will be on offer. Also homemade soup this month. It's a great time to meet together and have a chat. If one so wishes there can be an opportunity to pray.

I may have sidetracked a bit regarding 'Moving forward' but isn't this what we are trying to do with Gods help. Sometimes there is stuff that can clutter our minds that hinders us from moving forward— maybe because of this we can be looking forward with a glass half empty instead of half full!

Recently we had a loan of a small book titled 'What God can do with a little oil' written by Rev Peter Fuller and based on 2 Kings 4: 1-7. Ten years ago his church was on the brink of closure within a few short weeks, but through much prayer and with the help of the Holy Spirit the passage of scripture revealed the way forward and a revival has grown to massive proportions within the church and the wider community- even around the world.

Where is the church? It's not that big and it's in Abersychan near Pontypool in Wales and it is just 50 miles from Congresbury! Revival almost on our doorstep!

There is a hymn written by James Montgomery in 1818. First line is "Prayer is the soul's sincere desire". It's a lovely hymn and focuses on prayer and makes me realise that by decluttering some things that are on my mind perhaps there can be more time to prioritise my thoughts - and my prayers! **JOHN CHAPLIN**



Thought For The Week

“You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving.”-

Amy Carmichael