

Congresbury Methodist Church News

Weeks beginning 12th October 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 OCTOBER 2025

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

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 Father God, we thank you that we can gather together this weekend and celebrate 175 years of Methodism and ministry in and around Congresbury: giving thanks for Your goodness and faithfulness over these many years. We are grateful for Your presence in our lives and for how You have guided this church through every season of challenge and triumph. We thank You for those who came before us, for their vision, and for their dedication to building this community of faith. We also give thanks for the fellowship we share today. As we look back with gratitude, we also look forward with enthusiasm to the future. We pray that You would continue to bless our church with unity, wisdom, and a renewed spirit of service. Help us to be a beacon of hope, a reflection of Your love, and a vessel for Your truth in the world, reaching out to those who are lost and seeking. May our doors remain open to welcome all, and may our congregation be filled with compassion and a desire to serve. Strengthen our commitment to Your Word and to each other, so that we may continue to grow in faith and continue to glorify Your name. May Your Holy Spirit continually guide us as we journey in faith. We ask all these things in Jesus' name, Amen.

175 years of Methodism in Congresbury

175 YEARS

Come and celebrate the Christian witness with us on Sunday October 12th.

11.00am. Service of Celebration with Rev. Robert Channon

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

**6.00pm Circuit service and Celebration with Rev Andrew Bell
Music led by the Congresbury Brass Band**



EVERYONE WELCOME



My thought for the week

Well, here we are with another special day to celebrate! 'What now' I hear you say!! Well this one is so exciting: there has been a place of worship in Congresbury for 175 years. The Methodist Church in Congresbury was first held in a tiny cottage half way up Kent Road and my first memory of it was a family of four living in it called the Bateman family. Dad was a chimney sweep and he could be seen walking around Congresbury pushing his bike with

all his sweep brushes tied on it. We would love to watch as his brush appeared at the top of the chimneys and a great shout of hurrah would go up from all the children watching. Sorry I digress! When the tiny church became too small another building just at the entrance of Kent Road which belonged to the Sheppy family, became home to the chapel while the work then started on the Chapel that is now still in use, and as you know we celebrated 150 years only a couple of weeks ago. So all this meant that Methodism has been happening in this village for 175 years. It really makes the mind boggle, doesn't it? I only wish some of the older generation were alive still to tell us some of their stories. Sadly Jean Darby who only recently passed away used to tell us such wonderful stories. Unfortunately I can only go back seventy five years and sadly our church was badly flooded when we had the Village Flood in 1968 and because of this any early photographs and paper history was spoiled beyond repair, and like so many my memory seems to be getting less and less helpful so this is the best I can offer.

In the Bible it says 'build me a house so I may worship my God often' and my hope and prayers are that worship will be fulfilled in our church for many, many years to come. So if on a Sunday morning you feel you would like to come and join us at Congresbury Methodist or even come in to one of our explore Saturday mornings when coffee and tea and music and a lot of friendly chatter goes on you would be made most welcome .

KATHLEEN CHAPLIN (SS) (WL) (PC)



Andrew Sheppy 1949-2017



Thought For The Week

LET'S CONTINUE TO BE BOLD IN SHARING THE HOPE THAT
IS WITHIN US, ALWAYS BEING PREPARED TO ANSWER
FOR THE HOPE THAT WE HAVE FOUND IN JESUS.