



CONGRESBURY  
METHODIST CHURCH

## Congresbury Methodist Church News

Weeks beginning 28th December 2025



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### Church Services & Events for DECEMBER 2025

**Sunday 28th COVENANT Service at 11.00am led by Rev Andrew Bell**

### Church Services & Events for JANUARY 2026

**Sunday 4th 11.00am Morning worship led by Tony Stevenson**

**Sunday 11th 11.00am Morning worship led by Eric Small**

**Wednesday 14th 10.30am** The regular Prayer and Fellowship meeting at Mary's house (21 Pauls Causeway) Refreshments will be on offer afterwards as usual.

**Sunday 18th 11.00am Morning worship and Holy Communion led by Rev. Ian Bowley**

**Saturday 24th 10.00—12noon CHURCH OUTREACH/OPEN day**

**Sunday 25th 11.00am Morning worship led by the Worship Leaders**

**We like to say 'Thank You' to all who contributed to the CHRISTMAS DAY OFFERING which totalled £135 for Action for Children**



**CHURCH COUNCIL meeting on Thursday 15th January at 11.00am to receive and discuss plans for our church building**

<b>Dates of forthcoming</b>	<b>January 2026</b>
<b>Bible Discovery</b>	<b>Wednesday 7th CANCELLED</b>
<b>Meetings held in the</b>	<b>Wednesday 21st 11.00am</b>
<b>Church led by</b>	<b>Wednesday 4th 11.00am</b>
<b>Andrew will be on the</b>	<b>Wednesday 18th 11.00am</b>
<b>first and third</b>	
<b>Wednesdays of the</b>	<b>The Theme at this time</b>
<b>month at 11.00am</b>	<b>is on the Parables</b>

### STEWARDS VACANCY

If there is anyone who feels they would be willing to come forward as a steward to fill this post please speak to Kathleen, Mary or Barry

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.



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

### Next EXTRA PRAYER MEETING,

Our Minister Andrew and Mary Clark and ourselves are holding the next EXTRA Prayer Meeting solely for the life and mission of our Church at 7 Nomis Park on: **[ THE DATE IS THURSDAY 29th January 2026 AT 2.30PM ]** If you feel you would like to join us, please come along.  
**John & Kathleen.**

**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 thought for the week** Here we are on the threshold of another New Year: A time to look back and a time to look forward. It is a time to reflect on past years also and how things have changed - some for the good and some for the not so good.

Sadly it seems in recent years more and more are seeking possessions/pleasure/money to the extent many more are becoming homeless and hungry. Also recent months (as I have mentioned before) I have been trying to declutter and I am finding it hard to do so. With the New Year approaching it is a good reminder that I shall need to renew my vows in doing this. As we all know vows are sometimes very hard to fulfil. I think John Wesley must have had this in mind when in 1775 he introduced a covenant service as an important part of spiritual life in the Methodist Societies. This renewal service was a time for the Methodists to gather annually in a time of self-examination, reflection, and dedication, wholly giving up themselves and renewing covenant with God.

It must be good for us all to reflect on our Spiritual journey as it can be easy to stray from our first love in Christ.

So this Sunday for us in Congresbury it is a special day as we hold our annual Covenant Service. Maybe through this act of worship and communion I/we can actively remove some of the clutter in our lives. We have just celebrated the birthday of Jesus, born in a humble stable who is the light and hope for the future. May we in the new year show his love to those around us who are in need not for one week but for 52 weeks of the year. May we share the Hope and Peace that only you can bring. So I wish you all a Happy and Peaceful New Year.

**JOHN CHAPLIN**

**Happy  
New Year!**



### **Food bank**

Well what can I say, what a carol and gift service we had and what a wonderful table laden with gifts for the food bank! A big 'thank you' has to go out to Barry and Paul who so willingly help take the gifts to the back of John's car. It's surprising how heavy those bags get when you carry them from the church to the car park And an even bigger 'thank you' has to come to all you wonderful friends who are so willing to support the food bank. Early on Monday morning found John and myself arrive at the food bank. Sadly Lucy who normally greets us was unavailable with family matters so we met her capable assistant Sally who with another very capable assistant weighed our gifts which totalled a massive 58kgs. 'What a lot' Sally said and told us all of this would be given out by next week and then New year would see regular collections of food being collected by desperate people just struggling to feed their families. My prayer for 2026 is that food banks could and would become a thing of the past. New Years blessings to you all love Kathleen and John Xx

