

What goes on at UOMC

Talk to Susan Weaver if you have any queries about bookings.
07764 853118

Services UOMC have a morning service at 10.30am and there is a Zoom link for those who wish to join us from their digital equipment. Please ask Alison if you haven't got the link.

50:60s Group—Meet monthly please contact Brenda Andrews on 932 3982.

Wriggle Giggle Hop —Each Tuesday morning 10.30am—12 noon from 16th January. For young children and their parents or carers.

Social Group—Each Tuesday afternoon, 2—4pm this group meet to share conversation, information and activities. Run by an outside organisation for the benefit of all. .

ONE25 Cake collections . Margaret S collects cakes in the UOMC car park from 7.15pm to 7.45pm on 9th January for delivery to One25 the next morning. Ring Margaret S if you need your cake collecting from your door 07967102141.

Coffee morning— Saturday 13th January 10am—11.30am

Crafting Friends—Wednesday 3rd, 17th and 31st January
2pm –4pm

Nita Nata—Wednesday 10th, 24th January from 2pm—4pm.

Film Night— Friday 19th January 7.30pm 'A man called Otto'

Board Games -Friday 26th January 7pm—9pm All ages welcome, play Scrabble, Monopoly, Quirkle and more.

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UOMC News



Unity Oldland Methodist Church,
West Street, Oldland Common,
Bristol BS30 9QS

www.uomc.org.uk

We are part of the Bristol and South Gloucestershire Methodist Circuit.

January 2024



WELCOME

Our Mission

Unity Oldland Methodist Church seeks to proclaim the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out our discipleship in worship and mission.

Relationship with God

- ♦ The worship of God in word and sacrament in the power of the Holy Spirit
- ♦ Celebrating the Good News and the love of Jesus Christ
- ♦ Encouraging growth in faith, discipleship and spirituality

Relationship with each other

- Continuing developing a welcoming and open fellowship.
- Working towards supporting and including everyone.
- Continue developing working with people of all ages.

Relationship with the community

- Serving as a focal point in the community
- Encouraging our relationship with other churches and community groups
- Reaching out to the local and wider community with God's love in Christ offering opportunities to express their spirituality.

Some words from Rev Gordon James

Our youngest son has retired at the end of the year. His high powered job included retirement after 30 years of service - as far as we know his next step is arranged, and he is not planning to spend the next 30 years with his feet up on a faraway island. For many, the new year will be a new beginning, at whatever stage of life they are.

People like me, who are very much retired, have an opportunity to 'tune in' to a formal daily service on our computers which enables us to share Morning Prayer from Wesley's Chapel in London. Whenever I do join it, I am moved by one line in the prayers used by the ministers nearly every day. I had never even realised it is printed in the Worship Book, and it says, "We pray for all who make a new beginning today ..." We may smile and not be very convinced about New Year Resolutions these days, but so many in our world do actually long for something new and better to happen to them. A Resolution shows we want to do something about it.

New beginnings mean losing as well. I often forget how hard it can be to both want something new, and only getting there by risking something old but familiar. Many of us must be particularly aware of how much we do not know about what is to come in the year ahead. "Step out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God" sounds brilliant, but it is more than many actually manage to do! So maybe we also ought to add lines to the Worship Book, something like,

"I pray that I may not put off ever wanting to make a new beginning...." but not forgetting to add, "and that I may choose what to do wisely, remembering so many in our world who only face a hopeless end." Some of us are surely blessed.



**Our next cake collection for One25 will be on
Tuesday 9th January.
7.15pm—7.45pm**

All cakes need to be freshly made as ONE25 freeze them until required. In the main they go out on the big yellow bus. One25 ask for individual cakes please and due to the state of users' teeth no nuts or dried fruit that hasn't been soaked. Thanks.

No creamy toppings as cakes are frozen.

Thank you for your support. New bakers once or regularly are always welcome.

Thanks to members of UCLG, Oldland RUC, St Anne's and those who have no formal church connection besides members who attend UOMC.

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COFFEE MORNING

If you have attended our monthly Coffee Morning we would be pleased to know of any improvements you would like us to consider, please.

Thank you for helping us to support a number of charities. A new list will be put up on our noticeboard shortly.

Many thanks.

Margaret S.

UOMC NEWSLETTER

We welcome you to the Newsletter of Unity Oldland Methodist Church.

The Newsletter is published on the first Sunday of each month, except August. If you have any ideas how the Newsletter can be improved please do talk to Margaret S, the compiler.

In order to get your item into the Newsletter please can you let me have it a week before the first Sunday of the following month. **The next edition will be published on 4th February . Please can all items be with me by Tuesday 2nd February by 5pm at the latest please.**

Please don't be shy whether you can send your item by email or something that is handwritten or verbal—but make sure I write it down! Photographs etc all are welcome.

My contact details are Margaret Slucutt (referred to as Margaret S) 07967102141 or email mgt.s@blueyonder.co.uk

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Our Minister is Rev P J Jackson

To contact her

Email is rook2rook4@yahoo.com

Telephone number is 965 9364

Jo Stevens, our Pastoral Secretary, can be contacted via

Tel: 0117 9477093, Mobile: 07800784587,

Email: jo.stevens312@gmail.com

A message from our Minister P.J. Jackson

OPPORTUNITIES GALORE

Happy New Year!!! The new year always brings with it interesting new possibilities and situations. The way I see it, the New Year is full of things we run toward or things we run away from.

People walk into the new year over resolution and resolution and resolution and then when they are unable to keep or maintain these resolutions, they run back to the way things were before. The new year gives us the opportunity to reassess our commitment to the work of God and calls us to be willing to stand up and enthusiastically work toward building the church of Jesus Christ. But often times we find the commitment that God seeks from us more than we can bear to make.

Maybe if we could see the future the past wouldn't look so appealing to us. Simeon and Anna believed in the future coming of the Messiah. They worked tirelessly to praise the Lord and serving the Lord at all times. Little did they know the promise of God was literally on the doorsteps.

The new year seems to be the appropriate time to remember that we have the opportunity to start again. The reset does not have to begin with our failure, but rather focusing on the God-given opportunities to begin again.

The beginning of the year marks several occasions for the people of God to remember the works of God as God sets right all that is wrong in the world. This year we can live with the new possibilities exposed by God's intention to form a people; that is, a community of faithfulness.

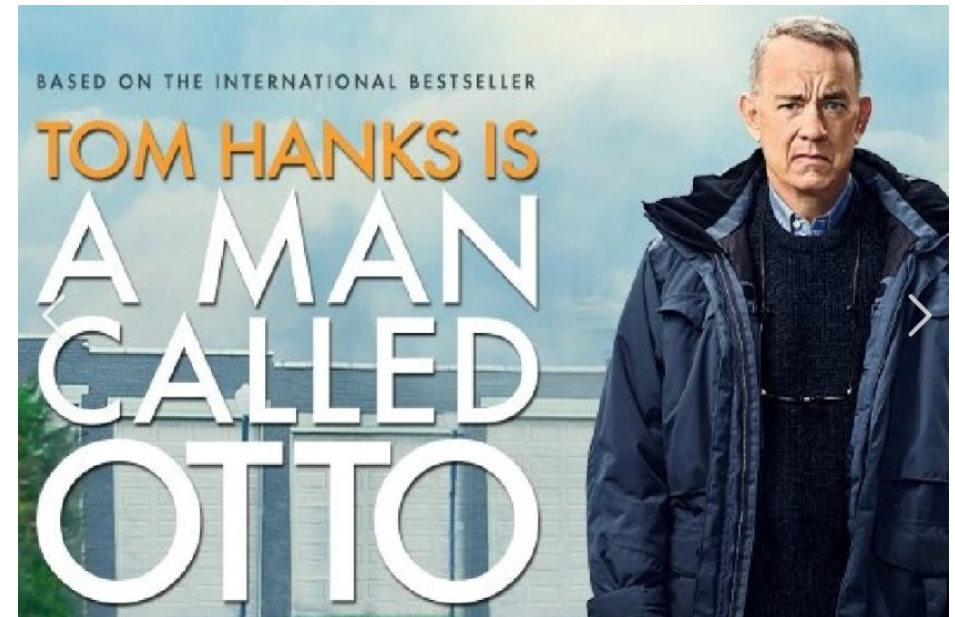
It can be a difficult thing when we move from the Advent season of expectation into the season of Epiphany where we see more clearly that our hopes are not yet realized. As we move from Advent, through Epiphany into Lent each season reminds us of God's provision of opportunities to take the next leg of the journey toward the promised peace of God made known to us in Jesus Christ.

P. J.

FILM NIGHT

Friday 19th January 7.30pm for 7.45pm.

Refreshments will be available in the interval.



Otto is a grump who's given up on life following the loss of his wife and wants to end it all. When a young family moves in nearby, he meets his match in quick-witted Marisol, leading to a friendship that will turn his world around. It is noted as an American comedy drama.

OUR CHRISTMAS CARD FOR WORLD VISION

The UOMC large Christmas Card for World Vision raised
£28.00.

Thank you those who supported

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BOARD GAMES EVENINGS

Due to the lack of support it has been decided to run
this social evening once a quarter.

26th January

26th April

26th July

25th October

Please talk with Debbie for further information.

7pm—9pm

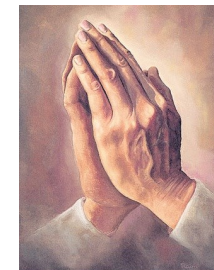
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Keep your eyes open for an events calendar.

The folk who met using your ideas and their own ideas
have come up with an event each month.

We will let you know when it is available.

A Prayer for January 2024



‘And Mary kept all these things, reflecting
on them in her heart.’ Luke 2:19

When I was younger we used to sing these
lovely words:

Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful
face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim, in
the light of his glory and grace.

Heavenly Lord, as we start a new year full of promise
and challenges, help us to fix our eyes upon Jesus
reflecting each day on the Christmas gift of love and
hope for the world. May this help us to live better lives
for your glory.

Amen

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A message from Jo

Thank you all for your support in helping to donate and make up
23 full boxes of Christmas treats with another two boxes of extra
goodies to go with them. As we were told they all went to a
secret location for families who have been in a abusive situation
and need a safe haven to go to.

We also donated toys and knitted jumpers and hats, and some
knitted toys. Which also were to help families who could not
afford gifts for there families at this Christmas time.

Thank you all very much we did a great job helping others.
Jo

An Epiphany Prayer

Lord Jesus, may your light shine our way,
as once it guided the steps of the magi:
that we too may be led into your presence
and worship you, the Child of Mary,
the Word of the Father, the King of nations,
the Saviour of mankind;
to whom be glory for ever.

(Frank Colquhoun)



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Thanks to Kay and her team for all the work they put in to ensure our church was beautifully decorated for Christmas.

Please note Susan Weaver has changed her mobile number to

07460082852



Susan takes room bookings for us, as well as, being Church Secretary and many other tasks.



Don't miss our **Coffee Morning on Saturday 13th January** 10am—11.30am. The money will go to the International Red Cross and the Red Crescent Movement who are working to help those facing disaster, conflict and health and social problems.

There will be our usual Bacon Butties, Cakes, Tea and Coffee. Marmalade is also usually available.

Last month our takings were given to Young Minds funds £300.00

Thank you for your generosity.

Crafting Friends

We meet every other Wednesday 2pm till 4pm starting in January 3rd in the Church Hall here at Unity Oldland.

We do Knitting & Crochet, Arts and Crafts, refreshments and chatting we do it all. All ages welcome come try something new or just sit and relax and enjoy a break away from day to day life.



Pastoral Report

Happy New Year to you all.

I do hope you all had a lovely Christmas, despite the coughs and colds which some of you have had, which have been going around. This also includes our minister, PJ, who has a cold at the moment, we pray for her to return to good health as we start the new year.

We pray for June Burchill and her daughter Diana who have been visiting Gordon in RUH hospital in Bath over the Christmas period. Val Rawbone whose husband John is in Southmead Hospital, he is waiting for some specialist treatment. We pray that they both are as comfortable as they can be and that they make a healthy recovery.

We pray for our new social committee who have formed and looking to give us a social calendar for the coming year. We ask that you support them whether attending or helping out.

After writing last month's report I became aware of our young people, who as they were growing up came to the youth club here. I rejoice that they all come back to see us. Phil's daughters Marny and Hannah, Jemmia, Marlene's grand daughter, Shaun and Adam - Sue's sons, Tom and Claris Alison's young people & Ruth's grandchildren. Tracey's son Alex, Pat's grandson, Rebekah who keeps in contact with church members, and last but not least Tom who regularly still comes to church. We are delighted they have all gone their separate ways but still come back to share with us.

We give thanks for Tracey's recovery and wish her well for the New Year.

Please pray for the Gran, Julie Grimes whose funeral was just before Christmas, and her family at this time. Julie made a big impression on our toddlers group with her granddaughter and her husband Rod.

We pray for our housebound and our Zoom members that they all can find fellowship with Unity Oldland as they all play there part in our church family.

God Bless

Jo

CELEBRATING UGANDA & HER NEIGHBOURS
SATURDAY 27th JANUARY 2024

BADMINTON ROAD METHODIST CHURCH DOWNEND BS16 6NU
 Come and go between 1.30pm and 6pm

PROGRAMME:
 1.30pm: Doors Open
 2pm : Welcome by Rev Patrick Stonehewer
 Methodist Deputy Superintendent
 2.30pm: Presentation - AFRICAN PASTORS FELLOWSHIP
 3pm : Video - Rev Teddy Kalongo interviewing Rev DANIEL
 METHODIST MISSION PARTNER Uganda
 3.30pm: Presentation - HOPE for LIFE KATANGA Uganda
 4pm : An Update - BRISTOL/UGANDA Friendship Link.
 4.30pm: Presentation - ALL WE CAN Uganda
 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm (approx.): PRAYER & PRAISE with African Drums
 Chat over a Cuppa & Cake

DISPLAYS:
 Methodist Church in Uganda
 Bristol/Uganda Friendship Link
 African Pastors Fellowship - APF
 Tools With A Mission - TWAM
 Hope For Life KATANGA/UGANDA
 Resound Church- Mutende Project/Zambia
 Mission Direct/KUMI/ PORRIDGE FUND/UGANDA
 Methodist- ALL WE CAN/UGANDA

PLEASE:- BRING any unwanted TOOLS eg Carpentry, Mechanics,
 Plumbing, Electrical etc. (not gardening), Sewing Machines, Threads & Dress
 Material etc. to donate to TOOLS WITH A MISSION

Donations towards a Tin Roof for a Church in Uganda be appreciated.

FOR SALE - ARTWORK by Bex 'Equestrian & Animal Art'
 WOODEN BOWLS by Geoff, our own Wood Turner.

SERVICES IN JANUARY

We continue to share our morning service 'live' on Zoom. Join
 Zoom Meeting
 Code 842 0837 4335
 Password 844 944

Sunday 7th January

10.30am Ros Sledge
 Stewards Joy & Roger

Sunday 14th January

10.30am John Creech
 Stewards Phil & Debbie

Sunday 21st January

10.30am Rev P.J. Jackson (Holy Communion)
 Stewards Catherine & Alison

Sunday 28th January

10.30am Local Arrangement
 Stewards Jo & Margaret

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If you would like to receive the Parish Magazine or you
 already receive it from Margaret S and wish to
 renew your payment for 2024 please can you let her
 have £5 for 2024 as soon possible. Many thanks.

