

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.

JULY and AUGUST 2025



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 wioth 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.

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 7th September . Please can all items be with me by Tuesday 2nd September by 5pm at the latest please.**

NOTE: should any urgent messages be received a simple info will be produced.

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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If any third party wants to use material that appears in our newsletter please get in touch via mgt.s@blueyonder.co.uk

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

Our Ministers Message

Great Things Are On The Horizon

Well, siblings the 2025 Conference of the British Methodist Church has adjourned until June 2026 and a good time was had by all. It was great to touch base with people in a circuit where I used to be stationed. It was equally good to see friends from around the Connexion.

The new President Rev. Richard Andrew and Vice-President Mr. Matt Forsyth have selected “*Our Story, Our Song*” as their theme for this coming church year. If I had a pound for every song reference people made in the last five days I could retire and live quite well, but I look forward to their leadership and storytelling.

But what is even better than all of that is being back home with you. It is time for us to get to work on the next chapter of our story. I hope you will join with me in the new Church year as I feel called to reflect on John 14:12-14, “***Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these...And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that God may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.***”

There are two points that I want us to take into the new church year and they are, “***You may ask me for anything***” and the other is, “***and they (you, me, us) will do even greater things.***” Jesus says we can and will do greater things than he did and all we have to do is ask for those things in his name. How **AWESOME** is that!

And yes, there are several things that I have already started asking for in Jesus' name. What I want you to do is think of what you would like to see Jesus do in our church. How can we get the Holy Spirit to manifest itself in our lives and in the life of the church?

We Can Do This! I have every faith in you because Jesus already told us we can.

All My Love,
P. J.



PJ with our new President Rev Richard Andrew

*More photos of PJ at the 2025 Methodist Church
Conference, which was held in Telford.*

*There are two sessions—One for presbyters that
preceeds the Conference where every Circuit sends
representatives.*

SERVICES IN JULY

We continue to share our morning service 'live' on Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting

Code 893 0313 2856

Password Worship

Sunday 6th July

10.30am Local Arrangement

Stewards Joy and Kay

Sunday 13th July

10.30am Rev P.J. Jackson

Stewards Jo & Phil

Sunday 20th July

10.30am Joy Harris

Stewards Phil & Alison Britton

Sunday 27th July

10.30am Rev Dilwyn Edawrds

Stewards—Catherine & Debbie

EVENING FELLOWSHIP @ UOMC

Evening Fellowship / Bible Study runs at 4pm on the 1st and 3rd Sundays in the month.

All are very welcome.



A Prayer for July/August 2025

At the ordination of our friend Rev Chris Spencer the sermon centred on the theme for their pre-ordination retreat. This was Resurrection People who pray and learn the Scriptures, name Jesus as Saviour, love the church, know that you are never alone and finally share in the Lord's supper.

They devoted themselves to the apostle's teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. All the believers were together and had everything in common.

ACTS 2: 42 AND 44

As we go through July and August our thoughts turn to those first converts of the Church.

**Loving Lord, may we work and pray together in your name. May we extend the hand of fellowship to all we meet each day and never be afraid to name and own our Lord whether we are resting, playing or working. In Christ's name
Amen**

(Thank you Pat)



PASTORAL UPDATE

It's holiday season and I have been fortunate to have just returned from a holiday with Rachel to North Devon, we were on a caravan site overlooking the sea, we could see the sun rise and the sun set every evening, it was really very pleasant to sit and watch.

We pray for each other that we can all have a break and enjoy the lovely weather we have been having just lately, even if we do have to sit in the shade and cool to keep cool.

We pray for Bill and Janet, Bill had a knee operation a couple of weeks ago and Janet has been looking after him as he is getting about on his crutches. Only today I have found out Janet has fallen and broken her arm. The family are all helping them both over this time of healing.

We pray for Maureen Base who had a heart attack which was not too severe. Maureen is working hard to get back to life as it was but has realised she needs to go slower and give her self time to heal.

We pray for Val Rawbone who has been away from church awhile but has been joining us on Zoom, as she is hoping to come back to church after visiting her family holiday abroad.

We pray for our minister who is at Conference this week that she will be refreshed and ready to face another year after her trip home.

We also pray for Shaun and Salo who will get married on 20th July and look forward to sharing the scene at church with the

proceedings, as long as technology works well for us. All are welcome to come along with a bring and share ssupper.

Please pray for each other as I do know that many of us have ailments and have had treatments which we never get to hear about and that is okay too. It would be nice to pray for our congregation and for good healthy results.

We must wish Norma a happy 90th birthday which she celebrated with her family, and all had a good time.

Enjoy the summer and a time to relax, my favourite bit, whatever you have planned to do or to just sit and enjoy, my prayers are with you all.

Please let me know when anyone is ill or need a visit, or when we can celebrate a special occasion, so we can keep them in our prayers and thoughts as well as enjoy there celebrations.

God Bless

Jo

Those We Have Lost – from a Musician's perspective

At our Anniversary service a few weeks ago the preacher asked us for memories, thoughts of the last 21 years. When he initially contacted Joy, he mentioned remembering those we have lost so here are my memories.

The first two, and I cannot be precise as to when they passed on, are **Majorie and Norman**, who both sang with Brenda's choir, pre - Unity, and Norman used his good Welsh voice to wonderful effect in the hymn singing in every service.

Albert Lansdale was the organist at Bridgegate before Unity Oldland was born and although officially retired, he did play for the occasional evening service at Unity when no one else was available. Albert enjoyed playing Handel's Largo. His wife **Kath** attended services at Unity Oldland for many years, brought by daughter in law Pat.

Alice Ann's passing was a huge shock to us all. She had a beautiful voice, occasionally singing solo in Church. I remember her singing "I could have Danced all night" a song very special to her as a young widow, in a concert to raise funds for our new build. She took her turn on the organ rota, played the hymn for Wesley Guild and the piano for Praise services with Bob & Brenda.

Bob played and sang solo occasionally at Wesley Guild, but more often he played and he and Brenda sang together, maybe at Guild or a Praise service. He had a lovely voice and was very talented.

David also had a lovely voice and when he sang in Church, with Reg next to him, they sang a beautiful tenor line which richly blessed our congregation's singing. Maureen & I both agree that it was a wonderful experience to be playing and hearing the Pullin brothers contributing in such a way

Monica sang with the Community Choir but I mention her here because she sold all the tickets for the Fund Raising concerts.

When Gordon Hayley played and the Silver Ring Choir sang, it was Monica who handled all the tickets for both occasions. Like all the others I mention, she did other things too but I am focusing on the music.

Lastly, but by no means least, is the *reluctant accompanist*.

Gwyneth could play the piano but she did her best not to publicly and only played for an evening service if the Church was really desperate.

We have lost other people too, Naomi & Maurice, Joan King, Sheila Read, Greta Teale, Marie Williams, Margaret Williams, Jane Allinson, Connie, Maureen lost Brian, Susan lost Kevin and June lost Gordon but as I said at the outset on this occasion my focus is on the musicians. The Church is grateful for the wonderful service and friendship of every single person we have lost.

Linda



Don't miss our **Coffee Morning** on **Saturday 12th July 10am—**

11.30am. There will be our usual **Bacon Butties, Cakes, Marmalade, Tea and Coffee.**

The takings will be given to The **Brian Tumour Charity.** We thank all our wonderful church family and friends who support us.



£221.00 was donated to **Kidney Research UK** from our **June Coffee Morning.** They are very grateful for your generosity.

Wedding of Shaun and Salome 20 July 2025.

You are welcome to join us for the live stream of this event (technology and power supply permitting!).

8pm Sunday 20 July at **Unity Oldland Methodist Church** West Street BS30 9QS.

This will be preceded by a bring and share supper (cold buffet please) from 6.30pm.

No need to arrive before this time! Drinks will be provided.

Please try and share transport or walk if you can.

Ecuador doesn't have a postal system like ours! Any physical communications need to be sent by courier to a local collection point which the recipients then pick up their mail/parcel from. So if you want to send cards, probably best to do e-cards, or just drop them a message to: shaunmrickerby@gmail.com

Similarly some of you have enquired about sending gifts and it may be best to send money. If you want to send direct, contact me for Shaun's bank details. If you want to send collectively, please pay into the church bank account, ref Shaun (see Alison or me for details) or pass your cash gifts to a steward.

Sue Rickerby

**FILM NIGHT RETURNS ON
Friday 19th September .**

Swimming with men



7.15pm for 7.30pm start

It is a comedy. "Swimming with Men" is a British sports comedy-drama film that explores themes of masculinity and personal growth through the story of a man who joins a male synchronized swimming team.

**Refreshments available.
If you need transport please let us know.**

From the challenge last month did you find the answers?

Did you spot 22 books of the Bible hidden in the following?

In this remarkable paragraph are hidden the names of twenty two of the sixty six books of the bible. To find them you don't need to be a pro. Verbs and nouns will bring sudden revelation of the truth as you keep looking over them. You may get into a jam especially since the books are not capitalised, but if you search in a humble attitude and have the courage necessary to endure a little more than the normal aching of the head, it would be E.Z11 Rather fun, in fact. So go ahead and tackle the job. I must warn you, it is a lulu –keeps some people looking so hard that they peter out and fall asleep in their chairs, but one lady says she brews coffee to keep alert and so flies easily from answer to answer. I must admit it usually takes a good while to find some of the names. Then there are loud lamentations when you see how simple some of those actually were. Yes, there will be numbers of possibilities that may require judges to determine, but in all you will find it a most fascinating puzzle.



U.O.M.C



Board Games Nights! 2025

Selected Fridays 7.00 – 9.00 pm

All
Ages

- 31st January,
- 2nd May
- 18th July - pizza night! (details to follow)
- 31st October



Unity Oldland Methodist Church
West Street, Oldland Common

Plenty of Board Games available to play or bring your own

£2 donation, bring snacks – tea and coffee Provided

Just turn up – come on your own or bring a friend

**For more information speak to anyone from Church Social Committee
(Sue, Joy, Debbie, Kay, Richard, Val, Linda, Lynette)**



Our next One25 cake collection is on Tuesday 9th July. I will be in our car park between 7.15pm and 7.45pm.

If anyone needs a pick up from their home address please let me know. 07967102141 Our contributions are always received with thanks. I will as usual deliver on Wednesday morning.

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HOME INSTEAD provide a film afternoon on the last Thursday of the month, for older people particularly for those with or caring for people with dementia at UOMC. All are very welcome.

Care Instead is a care agency based in Hanham.

Thursday 31st July at 2pm

‘The Grand Budapest Hotel’



UNITY SOCIAL EVENTS FOR 2025

Outing to Oakham Treasures in Portishead on Saturday **5th July** – we will take one minibus so first come first served for seats on the bus, but we will arrange extra transport if there is demand

Pizza Games Night on Friday **18th July**

Church Picnic & Family Fun with games on 16th August More details to be announced.

Afternoon Quiz on Saturday 27th September from 2-4pm

Potential for another Beetle Drive in October if March one is successful

Craft Fair on Saturday 8th November

Choir Concert on 21st and 22nd November

All these events will run alongside our usual activities such as our monthly Coffee Morning, Film Night, and Board Games Night. We will provide you with more details as to any cost attached to the above nearer the time, but please pop the dates on your calendars now!

An Update from Turnaround Bristol

Summer is here!

Dear All,

Firstly, I wanted to say a huge thank you for all your support this past year (if you can believe it we've been Turnaround for over a year now) as we ventured out into the unknown. Your enthusiasm, encouragement, and support have meant the world to all of the staff, volunteers and trustees at the centre, but most of all, our guests really do appreciate everything you've done and been doing for Turnaround - because of your support, they still have a place to come and get support, to have a wash, clean their clothes and get the access to services that without this place would be really challenging for them.

As a manager, looking back at what could have happened (closure of the centre before Turnaround came to fruition; the prospect of staff being made redundant, of a 100 year legacy being thrown in the bin, it's incredible to see how we literally turned around, righted this sinking ship and got it sailing in the direction it is now

It was recently our birthday (Turnaround), which also coincided with volunteer appreciation week, and so we had a little celebration before we opened for the day. I had created little certificates for our hard-working volunteers and we sat around and discussed the past year, the positives of what has happened over the past year of being Turnaround, and I wanted to share some of the feedback with you here.

- We're now open on Thursdays – it's getting busier with 40-45 meals after just a few weeks and some new faces.
- Skills and personal growth – more confidence
- Named charity for Rolls Royce Charity Ball in November – good promotion for Turnaround.
- More stable than this time last year – we've "grown up" a bit.
- Charity has matured – things we always wanted to do as the

Methodist Centre is now starting to happen (being a hub, partnership). Come through a time of “chaos” from COVID onwards.

- Tuesday One-Stop-Shop – we can’t deliver everything, but by working in this way we can deliver the best possible service to guests.
- We’re doing things properly and well, and are a leader in the sector. We’re perceived in a different way by the City now – we’re part of conversations and have a higher profile now.
- We have a future!
- The opportunities which arise from volunteering.

Great family feel here. Offers a retreat from daily struggle – people can take a breather from whatever people are facing outside.

This is what this place means to us (staff and volunteers), and also what you could experience from volunteering here; a sense of family, a feeling of being part of something big, of bringing change to the City of Bristol and for those who are suffering from homelessness, assisting them in turning their lives around.

This is what you help fund, what you help provide (with donations of food / clothing), this Centre is built brick by brick by you, our loyal supporters.

If you'd like to volunteer with us, please do get in touch, either through our website or by emailing me at manager@turnaround.org.uk

I hope you all have a wonderful summer,

Ross

Manager, Turnaround Bristol

(Apologies that this isn't formatted as well as I would like)



June 2025 e-newsletter from NHCP for Wesley Guilds and fellowships



Dear Friends

It's a privilege to be able to share some NHCP news with our loyal supporters. I hope you were able to celebrate Pentecost in some way last Sunday. We have many images to reflect on - dove, wind, fire, wild goose ... all hot on the heels of our Methodist anniversary of Aldersgate when John Wesley's heart was 'strangely warmed'.

At NHCP it's also the season to consider how to allocate the funds that you continue to raise for us. When we visited Nigeria in 2023, trustees worked with Nigerian colleagues to develop a new format for annual reports and accounts from places we support. There is space within the reports for our colleagues to write about their plans for the future, as well as all the huge challenges that they face every day.



Deaconess Eunice writes from the Bethesda Orphan Care project that they admitted 15 new orphaned babies in 2024 (9 boys) - these were all successfully sent home in the care of their extended families where they will be followed up project staff until the age of five years. This community-based care has much better outcomes than a traditional orphanage.

Very Rev Ejiga Owen from the mental health centre at Agboke rejoices in the new borehole and water system donated anonymously by one of NHCP's supporters. Owen tells us they assessed 748 new patients of whom 131 required brief admissions for assessment, but they only have six resident homeless patients. This is good community-based mental health care.

The word from Royal Cross Hospital Ugwueke is that, although Dr Hans Corput is no longer a mission partner there (following the very difficult decision by the British Methodist Church to make all lay mission partners redundant in 2024) there is renewed enthusiasm from local donors to build and equip a school of nursing and midwifery. As with the training initiative in the same area (see the March 2025 newsletter), we are seeing examples of wonderful things happening in Nigeria without our direct support, but building on foundations laid by NHCP.



Following a trustees' meeting on 5th June, we have written to the leadership team of Methodist Church to explain that our grants will be reduced this year but we look forward to refreshing our partnership with them. It's not all about money- though **thank you very much for your continued and vital support** - it's also about fellowship and faith. So many times have our hearts been warmed and inspired by our Nigerian sisters and brothers!

We wish you every blessing and will write again in September.

NHCP coordinator: David Cundall, 1 Gledhow Park Road, LS7 4JX. 0113 2938351 / 07989 194726
nhcp@btinternet.com www.nhcp.org.uk
Treasurer: Rev Mike Meachin, Deep End, Lake Lane, Barnham, West Sussex, PO22 0AD
Association of Friends: Jenny Benfield, 29 Vinery Road, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 2LB

**DON'T FORGET
OUR CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING**

Wednesday 9th July

7.30pm

At UOMC

**Please bring your copy of the
Annual Reports with you.**

- ◇ **Ask questions**
- ◇ **Stand for the
Church Council**
- ◇ **Share your thoughts
and ideas**

**Our church online link will be
available for those wish to join
online.**



Representatives at conference working hard!

Relaxing with conference friends



PJ hanging out with Conference friends



**THANKS TO EVERYONE AT UOMC
FOR THIS LAST METHODIST YEAR.**

What goes on at UOMC

**Talk to Susan Weaver if you have any queries about bookings.
07460082852.**

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. The link is on the service plan page of our website.

50:60s Group—Meet monthly please contact Brenda Andrews on 07484 705597.

Wriggle Giggle Hop –Each Tuesday morning 10.30am—12 noon 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. Next meeting 2nd May.

ONE25 Cake collections in UOMC Car Park between 7.15pm—7.45pm on Tuesday 13th May.

Coffee morning— Saturday 12th July 10am—11.30am and 9th August. Our takings will be given to The Brain Tumour Charity in July and Paul's Place in August

Nita Nata—Wednesday 9th and 23rd July from 2pm—4pm. We will also meet in August 13th & 27th 2-4pm

Film Night— Restarts in September

Board Games - 18th July from 7pm

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