

# UOMC News



Unity Oldland Methodist Church,  
West Street, Oldland Common,  
Bristol BS30 9QS  
[www.uomc.org.uk](http://www.uomc.org.uk)

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



**May 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 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.

## 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 1st June . Please can all items be with me by Tuesday 27th May 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](mailto:mgt.s@blueyonder.co.uk)**

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**Our Minister is Rev P J Jackson**

**To contact her**

**Email is [rook2rook4@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:jo.stevens312@gmail.com)**

## Our Ministers Message

# PEACE

As many countries around the world are preparing to celebrate and commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of V.E. Day I have been thinking about this word 'Peace' and what it means. On May 7, 1945, Germany officially offered to lay down its arms, surrendered and World War II came to an end and on May 8<sup>th</sup> Peace was proclaimed around Europe.

And as we continue to celebrate Easter I am reminded of the words of Jesus, from John's gospel, when he entered the locked room where the disciples were sheltering. He said, "*Peace be with you!*" Not because they were at war with one another, but as a promise of assurance, hope, and a deeper serenity than the world could offer.

It was a prayer for them to find inner peace, tranquility and a reassurance of Jesus' presence and support in their lives. The phrase was also meant to be more than just a greeting, the disciples needed words of comfort after Jesus' death and resurrection, for we know that they were feeling fearful and uncertain even though the women had said, "Jesus is alive" they still had not seen him for themselves.

We need moments of peace in our lives, times when we just need to surrender to the moving of the Holy Spirit and become one with God. Relationships will not survive if there is constant strife and discord. There are people in war-torn areas that have known war for so long they no longer can remember what it was like to live in peace.

We wage war on one another over land, race, religious affiliation, who we love or don't, nationality and so many other trivial things. Things that Jesus didn't suffer and die on the cross

for. In Mark's gospel Jesus rebukes the disciples for not believing the women who came back and reported that he had risen like he said he would, but then he blesses them and sends them out with the words of the Great Commission to go and spread the good news to all the world.

Over the years there have been many versions of the song, *What the World Needs Now*, but my favorite version will always be Dionne Warwick's and that is what we need now if we are to ever know lasting peace is 'Love' for one another.

According to Wikipedia, "*Peace is a state of harmony in the absence of hostility and violence. It means: Promoting harmony, equality, and justice within and among individuals, communities, nations, and the world.*" Jesus said in John 14:27, "*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives.*"

Solomon's wisdom gives us this in Proverbs 14:30, "*A heart at peace gives life to the body.*" Let our hearts be at peace so that as the body of Christ we may have ever lasting life.

*Shalom,*

P. J.



# SERVICES IN MAY

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

Join Zoom Meeting

Code 893 0313 2856

Password Worship

## **Sunday 4th May VE Service of Remembrance**

10.30am Joy Harris

Stewards Susan and Kay

## **Sunday 11th May**

10.30am Joy Harris

Stewards Jo & Roger

## **Sunday 18th May**

10.30am David Head

Stewards Phil & Margaret

## **Sunday 25th May**

10.30am Rev Hilary Cooke—Holy Communion

Stewards—Joy & Debbie

## **EVENING FELLOWSHIP @ UOMC**

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

**All are very welcome.**



## **EASTER OFFERING SERVICE 2025**

For over 140 years the Methodist Church has given its members the opportunity to contribute towards mission work across the world through the Easter Offering envelope scheme. It is our opportunity to respond to the joyful message of Easter.

This year is no different, you will have hopefully already taken an envelope from the table in the foyer. Your gifts will be collected during our special Easter Offering service on Sunday May 11<sup>th</sup>. We will be using the connexional material during the service which this year focuses on the right of women and girls throughout the world to an education that is equal to the men and boys in their communities.

The material we will be following has been put together by the Methodist Women in Britain and is entitled 'Education for All, Hope for All.' Even in 2025, there are many countries in the world where girls do not receive any education at all. According to UNICEF, there are currently 129 million girls who are not in school, partly because their education needs to be funded by their families and the education of their brothers takes priority. Ensuring that all children receive an equal education is one of the goals of the United Nations and your donations in the Easter Offering envelopes this year will help achieve that.

On Easter Sunday, our set gospel reminded us that it was to Mary Magdala that Jesus first appeared, not to the disciples who had followed him around in Galilee. Mary, who was marginalised and rejected by her community was the one who Jesus chose to meet first after his resurrection. Through your giving, the Methodist Mission Fund will seek to recognise the gifts given by women and girls who like Mary, may be pushed to the fringes of society due to a lack of education in their communities. The church continues to work to ensure that all are equal in society, and all have access to the same opportunity.

Please remember to pick up an envelope if you have not done so already and give what you can to this very worthwhile cause. Joy



## PASTORAL REPORT

I have been blown away with our beautiful blossom trees, magnolias as well, and now the large cone flowers of the horse chestnut trees and the lilac are continuing with the elegance of Spring. Something to be said when the rain and wind does not damage these flower covered trees which gives us so much joy.

Last week I received two phone calls from Jean and Doug Gay who are almost housebound, they do go out occasionally but only up the village, sending their love to us all and from Val Rawbone who has had a few setbacks but is doing very well and sends her love to us all and looks forward to joining us back at church soon.

> Please pray for Phil who has had breathing problems and is suffering from asthma and a very unpleasant cough, that the warm sunshine will help him as he goes about his daily tasks.

> We welcomed Joanne and Jeff into our church family on Easter Sunday and we all pray that you both will enjoy being a part of us here at Unity.

> We give thanks for our lovely Easter celebrations Good Friday with our Art Exhibition and the Walk of Witness in the rain. Early Holy communion on Easter Sunday and finishing up with our Book of Life. Thank you PJ and those who helped her.

We pray for PJ and for Jonathan Michael being with us.

We celebrate the coming up of Sheila Jennings 90th birthday and we wish her well as she will celebrate here at Unity.

We also congratulate Anne Pullin for her 95th birthday last month.

We pray for Adam Rickerby who has been showing his drawing art work which has been on display at the New Room over the Easter holidays with



others from his group displaying their work too. Congratulations to you and for writing his first story book and is writing a second one. Well done.

Thank you for your cards and good wishes for my mum's birthday, here is a picture of us all at her home on Palm Sunday her 100th birthday with my sisters and myself



Let us pray for each other and work together as we enjoy our VE Day celebration and remembrances of 80 years ago.

We give thanks to see Linda back with us again, sharing with us in our services. We pray for the coming social activities here at Unity Oldland.

God bless you all. Let me know if anyone who would like a visit or to be remembered in our prays or special occasions.

Love Jo

# Known only to God

There he sleeps on foreign soil,  
The soldier with name without listing,  
in a chaotic war embroiled-  
reported "missing" !

How many are there,  
he and those "someones",  
All these forgotten fighters ?  
What prayers remain  
of their yearning loved-ones ?

"Known only to God",  
the sublime epitaph  
of those resting here in foreign land,  
beneath our gaze, rises from oblivion's haze.

Who their things did pack  
on the evening before they left,  
hiding tears in the dark  
whilst folding a vest ?

Were they given a fond embrace  
before they left for the fight ?  
In prayer, did a loving face  
shed on them its light ?

Did they see the end of the road,  
and their destiny brought to pass,  
a dear face glimpsed,  
as into eternity they passed ?

Lest they be forgotten,  
these few words in rhyme  
for those, the slain, overtaken by time,  
and, over very ordinary grave,  
memory's flowers we leave.

And in a silence almost tangible,  
their souls are rocked in the wind's cradle.  
In foreign soil they sleep so peacefully  
a soil now their's, through time's gentle ministry !

Jean

Thank you Pat for this card.



We hope you enjoyed our special Cream Tea event on 3rd May. Tickets were sold out.

A special service to mark this celebration will be held on Sunday 4th May 2025.

It will be led by Joy Harris, with Worship Leaders and importantly memories from members of our congregation.



Don't miss our **Coffee Morning** on Saturday 10th May 10am—11.30am. There will be our usual Bacon Butties, Cakes, Marmalade, Tea and Coffee.

The takings will be given to Christian Aid. We are so grateful for our wonderful church family and friends who support us.

There will be a small promotion of Alzheimer's Society items.

£245.00 was donated to UOMC. Thank you for your generosity.



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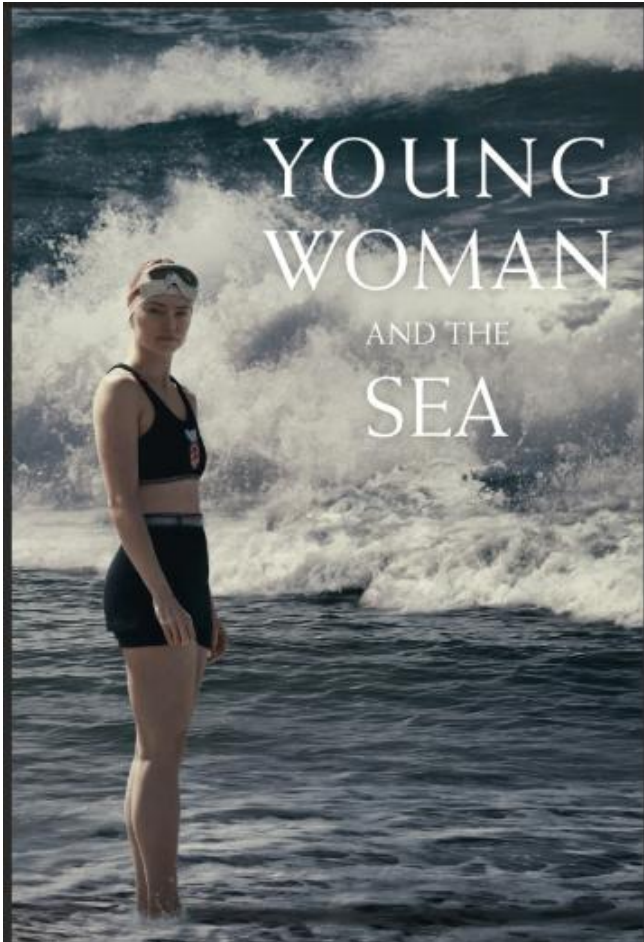
As part of our Easter service we welcomed two members of our congregation into membership of the Methodist Church. More photos further in this Newsletter



An extra picture of Jo's Mum's 100th birthday.



**FILM NIGHT Friday 16th May .**



**7.15pm for 7.30pm start**

**Refreshments available.**

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

**Join us** for a relaxed evening of music – a wide range of songs to suit all tastes.

# **Unity Community Choir Concert.**



at

**Frome Wesley Methodist Church  
(Car Park BA11 1EU)**

**Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup> 2025 at 7 p.m.**

**Admission by Ticket / Minimum Donation**

**£5.00 on the night or in advance**

*(Tickets available from Lynette Bower*

*[lynetteskuse@bluevonder.co.uk](mailto:lynetteskuse@bluevonder.co.uk) or pay on the door)*



***All proceeds to Voices Against Cholera and  
AIDS in South Africa Charity.***



**U.O.M.C**



## **Board Games Nights! 2025**

**Selected Fridays 7.00 – 9.00 pm**

All  
Ages

- 31<sup>st</sup> January,
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 8th April. 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.



**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 29th May at 2pm**

**‘War Horse’**





## UNITY SOCIAL EVENTS FOR 2025

Cream Tea on Saturday **3<sup>rd</sup> May** from 3-5pm to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day

Church Anniversary and Gift Day tea on Saturday **7<sup>th</sup> June** from 3-5pm

Outing to Oakham Treasures in Portishead on Saturday **5<sup>th</sup> 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 **18<sup>th</sup> July**

Church Picnic with games in August – date and venue to be agreed

Afternoon Quiz on Saturday **27<sup>th</sup> September** from 2-4pm

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

Craft Fair on Saturday **8<sup>th</sup> November**

Choir Concert on **21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> 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!

# BRISTOL WALKFEST

1-31 MAY 2025

CHOOSE FROM OVER 200 AMAZING WALKS  
AND EVENTS IN AND AROUND BRISTOL

Options for all ages, interests and abilities. Most walks are **FREE**  
For full information: [bristolwalkfest.com](http://bristolwalkfest.com)




  

Photo credits (left right): Bristol Nordic Walking, Bristol Steppin Sistas, Bristol Photographer Paul Groom, Avon Gorge and Downs Wildlife

There are some great walks to enjoy. Short walks, health walks, history walks etc. The booklet is available in libraries or look it up on-line [bristolwalkfest.com](http://bristolwalkfest.com)

From Gordon James.

1. Peter said, "I'm going fishing,"  
So his friends went out with him.  
Hauling empty nets back in.  
In the grey of early morning,  
Jesus, You come walking by.  
From the beach You called a greeting,  
"Cast out on the other side."

2. Soon their nets were filled to brimming;  
Someone cried, "It is the Lord!"  
Jumping in, he started swimming;  
Christ, You met him on the shore.  
Guiding them to better waters,  
Eating fish, and sharing bread -  
You showed Peter and the others  
You were risen from the dead!

3. Risen Christ, You send us fishing!  
God's great sea is everywhere.  
You have guided us in mission,  
You have given love to share.  
Through the years our church has heard You,  
We have answered Your great call:  
"Cast your nets where I have told you.  
Bring My word of love to all."

4. Lord, be with our congregation;  
By Your Spirit send us forth!  
May we care for your creation,  
May we work for peace on earth.  
In our worship, in our giving,  
In our serving those in need,  
May we know, Lord You are living,

## ***East Bristol Cluster***

Come and join us on a

**Sponsored walk**

**Saturday 17th May**

**at 10am**

Starting at Shortwood Methodist  
Chapel, walking along the dramway  
and back again.

You can choose to walk 3 or 5 miles

All money raised for

**For Turnaround Bristol**



A sponsor form can be provided, please ask Margaret S.



# University of the West of England Brass Band and Choir



Saturday 10th May



at 7.30pm



## Staple Hill Methodist Church

131 High Street Staple Hill BS16 5HQ

Tickets: Adults £10, under 16's FREE

Tickets available directly from Staple Hill  
Methodist Church can be purchased on the door

[staplehillmethodist@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:staplehillmethodist@hotmail.co.uk) 0117 9373988



University of the  
West of England



Staple Hill  
Methodist Church



Thank you Susan for these photos of our Easter exhibition, Making new members - Joanne and Jeff and of Walk of Witness returned.





## 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 10th May 10am—11.30am Our takings will be given to Transforming Trade formerly Traidcraft

**Crafting Friends**—has sadly closed

**Nita Nata**—Wednesday 14th and 28th May from 2pm—4pm.

**Film Night**— Friday 16th May Paddington in Peru.7.15pm for 7.30pm start.

**Board Games** - 2nd May from 7pm

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