

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.

March 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 6th April . Please can all items be with me by Tuesday 1st April 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

Our Ministers Message

FOOD FOR THE SOUL

“As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem.” (Luke 9:51)

WOW! Lent is upon us. We have just completed a period called Ordinary Time. Ordinary Time is the period from Epiphany, January 6th, to the beginning of Lent. With the coming of Lent brings Shrove Tuesday and the making of some lovely, thick and fluffy pancakes—not those thin crepe type pancakes. But the stores are already filled with chocolate Easter eggs and hot crossed buns taking away that special reward you used to get for making it through those forty days of Lent.

But scripture says, *“As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem.”* Jesus knew about the impending tick-tock of time—the drawing near of the end of his physical time on this earth—the need to finish his earthly ministry.

During this time of Lent, we will be focusing on what we spend our time on, how we utilize our time as laid out in the scriptures. Scripture only gives us a brief look

at Jesus' three and a half years of ministry, and we know that in that short period of time he had a lot to accomplish. Many of us have been in ministry longer than three and a half years and many more of us have lived on this planet longer than thirty-three years, and as long as we have breath, we are called to use our time to build up the kingdom of God.

During the next forty days we are going to use scripture as Soul Food to feed our minds, body and souls as we prepare for Easter—that great day of resurrection and the new birth of Jesus as the Christ and Savior of the world.

God's Peace and Blessing be upon you all!!!

Rev. P. J. Jackson



SERVICES IN MARCH

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

Join Zoom Meeting

Code 893 0313 2856

Password Worship

Sunday 2nd March

10.30am Catherine Corrish with Worship Leaders

Stewards Catherine & Margaret

Sunday 9th March

10.30am Rev P.J. Jackson

Stewards Joy & Kay

Sunday 16th March

10.30am Brenda Andrews

Stewards Phil & Roger

Sunday 23rd March

10.30am Rev Hilary Cooke—Holy Communion

Stewards—Jo & Debbie

Sunday 30th March

10.30am Adam Biddlestone

Stewards—Susan & Alison Britton

EVENING FELLOWSHIP @ UOMC

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

All are very welcome.



LENT BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

Pat's online Lent Bible Study

Title: By His Wounds

- ◆ Signs of love Monday 10th March
- ◆ Wounds of love Monday 24th March
- ◆ Love is way Monday 31st March
- ◆ Now is the Kingdom Monday 7th April
- ◆ Healing wounds of love Monday 14th April

To join our group please contact Margaret 907 9523 for the Zoom link which will be 2pm—3pm



Brenda is hosting a Lent Bible Study at her home, 6 The Keep on Thursdays at 2.30pm for 5 weeks commencing on 6th March entitled 'At Home in Lent. Brenda can be contacted on 07484705597



As P.J. has shared we are following the same Lent series at the Methodist Church has assigned

'Soul Food'



PASTORAL REPORT

This month we start with the sad news of the death of Gordon Burchill, who had been ill on and off for a while but died peacefully at home last week. Gordon had lived all his life here in Oldland. Our prayers and thoughts are with June, his wife, and Dianna his daughter, and the rest of the family. It was lovely to see you both on Sunday.

It was also lovely to see Linda and Abi back in church on Sunday. We pray for you both as you build your strength back up over the coming weeks.

I have learnt that over the pass weeks we have had more people join us on Zoom. I think is great as it can be difficult to get to church but with God's help can worship with us via the internet, It was lovely to hear that Kathy Sturgeon and Val Rawbone have been able to be with us, due to health issues that prevent them from coming to church.

We also pray for our regular members who join us weekly, Pat, who is getting over a chest infection, Reg, Grace and sometimes Gordon and Joyce, who do come occasionally to church services. Maureen Carter from the Isle of Man also joins us now and again.

Connie has had a tumble and now has a stiff back, pray for her recovery and that she will be soon back at church again.

The days are getting longer and brighter, we seem to be having a few more sunny and dry days, and the damp grey days are getting less. I do like a bit of sunshine and the crocuses do too as

their colour when open is a sign of hope. The daffodils are well on their way too, taking us into the season of Lent.

Please let me know of any one who may need our prayers and any celebrations that may be coming up.

God Bless
Jo

A Prayer for March 2025

For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth.

Job 19:23-27

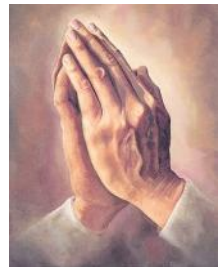
Lord God, as we enter Lent, may we endeavour to use our time to explore more of the mysteries of your Word and the amazing love that you have for us. Helps us to listen carefully for your word to us both as individually and as a church so that we reach Easter Day rejoicing and full of hope and love for your world.

Amen

Thank you Pat

March's tomorrow always holds the promise of more light, more day, more sunshine, more growth.....and even more birdsong.

Supplier by Joyce





WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2025
Friday 7 March
A service for everyone!

Local Service at 2pm

at the

United Reformed Church,
High Street, Oldland Common BS30 9QN

*Limited parking on nearby streets.
Bus nos. 19 and 42 serve Oldland Common.*

Cook Islands *I made you wonderful*



INFORMED PRAYER **PRAYERFUL ACTION**
24-7 365 Days a year Prayer movement Ecumenical International Women-led
wwdp.org.uk Registered Charity Number 233242

WRIGGLE GIGGLE & HOP

Wiggle, Giggle and Hop has been asked to enter an exhibition “Wonders of Water” put on by the New Room, John Wesley’s Chapel over the Easter holidays. Children from primary schools and other organisations have also been asked to exhibit. We have been given a large fish shape for us to cover and we are going to make smaller ones with recycled materials to go with the large one.

If you are in Broadmead over Easter please call into the New Room, it is always a good exhibition and you can get a great cup of coffee or tea too. Jo

'Journey to The Cross'

Good Friday 2025 (18th April)

Unity Oldland Methodist Church

Join us for a Reflection on Easter related
Artwork

*A rich and colourful journey through the Passion story
portrayed by visual art.*

Hot Cross Buns and other
Light Refreshments will be
available at the church from
10a.m. - 12 noon and from
3.00 - 4.00 p.m.

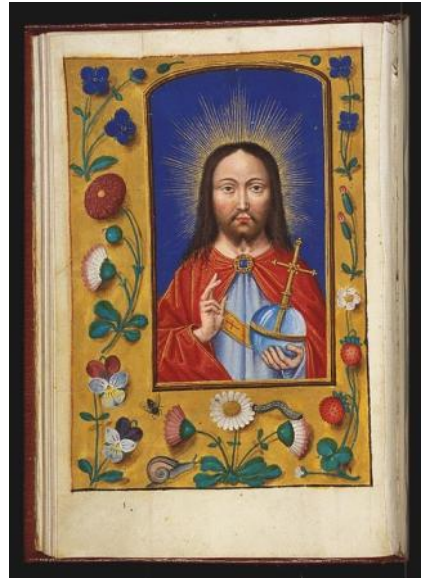
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- **10a.m. - 12 noon** - Come and browse our Easter related artwork and images - prints, original paintings, images on the screen, artefacts. *Pop in for a short time or stay for some refreshments.*
 - **2.00 - 3.00 p.m.** Join us for a walk of witness around the village with our wooden cross - starting at the church.
 - **3.00 - 4.00 p.m.** Join us back at the church for refreshments and if you haven't yet done so browse our Easter related artwork and images.



**A prayer found on a
Canterbury Cathedral Leaflet**

‘ Bless me Lord in this place
where for centuries men,
women and children have
known you.

Blessed by You, may I be a
blessing to others. Amen.



**Don't miss our Coffee Morning on Saturday 8th March
10am—11.30am. There will be our usual Bacon Butties,
Cakes, Marmalade, Tea and Coffee.**

**The takings will be given to Transforming Trade,
formerly Traidecraft.**

**There will also be a table
of items for sale in the
vestibule supporting The
Alzheimer's Society .**

**£280 was donated to
Oldland Third World
Water Project Thank
you for your generosity.**



FILM NIGHT Friday 14th March .



LIVING is the story of an ordinary man, reduced by years of oppressive office routine to a shadow existence, who at the eleventh hour makes a supreme effort to turn his dull life into something wonderful – into one he can say has been lived to the full.

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



Join us for a game of



Beetle 
Drive


Tea/Coffee Provided

Saturday 15th March 2- 4 p.m.

Unity Oldland Methodist Church
West Street, Oldland Common

Entry £2.00 each

Please bring a small wrapped gift (value £2.00)

All proceeds for church funds



Just turn up!





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 11th March. 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.

‘Lion’

It is based on a real story of an Indian boy just 5 years old in 1986.

Thursday 27th March at 2pm



UNITY SOCIAL EVENTS FOR 2025

You will recall that I wrote an article for the February newsletter that outlined plans that the Social Committee were beginning to make for the coming year.

Your Social Committee met on 11th February, and I am pleased to confirm we have made the following arrangements:

Beetle Drive on Saturday 15th March from 2-4pm – bring a small, wrapped gift

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

Church Anniversary and Gift Day tea on Saturday 7th June from 3-5pm

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 with games in August – date and venue to be agreed

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, craft sessions 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!

You will remember that last year we asked for your feedback on the events we ran as part of our 20th anniversary and have used that information to help us plan these events so we hope you will come along and support your Social Committee.

Joy



We need your help with our



Unity Oldland

Easter Art Exhibition

Do you have any kind of artwork related to Easter?

To complement our Easter Celebrations this year we intend to hold an **exhibition of artwork** here in the church on **Good Friday (18th April)**

We need you all to contribute if possible and bring in items to add to our exhibition.

This could be:

- Paintings
- Prints
- Photographs
- Tapestry/embroidery
- Postcards
- Sculpture
- Artefacts
- Icons
- Anything that you associate with art and Easter



If you think you have anything suitable could you let **Sue Weaver, Lynette** or **P.J. know.**

If you could then let us have it by the **end of March** we will include it in our exhibition on **Friday 18th April**



STATIONS of the CROSS

UNIFORMS

When an ancient minister of the Methodist Church felt that it was respectful to a much-valued church member to say more than thanks at a remembrance service, he 'put on his uniform'. That meant putting on a shirt with a white 'dog collar'.

For sixty years it has been like a reminder that I have been challenged to be under a discipline which many do not understand, but that is a discussion for another time.

It was when Joyce used the word uniform that I thought how much it is treated so differently over the years. My thoughts good and bad very much belong to a museum: a khaki felt hat worn by soldiers in the Boër war, a whistle on a lanyard, long socks with garters with strange green bits, round my neck a neckerchief with a woggle.

To make it smart, the item which first came to my mind, a sheath knife big enough to skin a deer, but used for sharpening pencils and trimming twigs on which we cooked rolled dough and called twists. I thought of that before I recall that I wore shorts, whatever the weather.

I suppose that I thought that policemen, nurses and sailors were among bright people who became recognised by their clothing. It was not a matter of salary, or privilege, although I think an Airforce One cadet would have been allowed free into Wimbledon before me.

What is important is what we value, the ability to take nostalgia and use it for the better understanding of others, and what they think they ought to wear and do.

What do you remember that happened long, long ago?

Gordon James.

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. .

ONE25 Cake collections in UOMC Car Park between 7.15pm—7.45pm on Tuesday 11th March.

Coffee morning— Saturday 8th March 10am—11.30am Our takings will be given to Transforming Trade formerly Traidcraft

Crafting Friends—Wednesday 5th, 19th March 2pm –4pm

Nita Nata—Wednesday 12th & 26th March from 2pm—4pm.

Film Night— Friday 14th March Living 7.15pm for 7.30pm start.

Board Games - 2nd May from 7pm

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