

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.

October 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.

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 3rd November. Please can all items be with me by Tuesday 29th October by 5pm at the latest please. An information sheet in August will be created as necessary.**

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**

HELPING HANDS

At our last Church Council meeting we explored the story of Moses and the people of Israel in Sinai. The people are complaining to Moses about not having access to the type of things they had in Egypt. Moses is complaining to God about having to listen to the people complaining. The first thing God tells Moses to do is get some help.

For all the devastation that COVID-19 caused it also caused us to get back into the habit of helping our church members, checking on our neighbors, and ensuring that our communities were well looked after. People did other people's shopping and picked up medication for the most vulnerable. People were concerned when it was reported that children didn't have the necessary technology to do their online schoolwork. All in all, people were lending a helping hand.

But is this still our current mindset? Do we allow things to overwhelm us and not ask for help? Do we sit back and benefit from the labors of others and not offer to lend a helping hand? Ministry was never meant to be a solo enterprise. Hubert H. Humphrey, the 38th Vice President of America said, *The impersonal hand of government can never replace the helping hand of a neighbor.* We are the body of Christ, and we are meant to operate and work together.

The Apostle Paul was quite clear in 1 Corinthians 12:15-20, ¹⁵ *Now if the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body.* ¹⁶ *And if*

the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as God wanted them to be. ¹⁹ If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

We are the Church alive; we are a living breathing entity and the welfare of every member and adherent should be our concern. In our February meeting someone said the circuit has nothing to do with us and I would strongly disagree with that. Whether we see the universal mission of the Church operating Connexional down or local church up we are all one Church and as such should be concerned for all the branches or limbs or body of the Church and not just our little tree stump. Until we see the value in all we cannot see the value in the few.

Every Blessing,

P. J.



PASTORAL REPORT

We are fast approaching autumn, the leaves are changing and the weather is getting colder. We all need to keep an eye out on each other and let me know if anyone is ill or needs a visit.

Our prayers are needed for those who are not well at the moment. Janet who has fallen at home and is slowly recovering, Christine who had a knee replacement last week. Lee who has Covid and Abi who is recovering from Covid. We also pray for Marlene who has had an upset stomach this week and hope she can enjoy her grand daughter's engagement party. We pray for Val and hope that she is gaining strength everyday and will be with us again soon.

We pray for Marie who has not been at church for a few weeks. We pray for Ruby and Ron both helping each other with the carers going in daily. We pray too for Paula as her life gets busy with difficulties.

We pray for those who our housebound or on Zoom, Reg, Pat, Kathy Sturgeon, Pam Hacker, Deanna McCaul.

We pray for Brenda Flay that she is comfortable and warm.

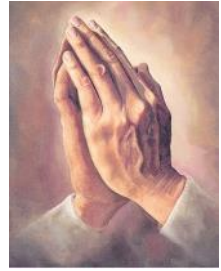
We also pray for Liz and Eunice as they both play a big part in our church life.

Lord we ask your blessings on all these church members and that your healing hands will help each and everyone to be with you. Lord we praise and glorify your name for ever.

God bless Jo

A Prayer for October 2024

**You are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people
Ephesians 2:19**



Heavenly Father, we thank you for bringing us into a family where we can be in fellowship with you and others who love and trust you. United as the body of Christ. May we open our arms and church to bring others to know that peace which Jesus brings.
Amen

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Don't miss our **Coffee Morning** on **Saturday 12th October** 10am—11.30am. The takings will go to **Turnaround**, formerly the Methodist Centre. There will be our usual Bacon Butties, Cakes, Tea and Coffee.

We gave £300 to MacMillian Cancer Support, this is being added to the money raised at St Anne's and URC as a gift from the churches in Oldland. Thank you.



SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

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

Zoom Meeting

Code 842 0837 4335

Password 844 944

Sunday 6th October

10.30am Christine Jones

Stewards Jo & Roger

Sunday 13th October

10.30am Joy Harris

Stewards Susan & Alison

Sunday 20th October

10.30am Rev Andrew Sails

Stewards Phil & Debbie

Sunday 27th October

10.30am Rev P. J. Jackson

Stewards Catherine & Kay

This service will celebrate Norma Cradock 70 years as a Local Preacher



THE ALTERNATIVE CRICKET MATCH

Unity Oldland Methodist Church

Saturday 19th October 2024

Match starts at 2pm - Whatever the weather



Come, Join us
and
Have fun



An Afternoon of fun for all ages and abilities

10	10	10
8	1	5
6	3	7
2	9	4



No balls, stumps or bats required
It's a team sport using a board
No skills - you just need luck



Includes a Cricket Style Afternoon Tea

Finishing approx 6pm

This is a ticket only event

Price - Adults £6 Children £3

Tickets available from Richard or Val Helliar 07880 541179

or members of the 50:60 group

APPEAL FROM YOUR STEWARDS

On the morning of Saturday 2nd November the stewards are planning a working party session at church. There are always a lot of things that need doing on our building, so we have set aside a few hours that day to do a general tidy up and carry out any small jobs such as cleaning the windows and having a declutter!

There are only 5 full time stewards at Unity and all of us wear more than one hat and are involved in other things other than stewarding! If you are free that morning and able to spare a few hours can you please speak to one of the stewards? It is appreciated that you may not be able to get up a ladder or do any heavy lifting but there are plenty of other jobs to do and if you are only able to come and supply others with refreshments that would be appreciated!

It won't be long before we need to start thinking about decorating for Christmas so we would like to give the church a good spruce up ready for that. Please consider if you can come up that morning and give us a hand, your assistance will be appreciated.

Thank you in advance of your support

Joy

You may think that Christmas is a long way away but we want to encourage you to think about items for our Christmas Boxes

Christmas Boxes

I have been contacted by Liz Evans from “Southern Brook Partnership “ the lady who came to see us last year and she has asked us as a church if we would be doing our boxes again? And could we help out again this year by making up boxes full of Christmas treats for families who are struggling financially in the Bristol area.

Please can I ask you to think and bring along your Christmas treats for the boxes and for us to assemble them on the 24th November after the service. I will put a collection area up nearer the time.

Some of the goodies they may like
Cakes and mince pies
Chocolates
Biscuits sweet and savoury
Snacks, fruit and nuts
Anything which is a Christmas treat.

Thank you in advance for your support and I do hope that we can help some families who find Christmas a hard time of year.

Jo

EVENING FELLOWSHIP

You may remember that at the Annual Church Meeting it was requested that we have a regular evening fellowship evening on a Sunday.

This started at the end of July and now runs at 4pm on the 1st and 3rd Sundays in the month.

The group is focusing on Bible Study with material from the Bible Society.

All are very welcome.

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HOME INSTEAD provide a film afternoon once a month for older people particularly for those with or caring for people with dementia at UOMC. However all are very welcome.

The film for October is 31st October is Love Sarah.

A young woman wishes to fulfill her mother's dream of opening her own bakery in Notting Hill, London. To do this, she enlists the help of an old friend and her grandma.

HOME INSTEAD are also looking at setting up a Dementia Café with us once a month on a Thursday. It is likely to be the morning of the film afternoon.

Giving an opportunity for carers to meet share as well as those with dementia.

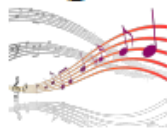
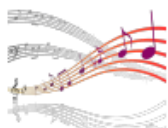
Church members are welcome to support these activities as well as spreading the word to friends and neighbours.

OCTOBER'S PARTY

by George Cooper

October gave a party;
The leaves by hundreds came-
The Chestnuts, Oaks and Maples
And leaves of every name.
The sunshine spread a carpet
And everything was grand,
Miss Weather led the dancing,
Professor Wind the band.
The Chestnuts came in yellow,
The Oaks in crimson dressed;
The lovely Misses Maple
In scarlet looked their best;
All balanced to their partners
and gaily fluttered by;
The sight was like a rainbow
New fallen from the sky.
Then in the rustic hollow
At hide and seek they played,
The party closed at sundown
And everybody stayed.
Professor Wind played louder;
They flew along the ground;
And then the party ended
In jolly 'hands around'.

Unity Community Choir



Winter Concert

at

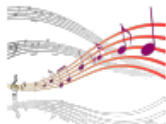
Unity Oldland Methodist Church
West St, Oldland Common, Bristol

**Friday 22nd & Saturday 23rd
November 2024 at 7.30 p.m.**

Admission by Ticket only - £5.00

(can be reserved to pick up on the door)

*(Tickets available from Lynette Bower and other choir members
(07789 847567 lynetteskuse@blueyonder.co.uk)*



All proceeds to Charity.



September 2024
e-newsletter from NHCP
for Wesleyan Guilds
and fellowships



Dear Friends

Thank you so much for all your support. For us in the UK, this might be a 'season of mists and mellow fruitfulness', for our friends in Nigeria it is still the rainy season with temperatures hovering just below 30 degrees C in Lagos. It is harvest festival season for us but I have just been reading about the tragic and staggering levels of post-harvest losses of agricultural products in Nigeria - mainly due to lack of storage facilities, appropriate packaging and transport.

This is just one of so many challenges Nigerians face in their day-to-day lives. In the last newsletter, I mentioned the efforts being made at Edawu to generate income (making yam flour locally avoids post-harvest losses) to support their work in rural mental health. This quarter, let's focus on Royal Cross Hospital, Ugwueke, which has often featured in NHCP publicity in the past, mainly due to the pioneering work of Dr Hans Corput, the Dutch mission partner, who led the development of the hospital to become a beacon of good practice over the last two decades.

Hans tried hard to train and retain Nigerian colleagues to take over from him, but it's difficult to persuade doctors to work in rural areas. Now that Hans has been made redundant (like all the lay mission partners employed by the British Methodist Church) there are no obvious successors to fill his large and hard-working shoes.

In response to a direct appeal, NHCP has sent Royal Cross some infrastructure funding from the estate of Dr Alistair Macdonald - another pioneering doctor in Eastern Nigeria. We thank Hans and his wife Mary (who helped to run the Motherless Babies' Home at Uzuakoli) for all their work.

* * * * * We have our **AGM** in two weeks' time * * * * *

You will be welcome to join us in person or online.

Rm 1, Gainsborough Methodist Church, North St. DN21 2HP.
5.00-6.30pm. Saturday 5th October.

Keynote speaker: Michael Tetley, former mission partner on:
Safeguarding God's Finances /Resources for All.

Zoom numbers are: Meeting ID: 879 3530 5929 Passcode 417436



NHCP coordinator, David Cundall, 1 Gledhow Park Rd, Leeds, LS7 4JX, 0113 2938351, 07989 194726
Treasurer, Revd Mike Meachin, Deep End, Lake Lane, Barnham, West Sussex, PO22 0AD
Association of Friends, Jenny Benfield, 29 Vinery Road, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 2LB, 01284 702297

**FILM NIGHT FRIDAY 18TH OCTOBER
7.15PM FOR A 7.30PM START.**



**A MAN FROM BURNLEY WHO STARTED HIS
OWN BANK.**

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



Our next One25 cake collection is on Tuesday 8th October I will be in our car park between 7.15pm and 7.45pm.

We are still asked to make small cakes that do not have nuts, dried fruit—unless soaked - or creamy toppings please.

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



With

Government removing a blanket winter fuel allowance for pensioners this year it is more important than ever that people who are financially squeezed check whether they are entitled to this benefit that opens the door to many other benefits including the TV licence which you can be entitled to.

The Council, Age UK South Glos and Citizens Advice can provide help locally . If you prefer to enquire less locally ring Independent Age helpline on 0800 391 6789.

NEW WEBSITE AND WEBMASTER REQUIRED

Mike has been ensuring we have a website for more than 25 years. Next year he is moving to Windows 11 and this will not support the software Mike uses for the website.. He has decided that from the end of the Methodist year—August 2025 he will therefore stand down as webmaster, earlier if possible.

The church will need to agree a host & domain, create a new website and keep it up to date. If anyone is interested they are welcome to contact Mike—mike.slucutt@blueyonder.co.uk or ring him on 07792236464.

This early notice means the church has nearly a year to develop the new website, agree who will host it, and of course who will be the webmaster.

We thank Mike for all he has done in providing us with an up to date website.

Minutes of Worship Consultation held 18th September 2024

Attendees : Rev P. J. Jackson; Alison Bennett, Brenda Andrews, Molly Hathway; Joy Harris; Sue Weaver; Cath Corrish; Linda Pope; Margaret Slucutt.

Apologises: Gwyneth Dean; Lynette Bower; Abi Davies

Alison opened the meeting with a word of prayer.

We reflected back on the services we have held in the last quarter and especially how lovely it had been to see Chris Spencer and his family for Harvest. Special thanks were given to the team who arranged the ploughman's lunch after the service, it was highlighted that we had not offered to pay expenses. Alison agreed to contact Chris and settle these.

P .J. reflected on Radical Hospitality and how we must be making sure everyone who comes through our doors feel exceptionally welcome, this must also reach out to visitors who join us through Zoom. Joy agreed that she would ensure the duty steward welcomed all making sure Zoom were included. Alison agreed to speak to all who operate sound to make sure a welcome is shared with any visitors on Zoom.

There has been conflicting feedback on bible readings being projected. It was agreed that it was important to display them for those who are visual learners, but also to do our best to display the version of the bible being read. Alison agreed to contact Gwyneth to add this to our preacher letter. Also, for readers and sound to communicate together.

27th October – P. J. will be doing a dedication for Norma Cradock 70 years' service to preaching.

24th November will be our shoebox service Jo will be issuing more information on this shortly.

ADVENT

We will be following the Methodist theme called 'Hush the noise and listen to the love song' There is a lot of resources online at [Advent and Christmas Resources - Methodist Church](#) . We will follow all services from the 1st December 2024 – 5th January 2025, with the January service also incorporating our Covenant service

with the January service also incorporating our Covenant service if the Chair of the District is able to take our service. We currently have no set preacher for the 1st December, Joy offered to reach out to Rev David Alderman, but as we have already reached out to a number of our local preachers if he wasn't available, we would hope that we would be allocated a preacher on the plan. Christmas Day – P. J. will be leading the worship at Potters Wood on Christmas Day. We discussed the possibility of joining Potters Wood but it was agreed it was important to open our church doors on Christmas Day and as long as our church members wanted it we would continue with a Christmas Day Service. Brenda and Alison will cover the service if no one else is available. We will consider using the Hush the noise service. P. J. will lead our service on 25.12.25.

Brenda and Pat will be leading Bible Studies through Advent. Brenda will hold hers on a Thursday afternoon at 2.30pm at her home. Pat will be on a Monday afternoon on Zoom. We will also have our Sunday Evening Bible Study at Church on the 1st and 3rd Sunday.

Covenant Service on the 5th January will possibly be led by Rev Marcus Torchon. Our new Chairman of Bristol District.

Jan – March

We agreed to look at the 8 Chapters in the book of Song of Songs as a theme for our preaching, this will also be carried through to our bible studies on a Sunday Evening. This will start on 12th January through to the 2nd March.

Proposed Preachers

12th January : Rev P. J.

19th January : Joy Harris

26th January : Rev Hilary Cooke

2nd February : Brenda Andrews

9th February :

16th February : Rev P. J.

23rd February : Joy Harris and Worship Leaders

2nd March : Rev Teddy Kalongo

At our next meeting we will focus on Lent and the Quarter up until May/June. Below are the ideas we have so far, please come with your ideas to the meeting.

Meeting set for the 18th December 2024 at 7pm.

Meeting was closed with the grace.



Next Meeting of Worship Consultation

Lent – 9th March – 10th April – Theme

Good Friday/Saturday: An art exhibition. Contact artists around the city, put up posters etc. to get artists that would do something along the line of something like the stations of the cross/something depicting the events of Holy Week. I have spoken to Lynette about this.

After the Walk of Witness people come back and take in and reflect on the exhibition. This could be opened up to the circuit.

Continue joining cluster for Maundy Thursday service

- Easter Day – April 20th

Holy Humour Sunday – April 27th

Pentecost Sunday Party – June 8th

Father's Day (Men's Day) – June 15th

· Any Other Business

After Lent leading to Pentecost put in a 'Back to Church Sunday'

P.J. had an idea about a series of several Sunday's that's focused on the word "BLESSINGS." We would determine what that could be and for 10 Sundays after Pentecost we would focus on that letter/word.

The first Sunday would be a preparation Sunday looking at BLESSINGS.

Sunday #2 - B

Sunday #3 - L

Sunday #4 - E

Sunday #5 - S

Sunday #6 - S

Sunday #7- I

Sunday #8 - N

Sunday #9 - G

Sunday #10 - S

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.

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. Not 10th September.

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 8th October

Coffee morning— Saturday 12th October 10am—11.30am for MacMillian Cancer Care.

Crafting Friends—Wednesday 2nd, 16th and 40th October
2pm –4pm

Nita Nata—Wednesday 9th and 23rd October from 2pm—4pm.

Film Night— Friday 18th October 'The Bank of Dave' 7.15pm for 7.30pm start.

Board Games - 25th October 7pm—9pm. . You are welcome to bring your own Bring and Share supper

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