

Telford Methodist Circuit Newsletter

24th January 2025



Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury District Chair's Travels - Rev Rachel Parkinson
19 January at 17:09 · 🌐 - Taken from Rachel's Facebook page. ...

I'm supposed to be in training for an Ultra walking event (50km) in April so am on the lookout to combine ministry with walking. This is not difficult for someone committed to pilgrimage as an expression of discipleship and mission. The Wrekin was on the route to my preaching appointment in Bayston Hill so I walked up it beforehand - and recorded a video for the District merger at the top!

If we say "where are the missing generations on a Sunday morning?" one answer is "up the Wrekin". I struggled to find a parking space before 8.30am on a day when the cloud hung low. Many of my fellow walkers seemed in their late 20's or early 30's (which someone at the top told me was because the Wrekin is big on Instagram). Listening to the snatches of conversation around me I heard talk of health and fitness - but also of relationships, emigration, mortgages and careers. I wondered what it might be like to offer as the Wrekin chaplain?! The Halfway House cafe has recently been reopened by the [Yellow Ribbon UK](#) - a Christian charity working with ex-offenders and people with complex needs which sounds like a smart missional move. The Samaritans poster at the bottom also caught my eye and reminded me of the mental health crisis - particularly amongst the young - and its links with physical health and the beauty of creation.

On to Bayston Hill - a church holding many memories with people I've grown to know well. We held much in prayer - particularly the fragile ceasefire just 2 hours old - and the inauguration tomorrow.

I was treated to lunch and a beautiful bouquet - it felt like it was a little early for what some have dubbed "the farewell tour"! But I was deeply touched



Brain teaser.

What English word retains the same pronunciation, even after you take away four of its five letters?

Answer on page 29.



We are excited to share our theme for Lent 2025, 'Soul Food'

In the wilderness, Jesus reminded us that people don't live by bread alone. Each week during Lent 2025, we'll reflect on what sustains us, based on the lectionary Gospel passage for Sunday.

[Lent 2025: Soul Food - The Methodist Church](#)



The Methodist Church

9 January at 14:30 · 🌐



Congratulations Genesis 🍌

We are excited to announce the Methodist Youth President for 2025/2026 will be Genesis Padgett, a member of Emmanuel Methodist Church near Barnsley. Genesis, who is currently studying theology at Cliff College, was elected by the children and young people of the Methodist Church across the Connexion. Read the full announcement and learn more about Genesis' journey at <http://methodist.org.uk/.../methodist-youth-president.../>



Justice, Compassion & Peace Team

Our next meeting will be
Tuesday 18th February at 7:30pm
at Dawley Christian Centre.

All are very welcome!

It would be great to have a voice from every church:
Could that be **you**?

Topics for discussion include:

- Update on our Circuit International Project
- Agree our proposed Circuit Eco Commitment
- Celebrate good news from across the circuit
- Future projects and support to churches

For more information or support with transport, contact Jo
Tel 07840596074 or Email jokudlacik@gmail.com



ECO  CHURCH
AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT



Scam Alert

Do you remember on 21st November last year, I shared in the Circuit Newsletter that a lady called Iris had lost her husband and wanted to donate her piano to someone?

Well it was a scam. **Going forward we will only share items for sale or that someone wants to donate, if we can be sure that the person is someone known to us as a Circuit.**

Please read the email below.

I don't live in your area, but I have just come across your newsletter from last November online while checking out an email we had received about someone offering a free piano. Unfortunately this is a scam. There is no piano and anyone taken in by it is likely to end up paying money to movers that don't exist.

I was doing a reverse image search on the photo we received of the piano, and Google showed me your recent newsletter. The photo used is the same one sent to us from someone named "Flora" and the wording on the email we received is almost identical to your message shared in the newsletter. My mother received it when it was circulated round a group she is a member of, so I think the scammers are hoping that by getting trusted groups to share the "advert" this will lend it an air of authenticity.

I would hate for any of your parishioners to be taken in by this, as we nearly were.

With all good wishes

Felicity

Both Richard and I believed the offer to be true, but we need to be sure when sharing things with you that you aren't going to be scammed, but you need to keep yourselves safe too.

If you see an offer that might seem too good to be true, please try doing a reverse image search if they provide a photo.

To do this go to google.co.uk. At the right hand end of the search bar is a symbol that looks a bit like a camera (next to the microphone symbol). If you click that, it allows you to upload an image that you have, and it will then search for pictures similar to that image (rather than searching by keywords). If there are exact matches of the picture, they should appear higher up the results. I think it's called Google Lens.

If you're not sure then please forward the image onto me and I'll do it for you.

It doesn't take very long and could save you from being scammed.

Thank you.

Sharon



The **Methodist** Church
Telford Circuit
Online Service for
Ash Wednesday
7pm Wednesday 5 March 2025
Led by the Revd Dr Adrian Burdon

Zoom link will be available nearer the time

A prayer for the world today

Father God, we pray for our world today.

We pray for peace and hope to abound.

Many are affected by natural disasters: floods, droughts and forest fires.

Many are struggling with conflict, poverty and the global food crisis.

O Lord, we pray for your provision, peace and protection.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Please soak these people in prayer.

Together we can make a difference!

Derek

Margaret Reynolds who had surgery on 15th January. Sharon's spoken to Margaret and she's doing very well. She'd like to thank you for all your prayers.

Lord Jesus, who went about doing good and healing all, we ask you to bless our friends who are sick. Give them the strength in body, courage in spirit, and patience in pain. Let them recover their health, so that, restored to the Christian community, they may joyfully praise Your name, for You live and reign for ever and ever.



Circuit Prayer Space

Circuit Prayer Space on a Monday morning at 8:30am.

Val Smith is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Circuit Prayer Meeting

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96716434790?pwd=RTZZa210Q1ZOWCtLTWk3NHoyWDVlQT09>

Meeting ID: 967 1643 4790

Passcode: 355690

God loves you
unconditionally, no strings attached.
That's the good news.



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2025 – Do you believe this?

Deepening connection on the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea is at the heart of resources for 18 to 25 January 2025.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2025 – Do you believe this?

As we celebrate 1,700 years since the Council of Nicaea, the worship for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU) has at its heart, the Nicene Creed. Reflecting this, the scripture readings for this year focus on belief.

We are invited to reflect on the story of Martha's confession of faith in Jesus as narrated in John 11:17-27. Each of us is called to sit with Jesus' provocative question to Martha: "Do you believe this?"

Churches Together in Britain and Ireland General Secretary, Dr Nicola Brady, says in her introduction to this year's resources: "Read in isolation the question might appear as a stark challenge, but from the Gospel story it is clear that the words of Jesus are spoken in love and experienced as invitation as well as challenge. Similarly, while the Council of Nicaea was not without its challenges as a wounded and scattered church sought to discern the truth of the Gospel message, there was an obvious desire to deepen connection and belonging and to live faithfully as disciples of Christ."

The WPCU service has been prepared by the community of Bose, an ecumenical monastery of brothers and sisters in Northern Italy.

The Biblical texts for each of the eight days highlight key statements of the Nicene Creed.

Day 1: The fatherhood and motherhood of God who rules the universe.

Day 2: Creation as God's work.

Day 3: The Incarnation of the Son.

Day 4: The Paschal Mystery: Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus.

Day 5: The Holy Spirit, breath of God.

Day 6: The Church: Community of believers.

Day 7: Baptism into the Death and Resurrection of the Lord.

Day 8: Waiting for the Kingdom.

[Order or download the WPCU 2025 resources.](#)

[CTBI also provides *Go and Do points* for each day of WPCU to turn reflections into action.](#)

What is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity?

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU) takes place each year from 18 to 25 January. It is an international ecumenical celebration.

Each January individuals pray, and churches and ecumenical organisations celebrate the WPCU in a variety of ways. These include events large and small, a simple prayer meeting, an ecumenical breakfast, a prayer walk, speaker events, online prayer relays, preaching swaps in villages and towns, using social media to share online reflections and prayers from church leaders as well as joint services bringing together Christians from across the traditions in prayer and worship.

WPCU from the World Council of Churches.

WPCU social media

Show your support for Christian unity by posting messages and details of your events to the WPCU X wall – simply add the #wpcuwall hashtag to your X post (note there is a delay before they appear). You can also find updates about the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on X by following the #wpcu2025 hashtag.



A prayer for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2025

Loving God,
In this fractured world we are called to be instruments of unity.
We are called to be a people of prayer, and during this season we pray for greater unity within and between churches, and between Christians of all traditions.
Bless us with love for each for each other, with a desire to understand our differences and to live in peace and harmony together.
Be with Christians around the world as we pray together that all may be one so that the world may believe.
In the name of your son Jesus, Amen.

by Doral Hayes

Photo credit: Leo Lintang /Alamy Stock Photo



Circuit Fundraising Project



**Telford Methodist Circuit in Partnership with
The Methodist Church of Ghana are raising
money to support
Ajumako Osedzi Community Health Centre.**

What is needed:

- Hospital beds
 - Sink for the delivery room
 - Chairs for the nurses
 - Delivery equipment
 - A larger fridge/freezer
 - A wheelchair
- Total Cost: £3500—£4000
(depending on exchange rate)***

**This year we are not raising funds for the Easter Offering
Service so please support the Circuit's Fundraising
Project instead—Thank you.**

The Circuit has already raised £2,100, which is brilliant... but let's raise an extra £1,900 so we can buy everything on the shopping list.

**TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE AND
SAVE LIVES!**

Bibles Studies in the Circuit

Admaston meet on 2nd Tuesday of the month between 10-11:30am. They currently meet in the home of one of the church family but if the numbers increased they would be happy to transfer the bible study to church.

Cartway, Bridgnorth has 3 bibles study groups.

Shambles Group meet on 2nd Monday of the month at 10:30am

Orchard House Group meet on 3rd Monday in the month at 10:30am

Greenfields Group meet 3rd Tuesday in the month at 2pm.

Dawley - Bible study group meets for two 5-6 weekly sessions each year. One during Lent the other during Advent.

Dunwell - has a bible study before church service each Sunday which (service starts at 10am)

Oakengates Bible Reflections Group meet for two series of 5-6 weekly sessions each year. One of these is in Lent and the other in the autumn.

At present they meet in homes on a Wednesday afternoon (2-3:30pm) and the next session will be their Lent Study starting on Wednesday, 12 March 2025. The venue and the topic are both yet to be confirmed.

If anyone wants to attend, they should contact Andrew Evans on email andrew.evans20@btinternet.com or telephone 01952 292684.

As they usually meet in someone's home, we do not include the venue in general publicity.

T 01952 292684

Online Courses: Monday afternoon at 1:30am, Monday evening at 7:30pm and Wednesday evening at 8pm. Please contact the Circuit office for the Zoom link. All are welcome.





Churches Together in Shifnal & District

All Welcome

St Andrew's Church, Shifnal

Join for Prayers and Lunch

12:00 Noon

Tuesday 21st January

Tuesday 28th January

Reflections based on Jesus' question to Martha "Do you Believe this?"



Trinity Church Newport



Rev. Adrian Burdon will be Leading
sessions of “Conversation afternoons“ at

Trinity on the following dates

Monday 6th / 13th / 20th/ 27th

January and Monday 3rd February

At 2pm

Title: Christmas to Candlemas—

The Songs of the Bible

You are welcome to join us!

Table Top



at

DAWLEY CHRISTIAN CENTRE

**On Friday 14th February 2025
9.00am - 12 noon**

Come along and pick up a bargain.

IONA WORSHIP

An evening reflection
inspired by the Iona Community, Scotland

WELLINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

New St., Wellington

Telford TF1 1LU

Sunday 26th January 2025

5pm

ALL WELCOME

www.wellingtonmethodist.org.uk

www.iona.org.uk

HeartSpace on Sundays 10:30am

Upcoming dates:
Sunday 19th January
Sunday 16th February
Sunday 16th March

Do come along!

Relaxed contemporary worship
at the Trinity Centre, Victoria Road,
Shifnal



All you keen or would be bakers please
Join us for Bread Church at
Dawley Christian Centre
On Saturday 25th January 2025
9:30-1:30pm (with a light lunch)
Wednesday 29th January 2025
between 1-3pm
ALL ARE WELCOME



Everything will be ready for you to make your
own bread and it's FREE!
Please come along and give it a go.



THE FILLING STATION

Haughmond & Wrekin

27 January 2025

7:15pm for 7:30pm - 9pm



Haughmond & Wrekin Filling Station,
Rodington Village Hall, Shrewsbury,
SY4 4QS. 7:30 - 9pm, every 4th Monday.

Join us in January for Haughmond & Wrekin Filling Station, for worship, teaching, prayer, fellowship & great hospitality!

Future dates

24 Feb • 24 March

Main Speaker

Andy Ackroyd

Andy has recently moved to become the Vicar of Madeley in Telford. He is married to Sandra and has a 19 year old called Jacob who helps at FS.

Andy has many aspirations in life - seeing his team Leeds United back in the Premier League, seeing Yorkshire Cricket win a trophy, but most of all he is passionate about making Jesus known and equipping the church to do the same.



More info at...

www.thefillingstation.org.uk/station/haughmond-wrekin



**Taize Service for
Candlemas
Sunday 2nd February
6:00pm**



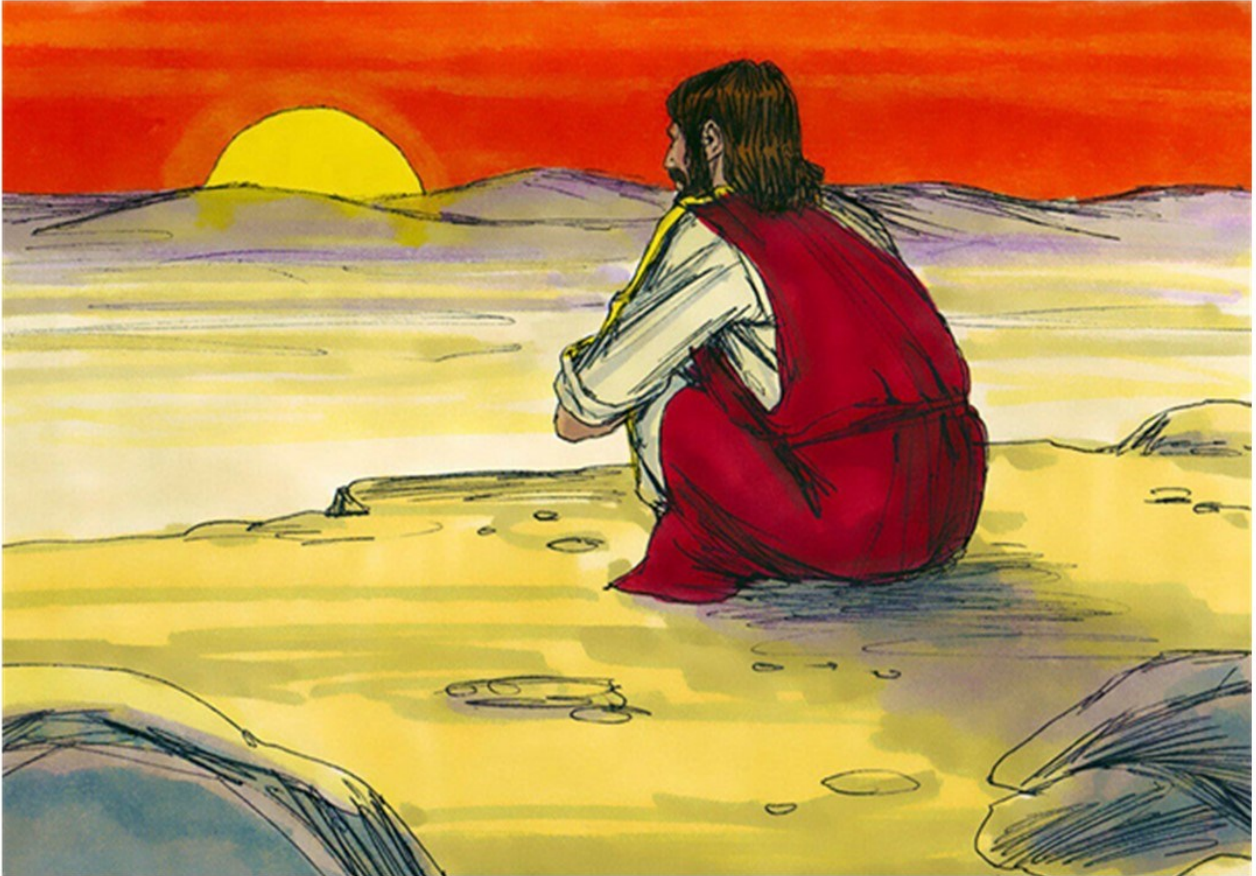
A Light in the darkness

Please get in touch if you have something to share.

Contact:

circuitsupport@telfordmeth.org.uk

or 01952 505108



Lent is a 40-day period of prayer, fasting, and reflection that many Christians observe in preparation for Easter.

Lent is a time to remember Jesus's fasting in the desert, ask for forgiveness, and prepare to celebrate his resurrection. The word "Lent" comes from an old English word meaning "lengthen" because it takes place when the days start to get longer.

Come along and join us for our Lent Lunch and find out more!

Dawley Christian Centre

Wednesday 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th March
And 2nd and 9th April between 12:30-2:30pm

ALL ARE WELCOME

Prayer for Creation

Loving Creator, we pause to marvel at the splendour of Your creation.

Sky, land, and sea declare Your glory;

Plants, animals, and people reveal Your artistry.

Forgive us for the ways we have harmed this beautiful earth through our neglect and through our greed.

Inspire us to be better caretakers of Your world, sowing seeds of restoration and hope.

As we enter this new year, may we walk gently on the earth, mindful of Your presence in all things.

Teach us to live in harmony with creation, reflecting Your love in every choice we make.

Amen



ECO-Friendly Tips for January

Adopt a "Buy less" Habit: Start the year by buying only what you truly need and, where possible, by choosing eco-friendly products.

Save energy and save money: Look round at Church. Where can you save energy, e.g. by insulating doors and windows and reviewing heating systems for energy efficiency?

If you want to talk about becoming an Eco-Church, please contact Jo jokudlacik@gmail.com

The Methodist Church

**We are called to be a growing,
inclusive, evangelistic and
justice-seeking Church**



The Church of
St Andrew
& Trinity
Church
Dorset



Dementia
Friendly Church
2022-23

Reaching out together to share
God's amazing faith, hope and love.

Forget me not Group

for people affected by dementia.

Third Thursday of the month at 2:00pm

Come and join us - there's a warm
welcome and a friendly atmosphere.

For more information, or for if you want to have a
conversation about memory difficulties or
dementia, contact Sarah Thorpe on 07983 248949 or
sarah.thorpe121@gmail.com

Don't sit at home feeling cold and hungry.

Come and join us at the **Dawley Christian Centre.**

Our Coffee Bar is open between 9-12:30pm from Monday - Thursday as a Warm Space. (We are open Friday mornings as usual for cooked breakfasts.)

Between 11am—12noon we are offering a tasty bowl of soup, with a slice of freshly made toast and a refreshing cup of tea or coffee and **it's all free!**

We can get through this winter together.



**Dawley Christian Centre
High Street
Dawley
Telford TF4 2EX**

2025

2025



Everyday Welcome

**We will re-open on Monday 13th January
at St Andrew's Church.**

**Wishing all our visitors and volunteers a blessed
and Happy New Year, and looking forward to
providing a warm welcome for everyone in 2025.**

Open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
10:30am - 2:00pm

Tuesdays 10:30-12:30pm

Come and join us for a friendly chat &
refreshments. Delicious light lunches served
from 12 Noon each day except Tuesday.

It's free. Donations welcomed!

**Pop in for a warm
welcome at our**



Cosy Café



Every Monday from

7th October

10.30 to 12.30

Meet friends and chat

Refreshments provided

Admaston Methodist Church,

Bratton Road, Admaston.

TF5 0AH

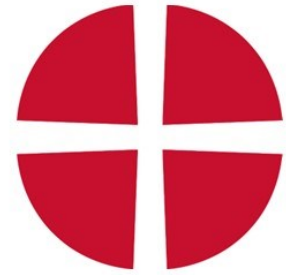
Stay & Play Under 5's Playgroup

at Dawley Christian Centre

High Street

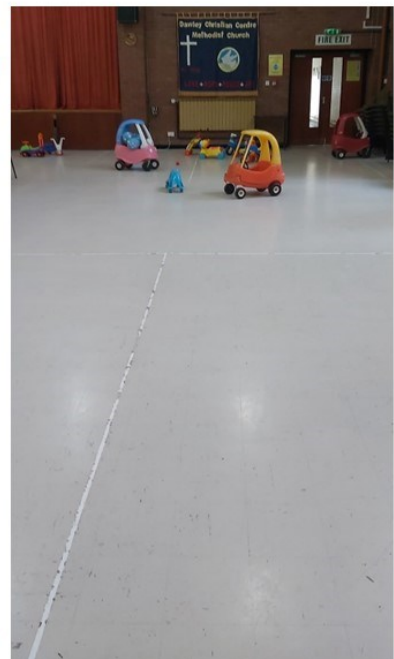
Dawley

TF4 2EX



**Every Monday & Tuesday from
9:30-11:30am.**

We have lots of space and plenty of toys so
bring the kids and let's make some noise!



The **Methodist** Church

Telford Circuit

CIRCUIT SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Home -based
12 Hours per Week
£7488 (Actual Salary)

We seek a person with ability to lead and instruct on all aspects around Safeguarding at a Circuit Level and to support local churches in exercising their Safeguarding responsibilities.

The post is to commence as soon as possible. Applications will be dealt with as they are received until we find the right person for the role.

For a full application pack please contact the Circuit Administrator
email: circuitsupport@telfordmeth.org.uk
Telephone: 01952 505108

Coffee Morning at Cartway Methodist Church, Bridgnorth

On the 1st Saturday of each month between 10am –12 midday there is a Coffee Morning at Cartway Methodist Church.

There's going to be a great raffle,.

All are welcome.



Wellington Methodist Church

Are having All Age Drop-in Craft Sessions on the second Saturday of each month.

The sessions are FREE and start at 10am-11:45am.

You are welcome to drop in any time.

Everyone is welcome.



Coffee Mornings at Horsehay

**Every Wednesday:
10.30am - 12.00 noon**

**Join us for tea/coffee,
fellowship and lots of
chat and laughter!**



Ladies' Fellowship at Horsehay **Second Tuesday of each month**

in the vestry @2.30pm

ALL WELCOME - BRING A FRIEND!

Painting for Pleasure at Horsehay Methodist Church

Informal art groups (no tutor, but lots of chat and helping each other with tips and techniques). Whatever your skill level, if you enjoy drawing and/or painting, why not come and join us? **Thursday and Friday mornings** 10.00 - 12.30. £5.00 per session.

Albrighton Open Door

**Meets on the first
Tuesday of each month
7-30 to 9pm.**

**It is a series of informal
and interesting talks and
activities in a friendly
social setting.**

All are welcome.

Bereavement Cafe

A monthly opportunity to meet and chat with others who have been bereaved, hosted by members of local churches.

Second Monday of each month

2:30-4:00pm

Wellington Methodist Church



Church Activities taking place in

Albrighton Methodist Church on a regular basis:



Monday (2nd and 4th Monday of the month) **Coffee and T4U 10-12** (A quiet coffee morning for people who want a bit of time out it's FREE!)

Open Door - First Tuesday of the Month - 7.30-9pm. The evening has a variety of speakers ranging from singing, talks about wildlife, travel logs, health related talks.....£2

Weekly, **Thursday cafe 10-12**

Friday (2nd and 4th Friday of the month) Sing a long
2-3.30pm (For anyone who likes to sing 'old time'
songs or from the musicals. £2)



Saturday morning 1st Saturday in the month 10-12. with bric-a-brac and bookstall.



NEW!!!! Board Games

Come and join the fun!

**The last Saturday of each month
10am-12noon. This is for all ages.**

£2 per adult, £5 per family.

You are welcome to bring your own game.

We have a **Quiet Corner** open for prayer/quiet reflection when there are church run events, located in the Meeting Room. Gill is available for anyone who wants to chat on a Thursday morning and has planned a 'Food for thought' time for a short while after

All are welcome



The **calling** of the
Methodist Church
is to respond to the
gospel of **God's love**
in **Christ** and to live
out its discipleship in
worship and mission

Our Calling

The **Methodist Church** 