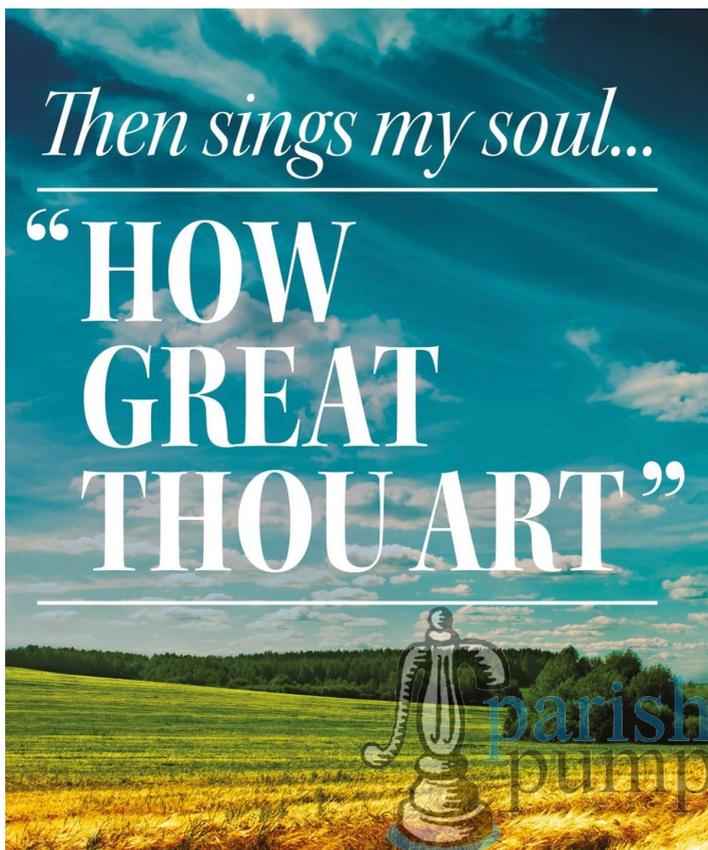


Salem Methodist Church  
Watley's End BS36 1QL

# SALEM NEWS

[www.salemchurch.org.uk](http://www.salemchurch.org.uk)

September 2025



Happy New Year!

Doesn't time fly when you're having fun. Here we are at the start of another Connexional year, my seventh as your minister, most of you reading this have been around Salem for one or two years more than that.!!

What a seven years we've had together, the welcome service in the New Room seems so long ago, we've been through a global pandemic where a scarecrow version of me stood guard over the graveyard, we've celebrated jubilees, we've given out hundreds of goodie bags to local families, we've welcomed a whole nativity family into our graveyard for the village to enjoy, we've said goodbye to folk, but we've also welcomed in others.

This month we get to pause and specifically look back twice over the weekend of 20/21 September. On the 20 September as an extension to our Bacon Butty morning, we'll be opening our doors as part of the Heritage Open Day initiative. Welcoming folk from across the community, and hopefully further afield to come and enjoy this spectacular space that we enjoy each week. Then on 21 September the Revd Margaret Goodall will help us to reflect at our Church Anniversary marking 238 years since Wesley stood on the foundation stones (time to start thinking about the 240<sup>th</sup>!).

As a church though we can't just focus our attention on the past (says a History graduate), but we can enable the past to help us to discern what is next for us as the Methodist Church in Watley's End.

Where is God leading us this Connexional year? What is it that God wants us to do or discover.

In October the Revd Trey Hall the Director for Evangelism and Growth will be coming to the Circuit, we're encouraged to 'come and be inspired and equipped with practical ways to welcome new people into your church and community'. One of the challenges from this event will be for each church to do something to engage with the community in Easter 2026. So let's start thinking now about what God might be calling us to do, so that when we gather together in October, we might be nudged some more about what's next for Salem Methodist Church.

heigh.



# Catalyst '25

be inspired in making connections  
and welcoming people

Lunch provided.

with **Trey Hall,**

Director of  
Evangelism and Growth,  
the Methodist Connexional team.

**Sat 18<sup>th</sup> October**  
at 10-4pm.

refreshments from 9:30

**Badminton Rd Methodist  
Church, BS16 6NU**

Come and be inspired and equipped with practical ways to  
welcome new people into your church and community.

This free event is provided by the Circuit to encourage  
and support us all.

**Sign up here:**



Any questions?

Please email Rev Sharon-  
[sharon.lovelock@methodist.org.uk](mailto:sharon.lovelock@methodist.org.uk)

**We look forward to welcoming you!**

There will be a circuit service on Sunday October 19th  
at 10.30a.m. at Zion

Rev Teddy Kalonga will conduct the service  
and Trey Hall will preach

There will be NO SERVICE at Salem on that morning  
Viv Lear was planned and she has agreed to postpone that  
appointment until the next plan

# Join us for our regular Activities



**Every Monday** - Prayer Group in the vestry at 7.30p.m.

**Wednesday September 3rd at 10 a.m.**

**Monthly coffee morning.**

Come and enjoy an hour of fellowship with friends,  
old and new

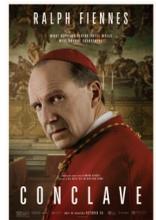


**Tuesday September 9th at 2p.m.**

**Film Afternoon**

This month we will show “Conclave” starring Ralph Fiennes

The film depicts the intrigues of electing a new Pope  
(fictional of course -as no one knows what happens in the conclave)



**Saturday September 20th**

It is bacon butty day—but we will be open from 10a.m to 4 p.m  
for our Heritage Open Day ( see middle pages)

**Tuesday September 23rd at 2.30p.m.**

Women’s Fellowship

All Ladies are welcome to come  
and spend time together



# Threads through Creation

a spectacular display of textile art  
by Jacqui Parkinson

**Victoria Methodist Church**  
25<sup>th</sup> August to 4<sup>th</sup> October

**ADMISSION FREE**  
Mon/Weds/Fri 11am - 4pm  
Tues/Thurs/Sat 11am - 6pm

1A Whiteladies Rd, BS8 1NU | vic-methodist-bristol.org.uk

# Threads through Creation

25th August to 4th October

'Threads through Creation' is a spectacular sequence of twelve huge textile panels. It's an exuberant retelling of the creation story in the book of Genesis, a retelling which many visitors will find both moving and breath taking. Viewers are treated to a wonderful variety of colours, shapes, patterns – and of course lots of creatures!

The exhibition is one of the largest textile projects by a single artist, ever. It took Jacqui nearly three years to complete. It follows on from 'Threads through Revelation', her first huge exhibition which visited 14 cathedrals from 2016 to 2018, and was displayed at Victoria in September 2024 to huge positive acclaim.

**Saturday 20th September at 3.00pm**

Jacqui Parkinson will be giving a talk on her work

**Saturday 4th October at 7.30pm**

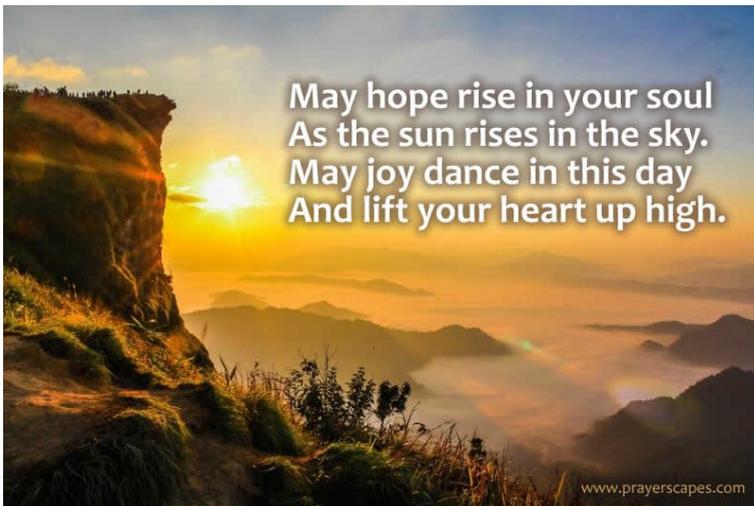
*"In the Beginning..." a reflective evening of music, readings and meditations to accompany Jacqui Parkinson's Threads through Creation.*

We welcome everyone, people of all faiths and none to this exhibition and the two events.

**I have seen this exhibition and also heard Jacqui Parkinson speak about her work**

**It is inspiring! I would encourage anyone to go to see it**

**Margaret**



May hope rise in your soul  
As the sun rises in the sky.  
May joy dance in this day  
And lift your heart up high.

Methodist  
history

# Heritage Open Day

Treasure  
hunt

**Saturday September 20th**

**Doors open from 10am until 4pm**



Come and find out the history of this little chapel in the heart of Watleys End, where John Wesley, the founder of Methodism preached on “the foundations of a new preaching house” in 1787

**Church Anniversary Service Sunday 21st September at 10.30am**

Organ and piano  
recitals

Floral  
arrangements

Local  
history

**All Welcome**



Refreshments  
available all day

Family history  
research

**Salem Methodist Church, Factory Road, Winterbourne, Bristol BS36 1QL**

[www.facebook.com/watleysendmethodist](https://www.facebook.com/watleysendmethodist)

[www.salemchurch.org.uk](http://www.salemchurch.org.uk)

## **Your support for the Heritage Open Day is vital**

Help will be needed in various ways

Can you please

look out old photographs of Watley's End or Salem events

Have you any old Bibles or hymn books that we could borrow

( *Please bring and give to Margaret - with your name on please* )

Are you able to display a poster or deliver leaflets

**In the week beginning September 15th**

we will need help to set up displays

**On the day -**

are you able to be stewards for a set time

can you help in the kitchen

can you provide homemade cakes

Please consider how you can help and sign up.

Lists are on the bookcase

## Prayer for September 2025

Heavenly Father, September is the month of new starts for so many. New starts can be exciting, but they can also be daunting. We don't always know what to expect and sometimes we feel as if we are on our own in a strange new place, or situation.

Help us to know that, as your people, we are never alone. You promised, through Jesus, to be with us always and You gave us Your Holy Spirit to empower us.

In some ways every day is a new start – a new gift from You. As we unwrap the gift of each new day, this September, encourage us to receive it confidently and expectantly. Help us to know that we can do all things, through

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*can be sung to the Tune 'Trentham' (Breathe on me, breath of God)."*

Father, who art in Heaven  
All hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,  
In Earth and Heav'n the same.

The bread we need to live  
Give us this day, we pray.  
Forgive our sin, as we forgive,  
Those hurting us today.

Lead us from tempting paths  
And sinful, selfish ways  
Deliver us from evil's grasp  
To serve Thee all our days.

So may Thy glory shine,  
And may Thy Kingdom reign,  
The power Thine, the glory Thine,

## New Beginnings

September is the time of year when we get back to our routines after the summer break. As whole-life disciples (lit: *learners*) we are all called to learn from Jesus and live like Him. God wants us to make a difference in our workplaces and schools, and with family and friends. As Paul writes:

*'And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.'* (Colossians 3:17).

**'WHATEVER you do'**: God is at work in every aspect of our lives. He can use whatever we do to make a difference to those around. Do we believe this? Our lives shouldn't be like an orange, segmented into the sacred and secular, but more like an apple, in which all of our lives are available to Him.

**'Whatever YOU do'**: God wants to use us to share God's love as we serve others around us, wherever we spend time. We can trust Him for the resources we need hour by hour, day by day, year by year. What do we need from Him?

**'Whatever you DO'**: We work for God alone, in responding to God's love for us. How does this perspective make a difference when what we do is hard, unrewarding, or even unappreciated by others?

A man standing on a train platform was asked one day: *'Who are you?'* He replied, *'I am a Christian thinly disguised as an accountant.'* If we were asked the same question ourselves, how would we respond? As disciples of Jesus Christ, our identity is rooted in God and His call upon our lives. For each of us, September means learning from Jesus about how we might live for Him in the different places we find ourselves.

## Pray for Armed Forces amid 'uncertain' times, General Synod hears

A senior Army officer has urged the Church to pray for and support members of the Armed Forces “who put themselves in harm’s way to protect our nation”.

In a recent address to the General Synod, Brigadier Jaish Mahan, Deputy Commander of the 1st UK Division – who has served in Kosovo, Sierra Leone, Iraq and Afghanistan – spoke of how the world is in a “complex place” currently with conflict in Europe and in the Middle East, and several other “unstable” regions around the world.

He said the Army is “hugely privileged” to be supported by “truly exceptional” chaplains who, he said, are “part of the fabric of our family”.

“Their role is complex, from pastoral and spiritual, through to moral, often helping our leaders make the right decisions on a difficult day,” he said.

“My own personal experience of chaplains across my career and deployments has been that they have been truly exceptional people,” he added.

Brigadier Mahan, a practising Christian, asked members to pray for and support members of the Armed Forces who face dangers to protect the nation.

He drew a connection between the place of the Armed Forces and the Church which he said had “always stood fast in times of crisis”.

He said: “First, please continue to pray for and support those men and women, and their families, who put themselves in harm’s way to protect our nation.

“Secondly, please consider how you as the church leadership might support our nation, now in this time of uncertainty and should, heaven forbid, we find ourselves in a largescale conflict.

“The military, like the Church, is part of the fabric of our nation, fundamental pillars that hold together our house, our society.”

# Prayer Diary September

*1st*

<b>Church</b>	Pews - the congregation
<b>Offices of the church</b>	Pastoral visitors
<b>Church membership</b>	S
<b>Church connections</b>	MHA
<b>World wide Church</b>	Nicaragua

*8th*

<b>Church</b>	Pulpit - preachers & ministers
<b>Offices of the church</b>	Property & cleaning
<b>Church membership</b>	T, U & V
<b>Church connections</b>	North East cluster
<b>World wide Church</b>	Mexico

*15th*

<b>Church</b>	Vestry - stewards
<b>Offices of the church</b>	Preachers
<b>Church membership</b>	W, X, Y, Z
<b>Church connections</b>	People who use the facilities for various groups
<b>World wide</b>	
<b>Church</b>	Oman

*22nd*

<b>Church</b>	Entrance - welcome stewards & visitors
<b>Offices of the church</b>	Secretary
<b>Church membership</b>	A
<b>Church connections</b>	The community we serve
<b>World wide</b>	
<b>Church</b>	Ethiopia

*29th*

<b>Church</b>	Hall & rooms - the various meetings & groups who use them
<b>Offices of the church</b>	Stewards
<b>Church membership</b>	B
<b>Church connections</b>	The Methodist connection world wide
<b>World wide Church</b>	Tunisia

## Preachers for September 2025

## Flowers

7th Mr Chris Leese  
14th Rev. Leigh Maydew (HC)  
21st **Church Anniversary**  
Rev. Margaret Goodall  
28th Mrs Jenny Clark

Nrs C. Lowe  
Mrs J. Faulkner  
Mrs J, Glass

### BE THE CHURCH

*Protect the environment.*

*Care for the poor.*

**Forgive often.**

**Reject racism.**

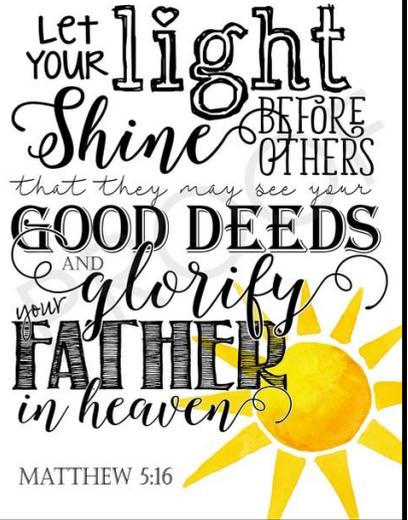
**Fight for the powerless.**

*Share earthly and spiritual resources.*

*Embrace diversity.*

**Love God.**

**Enjoy this life.**



### Minister

Rev. Leigh Maydew

Tel : 07388 083488

Email

[leigh.maydew@methodist.org.uk](mailto:leigh.maydew@methodist.org.uk)

### Lay worker

Naomi Sharp

Tel : 07854 727380

Email

[churchandcommunity@bsgc.org.uk](mailto:churchandcommunity@bsgc.org.uk)