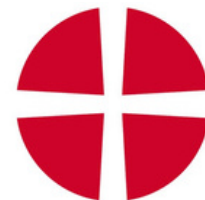




Bethesda Methodist Church

Minister: Rev. Rachel Leather

www.bethesda-church.org.uk - Tel 01242 269803



OCTOBER NOTICES

WE WELCOME ALL FRIENDS AND VISITORS TO OUR SERVICES.

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS IN THE HALL AFTER THE MORNING SERVICE.



We seek to make our services accessible to all. If you need any help or assistance please speak to a steward. If you have any suggestions to help us improve please get in touch.

Please feel free to use the children's area in church which has toys and colouring. We also have a Junior Church group during most Sunday morning services for ages 3-11.



Please set your hearing aid to the T, telephone or loop setting.

If you would like a large print hymn book or service book we have these available. If you cannot read the screen and would like to have a printed order of the service please speak to a steward.

There is a toilet at the back of the church (accessed via the entrance foyer) and ladies and gents toilets through the building, accessed via the side doors.



Services this month

Sunday 4th October

10:30am - Morning Worship at Bethesda - Karen BurrIDGE

10:30am - Hawling Chapel - United Service at St Edwards

Lectionary: Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b -14
Matthew 21: 33-46

Sunday 11th October

10:30am - Holy Communion - Rev Rachel Leather

Sunday Morning Youth @ Bethesda

6:30pm - Youth Discipleship Group

7:30pm - Youth Group

Lectionary: Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9
Matthew 22: 1-14

Sunday 18th October - Family Fun Service

10:30am - Family Service at Bethesda - Sean Marsh

6:00pm - Evening Worship at Hawling - Peter Allsopp

Lectionary: Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22

Sunday 25th October

10:30am - Morning Worship at Bethesda - Gail Whiting

Lectionary: Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46



Children & Young People

We welcome all ages to our services and understand that some of our congregation can be wriggly and might like to wander around. We love to see them taking part in worship their own way! We believe in a Church which welcomes and serves all people in the name of Jesus Christ.

Notices and Events



Saturday Coffee

Join us for coffee, cake and a chat every Saturday morning from 10:30 - 12:00 here at Bethesda. Donations to charity. We look forward to seeing you.

Jigsaw Swap - Do you enjoy a jigsaw and would you like to try new one? Then come along to our jigsaw swap at Saturday coffee shop on 17th October, where you will find a plentiful variety of jigsaws to choose from.

Christmas Shoeboxes

Once again it's shoeboxes time when we fill shoeboxes to give to children who otherwise would not have presents at Christmas.

Please take a covered box from the vestibule. All instructions about what gifts to include are in the boxes. Please return the filled boxes to church by 1st Nov.

Thank you, Val Gage



'Roots' Service

On Saturday 3rd October, St Marks (Gloucester Road) hold their contemporary worship service 'Roots' in the afternoon at 3pm. This is a relaxed and friendly all-age service with live worship and discussion.



21st Century Disciples Research

We want to reach as many people as possible - we need your help! If you haven't completed our online survey about Christian discipleship yet, there is still time and we really need your help. We've teamed up with Christian researchers to help us explore what discipleship means and looks like for Christians today. Most of the questions involve selecting answers, so there's very little writing required. It takes most people about 10 minutes to complete.

Scan the QR code or [Click here](#) (From BRF Ministries)



Our October welcome teams are:

Sunday 4th - Sally Williams & Christine Wisdom

Sunday 11th - Peter Boait & Elaine Bailey

Sunday 18th - Graham & Margaret Locke

Sunday 25th - Celia Kidd & Anna Young



National Emergency Briefing

On Sunday evening November 1st at 6pm we are showing the film "National Emergency Briefing" in the church. This film is being shown all over Britain and is a summary of the briefings given to our government on climate change which they have chosen NOT to expose to the public so far. There will be refreshments following the film and the opportunity to discuss further. Please tell your friends and neighbours about this opportunity for which we also hope to be joined by St Marks and many others.

Bethesda at Six

The 'Bethesda at Six' concert series returns this autumn. A date for your diaries: Gordon Busbridge and the Cheltenham Sinfonietta are giving a recital here at Bethesda at 6.00pm on Sunday 15th November.



Curry Evening

The next curry evening will take place at 7pm on Monday, 2 November at Sixways Spice on London Road. All are welcome. Please let Katie know on Chelt. if you would like to come along.

Bethesda Singers

The singing group will meet on Thursday 1st October and Thursday 22nd October in The Well. Join us at 7pm for tea and a chat to begin singing at 7:15pm. All are welcome. We would also welcome singers to join us for the Carol service. Christmas rehearsals will run most Thursdays through November and December until the Carol Service.....

More information to follow!





Toddlers

Our parent and toddler groups meet on Monday and Thursday each week from 10am in the Church Hall.

New families are always welcome.



The Hush – Cheltenham Literature Festival

You may know that over the last few years, the Methodist Church connexional team has hosted a venue called 'The Hush' at Cheltenham Literature Festival.

What is The Hush? – The Hush tent venue is The Methodist Church's presence at this year's festival (9th–18th October) – a welcoming, peaceful space where children and families can step away from the noise and busyness to pause, wonder and dream. Rather than being a traditional church activity, the Hush Tent offers an open and inclusive environment where people of all faiths and none can experience moments of calm, creativity and reflection. Pop in and see us!



Messy Church at St Marks

The half term holiday Messy Church is on Wednesday 28th October 10:15–12noon. To book your space email messychurch@stmarksmethodist.org.uk

Autumn christian aid Fair

Advance notice that the Christian Aid Autumn Fair will be held on Saturday 21st November this year at Salem Baptist Church St George's Road. Please put the date in your diary Bethesda will again be running the cake / bakery stall. Offers of cakes and help on the day please to Brian and Alexis. Further details to follow next month.



Bethesda Backpackers

Our walks generally start at 9.30 and we like the leader to know the preceding day if you wish to stay for a pub lunch as we need to make a booking and arrange lift shares.

Friday October 9th a 3.5 mile flattish walk around the golf course on the top of Stinchcombe Hill near Dursley led by Elaine ()

On **Saturday 17th** Elaine () is offering 2 easy walks from the south to Belas Knap long barrow on Cleeve Hill – either a short 1.8 miles or a slightly longer 4.1 miles.

Wednesday 21st is a fairly easy walk of 3.7 miles near Daglingworth/Cirencester again led by Elaine ()

On **Monday 26th Peter** () is leading a 2.5 mile walk at Robinswood Hill Country Park in Gloucester

Wildlife Gardening Evening

A talk by Chris Baines: Wildlife gardening pioneer, TV broadcaster and author of the *RHS Companion to Wildlife Gardening*
Introductory talk by Dr Elizabeth Pimley
Head of Ecology, Wild service, Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust.

- Demonstrations of Wildlife Gardening Techniques and Local Projects
- Giveaway of free plants and seeds

Wednesday 14th October 2026 at 7.00pm
St Phillip and St James Church,
Grafton Road, Cheltenham. GL50 2DD

Tickets £5.00 to include wine or soft drink
Book via: pipandjims.org.uk/concertsandevents
Organised by the Eco Groups of St Phillip & St James & St Peter's Leckhampton, & SPJARA





Sunday 18th October

FAMILY FUN SERVICE

10.30am - a short 20 minute interactive family church service with special guest, Gracie, the national Methodist youth president.

Followed by pastries, hot drinks, a bouncy castle, craft and prayer stations. ALL FREE.

Finishing at 12pm.

Bethesda Methodist Church

www.bethesda-church.org.uk

Next Church Council Meeting

Monday October 12th 7:30pm in the Sanctuary
Everyone who is part of our church community is very welcome to attend our next Church Council meeting to hear more about what we do. (It is only council members who can vote).

Gloucestershire Methodist Circuit Youth

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

2-4th October -

3Generate Methodist Youth Conference

Sunday 11th October -
Youth Group Chip Crawl

Friday 4th December -
Circuit Youth Winter Ball

We host a range of activities for anyone in school years 7-13 connected to a Circuit church. See gloucestershiremethodist.org.uk/youngpeople or email circuit.youth@glosccircuit.co.uk. Our team can also be available for one-to-one support and mentoring. If this is something you might benefit from, please do get in touch and we are happy to talk it through with you.

Contact us...

Minister: Rev Rachel Leather
revrachel.leather@methodist.org.uk

Stewards: Bridget Nye, Keith Norman, Teresa Griffiths and Joanne Reed
Stewards@bethesda-church.org.uk

Safeguarding, Pastoral Care & Hospitality:
Rachel Simpson
rachel.simpson@bethesda-church.org.uk

Children, Young People & Families: Sean Marsh
sean.marsh@bethesda-church.org.uk

Music Coordinator: Diana Wadsworth
music@bethesda-church.org.uk



The work we do in this church and circuit is funded only through offerings. If you would like to give to our life and mission at Bethesda please scan this QR code to make an online donation.

November Notices

Please send any notices for the **November edition** to: notices@bethesda-church.org.uk as soon as you can and by 9pm on Wednesday 28th October at the latest. The target date for email circulation of the August notices is Friday 30th October with paper copies available Sunday 1st November.

Please do send any events which you think our church community would like to hear about. Sending items a month ahead gives time for people to pop dates in their diaries.

To receive our monthly notice sheet via email please join the congregation email list by emailing notices@bethesda-church.org.uk. These notices (without personal phone numbers and email addresses) are also available on our website.

