Bethesda Methodist Church

Minister: Rev. Rachel Leather
www.bethesda-church.org.uk - Tel 01242 269803

NOVEMBER 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.



Sundays this month

Sunday 1st November - All Saints'

10:30am - Morning Worship at Bethesda - Rev Rachel Leather
6:00pm - National Emergency Briefing at Bethesda
6:00pm - Holy Communion at Hawling - Rev Rachel Leather
Lectionary: Revelation 7: 9-17 Psalm 34: 1-10, 22 1 John 3: 1-3 Matthew 5: 1-12

Sunday 8th November - Remembrance Sunday



10:30am - Holy Communion - Rev Stan Brown
Sunday Morning Youth @ Bethesda
6:00pm - Youth Group Social
Lectionary: Joshua 24: 1-3a, 14-25 Psalm 78: 1-7 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18 Matthew 25: 1-13

Sunday 15th November

10:30am - Morning Worship at Bethesda - Mr Colin Pascoe
6:00pm - 'Bethesda at Six' Concert Series
6:00pm - Evening Worship at Hawling - Deacon Sue Peat
Lectionary: Judges 4: 1-7 Psalm 123 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11 Matthew 25: 14-30

Sunday 22nd November - Christ the King

10:30am - Morning Worship at Bethesda - Mr Paul Turner
Sunday Morning Youth @ Bethesda
3:00pm - Candles of Remembrance Service
6:30pm - Youth Discipleship Group
7:30pm - Youth Group
Lectionary: Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24 Psalm 95: 1-7a or Psalm 100 Ephesians 1: 15-23 Matthew 25: 31-46

Sunday 29th November - Advent Sunday

10:30am - Morning Worship at Bethesda - Rev Rachel Leather
6:00pm - Evening Worship at Hawling - Rev Jayne Webb
Lectionary: Isaiah 64:1-9 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:24-37

Bethesda Singers

We warmly welcome new and returning singers to join us as we build our numbers for this year's Carol Service, taking place at 6pm on Sunday 20th December.
Everyone is welcome, whatever your experience!
Weekly rehearsals begin on Thursday 12th November, 7.30–8.30pm in The Well.
As in previous years, we'll also meet for an afternoon rehearsal on the day of the service, with a well-earned break for tea and refreshments before the service.

Autumn Fair

christian aid

10.30 am - 1.30 pm on Saturday 21st November at Salem Baptist Church, St George's Road.

We do hope you can come to this annual event . Come and enjoy our coffee shop , stalls , delicious lunches and desserts. This year the Fair will be supporting the Christmas Appeal for families in Ethiopia. For more information or offers to help please contact Alexis and Brian (01242 xxxxxx)

Bethesda volunteers are specifically tasked with running the cake stall, so contributions of home-made cakes are particularly welcome!

Toddler Groups



Our parent and toddler groups meet on Monday and Thursday each week from 10am in the Church Hall.
New families are always welcome.

Our November welcome teams are:
Sunday 1st - Brenda Cox & Alex Clark
Sunday 8th - Anne Rawlinson & Penny Wood
Sunday 15th - David & Ros Terry
Sunday 22nd - Peter & Margaret Allsopp
Sunday 29th - Stephen & Doddy Marlow



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. We hope you can join us.

On behalf of the Cobalt Medical Charity thank you to everyone who has purchased cards from the stand in the Willow. I have paid in £51.58. Thank you also for the used cards that you have donated for us to remake. Pam Brookes



Curry Evening

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

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.

An update: At the recent Church Council meeting we discussed the future of our Saturday Coffee Shop. The numbers have been dwindling over the years and after careful consideration it has been decided that Saturday Coffee Shop will not be continuing after Christmas.
Thank you to all those on the coffee shop team who have baked delicious cakes, served us coffee and offered conversation and company over the past 30 years. Special thanks to Celia for organising the rota for such a long time.
Moving forwards we will have opportunities for special coffee mornings and other similar events through the year.

Bethesda Backpackers

On **Tuesday 3rd** Alan is leading an easy walk around the Slaughters (xxxxxxxxx)
On **Thursday 12th** a 4 mile walk from Little Compton is being led by Brian and Anne (xxxxxx)
Friday 20th is a 3.5 mile walk around Elmley Castle led by Peter (xxxxxxxxxxxx)
Saturday 28th is a 2.5 mile walk around Cheltenham Town centre led by Elaine (xxxxxxxxxxxxx)
Please contact the walk leader in good time by the day before the walks to find out more about the walk and so we can organise lifts and order lunch.

Candles of Remembrance Service

Sunday 22nd November 3pm.
This service is specifically designed for those who have had a recent bereavement (in the past year or so) and an afternoon tea will be provided. If there is someone you wish to remember by attending and lighting a candle, please will you let Rev Rachel know.



Blue Christmas

We will be holding a service on **Tuesday 1st December at 2pm**. This is a service for anyone who wants to resist the enforced jollity of the Christmas season, where we will be reflecting on the darkness during Advent whilst all around us there are twinkly lights.

Doubters & Seekers

This is a new House Group for those with more questions than answers, who enjoy the debate and conversation rather than asserting absolute certainty, who desire intellectually honest Christianity. If you are secure in your faith, then this group is not for you. But if you are comfortable with questioning received wisdom, and want to unpack theology, scripture, and belief in a safe environment, then this group is definitely for you.
Please contact Rev Rachel if you would like to join the house group or want to ask if this group is for you: revrachel.leather@methodist.org.uk
01242 xxxxxx

CHRISTMAS FAIR
Sat 28th November @ Bethesda

Bethesda folk will be running the cake stall and serving lunches from 12noon at the Christmas Fair. If you are available on the day and able to help out please speak to Helen Davies.

We are also looking for donations of home-made cakes for the cake stall and unwanted gifts for the gift stalls. New condition toys, books and bric-a-brac are also being collected. Donations can be left on the stage on Friday 27th or at an earlier date arranged with Rachel Simpson. Cakes can be brought to the kitchen on Friday 27th or on the morning of the fair. Thank you for your support.



This year the Christmas tree here at Bethesda is being donated by Jenny and Bob at Hawling Chapel and will be twinned with olive trees in the West Bank.

In the West Bank, Palestinian farmland is being seized for illegal Israeli settlements. Palestinians are being driven from their land with violence and intimidation, their trees uprooted and property destroyed. The Olive Tree Project plants new olive tree saplings as a direct and peaceful way to stand with Palestinian farmers, replacing their source of income and helping them to defend their right to work their land. We are hoping to raise at least £85 to twin our Christmas tree, there will be opportunities to make a donation on Sundays through advent. The tree twinning project is organised by 'Embrace the Middle East', a Christian Development Charity tacking poverty and injustice in the Middle East. Click here to find out more: https://shop.embraceme.org/advent-christmas/all-advent-christmas/olive-tree-twinning---custom-bundle-builder





Bethesda at Six

Sunday 15th November 2026 at 6.00pm

The Cheltenham Sinfonietta
Led by Gordon Busbridge on Harpsichord

An all-Italian Baroque concert.

Corelli - Concerto Grosso No.2 in F major
Vivaldi - 'Spring' from the Spring Season
Interval
Vivaldi - Concerto for Two Oboes in D minor
Vivaldi - 'Summer' from the Four Seasons

BETHESDA CHURCH
Great Norwood Street, off Suffolk Road
(Near Bath Road car park)

Admission FREE

Donations invited for Maggie's Centre for Cancer Support

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.

December Notices

Please send any notices for the **December edition** to: notices@bethesda-church.org.uk as soon as you can and by 9pm on Wednesday 2nd December at the latest. The target date for email circulation of the December notices is Friday 4th December with paper copies available Sunday 6th December.

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 put 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.

A ROCHA GOLD AWARD WINNER 2023 ECO CHURCH learn more

ALL WE CAN

Supporter

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