Church Stretton Methodist Church

In the Shropshire & Marches Circuit



A warm welcome

to you all in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
If you are visitors we trust that your holiday will bring you joy and refreshment of spirit. Please join us for coffee & fellowship in the hall following this service.

All are welcome

This Week at Church

SUNDAY SERVICES

18th OCTOBER 2026	25th OCTOBER 2026
Neville Stephens	Kester Dean

SERVICES COMMENCE AT 10.30 am

WEDNESDAY 21st OCTOBER 2026

10 am to 12.00 **Baby & Toddler Group** – in church hall
2.00 pm **Pastoral Leaders Meeting –** in the vestry
2.30 pm – 4.00 pm "Cuppa & Chat" – in church hall

MINISTER
REV'D GEORGE HEINZ
Telephone: 07538480626

CHURCH WEBSITE
www.churchstretton-methodistchurch.org.uk

WE ARE ASKED TO PRAY
FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE

Wendy M, Linda & David M, Geoff P, Gillian P, Hazel R,
Tim R, Christine & Gerry R, Brenda R.
Residents & Staff at Field House.

PASTORAL VISITORS MEETING

The next meeting for Pastoral Visitors will be held on Wednesday, 21st October at 2pm in the Vestry.

Sally W (Pastoral Co-ordinator)

REV. BERNARD NIXON

We are sorry to announce that Rev. Bernard Nixon died very recently after several years of poor health. Rev. Bernard was minister of this church from 1999 until 2003. Please keep his wife, June and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES FOR UKRAINE

Can you help fill two shoeboxes from our church please?
One for a boy aged 6 - 8 years and one for a girl aged 6 - 8 years.
Suggestions for contents: socks, children's jewellery, hair accessories, soft toys, dolls, puzzles, card games, bubbles, stickers, coloured pencils, colouring pads, sweets etc. All items to be new please. No guns or sharp objects.
Please place your contributions into the box marked 'For Ukraine' by Sunday November 1st.
If we receive more items than can fill two boxes then we will fill more!!
Please speak to Sue if there are any queries. Thank you.

'Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.'
When this tune is played before our preacher of the day leads us in worship, please take this time to be still and quiet and reflect. Thank you. It could be a time to turn in "Singing the Faith" to number 20 or to ponder the three aspects mentioned in the hymn - the presence of the Lord, the glory of the Lord and the power of the Lord.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

The Amnesty Ceilidh is scheduled for **Friday 30th October**, 7.00 to 10.30 p.m. at the Silvester Horne Institute.
Again, we are pleased to welcome the Whiffeldy Band to lead us through the dances with their excellent music.
Tickets are £15 (children £5) and this includes a hot supper and soft drinks (bring your own wine and beer) Tickets are available from Reuben's Books, or from David and Trish (01694 72290

SINGING THE FAITH……..692

Your hand, O God, has guided your flock, from age to age;
the wondrous tale is written, full clear, on every page;
our forebears owned your goodness, and we their deeds record;
and both of this bear witness; one church, one faith, one Lord.

The writer, Edward Hayes Plumptre, has a family connection with our Church. Janet and Martin Plumptre, both retired medical doctors, lived for a few years at Ragdon Cottage. (At the top of Sandford Avenue East take right turn for Ragdon and the cottage is on the right after a mile or so, hidden in the trees – a good place to park for a walk along Ragleth ridge.) Janet and Martin attended St Laurence's Church but often came to our evening service, when Janet took a turn as organist.
Edward Plumptre lived from 1821 to 1891. He died at Wells where he had been Dean of the Cathedral. He was ordained in 1847 by Bishop Wilberforce. He served in parishes but was also widely appreciated as a teacher of theology. He wrote a number of volumes of poetry and contributed to several Bible commentaries. He also translated plays of Sophocles, Aeschylus and Dante. He had a talent for business and for working with, and listening carefully to, people who advised him. Because of that he became involved in church administration.
The tune, Thornbury, was composed for these words by Basil Harwood, in 1898. It was at the request of Sir George Martin who wanted a new tune for the 25th annual festival of the London Church Choir Association.
This hymn is very suitable for ecumenical occasions with its repetition of "one Church, one faith, one Lord". This is an echo of Ephesians 4:3 to 6 which begins "Do your best to preserve the unity which the Spirit gives" and goes on to list seven items that are included in that unit **R.D.**