

REFLECTION..... on "Jesus the Light".

Jesus once said, "I am the light of the World". (John 8:12). When a light shines, it illuminates all dark places. So, to live in Christ, is to be aware that he illuminates those dark thoughts and attitudes, of which in our better moments, we would not entertain.

Our thoughts turn to the birth of Jesus, with the darkness encircling him. The darkness was the threat of the self-centred and evil thoughts of Herod and the Roman Emperor. In the darkness of their world, the child Jesus was as a light which could not be extinguished.

In his lifetime, despite the darkness, his effect on everyone was of goodness and love. Today we may open our eyes to his light and "live in him" as he would desire.

Tony Hearle

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ?

The President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference chose as the theme for their year in office, "Our Story, Our Song". Everyone has a story to tell, they declare. Does your story breathe hope into the listener, is it life-giving or soul-destroying? Read some of Richard Andrew's (Methodist President) story in the free magazine CONNEXION. Find copies on the table by the door or on line at methodist.org.uk/theconnexion.

Sadly this is the final issue of CONNEXION. To keep abreast of what is happening in Methodism visit the website methodist.org.uk. Did you know that that every week you can receive up-to-the-minute news for free by registering at methodist.org.uk/SignUp ?

Ruth Davies

CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

The Church Annual accounts were approved by Council last week and submitted to Circuit for their agreement. The Church Annual Report has also been completed and forwarded to Circuit. This document tells about how this church is run and explains our activities. A copy is on the notice board at the rear of church for you to read.

Linda Moores



The Methodist Church

Church Stretton

IN THE SHROPSHIRE & MARCHES CIRCUIT



MINISTER

REV'D GEORGE HEINZ

Telephone: 07538480626

Church Website

www.churchstretton-methodistchurch.org.uk

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.

SUNDAY SERVICES

SUNDAY 7th DECEMBER 2025

10.30 am Rev Richard Hall – Holy Communion

SUNDAY 14th DECEMBER 2025

10.30 am Stephen Dalton – Christingle Service

TUESDAY 9th DECEMBER 2025

2.00 pm Advent Study Group – in church hall

WEDNESDAY 10th DECEMBER 2025

10.00 am to 12.00 Baby & Toddler Group – in church hall

2.30 pm – 4.00 pm "Cuppa & Chat" – in church hall

WE ARE ASKED TO PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE

AND THEIR FAMILIES

George Adamson , Michael Beattie , Linda Bolton , Norma Clarke ,
Doreen Clegg , Maureen Clow , Carole Coles ,
Christine & Gerry Richardson .

FAVOURITE CAROLS

We all have our favourite carols and we can't sing them all during the Christmas services which means that sometimes a particular favourite gets missed. We hope to put this right on December 28th. You have the chance to submit your favourite carol to Ann (by Dec 21st please) and we will try to include it in the service on 28th. If you would be prepared to say why it is your favourite during the service please indicate this when giving your request. Next Sunday's morning service on Dec 14th will be a Christingle service led by Stephen Dalton.

Ann Cooke

CHURCH LUNCH

Time to start thinking about our Church Lunch which will take place after the Covenant Service on Sunday 11 January 2026; Oak Apple from Frodesley will be catering for us again; I have put up the menu in the hall; **ALL** dishes can be adapted for the gluten free diet. The cost amazingly has only increased by 50p from last year; it will be £21.50 per person. Please let me know as soon as convenient if you wish to attend and your choice of meal.

Carole Coles

“ACTION FOR CHILDREN” HOME COLLECTION BOXES

It is that time of year again when I need to collect in the “Action for Children” home collecting boxes. Please bring your box to church and either hand it in to me or to one of the stewards.

Thank you again for your support of this very important Methodist charity. As usual , the Church Christmas card will be on display where you can send your best wishes to friends and pop a donation in the “Action for Children” collecting box.

Many thanks to everyone for supporting this charity.

Chris Faulkner “Action for Children” Secretary

ADVENT CANDLE 7th December 2025

Gift-giving God, may Advent be for us a time of giving and receiving. Holy God, the greatest gift giver of all times, you are not the ‘stocking filler’ or little extra, you are the greatest and best gift that can be given.

Gift-giving God, may Advent be for us a time of giving and receiving
Holy God, you call us to be the gift of God to neighbours and strangers. You call us to be life giving to all those we encounter. You call us to be a blessing to the Church and the world.

Gift-giving God, may Advent be for us a time of giving and receiving

May we sort the wheat from the chaff in our lives. May we not be just little stocking filler extras but full to overflowing with your love. May we truly seek to be the holy gift you call us to be.

Gift-giving God, may Advent be for us a time of giving and receiving

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed an angel to our 'heavenly host' for the Churches Together Christmas tree. They are now all being attached to the tree in readiness for the Christmas Tree Festival to be held in St Laurence's Church between Dec 3rd and Jan 4th. Please do go along and see all the trees, the decorations are all based on the theme of one of the characters or objects from the Nativity story.

Sue Hill

PREPARATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS

Our Carol Service, in the church, will be on Sunday 21 Dec and the More Singers are holding a concert on Monday 22 December, then later by our Christmas Day service. It is planned to decorate the church on Saturday, 20 December between 10 - 12, ready for these events. It has been suggested that the windows are simply dressed with a Poinsettia plant, which can then be taken back home after Christmas to be enjoyed for the rest of it's life.

If you would like to bring a plant to dress a window, please let Ann or Linda know asap and bring it on the Saturday 20 Dec morning. Many thanks.

Ann Cooke and Linda Moores

**Items for the Church Notices for Sunday 14th December to
cdgtorridon@aol.com or Telephone 01694 328319 . Thank you**

