

## **CARBON FAST FOR LENT**

This week's challenge

Fast from binge buying - be content

Over consumption is costing the earth: rising landfill, pollution and reducing wildlife and habitats

Contentment is about finding joy in what we have already

**See the poster in the hall for more information**

## **STRETTON FOODBANK UPDATE as at 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026**

Steady week this week, serving a similar number of people to last week.

We currently have a little over 30 clients with active referrals and another 10 that are still in their initial self-refer period. However, most clients don't come every week, only coming when they need support for themselves and their families.

Thanks to everyone that donated food last week, responding to our request for specific items. This week we need your help with the following: Microwave rice , Cooking oil , Tinned tuna , Biscuits , Tinned pineapple , Squash (any flavour).

Of course, if you wish to donate something else, we are grateful for everything we receive, but we don't need any spaghetti, soup, baked beans or cereal at the moment, while our storage capacity is reduced. Food donations can be left in the baskets at the Coop or at the Mayfair Centre. We are very grateful for all your support.

# The Methodist Church

## Church Stretton

IN THE SHROPSHIRE & MARCHES CIRCUIT



**MINISTER**

**REV'D GEORGE HEINZ**

Telephone: 07538480626

Church Website

[www.churchstretton-methodistchurch.org.uk](http://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 1<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2026**

**10.30 am Rev George Heinz – Holy Communion**

**SUNDAY 8th MARCH 2026**

**10.30 am Local Arrangement**

**TUESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> MARCH 2026**

**2.00 pm Lent Course – in church hall**

**WEDNESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2026**

**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**

Gillian Patton , Hazel Ratcliffe , Tim Record , Brenda Roberts , Linda Roberts ,  
Pam Rush , Frances & Peter Sutton ,  
The Hearle Family, Christine & Gerry Richardson .

## LENT COURSE

We will be running a lent course again this year, starting on Tuesday 24th Feb at 2:00 pm in the church hall.

We will be using the Christian Aid course 'Act on Poverty', which encourages Christians to look at how they and their churches can address the problem of poverty.

If anyone wishes to look at the materials we shall be using, they are available at [-https://www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/act-on-poverty](https://www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/act-on-poverty)  
As always, friends from other churches are welcome to join us as we journey through lent. Blessings

**Rev George Heinz**

## CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Church council meeting will be held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm in the church hall.

All members of the congregation are welcome to attend as observers.

**Trish Howard..... Church Council Secretary**

## "STRETTON FOCUS" MONTHLY MAGAZINE....."METHODIST VOICE"

We would like to thank all the members of our fellowship who have provided contributions during 2025 to this local community monthly publication. Many of whom have been providing copy for many years and we are most grateful . It's that time of the year once again when I make my annual appeal for contributions for the "Methodist Voice " section of our community's monthly magazine the "Stretton Focus" Each article should ideally be around 400 words long . I do hope that this appeal may flush out one or two first time contributors . A list is available at the back of the church , so sign in please !!

**NB..... WE HAVE ONLY THREE NAMES SO FAR !!**

## SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

On this second Sunday in Lent we add a whip to the cross reminding us that Jesus was whipped before he was handed over to be crucified.

***We pray together –***

**Lord Jesus, we remember with sadness how cruelly you were treated. We see cruelty around us, sometimes experiencing it, sometimes being guilty of it. Help us to be more compassionate and less cruel and to do what we can to prevent cruelty to others. Amen.**

## AN INVITATION !!

Jon Cooke will be celebrating his 80th birthday on May 16th by having a buffet lunch in our church hall (12 for 12.30). If you would like to join us please respond by 11th April to 01694 720353 or Ann's email address. Please indicate any special dietary requirements. No cards or presents please..... **Ann**



## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

**World day of prayer** is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice.

There will be a Service at 2.30pm on Friday 6th March,  
at the United Reformed Church.

This year's programme is written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Nigeria.

Matthew 11:28-30

'I will give you rest: Come'

The 2026 World Day of Prayer materials from Nigeria bring us a powerful invitation drawn from Matthew 11:28-30. At a time when people worldwide are carrying heavy burdens, our Nigerian sisters offer profound insights into finding rest in God.

Please do your best to come along and support.

***If anyone would like to read the World Day of Prayer Service, please speak to Sue Hill TODAY.***

