

### **CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF BOB WHITE**

A celebration of life for Bob White will be held on 10<sup>th</sup> May at the Mayfair Centre at 12.15 pm. Details as follows.

**Saturday 10th May** in the Jubilee Room at Mayfair Community Centre, Church Stretton, SY6 6BL.

Starting at 12.15 pm. , followed by buffet lunch.

No black clothing required.

Bring along a memory to share if you wish.

No flowers but any donations to Mayfair Community Centre (01694 722077)

For catering purposes RSVP to Fiona Hunt, [fionahunt86@gmail.com](mailto:fionahunt86@gmail.com) or 07874 702838.

### **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK MAY 11th - MAY 17th**

This year Christian Aid commemorates 80 years of working to fight against poverty and injustice.

As usual, during this week there will be envelopes delivered throughout the Strettons. Please give as generously as you are able. Every penny counts towards making a difference to communities in crisis.

Thank you to all those who again have offered to deliver envelopes. If anyone would like to help and is not already volunteering please speak to Sue or Rob.

To start Christian Aid week there will be a Churches Together Service to which everyone is welcome on Sunday May 11th at 3pm, St Laurence's Church. Rev Steve Johnson will be leading the Service who in the past has worked for Christi

### **COMMUNION CLOTH**

Three ladies came forward with cloths to replace the one that covers the elements at the 10.30 service, but unfortunately none of them is the right size. The cloth needs to cover the elements and allow space for a few extra few glasses to be slipped in at the last minute as happened on Easter Day! So we are still looking for a replacement cloth about 131 x 125 cm (52 x 49 inches). It's not urgent, because the existing cloth hasn't worn out yet, but there's a limit to the number of times it will stand being put through a wash cycle, starched and hit with a hot iron.

Christine Hedges has very kindly offered to buy one for the church if we would like her to, but I thought it worth a final call-out and updating you on what's happened.

**Christine Richardson**

### **"SPRING INTO MAYFAIR" ..... 10<sup>th</sup> MAY 2025**

Thank you to everyone who has donated a tombola prize for Spring into Mayfair. I hope you'll all come along to the event, where there will be lots going on, including a plant sale outside. All proceeds to Mayfair. The venue is the Health and Wellbeing Centre from 10 – 1. **Christine Richardson**

# **The Methodist Church**

**Church Stretton**

IN THE SHROPSHIRE & MARCHES CIRCUIT



## **MINISTER**

**REV'D GEORGE HEINZ**

Telephone: 07538480626

Church Website

[www.churchstretton-](http://www.churchstretton-)

[methodistchurch.org.uk](http://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 4<sup>th</sup> MAY 2025**

**10.30 am Rev George Heinz – Holy Communion  
followed by Annual Church Meeting & Shared Lunch**

### **SUNDAY 11<sup>th</sup> MAY 2025**

**10.30 am Rev Denise Hargreaves**

## **WEDNESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> MAY 2025**

**10.00 am to 12.00 Baby & Toddler Group – in church hall.  
2.30 pm – 4.00 pm "Cuppa & Chat" – in church hall**

### **ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING.....TODAY !!**

Our Church Annual Meeting will be held **TODAY** following the morning service. A copy of reports from different areas of our church are available this Sunday at the back of the church. If you have not received one by email, please take a copy and read before the meeting.

After the meeting we will enjoy a shared lunch together.

We hope as many of you will be able to attend as possible, it is for all members of our congregation.

### **REFLECTION ..... at the close of the day.**

The birds are still singing in the trees as though they bid the darkening world "Good night". Daffodils nod their heads to agree. The sun has already set, leaving streaks of crimson clouds in the sky, which seem to say "Farewell, until we meet again". Trees, by their height are the last to see the setting of the sun.

As the evening darkness prevails, in their homes curtains are drawn, while the day's work is being recounted by tired inhabitants before their time to sleep.

Did Jesus find time to sleep? He was constantly teaching. At the close of day, he found time to sleep and to pray. He knew that where his Father lived there was neither night nor day. His Father would always be watching and supporting him.

It was because his Father always watched and supported him, that when he was condemned and crucified, he knew that he could trust in his Father's will despite the darkness. His own will was also strengthened to see that darkness through.

The parting words as night falls will be "I'll see you in the morning". How true, when Jesus foretells, "I'll see you in the morning of my Resurrection." What a wonderful new Day that will be. Will we be awake to greet Him.

**Tony Hearle**

## **Singing the Lord's Song in a Strange Land**

*Holiness, letting go, and being a fully present Church today*

### **A Day of Exploration**

**with Rev Dr Gary Hall**

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May**

**10.30am at Church Stretton Methodist Church**

Rev Dr Gary Hall is a Methodist Minister and tutor in preaching and ethics at The Queen's Foundation, Birmingham

*"It's about trying to be faithful, relating to each other and being connected; in so doing being an example to the wider community"*  
Rev Dr Gary Hall

**Please join us for a day of reflection and conversation as we explore what it means to be a faithful, present and adaptable church in today's changing world**

*Tea and coffee will be served from 10.00am*

*We expect to finish around 3.30pm*

***Bring a packed lunch, drinks will be provided***



Scan this QR code  
to watch an interview with Gary Hall  
or go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=szJT2eb-RoQ>

Church Stretton Methodist Church is just off the A49, and very close to the railway station.

*This is an initiative of the Shropshire and Marches Methodist Circuit.*

*Friends from other Circuits and ecumenical partners will be welcome to join us to explore faith together.*

**The above Circuit event will be taking place here in our church on the 17<sup>th</sup> May. It is proposed to serve tea and coffee from 10.00 am and to start the day at 10.30 am. We expect to finish around 3.30 pm. Bring a packed lunch, drinks will be provided.**

**Rev Gary Hall is a Methodist minister and tutor in preaching and ethics. He has a warm, approachable style and is committed both to informed dialogue and pastoral care in the local church. He will be returning to Circuit ministry in September.**

### **EASTER OFFERING**

The Easter Offering dedication service for the area will be in our church on Wednesday 21st May at 2.30pm. As we are the hosts please make a note in your diary and do your best to attend if possible. **Ruth Davies**