

### **Wesley Somborne Link**

#### One Church on two sites



Wesley Methodist Church Weeke

14th November 2025

King's Somborne Methodist Church

#### Singing the Lord's song

The Methodist Church in Zimbabwe Fellowship (UK), commonly known as Zimbabwean Fellowship, started to take hold in the 2000s. The Zimbabwean Fellowship was formed by congregants of Zimbabwean origin who were members of the Methodist Church in Britain. History has it that the idea to form a Fellowship was driven by desire to worship in native Zimbabwean languages, and in expressions of praise in song and dance. This desire sounds like the question posed in Psalm 137:4, "How can we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?" In this case, though a rhetorical question, the action that followed saw small groups meeting in Methodist churches and increased with the Southampton Branch of the Fellowship launched at St Andrew's Methodist Church in Eastleigh from Easter 2004.

In echoing Hebrews 10:25, "Let us not give up meeting together... but encouraging one another" congregants attended Methodist churches in Eastleigh, Fareham, Portsmouth; this later grew into a branch, Southampton and Winchester, meeting in Eastleigh. With support from the Methodist Church in Britain, the Southampton Branch of the Fellowship has weathered difficult times and celebrated being around for 21 years in April 2025. With over 30 branches in the UK, the Fellowship worship in Shona, Ndebele, and other dialects. In many occasions, services are conducted in a mix of Zimbabwean languages to celebrate heritage and unity, ensuring services are heartfelt and inclusive. I am not certain, but this approach seems to stem from Acts 2:6, which highlights the impact of hearing God's word in one's own language.

At St Andrew's, the Zimbabwean Fellowship services are often termed 'the afternoon service'. When there are joint services of the morning (1030hrs) and afternoon, most of the articles used in the worship are directly drawn from the Zimbabwean Fellowship and are summarised and literally translated for the benefit of those not conversant with the language(s). The aim of it all is simply to enable everyone to hear the word in their language, as occurred in Acts 2:6.

The Zimbabwean Fellowship hosted by St Andrew's, seeks to uplift spiritual life of Zimbabweans by organising programmes that would enable members to have a time of prayer or bible study. Complimenting the daily national arranged programme of early morning and evening prayers, the branch host an Evangelism led bible study every Monday evening, two days of intercessory prayer sessions and occasional long evening worship events. It is through these forums that members and other identified disadvantaged persons, or groups of people, are supported in the reflection of Galatians 6:2, which teaches to "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ".

It is in hope that the enduring commitment of Zimbabwean Fellowship to worship in native languages, would encourage more Zimbabweans to come to church, as well as to share a different way of worship with the Methodist Church in Britain. The service at Wesley is one of similar joint services that the branch has held at churches where it has membership.

God's glory will be seen by gathered nations and proclaimed by all tongues (Isaiah 66:18). Clever Safurawu

Come and experience a taste of Zimbwabean Fellowship on Sunday 23rd November at 10.30am, here at Wesley. All are welcome!

On Sunday 16th November at 10.30am, the service will be led by Mr Nick Langham
On Sunday 23rd November, at 10.30am, the service will be led by the Zimbabwean Fellowship Team
These services will be live streamed, the link to which can be found via the Wesley Website at:

**Dates for Your Diary:** 

13th November: Mini-Marvels (9.00—11.00am)
13th November: Together Thursday 2.30—4.30pm

16th November: Service led by Mr Nick Langham at Wesley 10.30am 16th November: Messy Church at King's Somborne (3.00-5.00pm)

20th November: Mini-Marvels (9.00—11.00am) 21st November: Friday Fun Club (5.00-6.30pm) 21st November: Feel Good Friday (7.00-9.00pm)

22nd November: Café Wesley 10.00am—12 noon, for Church Funds, with Lego Church 10.00am-11.30am

23rd November: Service led by the Zimbabwean Fellowship Group at Wesley 10.30am

23rd November: Service led by MWiB at King's Somborne 10.30am

27th November: Mini-Marvels (9.00—11.00am)
27th November: Together Thursday 2.30—4.30pm

29th November: Advent Lights at Wesley 3.00pm-5.00pm

30th November: ReFresh Service led by Revd Rachel Hawkins at Wesley 10.30am

30th November: Service of Holy Communion led by Revd Tim Searle at King's Somborne 10.30am

4th December: Mini-Marvels (9.00—11.00am) 5th December: Friday Fun Club (5.00-6.30pm) 5th December: Feel Good Friday (7.00-9.00pm)





Winchester and District Young Carers are holding a Coffee Morning at Rick Stein's on Friday, 14th Nov between 9am and 11am. If you are in Winchester at that time, we would love to see you for coffee, cake and a chat. The cost is £5 and there will be a raffle.

Please note the next edition of the Wesley Somborne Link will be on Friday 28th November 2025, we need any items or notices to be sent to Paul and Brenda, by Wednesday 26th November. Email: brenda.yarrien@btinternet.com or by phone on 01794389153.

## The Christmas Lights Sat 29th Nov 3pm-5pm

**Wesley Methodist Church** 

Sunday, December 21 10.30am Nativity Service Sunday, December 14
06.30pm
Community Carols

Thursday, December 25 10.30am Christmas Day Service

Christmas lights, carol singing, hot chocolate and lots more!

All are welcome!

Wesley Methodist Church, Fromond Road, SO22 6EG

wesleychurch.org.uk





11 December 2025 7:30pm St Peter's Church, Winchester



Conductor John Lunt • Adoramus Singers • Organist Richard McVeigh

Join us for this annual musical celebration of Christmas with well-loved carols and a sprinkling of new music, followed by mince pies and wine.

Every penny raised will help us to meet the vital running costs of the Winchester branch.

Available 24 hours a day, every day, Samaritans provides emotional support to anyone who needs us.

Every hour. Every day. Every life.



£15 General Admission • £12 Students • £8 Under 18s

Scan me to buy tickets or visit: https://tinyurl.com/sams-carol-25

Limited tickets available on the door

STANDREWSMETHODISTEASTLEIGH.COM



## CHRISTMAS

· TREE ·

## FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2025 10AM - 3PM



FAMILY FUN & PUPPET SHOW

MUSIC, FOOD, STALLS

CRAFTS & TOMBOLA

AT ST ANDREW'S METHODIST CHURCH, BLENHEIM ROAD, EASTLEIGH

# Reflective Community Carol Gervice

Come and join us for a quiet reflective carol service, remembering those who are no longer with us at Christmas

An opportunity to light a candle for a loved one and hang a star on the tree in their memory

Sunday 7th December at 4pm

> At St Andrew's Methodist Church, Blenheim Road, Eastleigh

Let us pray to the Eternal God

With our songs and music

We praise you in our worship services.

We thank you for the music that moves us

And the words that edify us;

The hymns accompany us into everyday life.

Inspire the musicians when they play in worship,

Fill our hearts with beautiful hymns

And give new composers heavenly melodies and gospel words.

So our praises join those of your heavenly court

And sing of your greatness, your love and your faithfulness.

Alleluia, amen!

(Taken from "Our Story Our Song"—Methodist Prayer Handbook 2025/2026. Prayer written by Ulrich Rusen Weinhold, Secretary for International Relationships, United Protestant Church of France)



## Importance of Drinking Water

LQZT S Z QB Y X Y

adequate thyroid blood eight water

bottled water lose weight drinking digest bones heart eyes

flush out kidneys thrist brain liver

hydration muscles toxins daily lungs