



Wesley Methodist Church Weeke

Wesley Somborne Link

One Church on two sites

25th July 2025



King's Somborne Methodist Church

A Methodist Challenge

I noticed that the previous edition of The Link included an item on the Romero Prayer, inspired by the President's speech at this year's Conference. I thought that, for this edition, I would pick up on another theme of that speech.

As he began speaking, Richard asked us, "What is the future of Methodism in Great Britain?" He continued by replying to himself, "The obvious answer is, 'I don't know', because in reality no one really knows what the future will hold. If discerning the future was that simple, then the Secretary of Conference and the Connexional Secretary would immediately appoint a Director of Futurology and the whole of connexional life would be shaped around it." (Andrew, 2025) I did read the Conference agenda and I can assure you that we did not appoint someone to that role – at least, not this year!

But his words did make me wonder; even if someone was able to see the future, would there be any point in appointing them? The set Old Testament readings currently feature two of the so-called minor prophets, Hosea and Amos. These were people to whom God did indeed reveal a vision of the future, a vision which they faithfully conveyed to the people of Israel. How did the people receive these warnings about the future? With hostility and disbelief! Indeed, this was the fate of most of the Old Testament Prophets. Rarely were they believed by those to whom God sent them. I wonder how the people called Methodists would actually respond to a report from their Director of Futurology on what they should be doing. My suspicion is, not well.

In order to respond positively to the voice of a prophet, the listener first needs to be able to see things from the prophet's perspective which, assuming they are a true prophet, means seeing things from God's perspective and this is rarely the same as our own perspective. To borrow once more from the President's speech, he quotes the poet and theologian, Pádraig Ó Tuama, who wisely observes that, 'We do not tell stories as they are; we tell stories as we are.' As we seek to serve God, what is our starting point? Is it the god we have created as part of our own narratives, seeking to make the world as we want it to be, or is it the image of the one true God who invites us to make the world as it was always intended to be?

This is a challenge to The Methodist Church. It is equally a challenge to our local church. It is also the challenge to the life of every single follower of Jesus Christ. Remember the words of the prophet Isaiah, "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near." (Isaiah 55:6 NRSVA) Only if we truly seek to find God and to listen to God, can we hope to discern and then strive to follow God's plan.

Blessings

Peter

References:

Andrew, R., 2025. *The President's Address to the Conference 2025*. [Online]

Available at: <https://www.methodist.org.uk/about/structure-and-governance/the-methodist-conference/conference-2025/presidency/president-and-vice-president-2025-26/the-presidents-address-to-the-conference-2025/> [Accessed 22 07 2025].

On Sunday 27th July, at 10.30am, the ReFresh Service will be led by Mr Tom Belshaw
On Sunday 3rd August, at 10.30am, a Service of Holy Communion will be led by Revd Peter Rayson
Both services will be live streamed, the link to which can be found via the Wesley Website at:
www.wesleychurch.org.uk

Dates for Your Diary:

24th July: Together Thursday (2.30-4.30pm)

26th July: Café Wesley, 10.00-12 noon, (supporting Methodist Relief and Development Fund, All We Can) and Lego Church (10.00-11.30am)

27th July: ReFresh Service led by Mr Tom Belshaw at Wesley 10.30am

27th July: Holy Communion Service led by Revd Peter Rayson at King's Somborne 10.30am

3rd August: Holy Communion Service led by Revd Peter Rayson at Wesley 10.30am

3rd August: Local Arrangement Service at King's Somborne 10.30am

10th August: Service led by Mrs Susan Parsons at Wesley 10.30am

10th August: Service led by Revd Robert Kitching at King's Somborne 10.30am

14th August: Together Thursday (2.30-4.30pm)

17th August: Service led by Mr Graham Hepburn at Wesley 10.30am

23rd August: Café Wesley, 10.00-12 noon, (supporting Naomi House)

24th August: Service led by Mrs Margaret Axford at Wesley 10.30am

24th August: Service led by Dr Mike Wood at King's Somborne 10.30am

28th August: Together Thursday (2.30-4.30pm)

31st August: ReRefresh Service Local Arrangement at Wesley 10.30am

31st August: Holy Communion Service led by Revd Peter Rayson at King's Somborne 10.30am

Happy Birthday Marion! Congratulations on celebrating your 105th birthday—love from all your Wesley family!



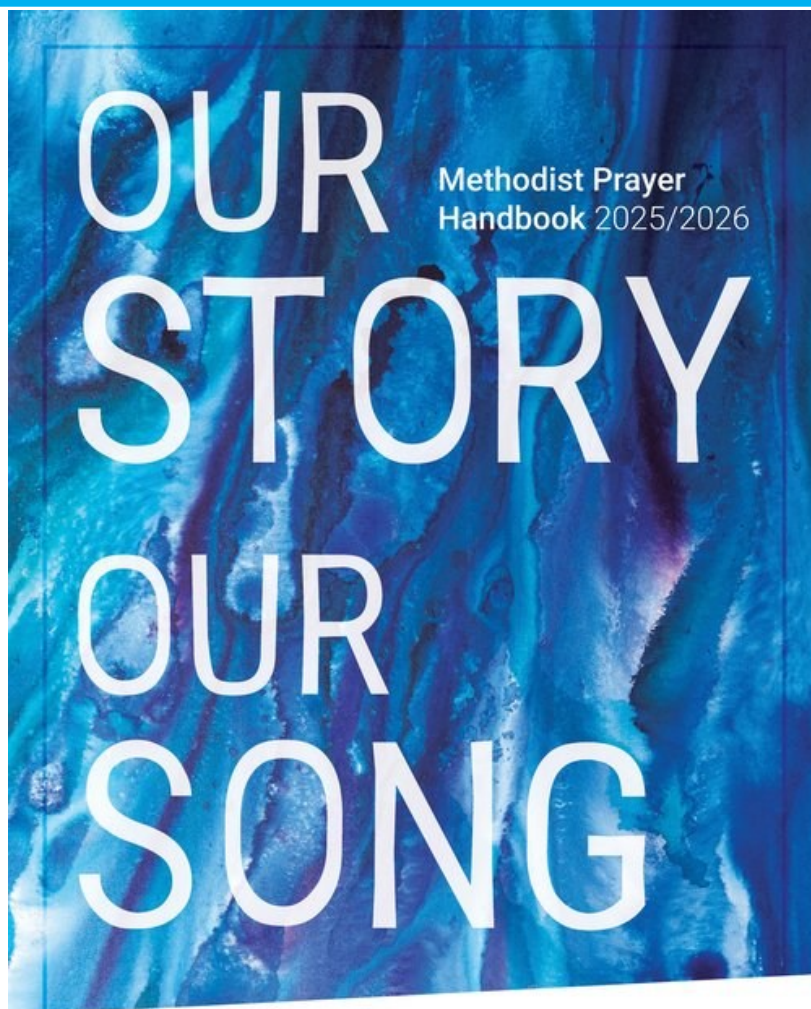
Please note the next edition of the Wesley Somborne Link will be on Friday 5th September, we need any items or notices to be sent to Paul and Brenda, by Wednesday 3rd September. Many thanks! We hope you have a restful and enjoyable summer! Email: brenda.yarrien@btinternet.com or contact 01794 389153.



It is with great sadness that we report the death of Arnold Jarman. He was an integral part of the Wesley family for many years. He contributed so much to Wesley and not least as our organist and leader of the choir. Our thoughts and prayers are with Arnold's family and friends.



To make your home more eco-friendly this summer, focus on natural cooling methods, smart energy use, and reducing waste. Utilize natural ventilation by opening windows at night and using fans to circulate air. Minimize heat from appliances by cooking outside or using them at night, and opt for energy-efficient lighting. Conserve water by taking shorter showers and using water-efficient appliances. Finally, reduce waste by composting food scraps and opting for reusable containers.



METHODIST PRAYER HANDBOOK 25/26

We will be shortly ordering copies of the new Methodist Prayer Handbook for 2025 /2026..... COST £4.15.

This is an excellent aid to our personal devotions and also to enable us to follow Bible readings for each day.

A wonderful help to living the Methodist Way of Life.

Please order as soon as possible.

Orders to Richard Rogers - no money until delivered please.

(Large print copies available at the same price.)

A year of prayer: 31 days
of prayers with a daily lectionary

The Methodist Church



Wesley Summer Walks 2025

Date	Description	Leader	Time	Notes
Tuesday 29 th July	Walk around Whitchurch	Faith & Nick	pm	Tea at Whitchurch Silk Mill
Wednesday 6 th August	Church Cream Tea at Trout Fishery, Headbourne Worthy	Dale, Faith & Nick	pm	Cream tea by the lake
Thursday 14th August	All abilities and 'family' walk, plus train ride at Lakeside, Eastleigh	Ralph & Veronica	pm	Tea to follow See information below
Friday 22 nd August	Walk at St Cross	Eileen	am	There will be light refreshments/snacks available at St Cross

All walks are relatively short, but if you are unable to walk please join us for TEA.

More details from each walk leader:

Eileen 01962 861527 Faith 01962 880043 Dale 01962 866502 or Ralph 01962 861139

Wesley Walk No.3 Thursday 14th August

Veronica and Ralph are doing a reprise of an event that took place in August 2015.

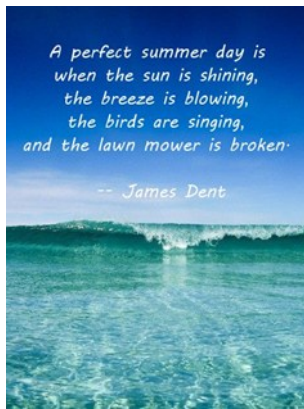


This photograph was taken in 2015 at the Lakeside Country Park in Eastleigh when some thirty Wesley members and friends came on that year's event. The 2025 event will be very similar except that this year we have a conference room as our base which will be a bonus if the weather is poor. Bring a picnic lunch (optional) or come between 1pm and 2pm in time for the train ride at 2.30, the stroll round the lake, and afternoon tea at 4pm. The event is free, there are no charges for tea or train ride.



A brochure with more details is available – electronic or hard copy – from Ralph & Veronica. If you would like to come, please let them know. They can be contacted by telephone on 01962 861139, or via email at Sibbrings@btinternet.com
See you there!

Summer at K S Women's Fellowship!



On Wednesday 23rd of July, our theme at Women's Fellowship was 'Summer thoughts'.

We had a very informal get together and shared our ideas as to what we thought of when we heard the word 'Summer' and we shared memories of holidays we had been on and what we had enjoyed, whether it was at the seaside or a trek in the French Alps. We shared poems and acrostics that had been inspired by Summer thoughts.

We listened to the old hymn 'Summer suns are glowing' written by William W How (1823- 1897), likening the beauty and the freedom of sunshine to rejoicing in God's wonderful and eternal love for us all.

Sun is shining bright on wheat.
Umbrellas shading faces from heat.
Mighty waves lapping at feet.
Music playing in the streets.
Early morning bird song is a treat.
Rain is welcome in the heat.
Trees are wilted from the sun.
I believe summer is almost done.
Mixed weather starting to appear
Extremely grateful summer was here.

We followed this with a quiz based on 'Summer'. Then, finally, we enjoyed tea and cake, whilst being challenged to complete Word Searches, Word Scrambles, Cryptograms and/or Acrostics all with a 'Summer' theme!

It was a very pleasant afternoon and good to take time out to chat, share thoughts and fellowship.

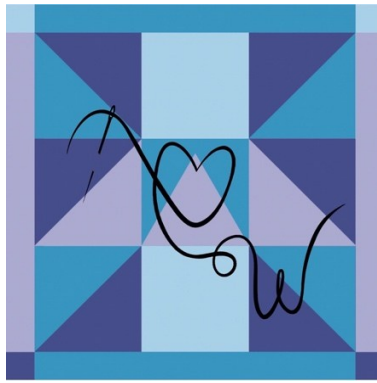


Marilyn and Marion

Talking of Summer.....You would be forgiven for thinking the photograph below was taken in France or maybe even Cyprus.....



.....but no! Paul and I stopped on the road back to King's Somborne, after church, and we were struck by the sheer beauty of this farmer's field!



HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT SPEAK THEIR NAME SUICIDE MEMORIAL QUILT

The Hampshire & IOW Speak Their Name Quilt is a work of art created by people bereaved by suicide. Each square is made with so much love and represents a person who lived and will always be loved and missed.

The resulting art is a powerful representation and celebration of the people's lives behind the statistics we so often hear about.

It's been estimated that for every person who tragically ends their life by suicide, a conservative estimate of 10-15 people are intimately affected - and up to 135 may be more distantly affected across family, friends and communities.

Suicide loss is traumatic, heartbreaking and can be isolating and stigmatising - our intention is to bring a small element of healing to those who have lost a loved one and some hope to those struggling themselves.

We now have three quilt panels representing over 80 individual people and remembering many more unnamed.

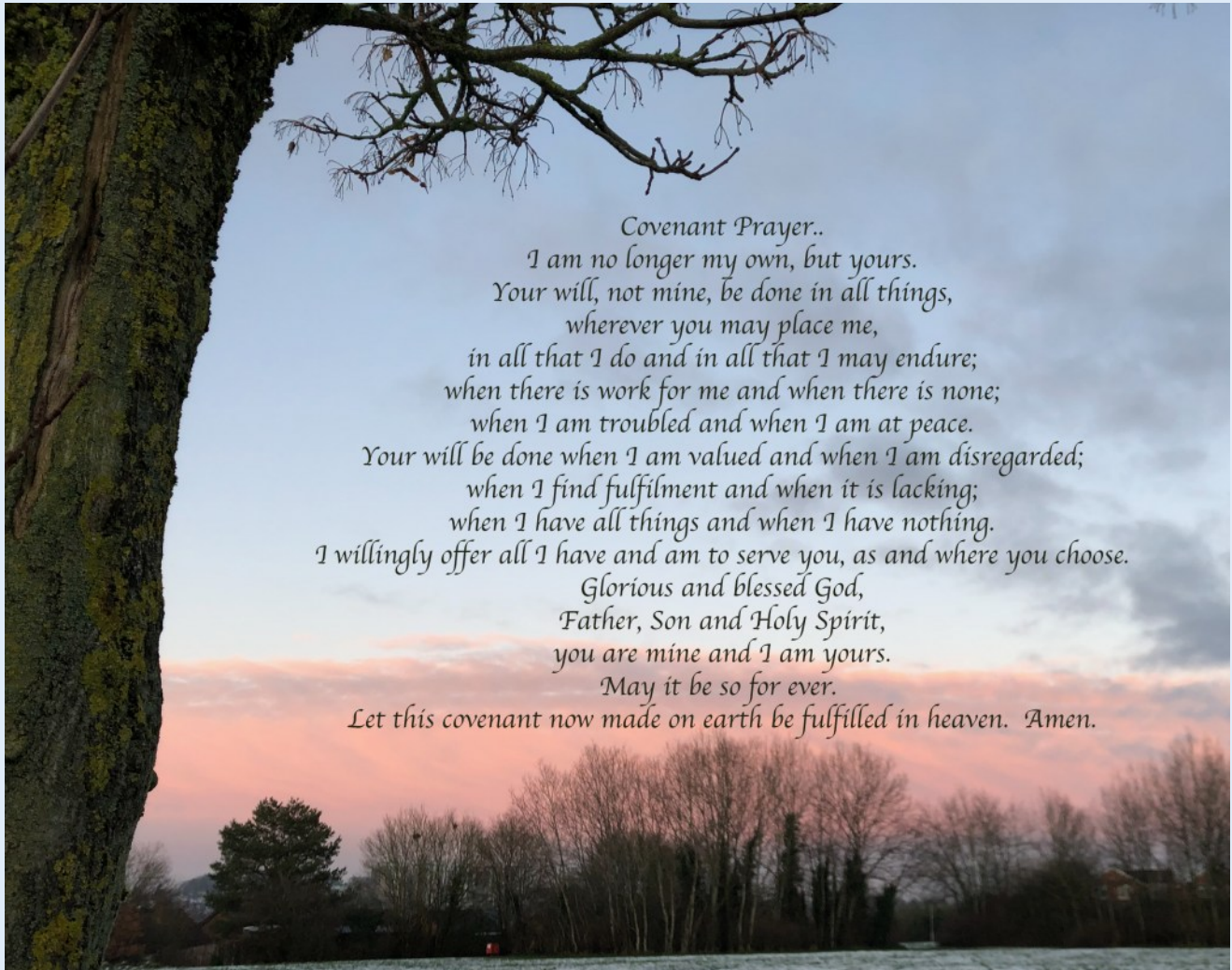


You can follow our FB page **Hampshire & IOW Speak Their Name Suicide Memorial Quilt**
or contact us on hampshirequilt@gmail.com if you want to make a square to remember someone.

Chandler's Ford Church is again this year hosting this event from **Monday 14th July** until **Monday 11th August**.

A new third panel has been carefully created and is on display with them. The tributes and memory books are all so moving. Please do try and see if you could visit.

In reflecting on what Revd Peter Rayson has written, we thought this may be an opportune time to remind ourselves of the Methodist Covenant Prayer and our commitment to respond to God's calling.



Covenant Prayer..
I am no longer my own, but yours.
Your will, not mine, be done in all things,
wherever you may place me,
in all that I do and in all that I may endure;
when there is work for me and when there is none;
when I am troubled and when I am at peace.
Your will be done when I am valued and when I am disregarded;
when I find fulfilment and when it is lacking;
when I have all things and when I have nothing.
I willingly offer all I have and am to serve you, as and where you choose.
Glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you are mine and I am yours.
May it be so for ever.
Let this covenant now made on earth be fulfilled in heaven. Amen.

And a prayer for the summer:



Father, Creator of all, thank You for summer!
Thank you for the warmth of the sun
and the increased daylight.
Thank You for the beauty I see all around me
and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy Your creation.
Thank You for the increased time I have to be with my friends and family,
and for the more casual pace of the summer season.
Draw me closer to You this summer.
Teach me how I can pray
no matter where I am or what I am doing.
Warm my soul with the awareness of Your presence
and light my path with Your Word and Counsel.
As I enjoy Your creation, create in me
a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for You.

<https://www.xavier.edu/jesuitresource/online-resources/prayer-index/summer-prayers>



Summer Word Search



SUMMER	G	A	R	D	E	N	Y	S	M	B	M	T	O	L	S
SUNSHINE	N	I	A	R	M	E	L	E	S	E	E	R	W	O	U
SWIM	U	C	I	N	C	I	P	E	A	S	I	A	M	S	N
BOAT	L	M	L	I	N	O	I	T	A	C	A	V	R	P	S
CAMP	P	O	P	S	I	C	L	E	Q	L	D	E	K	I	H
HIKE	U	I	P	E	C	A	M	P	I	O	O	L	F	C	I
GARDEN	Y	T	N	S	R	E	T	L	M	D	N	T	R	E	N
PLAY	P	W	N	S	O	E	P	A	T	G	N	E	D	X	E
BEACH	A	U	G	R	I	A	D	Y	B	O	A	Y	A	T	E
JULY	R	L	J	U	L	Y	G	R	S	A	S	O	U	P	A
AUGUST	K	E	F	G	L	C	E	A	T	H	I	R	G	A	S
PARK	B	A	L	Y	P	A	E	N	O	C	R	E	U	R	D
PICNIC	S	H	O	R	T	S	O	O	H	A	E	H	S	H	R
POPSICLE	U	Y	P	E	M	N	O	S	A	E	S	S	T	D	E
ICE CREAM	C	H	E	T	A	M	C	L	Y	B	G	M	R	E	S
SHORTS	X	L	A	O	V	Z	R	C	O	J	B	R	I	N	S
DRESS	F	O	S	E	M	A	E	R	C	E	C	I	O	W	L
TRAVEL	B	L	O	S	S	U	M	M	E	R	W	B	M	O	S
VACATION															
SEASON															

ONESTOPWORDSEARCH

SUDOKU

Worksheets
PLANET

6		4	2		8			
	1		7	6	3		4	9
7	3	2			5	6	1	
	5							
4				5				7
		9	8	3				2
					7			6
8		5		4	6	3		1
					1	9	2	

