

Telford Methodist Circuit Newsletter

15th May 2025

The Methodist Church welcomes Pope Leo XIV's election, and we offer our prayers for his papacy.

Methodist people cherish our place in the worldwide church, and our relationships with the Roman Catholic Church at local, national and international levels. We look forward to ever more opportunities to share with our Catholic siblings in the mission of the Church. We pray that all church leaders listen to the voices of the poor and the oppressed, and speak out for justice, as we share God's love.

A prayer on the election of Pope Leo XIV

God of all grace,
we thank you that in every generation you reveal your love for the world, and set before your people your word of life and hope.
Bless and guide your servant, Pope Leo XIV.
Give him the assurance of your love, and pour your Spirit upon him: may his ministry reflect that of your Son Jesus, and let him be a bold witness to your love and truth.
Bless our siblings in the Roman Catholic Church as they welcome their new Holy Father. May he lead their Church with wisdom and grace.
Together with Pope Leo unite all Christians as a holy people, bearing hope and peace within the human family, and always attentive to the most poor and marginalised.
In the name of our Risen Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ we pray.
Amen.



Christian Aid Week

This week is Christian Aid Week, May 11-17, when supporters from all over the UK come together to find different ways of raising funds and awareness for the work of the organisation's local partners, empowering communities around the world to find practical and sustainable ways out of poverty.

The President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference are encouraging people to take part.

Revd Helen Cameron said: "The work of Christian Aid in alleviating poverty globally is more important than ever."

Vice President, Carolyn Godfrey added: "Christian Aid continues to be a beacon of hope for communities around the world facing poverty, injustice, and crisis. Christian Aid's focus on addressing the root causes of inequality—whether through climate justice, advocating for human rights, or supporting local communities in the face of disasters—shows their dedication to creating a more just and compassionate world."

This year, the charity – which is marking its 80th anniversary – is focussing its flagship appeal on work in Guatemala, in Central America, where climate change is causing the seasons to intensify and shift erratically.

As a result, farming communities have to battle severe floods and, more recently, ferocious heat-waves. Water sources are drying up and vital crops are failing, plunging farming families into hunger and poverty.

Amelia is 24 and a mother of two from the Alta Verapaz region. She said the situation is very worrying: "In the past three years, we have been experiencing high heat and a lack of rain. One of the biggest issues is the lack of water...My plantations have been dying... and there is no food for my family."

Despite the challenges families are facing, the unstoppable power of hope drives people to look for ways to push back.

Christian Aid has been working with organisations like, Coordinación de ONG y Cooperativas, to offer training and tools so farmers can diversify and grow more resilient crops, build water recycling systems, and create organic fertiliser.

When Amelia discovered these initiatives, she put herself forward as a community representative, attending training sessions and bringing the learning back, to train other women in her community. She also raises awareness about the environment, discouraging people from littering, and encouraging people not to sell their land.

Every year, Christian Aid shines a light on people like Amelia and the efforts of local organisations to work with them towards a better future.

And once more, church leaders up and down the country are supporting the work of the charity and the fundraising efforts of its amazing supporters in the UK.

To find out more about Christian Aid, please visit www.christianaid.org.uk












Eco News from the Telford Circuit



Let all creation rejoice before the Lord! *Psalm 96: 13*

Tomorrow, the third Friday of May, people around the world will participate in *Endangered Species Day* celebrating, learning about, and taking action to protect threatened and endangered species. We are fortunate to live near the Shropshire Hills with its rich diversity of habitats and species, many of which are particularly rare and beautiful. On the recent District Pilgrimage we heard cuckoos, curlews and lapwings... all in one day! If you can get out and about this week, look and listen out for them! If not, perhaps you can pass this on to someone else... you might just inspire a family member or friend to get out and enjoy them!

Seen in ShropshiFind out more about wildlife in the Shropshire Hills AONB

Curlew 	Cuckoo 	Lapwing 
Marsh Flapwort 	Dormouse 	Small pearl-bordered fritillary 
Dipper 	Kingfisher 	Emperor moth 

Find out more about wildlife in the Shropshire Hills AONB [here](#)

learn more about Endangered Species Day [here](#)

To join the Eco Church Community for online prayer on Thursday 19th May at midday register [here](#)

Circuit Children and Young People Get Together

The Children and Young People Growth Group met on 8th May. We agreed we would like to put on a **Circuit Children and Young People Get Together**. The plan is to hold it at **Leegomery Methodist Church on Saturday 12th July between 14:00 and 16:00**. We hope to include games, crafts, food and a short time of interactive worship. In order to run it we need to ensure we will have enough helpers. If you are prepared to help in any way please would you e-mail John at john@telfordmeth.org.uk, indicating how you would like to be involved. Please send your expression of interest by 1st June 2025.



3Generate 2025

At the Circuit Children and Young People's Growth Group on 8th May we agreed we would like to send a Circuit Group to this year's 3Generate.

3Generate 2025 runs from 3rd October to 5th October and is at the NEC, Birmingham. There are several ways of attending. For C&YP between the ages of 8 to 17 they can attend for the whole weekend, with indoor camping for two nights. For C&YP between 4 and 7 there is the opportunity to attend with a significant adult on the Saturday only.

At this stage we are looking for people who can offer to be part of the group leadership team. There are four opportunities:

- i) we need a Weekend Main Group Leader who will have overall responsibility for the camping group. The person with this role will be responsible for the whole group and will need to attend the leaders' training calls, do the risk assessment, and be responsible for managing the other Group Leaders
- ii) Weekend Group Leader - this role works as part of the team under the direction of the Main Group Leader. They will camp for two nights in the Circuit zone and be responsible for the welfare and safety of the C&YP.
- iii) Saturday Main Group Leader - this role will organise the group of younger C&YP who will attend on the Saturday.
- iv) Saturday Volunteer - this role will help with the transport and care of the C&YP who attend on the Saturday.

All of the above roles will require Advanced Safeguarding and a DBS that is valid for working with C&YP to be in place no later than one month before the 3Generate event.

If you are interested in any of these roles please send an expression of interest to john@telfordmeth.org.uk no later than **15th June**. This timing is critical for us to establish the viability of sending groups to 3Generate. Thank you. John



Lawley Pop-up Events

The Lawley project team met on 6th May. We have agreed we would like to run **pop-up events in August**. These will involve providing games, crafts, chat and drinks on one of the playparks in Lawley. They will run from 13:30 to 15:30 on **each Friday in August** with the one on 29th August being a Harvest Festival.

If you would like to be involved in delivering these events please send an expression of interest to john@telfordmeth.org.uk by 1st June. The next planning session will be on **Tuesday 10th June at 19:30 at Wellington Methodist Church**.



Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury District Chair's Travels - Rev. Rachel Parkinson

A return on Sunday to the Dunwell Ghanaian Methodist Church in the Telford Circuit. Each time I visit, the life of the church has developed in some way. The choir now have very smart robes (complete with mortar boards!) and there are now Women's and Men's Fellowship groups. I mentioned the very recent visit of the Methodist Church in Britain and Cliff College to Ghana - thinking it might come as news - but the congregation already knew all about it. They were also excited about the possibility of the first African Pope (who would then likely be Ghanaian)sorry guys!

A joyful time as always. I preached on Jesus choosing both Peter and Saul as leaders of the early Church.....certainly not the candidates that would first come to mind on the basis of their past behaviour. I imagine this is a fairly standard approach to take when preaching these passages....but it becomes more complex when you put this into the context of the Theology of Safeguarding. How do we both honour God's radical ways of choosing unlikely leaders but also recognise our responsibility to create spaces that are as safe as possible for everyone, and especially the most vulnerable amongst us? It's a tension worth thinking about.



The Grand Opening of Dawley Christian Centre's Community Sensory & Prayer Garden took place on 9th May

The Chair of Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury District, Rev Rachel Parkinson cuts the ribbon to officially open the Dawley Christian Centre Sensory and Prayer garden.

Rachel had this to say: "What a beautiful day to open the Sensory Garden at Dawley Christian Centre! It was back in September 2021 that Rev'd Christopher Parkes suggested that the waste ground at the back of the building be converted into a community garden. It's taken nearly four years of hard slog and fund-raising to bring that vision into reality but today I cut the ribbon. It's a beautiful space - full of creativity, love and passion for people and for God's creation. Well done to all those who have worked so hard - including Sharon, John and Nik amongst others.

My prayer of blessing is that this will be a garden
where faith digs deep and becomes well rooted;
where tender hope is nurtured and grows strong;
and where love runs wild, like the most persistent but
beautiful weed!"



From this...

A space that hadn't been used in years.



To this!

A place where people can come together and enjoy the beautiful flowers and plants and listen to the birds that our glorious God has created.



These two lovely chaps are Cllr Ian Preece who is the Major for Telford & Wrekin and Cllr Ben Carter who is the Mayor of Great Dawley. We are very grateful for the support that we have received from them. (I'm a rose between two thorns :)







Dear All,

Cartway Church is holding a soup lunch on **Friday May 30th** from 12.00 - 2.00pm.

There is no charge but we will be grateful for donations which will go to support a Ghanaian Community Health Project.

Everyone is welcome and we look forward to seeing you at any of the times.

The soup will be served upstairs, in the church.

Blessings to all,

Ruth

Pray with us today....

Pray with us today.

Lord, send us out.

Send us out from our buildings, full of history and comfort and meaning, and lead us into your world as your disciples where the story is still being written.

Send us out with our hearts full of love and concern and fear and hope, and lead us into your heart for this blessed and beautiful world where the story is still being written.

Continue to bless places for lonely people to gather; soup lunches and warm spaces; moves and renovations; missions and prayer gatherings; and all the ways we seek to move from where we are to where you want us to be.

Lord, send us out. And remind us – remind me – that the story is still being written. Amen.

Find more ways to pray at methodist.org.uk/prayer.



Circuit Prayer Space

Circuit Prayer Space on a Monday morning at 8:30am.

Val Smith is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Circuit Prayer Meeting

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom meeting:

[https://zoom.us/j/96716434790?
pwd=RTZZa210Q1ZOWCtLTWk3NHoyWDVIQT09](https://zoom.us/j/96716434790?pwd=RTZZa210Q1ZOWCtLTWk3NHoyWDVIQT09)

Meeting ID: 967 1643 4790

Passcode: 355690

God loves you
unconditionally, no strings attached.
That's the good news.

Faith Space - An online service for all

Starts at 6:30pm on the link below.

Weekly zoom services for anyone and everyone wherever in the world you are!

Join Zoom meeting:

[https://zoom.us/j/95651019665?
pwd=bGgyVEdvQ0cvNDRpWm5HTVB0UDRmdz09](https://zoom.us/j/95651019665?pwd=bGgyVEdvQ0cvNDRpWm5HTVB0UDRmdz09)

Meeting ID: 956 5101 9665

Passcode: 395669

God bless you all and see you soon!



TABLE TOP



**Friday May 16th 2025
at Dawley Christian Centre
9:00am - 12:00 noon**

**Please call Sharon on 01952
505108 to book a table
Only £5!!!**

**Come along and grab
yourself a bargain!**



LEEGOMERY METHODIST CHURCH

(Hadley Park Road)



On

Sunday 18th MAY 2025

Services to be held at

**11 am led by Rev Fiona Brown
and 4 pm by The Sunday School**



Special items by the Sunday School Members at both Services

**Come and support the Young People
On their Special Day**

EVERYONE WELCOME

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 17th 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 FILLING STATION

Haughmond
& Wrekin

26 May 2025
7:15pm for 7:30pm start



Haughmond & Wrekin Filling Station,
Rodington Village Hall, Shrewsbury,
SY4 4QS. 7:30 - 9pm, every 4th Monday.

Join us in June for
great worship, prayer
and hospitality.

Future dates

- 23rd June
- 28th July

Main Speaker

Jon Rawson

Jon is a Deputy Head at a Junior school in Telford. He's been a teacher for 35 years with a keen interest in RE in schools. He is married to Ruth with 3 teenage children.



He has been a Licensed Lay Reader for 25 years and is part of the service leading team at St.John's, Muxton. He plays the guitar in the worship group.

More info at...

www.thefillingstation.org.uk/station/haughmond-wrekin



Oakengates United Church

Stafford Road, Oakengates, Telford TF2 6JH

Christian Aid Coffee Morning



Saturday 31st May

10.00am – 12 noon

Delicious Bacon Sandwiches,

Toast, Tea & Coffee

Plant Stall, Cake Stall & Raffle



We use Fairtrade products

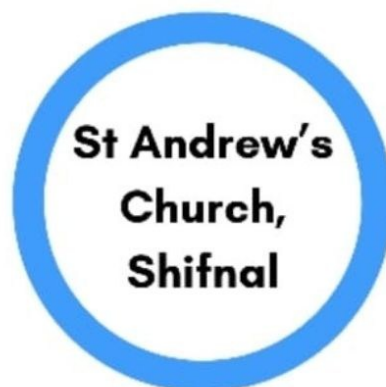


SHIFNAL PRIDE CELEBRATION

Reaching out together, to share God's amazing faith, hope and love!

Join us for an LGBTQ+ service of celebration, followed by fellowship, tea and cake.

Together, we can create a world where all can love who they choose to love. Join us on this journey, embracing all with understanding and respect. United, we make a difference, showing acceptance and equality.





Bereavement cafe

A support group looking forward, following loss.

Thursday June 5th

Thursday July 3rd

Thursday August 7th

10:30am - 12:00pm

The Trinity Centre, Victoria Road, Shifnal

Offering support, understanding & empathy

A small group brought together through loss.

We offer a relaxed, friendly and safe environment to talk with others, share memories and make new friends.

Everybody welcome

For further information contact Claire: 07955 688627





SHROPSHIRE

WORSHIP GATHERING

JUNE 7TH 2025 | HALFWAY HOUSE | 9AM - 9PM



WWW.SHROPSHIREHOPE.CO.UK

We are looking forward to hosting a **12 hour worship event** bringing together bands and acoustic sets from across the county on **Saturday 7th June 2025**, the day before Pentecost Sunday, at the **Halfway House Pavilion on the Wrekin**. Transport will be available for those unable to manage the 15 minute walk up the hill.

This year is the 10th anniversary of Thy Kingdom Come with a theme of the Lord's Prayer. We would love to hear what you are doing in your area.

We hope that you can join us on Saturday 7th. Please do let others in your churches and networks know. It would help if you are able to share transport on the day, as parking is limited.

For more information click on: Shropshire Hope

JESUS: THE EVIDENCE

Telford Elim and All Saints church would love you to join us for an evening of listening to the evidence for Jesus as the Son of God.

Light refreshments will be provided during the break

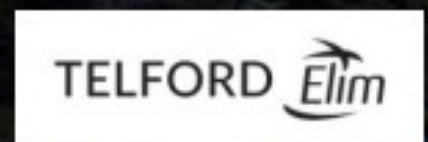
Q&A Session

Free booklet at the end of the event

Free parking available at the station carpark on King Street

Wednesday 18th June 7-9pm
All Saints church
8 Church Street
Wellington
Telford
TF1 1DG

Jesustheevidence.com



This is a Free Event



SUMMER FAIR

5TH JULY 11AM – 3PM

CHILDREN'S FANCY DRESS TOMBOLA RAFFLE

MYSTERY PARCELS CRAFTS BOOKS

BRIC A BRAC CAKES & JAMS

BACON & SAUSAGE BAPS



**DONNINGTON
METHODIST CHURCH
WREKIN DRIVE**

Advanced Safeguarding Course

Stephanie Bradley, Assistant District Safeguarding Officer is doing Advanced Safeguarding Training in the Telford Circuit on **Saturday 24th May 2025**, starting at 10am at **Wellington Methodist Church**.

If you are unsure as to whether you are due to attend a course please contact either your Church Safeguarding Officer or Sharon in the Circuit Office on 01952 505108.

Registration will be from 9:30am with a prompt start at 10am, finishing around 1pm.

Please book directly with Stephanie by calling 07494 734 473 or email: StephanieBradley@birminghammethodist.org.uk

Thank you.

SAFEGUARDING
Creating Safer Space



Please get in touch if you have something to share.



Contact:

circuitssupport@telfordmeth.org.uk

or 01952 505108

Bible Studies in the Circuit

Admaston meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month between 10-11:30am. They currently meet in the home of one of the church family but if the numbers increased they would be happy to transfer the bible study to church.

Cartway, Bridgnorth has 3 bibles study groups.

Shambles Group meet on 2nd Monday of the month at 10:30am

Orchard House Group meet on 3rd Monday in the month at 10:30am

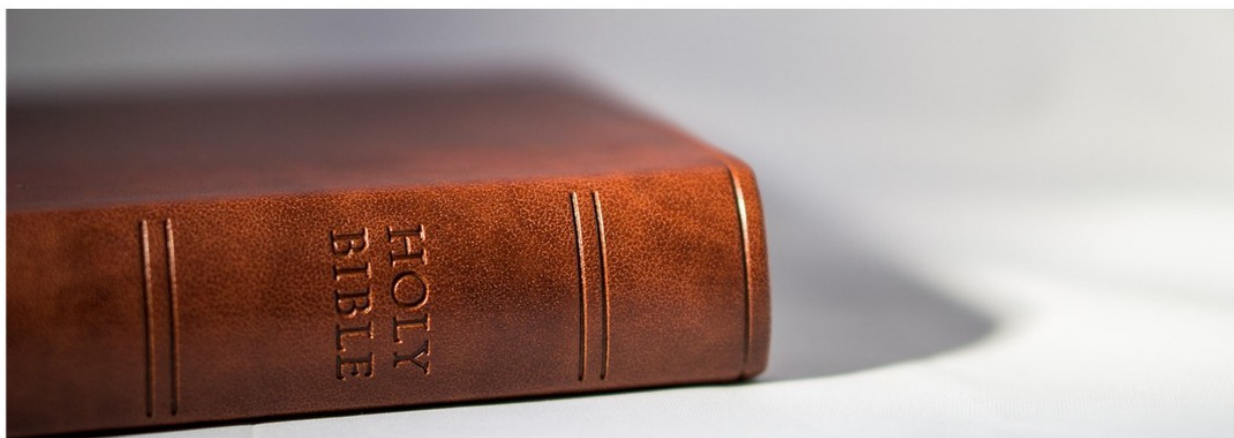
Greenfields Group meet 3rd Tuesday in the month at 2pm.

Dawley - Bible study group meets for two 5-6 weekly sessions each year. One during Lent the other during Advent.

Dunwell - has a bible study before church service each Sunday which (service starts at 10am)

Oakengates Bible Reflections Group meet for two series of 5-6 weekly sessions each year. One of these is in Lent and the other in the autumn. As they usually meet in someone's home, we do not include the venue in general publicity.

Online Courses: Monday afternoon at 1:30am, Monday evening at 7:30pm and Wednesday evening at 8pm. Please contact the Circuit office for the Zoom link. All are welcome.





The Church of
St Andrew
& Emily
Church
School



Dementia
Friendly Church
2022-23

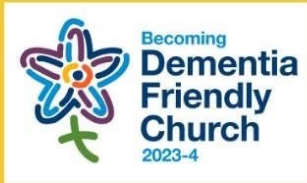
Reaching out together to share
God's amazing faith, hope and love.

Forget me not Group for people affected by dementia. **Third Thursday of** **the month at 2:00pm**

**Come and join us - there's a warm
welcome and a friendly atmosphere.**

For more information, or for if you want to have a
conversation about memory difficulties or
dementia, contact Sarah Thorpe on 07982 248949 or
sarah.thorpe121@gmail.com

2025



2025



Everyday Welcome

**We will re-open on Monday 13th January
at St Andrew's Church.**

**Wishing all our visitors and volunteers a blessed
and Happy New Year, and looking forward to
providing a warm welcome for everyone in 2025.**

Open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
10:30am - 2:00pm

Tuesdays 10:30-12:30pm

Come and join us for a friendly chat &
refreshments. Delicious light lunches served
from 12 Noon each day except Tuesday.

It's free. Donations welcomed!

All you keen or would be bakers please
Join us for Bread Church at
Dawley Christian Centre

On the last Wednesday
of every month between 1-3pm
And the last Saturday of every
month between
9:30-1:30pm (with a light lunch)

ALL ARE WELCOME

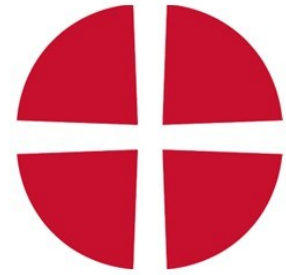
Please note there's no bread church during May



Everything will be ready for you to make your
own bread and it's FREE!

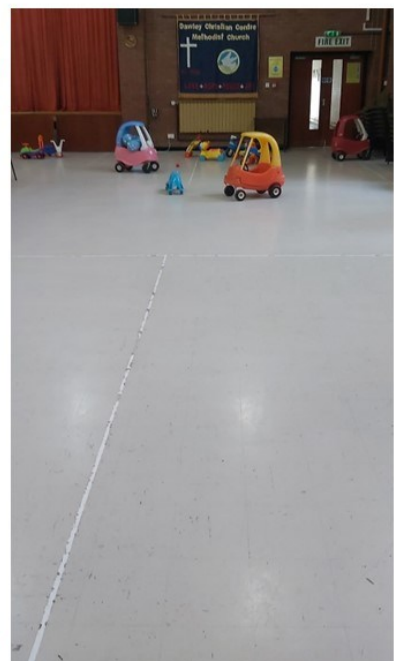
Please come along and give it a go.

**Stay & Play Under 5's Playgroup
at Dawley Christian Centre
High Street
Dawley
TF4 2EX**



**Every Monday & Tuesday from
9:30-11:30am.**

We have lots of space and plenty of toys so
bring the kids and let's make some noise!



Coffee Morning at Cartway Methodist Church, Bridgnorth

On the 1st Saturday of each month between 10am –12 midday there is a Coffee Morning at Cartway Methodist Church.

There's going to be a great raffle,.

All are welcome.



Wellington Methodist Church

Are having All Age Drop-in Craft Sessions on the second Saturday of each month.

The sessions are FREE and start at 10am-11:45am.

You are welcome to drop in any time.
Everyone is welcome.



Coffee Mornings at Horsehay

**Every Wednesday:
10.30am - 12.00 noon**

**Join us for tea/coffee,
fellowship and lots of
chat and laughter!**



Ladies' Fellowship at Horsehay Second Tuesday of each month

in the vestry @2.30pm

ALL WELCOME - BRING A FRIEND!

Painting for Pleasure at Horsehay Methodist Church

Informal art groups (no tutor, but lots of chat and helping each other with tips and techniques). Whatever your skill level, if you enjoy drawing and/or painting, why not come and join us? **Thursday and Friday mornings** 10.00 - 12.30. £5.00 per session.

Wool Wanted

If anyone has any spare balls of wool they don't need, can you let Sharon (01952 505108) in the Circuit office know please?

At Dawley we are making knitted and crocheted blankets for the dementia patients at the Princess Royal Hospital.

The colourful blankets help patients, particularly those with dementia, to find their way back to bed more easily – and also see the edge of the bed more clearly when getting in and out. They also provide a more homely feel to the wards. Thank you.

[Calling all knitters: blankets wanted for patients with dementia – SaTH](#)



Bereavement Cafe

A monthly opportunity to meet and chat with others who have been bereaved, hosted by members of local churches.

Second Monday of each month

2:30-4:00pm

Wellington Methodist Church





Albrighton Methodist Church

Regular church activities

Cafe Central

Every Thursday 10.00 to 12.00

Excellent coffee!

Meet with friends, old and new.



Sing a Long

2nd and 4th Fridays in the month.
2.00 to 3.30

Join in with "Old Time" songs
and songs from the musicals.
£2 per head.



Monthly Cafe

First Saturday in the month 10.00 to 12.00

With high quality bric-a-brac and
book stalls.



Open Door

First Tuesday in the month
7.30 to 9.00

Wide variety of speakers
ranging from singing, wildlife,
travel logs, health related.....



£2 per head. Speaker usually puts fees to a charity.

The **calling** of the
Methodist Church
is to respond to the
gospel of **God's love**
in **Christ** and to live
out its discipleship in
worship and mission

Our Calling

The **Methodist Church** 