

Pastoral Letter

Dear Friends

Connexion – with its rather quirky spelling, is far more than a word from antiquity and John Wesley’s time. In just one word it sums up what we as Methodist people are all about.

I sometimes hear people using the words ‘the Connexion’ in a derogatory sense. It’s as if the Connexion is someone else – them! We are a large multi-faceted multi-million pound organisation. As such we have a team of Connexional Officers, many of whom work from Methodist Church House in central London. Many are long serving and experienced people who serve the Church with great commitment in administration, guidance and leadership. As a national Church we could not do without them. However, the Connexion is far more than just that central organisational body. Within our methodical way of doing things, we have a structure of District and Circuit – each with a body of officers whose role is to support and enable the local Church in its worship and mission.

And that’s the nub. We are the Connexion. It’s us – all of us.

Members of our ten local congregations in the Salisbury Circuit, the wider Southampton District and the national Church, stretching from Shetland to the two congregations on the Scilly Isles, belong together.

We are connected together through our membership of the Church and, importantly, to Jesus Christ who prayed on the night of his arrest ‘that they may be one.’ That connexion is not only Methodist people in this country, we are a multinational with branches and links right around the world. The world Methodist family is numbered in the millions and in many places it is a growing family.

It’s even more than that. If nothing else, the Cop26 gathering has reminded us that we belong to one international family. People living on the threatened low-lying Marshall Islands or the shanty townships of Africa or the refugee camps of Syria are as much part of the whole as those living in high rise apartments in New York. Perhaps as never before we are sharing a growing realisation that we are bound together by our common humanity and our mutual responsibility.

In a world of complexity and infinite variety, just perhaps, the word Connexion is the right word to use, not of things but of people.

Sincerely

Bryan

Bryan Coates, Acting Superintendent Minister.

The Methodist Church

Salisbury Circuit

(26/12)

Registered Charity no. 1134362

www.Salisburymethodistcircuit.org.uk

Circuit Plan

December 2021 – February 2022



Acting Superintendent

Rev. Bryan Coates

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Preaching Appointments

		5th Dec Advent 2	12th Dec Advent 3	19th Dec Advent 4	26th Dec	2nd Jan	9th Jan	16th Jan	23rd Jan	30th Jan	6th Feb	13th Feb	20th Feb	27th Feb
Amesbury	10:30 am	Spencer	Rees AA	C Jones		Holmes	Rees C	C Jones	Burton	Rees	C Jones HC	D Bishop	Rees AA	M King
Bemerton	10:30 am	Burton	Davies	Taylor		Dicks	Hawkes C	D Bishop	Coates	Hawkes	B King *	Hawkes HC	Davies	C King
Bourne Valley	10:00 am	Coates	B King * *	Hawkes HC		Spencer	Irish	Hawkes C	Robert	Leslie	Hawkes	Luscombe	Burton	M Jones
Fordingbridge	10:30 am	@SH	Robert	Irish		Hawkes C	Luscombe	Archibald	@SH	Archibald	M King	Holmes	Spencer	Hawkes
Pitton	11:00 am	C of E	C of E	Coates HC	C of E	C of E	C of E	M Jones	C of E	C of E	C of E	C of E	Coates HC	C of E
Salisbury	8:30 am													
Salisbury	10:30 am	Bishop HC	Maunder	Bishop AA		Taylor	Bishop C	Holmes	Bishop AA	Luscombe	Bishop HC	Leslie	Bishop MWoL	Rees AA
Salisbury	4:00 pm		Bishop / C King MB				Bishop / C King MB					Bishop / C King MB		
Salisbury	6:00 pm	Bishop		Bishop CS										
Sandleheath	10:45 am	Hawkes HC	Archibald	C of E		@FB	C of E	Leslie	Hawkes	Liversidge	Newton	C of E	Irish	@FB
Shrewton	10:30 am	Leslie	Liversidge	Rees		Rees C	DeVillie	Newton	Rees	D Bishop		Rees HC	Robert	WL
Winterslow	10:00 am	Newton	Holmes	M Jones		Liversidge	Maunder	Rees C	Moody	Irish	Rees HC	Maunder	At Pitton	C Jones
Woodfalls	10:00 am	HC / @StB	@StM	Luscombe HC		@StM / HC	@StB	Coates C	@StM	@StB / HC	Coates	@StM / HC	@StB	Coates HC

If you are unable to fulfil an appointment through sickness or for any other reason, please make sure that you find a substitute and inform both the Circuit Superintendent and the steward of the church concerned.

ABBREVIATIONS	NEXT PLAN March 2022 –May 2022	CIRCUIT DATES
C Covenant Service	STEWARDS: Info to your minister by 15 th January	Circuit Meeting Tuesday 22 nd March 2022 7,30pm at Salisbury
CA Chapel Anniversary	PREACHERS: Update Chrestos by 22 nd January	Local Preachers & Worship Leaders Meeting Wednesday 8 th December 7.30pm at Amesbury
GD Gift Day	Ministers' Day Off	Safeguarding Training Saturday 29 th January 9.30 am for 10.00 am at Bemerton
HC Holy Communion	Please only contact in case of emergency	
LA Local Arrangement	David Hookins..... Friday	
MTB Mixed Blessings	Paul Rees..... Friday	
MWoL Methodist Way of Life	Steve Hawkes..... Saturday	
WL Worship Leaders		
* Transport Required		