

  
**The Methodist Church** Salisbury Circuit 26/23

**Amesbury Methodist Church**

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[www.salisburymethodistcircuit.org.uk/churches/amesbury-methodist-church/](http://www.salisburymethodistcircuit.org.uk/churches/amesbury-methodist-church/)

**Newsletter for October 2025**



### Minister's Letter

Dear Friends

Each year, deacons in the Methodist Church come together as an Order to pray, to study, to do the business of the Order and to enjoy a time of fellowship. This year our theme was *"becoming the people God wants us to be, both individually and as an Order, for the sake of the world."* The statement itself suggests that as individuals and collectively, we are always on the move with God, continually being open to the transformation of the Spirit, not for our sake alone, but for the sake of the world.

In one of the sessions we were invited to reflect upon ourselves and our communities, using the aid of a painting which I have reproduced for you. You can look at it in more detail at this link [Pieter Bruegel the Elder - Peasant Wedding - Google Art Project 2 - The Peasant Wedding - Wikipedia](#)

It was painted around in 1567 by the Dutch and Flemish Renaissance painter and printmaker Pieter Bruegel the Elder and is titled "The Peasant Wedding."



As I step into the painting I look around, and notice that like many church communities the wedding feast is made up of many different individuals. Whilst they are predominantly peasant people, there are also two people who are a bit different; a wealthier gentleman dressed in black, and a Franciscan monk. Maybe they are conversing together, or perhaps the monk is listening to the gentleman, or even praying for him. Perhaps they are reflecting upon how they stand out from the crowd, and find solace in one another's company.

It is a community coming together to celebrate the joy of a marriage, the bride being conspicuously seated under a paper decoration on the wall and wearing a simple crown, but the bridegroom seems not to be by her side. Where is he I wonder, and how does she feel?

I sense an atmosphere of warmth and generosity for those on the inside; there is music from the bagpipes, and food and drink are bountifully flowing, served by a few yet consumed by many. The soup is carried by two men on a door, which has been removed from its hinges, assisted only by one man at the table, and the beer is being poured out into flagons, with many flagons still to fill. It is physically hard work. There are a few conversations being had around the room, but mostly, people are engrossed in consuming their soup and beer. There are two young children in the painting, one who sits on the floor alone and another

at the table, both completely oblivious to what is happening all around them, as they polish off every last drop of comfort food.

At the back, even though the door is off its hinges, people are trying to get in, bringing other gifts to the feast, but there seems to be an obstacle to bringing it in, and will there be a place at the table for them?

As I discerned and prayed through this reflection, some questions arose which you might like to prayerfully consider as we journey onwards with the transforming Spirit.

1. How do we/I embrace and welcome others so that all might feel valued members of the body of Christ in this place?
2. How do we/I respond to those who feel on the margins of our faith communities?
3. How do we/I become both consumers of the nourishing gospel and nourish new disciples for the Kingdom?
4. Consider if God is calling you to share the load and serve in some way in your church. What might God be calling you to and what might be stopping you?
5. Discern with the Spirit what obstacles there might be which prevent others from bringing their gifts to the feast?

A Celtic journeying prayer from St Brendan

*'Help me to journey beyond the familiar and into the unknown. Give me the faith to leave old ways and break fresh ground with You. Christ of the mysteries, I trust You to be stronger than each storm within me. I will trust in the darkness and know that my times, even now, are in Your hand. Tune my spirit to the music of heaven, and somehow, make my obedience count for You.'*

With love and prayers for you all as we “travel” together in faith for the transformation of the world.

Dcn. SELINA

Prayer pointers for this month

- For foodbank clients and those who serve there
- For all our military families and those who serve
- For our Girls Brigade and their leaders
- For the Afghan community

## **SALISBURY CIRCUIT DATES 2025**

**Sunday October 5<sup>th</sup>** – Harvest Festival followed by lunch at Sandleheath

**Sunday October 12<sup>th</sup>** – Harvest Festival followed by lunch at Motcombe

**Wednesday October 15<sup>th</sup>** - Ecumenical Prayers for Justice and Peace in the Cathedral Trinity Chapel 12 noon All are welcome

**Wednesday October 29<sup>th</sup>** 12.30 – bring your own sandwiches – meeting starts at 1pm Circuit Justice and Peace Group - Bemerton Methodist Church

**Sunday November 9<sup>th</sup>** – Remembrance Service at St Mary’s Church Motcombe

**SERVICES OF WORSHIP October 2025 - Please pray for all those leading worship**



Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	Rev Dr Phillip Luscombe - Holy Communion
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	Mr Malcolm Spencer
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Mr Daniel Bishop – All Age Worship
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> October	Rev Judy Davies

**We extend a warm welcome to all and invite you to stay for refreshments, which will be served after the morning service. We usually take the Offering by having a plate in the Vestibule on your arrival to church and the Welcome Steward brings it up in the first hymn where the offering is dedicated during the Service. You can set up a Standing Order HSBC, Amesbury Methodist Church, Sort code: 40-08-25 Account No: 61117300**

Former Church Council Secretary of Amesbury Methodist Church Alex Fryatt was admitted to the Office of Licensed Lay Minister in Salisbury Cathedral on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> 2025. Alex will work initially in the Diocese of Europe in Ypres and Mons, where he is currently serving with the Army

Here he is pictured outside the Cathedral and in the other photo with his wife Jenny ( who is the Amesbury Methodist Church webmaster!) and his mother Doris, who together with husband Geoff has been a regular worshipper at AMC in recent years, until Geoff has become so unwell.

Members of Amesbury Methodist Church who attended the service included George and Bernie Watts and Fred Rees

Former Minister of AMC, Rosemary Fletchcer, was also present.



Sunday July 13<sup>th</sup> 2025 Amesbury MC held a Service of Thanksgiving for the Birth of Max Tomasi Mara Newton, who was born on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024.  
 Son of Lauren and Anare  
 Brother of Amele, and of Elliott and Leon



**Booking Secretary: Situation vacant**

We have 2 large Halls and a small Meeting Room available for hire: Ideal for Family Parties, Groups, Exercise Classes, Dance Groups, etc. The Kitchen is large, spacious, and well equipped and complies with all Health & Safety Regulations.

**For more details Contact the Stewards**

<b>MONDAY</b>	09.30 – 12.30 BH Afghan Community Hub 13.30 - 16.00 MH The Alzheimer’s Support Group 19.30 – 21.30 BH Scottish Country Dancing	<b>TUESDAY</b>	11.00 – 13:00 BH Line Dancing with Julie 11.00 – 13.00 MH The Salisbury Food Bank 14.00 – 16.00 BH The Amesbury Archer’s Songsters 18.15 – 20.15 ALL rooms Girls Brigade
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	10.00 – 12.30 BH Pre-Natal Yoga 17.15– 20.15 BH Line Dancing with Julie	<b>THURSDAY</b>	11.00 – 12.30 BH Line Dancing with Julie 13.00 – 15.00 MH The Salisbury Foodbank 14.00 YR Bible fellowship (2 <sup>nd</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> and 30 <sup>th</sup> October)
<b>FRIDAY</b>	No Bookings – Cleaning	<b>SATURDAY</b>	10.00 – 11:30 MH Coffee morning

**BH = Back Hall, MH = Main Hall, YR = Youth Room**

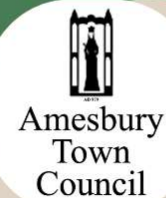
Amesbury Methodist Church CCLi licence no 206298.

# Love Your Community

Join us for an afternoon of conversation, connection, and community spirit as we welcome our new vicar Kelvin, and his wife Helen.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25TH, 2 PM  
AT THE BOWMAN CENTRE,  
SHEARS DR

[bookings@amesburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:bookings@amesburytowncouncil.gov.uk)



# WORLDWIDE APPEALS — October 2025

An appeal from you to the authorities can help the victims of human rights violations. You can help free a prisoner of conscience or stop torture. Your message can bring liberty to a victim of disappearance. You may prevent an execution. The victims are many, the violators wide ranging. Every appeal counts.



## DEMAND RELEASE OF HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER

Rita Karasartova, a human rights defender and civic governance expert in Kyrgyzstan, has been detained since 14 April 2025 after law enforcement raided her home in Bishkek. On 8 July 2025, she was officially charged under two criminal articles: “Organizing mass riots” and “Public calls for the violent seizure of power”. The investigator has ‘classified’ all the materials of this criminal case, so the trial will be held behind closed doors, thereby excluding journalists and the public. She must be released immediately.

**TAKE ACTION: WRITE AN APPEAL IN YOUR OWN WORDS OR USE THIS MODEL LETTER**

*Head of the Bishkek city prosecutor's office  
Kanat Jumaliyevich Nasipov*

*T. Abdymomunov St., 276  
Bishkek  
720033  
Kyrgyz Republic*

**e-mail:** [bishkek@prokuror.kg](mailto:bishkek@prokuror.kg)

*Dear Kanat Jumaliyevich,*

*I am writing to express my deep concern about the detention of human rights defender Rita Karasartova.*

*Rita was detained on 14 April 2025 after a search of her home and has remained in detention since then. On 8 July 2025 the investigation was completed and she was officially charged under two criminal articles: “Organizing mass riots” (Article 278) and “Public calls for the violent seizure of power” (Article 327). The investigator has classified all materials of the criminal case, allegedly due to the presence of sensitive political information, meaning her trial is closed to the media, public and independent observers.*

*Such secrecy violates the international right to a fair trial, which includes the right to a public hearing (the overarching right to a fair and public hearing by a competent, independent, and impartial tribunal established by law is encompassed within Article 14(1) of the ICCPR). Moreover, a closed trial increases the risk of procedural violations.*

*Rita should not have been detained in the first place and now she is being subject to an unfair trial.*

***I urge you to uphold Kyrgyzstan's international human rights obligations and to ensure Rita Karasartova's immediate release, and pending her release take all necessary steps to ensure that her trial is fair, open for public, and free of any violations.***

*Yours sincerely,*

**Amnesty International–Nobel Peace Prize 1977 UN Human Rights Prize 1978**

For more information about the Salisbury branch  
please call Tony Miller 01722 322791 - [www.salisburyai.com](http://www.salisburyai.com)