

**OCTOBER 2018**

# **TOGETHER**



**METHODIST CHURCHES**

**PORTISHEAD**  
*High Street*

**REDCLIFFE BAY**  
*Queens Road*

*Minister: Revd Nick Moxon*

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## From Rev Nick Moxon

We're in the season in church when we're encouraged to be grateful for all we have. Our harvest celebrations draw praise & thanksgiving out from us for all God has given us as well as hearing the challenge for us to share what we have with those who have nothing.

Recently I was challenged to be more grateful. In an online video from a fitness coach I follow he said that part of being healthy in body, mind & spirit is to write down 3 things you are grateful for each day. And it challenged me. It challenged me because I realised that I wasn't always as grateful as I should be. I often allow my emotions to determine whether I'm grateful or not. But I can make the choice to be grateful.

Paul in his letter to the Philippians writes...

*'Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.'* (chapter 4 verses 5-7)

In every situation, by prayer and petition, **with thanksgiving**, present your requests to God - even when things are tough and hard, be thankful.

Whilst looking into this a bit more I came across the following 6 steps to being grateful. I wonder if you can either connect with any of these or start doing them.

**1. Intentionally choose it.** Gratitude will never be a result of your next purchase, success, or accomplishment. You will never find gratitude in life until you intentionally decide to choose it.

**2. Count your blessings.** A new day, a warm bed, a loving spouse, a child in your life, a unique personality, or a special talent... You have wonderful things in your life already. Gratitude quickly sets in when we begin to spend a quiet moment each day remembering

them. This practice alone has the potential to change your heart and life immeasurably.

**3. Stop focusing on what you don't have.** Too many people never realise gratitude because they spend so much mental energy focused on what they don't have.

**4. Embrace humility.** Humility is an essential ingredient in gratitude. A humble heart finds satisfaction in the gifts it already possesses and demands less from others and life.

**5. Open your eyes to those with less.** Almost half the world, over three billion people, live on less than \$2.50 a day. 1.1 billion people have inadequate access to clean water, and 2.6 billion lack basic sanitation. Let those facts sink in for just a moment—and slowly allow gratitude and a desire to become part of the solution to take their place.

**6. Find gratitude in difficulty.** It is easy to be grateful when things are going well. It can be more difficult during the trials of life: death, disease, rejection, or failure. The truth is that no one is exempt from the trials of life, but good can always be found in even the worst of times. And embracing gratitude during those trials may be the one thing that gets you through them.

I suspect that some of you will have had the old hymn 'Count your blessings' running through your head as you've been reading this (if you haven't you will now!) Long before self-help books & websites were thought of Johnson Oatman Jr who wrote this hymn in 1897 had it right.

'Count your blessings, name them one by one,  
Count your blessings see what God has done  
Count your blessings, name them one by one,  
And it will surprise you what the Lord has done.'

Let's be a people of gratitude and praise for all God has done for us and given us both large and small.

God bless

**Nick**

# CHURCH CALENDAR



## October

- 1st Monday 9.30 am Little Stars Toddler Group (Redcliffe Bay)  
11.00 am Hymn Singing at The Haven
- 2nd Tuesday 9.30 am Prayers; 10.00 am Coffee and Chat (Portishead)  
2.30 pm Hymn Singing (Cambrian Lodge)
- 3rd Wednesday 9.30 - 11.30 am Wesley Toddlers (Portishead)  
2.30 pm Women's Fellowship (Portishead)  
8.00 pm Wednesday Focus (Redcliffe Bay)
- 4th Thursday 10.00 am Baycon Butty Club (Redcliffe Bay)  
7.30 pm Choir Practice (Portishead)
- 6th Saturday 9.00 am Prayers for the World and Community (Portishead)  
10.00 am - 12.00 Coffee and Chat (Portishead)
- 7th Sunday 10.30 am All Age Worship -Harvest Festival (Portishead)  
to include Holy Communion Rev Nick Moxon  
10.30 am Morning Service (Redcliffe Bay) Rev David Harris
- 8th Monday 9.30 am Little Stars Toddler Group (Redcliffe Bay)
- 9th Tuesday 9.30 am Prayers; 10.00 am Coffee and Chat (Portishead)  
10.00 am Holy Communion (Redcliffe Bay) Rev Nick Moxon  
10.30 am Coffee for All (Redcliffe Bay)  
7.30 pm Church Council (Redcliffe Bay)
- 10th Wednesday 9.30 - 11.30 am Wesley Toddlers (Portishead)  
2.30 pm Women's Fellowship (Portishead)
- 11th Thursday 7.30 pm Choir Practice (Portishead)
- 12th Friday 5.30 - 7.00 pm Junior Youth Club (Portishead)
- 13th Saturday 10.00 am - 12.00 Coffee and Chat (Portishead)
- 14th Sunday 10.30 am Morning Service (Portishead) Rev Brian Hunt  
10.30 am Morning Service to include Holy Communion  
(Redcliffe Bay) Rev Nick Moxon  
3.30 pm Messy Harvest (Redcliffe Bay)
- 15th Monday 9.30 am Little Stars Toddler Group (Redcliffe Bay)
- 16th Tuesday 9.30 am Prayers; 10.00 am Coffee and Chat (Portishead)  
7.30 pm Monthly Discussion Group  
(Redcliffe Bay at 150 Merlin Park)

- 17th Wednesday 9.30 - 11.30 am Wesley Toddlers (Portishead)  
2.30 pm Women's Fellowship (Portishead)  
8.00 pm Wednesday Focus (Redcliffe Bay)
- 18th Thursday 7.30 pm Choir Practice (Portishead)
- 19th Friday 7.00 pm Brothers in Arms (Portishead)
- 20th Saturday 9.30 am - noon Working Party (Redcliffe Bay)  
10.00 am – 12.00 Coffee and Chat (Portishead)
- 21st Sunday 10.30 am Morning Service (Portishead) Rev Nick Moxon  
10.30 am Morning Service (Redcliffe Bay) Rev Philip Auden
- 22nd Monday 9.30 am Little Stars Toddler Group (Redcliffe Bay)
- 23rd Tuesday 9.30 am Prayers; 10.00 am Coffee and Chat (Portishead)  
10.30 am Coffee for All (Redcliffe Bay)
- 24th Wednesday 9.30 - 11.30 am Wesley Toddlers (Portishead)  
2.30 pm Women's Fellowship (Portishead)
- 25th Thursday 7.30 pm Choir Practice (Portishead)
- 27th Saturday 10.00 am – 12.00 Coffee and Chat (Portishead)  
10.30 am Autumn Fair: Books, Cakes and Coffee  
(Redcliffe Bay)
- 28th Sunday 10.30 am Morning Service (Portishead) Rev Nick Moxon  
10.30 am Morning Service (Redcliffe Bay) Rev David Harris
- 29th Monday 9.30 am Little Stars Toddler Group (Redcliffe Bay)
- 30th Tuesday 9.30 am Prayers; 10.00 am Coffee and Chat (Portishead)  
10.30 am Coffee for All (Redcliffe Bay)  
11.00 am Hymn Singing at Waverley Court  
2.00 pm Hymn Singing at Norewood Lodge  
3.30 pm Hymn Drop-in (Redcliffe Bay)
- 31st Wednesday 2.30 pm Women's Fellowship (Portishead)  
7.30 pm Wednesday Focus (Redcliffe Bay)

## GENERAL NEWS



### PRAYERS – FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY

We pray for the many people for whom harvest is a struggle, as they work hard to grow the food they need to feed their families.

We remember people in Malawi Communities have struggled to grow food

because of the droughts they have experienced. The local organisation All We Can supports, is helping them to overcome the effects of drought by enabling them to water their land through solar irrigation. This enables farmers to grow food all year round and survive the difficult times.

Please pray for the farmers in Malawi, that they will benefit from having more secure harvest enabling their children to have better health and the energy they need to go to school and invest in their futures. May the local organisation All We Can supports, have the ongoing resources they need to help those in greatest need as we all work together.

We pray for farmers in Ethiopia who live on challenging mountainous terrain. We are thankful for how the local organisations All We Can supports, is helping them to improve their harvests through building barriers and planting indigenous trees to stop the good quality soil being washed down the hills. These measures as well as training in modern farming techniques and providing a variety of seeds are helping them to have improved harvests and gain a greater yield.

Please pray for the farmers in Ethiopia, that they will continue to benefit from more food at harvest time to provide for their families' needs and make a secure income. May the organisations All We Can work with have the strength and vision they need to continue helping to transform communities.

We pray for marginalised women in India, who are facing a number of social and economic challenges, including struggling to gain good harvests. One of the organisations All We Can works with, helps these vulnerable women come together to learn from a model farm, who then take the skills back to use at home and to pass on to their community.

Please pray for these women, that the skills they gain will help them to improve their lives, especially their ability to provide for their families' needs. Pray for the local organisation All We Can works with, that through them more women will be able to break the cycle of poverty and have access to their right.

## A Harvest prayer

*Lord of life*

*We thank you for the life you have created  
for the creatures of the seas, sky and earth  
for the people who you made in your image  
and the land you have given us to steward  
We ask that you help us to be better at sharing  
to respond with love to the needs we see  
to use what we have for the benefit of others  
and for all to have the means to provide for their needs.*

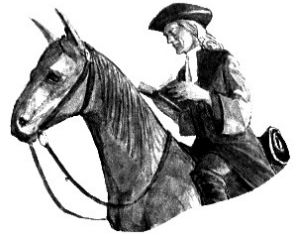
*Amen*

### JOHN WESLEY'S CHAPEL - THE NEW ROOM

Reflect (Methodist Spirituality) Day Conference.

Saturday 20th October, 10.30 am – 4.00pm.

Open to all— not just members of Reflect



Outline of the Day:

- 10-10.30am— Arrivals and Coffee
- 10.30am—Welcome and Devotions—Chapel
- **10.45am—Keynote Address: Revd Michaela Youngson (President of Conference)** "God's Inconvenient Grace"  
(followed by plenary/questions)
- 12 –12.45pm Lunch (Café lunches available or bring a packed lunch)
- 12.45-2.45pm—Choice of workshops:
  - Visit the Museum at the New Room (special discounted entry of £2.50)
  - Grace and Dementia
  - Grace, Slavery and Abolition (all one hour, repeated each hour)
- A 'Wesley in Bristol' walk— 1.5 hours (not repeated)
- 2.45pm—Tea available in the Horsefair Room

- 3.15pm—Plenary and Closing Prayers
- 3.30pm— Reflect AGM

To book a free place please email Gill Dascombe:  
[gilldascombe@hotmail.com](mailto:gilldascombe@hotmail.com)

25th October 6.00 pm Methodist historian Gary Best talks about the haunting of the Wesley family home and the story of the eighteenth-century exorcism of George Lukins in Bristol, followed by a look around the museum at the New Room in which he explains how it was created with Bristol design company Cod Steaks and how the museum explores various issues in 18th century Bristol that are still relevant today. (The talk will be 45 minutes with questions, following by a tour of the museum).

This event is free of charge in association with Museums at Night, but donations are welcome.

To book your place, please phone 0117 9264740 or email Kate Rogers [community@newroombristol.org.uk](mailto:community@newroombristol.org.uk)

Holy Communion is celebrated each Friday at 1.00 pm.

*The New Room is looking for additional volunteers to be present during normal opening hours and for special events. If you could manage just an occasional 3 hour session please contact Louise Wratten Operations Manager Tel. 01179+264740 or e-mail*

**[Operations@newroombristol.org.uk](mailto:Operations@newroombristol.org.uk)** *A training session is being organised in November.*

### NEW METHODIST YOUTH PRESIDENT

Jasmine Yeboah was inducted as the new Youth President of the Methodist Church with a service at St Mark's Methodist Church, Tottenham, London on Saturday 1st September.





Jasmine, herself from Tottenham and a member of St Mark's, will represent thousands of young people across the UK in this important role in the life of the Church.

She has taken up the position of Youth President following an election at last November's 3Generate, the Methodist Children and Youth Assembly and takes over from Michael Pryke.

In her inaugural address, Jasmine thanked Michael for his work over the past year before moving on to her own priorities and motivations for the year ahead.

Jasmine says: "My focus for the coming year is courageousness and courageous loving. To be loving of yourself, of others and, most importantly, of God. I want to challenge young people to do things differently, to try new things; from writing to your MP and campaigning for change, through to getting sponsored to do something exciting for a charity."

Outgoing Youth President Michael Pryke commented: "My year in office went by in a flash, full of adventures and experiences. My advice to Jasmine, and to all Youth Presidents, is to take time to take it all in and to focus on the goals that will empower young people."

## ETHICAL DILEMMAS

The speaker at the Contemporary Ethic Forum to be held at St Peter's Church at 7.30 pm on 29th October is Miss Anusha Edwards who is Consultant Renal Transplant Surgeon at Southmead Hospital. The title is 'Ethical Dilemmas in Organ Transplantation'. All welcome. Tickets -free - can be obtained from the Parish Office at St Barnabas Centre, West Hill Tel. 846230

## REMEMBRANCE 100

From 4th August 2018, churches across this country, are marking the 100 days to 11th November with prayers for peace, hope and reconciliation as part of 'Remembrance 100'.



[www.remembrance100.co.uk](http://www.remembrance100.co.uk) has comments and prayers for each week.

## DISPLACED PEOPLE

*Christian Aid says:*

During the past year, over 7100 have called on the Prime Minister to speak up for everyone who has been uprooted from their homes, and overlooked by the international community - thank you.

Now marks the beginning of the United Nations General Assembly, where the UK Government has an opportunity to speak up for all displaced people worldwide.

An open letter has been signed by 57 faith leaders, to mark the opening of the Assembly. This letter calls on leaders of member states of the UN to do more to ensure that the needs and rights of internally displaced people are addressed and upheld.

Many have worked hard to ensure that those who've been forced to flee their homes are on the UK Government's radar. Now please join us in prayer for a successful summit.

Pray that rights of all those who are marginalised are heard and upheld.

Pray that all decisions made by leaders are compelled by faith and compassion.

Pray that a fair deal is made for everyone.

## 1000 LETTERS

*Did you see this in last month's magazine but haven't done it? There's still time (till the end of October) for you to write a letter to encourage a young person in their faith?*

This is the challenge the Methodist Children & Youth Team has laid down ahead of the annual 3Generate event. The aim is to get 1,000 Methodists to share via a letter something of their faith story, which will be shared



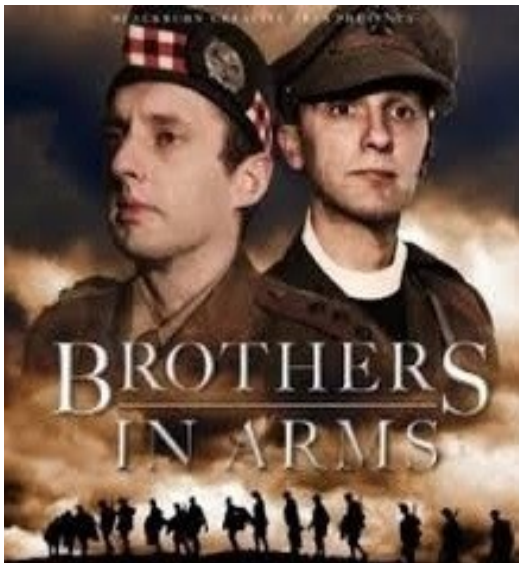
with the children and young people attending 3Generate in November.

Could you share something about your faith experiences, being part of a church or faith community, something about special people or moments from growing up in a local church, or why you came to faith in the first place? The letter you write will be displayed at 3Generate for children and young people to read.

Send your letters to: 3Generate 1000 Letters, 6th Floor, Methodist Church House, 25 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JR, to arrive by the end of October.

### ZA FOUNDATION QUIZ NIGHT

On Friday 12th October Za will be holding a quiz night at BS20 (The Working Men's Club) in Slade Road Doors open 7.30 pm for a prompt 8.00 pm start. It will be hosted by Joe Chapman.



### BROTHERS IN ARMS:

A Moving Production of  
Courage, Sacrifice & Faith -  
Friday 19th October 7pm,  
Portishead Methodist Church

In this 90 minute multi-media event, 'Brothers in Arms' tells the amazing story of the Chavasse twins, Noel and Christopher, highly decorated soldiers who served with great distinction in WW1.

Their lives tell an inspiring story of courage, service, sacrifice and faith lived out under fire.

Nick was involved in the creating of this production when he was in Lancashire and the team have just spent a week at the Edinburgh Fringe performing to sell out audiences.

The evening is open to anyone and will be free. Donations will be taken for 'Help the Heroes'. Please look out for more publicity in the next few weeks.

## BRISTOL METHODIST CENTRE

### *A note from the manager*

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has donated items to the Bristol Methodist Centre. It fills my heart with joy to see people taking our mission to heart and giving out of the overflow of Christ's love. It truly humbles me each and every day when I open a letter or receive donations at the centre. The joy it brings my heart is tremendous and the help it provides both the centre and our guests is incredible. No matter how big or how small you may feel your donation is, may Christ richly bless your giving and servant hearts.

### *Ross Jeffery Centre Manager*

Suggestions for Harvest Gifts that they would very much welcome: Tinned new potatoes, carrots, tomatoes, steak, minced beef, corned beef, ham, baked beans, fruit, rice puddings, custard, and evaporated milk. Instant mash, powdered milk, biscuits, chocolate bars, sugar, coffee, drinking chocolate, squash, chocolate spread, stock cubes, cooking sauces, marmite, shampoo.

Not needed (due mainly to lack of storage space) are cereal, peanut butter, tuna or salmon, jam, washing powder, toilet rolls.

## A PILGRIMAGE TO ISRAEL IN 2019

### *from Rev Rod Ingrouille:*

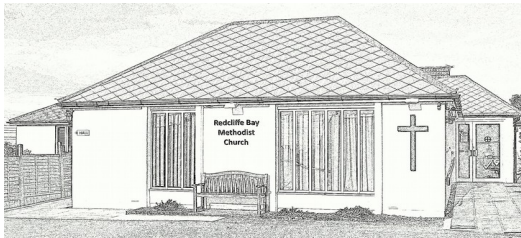
Hello, I am intending to lead another Pilgrimage to Israel next Autumn, along with our son Stephen. It has often been said that the fifth Gospel is a pilgrimage to Israel. I know that some folk in the church and circuit who came with us in April 2018 were truly blessed. As is usual on Pilgrimage we shall visit the traditional biblical sites, and some different ones this time, and share bible readings, prayers and Holy Communion at some of the sites. The dates are 29th October – 7th November.

We shall be using 'Maranatha Tours' as the agents. Maranatha Tours always seek to use very good quality Palestinian Christian hotels, Coaches and Guides for the pilgrimage. One evening we shall meet a group of Palestinian Christians who will share with us the challenges of being Christians in Israel.

Please contact Rod by phone on 01934 204561, or email: [rod.ingrouille@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:rod.ingrouille@methodistchurch.org.uk) or look on facebook for further details and information.

### HYMN DROP IN

The Hymn Drop in sessions at Redcliffe Bay Methodist Church restarted on 25th September - the next one is on 30th October, at 3.30 pm. Everyone is welcome to come and choose their favorite hymn for us to sing.



**REDCLIFFE  
BAY**

*Website:* [www.redcliffebaymethodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.redcliffebaymethodistchurch.org.uk)

### BAYCON BUTTY CLUB

The next meeting for men is on Thursday 4th October. Any time between 10.00 am – 12.00.

WEDNESDAY FOCUS Three meetings this month: on 3rd a talk about Clevedon Pier by Abbie Edbrooke. Rev Peter Mortlock brings another of his fascinating Quizes on 17th and on 31st there will be a showing of the vintage film Phantom of the Opera with live organ accompaniment **(7.30 pm Start)**.

## CHURCH COUNCIL

The Autumn meeting is on Tuesday 9th October at 7.30pm.

## MESSY HARVEST

Messy Services are an opportunity to reach out to young families. Messy Harvest will be on Sunday 14th October from 3.30 – 5.30 pm. If you are able to help please contact Sue Mason Tel.849553.

## WORKING PARTY

The last monthly Saturday morning Working Party is on 20th October. It's mostly keeping the garden tidy. Come between 9.30 am and noon for as short or long a period as you can spare.

## AUTUMN FAIR

Cakes, Books and Coffee will be on offer at 10.30 am on Saturday 27th October Proceeds to our chosen Charity (Andrew House Clevedon). Please bring items to sell on the morning of the sale.

PRAYER CHAIN To take part, or if there is a prayer need, please contact Sue Mason Tel. 849553.



**PORTISHEAD**

*Office:01275 844917*

*Website [www.portisheadmethodistchurch.co.uk](http://www.portisheadmethodistchurch.co.uk)*

*On Twitter : **Follow@PortisheadMC***

## CHURCH COUNCIL

The Autumn meeting is on Monday 22nd October.



WORSHIP THROUGH CREATIVE MOVEMENT  
WORKSHOPS An opportunity: to explore creatively Worship using flags, banners and movement.

Anyone 9 – 99 welcome, no prior experience necessary.

Workshops are held, 3rd Wednesday of the month, 7:00 – 8:00pm, at Wesley Hall, High Street Methodist Church.

*If you would like to find out more please contact:*

lynettewithy@hotmail.com or telephone Lynette Withy 07854706755

The group is affiliated to the Christian Dance Fellowship of Britain:  
[www.cdfb.org.uk](http://www.cdfb.org.uk)

### WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

All ladies of the church would be very welcome to the Fellowship on October 3rd at 2.30pm. to 3.45pm, when Rev. Nick Moxon will celebrate Holy Communion .

October 23rd Harvest celebration with Philip Baldwin

October 10th, 17th and 23rd. are members afternoons.

*Gwen*

### YOUTH EVENT

The next meeting will be on Friday 14th October 5.30 – 7.00 pm - for primary age children. All Welcome.

## ***POSTSCRIPT***

### RECRUITING

This drawing was used a some years ago to publicise a training scheme to encourage young people to take up playing the organ.

It was put out by the Methodist Church Music Society, which has since become part of ArtServe Christian Creativity

(<https://www.artserve.org.uk/>)



Methodist Church  
Music Society

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After a very long and boring sermon the parishoners filed out of the church saying nothing to the preacher. Towards the end of the line was a thoughtful person who always commented on the sermons. "Pastor, today your sermon reminded me of the peace and love of God!" The pastor was thrilled. "No-one has ever said anything like that about my preaching before. Tell me why." "Well - it reminded me of the Peace of God because it passed all understanding and the Love of God because it endured forever!"

*Author unknown*

*Please pass copy for the November issue to  
Ray Burgin, 11 Hillcrest Rd. Portishead BS20 8HS  
e-mail [rayburgin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rayburgin@hotmail.co.uk) Tel. 844115  
by **SUNDAY 21st October***