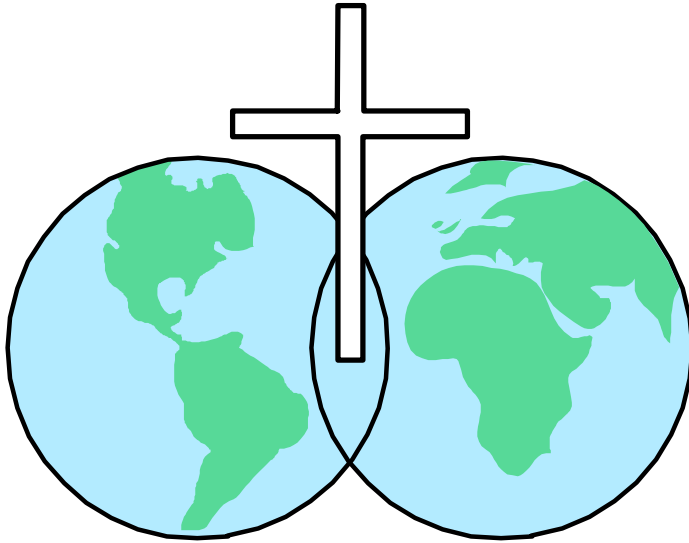


**JUNE 2021**

# **TOGETHER**



**METHODIST CHURCHES**

**PORTISHEAD**  
*High Street*

**REDCLIFFE BAY**  
*Queens Road*

*Minister: Revd Nick Moxon*

*Office 01275 844917 Manse 01275 398881*

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## ***From Rev Nick Moxon***

On the 24th of June I will have been ordained as a Methodist minister for 20 years (I've actually been a minister for 22 years but in the first two you are classed as a probationer). Where has the time gone?! Chatting to a friend last night I said I wouldn't want to be doing anything else. Of course there are days that are more difficult than others and I wish I could go back to clocking on and off like I did when I was a printer, but I would soon be bored! Being a Methodist minister is, I believe, my calling and vocation.

Recently the Methodist church launched a project called 'Love this Calling' encouraging everyone to sense where and what God may be calling them to - and this includes us.

Usually when we start talking about a 'calling' or 'vocation' within church we automatically think about ministers or missionaries who move and work abroad. But it is much broader than that. We each have a calling as a follower of Jesus. Very few are paid roles within the church. The vast majority of us will have our calling/vocation outside of the church building and structure - we will be called to be family members, accountants, teachers, office or shop workers, volunteers in charity shops .... the list goes on and on.

Part of the church's national campaign is wanting us to see where we are being called 'to be' - just being present to the people around us and the situations we find ourselves in. A little booklet called 'This Time: This Place' has been produced to help us explore what following Jesus means in our lives right now. I've ordered lots of copies so that sometime in the near future we can all use it for ourselves. The main question it helps us ask is: 'What is my vocation here and now?' For all of us this changes over time, and will depend on the place we are at in our lives.

Where is your calling? What is God equipping you to do? Where might you be aware of God in your life this month? Let's go on a journey of discovery together!

God bless ***Nick***

# CHURCH CALENDAR

*There are Services in the Churches every Sunday. A 10.00 am Service at Portishead (also Zoomed), repeated at Redcliffe Bay at 11.30 am. Anyone intending to come should book, up till 1.00 pm on the Saturday, with Pat Lloyd (848374) for Portishead or up to 5.00 pm with Sue Mason (849553) for Redcliffe Bay, as numbers are limited by distancing rules. But if you come without booking, you may just be lucky.*

The recent easing of the lockdown permits more to attend funerals and weddings providing social distancing can be maintained in the space available. We wait to see what will be allowed when the final stage of the easing of restrictions is announced in June, what effect it will have on worship and other activities on church premises..

## June 2021

- 6th Sunday 10.00 am Service (Portishead) and Zoom on line  
11.30 am Service (Redcliffe Bay)  
Rev Nick Moxon
- 9th Wednesday 8.00 pm Bible Study via Zoom  
9.00 pm Prayers
- 13th Sunday 10.00 am Service (Portishead) and Zoom on line  
11.30 am Service (Redcliffe Bay)  
Rev Nick Moxon
- 17th Thursday 10.00 -10.45 am Coffee and Chat via Zoom
- 20th Sunday 10.00 am Service (Portishead) and Zoom on line  
11.30 am Service (Redcliffe Bay)  
Rev Nick Moxon
- 23rd Wednesday 8.00 pm Bible Study via Zoom  
9.00 pm Prayers

27th Sunday 10.00 am Service (Portishead) and Zoom on line  
11.30 am Service (Redcliffe Bay)  
Rev Nick Moxon



### Online Zoom Service

The Sunday Service will be broadcast on-line at 10.00 am each Sunday. If you would like to join in please log on just before

10am.to:

[www.portisheadmethodist.wixsite.com/worship](http://www.portisheadmethodist.wixsite.com/worship)

Each week an e-mail is sent with a Pastoral Letter and details of the following Sunday's Worship.

For those who don't have access to the internet you will be able to use a worship sheet, which is delivered each week. For those unable to join in at 10 am on Sunday the worship will be recorded and accessible on the website at any time after that point.

If you would like to be on the circulation for the worship sheet please contact the Church Office or leave a message via "Contact us" on the Redcliffe Bay web site.

This magazine is being distributed, either as an attachment for those on e-mail or a printed copy for those who receive the pastoral letter though their letterbox.

## **GENERAL NEWS**

### KEEPING IN TOUCH

Don't forget:

**Monday Morning Mail** –An opportunity for you to send an e-mail to a group within the church, sharing what you have been doing over the past week. Being part of this group means that you will also

receive news from everyone else. If you would like to be a part of this group please let Fran know.

**Zoom coffee morning** - on alternate Thursday mornings from 10-10.45am via Zoom You can find the link here:

<https://portisheadmethodist.wixsite.com/worship/coffee-chat>

*Keep phoning – especially for people not on the internet.*

Listen to a pastoral message from the President and Vice President of Conference: 0808 281 2695; Listen to the Methodist Podcast: 0808 281 2478; listen to a prayer: 0808 281 2514;

### CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

Although envelopes were delivered, there was no collection but recipients were invited to leave filled envelopes in a church's post box or make an on-line donation. There was a good response and the amount raised from post boxes, and in our collections at both our churches amounted to £998. Thank you to all who delivered envelopes and those who donated.



### MARTHA'S KITCHEN

For the Whitsun half term holidays we have made the very difficult decision not to open Martha's Kitchen over this coming half term. However, we are continuing to put all our thoughts and energy into the reopening on 27th July.

We would very much appreciate your prayers over the coming weeks, as we ask for guidance on safely reopening at the start of the summer school holidays. We are planning to hold our Breakfasts on the following dates 27th July, 3rd August, 10th August, 17th August, 24th August, and the 31st August.

Once again thank you for your continuing support during these last 17 months. We will be sending out emails in June with further information and volunteer information.

## METHODIST HOMES

The official date for MHA Sunday this year is the 13th June. As in 2020 there will be an online service broadcast on YouTube at 4.00 pm on Sunday 13th June. The service will feature hymns, prayers and readings. There will be a guest speaker, the theme is "loneliness and isolation"



## SOUTH WEST AWAKE

The South West Coast Path is England's longest waymarked long-distance footpath and a National Trail. It stretches for 630 miles running from Minehead in Somerset, along the coasts of Devon and Cornwall, to Poole Harbour in Dorset.

On Saturday 19th June at 10.30 am churches in the area are invited to go to one of 630 points on the path to Stand together asking God for His Kingdom to come in the region. For more information go to : [www.southwestawake.com](http://www.southwestawake.com)

## THE JOHN WESLEY CHAPEL, BRISTOL – THE NEW ROOM



The New Room has a YouTube channel at:  
[www.youtube.com/channel/  
CefGahuFuZ2HIthS7MTVI1w/featured](https://www.youtube.com/channel/CefGahuFuZ2HIthS7MTVI1w/featured)

After what has been a very challenging 14 months, from 17th May the New Room is finally able to welcome visitors back to the site again. Please be assured that we have put all the appropriate measures in place to make the New Room as safe as possible and we will be following Government guidelines in respect of hands, face, space and ask that visitors do the same.

The whole New Room site will re-open including the chapel, museum, library & archive, venue hire, café, and shop and we will be offering our usual range of regular events and activities, although

some of these will remain online presently. Opening times 11 am -3 pm Monday to Saturday. The café opens at 10 am

How can you help the New Room at this time? If you are able to visit us in person then we would love to see you. We will be open six days a week and it would be fantastic to welcome as many of you as possible to the site. However, if you're unable to visit us in person then please engage with us digitally by website.

The New Room has seen a dramatic fall in its income over the last 14 months and so donations towards our ongoing work would be greatly appreciated. Full details of the various ways that you can help can be found on the 'Support Us' section of the website. These include one-off donations through PayPal, joining the Friends of the New Room as an annual or life member, or consider leaving a legacy to the New Room in your will.

We approach this re-opening with a great sense of excitement, anticipation, and curiosity as to what the 'new normal' will be, but please know that the New Room will continue to be 'a light in the city' as it has been since 1739. Please join with us and share this experience as the oldest Methodist building in the world embarks on the next stage of its journey.

### FROM JERUSALEM

My name is Angleena, I'm a Mission Partner with the Methodist Liaison Office in Jerusalem. I have travelled around the Holy land over the last three years being a part of the chaos and beauty. Now I watch as Jerusalem, Gaza and the land around is on fire and tears fall like rain. The fire has been fuelled by injustice, human rights denied, occupation, oppression, a broken divided society, failed politics and failed leadership. All who live in this land are affected in one way or another. The fire has been stoked over many decades. Recently it was Jerusalem Day, a national holiday, a day where hundreds of Israeli settlers marched celebrating control over the Holy City in the six-day war in 1967. Saturday, 15th May was Nakba which means 'catastrophe' in Arabic, when Palestinians remember the day in 1948 when they fled or were expelled from their land, homes and over 400 villages were destroyed. For some it's a time to celebrate, for others to weep. Decades of history fuels the fire.

Things started to look up as a war was waged against a pandemic of Covid-19, with Israel's vaccination programme and it seemed a war against sickness, disease and loss of life from a virus was being won, as it became under control. Life started to go back to some form of normality. Then another pandemic raised its ugly head. Jerusalem is on fire, but it's a fire of hatred of division, disunity, injustice, pain, rage and suffering. And when things started to become normal the racism, distrust, anger and frustrations returned. Freedom of worship, equality and human dignity is not offered to all, as we have seen during Ramadan. Orthodox Christians are celebrating Easter, but many locals were barred from entering the Old City for the Holy fire ceremony in the Holy Sepulchre. Police barriers forbidding entry to both Muslim and Christians. Jerusalem is on fire, and tears fall like rain.

Jerusalem represents all the people of the land and as we hover on the brink of another war; there are no winners. There is civil unrest, towns are burning and people are being killed, injured, displaced and traumatised. They are tired from constant sirens and bombardments. Jerusalem is on fire and tears fall like rain as Jerusalem wages war against a new pandemic. As Gershon Gorenberg poignantly writes "The cracked bridge has collapsed, the frayed rope has snapped. Weep damn it, weep for us. Weep for this season of wildflowers, weep for the dead and the living, weep for God who can't get us to stop, weep for humanity. Somehow this will stop, we will see each other's face, each other's pain. We will realize this cannot go on. We will find each other. It is what can come after anger and grief, what must come, I have to believe"

Recently I attended the installation of Jerusalem's new Archbishop Hosam Naoum at the Anglican Cathedral, where Christians travelled from all over the land to attend. An uplifting, moving service in dark times, brought some relief and joy as we celebrated, praising God. He reminded us of the importance of Christian unity, and unity that is needed in the world. Jerusalem is on fire and tears fall like rain. It can happen in any community where there are systems that rob people of dignity, hope and equality. May the church of Christ weep damn it and shine brightly speaking out and against injustice



everywhere, praying for solutions for the rage and fires lit, praying for a just peace.

May the rage turn to hope in Jerusalem, in Gaza, in the West Bank, in all the land between the Jordan and the sea we call Holy and may the people find each other. Thank you for your continued lament and prayers for the peace of Jerusalem; may it stop burning and the tears stop so lives can be restored and all can freely enjoy the wildflowers.

Angleena Keizer is a Methodist Mission Partner in Jerusalem.

### ALL WE CAN SIGNS UP TO CRACK THE CRISES

All We Can, the official Methodist relief and development charity, has recently signed up to Crack the Crises – a movement of over 70 organisations who are calling on the UK to take action on climate change, Covid-19, inequality and injustice.



As the UK hosts two major summits in 2021 – the G7 in June, and COP26 in November – the UK government has an opportunity to act as a forward-thinking global player. All We Can, along with other Crack the Crises member organisations, are asking the government to:

- Deal with the Covid-19 crisis, by tackling the virus and preventing future threats;
- Crack the poverty and injustice crisis, by redoubling efforts in this area – ensuring everyone, everywhere, is free, protected, and has access to healthy food, clean water, a safe home and decent education;
- Take urgent action to go further and faster on tackling the climate crisis, prioritising the needs of those worst impacted – often the world’s most vulnerable and marginalised communities who are the least responsible for climate change.

You can get involved by adding a #WaveOfHope (see <https://crackthecrises.org/wave>) to your windows, which will then be

displayed at the G7 and COP26 – to show that as a nation we stand committed to taking action in these three key areas.

All We Can will also be sharing stories from its work of those most impacted by the climate crisis, and ways for churches and individuals to get involved in the run up to COP26. Visit [allwecan.org.uk](http://allwecan.org.uk) for more information.

*Aimée Nott Communications and PR Manager for All We Can*

## THE 2021 METHODIST CONFERENCE

It has been confirmed that the Methodist Conference will take place at the National Conference Centre, Birmingham, from Thursday 24 June to Thursday 1 July.

## CONTEMPORARY ETHICS FORUM

You can watch a video of the recent Ethics Forum on Modern Slavery, organised by the Portishead Anglican Church, with Kate Garbers, an expert on human trafficking. Kate is one of the founders, previously Managing Director an ambassador and consultant of UNSEEN, a charity offering safety, hope and choice to victims of human trafficking also operating a helpline.

To watch the forum go to

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=01nzFwo5VzE>

## **PRAYERS**

“Thanksgiving is inseparable from true prayer; it is almost essentially connected with it. One who always prays is ever giving praise, whether in ease or pain, both for prosperity and for the greatest adversity. He blesses God for all things, looks on them as coming from Him, and receives them for His sake- not choosing nor refusing, liking or disliking, anything, but only as it is agreeable or disagreeable to His perfect will.”

— *John Wesley,*

## FOR THE COVID PANDEMIC

Loving God,

If we are ill, strengthen us.

If we are tired, fortify our spirits.

If we are anxious, help us to consider the lilies of the field and the birds of the air.

Don't let fear cause us to overlook the needs of others more vulnerable than ourselves.

Fix our eyes on your story and our hearts on your grace.

Help us always to hold fast to the good,

See the good in others,

And remember there is just one world, one hope,

One everlasting love, with baskets of bread for everyone.

In Jesus we make our prayer,

The one who suffered, died and was raised to new life,

In whom we trust these days and all days,

Amen.

*Rev Barbara Glasson*

## FOR TENSIONS IN ISRAEL AND GAZA

We pray for all who have suffered in the midst of renewed conflict and attack. We pray for Israelis living with the threat of rocket fire, for Palestinians in the West Bank subjected to the violation of their civil liberties and human rights and living under the constraints of military occupation and settler harassment. We pray for the people of Gaza, living under blockade and repeated military bombardment, adding fear to the misery of poverty and want.

In particular we pray for children and young people caught up in terror beyond their understanding or control. We pray for those who have been killed, maimed, bereaved; those who have had their future torn away from them; those whose lives are bleak, lacking opportunity, mobility and hope. We repent of our complicity in silence, our closing our eyes to the needs and wellbeing of the children and our failure to reject the ways of violence, threat and injustice.

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our peace and our hope. Amen

*From Christian Aid's Ecumenical Prayer Vigil on 24th of each month*

## CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT INTERCESSIONS

We pray for the Church: that she may be a beacon of hope throughout the world, reminding us all of our responsibility to care for and protect God's precious gift of creation. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for the world, our common home: that through God's grace we may hear its cry of the damage done and be moved to protect it for future generations to enjoy. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for those people who are already facing droughts, floods and storms: that God may grant them strength and hope for the future as they work to adapt to the changing climate. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our church and our local community: that through the grace of God we may hear the urgent cry of the earth and of the poor and be inspired to respond at this crucial time. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for the world we live in: that God may open our eyes to recognise the goodness of all creation and help us to do what we can to restore and care for the wonderful gift that we have been given. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for world leaders: that God may grant them wisdom to make just decisions which respect the earth and all that lives in it, especially those who are poorest and most vulnerable. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our local community: that through God's grace we may be good neighbours to each other and to the whole of creation, restoring and caring for all that God has made. Lord, in your mercy...

*from CAFOD*



# PORTISHEAD

Office: 01275 844917

website:

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

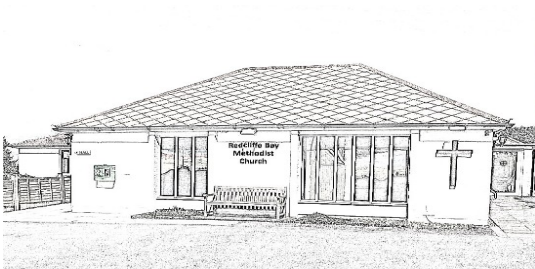
On Twitter : [Follow@PortisheadMC](https://twitter.com/Follow@PortisheadMC)



It is was decided that the next challenge was to take penalties against a professional goal-keeper and see how many I could score. Unfortunately the goalkeeper was not available so instead I am learning a piece to play on the piano.

## BUILDING WORKS

Work on the revamping of the Undercroft goes on daily and we look forward to being able to examine the improved facilities when they are completed.



# REDCLIFFE BAY

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

## NEWS of the FAMILY

Iris Perry has had a fall and was taken to BRI. After physiotherapy she should be able to return to Portishead.

## PLANT SALE

After a few very wet and windy days we were blessed with a fine and calm morning and several generous donations of plants. The amount raised was £267. Some plants are still available (by the Church door) if you still would like them. Proceeds this year will be for our Church's current fund-raising project, which is Anusaran, a school providing educational opportunities for girls and boys in a rural area on the outskirts of Delhi.



## THANKS

Sheila Castleton would like to thank everyone for their cards, messages and words of comfort following Norman's death.

## SANDY TEBBUTT

We were sorry to hear of the recent death of Sandy, a noted expert on the history of Portishead and who we have enjoyed hearing speak at Wednesday Focus. We think and pray for the family at this time.

## MONTHLY WORKING PARTIES

The Monthly Working Party in June will be on Saturday 19th from 9.30 until 12noon. Come when you are able - you don't have to be there for the whole time slot.

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



## ***POSTSCRIPT***

### MORE BIBLE QUIZ

11. Why couldn't Jonah trust the ocean?  
He just knew there was something fishy about it.
12. What kind of man was Boaz before he married Ruth?  
Absolutely ruthless

13. The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose.  
Mosquitoes come close, though.
14. What excuse did Adam give his children about why he no longer lived in Eden?  
Your mother ate us out of house and home!
15. Which servant of God was the most flagrant lawbreaker in the Bible?  
Moses. He broke all 10 commandments at once.
16. Who was the first tennis player in the bible?  
Joseph because he served in Pharaoh's court
17. Who is the greatest babysitter mentioned in the Bible?  
David — he rocked Goliath to a very deep sleep
18. How do groups of angels greet each other?  
Halo, halo, halo!
19. Who was the greatest moneyman in the Bible?  
Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.
20. What do we have that Adam never had?  
Ancestors.
21. Where was Solomon's temple located?  
On the side of his head.
22. What did Adam say the day before Christmas?  
It's Christmas, Eve!
23. How does Moses make his coffee?  
Hebrews it, obviously.
24. How do you make Holy Water?  
You take some regular water and boil the devil out of it.
25. How long did Cain hate his brother?  
As long as he was Abel.
26. Why did God create man before woman?  
Because He didn't want any advice on how to do it.
27. Why did Noah have to punish and discipline the chickens on the Ark?  
They were using fowl language.
28. Why do they say 'Amen' at the end of a prayer instead of 'Awomen'?  
Same reason we sing Hymns instead of Hers!

29. What do donkeys send out near Christmas?  
Mule-tide greetings.
30. Did you hear about the 800 telephone service they have for  
atheists now?  
You dial the number and it rings and rings but nobody  
answers
31. Who was the smartest man in the Bible?  
Abraham. He knew a Lot.
32. Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?  
Samson — he brought the house down
33. What do they call pastors in Germany?  
German Shepherds
34. Which Bible character had no parents?  
Joshua, son of Nun (Joshua 1:1).
35. What's the best way to study the Bible?  
You Luke into it.

Author unknown

*Please pass copy for the combined July and August  
issue to:*

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*by* **SUNDAY 27th June**