

Newbold Verdon Methodist Church

The Methodist

Issue: August/September 2026

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Minister's Missal

Who is he?

Seven prime ministers in ten years, what does that say about the state of politics in the United Kingdom today? And now a Prime Minister who has only been a member of parliament for just one month; who is he?. Andy Burnham was the Mayor of Greater Manchester for 9 years, before that he was an MP for 16 years and he twice ran for leader of the party, but his return to parliament and straight into the top job, makes you wonder about the other 403 Labour MPs who were elected in 2024.

If you want to find out who Andy Burnham is, a simple search on the internet will bring up his Wikipedia page and then other pages will give varying descriptions depending on the bias of the author, some positive and some not so. Unless you know him, it is difficult to say anything about him other than what we have read or heard in the news.

“Who do people say that I am?” was a question Jesus asked his disciples in a pivotal moment in the gospels. The disciples shared what people were saying, “John the Baptiser”, or “Elijah”, or “one of the prophets”. Then Jesus asked them, “Who do you say that I am?” Only Peter responds saying, “You are the Messiah.” Jesus needed to know they understood who he was, and while at that time they did not fully grasp how his messianic role would be fulfilled, they knew sufficient to encourage them to continue to follow him.

“Who do you say that I am?” is a question every follower needs to have an answer to, but unlike Peter’s short confession of faith, ours needs to be personal; “Who is Jesus for you?” It is no good when someone asks us about our faith if we then recite what it says on Jesus’ Wikipedia page, our answer must be rooted in our experience of the relationship we have with him. What is our experience of answered prayer? Where do we know ourselves surrounded by God’s love? How has the Holy Spirit guided us on our journey of faith?

These questions help us to have an answer to the question of who Jesus is for us. If we have never thought about them before we won’t be able to give an account of our faith when some asks. All of us do have an answer, though we might not find it easy to express. Thinking about it and praying about it, then sharing it with a trusted friend to see if it makes sense to them, is the best way of preparing yourself for when the question comes.

In the first letter of Peter in chapter 3 and verse 15 he encourages the followers he is writing to, “Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect” Our message of hope is always more powerful when we share our experiences with love and confidence.

Grace & Peace

Andrew.



Pastor's Page

Dear friends

Well we're well and truly in the middle of a heatwave, and mighty uncomfortable it is for all of us. The recent conditions and a forage into the roof space at home, brought to mind a holiday years ago, that began in good weather and ended in less favourable conditions. In our roof space all rolled up, is a tent last used for a family holiday in the Lake District. It began with good prospects for a good camping break. Suddenly at about 2.00a.m. on the third night, the weather changed dramatically as it often does in that part of the country, and heavy rain driven by high winds suddenly descended upon us.

My most humorous and oft spoken of memory is of a voice coming from an adjacent tent. "Are you alright Mum"? And the answer duly given "Yes, I'm just holding the tent down"

Within a couple of hours, we were on our way home, wet, tired, cold and miserable.

That was the last time the tent was used! Imagine my amazement and amusement some time afterwards when reading through the prophecy of Isaiah, I came across the prophet's words to his nomadic people (Isaiah 54 v. 2)

"Make the tent you live in larger, lengthen it's ropes and strengthen the pegs".

As a family grew in number so the tent had to be increased in size. But any increase meant more surface area for the wind to purchase, in turn meaning that the tent needed more secure anchorage.

It was of course Isaiah's way of conveying an important message to his people, and perhaps relevant to us today. As we advance in life, perhaps taking on more challenges and responsibilities, we need deeper spiritual resources to cope with additional strains.

Someone once compared life to a Gothic cathedral. It must be built on the principal of balanced thrusts. Lifting the height, or spreading the expanse of the nave ,requires stronger supporting walls. Each outward thrust, calls for an in- thrust.

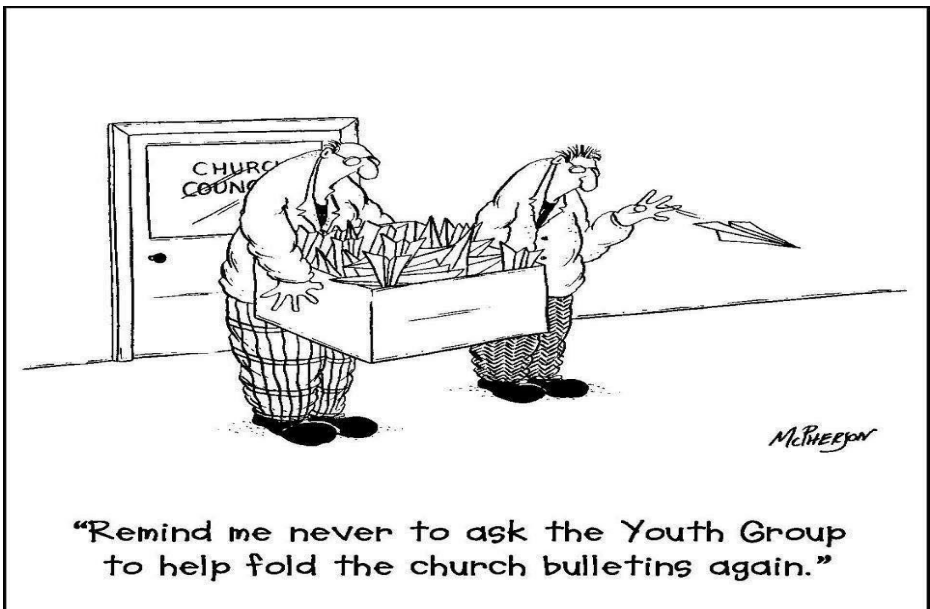
In personal as well as church life, we need to remember the importance of deepening our spiritual reserves, so that when the tensions and strains come, we find ourselves firmly grounded.

"on Christ the solid rock I stand,
all other ground is shifting sand".

Do keep cool and enjoy the rest of the summer!

Blessings,

Malcolm





Poverty is an outrage against humanity. It robs people of their dignity and lets injustice thrive.

But together we have the power to transform lives'

CHRISTIAN AID COFFEE MORNING

On May 9th Christian Aid week got off to an early, but lovely, start with our Coffee morning, where all proceeds are sent to Christian Aid. The Red Raffle, great lunches, delicious cakes and lots of lovely people coming along to help support and celebrate Christian Aid.

Christian Aid works with partner organisations in 29 countries and this year's focus was on the work of Beacon of Hope in Nairobi, Kenya. Beacon of Hope works with women to help them grow food to feed their families and to earn income which enables them to fund education for their children and grandchildren.

James Omwanda, the Project Officer for Beacon of Hope says 'What motivates me is that I can see hope in the eyes, words and thoughts of people in the community' 'I hear them say how they are capable of transforming their lives through the support we give.'

Thank you so much to everyone who helped in any way at the Coffee Morning. Lots of hard work but all the money raised is added to our village Christian Aid Collection. More news on the rest of Christian Aid week in our next magazine!



The Heatwave

The year began, with such a strain
having to cope with all that rain
we hoped and prayed, and even craved
for just the smallest heatwave.

That's the reason for the drain
that saw thousands going off to Spain
I know it was only a distant hope
but if one came we were sure we'd cope.

Oh dear now listening to the news
there's nothing in it to amuse
The temperatures are rising today
another heatwave's on it's way.

Where did I leave the watering can?
Tomorrow there's a hosepipe ban
and for those who travel far
it's really dreadful in the car.

So stay at home, don't be a fool
apply your sun block and keep cool
relax, be lazy, snooze and dream
that the shop has still stocks of ice cream

(Malcolm Lapper)

'Ladies @ Lunch' Fellowship Group

I must admit having heard we were going to have a Coffee Shop opening in the village, both my husband and I looked at one another and remarked skeptically, "That'll never take off ...no, not in Newbold"!!

I'm happy to admit we were proved wrong!

The expression, "Oh yea of little faith" comes to mind ...

Going back to 2022, at a church meeting there was a suggestion put forward that it might be a good idea for the ladies of the church to go out for lunch and share in a time of fellowship together: after all, Jesus and his disciples often shared a meal with folk - what better way to build up friendships ... and as many of you will know, Newbold Verdon Methodist has always enjoyed a strong affinity where food is concerned!!

But, where to go was the question?

We didn't want to have to travel miles...we needed somewhere 'local' where ladies could possibly ...even walk to?

We decided to try the local coffee shop...and since that first meal back in May 2022, 'Liberteas Coffee Shop' has become our 'go-to' place.

We meet regularly on the third Thursday in the month at 1:00pm.

We're very pleased to say that both Tracey & Rich have become good friends and look after us really well, even putting on 'specials' for us – such as Christmas lunches, which I hasten to add, have always 'gone down a treat' (if you'll pardon the pun!).

As well as having ladies from our church join us (and some of their friends) we've been pleased to welcome some of the ladies who attend the 'Toasty Thursday' group, so friendships have been forged there too.

On average our numbers each month vary between fifteen to twenty ladies.

What was a tentative idea back in 2022 has now, we're very pleased to say, proved to be a real success.

If there are any ladies reading this article who haven't attended one of our monthly lunches before, please be assured you'd be made very welcome.

Thank you

Sally

Church Coffee morning's –

We, as a church decided to support the 'All We Can' charity. This is a Christian international development and relief organisation that partners with local communities to help them overcome poverty and disaster. Our June coffee morning was held in aid of this charity and we raised £245.40, so thank you to everyone who helped and supported this.

The coffee mornings are held on the first Saturday of each month and you are invited to join us, you will be made very welcome.

A message from the Stewards –

Our church was open for the village open gardens on Saturday 27th June, we welcomed lots of visitors through the door and as it was a very warm day some were grateful for a drink, some stayed for a light lunch or a coffee and cake. Thanks to everyone who helped and supported this and to those who donated the delicious cakes that we all enjoyed.

The holiday club this year will be held at our church on Wednesday 19th August through to Friday 21st August 10am until 12.30pm with a service held at 10.30am on Sunday 23rd led by Karen Berry. We hope to see lots of school age children join with us.

Our Harvest Festival service will be held on Sunday 27th September at 10.30am and will be led by Mrs Karen Berry. We are again supporting Lawrence House for the homeless in Hinckley and they have requested for the following donations:

Pasta sauces & Curry sauce jars

Pasta packets (the ones where you just add water to the pan)

Noodles

Cereal Bars

Microwave Rice

Shower gels

Deodorants

If you able to help again this year, any donations will be gratefully received, please send them into church or bring them along to our Harvest Festival service.

Many thanks again

Claire, Sarah, Vicky & Lindsay

WHAT'S ON IN AUGUST

Saturday 1st	10.00am	Coffee Morning
Sunday 2nd	10.30am	Mr. Charles Davies Junior Church
Sunday 9th	10.30am	Led by the Stewards— Favourite Hymns Junior Church
Sunday 16th	10.30am	Mr Colin Haddon—Holy Communion Junior Church
Monday 17th to Friday 21st		Holiday Bible Club 10 to 12.30
Sunday 23rd	10.30am	All Age Worship Mrs Karen Berry Churches Together Holiday Club
Sunday 30th	10.30am	Circuit Service at Barwell

WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER

Saturday 5th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
Sunday 6th	10.30aM	Mr. Malcolm Lapper Junior Church
Sunday 13th	10.00am	Revd. Andrew Lomax - Holy Communion Junior Church
Sunday 20th	10.30am	Mrs Jennifer Baker Junior Church
Sunday 27th	10.30am	Mrs Karen Berry—Harvest Festival Junior Church

Help us respond
faithfully to the
climate and
nature crises

Worship and Teaching



Embedding creation care
in worship, prayer and learning

Buildings



Finding energy efficient and innovative
ways to manage our places of worship

Land



Nurturing spaces
for people and nature

Community and Global Engagement



Transforming local and global
communities and ecosystems

Lifestyle



Living joyfully and sustainably as
followers of Christ

Eco Church – Will You Join Us?

As I write this article for the newsletter, the temperature outside is over 33°C, and it certainly feels warm sitting here at the computer! While our weather has always been changeable, it is becoming increasingly clear that our climate is changing, and we are experiencing more frequent and more extreme weather events.

Scientists around the world agree that these changes are linked to climate change. Unless we reduce the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) and methane released into the atmosphere, these impacts are likely to become even more severe.

You may be wondering, *"What difference can I make?"* The answer is: probably more than you think.

Our church has registered with the **Eco Church** programme, run by **A Rocha UK**. This award-winning programme encourages churches to care for God's creation by looking at five key areas of church life:

- Worship and Teaching
- Land and Nature
- Buildings
- Lifestyle

Community and Global Engagement

We would love you to be part of this journey.

We are planning an evening meal and information session where we will introduce the Eco Church programme in more detail. During the evening, we will form small groups, one for each of the five areas, to review the questionnaires and assess where we are today. Together, we will then explore practical ways in which we can improve our care for the environment.

By the end of the evening, we hope everyone will have a clearer understanding of how our church—and each of us individually—can make a positive difference. We also hope to establish five small teams, one for each area, who will help guide our church as we

continue our journey towards becoming a more environmentally responsible church.

Meeting Details

Date: Tuesday 22 September

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Methodist Church

If you are able to attend, please let one of the Stewards know or email newboldverdonmethodistchurch@gmail.com. This will help us plan the catering for the evening meal.

Thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing you there.

Cyril

Thought for today from Iona

Go now

Go with God's blessing

Go in justice and love.

Go now

Go and love your neighbour

Go and respect the earth.

Go now

Go and befriend strangers

Go and make peace.

Go now

It is time

Go and walk with God.

Ruth Burgess, from Acorns and Archangels

Saturday Shop Assistant (Part Time) At The Vine, Hinckley

We're looking for someone to join our busy, friendly shop team each Saturday.

This role is hands-on and varied, supporting our customers and helping the shop run smoothly. Main duties include taking customer orders and using the till, making drinks, serving and clearing tables, washing up and cleaning tasks.

A food hygiene certificate or willingness to work toward one would be an advantage, as would experience or skills in assisting with light food prep.

This position would suit someone aged 16+ who enjoys working with people. Good communication skills, reasonable numeracy, smart presentation, and attention to detail are all important.

- Pay is at national minimum wage
- Due to the nature of the role, there is a genuine occupational requirement for the post to be filled by a Christian
- Shift length is 5 hours, with an additional unpaid break
- Lunch is included

To apply please send a CV and covering letter explaining how you are suited to the role by Friday 7th August 2026 to The Manager at thevinehinckley@hotmail.co.uk.

Regular Events & Groups at NVMC

Groups / events are weekly unless it says something different

Sundays:

10.30 – 11.30am Morning worship service and Junior church followed by tea & coffee etc. Holy communion service monthly

Mondays:

☐ 1.00-5.00pm Market Bosworth Quilters (fortnightly)

☐ WI (2 nd Monday in each month)

☐ 6.00-7.30pm Guides

Wednesdays:

☐ 9.00am-4.00pm Ingrid's Art Classes

☐ 4.30-8.30pm Slimming World

☐ 7.30-9.00pm Wednesday group (fortnightly Bible study) currently meeting on Zoom.

Thursdays:

☐ Thursday @ 10 (1 st Thursday in each month) A quiet space to reflect & pray

☐ 10.30am – 2.30pm Toasty Thursday. A warm space for everyone – pop in or stay for hours. It's free and you're welcome

☐ 1.30-2.30pm Ladies @ Lunch at Libertas coffee shop (3 rd Thursday in each month)

☐ 5.45-7.00pm Rainbows

☐ 5.45-7.15pm Brownies

Fridays:

☐ 10.45-12.45am Tracey cleans – thank you Tracey

☐ 7.00-9.00pm 'Chill & Craft' (3 rd Friday each month)

Saturdays:

☐ 10.00am – 12 noon Coffee morning (mostly 1 st Saturday in each month)

☐ From 9.00am 'Men's Munch' (2 nd Saturday in each month)

For all contact details for any groups please go to

www.hinckleymethodistcircuit.org.uk