

MONMOUTHSHIRE **45p** Wednesday, February 3, 2016

# Free Press

DEAR Friends:

There is much to look forward to this year as soon we begin our journey through Lent and ever onwards to Palm Sunday and Good Friday until finally we arrive at the joy and resurrection hope of Easter Day. Several five-week Lent Courses will be taking place in various venues, and the best way of keeping a track on those is via our website [caldicotmethodists.co.uk](http://caldicotmethodists.co.uk) although of course all Christian denominations will be offering similar opportunities.

Come Palm Sunday (March 20) at my church in Caldicot, we shall have a service at 3 pm incorporating a Celebration with PROSPECTS, our friends with learning disabilities, and with Pete and Christine Winmill from the charity coming to join us, not forgetting the chairman of the Welsh Synod, Reverend Doctor Stephen Wigley. This will be a wonderful and inspiring occasion. Prior to that, on March 17 in the evening we shall be holding THE BIG SING with Joint Choirs from our two neighbouring Circuits,

and headed by the President of Conference, the Reverend Steve Wild, and we are expecting about 400 people at Blackwood Methodist Church for that occasion.

On Good Friday in Caldicot we shall again join up as Churches Together with our March of Witness from the parish church to the Methodist Church where we culminate with a big service, hopefully in the open air!

With all this activity in the pipeline, you may ask where is the opportunity for quiet reflection and prayer? This is precisely where the Lent Courses come in, and this year in some of our smaller chapels, we are incorporating the Lent Study into our Sunday services for a five week period, so that instead of having study as a 'special', it becomes an integral part of the whole service. I will let you know how we get on! My Easter message will come in March. But for now, do make the best of Lent as we travel with our Lord through suffering and temptation.

Thought for  
the weak



with the Rev Preben  
Andersen

*Rev Preben Andersen*