



CALDICOT METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev. P. Andersen, 27 Church Road, Caldicot.
 Manse Tel: (01291) 430574 - Email: pwandersen@btinternet.com
 Church Annex Payphone Tel: (01291) 423843
 If you require a minister on a Monday please contact Rev A. Webster (01291) 622100
 Caretaker - Glyn Harrison Tel: 01291 420146 - Email: gghcaretaker@btinternet.com
 Room Bookings - Gwenan Thomas Tel: 01291 421565 - Email: ghthomas@live.com
 Contact Person - Nick Jones Tel: 01291 423981 Email: nickingjones2000@yahoo.co.uk
 Items for the Notices to Barbara & Roger Simms - Tel 01633 880304
 no later than Wednesday 6pm preferably by Email roger@barbaraandroger.co.uk
 Visit the church website for more info - www.caldicotmethodists.co.uk/

District Website
www.methodistwales.org.uk/content/
 NEW - Circuit Website
www.nlwc.org.uk
 Church Website
www.caldicotmethodists.co.uk/



Password
John3:16

Notices for Sunday 6th January 2019

We welcome all who worship with us especially if you are a visitor or this is your first time.
 Please join us after the service for tea, coffee & fellowship.

If you would like to know more about our church, ask a steward for a Welcome Pack
 or help yourself from the rack in the foyer.

If you have a hearing aid, please switch to "T" for reception from the church system, during the service.

Service Today

9.40am Prayer First Steps Prayer Meeting - in the schoolroom
 10.00am Covenant Service Rev P. Andersen - Holy Communion

This week's Church Stewards Mrs M. Andersen & Mrs B. Nash
 Door Stewards Mrs P. Morgan & Mrs M. Cook

Next Week's Service

9.40am Prayer First Steps Prayer Meeting - in the schoolroom
 10.00am Service Mrs B. Gibbs

Lectionary Readings

Isaiah 60:1-6
 Ephesians 3:1-12
 Matthew 2:1-12
 Psalm 72:1-7,10-14

Last Sunday's Offering

£758.85

This year's weekly payment
 to the Methodist Circuit: £794

Diary for this week

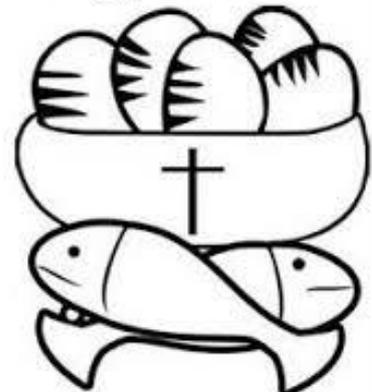
Monday	4.30pm	Kidz Theatre
Tuesday	All am	Coffee Morning
	9.15am	Moo Music - Music & Movement for the under 5's
	11.00am	'Space to be..' Informal 20-30 minute service, led by Rev Lin & Jack Healey
	7.30pm	Friends & Neighbours - Quiz with Pam & Diane
Wednesday	9.30am	Mother & Toddlers
Thursday	9.30am	Coffee with God, Bible Study - led by Margaret Andersen
	NO	Sisterhood - Next meeting 7th February
	6.00pm	Slimming World
Friday	All am	Coffee Morning
	7.00pm	Choir

Rotas

Next Week (13/01/19)

Church Stewards	Mr & Mrs R. Simms
Door Stewards	Mrs M. Barraclough & Miss C. Edwards
Sound Desk	Mr T. Chapman
Sunday Coffee	Mr & Mrs T. Chapman
Flowers	Mrs H. Whitehead

*A Little is a Lot
 in God's hands...*



Prayer

Lord God, though I falter at times in my faith, strengthen my belief in your promises.
 Continue to help me to discern how you are leading me, and help me to follow you.

Amy Boucher Pye

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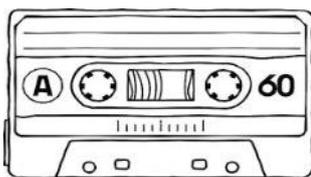
These notices are printed and prepared 4U. Please pray for the activities listed
 and those involved in leadership and witness as well as those who will hear The Good News, perhaps for the first time.

FOODBANK Dolly the trolley

Thank you to all who have contributed.
Please continue with your gifts. There is a growing need to help those in a less fortunate position.



TAPE RECORDING OF SUNDAY SERVICES



A few recording volunteers have stepped down and we like to recruit more willing volunteers to record our services.

Please consider this activity, if interested please speak to Preben or any steward. Training will be given.


**Prayer
Requests**



**Please remember all are welcome
to use the Prayer Book**

CHURCH FLOWERS



The new rota for 2019 is on the notice board in the schoolroom.

Please check the dates and if there's a problem let me know.

Chris Jones.

MESSAGE FROM PREBEN

Dear Friends,

As you may be aware, the Reverend Andrew Webster will be on his sabbatical from February through to April 2019. The plan dates are already set up until the end of February, but in March and April I shall have pastoral oversight for Chepstow, the two Earlswood chapels and Penyaemawr in addition of course to Caldicot and Rogiet.

Seeing that I am now regularly available at Caldicot every Tuesday and Friday coffee morning, at Space to Be, and at Margaret's Coffee With God Bible study on a Thursday morning too, I have committed myself to serve Chepstow on a Thursday for their mid-week service and staying on for their Thursday Community lunch, and following that I will be available to the smaller chapels for the rest of Thursday afternoons and into early evenings. All this has been gratefully accepted by Andrew.

Also, on the first Sundays of both March and April I shall take *both* the 9 a.m. (Holy Communion) and the 10.30 a.m. (contemporary) services at Chepstow Methodist Church. This will enable me to follow up and to keep up with ministerial needs at Chepstow.

Holy Communion at Caldicot at 10 a.m. - which of course is also on the 1st Sunday of every month - will therefore be officiated by another Circuit minister in both March and April. This will be good and encouraging for Caldicot and I am sure you will see it as a blessing to come to appreciate how my colleagues can lead and inspire you in offering the Lord's Supper.

Thank you for your understanding and your prayers are appreciated as obviously there will be an extra work load for me for a few months with a total of five churches to look after, but it makes sense for me to take this on considering the short distance between Caldicot and Chepstow.

Thank you.

Preben

SERMON

A boy was watching his father, a minister, write a sermon and asked how he knew what to say. "Why, God tells me," replied his father contentedly.

"Oh, then why do you keep crossing things out?"

facebook



Please follow us on Facebook - 'Caldicot Methodist Church'

CHURCH LEADERS BACK 'REAL' LIVING WAGE

Sixty-five religious leaders, including senior figures from the Anglican, Catholic and Methodist Churches, Masorti, Reform and Liberal Jewish movements and the Muslim Council of Britain recently published a letter in the Sunday Times backing the real Living Wage. They expressed deep concern at low pay and in-work poverty, 'which is damaging family life, and robbing future generations of a secure and stable home.'

Signatories of the letter, organised by charity Citizens UK, the founders of the Living Wage campaign, include 20 Catholic and Anglican bishops, 30 rabbis from Liberal, Reform and Masorti Jewish movements, the president and vice president of the Methodist Church and the secretary general of the Muslim Council of Britain.

Research released by accountancy firm and Living Wage employer KPMG found that one in five workers is paid under a real Living Wage, meaning millions of workers are struggling to stay afloat financially as their wages don't meet the real cost of living.

#WhenYouPray

A new social media campaign has been launched for Spring Harvest 2019, which celebrates its 40th year this year.

#WhenYouPray invited a number of friends and key leaders to record their thoughts on prayer in a series of short one-minute videos. Questions asked range from 'when should I pray?', to 'Does God answer your prayers?'

The videos will be uploaded onto Spring Harvest's social media platforms. The aim of the campaign is to inspire others to upload recordings of their own thoughts and experiences of prayer onto their own social media pages, using the hashtag #WhenYouPray to help share them widely.

The first two videos of this series are by Rob Parsons from Care for the Family and Gavin Calver, Chair of Spring Harvest and Director of Mission for the Evangelical Alliance on springharvest.org/whenyoupray. The ongoing series will be on [facebook.com/springharvest](https://www.facebook.com/springharvest), and also on Twitter, Instagram and Youtube.

Spring Harvest is a teaching and worship event that's been called 'a unique break for all the family', combining holiday, festival, conference, and an encounter with God. It is held over Easter in Harrogate, Minehead and Skegness. See springharvest.org for further details.

6 DAY CHURCH HOLIDAY TO BOURNEMOUTH

20th - 25th MAY 2019 - COST £319 pp

Includes all gratuities, evening entertainment, half board and three day trips



STAYING at the
ULLSWATER HOTEL

SOME ROOMS
AVAILABLE

For further details contact John Mills
on (01291) 420045

WHERE DID THE WISE MEN COME FROM?

Magi from the East – it isn't a lot to go on. The Magi had originally been a religious caste among the Persians. Their devotion to astrology, divination and the interpretation of dreams led to an extension in the meaning of the word, and by the first century the Magi in Matthew's gospel could have been astrologers from outside of Persia. Some scholars believe they might have come from what was then Arabia Felix, or as we would say today, southern Arabia.

It is true that in the first century astrology was practised there, and it was the region where the Queen of Sheba had lived. She of course had visited Solomon and would have heard the prophecies about how one day a Messiah would be born to the Israelites and become their king.

Matthew's gospel (chapter 2) is clear that the Magi asked Herod: 'Where is the One who has been born king of the Jews? We saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.' So it is possible that in southern Arabia the Queen of Sheba's story of how a Messiah would one day be sent to the Israelites had survived. Certainly, there are a number of other early legends that connect southern Arabia with Solomon's Israel.

To many people this makes sense: that the ancient stories of a Messiah, linked to later astrological study, prompted these alert and god-fearing men to the realisation that something very stupendous was happening in Israel. They realised that after all these centuries, the King of the Jews, the Messiah, was about to be born.

One more interesting thing that gives weight to the theory that the magi came from southern Arabia is this: if you study any map of Palestine as it was during biblical times, you will find that the old Arabian caravan routes all entered Palestine 'from the East'.