

CALDICOT METHODIST CHURCH

<u>Monthly Notices – September 2025</u>

Our Minister: Rev. Bethany Willers

To contact us please email: caldicotmc@gmail.com and your query will be directed to the relevant person. Or if you need to contact Rev. Bethany, email revbwillers@gmail.com or call 01291 625015

Pastoral Letter

Dear Friends.

Happy Methodist New Year! As September begins, we begin a new year in the life of the Methodist Church, and we enter my favorite time of year - Autumn! I love when the leaves turn colours and I can finally start wearing jumpers again. (I felt very British writing that sentence, normally I would have said I'm looking forward to *fall* and the leaves turning *colors* and wearing *sweaters* again!)

Speaking of cultural differences, I've had occasion to think recently about some differences between my experience as a minister in the US and my experience as a minister here in the UK. In the US, people tended to be very straightforward and frank with me. They were not afraid to send an angry email if I upset them in some way! Not that I mind the lack of angry emails I get here, but I do hope you all know that I am always open to receiving feedback. If there is ever anything you would like to talk to me about, please don't hesitate to reach out to schedule time for a cuppa, or to grab me at a coffee morning. (Just please not right before worship on a Sunday!)

In my ministerial training and then while in the work in the US, we were always taught to ignore anonymous feedback. Our experienced elders always said if people weren't willing to give feedback to our face, then it wasn't worth listening to. From conversations I have had here, I understand that this might conflict with the British way! I really just want you all to know that I am open to conversation, and I always want to know more about you and where you are coming from. Having open and honest communication helps us to be the church together!

In that light, I also want to share a recent leadership team decision that was made regarding banners on the church railings. We have now put together a small team consisting of myself, the property steward, and a church steward, and this team will review any requests for placing banners on the railing. If the small team approves, the banner will go up (for a fortnight only), if the small team disagrees, it will go to the larger leadership team for discussion. We want decisions to be made and a consensus to be reached as a group, to hopefully avoid any tension and conflict.

	the cooler seasons of t		

Blessings,

Bethany

We welcome all who worship with us

Sunday mornings 10:00 (except 28th Sept. when it is 10:30) in the church and available on Zoom

For further details or to request the Zoom link, please contact Jack Healey or Gareth Edwards at caldicotmc@gmail.com

Preachers in September:

7th: Rev. Bethany Willers (Café Church)
14th: Rev. Anne Ellis
21st: Rev. Preben Andersen with Holy Communion
28th @ 1030: Rev. Bethany Willers (Harvest Festival)

Diary Dates:

28th September – Harvest Sunday
 Service at 10:30 in Church and on Zoom
 Lunch at 12:00noon. Please sign list by 21st September if you would like lunch

- The next ReCharge Cafe Church at Portskewett Church on will be on Thursday 9th October, then November 13th and the last one of the year on 11th December at 7pm
 - Saturday 4th October at 10:00am Pet Service
 - COFFEE MORNINGS: Every Tuesday & Friday 9:30am
 - Open Garden at 2 Church Farm Gardens –
 On Saturday 16th August raised £306 for Church Funds
 Our thanks to all who supported this event
 - •Car parking fees will be due from the 1st October. The fee will remain the same at £10 for the year. Payments to Wilf Wilshire please.

To submit notices for October: Please contact Lin/Jack Healey by 19th
September