



# The Methodist Church

Dear friends in Christ,

As I come to the end of my ministry within this Circuit, I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude for the unwavering dedication and support that has been evident throughout our shared journey, especially in times of change and progress. Ministering among you has been both a privilege and a blessing.

Together, we have worshipped, supported each other, and served with faithfulness. We have faced challenges as a Circuit and persevered. I truly appreciate your ongoing commitment to your calling and the many ways you show Christ's love in your churches and communities.

Ministry is collaborative, enriched and strengthened by everyone in the body of Christ. Thank you- colleague, administrator, volunteers and congregations- for your grace and cooperation. Your kindness and teamwork highlights the value of diligent, humble and joyful service.

As you prepare to welcome a new Superintendent minister, I pray that you will extend the same warmth, generosity and collegial spirit. Every transition presents opportunities for growth, and I believe that God has already gone ahead of you, preparing the way. Embrace the changes with optimism "running with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith."

### Prayer for Farewell

Holy and gracious God,  
you have walked with us through every season,  
guiding, sustaining, and surprising us with your grace.  
Bless the Upper Thames Circuit,  
pour out your Spirit upon each congregation,  
each leader, each home, each heart.  
Grant them unity, courage and joy as they follow your calling.  
Merciful Father,  
as we go forward remind us that in Christ  
we remain one body, one people, one hope.  
For you are the God who goes before us, the God who stays beside us,  
and the God who leads us home.  
In the name of Jesus, our companion on the way. Amen.

May Christ's peace surround you; the Spirit's wisdom guide you, and the Father's love sustain you in all that is to come.

Revd Shirlyn Toppin

**Bristol District**  
**Upper Thames Circuit 7/23**  
**Registered Charity No. 1134231**

**June 2026 to**  
**August 2026**

### Dates for the Diary

**Circuit Meeting – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2026 at Purton MC**

**CLT Meeting –15<sup>th</sup> June, 2026**  
**9.30 am in the Circuit Office.**

### CIRCUIT WELCOME SERVICE

**For Rev Tony Brookes**

**Saturday 29th August, 2026 at 4 pm**

**at Toothill Methodist Church**

**FAREWELL TO SHIRLYN**



**WELCOME TO TONY**

		JUNE 2026				JULY 2026				AUGUST 2026					
Date		7th	14 <sup>th</sup> MHA	21st	28th	5th	12th	19th	26th	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th	
<b>Lectionary Readings Year A</b>		Genesis 12: 1-9 Psalm 33: 1-12 Romans 4: 13-25 Matthew 9: 9-13, 18-26	Genesis 18: 1-15 Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19 Romans 5: 1-8 Matthew 9: 35-10:8 (9-23)	Genesis 21: 8-21 Psalm 86: 1-10, 16-17 Romans 6: 1b-11 Matthew 10: 24-39	Genesis 22: 1-14 Psalm 13 Romans 6: 12-23 Matthew 10: 40-42	Genesis 24: 34-38, 42-49 & 58-67 Psalm 45: 10-17 Romans 7: 15-25a Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30	Genesis 25: 19-34 Psalm 119: 105-112 Romans 8: 1-11 Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23	Genesis 28: 10-19a Psalm 139: 1-12,23-24 Romans 8: 12-25 Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43	Genesis 29: 15-28 Psalm 105: 1-11, 45b Or Psalm 128 Romans 8: 26-39 Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52	Genesis 32: 22-31 Psalm 17: 1-7, 15 Romans 9: 1-5 Matthew 14: 13-21	Genesis 37: 1-4, 12-28 Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b Romans 10: 5-15 Matthew 14: 22-33	Genesis 45: 1-15 Psalm 133 Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32 Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28	Exodus 1: 8 – 2:10 Psalm 124 Romans 12: 1-8 Matthew 16: 13-20	Exodus 3: 1-15 Psalm 105: 1-6, 23-26, 45c Romans 12: 9-21 Matthew 16: 21-28	
<b>Cricklade StF HP SF 1&amp;2</b>	10.30	Simpson	Simpson HC	Toppin	Dearsley	OA	German	Fowler HC	Newman	Mullin	C & N Price	OA	Dilly HC	OA	
<b>Highworth HP StF</b>	10.30	Toppin HC	Corkett	Mullin	OA	Cafe	Mead HC	Mead B	German	Longhurst	OA	Mead HC	Bunce	OA	
<b>Purton HP MPA</b>	10.30	Mead HC	US @ St Marys	OA	Mullin	Toppin HC	R Dowling	OA	M Dowling	Corkett	Mead	OA	Grimwood HC	Phoenix Stone	
<b>Royal Wootton Bassett HP StF MPA</b>	9.00		Toppin HC								Mead HC				
	10.30	Phoenix Stone	Mead HC	OA	Bunce	OA	Toppin HC	German	Mullin	OA	R Dowling AIW	SS	Longhurst	Mead HC	
<b>Shrivenham StF CMP</b>	10.30	Bunce	Toppin	Mead HC	OA	Phoenix Stone	Corkett	OA	Mead HC	Germani	OA	M Dowling	Mead HC	OA	
<b>Toothill StF</b>	10.30	German	Mullin	OA	Toppin HC	OA	Longhurst	Bunce	OA AAW	Torchon HC	Mullin	OA	M Dowling	R Dowling AAW	

AAW All Age Worship  
AIW All In Worship  
B Baptism  
COV Covenant

CI Café Inspire  
CS Circuit Service  
F Family Service  
H Harvest

SS Stewards Service  
HC Holy Communion  
AGM Annual Church Meeting  
OA Own Arrangement

P Parade  
PP Prayer & Praise  
N Nativity Service  
V Village Service

C Carols  
CA Church Anniversary  
US United Service  
SP Songs of Praise

C Aid Christian Aid Service  
Y Youth Service  
CH Christingle  
GCM General Church Meeting