

NEWPORT METHODIST CHURCH

4th January NEWSLETTER

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Sunday 4th January 2026 service:

10-30 a.m. Rev J Craske (Covenant Service)

Sunday 11th January 2026 service:

10-30 a.m. Helen Parry

Hymns and Readings for Sunday Morning Service:-

StheF 15 The splendour of the King, 465 Guide me o thou great Jehovah, 755 Alleluia,
565 Only by grace can we enter, 549 Come let us use the grace divine, 596 Now let us from this table rise.
Jeremiah 31:31-34. John 15:1-10.

From the introduction to the Covenant Service in the *Methodist Worship Book* (pp. 281-282):

"From the earliest days of the Methodist societies, John Wesley invited the Methodist people to renew their covenant relationship with God...

[The service] moves from praise of the Trinity to listening to the word in scripture, read and preached, and then follows a penitential approach to the words of the Covenant [and on to the Lord's Supper]... The emphasis of the whole service is on God's readiness to enfold us in generous love, not dependent on our deserving. Our response, also in love, springs with penitent joy from thankful recognition of God's grace...

The service is meant to lead us, by a path both similar to and differing from that of normal Sunday worship, to that commitment which all worship seeks both to inspire and to strengthen."

Pray Together!

Prayers for this week. Pray without ceasing.

A Prayer Request from the Team at Revive

"As we come to the start of 2026 we would like to share some exciting news with you about two new projects. The first being an Alpha Course with some of the young people from NYC. Our first week will be Monday 12th January – led by Peter from the Newport Youth Project with help from Pete. The second is Pete and Tom will be working with Young Futures who are part of the Isle of Wight Youth Justice Service. We'll share more news about both projects but in the meantime please pray for all involved."

Pray for all who are mourning the loss of loved ones.

Pray for all who are coping with many difficult health and other challenges at the present time, including those concerned about loved ones who are ill.

Prayer Network. Please contact Andy and Pat Carpenter with any prayer need. Prayer requests can be included in the newsletter.

Christmas Celebrations

A big thank you to all who contributed in any way to the Christmas celebrations - special thanks to Rev Jane for leading the services, and to Stephanie, Douglas and the choir for their music contributions. Thank you too to all who decorated the church so beautifully from the beginning of Advent leading up to Christmas and to the Wednesday lunch team for all their hard work in preparing a delicious Christmas lunch on the 17th December.

A Big Thank You!

Thank you to all who help in any way with the setting/re-setting of the chairs and tables in the church. This enables the church to be used more flexibly throughout the year. Very many thanks to all of you!

A Service for the Celebration of John's life will be held in the Church on Friday 2nd January at 11.30 a.m. with refreshments in the hall after. This will follow a private cremation. Everyone is welcome at the Church (no need to wear black). Kay Arnold and Family.

The Annual New Year Plant Hunt is on Saturday 3rd January. Meet outside the church at 10.30 am. This will be a gentle walk along the west side of the Medina Estuary, as far as 'The Mermaid ', to find how many plants are in flower away from cultivated areas. Return by 12 noon. Come in warm clothing and sturdy footwear, and of course participate at your own risk. Ask Anne and Keith for more details.

Tuesday 6th January 9-30 to 11-30 a.m. Quay Tots.

Wednesday 7th January at 7 p.m. Choir Practice.

Friday 30th January at 7-30 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.) Island Church Celebration at Cowes Enterprise College. An evening of Worship and Teaching with Pete Greig, Founder of 24-7 Prayer.

The new list of items very much needed at the Food Bank in January is: fruit juice, squash, bags and packets of rice, tinned fruit, baked beans, coffee, tinned potatoes, instant mash, which can be donated at supermarkets. Or donate online at <https://isleofwight.foodbank.org.uk> or send a cheque to Isle of Wight Food Bank, Love Lane, Cowes.

I formulated this having watched a newscast during one of my many recent sleepless nights. Bill.

A Child of Gaza

My little sister and father are dead,
I have concrete and rubble to rest my head.
It's been pouring with rain and freezing cold,
my mum is so thin and looking so old.
There is little to eat and nothing to drink,
there's no toilet to use causing an awful stink.
We still hear the booms and rat a tat tat –
men in black running this way and that.
When will we be free of this dreadful life –
surrounded by death, destruction and strife?
I long for food, shelter, dry clothes and sleep
we are running out of tears to weep.
The misery is unending day after day,
Please remember us and continue to pray.

GREETINGS AND BLESSINGS TO ALL FOR 2026

Setting up a regular monthly gift to Newport Methodist Church. To set up or amend a standing order, log in to your online banking or visit your local branch with Newport Methodist Church bank account details:

Name: Newport Methodist Church **Sort Code:** 40-52-40 **Account:** 00011976 **Reference:** Your own name

Please note all items for the Newsletter to Marilyn by 12 noon on Thursday please by email
newsletternmcior@gmail.com or by a written note.

Church Stewards:

Keith Marston, Anne Marston, Lesley Vaughan, Bill Bates