

Georgetown Methodist Concert



SUPERINTENDENT / CHAIR OF CI DISTRICT

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Prayer for the Week: August

Week commencing 4th August

Renewing God,
As we enjoy the beauty around us this summer, rekindle the flames of your Holy Spirit within us; remind us of our faith and hope in you and help us to grow ever closer to you and to one another. Amen.



Week commencing 11th August

Loving God, Thank you for lovingly forming every one of your precious children. Cherished and watched over in your constant love, may we reflect your light and love and be encouraged to share our reasons for our faith and hope in you. Amen.

Week commencing 18th August

Forgiving God, Guide us to graciously forgive and forget any wrongdoing and love others as you perpetually forgive and love us. Help us to choose forgiveness over resentment and remind us that we are all in need of repentance. Amen.



Week commencing 25th August

God of every day, Help us to share everything with you - our hopes, our dreams, our fears -so that we may live our lives as a ceaseless prayer, including you in all that we do and not restrict our time with you to a few hours on Sunday mornings. Amen.

Circuit Family Beach Service & Picnic

On the 13th of July a special Circuit beach service was held down at Greve de Lecq. After the service hot drinks were served and people who had brought picnics could spend time enjoying the beautiful bay.

Although it was another hot day, the turn out was good with everyone who joined embracing the service by the sea.

We hope everyone who could attend enjoyed themselves and would like to thank, Rev Keith for organising this very different circuit service.



Ebenezer was responsible for the offertory and selected the charities to benefit from this circuit service.

In total £360 in donations were received, which is being divided equally between The National Trust for Jersey (who lent us their Café building free of charge), and Wetwheels-Jersey. Being it was a beach service, it was suggested that the second donation should be to a nautical charity and Wetwheels-Jersey offer such a wonderful opportunity to those who are disabled, enabling them to enjoy the excitement of power boating in a unique experience on the sea.

Dear Michael,

You're welcome! It was a lovely morning down there - perfect for Sea Sunday.

Thank you so much for the donation, that really is appreciated. All the funds raised from the building go into our Coastline Campaign, helping us continue to protect areas of coastline like Greve de Lecq.

Best wishes, and thanks again
Annette

Thank you note
received from the
National Trust

What is a LAY PASTOR by Helen Higginson

Have you heard of the term Lay Pastor in the Methodist church?

I certainly hadn't until several months ago. I am a Local Preacher, so I have preached around the circuit for twelve years and since retiring from health 2 years ago have been working as a lay worker for three churches in the East of the Island. The 2 lay worker roles were new to Jersey and you have embraced the changes working alongside you within your congregations and the different communities you serve under the guidance of the Ministers.

It has been a steep learning curve for me going from a lifetime in health where I didn't share my faith verbally with my patients to a role where I am now privileged to talk about faith and peoples spiritual need, praying and journeying alongside them.

I have gone from home visits to do physiotherapy and help someone achieve their full physical potential to asking someone if I could pray with them which was initially quite a challenge.

On one of my early visits the gentleman as I said goodbye told me the Minister always prayed with him so could I do the same? It has been a privilege to come alongside people in prayer.

I see the different needs in the 3 communities I come alongside to serve and am involved in community in those 3 places. It takes time to build relationships, for people to share concerns and significant life events. There are wonderful teams of volunteers, stewards and pastoral visitors that give of their time and love for others.

So why a local lay pastor? In 2021 the Methodist conference established the office of local lay pastor in the changing ministries report. In many ways this is not a new kind of ministry (in the 1960s, for example, there was a Conference Committee for Lay Pastors), but it has grown and developed in many parts of the Connexion in recent years.

I spent some time praying and discerning with others whether to apply to be a local lay pastor. The term was laid upon my heart and wouldn't go away. It is a lay not ordained role so works alongside the Minister with Pastoral oversight.

The role of Lay Pastor has developed and is different in every circuit. It doesn't come with a time commitment and can be based on the need of the circuit.

You do not need to be a local preacher to be one. The recognition of the role as an office in the methodist church enables a support and governance network.

The local lay pastor is part of the ministry of circuits and provides a recognised presence among a congregation or gathered community and wider community.

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It includes pastoral visiting, and some leadership. They care for, enable, lead and represent a relevant local church or churches. It is complementary to but distinct from the ministries of deacons, presbyters and other lay officers in enabling the church's mission and the duties decided by the circuit. It will be a privilege to continue journeying alongside you and the community.

There has been a pathway of formal study set up to support this ministry at Cliff College. I have completed Local Preacher training and prior learning exempts me from all the formal study, however it supports me in this ministry to undertake some training.

The module I have undertaken has been "Ministry in the Methodist tradition". I am sure a lot of you will be more familiar with the history of methodism than I but it has been an interesting exploration skimming the surface of how it all began and developed over time and how the methodist church today still follows in the tradition of change for the needs of the current time.

It has covered some of the history of methodism from the origins of the movement of ministry where John Wesley coopted and organised all people for active discipleship.

I knew a little of Charles and John Wesley and looked at some of his sermons in the Local Preacher training but didn't know much about their history even though I went to a Wesleyan reform chapel growing up in Bradford and my grandparents were from the mining communities mentioned in some of the early history of methodism.

My love of the methodist churches has always been that it encompasses all, it has a heart of social justice and is missional. It didn't matter whether you were poor working class or educated the message of God's salvation, repentance, and faith was for all.

One of the descriptions that stood out for me early in the training was that the Methodists were "a happy band of the pilgrims of eternity" this was an expansion of the idea by John Bunyan the pilgrims progress.

This suggests they were and still are an active, dynamic movement of all. No matter gender, age, social standing that can find God.

Everyone is involved. It doesn't stay static even in Wesley's day there was a flourishing of different streams of methodism. People were called to go and tell of the love of God and seek His holiness in their lives by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Methodism after Wesley sought to develop a style of ministry that could be described more as a 'settled pastorate' than an 'extraordinary mission' this stemmed from the need to provide people to support the duties of ministers in a local context where they were low in number.

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There is a close and necessary relationship, within Methodism, between the 'extraordinary' and the 'settled'. The local lay pastor role is a settled pastorate and one in which it is embedded in the local area.

We all need to take part in God's mission. Mission begins with God and a God of love reaching out from God to others. A lay pastor begins with a heart for all, congregations and community.

Wesley saw methodism as a mission not a church.

The lay pastor role is very much part of God's mission in the local context. I think it is helpful to think of it as drawing us to Jesus and to one another in community then spreading out into the world in mission and service to share the love of God and God's mission with all. We are called to love one another and go out and share the grace of God with all whether that is at community coffee mornings, care homes, Messy churches, hospitals or the neighbour next door. With the circuits approval I am able to be licenced as a Local Lay pastor later in August.

Helen Higginson

A FUNDRAISER FOR LILY

In early August last year, Georgetown Methodist Church hosted two young musicians in their final year at various UK conservatoires studying for their Masters:

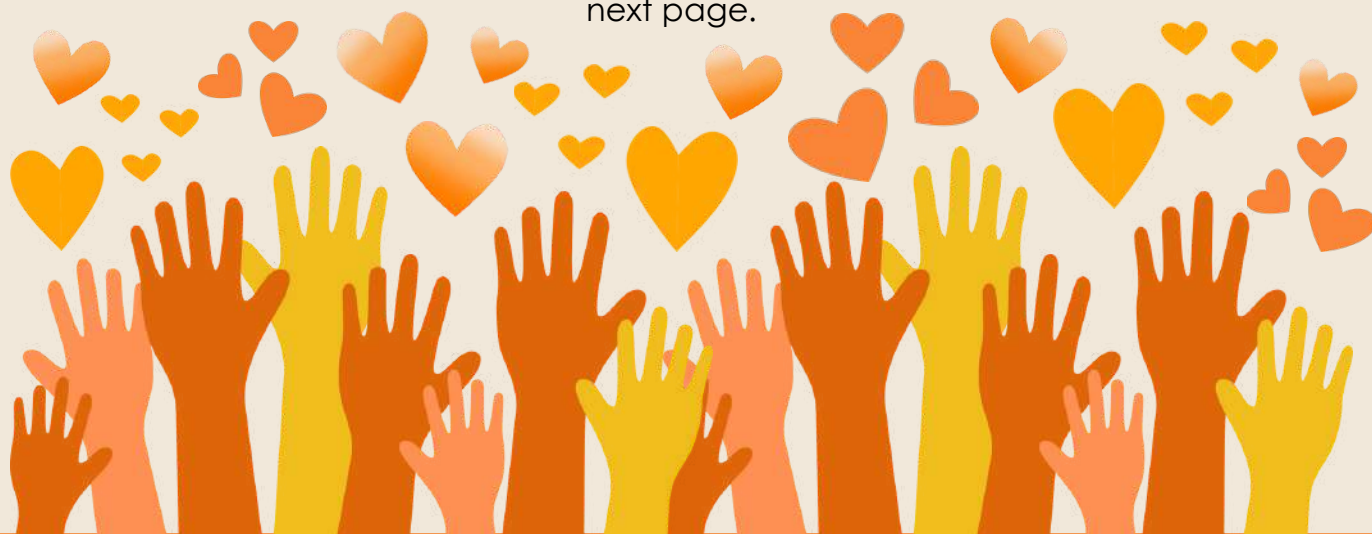
Jersey born vocalist Julia Callander and pianist Aaron Le Maistre (grandson of Derek Le Maistre and Sheila Birch). The whole concert was of an unbelievably high standard - playing or singing, as soloists or in duet - and Julia and Aaron brought along extra support from their own age group, together with family and friends.

Rowland Heaven met many of them, including one vivacious young lady, Lily McGarry who was studying medicine in Cardiff University but had enjoyed the concert, hearing her close friend from JCG days Julia singing and then meeting up with friends and colleagues afterwards.

Since then Lily has had to cope with suddenly becoming a young quadruple amputee through contracting sepsis, her life saved by the prompt action of fellow students rushing her to A&E. However, she now faces a long road of recovery and adaptation. After a period of time she transitioned out of ICU and she has managed to maintain a positive 'up beat' attitude to her condition supported by staff, family and friends.

This year, having recently qualified as professional musicians, Julia and Aaron have agreed to perform once more at Georgetown in a fundraising concert in support of Lily. Georgetown are delighted to support this wonderful idea and, technology permitting, they are hopeful of being able to live stream the performance to Lily herself. The concert would give her a boost in her long journey back to recovery with all the medical assistance that would be available to her: teams of nurses, physios and therapists. Lily has her own fitted and costly prostheses now and her own fitted wheelchair so she is at least able to get around the hospital grounds and take in the bracing Swansea sea air. However, nothing comes without great cost and Georgetown are hosting this special evening concert in the hope of boosting the appeal fund toward the costs of Lily's future medical and physical needs.

Please support this concert so that we can make a considerable contribution to the appeal fund set up to help Lily rebuild her life, please see event poster on the next page.





Georgetown Methodist Church **CONCERT**

Thursday 7 August, 7.30pm

Julia Callander: Vocalist

Aaron Le Maistre: Piano

**No tickets required,
retiring collection for
Lily McGarry**



Georgetown Methodist Church
Thursday Night
is Music Night



CONCERT

Thursday 28 August

TIME

7.30pm

**All are
welcome**



TICKETS

**Retiring
collection**

**The Revd Jenny Pathmarajah
& Matthew McCombie (piano)**

Will Millow (vocalist)



MBE awarded to Ruth Smith

Congratulations goes to Ruth, a St Aubin Church member for receiving an MBE in July. Ruth tells us about the day...

Wednesday, June 11 2025 was a very special day for me and my nearest and dearest. After waiting several months for a date, David and I found ourselves waiting for my younger daughter Jessie and my nephew Nick outside the magnificent Windsor Castle, which actually was my preferred option!

By 9:30 am we were ushered in. Every member of staff who greeted us congratulated me on my award, and actually sounded as if they meant it!

After a series of sit downs in various beautiful state rooms, we were finally ushered into a magnificent hall, complete with ornate ceiling, where Prince William was doing the honours.

As I walked towards him, my hat chose that very moment to start slipping backwards, so notions of doing a curtsy went completely out of the window!!! He didn't seem to notice thank goodness!

To the right of Prince William was an Aide, who read out, "Mrs Ruth Smith, awarded an MBE for services to Kenya and Jersey". The Prince asked me what I did in Kenya, so I briefly told him that I'd set up my school in 2015, and how I go there for the first three months of the year to check on the children's welfare. Also, we had a 100 % attendance, probably due to the excellent daily food programme which was kindly sponsored by a Trust company in Jersey. I told him that people in Jersey were incredibly generous when they saw a genuine need. He said he absolutely loved Kenya.

Then I said in Jersey I had helped build and set up a Youth Club - in the Parish of Trinity, where I was Leader in Charge for nine years. It had 200 children a week attending, and 18 to 20 volunteers for which I ran regular Youth work training.

Also, I had been a teacher for 52 years and had trained to become a specialist in neurodivergent pupils and adults, who were predominantly dyslexic, and, in fact, I was still teaching six pupils a week.

He said that he had always been interested in dyslexia and he congratulated me on what I was doing and thanked me for coming, to which I replied, "Thank you for having me."

We were then led to the banqueting hall where we were allocated a photographer, a lovely lady who made us all feel at ease.

We finished off the day by meeting some more of my family (as we were only allowed 3 guests in the actual ceremony,) at a very nice Thames side restaurant, to

thoroughly enjoy a special lunch, complete with toasts from my brother Christopher and David who was actually responsible for getting six people to write to the Governor, saying why I should have an award.

All in all, it was a perfect and very memorable day.



Congratulations!

EXPLORING LABYRINTHS



Have you
walked a
labyrinth
yet?

A labyrinth offers a gentle, winding journey to its centre, inviting us to explore our paths in life. An ensuring symbol of our life journeys, they comprise of spiraling, symmetrical purposeful paths that invite us to engage physically, walking "sole to the "soul with our feet.

Labyrinths are found in hospitals, hospices, schools, universities, churches and cathedrals for relaxation, mindfulness and contemplation. They help calm anxieties, restore balance, enhance creativity, encourage self-reflection and alleviate stress.

Other benefits include: Generating new insights and promoting well-being, improved clarity focus and calmness, embracing the practice of letting go and living one day, one step at a time as well as many more.

If you are interested in walking a labyrinth and learning more, pop along, everyone is welcome!

DATES

- 07/08/25 @ 10.30am (HW 0553 LW 1226)
- 04/09/25 @ 11am (LW 1109 HW 1705)
- 18/09/25 @ 11am (LW 1124 HW 1713)

LOCATION

St Brelade's Bay beach (far left hand side just past the last slipway)

CONTACT

karenlemouton@gmail.com

Please note: If there is inclement weather (rain and/or very strong winds), the event will be cancelled on that day.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO ROME & ASSISI LEDBYFRROBERT HARRIS



Monday 13 - Monday 20 October 2025



Information

GroundPackage price: £1280 (based on 20 paying pax) Single rooms £285 pp / Travel Insurance TBA

Flights will be extra - price to be advised

Package includes:

4 nights stay in Rome on half board basis

3 nights stay in Assisi on half board basis

Transfer by coach from Rome Airport

Full services of English speaking courier every day

1 x 1/2 day coaching tour in Rome area & Vatican Museum tour

1 x 1/2 day guided walking tour of Assisi

Visits also to Greccio, La Verna, Lake Trasimeno

Deposit: £100 per person

Second Deposit: £200 plus insurance premium

Price of insurance to be advised. Forms and deposits to be sent directly to Tangney Tours

For further information and a booking form please contact:

Rev. Robert Harris email: robdharris57@gmail.com

OR

Gill Didino at Tangney Tours (gill@tangney-tours.com)

www.tangney-tours.com - t: 01732 886666

CIRCUIT DIARY FOR THE NEXT MONTH:

WEEKLY EVENTS:

- Monday: Drop in at St Aubin's Methodist Church - 1pm to 4pm
- Monday: Messy Bears - 9am to 12pm (Term-time only)
- Wednesday: Coffee Buzz at Samares - 10.30am
- Thursday: Community Coffee Morning at St Aubin's Methodist Church - 10am to 12.30pm
- Thursday: Community Coffee Morning at Georgetown Methodist Church - 10am to 12 noon
- Thursday: Bible study & soup lunch at St Helier Methodist Centre

SPECIAL EVENTS:

August:

- 4th to 8th - "Write the Light" - Icon Writing Retreat
- 5th - Circuit Stewards Meting - 7.30pm
- 7th - Thursday Night is Music Night at Georgetown - 7.30pm
- 7th - Come and Explore a Labyrinth at St Brelade's Bay - From 10.30am
- 27th - DPC Meeting - 7.30pm
- 28th - Thursday Night is Music Night at Georgetown - 7.30pm

September:

- 2nd - Messy Church at Philadelphie - 3.30pm
- 4th - Come and Explore a Labyrinth at St Brelade's Bay - From 11.00am
- 6th - Autumn Representative Synod via Zoom - 11am
- 8th - Messy Bears at Philadelphie
- 10th - Circuit Meeting at Georgetown - 7.30pm

Remember to also check out the Circuit calendar on the Circuit website for a collection of all events happening across the circuit. If you want to have an event added, just email the circuit administrator with details of the event (circuit.office.jsy@gmail.com).

