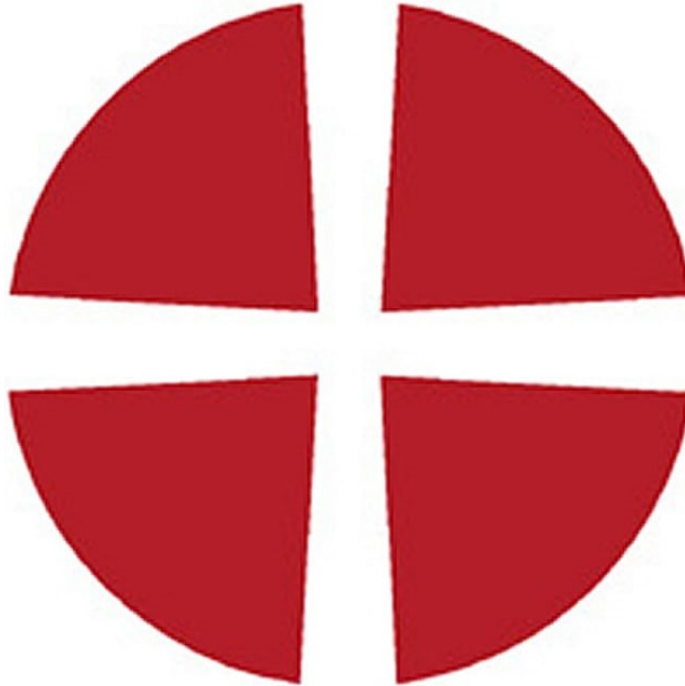


JULY PRAYERS



As we begin the month of July this year's Methodist Conference is in session:- The new President, Rev. Helen Cameron, and Vice-President, Mrs. Carolyn Godfrey have been inducted and installed; New presbyteral appointments for September will have been confirmed; those ministers and deacons who have successfully completed their probationary period will have been received into full connexion and ministers completing their time and retiring will be given 'permission to sit down'.

And so we pray:-

Heavenly Father , we ask your blessing on all within the Methodist Church who are taking a new step in their faith journey as they serve the Methodist Church.
May they be ever conscious of your presence with them through all the changes and also for their families who are affected by these new situations.
Grant them a new enthusiasm to go wherever you lead, trusting that you will equip them in new and exciting ways of sharing Your Love with others.
Lord, You have called them to your service and they have dedicated themselves to it. May they experience Your indwelling in all that they do and say.
We ask this in the Name of the Holy One that they serve, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Also, early on in this month there will be a General Election and so we need to vote and Need To Pray.

Heavenly father, we lift every candidate to you. We pray that whatever the result you will be with each of them. Help those elected to be humble in victory and for peace for those who were unsuccessful.

Loving Lord, we give you thanks that we live in a democracy. We pray for a fantastic voter turnout during this election and that many will be encouraged to vote.

Father God, we uplift those working to provide polling stations across the UK. We pray for safety as people turn out to vote. Give strength and energy to those manning the stations and for those who will be counting the votes.

Loving Lord, we thank you for young people. Today we lift up those who will be voting for the first time. We pray for great excitement as they exercise this new right. Amen.

Throughout the Bible we're commanded to pray for those in leadership. No matter what the election result is, take a moment to pray for the newly formed government.

Father God, we lift our new government to you. We ask that you fill each member with wisdom as they seek to represent their constituents. Equip them with the knowledge the need and help them govern with unity. In Jesus' name, Amen.



July 14th is Action For Children Sunday. This Charity began within the Methodist Church and was first known as the National Children's Homes. Its work now extends our nation and to other countries across the world so we support their work and remember them in our prayers.



Every child has the right to live, to be safe and to be loved.
Every young person has the right to be housed,
to have enough money to live in dignity
and to have enough support for the future.
Every young person has the right to justice,
to realise their potential

and to be given the space to become independent.

In an often cruel and imperfect world,
we uphold the work of Action for Children with children and young people in danger,
in need and at risk.

We support the growth of this work and the pursuit of all these rights for the young,
the discounted and the vulnerable.

We make this covenant with Action for Children for the sake of all God's children.

Amen

Loving, creator God. Thank you for making us all to shine your light. Give us courage and determination to make a difference to children whose stars are dimmed. Bless the work of Action for Children as they seek to protect and reveal the star in every child. Amen.

July 14th is also 'Sea Sunday', when we remember all who work the seas to provide food, imports and exports and often have to face challenging conditions. Then, on 21st it is 'Rural Missions Sunday' when we remember those who work the land to provide food often in difficult economic situations and facing the challenges of climate change.

So we end our prayers this month by praying for those that we rely on in these situations.

For Those On Whom Seafarers Depend

We give thanks for those who protect and support those that work on the sea, providing rescue services and safe havens. We remember today the work of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, Trinity House, the Royal Navy, and maritime trades unions. We rejoice that the work of these, and other organisations around the world, gives great comfort to those who are at times in danger, exhausted, injured, exploited, lonely and afraid.

Rural Missions Sunday

Creator God,
the whole world is yours.
Creation sings your praises.
As the sun rises on a new day,
help us to see the way ahead.
May we know your presence leading and guiding us.
Give us the strength to keep following you,
and as the day ends may we know your rest and peace.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

Be with our farmers, Lord, and particularly the farming families, in hard times as well as the good. Help us to create a society where farmers are once again respected and compensated

for their work fairly. We pray for farmers and our communities when the rain does not come, or comes too hard, or comes too late.

Lord, be with those who are in despair - so economically stretched that they cannot see how to provide for their own families and have no hope for the future. We pray for Rural Chaplains, that they may be able to pray with them and to guide them to where specific help can be given.

We ask all our prayers in the name of Jesus. Amen