

CONWAY ROAD METHODIST CHURCH

NOTICE SHEET – September 2026



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Dear All,

Did you witness the eclipse?! Did you stand, colander in hand, white card at the ready, looking for exactly the right spot to set up? Or perhaps you managed to get hold of the elusive 'eclipse glasses' which made everything except the sun turn black!

The 1999 eclipse found me in a swimming pool in a small hotel in southern Hungary – one of the few places which saw total coverage. It went dark quite slowly and, frankly, I was too busy having fun to notice. Suddenly, though, the solar lights around the pool became visible and the birds – who usually took their lunchtime snooze at that time – began to sing with somewhat confused gusto. Two minutes later everything started to return to normal and I went back to swimming.

The 2026 eclipse saw me outside Cyncoed Methodist Church – where there were more people but considerably less water! Their 'Eclipse Party,' consisting of crafts, games, prayer stations and God Slots, saw over 100 visitors, some of whom planned to come and others who stopped to see what we were all doing and whether we had any spare glasses!

During the two 'God Slots' – one juuuuuust as the moon appeared at the corner of the sun, and the other when it was as dark as it got – we talked about the miracle of God's creation, and how we struggle, sometimes, to make sense of it all. One thing Cathy said, though, really caught my attention. "Light always finds a way." She reminded us that, even during a total eclipse, it never gets completely dark. Sunlight leaks out around the edges of the darkness. Darkness cannot win.

As we enter a new church year, and for some of us a new school year, let's remember the Light of Jesus that shines in the darkness, and which cannot ever be fully hidden from us.

Love and blessings,
Laura

Job advert: 'Little Fishes', the Friday morning playgroup that meets in the hall, are looking for a volunteer from the church community. If this is something you think you could help with, please speak to Laura.



September Services

Sun 6 th Sept	10.30am	Service at Wesley Canton Methodist Church
Sun 13 th Sept	10.30am	Circuit Creation Sunday led by Laura Evans
Sun 20 th Sept	10.30am	Rev. Rosemary Davies. (Holy Communion)
Sun 27 th Sept	10.30am	Harvest Festival – All Age Worship led by Laura Evans

Church Membership

I have again been approached by a few people wishing to explore Membership of the Methodist Church. You do not need to be a Member of the Methodist Church to be part of the church family, but Membership is a 'next step' of commitment. Being 'Received into Membership' involves confirming the promises that were made at your baptism and committing yourself to worship, learning and caring, serving and speaking of God alongside others from the church community at Conway Road. These promises are made during a Sunday service. Being a Member of the Methodist Church does not stop you being part of another denomination too.

Preparing for Membership involves attending several sessions at which we discuss:

- Journeying together.
- What does it mean to be a church-going Christian?
- What is the Methodist Church, anyway?

Be reassured that this is not a case of you giving the 'right' answers and there's no test or anything like that. If at the end you decide not to become a member that's fine too, so the 'just interested' are very welcome. Please let me know if this is something you feel drawn to.

Once we have a group, we can find convenient dates to meet. Laura

Junior Church. (Returning on **Sunday 13th September.**)

We are excited for the new term. We have a few things in the calendar:

Sunday 27th September:

- **Presentation Day**, to celebrate those young people who are going up to high school or those who are already there but have not been presented with a bible yet.
- **Harvest**: After a slightly shorter than normal All Age Worship Service, Junior Church & Laura will be serving lunch to our church family. We would LOVE you to join us!

2nd-4th October:

3GENERATE - the Methodist Church event for Young People in Birmingham.

A prayer for the children & young people returning to school:

Dear Lord Jesus, calm their worries, quieten their fears and fill their hearts with peace & readiness as they begin this new school year. Amen.



YouthSpace - 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month at Wesley Canton, year 6 and upwards, between 10am and 12.30pm – which should allow time for parents to attend their own church

Tues 8 th Sept	10.00am	Bible Study - held in the New Room. All welcome. Continuing with Mark's gospel.
Sat 19 th Sept	9.30am	Work Morning – the ground team will be in attendance to help keep our premises and grounds well-maintained – additional volunteers very welcome so please come along and help if you can spare an hour or two!
Sat 19 th Sept	9.30am	Open Morning – Church open for all! Refreshments and a warm welcome provided!
Sun 27 th Sept	12.00	Harvest – see notice
Tues 6 th Oct	7.30pm	Church Council in the New Room

Conway Road 50+ Group

2 nd Sept	A Rousing Return for the Ukulele Nights - Fun & Songs!
9 th Sept	Insole Court and the 1856 Cymmer Colliery Disaster John Prior-Morris. Long time campaigner to save Insole Court.
16 th Sept	Dylan's Park – A children's book by Helen Docherty The book is inspired by Dylan Thomas's memories & writings Presented by Gareth Thomas.
23 rd Sept	Improvisation and Comedy – to enjoy and join in with Rob Morris and members of Cardiff U3A Improv Group
30 th Sept	Sight Life: The Charity's history and services offered Formerly known as Cardiff Institute for the Blind. Presented by Valerie Baynton

The Summer of 2026 by Jayne Powell

Who can forget those hot days –
That began probably as early as May.
When the cold water taps suddenly turned lukewarm
And everyone was so sweaty that this became the norm!
No air, no breeze made the days unbearable,
The nights when your winceyette's became unwearable!
Gardens with plants and trees had their leaves drooping –
Lawns turned brown as there was no sign of the weather cooling.
Cars turned into ovens, steering wheels too hot to handle –
It felt just like holding your hand over a candle!
Oh, how we like to moan about our weather –
Too hot, too cold, not more rain and the wind could be a bit fresher....
Extreme temperatures are not what we are used to
We would have bought more summer clothes if only we knew,
That 2026 would be so hot over such a long time
When your ice creams melted into a sort of runny slime!
Everything you touched had that warm feeling –
Chocolate, fruit best kept in your fridges otherwise it became unappealing.
There's hope coming as rain is on its way –
Cooling the air, watering our gardens, making the worms come out to play.
But what if it doesn't know when to stop
THEN - we moan and groan and throw a huge STROP!!
And so we go into Autumn, with all its browns and oranges
Seasons come and go. Let's embrace Gods Earth, be kind and share the love that is His.

ECO News: Along with the rest of the Circuit, we will be celebrating 'Creation Sunday' on September **19th**. A prayer to be used includes the lines:

Lord of all Creation,

We pray for all your creatures with whom we share the earth, from the smallest beetle to the largest whale.

We particularly pray for those species whose existence is endangered by humanity's impact on the earth: creatures like polar bears, green sea turtles, mountain gorillas and snow leopards.

Help us to put the needs of your Creation before our own.



Family & Holiday News

Shelagh Afternoon Tea:

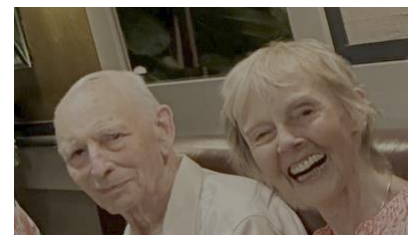
A big thank you to all of you who supported Shelagh's afternoon tea either at number 34 or with a donation. Total donated was:

£ 327 – all for BREAST CANCER NOW .



Heather and Stuart welcomed the latest addition to their family this month. Meet Lola – born on 3rd August to Jo – weighing in at 6lbs 9oz and taking everyone by surprise by being two weeks early!

Avery says: We celebrated Peters 90th birthday with the family in the Bay. A very good time was had by all.



Chantelle & Darren celebrated their 1st Wedding Anniversary in Oxford.

Fran & Gordon enjoyed this knitted panel as part of their North Pembs holiday.



And to finish:

