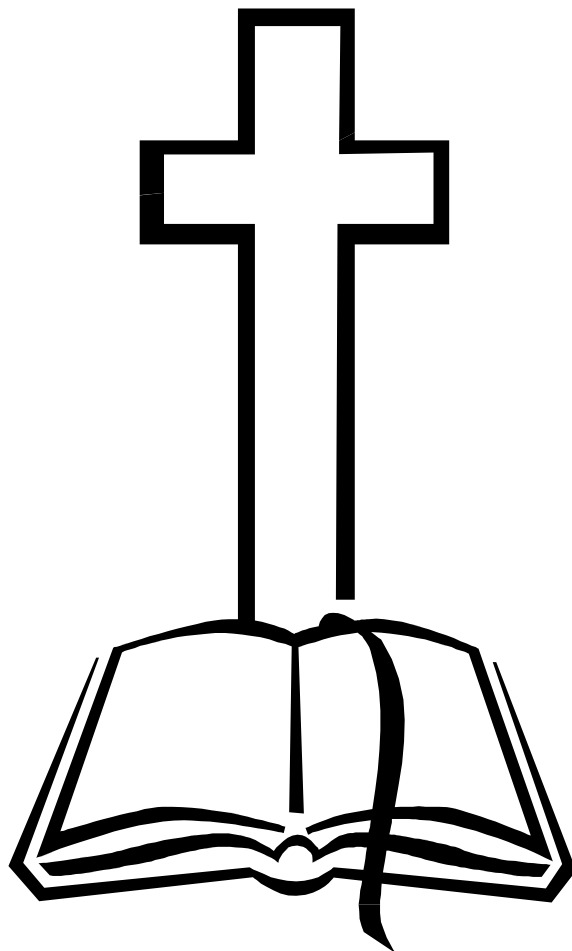




North East Somerset & Bath

Methodist Circuit

# PREACHING PLAN



**MARCH to MAY 2014**

# MAUNDY THURSDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES

## WEDNESDAY

Chew Stoke                      7pm                      Holy Communion

## MAUNDY THURSDAY

Timsbury                      3pm                      Holy Communion  
Batheaston                      at Parish Church  
Peasedown St John              7pm                      Agape Meal  
Midsomer Norton              7.30pm                      Taize with Holy Communion  
Nexus Claremont              7.30pm                      Holy Communion  
Paulton                      7.30pm                      at Parish Church  
Trinity Radstock              7.30pm                      Holy Communion  
Weston                      7.30pm                      Passover Meal

## GOOD FRIDAY

Weston                      9.00am                      Cross Walk  
Beechen Cliff                      9.30am                      Cross Walk  
Nexus                      9.30am                      Cross Walk  
Midsomer Norton              9.45am                      Ecumenical Walk of Witness  
Trinity                      Walk of Witness followed by Ecumenical Service  
at Trinity Westfield  
Peasedown St John              10am                      United Worship at Parish Church  
and Walk of Witness  
Keynsham                      10am                      At St Johns and Walk of Witness  
Paulton                      10.30am  
Midsomer Norton              2-5pm                      Open Church: Worship at 3pm  
Bishop Sutton                      3pm

## **DEADLINES FOR PLAN: JUNE – AUGUST 2014**

**7<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2014: Presbyters (and churches via Presbyters)**

**13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2014: Supernumeraries and Preachers  
(Local Preachers Meeting date)**

# SUPER'S SOAP BOX



***Dear Friends,***

This Quarter is the most significant quarter for us in the Christian year as it contains the central events of the death and resurrection of Jesus as we journey through the seasons of Lent and Easter. Standing firmly on my Super's Soapbox I want to challenge you both as individuals and churches, how those central events are marked in your life?

For example, it is a great sadness to me that on Good Friday many of our churches remain closed all day and many of our church people do not feel the need to attend church. I often hear such people bemoaning the fact that the shops are open on Good Friday (and some of those people might be seen in said shops!) but it doesn't occur to them that they themselves are missing the point of the day.

Whilst I appreciate we may not have enough preachers to lead worship at every church on Good Friday (though it's interesting to observe that in most Methodist Churches it is assumed that only the Minister can take such services...why ??) there's nothing to stop your church building being open for part of the day so that people can simply come in and sit and reflect and pray (if you are doing that make sure there is a clear notice outside inviting people in and that it is warm!)

Then on Easter Day we have the JOY of the risen Lord...and of course you can only know that joy if you have also journeyed through the sorrow of the events of Good Friday. There is no shortcut from Palm Sunday to Easter Day! That joy is not just for Easter Sunday but is at the heart of what it means to be a Christian. As someone once said:

Jesus died....that's history  
Jesus died for me...that's salvation

And so as we journey through Lent where the traditional emphasis is on 'giving up something' maybe we need instead to think about what it means to 'take up something' and Jesus gives us that challenge:

*Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up the cross and follow me' (Matthew 16.24)*

Which, as Isaac Watts says in his hymn: *'Demands my soul my life my all' (STF 287)*

***Stephen***

## MARCH 2014

		2 <sup>ND</sup>	9 <sup>TH</sup>	16 <sup>TH</sup>	23 <sup>RD</sup>	30 <sup>TH</sup>
Liturgical Year		1 before Lent	Lent 1	Lent 2	Lent 3	Lent 4
Please Pray For		High Littleton	Horizon	Keynsham Queens Road	Keynsham Victoria	Midsomer Norton
Bathampton	11.00	Biddulph	R Fletcher	Parker	Borgars HC	Blackmore
Batheaston	10.30 6.30	Mares -----	Borgars HC -----	R Fletcher -----	Jakins -----	10 At PC E 5.30 at Bathford E
Beechen Cliff	9.30 10.30 2.00	----- LA Café Lee K	Lee HC Bell Lee K	----- Lee HC Lee K	----- Lee MS Lee K	----- Souter A Lee K
Bishop Sutton	10.00 3.00	D Robinson -----	9.00 Ireland -----	Evans -----	----- Ireland HC	Mills -----
Box	9.30 11.00	LA Borgars HC	----- Lowe	----- LA	----- Jill Flowers	----- Borgars
Carlingcott	10.00 3.00 4.30	James ----- Rubie	Harler MC 5.00 Ireland HC	Dymond ----- Summers	Summers ----- Moxham	11 Parsons ----- 6.00 Graham
Chew Stoke	10.30	Simpkins HC	Ireland A	Newbold	Bell	Stiddard
Farrington Gurney	11.00	Auty	West	Simpson HC U	White	Davis
High Littleton	11.00	Jakins	Cramb U	At F. Gurney	Stiddard	Simpson HC
Horizon	10.30 6.30	Blackmore Robinson	Earley HC Pottage	Cross 4.00 LA MC	Souter Souter HC	Honey Souter
Keynsham Queens Road	8.30 10.00 6.30	----- Cramb HC -----	----- Jill Flowers -----	----- Simpkins W Leaders	Simpkins A U at Victoria -----	----- John Flowers At St. John's
Keynsham Victoria	10.00 5.00 6.30	Slocombe ----- Simpkins	Hewett HC Simpkins A -----	Lowe ----- -----	Cramb ----- Simpkins HC	Simpkins ----- At St John's E
Midsomer Norton	10.30 6.00	Robinson HC Parsons	Robinson A Robinson	Robinson Robinson HC	John Flowers A Lee	Robinson Robinson
Nexus Claremont	11.00 6.30	M Fletcher -----	Mills -----	Hewett HC -----	U at Walcot -----	Manley -----
Nexus Walcot	9.15 10.30 6.30	----- Manley -----	----- Haynes HC -----	Borgars HC Borgars A B -----	----- LA MiB U -----	----- Beck -----
Paulton	8.30 10.30 4.00 6.00	----- White ----- LA E	----- Simpson HC Simpson MC -----	----- Beck ----- -----	----- Simpkins MiB ----- -----	Simpson HC Evans ----- -----
Peasedown St John	10.30	LA	YP A	Rowe	Ireland HC	Jill Flowers
Stratton House (MHA)	3.00	Borgars HC	Gilson	Bird	Pottage	Bird
Timsbury	10.30	Wheaton	Voake	Ireland HC	Robinson	Auty
Trinity at Radstock	10.30 4.00 6.00	Pottage HC ----- Pottage R	At Westfield U ----- Borgars	Pottage A ----- At Baptist's E	Voake MC Pottage HC	Dymond ----- Simpson
Trinity at Westfield	10.30	Knebel	Pottage U	Parsons	LA	Pottage HC
Trinity at Writhlington	11.00	-----	At Westfield U	-----	Pottage HC	-----
Weston	10.30	LA	Lee	Souter HC	Biddulph T	Lee

# APRIL 2014

		6 <sup>TH</sup>	13 <sup>TH</sup>	20 <sup>TH</sup>	27 <sup>TH</sup>
Liturgical Year		Passion	Palm	Easter	Easter 2
Please pray for		Nexus Claremont	Nexus Walcot	Paulton	Peasedown St John
Bathampton	11.00	Jakins	Borgars HC	Lansley	M Fletcher
Batheaston	10.30 6.30	Biddulph T 3.00 MC	Jill Flowers HC -----	Hudd -----	Newbold 6.30 At CGS E
Beechen Cliff	9.30 10.30 2.00	Lee HC Lee Lee K	----- Souter Lee K	----- Lee A HC Lee K	----- Lansley Lee K
Bishop Sutton	10.00 3.00	Cramb -----	9.00 Ireland HC -----	Culshaw 4.00 Ireland SoP	Parsons -----
Box	9.30 11.00	LA Robinson	----- M Fletcher	----- Cramb HC	----- Beck
Carlingcott	<b>11.00</b> 3.00 <b>6.00</b>	LA MC Ireland HC	Cramb ----- Summers	James ----- Ireland	Woods ----- Brown
Chew Stoke	10.30	West	Ireland A	Stuckey	Cramb HC
Farrington Gurney	11.00	Simpson HC	Blackmore	Lowe	At H Littleton U
High Littleton	11.00	At PC E	Simpson HC	Parsons	Evans U
Horizon	10.30 6.30	Souter Parsons	LA Souter	Souter HC 4.00 LA MC	White Souter HC
Keynsham Queens Road	8.30 10.00 6.30	----- Slocombe Pottage	----- Simpkins A -----	----- Hewett HC Simpson	Simpkins A U At Victoria -----
Keynsham Victoria	10.00 5.00 6.30	Parker ----- -----	Haynes Simpkins A -----	Simpkins HC ----- -----	Honey At New Room -----
Midsomer Norton	10.30 6.00	Knebel Robinson	Robinson A Borgars	Robinson HC Robinson HC	Dymond A LA
Nexus Claremont	11.00 6.30	Lowe -----	Cross -----	8.30 Borgars HC -----	Simpkins GA Borgars R
Nexus Walcot	10.30 6.30	R Fletcher -----	Auty -----	Borgars/Manley C HC -----	Borgars MIST -----
Paulton	10.30 4.00 6.00	Earley ----- At PC E	Bell Simpson MC -----	Simpson HC ----- -----	Mills ----- -----
Peasedown St John	10.30	Ireland A	D Robinson	Ireland HC	Mares
Stratton House (MHA)	3.00	Souter HC	Bird	Simpkins HC	Bird
Timsbury	10.30	Culshaw	At PC E	John Flowers	Lee
Trinity at Radstock	10.30 4.00 6.00	Pottage U ----- LA	Evans A ----- Pottage HC	Pottage HC ----- Pottage SoP	Bell MC Lee
Trinity at Westfield	10.30	At Radstock U	Pottage	Wheaton HC	Jill Flowers
Trinity at Writhlington	11.00	10.30 At Radstock U	-----	At Radstock	Voake
Weston	10.30	Lansley	Lee	Jill Flowers HC	Souter

# MAY 2014

		4 <sup>TH</sup>	11 <sup>TH</sup>	18 <sup>TH</sup>	25 <sup>TH</sup>
Liturgical Year		Easter 3	Easter 4	Easter 5	Easter 6
Please Pray For		Tisbury	Trinity at Radstock	Trinity at Westfield	Trinity at Writhlington
Bathampton	11.00	LA	Jill Flowers HC	Haynes	LA
Batheaston	10.30 6.30	LA -----	Hewett HC -----	D Robinson 6 At Radstock	LA 3.00 at PC E
Beechen Cliff	9.30 10.30 2.00	Souter HC Auty A Lee K	----- Evans LA K	----- Souter HC LA K	----- LA LA K
Bishop Sutton	10.00	LA	9.00 Ireland HC	Newbold	Dickerson
Box	9.30 11.00	LA LA	----- Honey	----- Borgars HC	----- Southgate
Carlingcott	11.00 3.00 6.00	Moxham ----- Beazer	Summers MC Ireland HC	Graham ----- 6 At Radstock	LA ----- Rowe
Chew Stoke	10.30	LA	Ireland A HC	Hudd	LA
Farrington Gurney	11.00	LA	Bell CA	At Paulton U	Stiddard
High Littleton	11.00	LA	Earley CA HC E	At Paulton U	Stuckey
Horizon	10.30 6.30	Souter Souter	Hudd LA	R Fletcher 4.00 LA MC	Souter HC Ireland
Keynsham Queens Road	8.30 10.00 6.30	----- Davis -----	----- Mills At Baptist 6pm E	----- Simpkins 6 At Radstock	Sawyer A at Victoria U Souter HC
Keynsham Victoria	10.00 6.30	Barnett Barnett	LA SofP At Baptist 6pm E	Culshaw 6 At Radstock	Hewett -----
Midsomer Norton	10.30 6.00	Beck Robinson	Robinson A Souter	Robinson HC At Radstock	Robinson A Robinson HC
Nexus Claremont	11.00 6.30	LA -----	Borgars HC At St Luke's E	at Walcot U 6 At Radstock	Mares -----
Nexus Walcot	9.15 10.30 6.30	----- LA -----	----- Manley At St Luke's E	Borgars HC Dymond U A 6 At Radstock	----- Jill Flowers HC -----
Paulton	10.30 4.00 6.00	Wheaton ----- LA E	John Flowers MC -----	Simpson HC U ----- -----	Knebel ----- -----
Peasedown St John	10.30	Ireland A	Lansley	Rowe	Ireland HC
Stratton House (MHA)	3.00	Bird HC	Robinson	Bird	Music Group
Tisbury	10.30	D Robinson	Mares CA	Ireland HC	LA
Trinity at Radstock	10.30 4.00 6.00	At Westfield U ----- Ireland	Pottage A ----- At PC E	Wheaton HC ----- <b>CIRCUIT SERVICE</b>	John Flowers MC Pottage HC
Trinity at Westfield	10.30	Robinson U	Parker	10.00 Pottage E	LA
Trinity at Writhlington	11.00	10.30 At Westfield U	-----	-----	Pottage HC
Weston	10.30	Lee	Souter HC	White	LA

## ABBREVIATIONS

A	All Age Worship	IP	Informal Praise	R	Reflective Service
B	Baptism	K	Korean Worship	SoP	Songs of Praise
CA	Church Anniversary	LA	Local Arrangement	T	Please provide transport for the local preacher
CGS	Church of the Good Shepherd	MC	Messy Church	PC	Parish Church
C	Confirmation	MiB	Mission in Britain	U	United Service (Methodist)
E	Ecumenical Service	MIST	Methodist Schools	YP	Young People
HC	Holy Communion	MS	Men's Service		

**ALL PREACHERS ARE REMINDED THAT IF THEY CANNOT FULFIL AN APPOINTMENT  
THEY MUST FIND AN ACCREDITED SUBSTITUTE AND INFORM THE  
SUPERINTENDENT MINISTER, CIRCUIT OFFICE AND RELEVANT LOCAL CHURCH STEWARD**

### CIRCUIT SERVICE

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2014  
6pm at Trinity Radstock

Easter Offering Service

An opportunity for us to come  
together as a circuit in worship

## LOCAL ARRANGEMENT (LAs)

You will see on this Plan that we have quite a high number of 'LAs' which indicate Local Arrangements. Some of these are where local churches make their own local arrangements (e.g. Messy Church).

Others are where we have a shortage of Preachers and our 'pool' of circuit preachers cannot give any more dates. On these occasions our Methodist Standing Orders say that 'the services shall be arranged by church stewards and led by persons from the local congregation and shall not normally include a preaching element. Local Preachers and Worship Leaders may be invited to take part in such a service but are neither required nor expected to do so and are free to decline any request to participate.'

Can I therefore respectfully ask you not to 'twist an arm' of a Preacher as they have made all the commitments they can and are already planned. Rather, use this as a creative opportunity within your local church to maybe experience other styles of worship. Maybe instead of a 'formal' act of worship, why not gather together in prayer? Some churches have 'Songs of Praise' and the challenge here is to ensure it is still worshipful rather than just 'a good sing'. It could be an opportunity to visit another church and experience their worship. These are just a few ideas.

The reality is that given our present limited preaching resources over the circuit, the situation isn't going to get any better. For example, next quarter will not only have many holidays to take into account but also three of our preachers are moving away from the area and therefore we lose about 15 more appointments.

Of course the other dimension is that we continue to ask the question 'Who is God calling to consider becoming Local Preachers?' That question has been asked throughout Methodist history and continues today. Many of our current Preachers began their journey in a similar context to 'LAs' where in fellowship meetings and the like, they were asked to do a reading or lead a prayer.

So I hope in the local churches you see LAs as an opportunity rather than a burden. We continue to give thanks to God for the commitment of our preachers who do give of their time not only on a Sunday in leading acts of worship but also in their preparation time as well.

Stephen