

September 2025

Connexional year 2025-2026	7 th	14 th	21 st	28 th
	10.30am	10.30am	10.30am	10.30am
	23 rd Sunday Ordinary Time	24 th Sunday Ordinary Time	25 th Sunday Ordinary Time	26 th Sunday Ordinary Time
Lectionary Readings *Alternatives are available	Jeremiah 18:1-11 Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 Philemon 1-21 Luke 14:25-33	Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28 Psalm 14 1 Timothy 1:12-17 Luke 15:1-10	Jeremiah 8:18 – 9:1 Psalm 79:1-9 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Luke 16:1-13	Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15 Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16 1 Timothy 6:6-19 Luke 16:19-31
Bishop's Waltham	Gilbert	Griffin HC	Kitching	Banks HF
Hambledon	Economides	Barber	French	Griffin HC
Shirrell Heath	Westerduin	Cole CC	T Banks HF	Milliken
				6pm Talk with C Chambers
Swanmore	Griffin HC	Elvy	Johns	LA HF (led by J Letts)
Waltham Chase	BF	Sheridan	Griffin HC	Bridge

Key: **AW** = Away Weekend. **BF** = Breakfast Church. **CA** = Church Anniversary.
CC = Café Church. **Cov** = Covenant Service. **CrL** = Carol Service. **CS** = Circuit Service.
HC = Holy Communion. **HF** = Harvest Festival. **LA** = Local Arrangement.
OW = Open Worship. **PS** = Prayer & Share. **TS** = Trial Service. **US** = United Service.

A Circuit Preacher unable to fulfil an appointment should find a fully accredited substitute and inform the Church and the Superintendent Minister as soon as possible.

October 2025

Connexional year 2025-2026	5 th	12 th	19 th	26 th
	10.30am	10.30am	10.30am	10.30am
	27 th Sunday Ordinary Time	28 th Sunday Ordinary Time	29 th Sunday Ordinary Time	30 th Sunday Ordinary Time
Lectionary Readings *Alternatives are available	Lamentations 1:1-6 Canticle: Lamentations 3:19-26 or Psalm 137 2 Timothy 1:1-14 Luke 17:5-10	Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7 Psalm 66:1-12 2 Timothy 2:8-15 Luke 17:11-19	Jeremiah 31:27-34 Psalm 119:97-104 2 Timothy 3:14 – 4:5 Luke 18:1-8	Joel 2:23-32 Psalm 65 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 Luke 18:9-14
Bishop's Waltham	Bailey	French	Griffin HC	Elvy
Hambledon	Rust	R Banks HC	Chambers	LA
Shirrell Heath	Griffin HC	Sheridan CC	Tizzard	Mitchell TEAR fund rep
Swanmore	Elvy	Griffin HC	LA (led by J Gray)	Jenkins
Waltham Chase	BF	Small	Kitching HC	Griffin

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November 2025

Connexional year 2025-2026	2 nd	9 th	16 th	23 rd	30 th
	10.30am	10.30am	10.30am	10.30am	10.30am
	31 st Sunday Ordinary Time	Remembrance Sunday	33 rd Sunday Ordinary Time	Sunday before Advent	1st Sunday of Advent
Lectionary Readings *Alternatives are available	Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 Psalm 119:137-144 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12 Luke 19:1-10	Haggai 1:15b – 2:9 Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21 or Psalm 98 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17 Luke 20:27-38	Isaiah 65:17-25 Canticle: Isaiah 12:1-6 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 Luke 21:5-19	Jeremiah 23:1-6 Psalm 46 or Canticle: Benedictus (Luke 1:68-79) Colossians 1:11-20 Luke 23:33-43	Isaiah 2: 1-5 Psalm 122 Romans 13: 11-14 Matthew 24: 36-44
Bishop's Waltham	Brown	Griffin	Kitching HC	Johns	Bailey HC
Hambledon	Griffin HC	Adejumo	Stupple	Jenkins	Tizzard
Shirrell Heath	White CC	T Banks	Griffin HC	Freemantle	French
Swanmore	Kitching	Chester	Elvy	French	Griffin HC
Waltham Chase	BF	Morgan	Holden	Griffin HC	OW
	4pm CS				

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December 2025

Connexional year 2025-2026	7 th	14 th	21 st	28 th
	10.30am	10.30am	10.30am	10.30am
	2nd Sunday of Advent	3rd Sunday of Advent	4th Sunday of Advent	1st Sunday of Christmas
Lectionary Readings *Alternatives are available	Isaiah 11:1-10 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 Romans 15:4-13 Matthew 3:1-12	Isaiah 35: 1-10 Psalm 146: 5-10 or Canticle: Magnificat (Luke 1:46b-55) James 5: 7-10 Matthew 11: 2-11	Isaiah 7: 10-16 Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19 Romans 1: 1-7 Matthew 1: 18-25	Isaiah 63: 7-9 Psalm 148 Hebrews 2: 10-18 Matthew 2: 13-23
Bishop's Waltham	Childs	Griffin Nativity	3pm Carols No morning service	Gilbert HC
Hambledon	Griffin HC	French	Chambers	T Banks
Shirrell Heath	Kitching	Cousins CC	Griffin HC	LA (Led by C & L Cheater)
		6pm Indoor Carols	5pm Outdoor Carols	
Swanmore	Boswell	Jenkins	Cole	Kitching HC
			6pm Candlelight CrL LA Elvy/Letts	
Waltham Chase	BF	R Banks HC	Chester 'Cake'tingle	LA
			6.30pm Carols by candlelight	

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Message from Revd. Phil Griffin

Dear Friends,

Another round of new beginnings awaits us as we enter this trimester's Preaching Plan: new school/school year; new Methodist year; Christmas once again, with the beginnings of the salvation story... There is much newness to be enjoyed and experienced. And, as has hopefully been communicated to you via your Circuit Meeting reps, my vision for the coming years for the Circuit is to see more new beginnings with looking for the Meon Valley to be a church-planting Circuit, bringing the gospel to 3 new centres over the next 5 years. But with all this newness, it is important that we also cherish what we already have. As Jesus' 'Great Commission' shows, evangelism and discipleship are two sides of the same coin: "Go and make disciples". We have to keep looking for the new without forgetting or forsaking the old. As we tread familiar paths at points in this Plan, let's not fall into the trap of thinking "I know these readings like the back of my hand; I can turn off and tune out". What we see in the Old Testament is that the Israelites were constantly living in the space between the past redemption of the Exodus and the future redemption of the Messiah. We can learn from that: living in the space between the first and second comings of Christ, deepening our relationship with God, and reaching out to offer that relationship to other people, too.

Let's approach every service, every song, every reading and every prayer this trimester with the excitement of people who know that God can always reveal something new, or comfort or challenge us with familiar old truths. Let us rejoice in 'the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob', Who is 'doing a new thing'.

Every blessing;

Phil

The Circuit online

Circuit web site : www.mvmc.org.uk

District web site: www.sdmc.org.uk

Circuit diary for events & activities: <https://tinyurl.com/2cedfnkd>

Circuit leadership meeting minutes: <https://tinyurl.com/rkbzpn88>

Important Calendar Dates

Church Council meetings:

Wednesday 15 th October	7pm	Waltham Chase Methodist Church
Monday 20 th October	7pm	Shirrell Heath Methodist Church
Sunday 26 th October	12pm	Swanmore Methodist Church
Sunday 2 nd November	1pm	Hambledon Methodist Church
Sunday 18 th January 2026	1pm	Bishops Waltham Methodist Church

Circuit Meeting:

Wednesday 8 th October	7pm	Waltham Chase Methodist Church
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Local Preachers meetings:

Wednesday 24 th September	7pm	Shirrell Heath Methodist Church
Wednesday 10 th December	7pm	Shirrell Heath Methodist Church

Special Services & Events

Events

Sun 28 th Sept	6pm	Shirrell Heath	A talk with Colin Chambers: my time as Nelson Mandela's Prison Chaplain
Sat 18 th Oct	10.30am	<i>Hambledon Village Hall</i>	An address with Revd. David Hull, on his Remember to Forget' tour

Harvest Festival

Fri 19 th Sept	7pm	Hambledon	Harvest Prayer & Praise
Sun 21 st Sept	10.30am	Shirrell Heath	Service Led by Tom Banks
Sun 28 th Sept	10.30am	Bishop's Waltham	Service Led by Tom Banks
Sun 28 th Sept	10.30am	Swanmore	Local Arrangement with Jill Letts

Circuit Celebration Service

Sun 2 nd Nov	4pm	Waltham Chase	Tom Banks to preach
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Advent

Sun 14 th Dec	10.30am	Bishop's Waltham	Nativity Service: Revd. Phil Griffin
	6pm	Shirrell Heath	Indoor Carol Service
Weds 17 th Dec	7pm	Bishop's Waltham	Carols around the Christmas Tree
Fri 19 th Dec	7pm	Hambledon	Christmas Prayer & Praise with Revd. Phil Griffin
Sunday 21 st Dec	10.30am	Waltham Chase	'Cake'tingle with Mark Chester
	3pm	Bishop's Waltham	Carol Service
	5pm	Shirrell Heath	Outdoor Carol Service
	6pm	Swanmore	Candlelight Service
	6.30pm	Waltham Chase	Carol Service
Mon 22 nd Dec	4pm	Shirrell Heath	'Blue' Christmas with Revd. P Griffin
Weds 24 th Dec	11.30pm	Swanmore	Midnight Communion: Revd. P Griffin

Christmas Day

Thursday 25th December 	10.30am	Bishop's Waltham	Local Arrangement
	10am	Hambledon	Speaker TBC
	10.30am	Shirrell Heath	LA led by Bible Class & Junior Church
	9.45am	Swanmore	Local Arrangement: Elvy/Letts
	10.30am	Waltham Chase	Service with Revd. Phil Griffin