

## A Thought for the Day

When John and I first got to know each other in our late teens we were struck by the parallels in our lives. Both brought up in the Methodist Church and Sunday Schools, we both were drawn to the Crusader Movement in our early teens which gave us a great love for the Bible and the Christian way of life. However after marrying we moved around the country to continue our training in various hospital posts but always attended a Methodist Church; when we settled in Fordingbridge we became part of Sandleheath Methodist Church, enjoying nearly 20 years of Christian Fellowship there, and maintaining close friendships to this day.

As we became more involved in the life of the village here in Alderholt, we felt drawn to worship in our own village and community and guided to become part of St James . However I still receive and read “the connexion”, a quarterly magazine containing inspiring stories from the life of the Methodist Church. It is in this that I have learnt that Methodists are being challenged to adopt new commitments that echo the teaching of Methodism’s founder John Wesley- not a detailed list of beliefs but rather how we should seek to live our lives in response to all that God’s love can and should mean to us. I felt I would like to share these in a Thought for the Day.

## A METHODIST WAY OF LIFE

With God’s help we commit to this way of life:

### **Worship**

- We will pray daily.
- We will worship with others regularly.
- We will look and listen for God in Scripture and in the world.

### **Learning and Caring**

- We will care for ourselves and those around us.
- We will practise hospitality and generosity.
- We will learn more about our faith.

### **Service**

- We will help and serve people in our communities and beyond.
- We will honour creation and tend the environment.
- We will challenge injustice.

### **Evangelism**

- We will speak of the love of God in Jesus.
- We will live in such a way that others might be drawn to Jesus.
- We will share our faith with others sensitively.