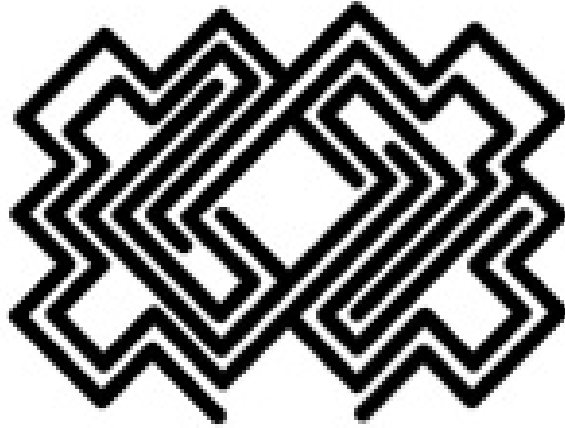


THE GREAT NORTH PRAYER LABYRINTH



At Brunswick 14th – 18th June.

Tuesday 14th June: 10.30am – 9.00pm

Wednesday 15th June: 10.30am – 4.00pm

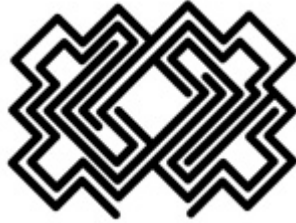
Thursday 16th June: 10.30am – 4.00pm

Friday 17th June: 10.30am – 4.00pm

Saturday 18th June: 10.00am – 2.00pm

The Labyrinth is an ancient path set out in the Church. It's like a maze but there's only one path – so you can't get lost! And you can go at your own pace. So come and try this ancient path and see where it leads you today.

THE GREAT NORTH PRAYER LABYRINTH



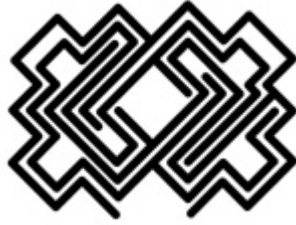
WELCOME!

You are invited to take a prayer walk using this ancient path.

HOW TO USE IT:

- Spend as much time as you like on the path.
- Do not feel pressured to move on. Let others pass you by as you take time to relax and pray.
- Stop at the stations to reflect on your journey and the journey of the Church.
- Use the suggested activities if you wish to.
- You may simply wish to walk the Labyrinth using a prayer mantra. For example, repeating the words: 'Lord Jesus, bring me your peace.'

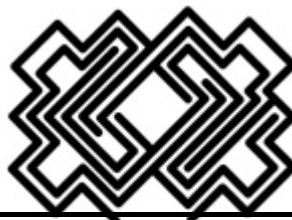
THE GREAT NORTH PRAYER LABYRINTH



Please remain **SILENT** in the Labyrinth so as not to disturb others.

THANK YOU!

There will be a steward available all day if you would like to talk about your labyrinth experience or if you would like somebody to pray with you. Please ask.



WHO AM I?

Where have I come from? ... Why am I here?
Where am I going? ... Who am I?

Whatever your start in life, God is your real creator.

- “Know that the Lord is God. He made us and we belong to him.” – psalm 100:3
 - “You made my whole being; your formed me in my mother’s body. I praise you because you made me in an amazing and wonderful way. What you have done is wonderful!” – Psalm 139:13
-

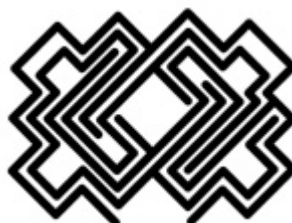
Things to do:

- **Look at the X-Rays!** Our bodies are amazing! Incredibly created! Just how amazing is the creator?!
- **Look in the mirrors:** You are unique in God’s eyes. You are God’s child, beautiful in his eyes.
- **Press your thumb into the slab of clay.** Look at your unique print – there is no other like it. **Leave your mark** remembering that God created you and loves you.

‘O Lord, You are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.’ Isaiah 64:8

- Take a copy of the

booklet: Who am I?



GOD'S LOVE

The Universe is so amazing, so vast, beyond our human comprehension. Compared to its vastness, we are so small and yet we are uniquely created, each individual so important to God. EACH PERSON, is loved by God far more than we can imagine!

Things to do:

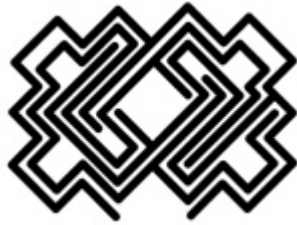
- Watch the 'Powers of Ten' presentation. And wonder!
- Read the Father's Letter: It is written for you!

'The Father has loved us so much that we are called children of God. And we really are his children.' - 1 John 3:1-2

This is how God showed his love to us: he sent his one and only Son into the world so that we could have life through him. This is what real love is: it is not our love for God; it is God's love for us in sending his Son to be the way to take away our sins.

1 John 4:9-10

3 A Priority of the Methodist Church: **'To proclaim its conviction of God's love in Christ, for us and for all the world..'**



GOD CENTRED WORSHIP

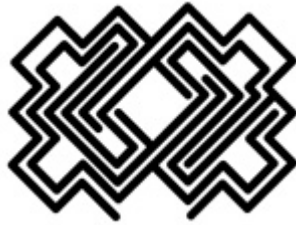
The created world is stunningly beautiful, full of intricate details. What aspects of creation inspire awe in you? Lakes? Mountains? Flowers? Forests? A beautiful beach? Sunset or sunrise?

Many hymns, songs and prayers have been written in response to the wonders of creation:

Things to do:

- Read some of the prayers and hymns.
- Listen to the music.
- Observe the delicate intricacy and beauty of the flowers.
- Write words of praise or thanksgiving on the leaves and add them to the TREE OF PRAISE!
- Sit and rest a while, wonder at the created order, and give thanks to God.

As part of the Priority of the Methodist Church, we are called to: **‘Underpin everything we do in God-centred worship and prayer.’**



CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

We have just spent time in wonder at the amazing world that God has created – at all that is beautiful. Yet we have spoilt creation in so many ways through greed, self-interest, through thoughtlessness or apathy.

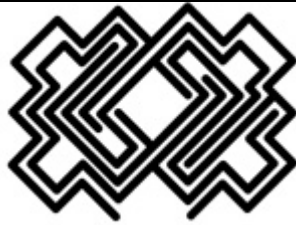
Human beings are beautifully made in God's image and yet as individuals we are sinful.

Our churches should be symbols of God's Kingdom and yet they also fall short...

Things to do:

- Look at the images.
- Spend some time reflecting on the sinfulness of our world and our lives. How must that make God feel?
- Remember that through Jesus, God offers us forgiveness!
- **Wash your hands:** Ask God to take away the stain and the burden of your sins – of all those things that you feel badly about and wish to put right. Know that you are forgiven.
- Or write down your prayer of confession – or list the things for which you seek God's forgiveness. When you have finished place your paper through the shredder! Watch them disappear and be reminded that God removes our sins and cleanses us.

As part of the Priority of the Methodist Church, we are called to: **'Underpin everything we do in God-centred worship and prayer.'**



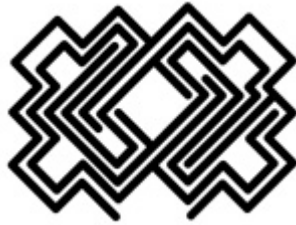
ACTION FOR JUSTICE

So how do we respond to the gift of forgiveness, the gift of God's love; to Jesus' teaching about a kingdom of justice and mercy? What can we do in response to the state of the world at present?

Things to do:

- Look at the images.
- Support the 'Make Poverty History' Campaign: Sign a postcard and place it in the post box. We will post it for you.
- Break off a link of chain. Take it away with you as a reminder that we are called to break down the chains of injustice and oppression in the world and in our communities.

As part of the Priority of the Methodist Church, we are called to: **'support action for justice'** and **'renew confidence in God's presence and action in the world...'**



GOD'S PRESENCE

We are not asked to put the world to rights by our own strength.

Take some time to sit and be still in God's presence.

Know that he loves you.

Know that he is with you at all times.

Listen to what he is asking you to do.

Rest and be refreshed in his presence.

-
- Look at the images of Jesus and the Holy Spirit.
 - You may like to write a personal prayer. Roll the paper and place it on the cross. It will not be read by others.

As part of the Priority of the Methodist Church, we are called to: **'renew confidence in God's presence..'** and **'underpin everything we do with God-centred worship and prayer.'**



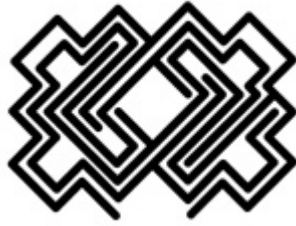
SUPPORTING COMMUNITY

Jesus sends us out to be his light in the world.
How do we reflect his light and love in our communities?

Things to do:

- Look at the pictures and map of the North-East.
- Think of all the places and people in your local community which need our prayers. Schools, hospitals, Police, Fire Brigade, Volunteer groups, community centres etc.
- Write the name of your town, local school, hospital, place of work etc. on the community web sheet. These places will be held in prayer throughout the week.

As part of the Priority of the Methodist Church, we are called to: **‘Support community development and action for justice, especially among the most deprived poor – in Britain and worldwide.’**



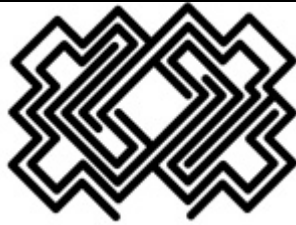
CONFIDENCE TO SPEAK OF GOD

God is present and active in our lives; through the gift of his Holy Spirit he guides and upholds us, loves us and offers us his peace. How do we communicate the gift of this amazing relationship in our workplace; in our communities; amongst friends and family; and in our churches?

Things to do:

- Think about the people who have been significant in your faith journey. Give thanks for them. You may like to add their name/s on the board.
- Ask God to help you have the courage to share his good news with others. Ask for the words you need.
- Think of a person who you would like to tell about Jesus. Write their name on a stone and place it on the cairn. Pray that they might come to know him. Others will pray for them too.

As part of the Priority of the Methodist Church, we are called to: **‘Develop confidence in evangelism and in the capacity to speak of God and faith in ways that make sense to all involved.’**



GOD'S ACTION IN THE WORLD

Have confidence that God is active in the world today!

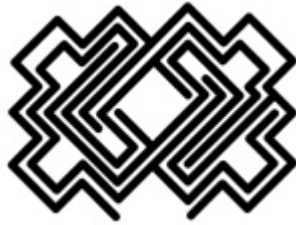
The Church is growing rapidly in many areas of the world such as in Cuba where thousands of young people are coming to know Jesus.

Things are happening here too!

Things to do:

- Look at the world map. Place a coloured dot on the map for a place you wish to hold in prayer.
- Plant a mustard seed! Pray for continued spiritual growth in your life and in that of churches.
- Give thanks for all that is happening!

As part of the Priority of the Methodist Church, we are called to: **'renew confidence in God's presence and action in the world and in the church.'**



FRESH EXPRESSIONS OF CHURCH

Where do we go from here? Which direction are we going in?

- Spend time looking at the books about a Mission Shaped Church.
- Look at the leaflet about 'Fresh Expressions' of Church.
- Read about 'Dimension' and 'Mind the Gap' – local Fresh Expressions of Church.
- Think about your hopes and dreams. Write them down and post them in the box. Your ideas may inspire others.

As part of the Priority of the Methodist Church, we are called to: **'Encourage fresh ways of being church...'** and **'nurture a culture in the church which is people centred and flexible.'**