

Encounter: a meeting place

Encounter is a monthly gathering in the hall of Chepstow Methodist Church, organised by a group of Christian people.

We hope that it will also be:

1. a community
2. a place that prioritises individuals and their relationships with god and each other, rather than ideas or ways of doing things
3. down-to-earth, informal and hospitable
4. non-judgmental and tolerant
5. a space to think and talk about things that really matter
6. light-hearted and interactive
7. open to change and to new ideas from all its members
8. a safe place in which to worship and / or voice doubts and questions
9. somewhere you will be challenged – but also accepted
10. inclusive....
11. ...with a particular aim to meet the needs of those who:
 - want to be part of an accepting community
 - find existing forms of church worship do not meet their spiritual needs
 - want to explore what 'church' is – without being expected to sign up to any particular set of beliefs.

We would like to welcome those currently under-represented in our churches, though we will be careful not to assume we know how to do that unless those people become part of the community and join us in developing it.

Encounter is held on the first Thursday of every month, except January. The doors open at 7.15pm and we finish by 9pm. For a location map, click [here](#)

It features a cafe, as well as plenty of time to socialise, discuss, reflect / pray / meditate. There will often be input from the front such as a film clip, reflection, story etc. There might be live or recorded music and multi-sensory worship (tastes, smells, getting your hands dirty!) for those who want to join in.

We hope our monthly meetings will encourage:

- deeper community (within and beyond the meetings)
- confidence in our relationships with God and each other
- us to live in the best way we can!

Once at Christmas, Easter and in the summer our monthly meeting joins a larger worship event in the church.

More information about that can be found on [this website](#), at the email address below or at Encounter.

If you have questions or would like to know more, please contact encounter.chepstow@yahoo.co.uk