

Wonford Methodist Church

Contact Newsletter

August/September 2011

(No: 401)



Minister: Rev Mark J Gilborson (01392 256716)



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Fairtrade church

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A Message From The Minister

Summer is truly upon us, the holiday season in sight and the sun due to shine for a long and glorious summer, well isn't that is what is supposed to happen? It is interesting that sunbathing was once considered to be highly beneficial, now we must be careful yet the power in the sun has its benefits still.

A recent church council made a decision to seek the various permissions to install solar panels on the south face elevation of our church hall. The investigations into the Solar Panels have proven to be very interesting. Our initial concerns related to cost, maintenance, security and environmental benefit. We have been pleasantly surprised that to each of the questions concerning this, the answers have all been encouraging.

The solar panels are maintenance free and guaranteed for 25 years, in reality they work at great efficiency (97%) for 40 years. Although they might propose an attractive target for a thief the fittings would make this very difficult and a roof is a very public place!

Environmentally they might save 2 tonnes of carbon going into the atmosphere every year and will provide electricity for our neighbouring homes and possibly even LIDLs! They will also be a public statement to the surrounding area of something that we are doing to value God's world.

The final point relates to providing for the future. The initial outlay will be in the region of £14k and would generate something in the region of £1.7k per year, this would recoup our outlay in less than 9 years. This would give us an income of £1.7k for an additional 13 years at least and likely 32+ years, providing us with an income for the church for years to come. The money could be used to support church based initiatives like the recent 'Well cafe' and many others. Finally we already have the funds for this from the occasion when we raised money for the new church.

So, if all goes to plan and the permissions are granted, work should start early autumn, if recent years are anything to go by that is usually when British summers starts anyway!

Yours, in Christ

Mark Gilborson

Dates For August/September

Birthdays - have a great birthday!!

August

3rd Ruth B
8th Chinnah T & Ella O
13th David W
14th Rob F
18th Jenna L
23rd Adrian W & Sam B



September

2nd Jenny T
4th Joan W
5th John T
8th Tracey S
10th Kira G
12th 'JJ' L, Judith M, Rhianne M & Tom M
13th Michael M
14th Emma T
15th Amy T
16th Joseph W
18th Ellie F
20th Tony W
30th Sean L

Flowers

August

7th Alison
14th Bronwen & Clifford
21st Beryl
28th Barbara Jackson

September

4th Vanessa
11th Ada
18th Bronwen & Clifford
25th See noticeboard

Coffee

August

7th Alison & Helen
14th Lilian & Friend
21st Sue Gosney
28th Prouses

September

4th Margaret E & Jenny H
11th Pippa's Group
18th Rose & Paul Smith
25th Emma & Nikki

Thursday Dates

August

4th 7.30 p.m. Church Prayer meeting in the lounge

September

1st 7.30 p.m. Church Prayer meeting in the lounge

15th 2.00 p.m. Bible Study on Romans 8 v1-17 called
'The spirit bring life' led by Rev Mark Gilborson.

Home Group Dates

August No meetings planned for this month

September

6th 8.00 p.m. Venue to be decided

20th 8.00 p.m. Venue to be decided

If you need any further information please contact Sharon Gilborson.

Wonford Worms

Wonford Worms are due to meet on the 8th September at 7.30pm - venue to be decided. If you are interested in joining the book group please see Sharon Gilborson on number 01392 671289.

Girls' Brigade News

Congratulations to Rosie Noronha, India Gilborson and Pam Heagarty who became Girls' Brigade officers at the recent open evening. Although Rosie and India will be moving away in the autumn, we know that their talents, skills and G.B. knowledge will be of use in the future. May they be a blessing to others as they have to the Company here in Wonford.

£121.88p was raised on the 4th July, with a further £21 raised by the brigaders for the Devon Air Ambulance. Rosie and I will be taking six girls to camp again in August.

Thank you to all the other officers, Sharon, Anna C. Alison D. and Elaine, and to church members who have during the past year supported us in our badgework activities by making a 'guest appearance' to lead a session.

Thank you for all your continued prayer and support, especially to the parents and families of the girls who come throughout the year.

Anna Williams

Congratulations to Anna who has become District Commissioner for the South Devon District of the Girls' Brigade, having been elected by the officers of the six companies in the district, and described in a nomination letter as 'a breath of fresh air'. Well done Anna!

The Wonford G.B. team

Special Collections Gift Aid Envelopes.

As mentioned in a previous edition of Contact, special collection envelopes are now being forwarded to the appropriate charities so that they can claim the gift aid. If any charity writes to you to request that any donations made by you be backdated for four years, this will not be possible, as we have already claimed for previous years, and the total amounts have been refunded it to the charities. We have only recently started the new arrangement. and so it will apply from this tax year 2011/2012 onwards. If you are unsure about this, or require any further information, please see Linda Clarke.

Barbara Irish

A Message from Dr Mark Forbes *(following the 400th Edition of Contact)*

Congratulations on the milestone. I write to you from San Diego, California where I am currently attending a Diabetes conference. Glad to hear that people are well.

You may be aware that Melanie has recently been elected into the Eldership of our church in Australia, a position which comes along with much responsibility and not insignificant time commitment.

Our church is about to embark on a major building project - these projects seem to follow us around the world! This time it is to build a 1000 seat gathering place! We have just completed a major fundraising period of prayer and study in which we have again be reminded of how much God blesses us in so many ways. The church has managed to raise considerably more than was budgeted.

Please pass on our thoughts and prayers to all our dear friends at Wonford. May God's grace continue to bless you all.

Mark

An Opportunity to Fast and Pray

The Prayer Team (and Church Council) presents a special opportunity to pray for the new 'Exeter, Coast and Country Circuit'. As a church, we become part of this new Circuit on 1st September 2011!

We suggest a period of fasting from 7pm on 30th August to 7pm on 31st August. Some may wish to fast from food after supper on the 30th, others may wish to consider an alternative fast, e.g. from television in that 24hour period.

The fast will conclude with a short prayer event and supper at church from 6pm on 31st August.

Further information/publicity will be available in August.

Please consider being part of this event at such a special moment in the history of the Methodist Churches in our area.

Prayer Focus for August

Build Your church, Lord.

Make us strong, Lord.

Join our hearts, Lord, through Your Son.

(Dave Richards S of F 111)

Week beginning Sunday 7th

Please pray this week for our health workers; our local doctors and pharmacy staff, community nurses and midwives, those in our own fellowship who work in the RD&E.

Thank God that in times of need help is close at hand, and very caring it is too.

Week beginning Sunday 14th

Please pray for God to protect one of our church families as they travel to India this month, calling in on our charity partners, 'El Shaddai', in Goa. Pray for those who benefit from 'El Shaddai' and those who work for this charity.

Week beginning Sunday 21st

Please pray that God will continue to protect our Church buildings and property and all those who use it.

Thank God for the peaceful, special place that our church is.

Week beginning Sunday 28th

Please pray for our Ministers and Lay Preachers as they prepare to become part of a wider ministry team with a greater variety of Churches in the 'Exeter, Coast & Country Circuit'.

Pray also that God will bless our period of Prayer & Fasting before the change-over.

Prayer Focus for September

***"Stand up and praise the Lord your God,
who is from everlasting to everlasting."***

(Nehemiah 9:5 NIV)

Week beginning Sunday 4th

Please pray that Leaders and helpers restarting their various groups, as young people return to school, colleges and universities, will be encouraged by new visions and increasing numbers of people, both young and old.

Week beginning Sunday 11th

Please pray for young people who will be leading evening service today. Pray also that God will bring new families into our church through their enjoyment of 'Messy Church' next Sunday.

Thank and praise God for the freshness that the young bring to our fellowship.

Week beginning Sunday 18th - Messy Church

Please pray for those in our church family who, having left full-time education over the summer, are moving into their first jobs. Pray also for those unable to find work, that they will keep looking and not lose heart.

Week beginning Sunday 25th

Please pray for ourselves as the family of God, that the Holy Spirit will continue to bring freshness in our worship, depth to our spiritual lives and healing for all in need, physically and spiritually.

Thank God that His love is from everlasting to everlasting and that the love that passes all understanding is above us, below us, all the way round us - no favourites, all included.

Phone Prayer Link

Should you, or those you know, wish to be supported in prayer, the first contact is Beryl Violet (01392) 270132. Your request will be passed to members of the Prayer Link who will pray for your need.

After Church Prayer Support

This is available in the Quiet Room on Sunday mornings. Two members of the Prayer Team will be available to pray with you.

Should you wish to join our Prayer Phone Link or After Church Prayer Support, please contact any member of the Prayer Team. Further details are displayed in the Quiet Room.

The Prayer Team

News from the Methodist Church

New Methodist President and Vice-President designate elected

The Revd Dr Mark Wakelin has been elected president designate of the Methodist Conference for 2012-2013 and Mr Michael King has been elected vice-president designate. The results of the elections were announced at the annual Methodist Conference in Southport.

Dr Wakelin is described by his nominators as "an inspirational and energetic speaker who speaks directly to people in ways which they can apply to their own lives and the Church." He brings to the role of president a wide experience of circuit ministry, chaplaincy, youth work and strategic leadership. He was formerly the national secretary of the Methodist Association of Youth Clubs and is currently connexional secretary for internal relationships for the Methodist Church in Britain. He lives in Oakwood with his wife Judith and has three children and three grandchildren.

Michael King is a Methodist local preacher, church steward and former circuit steward in the Enfield Methodist Circuit. He has been leader of the Church's world church relationships team for 11 years, and is chair of the European Commission on Mission. Prior to 2000 he spent most of his working life teaching in Sierra Leone and UK comprehensive schools.

Dr Wakelin and Mr King, who both live in the Enfield Circuit, will be inducted as president and vice-president as the first items of business at the 2012 Methodist Conference in Plymouth.



**Messy
Church!**

A fun place for families finding faith

creative

At

fun

Wonford Methodist

Church

family

Opposite Lidl

chat

sharing

On

food

**18th September
2011**

4 o'clock until 6 o'clock

Please come all are welcome!

No unaccompanied children please

Tel 01392 256716

Margaret, John and Val invite you to a



Barbecue



Home Farm, Poltimore
(EX4 0AY)

Saturday 13th August 2011

From 5.00pm

Tickets £5

(Available from Margaret (01392 461050) or
Val (01392 461201))

Ticket price includes food and tea/coffee



Proceeds from this event go to support
Francisco Rojas School in Peru. Maria from the
school will have her school stall.

Dates For Your Diary

August 2011

Thurs 4th	7.30 p.m.	Monthly Prayer meeting in the lounge **
Sun 7th	10.00 a.m.	Andy Richardson - All Age Worship
	4.00 p.m.	Guided walks in Silverton. Tea at 5pm Ring 01392 860483 if you want to join
	6.30 p.m.	Rev Andrew Brazier - United Summer Service at Silverton MC
Sat 13th	5.00 p.m.	Barbecue at Home Farm, Poltimore **
Sun 14th	10.00 a.m.	Rev David Keep
	6.30 p.m.	Rev Andrew Sails - United Summer Service at The Mint MC.
Wed 17th	2.00 p.m.	'Well Cafe' in the lounge until 4pm
Sun 21st	10.00 a.m.	Rev Mark Gilborson
	6.30 p.m.	Rev Mark Gilborson - United Summer Service at Wonford MC.
Sun 28th	10.00 a.m.	Rev Mark Davies - Sacramento
	6.30 p.m.	Final Exeter Circuit Service - Rev David Easton and Rev Ann Varker at Crediton MC

30th - 31st. 24 Hours of Prayer & Fasting for the new Exeter, Coast & Country (ECC) Circuit **

September 2011

Thurs 1st	7.30 p.m.	Monthly Prayer meeting in the lounge **
Sat 3rd	8.00 a.m.	E-100 Public reading of the best 100 Bible Stories outside of the Cathedral - until 8pm
Sun 4th	10.00 a.m.	Tony Wragg - All Age Worship
	6.30 p.m.	Circuit welcome service for Rev Elizabeth McDowell - Tower St MC Exmouth
Mon 5th	7.30 p.m.	ECC Circuit meeting - Sidwell St MC
Tues 6th	8.00 p.m.	Home Group meets **
Thurs 8th	8.00 p.m.	Wonford Worms meet **
Sat 10th	10.00 a.m.	District Synod at Shebbear
Sun 11th	10.00 a.m.	Morning Worship - preacher to be announced
	6.30 p.m.	Our Young People lead Prayer & Praise
Tues 13th	7.30 p.m.	Local preacher meeting
Thurs 15th	2.00 p.m.	Bible Study led by Rev Mark Gilborson **
Sun 18th	10.00 a.m.	Rev Mark Gilborson - Sacramento
	4.00 p.m.	Messy Church **
Tues 20th	8.00 p.m.	Home Group meets **
Wed 21st	2.00 p.m.	'Well Cafe' in the lounge until 4pm
Fri 23rd	7.30 p.m.	ECC Circuit Celebration at Sidwell St MC with President of the Conference - Rev Leo Osborn
Sun 25th	10.00 a.m.	Morning Worship - preacher to be announced
	6.30 p.m.	Rev Mark Gilborson - Sacramento

Weekly Activities

Sunday

- 10.00 a.m. Morning Service and Young Church
(1st Sunday in each month is All-Age Worship)
6.30 p.m. Evening Service
(2nd Sunday in each month is Prayer & Praise)

Monday

- 2.45 p.m. Monday House Fellowship (68 Hoker Road)
(See Beryl Violet for details)
5.45 p.m. and 7.00 p.m. Girls' Brigade *A*

Tuesday

- 10.00 a.m. Men's Coffee and Games Morning
9.15 a.m. Weekly Prayers in the Quiet Room
8.00 p.m. Home Group
(See inside for more details)

Wednesday

- 7.00 p.m. Junior Youth Club (7 - 11 Year Old) *A*
8.15 p.m. Senior Youth Club (11+ Year Old) *A*

Thursday

- 7.30 p.m.
(1st Thursday in each month is a Prayer Meeting, the
3rd is a Bible Study at 2.00 p.m.)
(See inside for details as this does change).

Friday

- 9.30 a.m. Friday Toddlers Group *A*
2.00 p.m. Friday Fellowship - see Sheila Bricknell for details

To be sure these take place see Dates to Note or the Notice Board
(*A* = No meeting during school holiday)

The deadline for items for the October 2011 Newsletter will be Sunday 11th September 2011. There is no guarantee of inclusion, but they may be given to:

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Tel: 01935 826072 or e-mailed to andrew.m.jackson@me.com