

# Wonford Methodist Church

## Contact Newsletter

February 2011

(No: 395)



Minister: Rev Mark J Gilborson (01392 256716)



Wonford is a  
Fairtrade church

[www.wonfordmethodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.wonfordmethodistchurch.org.uk)

The **Methodist Church** 

**biblefresh**

It could change your world

# A Message From The Minister

As you are aware 2011 is the year of the Bible. The Methodist church have decided that this will start a five year process of encouraging people to enhance their discipleship, this process is called 'Going Deeper'.

If you are interesting in getting to grips with the Bible and want to deepen your relationship with God and are willing to really work at it then please come to Wonford on 16th February at 7.30 for one hour!

Why?

Well...



On Saturday the 27th November 2010, twenty people gathered together in Exeter, from around the District to be trained in leading the 'Disciple Course'; we started at 8.45am and left at 5.15pm; it was an intense and tiring day with much to take in. It was also a brilliant day where we heard just how this course can deepen our relationship with God through a deeper understanding of the Bible.

For me the best part of the day was sampling a two and a half hour Disciple session; there was a short but excellent video presentation and some reflection on what we had read during the week before (there are daily readings set for each day of the week). There are then questions to consider and much opportunity to reflect and ask 'what is God saying to us?'

In Exeter we are hoping to run at least one course and possibly two. David Easton, Janet Lee, Ken Kite and myself all went on the training day and all came away enthused about the possibility that this presents.

So Wednesday the 16th February is your chance to find out more; it will be an opportunity to meet, consider, ask questions and find out more about this life changing course. So if you want to:

- Be better informed about the contents of the Bible
- Grow into a deeper spiritually

Please come along, we are hoping that many of you will join us on this journey of deepening our discipleship together.

**Yours, in Christ**

**Mark Gilborson**

# Dates For February

## Birthdays - have a great birthday!!

1st	Carol S
6th	Matthew M
13th	Geoff B
17th	Chimmy T
19th	Emma F
21st	Karen L
25th	Bill N
27th	Simon T & David L



## Flowers

6th	Pat Lowans
13th	TBA
20th	Beryl
27th	Sharon Tamlin



## Coffee

6th	Rose & Paul
13th	Emma & Nikki
20th	Alison & Jenny
27th	Eileen & Melanie



## Thursday Dates

3rd	7.30 p.m.	Church Prayer meeting in the lounge
17th	2.00 p.m.	Bible Study (at 2.00 p.m.) on Romans 4 called 'The Example of Abraham' led by Rev Mark Gilborson.

## Home Group Dates

We have started to discover 'The Divine Blueprint - God's Extraordinary Power in Ordinary Lives' Please come and join us in learning more of our faith as we discover God's extraordinary power.

All are welcome

- 9th 8.00 p.m. At Melanie & David's - 14 Grainger Close  
'The Divine Blueprint - God's Extraordinary Power in Ordinary Lives' led by Bill Noronha
- 1st March 8.00 p.m. At Sharon & Mark's - 20 Whipton Lane  
'The Divine Blueprint - God's Extraordinary Power in Ordinary Lives' led by Maggie Harman.

If you need any further information please contact Sharon Gilborson.

## Wonford Worms

Wonford Worms are due to meet on February 24th at 7.30 to discuss 'Burnt Shadows' by Kamila Shamsie. If you are interested in joining the book group please see Sharon Gilborson on number 01392 671289.



## Action for Children

A big thank you for the Christmas day offering for Action for Children which raised £313.33.

This year's Annual General Meeting for the Exeter Circuit Action for Children support group is to be held on Sunday 20th March at 5.30 p.m. at Sidwell Street and will be followed by a Circuit evening service which will focus on the work of Action for Children. Further details next month...



**Barbara Irish.**

## Christmas Card Tree 2010

A very big thank you for all those who supported The Christmas Card Tree, a total of £94.00 was raised for The Women's Network of The Methodist Church. Over the next two years they are running a project focusing on Dementia, within Methodist Homes for The Aged.

For further information on this project or the work of Women in The Methodist Church please see Beryl Violet.

## Church Notices for Sunday - A Reminder

Please send all notices to David Westcott ([djandmwestcott@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:djandmwestcott@tiscali.co.uk)) by Thursday at the latest for inclusion on Sunday mornings to avoid large quantities of last minute notices. If you have a notice on the Sunday morning, this might be announced, but it is at the discretion of the Steward on duty and should be related to church life.

## The Penny Pot Again

The latest counting of the Penny Pot just before Christmas realised a total of £39.58 thanks to a late boost from John and Beth who brought in a jar-full. The automatic counter at the bank registered:

492 x 1p    293 x 2p    200 x 5p    12 x 10p    13 x 20p  
8 x 50p    9 x £1    1 x £2    plus a guitar plectrum, two paper clips and  
a rubber band (thanks for the extras, John!!).

This was rounded up to £40 and has been sent to the Bible Society as usual. Please remember to collect your small change and pop it in the Pot. The need remains great and value of our gifts is massive in supporting the world church.

**Tony**

## Fairtrade Fortnight

Fairtrade fortnight launches on Sunday 27th February and concludes on Sunday 13th March.

Traidcraft are encouraging us to focus on honey and honey producers around the world.

The Fairtrade Foundation are encouraging us to 'SHOW OFF' the Fairtrade products that we use.

Our after church refreshment times will include activities and opportunities for sampling Fairtrade products during this time.

Various church groups will be creating bunting to decorate the hall for the fortnight too, so it promises to be an exciting time.

Thank you!

**Monika Noronha**



## Exeter Male Voice Choir Concert at Exminster

We invite you to a Concert at Exminster Methodist Church on Wednesday 23rd February at 7.30pm given by Exeter Male Voice Choir. They have drawn large audiences on their previous visits and we invite you to come along for what promises to be a very enjoyable and entertaining evening. Tickets are £4.00 (including light refreshments). Money raised will be put towards refurbishing the church hall kitchen. Tickets from



Jenny on 01392 824231 or [exminstermethodists@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:exminstermethodists@yahoo.co.uk).



**Messy  
Church!**

*A fun place for families finding faith.*

**creative**

At

**fun**

Wonford Methodist

Church

**family**

Opposite Lidl

**chat**

**sharing**

On

**food**

**27th February 2011**

4 o'clock until 6 o'clock

Please come all are welcome!

No unaccompanied children please

Tel 01392 256716

## The Youth Club – a step back in time

It was really good to read Chris's contribution about Youth Club in the December/January issue of Contact, and to read how the work is going on well. Chris commented that the Club had existed for over 20 years. In fact I can reveal that it has just passed its 40th birthday. I have an entry in my logbook for November 3rd 1970 stating "Joan and I started a Youth Club at Wonford Methodist Chapel to run alternate Tuesdays from today". That was a few months after we had joined Wonford; The Club has run more or less continuously ever since. For a while in the late seventies or early eighties we ran it weekly as Saturday Club. Several people are worth a mention in terms of their work with the Club. Sheila Daniels, who lived in Dryden Road and is now in Starcross, was a great strength to us. Mr and Mrs Weate, long departed this life, did noble stints of baby sitting for us as we kept the Club going whilst coping with our growing family. Our friends Derek and Penny Burnside, from Belmont Chapel, helped while a student at Uni in Exeter. Gary and Karen took a turn at leading in the eighties and Keith Turner, Paul Violet, Alison Howell, Elaine Prowse and Louise Lefebre should also be mentioned for their various excellent contributions in maintaining the continuity.

Let's continue to pray for the current team and give them all the support we can. It is a vital and strategic work and gives great credibility to the reputation and respect of our church in the local community.

**Tony Wragg**

## HELP!!!!



Have you ever felt abandoned, lonely or sad?? If so, owners please make us glad. We're left hanging around, it is such a shame. We want to be helpful and keep off the rain.



From the row of umbrellas and pairs of gloves left in the Church. If you have lost an umbrella or pair of gloves they may be at the back of the Church.

**Bronwen.**

## Weight Gain Over Christmas??

Have you put on weight over Christmas and the New Year? Need some exercise but too cold or damp outdoors? Then put down your name to help with the cleaning of the premises. Walk briskly to and fro with the vacuum cleaner, bend and stretch to dust and if you are really keen you can



clean windows and move tables and chairs.

If you read the list of duties when the last appeal was made and felt that you couldn't help at that time please think again and have a word with one of the stewards or Bronwen. If you cannot help on a regular basis but could be called on in an emergency that would be most helpful.

There are lots of things we can all do e.g. put Bibles and hymn books back tidily, pick up litter and place in the correct bin, carry your tea/coffee cup (and those of our older members) back to the trolley/table it was served from or even into the kitchen.

**Bronwen**

## **Prayer Focus for February**

*My grace is sufficient for you,  
for My power is made perfect in weakness.*

*2 Corinthians 12:9*

### **Week beginning Sunday 6th**

Please pray for God to continue to bless and increase our church life: children and young people; elderly and fellowship; social, prayer and pastoral groups.

Thank God for His Holy Spirit moving among us.

### **Week beginning Sunday 13th**

Our Church Council meets on Tuesday evening. Please pray that God will guide all decisions and will bless our efforts.

Thank God for His gifting to those involved in practical matters.

### **Week beginning Sunday 20th**

Please pray for the safety of our young children as they enjoy their Half Term break. Pray also that 'Messy Church' next Sunday will be well attended and all will feel touched by God's presence.

### **Week beginning Sunday 27th**

Please pray for our minister, Mark, as he works in the different areas that God has opened to him in our Church, City and District.

***We would love to have your suggestions to include in the Prayer Focus. These may be placed in the Prayer Box in the Hall or given to Michael and Judith (or phone us on 214789) by the first week of the month.***

## **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**

## **Haiti: One Year On**

It is one year since a 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti, causing unprecedented amounts of destruction, leaving some 230,000 people dead and over a million homeless.

The Methodist Church in Britain and the Methodist Relief and Development Fund launched relief appeals which have raised more than £900,000. So far, almost £400,000 has been spent on Methodist Church in Haiti projects with further funds channelled through MRDF's emergency partner in the country.

The Revd Tom Quenet, partnership coordinator for the Americas and the Caribbean, said, "Recovery in Haiti has been painfully slow due to a complex interplay of factors, not least of which has been the political instability and insecurity facing Haitians and overseas workers. But progress has been made. The Methodist Church in Haiti has worked with many international partners to build schools and clinics in settlement camps, move people from tents into semi-permanent homes, rebuild schools and clinics and recover the Church's ability to provide long-term care and relief to Haitians under these very difficult circumstances. Most Haitian people are demonstrating their supreme dignity in the face of almost impossible circumstances.

## **'Is God Calling Me?'**

'Is God calling me?' is a new full-colour booklet about candidating for the ordained ministry. It is packed with information, stories, prompts for reflection and images.

Enthusiasing about it, Bill Anderson, chair of the Birmingham District said, "From time to time our Church produces material which scratches where I itch ... 'Is God calling you?' is one such publication. As we attend to the challenge of making, sustaining and challenging discipleship there will be moments when this booklet should be prayerfully considered by individuals. (Who they are, God knows, and it is for the Church to discern together). It will I believe be a valuable instrument in raising amongst us those who will serve God as ordained presbyters and deacons, in the continuing ministry which belongs to God and all the people."

To obtain a copy, email Howard Mellor ([mellorh@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:mellorh@methodistchurch.org.uk))

## **Asylum Children are Still in Detention**

In December 2009 the Methodist Church and others launched the 'One More Card' campaign. It encouraged people to send a Christmas card to the immigration minister asking him to end the detention of children in the asylum system.

When a year later, the deputy prime minister, Nick Clegg, announced the government was "ending to the detention of children for immigration purposes", it seemed like the answer to prayer.

But this promise has yet to be delivered. The reality, under which a tiny number of the most difficult cases, who, having exhausted all the legal appeal options, will be held in 'pre-departure' facilities, where the children will be free to come and go, accompanied by chaperones, risks being detention by another name.

So despite the intense effort of hundreds of campaigners, we must continue to keep up the pressure on our elected politicians, until the reality matches the rhetoric, and children do not suffer the mental and physical harm of detention.

For more information on writing to your MP, please contact [enquiries@jointpublicissues.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@jointpublicissues.org.uk).

# Dates For Your Diary

## February 2011

Thurs 3rd	7.30 p.m.	Monthly prayer meeting in the lounge with Mark & Heather Davies **
Sun 6th	10.00 a.m. 6.30 p.m.	Rev Steven Ayers - all age worship 'God & the South West Coast Path' Creative worship
Wed 9th	8.00 p.m.	Home Group meet at 14 Grainger Close **
Sun 13th	10.00 a.m. 6.30 p.m.	Rev Mark Gilborson - Sacrament Rev Mark Davies - Prayer & Praise
Tues 15th	7.30 p.m.	Church Council meets
Wed 16th	7.30 p.m.	'Going Deeper' into discipleship course introduction with Rev Mark Gilborson **
Thurs 17th	2.00 p.m.	Monthly Bible Study with Rev Mark Gilborson **
Sun 20th	10.00 a.m. 6.30 p.m.	Rev Peter Jarvis Rev Mark Gilborson - Sacrament
Wed 23rd	7.30 p.m.	Exeter Male Voice Choir concert at Exminster MC
Thurs 24th	7.30 p.m.	Wonford Worms meet **
<b>Fairtrade Fortnight 27th February - 13th March 2011</b>		
Sun 27th	10.00 a.m. 4.00 p.m.	Rev Mark Gilborson Messy Church **

**\*\*For more information see a separate item in this newsletter, or look on the notice board for a poster.**



**Spot the Bible stories**

# 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 March 2011 Newsletter will be Sunday 13th February 2011. There is no guarantee of inclusion, but they may be given to:

**Andrew Jackson - 19 Hills Orchard, Martock, Somerset. TA12 6DF.**  
Tel: 01935 826072 or e-mailed to [andrew.m.jackson@me.com](mailto:andrew.m.jackson@me.com)