

Wonford Methodist Church

Contact Newsletter

July 2008

(No: 370)



Minister: Rev Mark J Gilborson (01392 256716)



Wonford is a
Fairtrade church

The **Methodist** Church 

www.wonfordmethodistchurch.org.uk

A Message From The Minister

I have a friend in Bristol who tells the true story of something that happened a little while ago. Her nine year old son was doing what nine year olds do, he was playing but full of exuberance he overstepped the mark and did something he knew he shouldn't something that his mum (my friend) could not ignore. Now warnings had already been given and so the ultimate punishment was to be doled out, he was to be consigned to his room until he had thought about his actions and decided on what he would do about it.

Now this was no easy punishment, there was no TV or video console, no siblings to play with or company of any sort, I actually wonder whether this kind of punishment is actually as bad for the parents who have to wait it out too. Anyway mum waited and after about 20 minutes she decided it was time to talk about it and so she went to his room. When she got there her son looked very sorry and held in his hand a note that he had very carefully crafted using his best crayons and neatest writing 'I am sorry mum', in big bold letters, it said'. As he handed it to her he said this, "I want you to keep this card in the drawer and when I am naughty again please go to the drawer and get it out".

What an interesting idea! In a sense what God has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus is a bit like that 'sorry-note', a once for all blank cheque of forgiveness that can be used again and again and again and again (I hope you get the picture!). Because of what Jesus has done when we do things that are wrong the card is already in the drawer, God is already waiting to forgive us, but...

Yes I think that there has to be a but, the little boy wanted his mum to go and get the card every time he did something wrong, I am not sure that that is right. Maybe it would have been a good idea if mum had suggested that every time he wanted to say sorry that he went and got the card and presented it to his mum afresh.

I think that this is all that God asks of us, he wants to forgive us as many times as we need forgiving but first he wants us to be ready and willing to go to him and ask. You have a sorry note that can never be worn out, you just need to use it.

In Christ **Mark Gilborson**

Dates For July

Birthdays - have a great birthday!!

8th	Evie Wragg
9th	Anna Williams
14th	Sharon Gilborson
24th	Julian Wragg & Pippa Wragg-Smith
25th	Harry Tamlin
27th	Vanessa Welch & Andrew Jackson



Flowers

6th	Norman & Kathleen Dell
13th	Beryl
20th	Prowses
27th	Helen's Wedding Flowers



Coffee

6th	Peter & Jean Frost
13th	Pippa & The Grid
20th	Melanie & Eileen
27th	Barbara & Jenny



Thursday Dates for July

3rd	7.30 p.m.	Church Prayer meeting in the lounge. Everyone is welcome.
10th	2.00 p.m.	Bible Study led by Rev Mark Gilborson. This week the theme is 'Four Portraits' and covers Mark Chapter 1 verses 14-39
17th	10.30 a.m.	Coffee, Chat + Epilogue. Venue to be announced.
24th	10.30 a.m.	Coffee, Chat + Epilogue. Venue to be announced.
31st	10.30 a.m.	Coffee, Chat + Epilogue. Venue to be announced.

Tuesday Home Group Dates for July

- 10th 6.00 p.m. BBQ at Exmouth. Meet at 6.00 p.m. Bring your own food and invite whoever you like.
- 22nd 8.00 p.m. Get together and party at 20 Whipton Lane.

Church Cleaning Rota

Would you like to help?

Later this month I will be preparing the church cleaning rota for August '08 to January '09. If you would like to help in this way, now would be a good time to sign up. The merry band of 9 current cleaners would be delighted to have you on the team! Each team currently cleans once every 5 weeks. We work in pairs, (or try to). Please contact me if you are interested. Thank you.



Bill Noronha (01392) 202108.

Annual Summer Garden Party

Tuesday July 8th 2008

7.00 p.m.

at 2 Wallace Avenue, Whipton

Cake stall, games, chess corner, drinks, hot dogs and cream teas, play area. Come and enjoy the fun.

All proceeds to Tear Fund Dafur appeal

Cream Teas Update

Thank you to everybody who took a part in making this event such a success. It really shows what we can achieve when fed by prayer, called by our Lord and we work together in service and unity.

Feedback received included "the atmosphere was lovely, so friendly and welcoming", "I didn't know people cared so much", "can we be invited back next year?" "I heard it was brilliant, I'm sorry I missed it".

Some numbers;-

- 2000 stickers were stuck
- 1000 invites were given out
- 384 x 40g pots of cream were *nervously* ordered
- 364 scones were lovingly baked
- 144 cream and scones were served on the day washed down with at least twice that amount in cups of tea/coffee/squash.
- 220 cream teas were taken out into the community during the following week, these went to larger families and the elderly, as much as possible. A few more still to go

A BIG Thank You - Nesy

Christian Aid Week

The Christian Aid Shop held at St. Stephens Church raised a total of £1,511.31 which will be used to support projects in Senegal.



The Christian Aid envelopes raised a total of £119.80 of which £85 was gift aided.

I would like to thank everyone who supported these events.

Jenny Harrington

Book Group



Emma and I are aiming to start up a book group this summer. It is our aim to (with the help of the library) hire out a number of copies of a book which will be read by members of the group throughout the summer. A meeting will then be arranged in September to discuss the book as well as spend some time together. If you are interested please contact Emma Fisher or Myself.

Sharon Gilborson

Wonford Revels - Sunday 6th July 2008

We've invited the community into church and been blessed Wonford Revels has invited us to take part. This is a wonderful opportunity to take church out, get involved in a community project, build relationships and serve. The choice is yours, don't miss out!

This event takes place at Wonford Community Centre between 9.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m.

For further details see Nessy.

NCH Supper Party

This takes place on Saturday 19th July 2008 at St Thomas Methodist Church - 6.00 p.m. for 6.30 p.m.

There will be cake and bric-a-brac stalls and after supper entertainment by The St Thomas MC Gospel Choir.

See Vanessa Welch for tickets - cost £5.00



NCH Cream Tea at Alphington

This will take place on Friday 4th July 2008 at Alphington Methodist Church, Chapel Road, Alphington, Exeter, between 3.00 p.m. and 5.00 p.m. This will also be a cake stall.

Come and join them!



The Sheldon Centre & Open Air Theatre Events – Summer 2008

Nestled amongst woodland just outside of Exeter is the hidden gem that is the Sheldon Open Air Theatre. Fresh from an over winter refurbishment the theatre is preparing to celebrate its 30th anniversary with a host of high quality concerts

There is masses of free parking, a licensed bar and barbecue food for sale at all concerts. Seating is on grass terraces and there is a wheelchair friendly tier with bookable spaces.

Tickets for all concerts are cheaper the earlier you buy them.

5th July – The Osilgi Maasai Warrior Dance Troupe - Performing stunning dances, jumps, music and storytelling. Plus a chance to meet and chat to the warriors after their performance.

19th July – The Rat Pack , a fabulous sharp suited and sharp sounding 9 piece band with vocals serving up an eclectic mix of big band, swing, jump, jive, pop and Latin.

20th July – Open Gardens a chance to wander around 45 acres of gardens, fields and woodlands, watch craft demonstrations and round the afternoon off with a home produced cream tea

26th July – Prom from Scratch – all the atmosphere of a prom – with a twist – the performers have rehearsed together, under the guidance of an experienced conductor, from 2.00 p.m. on the day of the concert. A totally unique night promising lots of audience participation.

Also a Coming of Age Liturgy including a noisy procession around the site with Street Heat samba band and a 21-gun salute.

28th and 29th July – Sheldon Beat - Young People's Music Workshop – which leads to a performance slot on the Open Stage Night.

30th July – Open Stage – local artists performing - there are still spaces for others to sign up and do their thing in this unique setting

31st July – Wild about Sheldon - A family activity day around Sheldon includes a thrilling display from Dartmoor Hawking.

Lots more information and details can be found on the website www.sheldon.uk.com or by ringing 01647 252752.

News From The Methodist Church

Methodist Conference - Scarborough 5-10 July 2008

This month Methodists will gather at the Spa Complex, Scarborough, on the Yorkshire coast, for the annual Methodist Conference.

The Conference is the governing body of The Methodist Church, debating and determining policy and legislation for the Church and considering issues of national and international concern. Over five days, 384 voting members of the Conference will be joined by thousands of visitors from this country and overseas to celebrate church life and debate issues of both church and public interest.

Topics for discussion include embryology and early human life, equality and diversity in the Church and the Church's new Youth Participation initiative. There will also be an update on the Anglican-Methodist Covenant.

The full timetable for the Methodist Conference, including downloadable versions of all the reports to be debated, will be available on the Methodist Conference website. During the Conference you can listen live online to the debates as they take place.

<http://www.methodistconference.org.uk>

Explore The Meaning Of Faith In The World Of Politics FREE House Group Resources

The Art of the Possible is the name of a new resource for churches - six sessions for house groups with leaders' notes and group handouts.

Sessions include:

How our images of God shape our understanding of politics

What do we mean by 'justice'?

Being a change-maker

How should Christians relate to the state?

How does parliament work ? and how can we influence it?

What does politics mean for your local church?

Produced by the Joint Public Issues Team of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church, the resources can be freely downloaded from:

<http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/artofthepossible>

Prayer Focus for July

***Come on and celebrate, His gift of love, we will celebrate
The Son of God who loved us, And gave us life.
We'll shout Your praise, O King,
You give us joy nothing else can bring,
We'll give to You our offering in celebration praise.
(Songs of Fellowship 73)***

Week beginning Sunday 6th

Please pray for all the children and Sunday school teachers as they celebrate Young Church anniversary. Thank God for the gift He has given those who teach and their dedication each week.

Pray also that God will bless all those who attend the Mums and Toddlers stall at the Wonford Revels today.

Week beginning Sunday 13th - NCH Sunday

Please pray that all the work that NCH is involved in will prosper and thank God for all the young lives that have been touched, and helped by them.

Pray also for 5 of our young people, plus adults, who will be travelling to Cliff College, Derbyshire, for the Methodist Association of Youth Clubs annual meeting this week. Pray for safe travel, inspiration and encouragement from their involvement with many other church groups from all over the country.

Week beginning Sunday 20th - Church Anniversary

***I rejoice with those who said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."
(Psalm 122:1)***

Thank God for the 50 years that our Church has stood as a faithful witness of God's presence here in Wonford. Please pray for continuing protection, and vision; that God will continue to 'bless us to be a blessing' to others.

Week beginning Sunday 27th

Please pray this week for the welfare, protection and prosperity of our city.

***You have made the Lord your defender,
the Most High your protector,
and so no disaster will strike you,
no violence will come near your home.
(Psalm 91:9-10)***

Phone Prayer Link

If you have a prayer need, the first contact is Beryl Violet (01392) 270132. Your request will be passed to the members of the Prayer Link who will then pray for your request.

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 the Prayer Phone Link or After Church Prayer Support, please contact any member of the Prayer Team. Further details may be found in the Quiet Room.

The Prayer Team

Sankey Song of Praise

This will take place at Heavitree Evangelical Church on Saturday 26th July 2008 commencing at 7.00 p.m. and will be led by David Worrall.

There will be a retiring collection for George Miller's Orphanage. All are warmly invited to remain afterwards for a time of fellowship over a cup of tea, coffee and biscuits.

Dates For Your Diary

July 2008

Thurs 3rd	7.30 a.m.	Church Prayer Meeting in lounge **
Fri 4th	3.00 p.m.	Cream Tea at Alphington MC **
	6.00 p.m.	House Group Barbecue at Exmouth **
Sat 5th		Start of Methodist Conference **
Sun 6th	9.00 a.m.	Wonford Revels **
	10.00 a.m.	Young Church Anniversary Sharon Gilborson & Jon Curtis
Tue 8th	6.30 p.m.	Elizabeth Howell
	7.00 p.m.	Annual Summer Garden Party 2 Wallace Avenue - Whipton **
Thurs 10th	2.00 p.m.	Bible Study with Rev Mark Gilborson **
Sun 13th	10.00 a.m.	David Bradford
	6.30 p.m.	Tony Wragg - Prayer & Praise
Thurs 17th	10.30 a.m.	Coffee, Chat & Epilogue **
Sat 19th	6.00 p.m.	NCH Supper Party at St Thomas **
Sun 20th	10.00 a.m.	Church Anniversary - Rev Dr Nigel Collinson
	6.30 p.m.	At Crediton
Tue 22nd	8.00 p.m.	Home Group Party at 20 Whipton Lane **
Thurs 24th	10.30 a.m.	Coffee, Chat & Epilogue **
Sat 26th	7.00 p.m.	Sankey Songs of Praise at Heavitree Evangelical Church **
		Rev Mark Gilborson - Sacrament
Sun 27th	10.00 a.m.	
	6.30 p.m.	Pamela Murphy
Thurs 31st	10.30 a.m.	Coffee, Chat & Epilogue **

*****For more information see a separate item in this newsletter, or look on the notice board for a poster and/or the full District and Diocese Training programme.***

Advance Notice

The normal July / August edition of Contact will be replaced by a August / September one this year. If you have articles for August or September 2008 these need to be with Andrew Jackson by Sunday 13th July 2008.

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
6.00 p.m. Brownies *A*
8.00 p.m. Home Group
(See inside for more details)

Wednesday

9.15 a.m. Prayers in the Quiet Room
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
2nd is a Bible Study at 2.00 p.m. Other Thursdays are coffee mornings
starting at 10.30 a.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 August/September 2008 Newsletter will be Sunday 13th July 2008. 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@btinternet.com