

Wonford Methodist Church

Contact Newsletter
July 2011

400th Edition

Minister: Rev Mark J Gilborson (01392 256716)



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Fairtrade church

www.wonfordmethodistchurch.org.uk

The **Methodist Church** 

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A Message From The Minister

39 Steps, 1001 Arabian Nights, 101 Dalmatians, 7 Brides for 7 Brothers, 4 Weddings and a Funeral, Around the World in 80 Days, 2001 a Space Odyssey. It is interesting how popular culture has alighted upon numbers as a way of catching the eye and making things memorable. The Bible does it too: 7 days of creation, animals in the ark 2 by 2, 10 commandments, 12 disciples – the list goes on and on.

As you read this edition of Contact it too has a special number for this is the 400th edition since its inception. As we have ten editions a year that equates to 40 years. 40 years of writing, 40 years of editing, 40 years of printing, distributing and reading.

Over those years there have been a whole variety of input from a whole variety of people, some still going strong, some since gone onto glory. The pages have reflected world changing events like the tsunami in 2004 as well as local news. There have been announcements of great sadness and moments of great joy. As I write Jon and Beth are giving thanks for the safe arrival of Freddie Curtis, what a delight we can use our magazine to celebrate such good news.

Maybe it is that 'Good News' which is the principal reason and purpose of our magazine. Our 'Contact' is not just the name of the magazine, our 'Contact' is not just a contact with you, the reader; our 'Contact' is not just related to the context we are placed in at Wonford; it is all these things and more. 'Good News' is actually a translation of the word 'Gospel', maybe, in some small ways, this magazine has tried to share the Good News that God is interested in us; he is in contact with us! Maybe even more amazingly we can be in contact with him. It is intriguing to me that we celebrate our 400th edition the same year that we also celebrate 400 years since the publication of the King James' Bible: the Good news continues to go out in small and large ways.

It would be amiss of me to not thank all of those who have worked diligently, collating and editing, it would be impossible to name them all but might I thank Andrew Jackson, our current editor, who works tirelessly and quietly so that we can have this brilliant resource. Here's to the next 400!

Yours, in Christ

Mark Gilborson

Dates For July

Birthdays - have a great birthday!!

8th	Evie W
9th	Anna W
14th	Sharon G
24th	Pippa W-S & Julian W
25th	Harry T
27th	Vanessa W & Andrew J



Flowers

3rd	John T
10th	Kathleen & Norman
17th	Eileen
24th	Elaine & Graham
31st	Sylvia & Tom



Coffee

3rd	Jenny T & Friend
10th	Emma & Nikki
17th	Sue L & Vanessa W
24th	Beryl & Kath
31st	Melanie & Eileen



Thursday Dates

7th	7.30 p.m.	Church Prayer meeting in the lounge
14th	2.00 p.m.	Bible Study on Romans 7 v7-25 called 'Our Struggle with Sin' led by Rev Mark Gilborson.

Home Group Dates

5th	8.00 p.m.	Venue to be decided
26th	8.00 p.m.	At Sharon & Mark's - 20 Whipton Lane. Rev Mark Gilborson will be talking on 'Cell' groups

If you need any further information please contact Sharon Gilborson.

Wonford Worms

Wonford Worms are due to meet on 28th July at 7.30pm to discuss 'Catch 22' - venue to be decided. If you are interested in joining the book group please see Sharon Gilborson on number 01392 671289.

2nd Exeter Girls' Brigade Fundraising Open Evening

This takes place on Monday 4th July @ 6:30pm. We will start in the Church where the girls will showcase some of the things we have done this year and hopefully India Gilborson, Rosie Noronha and Pam Heagarty will be commissioned as Officers. There will then be various stalls including face painting and 'Soak the Captain' so do come along and show your support. We look forward to seeing you there.



Anna Williams

Church Social Event Opportunities in July

There are two church social events happening in July. These are shown below:

Car Wash - Saturday 9th July 2011

There will be free car washing from 9am. There will also be stalls selling cakes, plants, clothes, bags and shoes. There will also be a jewellery swap.

Church Anniversary Picnic at Exmouth - 17th July 2011

This will take place in the normal place at Exmouth (further details on the screen at the start and end of Sunday services) after the morning service which will be led by the Rev John Carne. Please bring a picnic lunch and/or food for the BBQ.

Sue Gosney

Water Of Life


If I were to ask you, what you thought the most precious commodity was? I expect that you may say Silver, Gold or Diamonds. I However think that the most precious thing we have is water. Without water the planet Earth would be a dry and very barren place indeed, just like the planet Mars.



For us it is hard to take water as being a precious commodity, because we have such an abundance of it. You just have to sit at the Mill on the Exe and

see the water tumbling over the weir there. We think nothing of washing the car or watering the lawn. But for some people around the world finding water means a five mile walk, for some people they have to use dirty and infected water.

A small group of us decided to do something, during Lent, to help the plight of such people. We gave up something, for me it was eating in the cafe and Sharon making for me a packed lunch for work. The pennies we saved went into a labelled jam jar. At the end of Lent we sent the contents, along with the contents of others in the group.

Charlotte Few, the Community Fundraising Officer from  WaterAid, contacted me to thank Wonford Church for their efforts during Lent, it would go towards easing the plight of those needing clean water. We raised £20, which would purchase a couple of taps. And I would like to thank Mary, Carrie and Sharon for their efforts.

It would be really good to have you join us in collecting for WaterAid, by labelling a jar for small change, next Lent. It would demonstrate that you agree water is such a precious commodity, which we should be very grateful to God for.

Nick Goddard

Action for Children Annual Supper Party

This will take place on Saturday 16th July 2011 at St Thomas Methodist Church starting at 6.30pm. Tickets cost £6 and are available from Barbara Irish.



Prayer Focus for July

***He brought me to the banqueting house,
and His banner over me was love.***

(Song of Solomon 2:4 RSV)

Week beginning Sunday 3rd

Please pray that God's love will continue to flow through the leaders and children of Young Church as they prepare for their Young Church Celebration which they will share with us next Sunday.

Week beginning Sunday 10th

As this is Action for Children Sunday, please pray that God will bless and prosper all the work of this charity, together with its staff and representatives.

Thank God for the joy of our children and young people.

Week beginning Sunday 17th - Church Anniversary

Please pray that God will continue to bless our church as we celebrate our Church Anniversary, so that we may continue being a blessing to others.

Week beginning Sunday 24th

Please pray for God's protection on our children over the school holidays. Pray also that He will help families who feel under stress both emotionally and financially.

Week beginning Sunday 31st

Please pray that God will pour out His blessings on every person and family in our church and neighbourhood.

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

A Letter from God

Dear *(put your own name here)*

As you got up this morning, I watched you and hoped you would talk to me, even if it was just a few words, asking my opinion or thanking me for

something good that happened in your life yesterday - but I noticed you were too busy trying to find the right outfit to put on and wear to work.

I waited again. When you ran around the house getting ready I knew there would be a few minutes for you to stop and say hello, but you were too busy. At one point you had to wait fifteen minutes with nothing to do except sit in a chair. Then I saw you spring to your feet. I thought you wanted to talk to me but you ran to the phone and called a friend to get the latest gossip. I watched as you went to work and I waited patiently all day long. With all your activities I guess you were too busy to say anything to me.

I noticed that before lunch you looked around, maybe you felt embarrassed to talk to me, that is why you didn't bow your head. You glanced three or four tables over and you noticed some of your friends talking to me briefly before they ate, but you didn't. That's OK. There is still time left, and I have hope that you will talk to me and yet you went home and it seems as if you had lots of things to do.

After a few of them were done you turned on the TV. I don't know if you like TV or not, just about anything goes there and you spend a lot of time each day in front of it, not thinking about anything - just enjoying the programme. I waited patiently again as you watched TV and ate your meal but again you didn't talk to me. Bedtime I guess you felt too tired. After you said goodnight to your family you flopped into bed and fell asleep in no time. That's OK because you may not realise that I am always there for you. I've got patience more than you will ever know. I even want to teach you how to be patient with others as well. I love you so much that I will wait every day for a nod, prayer or thought or a thankful part of your heart.

It is hard to have a one sided conversation. Well, you are getting up again and once again I will wait with nothing but love for you hoping that today you will give me some time. Have a nice day!!

Your friend

GOD

Thank you to Sylvia Ebdon for this contribution

An Editors Reflection

You will be well aware by now that this is the 400th edition of the Contact Newsletter. I would like to say thank you for all those editors who have gone before me and to all who have contributed articles. The task of producing a newsletter each month is now much easier with the use of a computer. I give praise to all those before me who produced a newsletter each month without a computer - that was hard!!

I have been editing the newsletter at Wonford since October 2007. Before this I was the editor of the Whipton Methodist Church newsletter also called Contact. I started that job in August 2000.

Many articles have been produced in this time and on the next few pages are some photographs from previous issues of the Wonford and Whipton Contact newsletters. Some photos maybe embarrassing - sorry!!



Now for 'Something Different'.
Guess who the middle two
singers are.



Who is the second from the
left??



**Whipton Methodist Church
50th Anniversary**



**Wonford
Carol Service
2006**



News from the Methodist Church

The Methodist Conference 2011

At the start of July hundreds of Methodists will be descending on Southport for the 2011 Conference. The ministerial session begins on Thursday 30 June, and the representative session on Saturday 2 July. Highlights of the Conference include the inductions of the president of the Conference, the Revd Leo Osborne, and the vice-president, Ruth Pickles on Saturday, and the ordination of presbyters and deacons on Sunday 3 July.

You can read Conference reports and keep up to date with all the Conference news at www.methodistconference.org.uk. The website will also be webcasting all the representative session, the president's pastoral address (about 2.30pm on Thursday 30 June) and the service of thanksgiving and remembrance (2.00pm on Friday 1 July).

Conference Business

The Conference Agenda is packed full of reports covering a whole range of issues and subjects. These include:

The Fruitful Field project

An update on the development of the Church's existing connexional activities in the fields of learning, formation, training, theological education, scholarship, research and development.

Hope in God's Future (proposed statement) - In 2009 the Conference directed that 'Hope in God's Future: Christian discipleship in the context of climate change' be the basis of a consultation by the Methodist Church. This report is the outcome of that consultation process.

You might just catch this!!

The BBC will be celebrating the forthcoming publication of the new Methodist hymn book with two programmes scheduled to broadcast on 26 June. If you're too late see BBC iPlayer.

There is a 'singing the faith' themed Sunday Worship service on Radio 4 at 8.10am followed by a special edition of BBC One's Songs of Praise in the afternoon. The programme will reflect upon what makes a truly inspiring hymn and features interviews with some of those involved in the production of the new hymn collection.

Dates For Your Diary

July 2011

30th June - 7th July Methodist Conference in Southport

1st - 3rd		Circuit Camp near Cullompton **
Sun 3rd	10.00 a.m.	Rev Kenneth Hext
	6.30 p.m.	Local Arrangement
Mon 4th	6.30 p.m.	Girls' Brigade Open Evening **
Tues 5th	7.30 p.m.	Circuit 'Shadow' meeting at Seaton MC
	8.00 p.m.	Home Group Meets - venue to be confirmed **
Thurs 7th	7.30 p.m.	Monthly Prayer Meeting in the lounge
Sat 9th	9.00 a.m.	Free Car Wash + Stalls and refreshments **

Action for Children Sunday

Sun 10th	10.00 a.m.	Rev Mark Gilborson - Young Church Celebration
	6.30 p.m.	Rev Mark Gilborson - Summer Songs of Praise
Thurs 14th	2.00 p.m.	Monthly Bible Study with Rev Mark Gilborson **
Sat 16th	6.30 p.m.	Action for Children Supper Party at St Thomas **
Sun 17th	10.00 a.m.	Rev John Carne - Church Anniversary followed by picnic and Bible Study at Exmouth **
	6.30 p.m.	Rev John Carne - Church Anniversary
Mon 18th	7.30 p.m.	CTAX Meeting - venue to be confirmed
Wed 20th	2.00 p.m.	'Well Cafe' in the lounge until 4pm
Sun 24th	10.00 a.m.	Lloyd Smale
	6.30 p.m.	Rev David Easton - United Summer Service at St Thomas MC
Tues 26th	8.00 p.m.	Home Group meets at Sharon & Mark's **
Wed 27th	7.30 p.m.	Circuit Church & Society Team Meeting at Alphington
Thurs 28th	7.30 p.m.	Wonford Worms Meet
Sun 31st	10.00 a.m.	Rev Mark Gilborson - Sacrament
	6.30 p.m.	Rev Andrew Brazier - United Summer Service at Sidwell Street MC

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

The next edition of this newsletter will cover August and September 2011. Please ensure articles and information for these two months are with the editor by Sunday 10th July 2011.

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 August/September 2011 Newsletter will be Sunday 10th July 2011. There is no guarantee of inclusion, but they may be given to:

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