

Wonford Methodist Church

Contact Newsletter

June 2011
(No: 399)



Minister: Rev Mark J Gilborson (01392 256716)



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A Message From The Minister

Broken! Busted? Borked...

At our Church General Meeting we were given an excellent presentation about 'Cell Church, by Rev'd John Henry. The following week I found myself at the national conference for the Methodist church, of CELL UK. In-between that Rowan Williams described the future of church as somewhere between 'cell and celebration', not new but pithy. So I have started to listen, pray and reflect on how church might be better in 'cells'.

It seems there are a number of helpful things: cells have DNA, something deep that defines and shapes them, there is also something about connectedness, those around us whom we relate to every day. The aspect that has gotten to me though is that cells, by definition, multiply, they are born to grow, to split. The word 'split' in the context of church is always seen in a negative light, it means there has been disagreement that has led to schism, not a good kind of broken in any way.

Yet 'Cell Church' has as its mantra and within its DNA that it should aim to split, there should come a point when growth has meant that, to misquote the Spice Girls, '1 become 2'.

It is strange how things happen, over dinner, at the Cell conference I talked to a colleague about the value of exercise, he was explaining to me the benefit of using weights to build muscle and burn calories. Exercise, especially short bursts, tears the muscle, literally breaks it, the bulk comes when the muscle repairs itself, growing in size. The growth increases during the resting. Purposeful brokenness for the benefit of growth.

Apparently 'borked' means to break or damage, its etymology is uncertain but it is thought it was originally a misspelling of 'broke' as in broken. A new word born by breaking an old one.

Psalm 51:17 says "My sacrifices oh God is a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart", maybe brokenness IS something to work towards, a purposeful attempt to renew, to grow through purposeful discipline: physical, or spiritual.

Yours, in Christ

Mark Gilborson

Dates For June

Birthdays - have a great birthday!!

7th	Kath P
10th	Eileen K
12th	Mary N
19th	Arthur P
22nd	James T
24th	Yvie O
25th	Amy C



Flowers

5th	Kathy
12th	Joan & Tony
19th	Sylvia Ford
26th	Helen



Coffee

5th	Pippa's Group
12th	Jenny Sanders
19th	Carrie & Lisa
26th	Jenny H & Margaret



Thursday Dates

9th	7.30 p.m.	Church Prayer Meeting in the lounge
23rd	2.00 p.m.	Bible Study

Home Group Dates

This group will be finishing studying 'Help' from May.

Please come and join us in learning more of our faith as we discover God's extraordinary power. All welcome.

If you need any further information please contact Sharon Gilborson.

7th	8.00 p.m.	At 22 Walsingham Road. 'Help - All my dreams are shattered'
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21st 8.00 p.m. At 17 Madison Avenue. 'The Divine Blueprint - Like Father like Son'.

Wonford Worms

This groups are due to meet on Thursday 30th June at 7.30pm - venue to be decided. They will be discussing 'Imperium' by Robert Harris.

For more information please see Sharon Gilborson 01392 671289.

Well Cafe

In conjunction with Westbank's League of Friends we are intending to trial a monthly 'Well Cafe' starting on Wednesday 15th June 2-4pm. It is hoped that this will attract older people from the estate who can come in and socialise for a couple of hours once a month. There is likely to be tea, crafts, games, quizzes etc. We will need volunteer to come on the day to help or even make cakes in advance! If you feel you may be able to offer any help with this new and exciting venture please let me know.

Rev Mark Gilborson

Release International (Voice of Persecuted Christians)

They are holding an event called 'King of Kings' (Rev 19:16) on Saturday 11th June 2011 at St Thomas Baptist Church starting at 7.00 p.m. The evening will feature worship led by Chris Carter, talks by Release staf and prayer for persecuted christians all over the world.

Mama Heidi

This film is being shown in church at 6.30 pm on Sunday June 19th. It lasts just under an hour and there will be discussion opportunity afterwards. It is inspirational and I really recommend it.

It focuses on the work of Iris Ministries in Mozambique in South-East Africa. This work was pioneered by a missionary couple called Roland and Heidi Baker, who arrived there in 1994 to take charge of a terrible run-down orphanage with 80 forsaken children. In co-operation with African co-workers they have seen ministry develop that now involves the care of thousands of children in various centres but also a huge amount of church growth across the country.

It is an amazing testimony to the supernatural power of God in situations of desperation and the joy of seeing him at work, as well as being totally realistic about the constant challenges and costs for those involved.

A couple of years ago Heather and I spent three weeks at the Iris centre in Maputo, capital of Mozambique, so we have had a first-hand taste of the things which the film shows.

Mark Davies

MHA Sunday - 12th June 2011

MHA is a charity providing care homes, housing, and support services for older people throughout Britain. Established over 60 years ago by members of the Methodist Church, MHA now serves 8,500 older people in residential and nursing care homes, specialist dementia care homes, sheltered housing schemes and community projects. MHA benefits from the dedication of 4,000 staff and the commitment of over 5,000 volunteers. Moreton, in Exmouth, is our local MHA care home.



You will have an opportunity to support this very worthwhile charity on 12th June when collection envelopes will be available. Don't forget to gift aid your offering if you are entitled to, by filling in your details on the collection envelope. There are also other ways to support MHA. You can recycle old mobile phones and inkjet cartridges, or save up your loose change in a MHA money box. Please see me if you require a Freepost Reclaim-it envelope and/or money box.

Finally, please remember MHA residents, staff and volunteers in your prayers, and thank you for your support.

Jenny Sanders.

Circuit World Church Festival

The Circuit World Church Festival will be held at Silverton on Monday 27th June at 7.30pm. This is the occasion when your 'purses' are brought forward. Our speaker will be Francisca van Holthoon, who will give an illustrated talk on the work of Second Sight. This charity is run by Lucy Mathen, a London ophthalmologist, and aims both to raise awareness of the huge problem of cataract blindness in 'forgotten' India (Bihar, Orissa & Jarkhand), and also to raise funds to help eradicate reversible blindness. There will be a collection for Second Sight, and refreshments will be served afterwards. Do please join us - all are welcome

Ann Weeks

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

South West Regional Gathering

This is a network for those passionate about mission and evangelism. Their next meeting is on Wednesday 8th June 2011 at Liberty House, 4 North Gate Street, Launceston, PL15 8BD (opposite Methodist Church) from 10.30 am – 3.00 pm Lunch available (£5.00).

Please reserve a place/lunch by emailing before 3rd June esdadmin@methodistchurch.org.uk. See church noticeboard for more details.

The WOW FACTORS In Our Life

At this time of year, Sharon and I celebrate the third anniversary of becoming part of the family here at Wonford Methodist Church.

A catch-phrase I learnt at The Good Friday Walk of Witness, was the 'Wow Factor!' And I can truly tell you that the Wow Factor is part of our life.

Wow 1.

The Bible was printed in English 400 years ago. It is a very worthwhile exercise to read the Bible in a year. Already in the first five books of the Old Testament, the four Gospels, 50 Psalms and lots of Proverbs, I have read of how God made a covenant with the humans He created, how to have God walking in your life and how Jesus became the supreme sacrifice to bring our sin offering to. Never-mind Eastenders and Corrie, the Bible is the best soap, full of affairs, murder, wars and heroes.

Wow 2.

The Walk of Witness on Good Friday began with the whole Christian Family, here in Exeter, coming together in The Cathedral, to bare witness to the supreme sacrifice on a green hill far away. It is a priceless opportunity to meet with our brothers and sisters.

It is a shame that the centre of Exeter is dead on Easter Sunday in comparison, why can we not bring it to life, just as we do for Good Friday.

Wow 3.

On Easter Day we walked up another green hill, not so far away, at the crack of dawn to greet the rising Son! We broke bread, prayed for the City of Exeter, our community and for the Gospel distribution, and sang hymns of praise. Some of the Wow Factors can be little ones like a fox finding its rest, a woodpecker finding its nest and a sausage for breakfast.

Wow 4.

Our work places and leisure places (for me it is on the R and S Buses and Heavitree Bowling Green, for Sharon it is Shaul's Bakery and the swimming-pool) enable us to meet up and witness to our community.

Wow 5.

For the complete recovery of Sharon's mum, as a result of a great deal of prayer. Thanks to all who interceded.

We are continually thankful to God for the Wow Factors in our life. This gives us plenty to praise God for on a Sunday Morning at Wonford Methodist Church.

We pray that we will continue to be blessed and pray that you too will have Wow Factors to sing your praises for as well and we look forward to hearing about them, if you would like.

Nick Goddard

Change of Contact Details

Sylvia & Tom Crawford's new telephone number is 01392 926548

Prayer Focus for June

"The Counsellor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have said to you."

(John 14:26 NIV)

Week beginning Sunday 5th

Please pray that young people, studying and taking exams this month, will not feel too much pressure.

Thank God for all our church-based activities which help young people to relax and enjoy themselves.

Week beginning Sunday 12th - Pentecost

Please pray for those people in our local community who do not know the love of Jesus or the help of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

Pray also that the Holy Spirit will continue to lead and inspire the Church Council, meeting on Tuesday.

Week beginning Sunday 19th

Please pray that we will have 'ears to hear' which direction our Father God is leading us as a church.

Thank God for the rich diversity of our talents.

Week beginning Sunday 26th

Please pray for good attendance and good weather for the Barn Service at Poltimore today.

Thank God for the music, worship and praise that we share in our church here at Wonford.

Prayer Phone Link

Could you do with some prayer support for a particular need in your life? Your first contact is Beryl Violet (01392) 270132, who will pass your request to the members of our prayer link to pray for your need.

After Church Prayer Support

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

The Prayer Team

400th Edition of the Contact Newsletter

You will notice from the numbers on the front of each Contact that the July 2011 edition will be the 400th.

I would appreciate contributions for this special edition. This can be articles from previous editions of Contact, stories from the history of the church, photos, etc. Anything considered!! Lets make this edition the biggest ever!!

News from the Methodist Church

Following the Flame

Recently the [first details of the route](#) of the Olympic Flame have been released. It arrives in the UK on 18 May 2012 at the start of a 70 day journey, before arriving at the Olympic Stadium in London on 27 July 2012. It will travel to within an hour of 95% of the population, from the Channel Islands to the Shetlands*. Representing peace, unity and friendship, the flame will be carried by 8,000 inspirational torchbearers during the Olympic Torch Relay.

Each day of the relay will see the torch parade its way through the streets of three different locations. Does it pass near you? Perhaps you or your church can offer an event or venue to your local council for use in the torch relay? You might even be able to offer tea and cake to participants and supporters at one of the hospitality stations. Support and advice to help you is available from [More than Gold](#), an ecumenical initiative (of which the Methodist Church is a global sponsor) designed to help local churches engage with the Olympic and Paralympic Games through Christian witness, service and hospitality.

The Olympic Organising Committee is looking for 8,000 inspirational people across the UK to carry the Olympic Flame. They will be individuals whose personal stories have the power to inspire millions of people watching the Olympic Torch Relay around the world. To discover how to nominate someone go to the Olympics 2012 website.

* The Methodist Church in the Shetlands (including the most northerly practising church in the UK) has already appointed an Olympic coordinator to arrange events and organise celebrations.

Methodist Church helps to launch the JustPay campaign

President of the Conference the Revd Alison Tomlin, announced that the Methodist Church will use its influence as an investor to urge companies pay the Living Wage. The Methodist Church will from September pay all workers at least the Living Wage – the minimum wage required for a person to live and participate in society.

To a Westminster Central Hall packed with community activists celebrating ten years of the London Living Wage, Alison said: "A company cannot say with integrity it believes its workers are its most important asset and not pay

them enough to live on. A politician cannot with integrity say they believe in the family values while not challenging pay levels that ensure some people must work 60+ hours a week merely to meet their basic needs. The Living Wage is an active expression of our belief that human work and endeavour is a spiritually significant thing."

The campaign includes many ecumenical partners and is co-ordinated by FairPensions. Go to www.fairpensions.org.uk to find out how to use your personal investments to put pressure on companies to pay the Living Wage. In addition, a campaign to lobby FTSE 100 companies to adopt the Living Wage has been backed by the Methodist Church and its Central Finance Board. People are encouraged to lobby these companies directly at www.activateyourmoney.org.

Praying for Rural Churches: 26 June 2011

Sunday 26 June is the day when the Arthur Rank Centre (ARC) leads the Christian community in sharing and praying for the people who live, work and worship in the countryside.

ARC, the Churches' rural resources centre, is inviting congregations to look out from their own lives and concerns to the bigger issues that surround us in the countryside.

National rural officer for the Methodist Church and URC the Revd Graham Jones said: "We want to encourage Christians to reach out to the wider rural community in prayer and in action on Sunday 26 June, particularly to those who are suffering hardship or distress, and remember that the Arthur Rank Centre is here to help in that task."

In particular the ARC is concerned for some 900,000 households who are living on or below the poverty threshold in rural England, and those who feel isolated and alone in places where demographic change, the lack of affordable housing and the withdrawal of services are all taking their toll on communities.

In farming many are going through difficult times. For some, things are improving but for others problems of increased transport costs, lack of broadband access, lack of finance and the continued scourge of Bovine TB continue to cause hardship and distress. The ARC aims to support and help these people and their families.

Specially written readings and prayers for ARC Sunday, can be downloaded from the [ARC website](http://www.arc.org.uk), or call 02476 853060 for a pack.

Dates For Your Diary

June 2011

Natalie Husk continues her 630 mile SW Coast Walk in aid of The Leprosy Mission

Sun 5th	10.00 a.m.	Adam Sanders - All Age Worship
	4.00 p.m.	Celebrate Together Service
Tues 7th	8.00 p.m.	Home Group meets at 22 Walsingham Road **
Wed 8th	10.30 a.m.	South West Regional Day, Launceston **
Thurs 9th	7.30 p.m.	Church Prayer Meeting in the lounge **
Sat 11th	7.00 p.m.	Release International Service **

Methodist Homes for The Aged Sunday

Sun 12th	10.00 a.m.	Rev Mark Gilborson - Sacrament
	6.30 p.m.	BibleFresh Circuit Service at Wonford
Mon 13th	7.30 p.m.	Circuit Meeting, Tedburn St Mary MC
Tues 14th	3.00 p.m.	Cream Teas at Silverton (until 5pm)
	7.30 p.m.	Church Council Meeting
Wed 15th	2.00 p.m.	'Well Cafe' in the lounge **
Sun 19th	10.00 a.m.	Vicky Abrams
	6.30 p.m.	Rev Mark Davies - Film Service **
Tues 21st	8.00 p.m.	Home Group meeting at 17 Madison Ave **
Wed 22nd	7.30 p.m.	Local preachers' meeting at Alphington
Thurs 23rd	2.00 p.m.	Bible Study **
Sat 25th	9.30 a.m.	Messy Church & Fresh Expressions Day at the Salvation Army Temple, Friars Gate **
Sun 26th	10.00 a.m.	Mary Hext
	6.30 p.m.	Barn Service at Poltimore
Mon 27th	7.30 p.m.	Circuit World Church Service at Silverton **
Thurs 30th	7.30 p.m.	Wonford Worms meet

Advance Notices

Methodist Conference (30th June - 7th July 2011) at Southport

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

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 July 2011 Newsletter will be Sunday 12th June 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