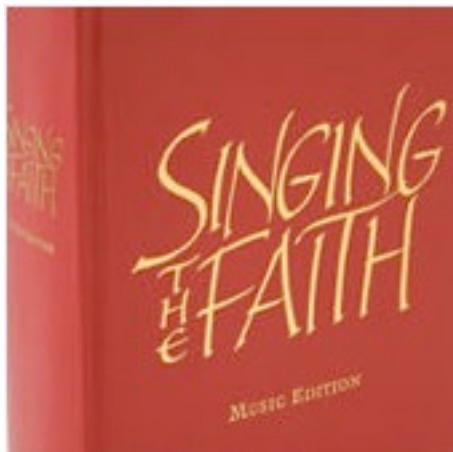


Wonford Methodist Church

Contact Newsletter

November 2011

(No: 403)



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

Singing seems to be something that people have done for millennia, whether on the stage, on football terraces, in front of a mirror with a brush as microphone or more privately in the shower. It seems most of us like to stretch our vocal chords and warble a few notes. A curl of the lip and we are Elvis, a frog in the throat and we become Rod Stewart or Bonnie Tyler, some vocal gymnastics and we are Mariah Carey, Christina Aguilera or Michael Bublé.

Apparently it is good for us too: it increases lung capacity, decreases stress and can even boost our immune system. Singing is not just a human pursuit either, birdsong is amazing in its variety, gibbons sing individually or in groups, bats, whales, frogs, in fact more than 5000 species are known to use their vocal chords in ways that we might describe as 'singing'.

Of course singing is part of what we do in church, rarely does a service or act of worship not have a song either to take part in or listen to. As Methodists we have an important tradition, in Charles Wesley we have one of the best and most prolific hymn writers the world has ever known. He wrote over 6000 hymns, many of which we still sing today. In church we sing to worship God, sometimes hymns are good at helping us say things we find hard to put into words ourselves. Another important aspect of hymns in the Methodist church is that they sum up what we believe about God – to put it technically they articulate our doctrine and theology.

In the last few weeks the Methodist church has authorised and published a new collection of hymns that include the rich history from the past, a lot of the more modern hymns that we know and love, and some brand new material never before published. It is a diverse and rich collection.

At Wonford we have several music copies and some word copies, in this modern age we will use our projector to display the words for our singing. Please ask a steward to have a look at the new book and feel free to borrow a copy, if there are new hymns that you like the look of let me, or a musician, know and we can start to learn some of these new songs together so that we might continue to 'Sing the Faith' as we worship God in song.

Yours, in Christ

Mark Gilborson

Dates For November

Birthdays - have a great birthday!!

4th	Lisa T
7th	Mark G
14th	Melanie W
16th	Paul S
17th	Freya D
23rd	Megan L
25th	Rose S
27th	Martin L & India G
29th	Paul V



Flowers

6th	Eileen
13th	John T
20th	Margaret Evans
27th	Sylvia & Tom



Coffee

6th	Helen & Vanessa
13th	Susan & Martin
20th	Linda & Alison H
27th	Sue Gosney



Thursday Dates in November

3rd	7.30 p.m.	Church Prayer meeting in the lounge
17th	2.00 p.m.	Bible Study on Romans 9 led by Rev Mark Gilborson.

Home Group Dates

8th	8.00 p.m.	At 22 Walsingham Road - Cell Values 'Encountering Jesus'
22nd	8.00 p.m.	At 39 Meyer Court - Cell Values 'Keys to Reaching Out - Unity'

If you need any further information please contact Sharon Gilborson.

Wonford Worms

Wonford Worms are due to meet on the Thursday 1st December 2011 at 7.30pm - venue to be decided. They will be discussing 'A Month in the Country' by J L Carr.

If you are interested in joining the book group please see Sharon Gilborson on number 01392 671289.



Autumn Preaching Series - Bible Baddies Making Good

This continues into November - details below.

Date	Morning (10.00am)	Evening (6.30pm)
13th November	David Rev Mark Gilborson	Prayer & Praise
20th November	Peter Tony Haines	Messy Church (4pm)
27th November	The Samaritan Woman Dr Joan Wragg	The Thief on the Cross Rev Mark Gilborson
11th December	Saul of Tarsus Rev Mark Gilborson	

Operation Christmas Child 2011

It is that time of year again when we are thinking about sending gifts in paper wrapped shoeboxes to children who have very little to call their own.

Operation Christmas Child is an initiative of Samaritan's Purse, a Christian Relief & development organisation which works through local churches overseas to proclaim and demonstrate the love of God amongst communities in need in Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia.



The box can be for a girl 2-4yrs, 5-9yrs or 10-14yrs and a boy 2-4yrs, 5-9yrs or 10-14yrs.

Each box and lid should be wrapped separately and can include any of the following items in a new condition.

Toys

Soft toy, tennis ball, finger puppet, jigsaw, yo-yo, small musical instrument, car, skipping rope, clip on earrings, doll etc.

Educational Supplies

Felt pens, pens, pencils, pencil sharpener, eraser, colouring book, notepad, picture or puzzle book, pencil case, stickers etc.



Hygiene Items

Toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, comb, hair clips, bar of soap, flannel etc.

Other Items

Sweets but no chocolate (sell by date to be at least March of the following year), gloves, scarf, sunglasses, cap, hat, bangles, necklaces etc.

There is a request for £2.50 per box to help with transportation costs. Leaflets will be available in church and these include the boy/girls labels.

Last year we managed to send 40 boxes from Wonford Methodist so thank you to all who kindly gave!

The boxes need to be in to me at church by Sunday 20th November please. Thank you.

Sue Keatt

Harvest Baskets 2011

A huge 'Thank You' to everyone who gave so generously towards the harvest baskets this year! All gifts were gratefully received by the Chestnut Children's Centre. The food will go to local folk who are finding it difficult to feed their families at this time.



Monika Noronha

Advance Notice - Girls' Brigade Christingle

The annual Girls' Brigade Christmas celebration and Christingle takes place on Monday 5th December 2011 at 6:30pm. A great way to start our Christmas preparation. All welcome and refreshments will follow.



Anna Williams

Exminster Christmas Tree Festival 2011

The third Exminster Christmas Tree Festival is being held over the weekend of 25th to 27th November. Churches and individuals or groups are invited to place a decorated tree at the Festival. We have been delighted with the support we have received in the past from Circuit churches. Trees should not be more than 2 metres tall - the majority are usually artificial ones. If you would like to take part, please email us at exminstermethodists@yahoo.co.uk or contact Jenny on 01392 832553. The Festival raises money for Children's Charities including Action for Children.



'Singing the Faith' Website

You will be aware from Rev Mark Gilborson's article that there is a new Methodist Hymn Book called 'Singing the Faith'. There is a new website for this resource which can be found at www.singingthefaitplus.org.uk

This includes lots of information about the hymn books and searchable resources. Worth a look.



Wonford Methodist Church Podcasts

For the last couple of months each of the Sunday morning services as been recorded and an edited version (minus the musical items) put online. A link to all the podcasts is on the church website. If you have a MP3 player, smartphone or use iTunes (or other programs capable of downloading, storing and playing podcasts) it is possible to subscribe to the podcasts. Each week the new podcast will then be downloaded to your device or program automatically. You will need to copy the RSS link on the podcast page of the church website to do this. If you want help please see me.

Andrew Jackson

QR Codes

I am currently experimenting with QR codes. These are a special type of barcode that can be read by the camera on smartphones and provide a quick link to websites without having to type in the web address. There is an example above (which takes you to the 'Singing the Faith' website) and one on the front page that takes you to the church website.

Let me know if you find these useful.

Andrew Jackson

Prayer Focus for November

*He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth;
He breaks the bow and shatters the spear,
He burns the shields with fire.
"Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the Nations,
I will be exalted in the earth."
Psalm 46: 9-10 (NIV)*

Week beginning Sunday 6th

Please pray this week for the 'return of the Prodigals'; that the Holy Spirit will call back to our church family those who have left us, for whatever reason.

Week beginning Sunday 13th - Remembrance

Today is Remembrance Sunday when we think of those who have fallen in war, whether on 'our side' or 'theirs'. Please pray for families, widows and orphans who still grieve the loss of a loved one. "We shall remember them."

Pray also for our Young People as they lead our Prayer and Praise Service this evening, that God will bless them and they in turn will be a blessing to others.

Week beginning Sunday 20th

Please pray for those helping with or attending "Messy Church" today. Pray also for newcomers, who may not know Jesus, that this will be the start of their walk with Him.

Thank God for all those involved in reaching out to the lost, whether in our own community or across the city.

Week beginning Sunday 27th

We begin our journey to Christmas today, Advent Sunday. Please pray that seekers everywhere will join us on the journey and discover the Christ child for themselves.

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

Tellshowbe

www.tellshowbe.com is the name of a new exciting evangelism social media campaign and project that has been produced by the Methodist Church in Britain. (Jon Curtis showed the video from the website during the Sunday morning service on the 16th October 2011).

It has been designed to dispel some of the myths about evangelism, and to challenge people to share their faith by telling somebody, showing somebody and being somebody.

In order to communicate around the world, the campaign has been produced in five languages – Mandarin, Spanish, Portuguese, Welsh and English. It is available for free download on the site in HD, standard or cellphone format.

There is also the opportunity to respond to the animation by using the interactive website.

Look at the website, engage with the interactivity, share the link with your networks and colleagues, and use the animation wherever you have the opportunity.

"Scrap the cap" say UK Churches as the House of Lords debate the Welfare Reform Bill

The Methodist and United Reformed Churches urged the House of Lords to ask the government to scrap plans to cap benefits payments at £500 per week as they debated the Welfare Reform Bill this week.

Under new legislation the government is seeking to cap benefits payments at £500 per week, regardless of the need or size of the family receiving the payments.

Using the government's own figures The Children's Society has produced data showing that the least well off children will be disproportionately affected such as 27,000 adults and 82,000 children will be made homeless. "The government has spoken of creating incentives for families to stay together but benefit caps create perverse incentives for family breakup," continued Rachel Lampard, Joint Public Issues Team Leader. "Under the new measures, a family with four children would be better off if it split into two single-parent households. It is on all these grounds that we urge members of the House of Lords to ask the Government to reconsider the benefit capping measure contained within the Welfare Reform Bill." More details are available on the Methodist Church website.

3Generate and the Big Sleepover



3Generate - the Methodist Children and Youth Assembly - is a unique opportunity for children and young people aged 9-23 years old to get together, discuss issues that matter to them and get the Church to hear their voice. It takes place 4-6 November. Find out more and go to the website www.childrenandyouth.org.uk

This year's a bit different, with three age streams: 9-13 year olds, 14-17 year olds and 18-23 year olds. The event is also for those who work alongside the 9-13s in local groups and the team here would appreciate feedback from workers about the groups they're bringing.

The Big Sleepover

And as if that wasn't enough, the Methodist Church's Children & Youth Team have created a new resource: The Big Sleepover. It's for all churches who are involved in ministry with children and young people aged 9-13 Sunday or midweek. It complements 3Generate and enables churches to engage with the event even if they are unable to send a group. Check out the Children and Youth website (www.childrenandyouth.org.uk) for more details.



**Messy
Church!**

A fun place for families finding faith

creative

At

fun

Wonford Methodist

Church

family

Opposite Lidl

chat

sharing

On

food

**20th November
2011**

4 o'clock until 6 o'clock

Please come all are welcome!

No unaccompanied children please

Tel 01392 256716

Dates For Your Diary

November 2011

Tues 1st	7.00 p.m.	Pastoral Visitors meet in the lounge
Wed 2nd	7.30 p.m.	Circuit meeting at The Mint
Thurs 3rd	7.30 p.m.	Monthly Prayer meeting in the lounge **
Sat 5th	10.00 a.m.	Action for Children coffee morning at St Nicholas Methodist Church, Topsham (until 12 noon)
Sun 6th	10.00 a.m.	Clive Hughes - All Age Worship
	4.00 p.m.	Rev Mark Gilborson - 'Celebrate Together'
Tues 8th	8.00 p.m.	Home Group meets at 22 Walsingham Road ** 'Cell Values 5'
Sun 13th		Remembrance Sunday
	10.00 a.m.	Rev Mark Gilborson - Themed Preaching on 'David' and Sacrament
	6.30 p.m.	Prayer & Praise - led by our young people
Wed 16th	2.00 p.m.	Well Cafe (until 4pm)
Thurs 17th	2.00 p.m.	Monthly Bible Study with Rev Mark Gilborson **
Sun 20th	10.00 a.m.	Tony Haines - Themed Preaching on 'Peter' **
	4.00 p.m.	Rev Mark Gilborson - Messy Church **
Tues 22nd	8.00 p.m.	Home Group meet at 39 Meyer Court ** 'Cell Values 10'
25th - 27th		Exminster Methodist Christmas Tree Festival **
Sat 26th	10.00 a.m.	'Methodism Today' at Plymouth Central Hall. Tickets are £3 - you need to book **
Sun 27th		Advent Sunday
	10.00 a.m.	Joan Wragg - Themed Preaching on 'The Samaritan Woman' **
	4.00 p.m.	'Christians Together' Advent Service at Heavitree URC
	6.30 p.m.	Rev Mark Gilborson - Themed Preaching on 'The Thief on the Cross' **
Wed 30th	7.30 p.m.	Local Preachers meeting

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

Please Note

The next edition of Contact covers December 2011 and January 2012. The deadline for articles is Sunday 13th November 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 December 2011/January 2012 Newsletter will be Sunday 13th November 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