

# Wonford Methodist Church

## Contact Newsletter

November 2009

(No: 383)



Minister: Rev Mark J Gilborson (01392 256716)



Wonford is a  
Fairtrade church

The **Methodist** Church 

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

# A Message From The Minister

Those of you who know me well know that I have a heart for inclusion. My professional experience has led me to believe that when everyone and everything is gathered in it is invariably to the benefit of all.

Nearly a year ago I suggested the idea that churches across Exeter might take part in a week of prayer, literally 24/7; one hundred and sixty eight hours of non-stop prayer for the city by the churches in the city. Indeed the vision we have come up for this is 'The whole church for the whole city'.

What was once a dream is now a reality and the week of prayer in Exeter starts at 8pm at the cathedral on Friday 20th November, where one of the leading lights of the Prayer 24/7 movement, Ian Nicholson, will be speaking. There will be an act of worship and an opportunity to pray at one of the many prayer stations that I hope will be in place. It will culminate at 11.30 with a closing act of worship and the distribution of candles. A representative of every church will collect their candle so that it can burn during the time that they pray, the idea that there will be a light on somewhere in the city and someone praying.

So after the opening event the week of prayer will roll out until midnight on 27th November, each church offering to cover a 'slot' much in the same way that we fill in our slots of prayer during our 24 hours of prayers. I am delighted to say that at the time of writing I have 37 churches that have agreed to take part including all of the Methodist, URC, Anglican, Baptist, Roman Catholic churches and most of the free churches and Quakers, all will be 'gathered in' in prayer.

Closer to the time I will be issuing a complete list of who is praying and when so that we can join in with our brothers and sisters in and around the city. Wonford will be playing its part, so please look out for that; please also come along to the cathedral as we embark upon this week of prayer.

One final thing, please pray, during the week of course and perhaps for myself and those who are helping organise it. Pray particularly that people may be changed as they are touched afresh by God's Spirit as the Christians in the city gather, in His name on their knees in prayer.

Yours, in Christ

**Mark Gilborson**

# Dates For November

## **Birthdays** - have a great birthday!!

2nd	Blondell L
4th	Lisa T
7th	Mark G
14th	Mel W
16th	Paul S
17th	Freya D
19th	Donald D
23rd	Megan L
25th	Rose S
27th	India G & Martin L
29th	Paul V



## **Flowers**

1st	Eileen
8th	John T
15th	Sylvia Ford
22nd	Sylvia & Tom
29th	Bronwen & Clifford



## **Coffee**

1st	Pat Lowans
8th	Caroline & Lesley
15th	Vanessa & Helen
22nd	Beryl & Kath
29th	Melanie & Eileen



## **Thursday Dates in November**

5th	7.30 p.m.	Church Prayer meeting in the lounge.
19th	12.30 p.m.	Soup & Chat followed by Bible Study (at 2.00 p.m.) led by Rev Mark Gilborson (Mark Ch 11 v1-25 - 'Palm Sunday')

## **Thursday Bible Studies**

Tony & Joan Wragg and running a series of Autumn Bible Study evenings on the 5th (after fireworks and grub) and 19th November 2009. This starts at 7.30 p.m. at 2 Wallace Avenue, Whipton. They will be studying Paul's letter to the Collossians. This will continue on the 3rd & 17th Dec 2009.

## Home Group Dates for November

This group meets about once a fortnight and are continuing the MRDF study 'What does the Bible say about changing the world?'

3rd 8.00 p.m. Nesy and Alan's - 46 Rifford Road led by Paul

17th 8.00 p.m. Sharon & Mark's - 20 Whipton Lane - led by Sharon

If you need any further information please contact Sharon Gilborson.

## Epistle of James Series - Autumn 2009

Nov 1st	10.00 a.m.	All-age service	Mark Gilborson
	6.30 p.m.	Taming the Tongue James 3 vv 1-12	Charles Hadley

Nov 8th	10.00 a.m.	Heavenly Wisdom James 3 vv 13-18	John Allan
	6.30 p.m.	Prayer & Praise	Caroline Colin

Nov 15th	10.00 a.m.	Grace to the Humble James 4 vv 1-10	Tony Wragg
	6.30 p.m.	The Vanishing Mist James 4 vv 11-17	Mark Gilborson

Nov 22nd	10.00 a.m.	Cries of the Harvesters James 5 vv 1-12	Mark Gilborson
	6.30 p.m.	Effective Prayer James 5 vv 13-20	John Skinner

## Pastoral Visitors Meeting

This is for **ALL** pastoral visitors and will take place on Monday 16th November 2009 in the lounge at the church at 7.30 p.m. Please bring your lists. Apologies or queries to Lisa Thomas - 01392 661894.

## Operation Christmas Child

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.

The boxes need to be in by Sunday 22nd November 2009 please.

**Thank you. Sue Keatt**

### **Coffee Morning at Topsham**

St Nicholas Methodist Church, Topsham are holding a coffee morning on Saturday 7th November 2009 from 10.00 a.m. until 12 noon, in aid of Action for Children. Topsham is a lovely place for a Saturday morning stroll and the coffee, biscuits and cake at St Nicholas are really good - please do support this excellent cause.

**Jenny Davis**

# Christians Together In Hill Barton, Heavitree & Wonford

All will be welcome at

## Advent Carol Service

at 4.00pm



on



**Sunday 29th November 2009**



at



**Wonford Methodist Church**



## **Girls' Brigade News**

There are two events coming up that might be of interest. The second one is a must!!

### **Monday 9th November**

6.30 p.m. - 2nd Exeter Girls' Brigade Awards Night and Commissioning of new Officers

### **Monday 7th December**

6.30 p.m. - 2nd Exeter Girls' Brigade Christingle Evening including Carols and the Nativity.

## **24/7 - "A Week of Prayer". 20th - 27th November 2009**

Exeter is having its own 24/7 week of prayer. **CRUX** (Christian Umbrella Group for Exeter) have written to all the churches in Exeter inviting them to take part in this city wide initiative.

It is a creative and exciting opportunity for churches across Exeter to open their doors to prayer. A chance to present a united witness and to meet and share in a continuous week long act of prayer.

The prayer team have met to discuss how Wonford might enter into this special united vision of Christian love and how it could make itself available during the week as a place of prayer and a link in the chain of continuous 24/7 prayer.

Plans will begin to come together early in the autumn. If you have any suggestions or feel you might like to be involved during the week please talk to one on the prayer team.

**Martin Lloyd**

## **Prayer Focus for November**

***May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus.***

*Romans 15:5 (NIV)*

### **Week beginning Sunday 1st**

Please pray for all the faithful work that goes on in our church for the children, especially for the outreach of Mothers and Toddlers, Youth Club and Young Church.

## **Week beginning Sunday 8th**

### **Remembrance Sunday - 'We Will Remember Them'**

Please pray for those who have lost loved ones through war, especially for families and friends of those who have died in Iraq and Afghanistan. Pray also for peace, reconciliation and ways forward through discussion instead of war.

## **Week beginning Sunday 15th**

Please pray that God will bless the united Christian witness of our Exeter-wide 'Week of Prayer' which begins on Friday, involving about 35 churches across the city.

Thank God for the many Christians in Exeter who uphold Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

## **Week beginning Sunday 22nd**

Please pray that God will give encouragement and joyful hearts to all those working 'behind the scenes' in our church:- the property stewards, cleaners, coffee and flower helpers, secretary, treasurer, counters and bankers.

## **Week beginning Sunday 29th - Advent Sunday**

Today, traditionally, the Church worldwide begins its time of preparation and reflection for the coming of Christ. Please pray for those you know (and those you don't!) who are planning to celebrate Christmas without a Saviour.

## **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**



**28th February 2010**

**4.00 - 6.00 p.m.**

## **First 'Messy Church' at Wonford**

'Messy Church' is an opportunity for families to come to church and spend some time together being creative and having fun, share in 'together time' with a song and story and enjoy a meal.

We need a team of people who are willing to help either creatively, cooking in the kitchen or spending some time with the families that come.

If you would like to help please see Sharon Gilborson, Beth Curtis or one of the Young Church Leaders.



# **News from the Methodist Church**

## **BRITISH METHODISTS SUPPORT DISASTER VICTIMS IN INDONESIA, SAMOA AND TONGA**

An appeal for prayer and funds for victims of the tsunami and earthquake tragedies has been launched by the Methodist Church in Britain.

The Church's World Mission Fund has already sent £15,000 to aid the relief work of Partner Churches in the region.

We want to be able to send more but we need your help. You can donate online at <http://www.methodist.org.uk/> to the appeal or send cheques made payable to the World Mission Fund to Dave Bennett, Fundraising Coordinator, Methodist Church House, 25 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JR. Postal donations should include a note saying 'Pacific Appeal'.

Further information is on the Methodist Church website including a prayer suitable for use in church services.

## **REACHING OUT**

VentureFX is the Methodist Church's new Pioneering Ministries Scheme, reaching and forming new ways of being church among unchurched young adults.

Selection of the first group of pioneers will take place at a Pioneer Assessment Conference in November. Soon after, projects will be selected where pioneers can begin to work innovatively to make disciples of Jesus among this age group with its specific culture and challenges.

The Methodist Church is putting significant resources into this exciting and innovative scheme which is a great opportunity for mission, and has the potential to reach what is sometimes regarded as the "missing generation" in many of our churches.

For more details about VentureFX, look on the Methodist Church website.

# Dates For Your Diary

## November 2009

Sun 1st	10.00 a.m.	Special Holiday Club Worship - all age. Rev Mark Gilborson
	6.30 p.m.	Rev Charles Hadley - James 3 v1-12 **
Tues 3rd	7.00 p.m.	Youth Emmaus Course starts in the lounge
	8.00 p.m.	Home Group Meeting at Nessy and Alan's **
Thurs 5th	7.30 p.m.	Monthly Prayer Meeting in the lounge
	7.30 p.m.	Bible Study at Tony and Joan Wragg's **
Sat 7th	10.00 a.m.	Topsham MC 'Action for Children' Coffee Morning **
Sun 8th	10.00 a.m.	Remembrance Sunday Rev John Allan - James 3 v13-18 **
	6.30 p.m.	Caroline Colin - Prayer & Praise
Mon 9th	10.30 a.m.	'Reaching the Grey Tide' Ann Morrissey Cathedral Chapter House - Book to attend.
	6.30 p.m.	Girls' Brigade Awards Night & Commissioning of New Officers **
Tues 10th	10.30 a.m.	CTH Prayers & Discussion URC Heavitree
	7.00 p.m.	Youth Emmaus Course in lounge
Sat 14th		Morning Market for World Mission at Sidwell Street MC
Sun 15th	10.00 a.m.	Tony Wragg - James 4 v1-10 **
	6.30 p.m.	Rev Mark Gilborson - James 4 v11-17 Sacrament **
Mon 16th	7.30 p.m.	Pastoral Visitors Meeting **
Tues 17th	7.00 p.m.	Youth Emmaus Course in lounge
	8.00 p.m.	Home Group meets at Sharon & Mark's **
Thurs 19th	2.00 p.m.	Monthly Bible Study ** (Soup & Chat from 12.30 p.m.)
	7.30 p.m.	Bible Study at Tony and Joan Wragg's **
<b>Week of Prayer for Exeter 20th - 27th</b>		
Fri 20th	8.00 p.m.	Launch of Week of Prayer - Exeter Cathedral
Sat 21st	9.00 a.m.	Exeter Green Circle Prayer Walk **
Sun 22nd	10.00 a.m.	Rev Mark Gilborson - James 5 v1-12 ** Sacrament
	3.00 p.m.	Cheriton Cross MC Closing Service
	6.30 p.m.	Rev John Skinner - James 5 v13-20 **
	6.30 p.m.	Circuit Youth Service at Sidwell St MC
Tues 24th	7.00 p.m.	Youth Emmaus Course in the lounge
Sun 29th	10.00 a.m.	Rev Mark Gilborson
	4.00 p.m.	CTH Advent Carol Service Rev Mark Gilborson **

**\*\*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  
2nd is a Bible Study at 2.00 p.m. (Soup & Chat from 12.30 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 2009 / January 2010 Newsletter will be Sunday 15th November 2009. 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)