

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday

10.00 am Morning Service and Young Church
(1st week is All-Age Worship)
6.30 pm Evening Service
(2nd week is Prayer & Praise)

Monday

2.45 pm Monday House Fellowship, 68 Hoker Road
(See Beryl Violet for details)
5.45 pm & 7.00 pm Girls' Brigade *A*

Tuesday

10.00 am Men's Coffee and Games Morning
6.00 pm Brownies *A*

Wednesday

9.15 am Prayers in the Quiet Room
7.30 pm Senior Youth Club (11+ years old) *A*

Thursday

7.30 pm Church Fellowship
(1st week is Monthly Prayer Meeting.
3rd week is **2.00 pm** Bible Study)
8.00 pm Thursday Homegroup, 2nd & 4th weeks *A*
(See Sharon Gilborson for details)

Friday

9.30 am Friday Toddlers Group *A*

To be sure these take place see Dates to Note or Notice board
A = No meetings during school holidays

The deadline for items for the October Newsletter will be Sunday 16th September 2007. 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

WONFORD METHODIST CHURCH

CONTACT Newsletter

No: 361

SEPTEMBER 2007

Minister: Rev Mark J Gilborson, 01392 256716

www.wonfordmethodistchurch.org.uk



Wonford is a
Fairtrade
church

MINISTERS LETTER

Whilst we were preparing to pack up and journey home from our holiday in France I went to check the car, it had been parked outside the tent we were staying. It was in perfect working order though somewhat dusty from the travelling we did, the most unpleasant part (the squeamish can skip this) was that because it was parked under a tree, the birds had made no allowances and essentially the front of the car was covered in bird droppings – not nice!

On the campsite there was a place to wash cars using a hosepipe, Natasha and I set out to tackle our dirty car. It was amazing, water and plenty of elbow grease were needed and several washes before it looked respectable, every time we looked over it we found a patch we had missed, even though we thought we had been thorough the first, second and third times. Of course when it finally was clean it was no time before we started to see dust on it again!

I remember a church group of twelve people deciding to set out on a mission, to tell others about Jesus, share the gospel in their hearts. First though they said that they must rid themselves of the sin in their lives, the problem was that six months on they were still discovering patches of dirt and grime that they thought had been cleaned, no matter how much they claimed forgiveness and tried to rid themselves of the baggage of guilt there were always pockets that were still a 'bit grubby' and even the clean bits soon became dirty again. No matter how hard we try, how hard we pray, scrub and say sorry we cannot clean ourselves, this is the Christian message, it is by Jesus that we are forgiven and cleaned even though we often go right out and get dirty again.

My message to you is this, September is the start of the Methodist year, next year heralds the start of Hope 2008, you might feel a bit grubby & guilt ridden yet God wants you to get involved in the mission of his church, he doesn't want you to wait until you are ready, that day will never come; by the grace of God and the forgiveness of Jesus you are free to share the good news in the best way **you** can. I am excited about the next year, there is a chance for us at Wonford to reach out and share the gospel. I want you to accept the forgiveness and cleansing that Jesus offers and get on with sharing the gospel – right now!

Yours, In Christ

Mark Gilborson

DATES TO NOTE

September 2007

Sun 2nd	10.00am	All-Age Worship, Tony Wragg
	6.30pm	at St.Thomas MC, Welcome to Revs David Easton & Andrew Brazier
Thu 6th	7.30pm	Monthly Prayer Meeting
Sat 8th	10.00am	District Synod, Braunton
Sun 9th	10.00am	Racial Justice Sunday, Rev Paul Collings
	6.30pm	Prayer & Praise, Anna Williams
Sun 16th	10.00am	Sue Jones
	6.30pm	Joan Wragg
Tue 18th	7.30pm	Circuit Meeting, Cheriton Fitzpaine MC
Wed 19th	7.00pm	Working with Children: CORE Skills Taster, Pilgrims Church, Plymouth**
Thu 20th	2.00pm	Minister's Bible Study, Psalm 23
	7.30pm	Pastoral Team meeting
Sat 22nd	9.30am	for 10.15 until 4.00pm, "Reflecting His Glory", Cathedral**
	10.30am	to 3.30pm, Faith and Work: witness in the work place, Avenue Church, Newton Abbot**
Sun 23rd	10.00am	Lord's Supper, Rev Mark Gilborson
	6.30pm	Rev Mark Gilborson
Wed 26th	7.30pm	Christians Together Open Evening, St.Paul's**
Sat 29th	10.00am	to 4.00pm, 'The Occasion', The Great Adventure, working with young people, Belmont Chapel**
Sun 30th	10.00am	Rev Peter Jarvis
	6.30pm	Lord's Supper, Rev Paul Hardy

October 2007

Tue 2nd	7.30pm	Church Council meeting
Wed 3rd	10.30am	to 3.30pm, Induction of District Network President, Totnes MC
Thu 4th	7.30pm	Monthly Prayer Meeting
Sat 6th	10.00am	for 10.30 to 3.00pm, Hope 08 prayers, Southernhay URC
Sun 7th	10.00am	Harvest Festival, All-Age, Joe Fisher
	6.30pm	Harvest Festival, Lord's Supper, Rev Mark Gilborson
Mon 8th	6.30pm	Harvest Bring & Share Supper & social evening

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

So Much

By Muriel Hayson

Lord, I have much to thank thee for,
These blessings every day,
And will not take for granted,
When comes the time to pray.

The buses near my home, dear Lord,
The milk beside my door,
The dustman takes my dirt away,
All this and so much more.

My Wonford Chapel Lord as well,
Such wonderous friends to see,
And friends from other churches, Lord,
They all mean so much to me.

You've done so much for me, dear Lord
I've not done much for thee.
But Oh, I pray thee, use me Lord,
To do much more for Thee.

And as I contemplate, dear Lord
On all that's showered on me,
No, I will not for granted take,
Thy wondrous care of me.

But best of all the gifts, dear Lord
Your love to such as me,
And in return my life I'll strive,
In serving only Thee.

But best of all Thy blessings Lord,
The gift of Thy dear Son.
I'll strive to serve Thee all my days,
'til travelling days are done.

SEPTEMBER

Our greetings to those with September Birthdays

2nd Jenny Tregale
4th Joan Wragg
5th John Turner
8th Tracey Streat
10th Kira Gilborson
12th JJ Lindsay: Thomas Malankovic: Judith Mayer
13th Michael Maher
14th Emma Tregale
15th Amy Thurgood
16th Joseph Wragg
18th Ellie Fisher
19th Rachael Fee; Rod Munday
20th Tony Wragg
22nd Abbie Noronha
28th Caitlyn Fee
30th Sean Lewis

FLOWERS

2nd Ros & Phil
9th Ada
16th Bronwen & Clifford
23rd Sue Kent
30th Prowses
7th Harvest

COFFEE

Paul & Rose
Prowses
Spare
Emma & Joe
Spare
Harvest

THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP

6th 7.30pm Prayer Meeting
13th 10.30am Coffee and chat
20th 2.00pm Bible Study led by Rev Mark Gilborson
"Praying our Fear"
27th 10.30am Coffee and chat

Wonford Contact Newsletter - New Editor

From the October 2007 issue of Contact, I will be taking over the editor role. I was the editor of the Whipton Contact until the church closure at the beginning of July. I have transferred my membership to Wonford and you will see me most Sunday mornings. Outside of church I am an Assistant Headteacher of a secondary school in Crewkerne, Somerset. I teach mainly Science (Chemistry) and ICT.

Since I live in Somerset, therefore, there will be some slight changes to the deadlines for articles to be sent so that copies can be distributed the last Sunday of each month. Inevitably with a new editor, there will be some changes to the layout and content of the newsletter, but hopefully these will be to your liking.

I would prefer articles to be sent to me by e-mail. My e-mail address is: andrew.m.jackson@btinternet.com. If you cannot send it to me via this method please send it to :-

**19 Hills Orchard,
Martock,
Somerset.
TA12 6DF**

or telephone **01935 826072**. Pictures really enhance a newsletter, so if you have any to put into your article please send them.

The deadline for articles for the October 2007 Contact is Sunday 16th September 2007. I am able to produce A5 and A4 copies.

If you would like an enlarged copy let me know. I can also send you an electronic copy if you provide your e-mail address.

I look forward to producing the Wonford Contact newsletter and would welcome suggestions for new regular articles.

Andrew Jackson

Muriel Hayson 18.11.05—23.7.07

Muriel died at the end of July aged 101. She was a member at Wonford and until a couple of years ago attended morning and evening worship, the prayer meetings and Thursday and Friday fellowships. She always supported events involving young people and loved social events especially harvest celebrations buying produce to share with her neighbours.

At the thanksgiving service Mark shared with the congregation of friends from Wonford and other churches with whom Muriel was connected, something of Muriel's long life. She attended a strict army school, trained as a nurse and later worked in Wippells, where her sewing skills learned from her father, a Regimental Master Tailor, were put to good use.

A note from a lady who couldn't be at the service said "I give thanks for a faithful Christian, generous hearted, gifted writer and reciter of poetry, recycler of bead necklaces and maker of new dolls from old... etc!"

It was fitting that two of her poems were chosen to be read at the service, however, Sheila remembered that a recording had been made at a fellowship meeting and so it was decided that we could listen to Muriel reading the two chosen poems—a memorable and special part of the service.

A total of £105 was sent to the Methodist Church Fund for World Mission in memory of Muriel.

Bronwen

It was suggested that one of Muriel's poems was put in Contact this month.

SIMEON'S QUEST

a new play, in which Simeon tells his great nephew and niece what happened between the Annunciation and the Presentation in the Temple,

to be presented in the Cathedral on 25 and 26 January.

Auditions: 22 and 29 September

Backstage staff needed also

Geoff Bowstead has more details.

If you are interested, please contact Trish Revell as soon as possible: Phone: 01392 259797 or Email: revellp@rrs.co.uk.

Message from the 'Old' Editor

This month will be the last Contact Newsletter I produce. I have enjoyed the 5 years I have been doing this but felt it was time to have a break.

As time went on my family learnt to keep their church magazines for me so I could scour it for interesting articles—hopefully you have enjoyed some of the poems and readings. The Internet was another good source for these.

Thank you to everyone who has spent time each month sending me articles and notices to put in. It would have been a much harder job with out your help. Please keep up the good work for Andrew.

Alison Howell

HARVEST FESTIVAL

As part of our harvest celebrations we would like to make up some hampers for families in our community.

Throughout September there will be a box/ basket available in the church foyer for us to collect gifts of non-perishable goods. Hopefully we will also be able to donate other perishable items from our harvest display at the beginning of October.

Please give generously.

Thank you.

Monika

What Happens in Heaven

I dreamt that I went to Heaven and an angel was showing me around. We walked side-by-side inside a large workroom filled with angels. My angel guide stopped in front of the first section and said, "This is the Receiving Section. Here, all petitions to God said in prayer are received." I looked around in this area, and it was terribly busy with so many angels sorting out petitions, written on voluminous paper sheets and scraps from people all over the world.

Then we moved on down a long corridor until we reached the second section. The angel then said to me, "This is the Packaging and delivery Section. Here, the graces and blessings the people asked for are processed and delivered to the living persons who asked for them." I noticed again how busy it was there. There were many angels working hard at that station, since so many blessings had been requested and were being packaged for delivery to earth.

Finally at the farthest end of the long corridor we stopped at the door of a very small station. To my great surprise, only one angel was seated there, idly doing nothing. "This is the Acknowledgment Section," my angel friend quietly admitted to me. He seemed embarrassed, "How is it that? There is no work going on here?" I asked. "so sad," the angel sighed. "After people receive the blessings that they asked for, very few send back acknowledgments.

"How does one acknowledge god's blessings?" I asked.

"Simple" the angel answered "Just say ,,"Thank you, Lord."

"What blessings should they acknowledge?" I asked.

"If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof overhead and a place to sleep, you are richer than 75% of this world. If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish, you are among the top 8% of the world's wealthy. And if you have your own computer, you are part of the 1% in the world who has opportunity.

Also if you woke up this morning with more health than illness.....

You are more blessed than the many who will not even survive this day.

"Reflecting His Glory"

a creative day at Exeter Cathedral
Sat 22 Sept, (9.30am for) 10.15 to 4.00pm

For more details and to book,
contact Shirley Collins.
Tel.: 01594 837744

Getting to know you, getting to like you ...

whether you are E, or UR, or RC, or M, or A

O p e n E v e n i n g

**St.Paul's Church,
Burnthouse Lane**

Wednesday 26 September,
7.30pm

Further details from Geoff Bowstead or John Turner

A quiet Place in the Heart

Keep a quiet little place

Where only you can go

A place securely set aside

To think, to breath, to grow.

Don't think that you'll be lonely there

For God is close beside you,

His messages will all come through

To comfort and to guide you.

Life's burdens grow much lighter

For all those who've set apart

A quiet place for God to dwell

At peace within the heart

If you have never experienced the fear in battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation, you are ahead of 700 million people in the world.

If you can attend a church meeting without the fear of harassment, arrest, torture or death... you are envied by, and more blessed than, three billion people in the world. If your parents are still alive and still married.... Or, if they were still married when they died.... you are very rare. If you can hold your head up and smile, you are not the norm, you are unique to all those in doubt and despair.”

O.K, what now? How can I start? If you can read this message, you have just received a double blessing in that someone was thinking of you as very special and you are more blessed than over two billion people in the world who cannot read at all.

Have a good day, count your blessings, and if you want, pass this along to remind everyone else how blessed we all are.

Att: Acknowledgment Dept.: “Thank you Lord! For giving me the ability to share this message and for giving me so many wonderful people to share it with”.

Extract from Clarion a North Chippenham Group of Churches magazine.

YOUNG CHURCH RECORDS

'I am in the process of updating the young church records and will be producing a form for existing and new members to fill in. This is just to check that we have the correct details. Please see me if you have any questions.'

Sharon Gilborson

I wish to say a big 'thank you' to each and every one who comforted and supported me following my car accident. You were all so kind and caring at a time of a very unpleasant shock, and helped me in many different ways when I was unable to cope with what had happened. Your loving concern helped me enormously, and I am extremely grateful.

Thank you once again, and may the Lord richly bless you all.

Mary Nicholson.

Prayer Focus for September

Paul's words from Romans 12 (The Message Bible)
So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life - your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life - and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for Him.

Week beginning Sunday 2nd

Please pray for children and teachers as they return to school. Pray especially for those moving to new schools, colleges and universities, and for little ones starting school for the first time. Pray for our childrens' groups at church as they start up again after the holidays: Mothers and toddlers, Youth club, Girls Brigade and Brownies.
Pray for Rev's David Easton and Andrew Brazier and their families as they settle into the Circuit and for people you know who have new jobs or changes in lifestyle to adjust to.

Week beginning Sunday 9th - Racial Justice Sunday

'Do not ill treat an alien (refugee, immigrant, foreigner) or oppress him.' (Exodus, chapter 22 v21 NIV)

Please pray that we will show God's love for them in their struggles with kindness, generosity and sensitivity to their situation.
'No double standards; the same rule goes for foreigners and natives. I am God, your God.' (Leviticus, chapter 24 - the Message Bible)

Also pray that God will give our Government wisdom with the decisions it makes concerning foreigners in our country. Pray for fairness and integrity as they administer law.

Week beginning Sunday 16th

Please pray that God will fill our new chapel to overflowing by the power of His Holy Spirit.
Thank Him for the joy and privilege of singing, praising and worshipping Him in His House, our church.

Week beginning Sunday 23rd

'You will be My witnesses to the ends of the earth.' (Acts, chapter 1 v8 NIV) - the very last thing Jesus prophesied over His disciples before He returned to heaven. It's a prophecy and a commandment, and one that our suffering brothers and sisters worldwide take very much to heart.
Please pray for those in stinking prison cells, those meeting in secret rooms, those in hiding and in fear for their lives, as the suffering church bears witness to Christ.
Praise God for their courage - and ask Him to make us more bold.

Week beginning Sunday 30th

'Wisdom is supreme, therefore get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding.' (Proverbs, chapter 4 v7 NIV Bible)
Please pray for the members of the Church Council as they meet on Tuesday October 2nd. Pray for wisdom, guidance and understanding.
Pray also for all the church workers - those who look after and take part in the day-to-day events and organise rotas.
Thank God for our minister, Mark, and his family. Ask God to inspire him and grant him clear thinking, wisdom and understanding as he begins his studies for a PhD.

The Prayer Team