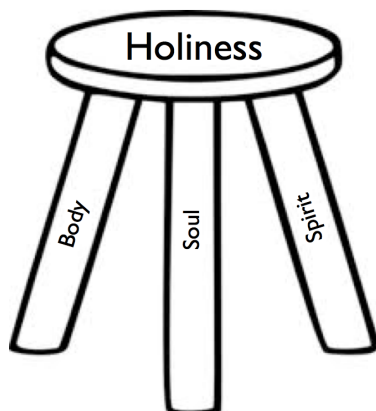


Wonford Methodist Church

Contact Newsletter

October 2016

(No: 452)



Minister: Rev Bruce Sawyer (01392 256716)



Wonford is a
Fairtrade church

The **Methodist** Church 

www.wonfordmethodistchurch.org.uk



A Message From The Minister

Dear Friends,

Before the summer, I introduced that the new President's theme for the year would be 'holiness'. In his inaugural address Roger Walton reminded us that whilst it may have been other things as well, "Methodism was a holiness movement." He concluded that;

"We need to learn from new monasticism that to tell the story of Jesus we need ourselves to have lives patterned by a rhythm of life rooted in Christ. For in a world where a multitude of truths and an infinite choice of lifestyles seem possible, Christians need to shape their lives by the pattern of Jesus. We have to be Jesus-shaped people.

Methodism was called to spread scriptural holiness. Those early Methodists did that, not simply by telling, but by living inside the biblical story; by journeying regularly to holy places; and by living intentional and ethical lives.

I believe that is still our calling."

If this is still our calling, then what is holiness, and how can we grow in it?

Below I offer you a summary of Roger's thoughts on this, and encourage you at the start of this new Methodist year to consider what in this speaks to you, affirms you and challenges you – how will you seek to nurture and grow in holiness this year?

**With every blessing,
Bruce**

What is holiness?

Roger Walton suggested three ways that it might be helpful to think about holiness:

- As spiritual fitness; where churches are known "as places where you could learn how to love, to trust, to hope, to forgive, to gain wisdom for life" which might make church "attractive, perhaps even necessary places to belong to."
- As wholeness; "being the best person that you can be, being free of all that inhibits your growth as a human being, being healed and complete not in the sense of never facing suffering or loss or disability but fully human, fully alive, fully open to God and the world."
- As resilience; being able "to live in such a way that the knocks of the world don't disfigure or destroy us but through inner strength and struggle we become, not less, but more ourselves - more able to survive, to thrive and to love."

Roger also suggested some things that holiness is not:

“Holiness is not blind zeal ... it doesn't call us to narrowness of perception and living. It doesn't desire the harming of others. Rather it widens our view and makes us more aware, sensitive and compassionate.

Holiness is not moral superiority ... it doesn't look down on others. Indeed, it is marked by humility and love. Holiness puts others' needs first and delights in the image of God in every person.

Holiness is not isolated existence away from the tarnishing of the world. It is a social holiness that grows in contact, conversation and commitment to others.”

“Holiness ...begins in the revealed character of God. For holiness is primarily the nature of God; the core character of God - God's purity, and love and beauty. God's Otherness. Our experience of holiness begins in encounter with God.”

“In other words, Holiness is God's yet God gives it to us. It is a gift which God shares with human persons and communities and calls us to share this character.”

How is holiness nurtured within us and how do we grow as holy people?

Roger offered three suggestions:

- Holiness is nurtured by living in the story of God; not by learning facts or general knowledge about scripture, but by living in God's story, learning to see the world from God's perspective, learning to live by what we read in scripture so that we “take on a different kind of lifestyle and make a different kind of community.”
- Holiness is nurtured by visiting holy spaces. This doesn't necessarily mean particular places but environments. Roger asked the question, “I wonder where you go to find God? Where are the holy spaces? Are they in our churches, our worship, our home meetings?” But Roger also encouraged us to recognise moments of encounter and mission beyond church contexts as holy spaces. In this, we are reminded that for most of us, we are helped to encounter God, and grow in holiness, with and through others.
- Holiness is nurtured by intentional and ethical living; “We grow in holiness as we seek to embody in our actions the deep convictions that flow from our faith and our relationship with God. We need to translate these convictions into commitments that express the life we have discovered in Christ. Paying our taxes properly and holding to account those companies who don't; seeking fair and just trade in the world; offering hospitality to refugees and asylum

seekers; making space for the excluded and forgotten; being faithful in our relationships; campaigning for a world free of nuclear weapons; working to halt the downhill ski-slope towards environmental and ecological disaster; these are not optional extras for us. They are essential. They are ways of pursuing the hard path to holiness, for it is both free gift and demands everything we have to receive it.”

If you wish to see the full text of Roger’s address, it is available here:
<http://www.methodist.org.uk/news-and-events/news-releases/new-methodist-president-calls-for-holiness>

Dates For October

Flowers

2nd	Eileen
9th	TBA
16th	Barbara J
23rd	TBA
30th	Mandy



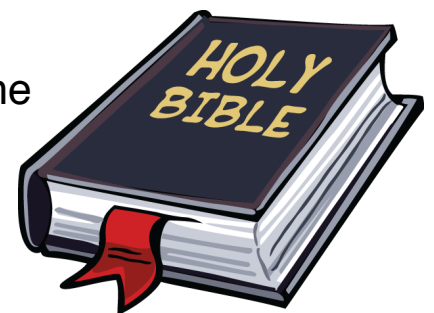
Coffee

2nd	Fran
9th	Linda & Margretta
16th	Susan & Martin
23rd	Fran
30th	Melanie & Eileen



Minister's Monthly Bible Study Group

This group meets in the lounge at 2pm normally on the third Thursday each month. All are welcome and if you'd like to learn more, do speak with Bronwen or Clifford Maddicks.



20th 2.00 p.m. Bible Study in the lounge.

Tuesday Home Group

A warm welcome is extended to anyone who would like to join us. We enjoy looking at the Bible together and we have fun with it too. We try to make it as relevant as possible to our daily lives while also enjoying the time we spend together. Please speak to Monika if you would like to come and join us! New members always welcome.

4th 7.30pm Venue to be confirmed
11th 7.30pm Venue to be confirmed

TLC Group October Bazaar

Everyone is invited to the TLC October Bazaar on Wednesday October 26th from 1.30 to 3.30pm.

Craft stalls, jumble, tea & cake in the Church Hall.

If anyone would like to have a stall please contact Rosemary on 469722. The more the merrier!

Girls' Brigade

Girls' Brigade had a great summer term - we spent the first half preparing for our Fair which raised £180 for Action for Children. Thank you to everyone who came along!

Then we had an Olympic theme ending with a medal ceremony where we also said goodbye to Abbie Noronha and Zoe Wolfendon. They started GB as five year olds and ended as leaders! We will miss them but wish them luck at Uni!



Barn Dance

Sidwell Street Methodist Church

Saturday 12th November 7.30pm

In aid of World Missions

Light refreshments provided



Tickets £6

Contact Sally McClelland 01392 214950



Exeter FoodBank Trustee Needed

Are you a dynamic person who is motivated to help those in need? Are you able to volunteer a few hours of your time every month? Then look no further... Exeter Foodbank is seeking to recruit a new trustee to join our current board of four.

Exeter Foodbank (EFB) is a small, volunteer-centered Christian charity with a big heart and a big vision: to support local people in crisis and ensure that no one in and around the city of Exeter goes hungry. Now in its eighth year of operation, the charity has established a high profile in the city, generating support from all sections of the local community in order to provide food for those in need. In fact we are proud to be the winners of the 2016 Exeter Living Awards- Charity of the Year.

The Foodbank is a member of the Trussell Trust association of Foodbanks and employs two staff members and has over 100 volunteers, with a Management Team that deals with the day to day running of the collection and distribution of food.

We are a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee, and thus the trustees have a vital role to play in the strategic planning, governance and implementation of the regulations for the organisation.

We welcome applications from anyone with a vision for growing such a project, with relevant and useful professional skills or with a gifting in organisation and development. In particular the current trustees are seeking applications from those with expertise in financial management or fundraising.

All applications, or for further information, please email FAO: the Chair of Trustees on: info@exeterfoodbank.org.uk or go to <http://exeter.foodbank.org.uk>





2016 TOUR

the *wisdom* house - *live*



Because you don't always
have to learn the hard way



Tickets from
£4 each



Join us at a venue near you:

CWMBRAN

Tuesday 11 October
Victory Church
Greenforge Way
Springvale Ind. Est.
NP44 3UJ

SWINDON

Tuesday 8 November
Freshbrook Church
Worsley Road
Freshbrook
SN5 8NU

EXETER

Wednesday 9 November
Belmont Chapel
Western Way
EX1 208

TRURO

Thursday 10 November
Truro Methodist Church
18 Union Place
TR1 1EP

For more information and to book:

Visit www.careforthefamily.org.uk/wisdomhouselive or call 029 2081 0800



All events
7.30 pm–10.00 pm
(doors open at 6.45 pm)

Church Council Meeting

The next meeting is on Tuesday 18th October 2016 at 7.30pm.

All are welcome to attend and join in the discussions although only church council members are able to vote.

Please put the date in your diary.

Alison Howell

New Themed Preaching Series on Hebrews

We started a new themed preaching series in September on Hebrews. Below are the dates and themes for the whole series. All dates are for morning worship at 10am.

Sept 11th

Introduction and Prologue Hebrews 1 vv1-4 Dr Jon Curtis

Sept 18th

The Superiority of Jesus Hebrews 1 v5 to 3 v19 Rev Bruce Sawyer

Oct 9th

Jesus – High Priest and Sacrifice Hebrews 4 to 5 v10 and 10 v1-18
Rev Bruce Sawyer

Oct 16th

Jesus and the New Promise Hebrews 6,7,8,9 Dr Joan Wragg

Oct 23rd

Following Jesus; Examples of Faith Hebrews 10 v19 to 12 v3
Rev John Carne

Oct 30th

Love and Discipline in Christ Hebrews 12 vv4 to 29 Dr David Allen

Nov 13th

Living for Jesus Hebrews 13 vv1-17 Dr Cheryl Hunt

Nov 20th

Final Prayer and Blessing Hebrews 13 v18 to end Rev Terry Spencer

Prayer Focus for October

**Now FAITH is the assurance of things hoped for,
the conviction of things not seen.**

Hebrews 11:1 (RSV)

Week beginning Sunday 2nd

Please pray as a church family we will let the Holy Spirit deepen our faith and show us things beyond our understanding.

Pray also for those with responsibility as Trustees for our Church and for the District Training Day this Saturday.

Thank God for those who serve our church and community in a variety of ways as the Spirit prompts them.

Week beginning Sunday 9th Prisons Week

During this Prisons Week please pray for prisoners and their families, prison staff, chaplains and victims of offenders and their families.

Thank God for the work of Christians from many different churches who have given hope where there was no hope through the message of the Gospel.

Week beginning Sunday 16th

Please pray for vision and wisdom for members of Church Council who meet on Tuesday.

Pray also for our minister, Bruce, that God will continue to guide and empower him in all aspects of his ministry both here at Wonford, in the University Chaplaincy team and at three other Churches in our Circuit (Crockernwell, Lymphstone and Whiddon Down).

Week beginning Sunday 23rd

If 'FAITH is the assurance of things hoped for', please pray that as we approach our church services on Sundays we will come with contrite hearts and filled with expectation that God is going to lead us into great things as we worship Him.

Pray also for God's protection over children everywhere as they begin their half-term break.

Week beginning Sunday 30th

Please pray for God's continuing guidance and advice to those responsible for children and young people in our Church Toddler Group, Messy Church, Young Church and Girls' Brigade.

Pray also that He will watch over and grant wisdom to parents, grandparents, foster parents and carers.

Phone Prayer Link

Should you, or those you know, wish to be supported in prayer, the first contacts are Michael or Judith Maher (01392 214789). Your request will then be passed to members of the Prayer Link who will pray for your need. If the first contact is unavailable, please contact either Margretta Bowstead (437329) or Margaret Kearns (679949).

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.

The Prayer Team

DON'T FORGET Prayer Breakfast

This is on Saturday 15th October 2016 at 8.30am.



Dates For Your Diary

October 2016

Sun 2nd	10.00 a.m.	All Age Worship
	6.30 p.m.	Rev Steve Santry
Tue 4th	7.30 p.m.	Home Group Meets - Venue TBA **
Sat 8th	10.00 a.m.	District Day for Trustees, The Avenue United Ch, Newton Abbott (until 4pm) **
Sun 9th	10.00 a.m.	Rev Bruce Sawyer - Hebrews Themed Preaching *
	6.30 p.m.	Dr Joan Wragg - Prayer & Praise
Tue 11th	7.30 p.m.	Home Group Meets - Venue TBA **
Wed 12th	3.00 p.m.	Catholic Women's League Ecumenical Tea, Cardinal Newman House, Wonford Road **
Sat 15th	8.30 a.m.	Prayer Breakfast
Sun 16th	10.00 a.m.	Dr Joan Wragg - Hebrews Themed Preaching **
	6.30 p.m.	Rev Paul Collings - Sacrament Service
Tue 18th	10.00 a.m.	Roundabout Cafe (until 12pm)
	7.30 p.m.	Church Council Meets **
Wed 19th	7.30 p.m.	Circuit World Church Committee meets here **
Thu 20th	2.00 p.m.	Monthly Bible Study in the Lounge **
Sun 23rd	10.00 a.m.	Rev John Carne - Hebrews Themed Preaching and Sacrament **
	6.30 p.m.	John Allan - Cafe Church
Wed 26th	1.30 p.m.	TLC Group October Bazaar (until 3.30pm) **
Sun 30th		British Summer Time Ends
	10.00 a.m.	Dr David Allen - Hebrews Themed Preaching **
	6.30 p.m.	Gill Harvey

**** Details in this newsletter or on the notice board in the hall.**



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

- 7.30 p.m. Away Group Bible Study (33 Matford Ave)
Girls' Brigade (4 - 16 year olds) 5.45 to 7pm ***A***

Tuesday

- 9.15 a.m. Weekly Prayers in the Quiet Room
10.00 a.m. Men's Coffee and Games Morning
10.00 a.m. The Roundabout Café (3rd Tuesday each month)
7.30 p.m. Home Group Bible Study Meeting (fortnightly)

Thursday

- 2.00 p.m. Bible Study (3rd Thursday each month)

Friday

- 9.30 a.m. Friday Toddlers Group ***A***
2.00 p.m. Friday Fellowship in the lounge

Saturday

- 8.30 a.m. Monthly Prayer Breakfast (3rd Saturday each month)

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 November 2016 Newsletter will be Sunday 16th October 2016. 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