

Wonford Methodist Church

Contact Newsletter

June 2023
(No: 520)



Minister: Rev Ben Haslam (01392 256716)



Wonford is a
Fairtrade church

The **Methodist** Church 

www.wonfordmethodistchurch.org.uk



@WonfordMethodistChurch



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A Message From The Minister

Dear Friends,

Psalm 13

Many has been the time somebody has said to me that they would never have got through a particularly difficult time, usually a bereavement, if it were not for their faith. Having that faith never made the anguish disappear or remove the source of the heartache. What it did do for them was to be a constant reminder to the fact that they were not alone, that they walked through the valley of the shadow of death with God by their side. One of the wonderful things about the Psalms is that they record a huge range of human experiences, including anguish, rage and bewilderment. In this psalm, we hear a plea which we may have made ourselves at some point in our lives: 'How long O Lord' will I have to put up with this!

The psalmist screams out to God but at the same time expresses confidence and trust in God as the one who brings deliverance and is always faithful. This is, above all, a psalm about sustaining a relationship with God every day and in every situation. It's easy to praise God when things are going well, but faith is much tougher when the wheels come off. Part of the answer is to do as the psalmist does: name God as loving and good even when it doesn't feel like it, because our feelings and our circumstances change but God never does. Praising God even when things are bleak grounds us in the bigger reality of God's love and grace and fortifies us to endure. This is what people mean when they say that their faith saw them through a difficult time. God's people face the same trials and tribulations as everyone else. The difference is, we do not struggle alone. We can say, with the psalmist, 'I trust in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation'.

With every blessing
Ben Haslam

Do you feel like...

you are spiritually empty ?
you've been abandoned by God
when you really need Him?

So did David, the man after God's own heart...

Being honest,
this Sunday:

PSALM 13

HOW LONG, O LORD?

Dates For June 2023

Coffee

4th	Rose & Paul
11th	Jenny S & Alison
18th	Edith & Tudor
25th	Maggie & David



Bible Study Group

Our fortnightly Friday Bible Study Group meets in our Lounge at 3pm to 4.30pm. In June they meet on the 9th and 23rd to continue their Bible Month studies of the Book of Revelation. These will continue into June and early July. Please do join them if you are able.

Monika

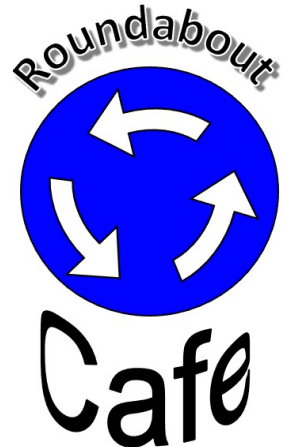
The Away Group

This group meets on a Monday evening every fortnight at 7.30 pm. Dates and venues will be given out each Sunday in the notices.

Roundabout Café

The Roundabout Café will meet on Tuesday 20th June 2023 when the theme will be 'Where Did You Come From & What Did You Do'. Some of those who attend Roundabout Café will share their stories.

We meet from 10.00am until noon with coffee and cake. Everyone is welcome.



Wonford Welcome Drop-In - Saturdays (10.30am to 12.00pm)

We continue with our hunt for any beautiful local photos taken by you for our 2024 WMC calendar 'Wonders of God'. Please send a photo you'd like to be considered to Mandy Denton and later in the year there will be a vote to find the favourite twelve to feature in our calendar, so do get snapping!

In June we will be having the following activities for you to join if you would like alongside the free cuppa & cake.

3rd June

We are introducing the '30 Days Wild' (the Wildlife Trusts' annual challenge throughout June) with simple ideas and activities to help & appreciate our wonderful wildlife.

10th June

We will be having a Nature Quiz so come along and test your knowledge.

17th June

We are going to find out more about recycling and play Bingo with prizes!

24th June

We will have our monthly Games Morning with the pool table, table football and a variety of table top games.

Wonford Welcome is open to all; everyone, whatever their age or beliefs, will receive a warm welcome! If you are able to spread the word, put up a poster or share it on social media please do. And if you haven't been along yet please do come and join us one Saturday!

Sue, Rose, Paul, Mandy, Monika, Liz, Lisa, Helen, Alison

Prayer Focus for June

Week Commencing Sunday June 4th

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock.
If anyone hears my voice and opens the door,
I will come in and eat with that person,
and they with me.
Revelation 3:20

Pray that we may all be challenged and encouraged as we look at the book of Revelation during this Bible Month of June. Pray that more of us will join in the Home and Away groups to study God's word together.

Week Commencing Sunday June 11th

And they sang a new song, saying:
“You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals,
because you were slain, and with your blood you
purchased for God persons from every tribe
and language and people and nation.
You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God,
and they will reign on the earth.”
Revelation 5:9-10

Methodist Homes Sunday We give thanks and pray for Methodist Homes around the UK. We pray that both residents and staff will be blessed. We pray about all the issues faced by the organisation and for the residents as they cope with the challenges of later life. May they be strengthened physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

Week commencing Sunday June 18th

“We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty,
the One who is and who was,
because you have taken your great power
and have begun to reign.
Revelation 11:17

Refugee Week We pray for all organisations working to support refugees right around the world. We pray for our Government, that they will make decisions based on true justice and deep compassion on behalf of all refugees reaching our shores, whether they have arrived legally or illegally.

Week commencing Sunday June 25th

Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude,
like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder,
shouting: “Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns.
Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory!
For the wedding of the Lamb has come,
and his bride has made herself ready.
Revelation 19:6-7

Conference Sunday We pray for the Methodist Church Conference 2023, taking place in Birmingham. We pray for wisdom and understanding, good communication and appreciation of differences as issues are discussed and decisions are made. Bless all those being ordained on this day, Sunday 25th June. Equip them to do your will and to serve your church.

Our Prayer Phone Link

Should you, or those you know, wish to be supported in prayer, the first contact is now Lisa Thomas (01392 273220). 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 Rose Smith (01404 510853).

After Service 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

Fun Insect Quiz

How well do you know your insects?

1. How many species of insect have been identified in the world?

- a) 565,000
- b) 925,000
- c) 1,200,000

2. How many days (on average) does a bumblebee live for?

- a) 19
- b) 28
- c) 36

3. How many different species of ladybird are there in the world?

- a) 2000
- b) 5000
- c) 8000

4. Which beetle is the strongest insect on the planet?

- a) Rhinoceros beetle
- b) Bull-headed dung beetle
- c) Hercules beetle

5. What insect was the first living creature to be sent into space?

- a) Soldier ant
- b) Cockroach
- c) Fruit fly

6. What percentage of all the species in the world are insects?

- a) 25%
- b) 40%
- c) 80%

7. How old (in millions of years) is the oldest insect fossil?

- a) 180
- b) 320
- c) 400

8. Insects have structures known as simple eyes, in addition to the compound eyes they use to see. But what do they use these simple eyes for?

- a) Detecting colours
- b) Magnifying images
- c) Detecting light

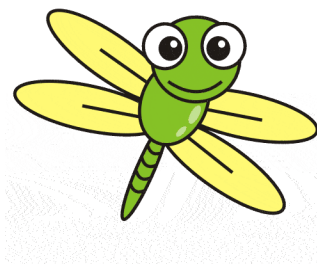
9. What is the loudest insect in the world?

- a) Cicada
- b) Cricket
- c) Bee

10. What is the largest butterfly in the UK?

- a) Purple emperor
- b) Swallowtail
- c) Peacock

Answers will be in the July Contact.



SOMEWHERE OVER THE RAINBOW

On Midsummer's Day, as the church clock struck four,
Clouds parted, revealing heaven's jewelled open door;
If you ask me to tell you what exactly I saw,
It's the same as St John two millennia before:
For dividing that golden-paved heavenly street,
Flowed God's River of Life so majestic, complete
With the Tree of Life avenue planted each side,
Whose leaves breathed out healing – that's the vision I spied.

The whole scene exuded a bright, intense light,
The message it preached was there'd be no more night,
No more tears, pain or death, only love would increase,
Haloed saints radiated joy, worship and peace.
In the twinkling of an eye my rapture then ended,
This celestial gate shut, my vision suspended.
But strange, a huge rainbow now filled the sky,
Yet no rain had fallen, the earth was bone dry!

Rev Malcolm Carter

News From The Methodist Church

Representing the Methodist Church at the Coronation

By the Revd Graham Thompson, President of the Methodist Conference

It was an amazing privilege to represent the Methodist Church at the Coronation of King Charles and Queen Camilla. The arrangements for the day were kept from public attention for as long as possible.

My invitation came about three weeks beforehand and the requirement to attend a full dress rehearsal about a week later. All of which meant that plans had to be changed and I am grateful to those (especially the Methodist Diaconal Order) who accommodated these.

The Faith Leaders who were invited to attend the Coronation were led into the Abbey just after 10a.m. and seated in the North Transept behind the pulpit. We couldn't see all that was happening but had the benefit of television screens that we could watch but we could hear everything. The music was incredible; chest pounding and moving.

The overall message - I have come not to be served but to serve - was

clearly enunciated from the beginning of the service and reinforced throughout, including a reference by Prince William in his speech at the Coronation Concert the next day.

The call to service; to live for the benefit of others, is a call that we should all recognise. After all, we are disciples of the Servant King and discover how much we can receive as we give ourselves to meet the needs of others.

Hugely significant were the number of departures from the Coronation of seventy years ago. On Saturday, ecumenical partners took part (including Helen Cameron as Moderator of the Free Churches Group) as they invoked a corporate blessing on the king.

Leaders of other faith groups also took part as they brought some of the symbols to the throne. And, right at the end of the service, they met the newly crowned king at the door of the Abbey and declared, "Your Majesty, as neighbours in faith, we acknowledge the value of public service. We unite with people of all faiths and beliefs in thanksgiving, and in service with you for the common good."

We are all called by God to serve and to do so in partnership with others. This clear message ran through the whole occasion, whilst also assuring everyone who would listen that God's leading and a positive response to God's call is all that we need so that might know life in all its fullness.



Bible Word Search - Revelation 8

To Mark Bible Month 2023 and the Book of Revelation below is a small word search.

P G R B F N K S T E P M U R T
R N E O O E S E T A R H P U E
A I T T U P H V E C A N R U F
Y N T T N T D E Y O R T S E D
E R I O T H U N D E R I N G S
R U B M A A P A A L N O G E R
S B R L I L I N I C I L V O E
C L I E N I T G R T A E B S T
O E M S S M H E A M N E G I I
R S S S E T A L P T S A E R B
P S T V N T U S H P E S O J A
I I O I U B I S S A C H A R H
O N N R I D E W O L L O F T N
N G E R E A R T H Q U A K E I
S S T N L I E O W E O W E O W

**Bitter, Blessings, Bottomless, Breastplates, Brimstone,
Burning, Creatures, Destroyed, Earthquake, Euphrates,
Followed, Fountains, Furnace, Inhabiters, Issachar, Joseph,
Lamp, Lightnings, Nephtalim, Pit, Prayers, Robes, Scorpions,
Seven angels, Seventh seal, Thunderings, Tribulation,
Trumpets, Woe woe woe**

Dates For Your Diary

June 2023

Sat 3rd	10.30 a.m.	Wonford Welcome Drop-In (until 12.00 pm) **
Sun 4th	10.00 a.m.	All Age Worship - Deacon Becky Lovatt
Fri 9th	3.00 p.m.	Friday Bible Study Group meet in the lounge **
Sat 10th	10.30 a.m.	Wonford Welcome Drop-In (until 12.00 pm) **
Sun 11th	10.00 a.m.	Rev Ben Haslam - Sacrament.
	4.30 pm.	Circuit Service at Wonford. World Mission
Tue 13th	7.30 p.m.	Church Council Meeting
Sat 17th	10.30 a.m.	Wonford Welcome Drop-In (until 12.00 pm) *
Sun 18th	10.00 a.m.	Dr Jon Curtis
Tue 20th	10.00 a.m.	Roundabout Café (until 12pm) **
Fri 23rd	3.00 p.m.	Friday Bible Study Group meet in the lounge **
Sat 24th	10.30 a.m.	Wonford Welcome Drop-In (until 12.00 pm) **
Sun 25th	10.00 a.m.	Prof Tony Wragg
	6.30 p.m.	Circuit Barn Service at Home Farm, Poltimore

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



The deadline for items for the July 2023 Newsletter will be Sunday 11th June 2023. 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

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 *(not every week)*

Monday

7.30 p.m. The Away Group meets *(Fortnightly)*

Tuesday

10.00 a.m. The Roundabout Café *(3rd Tuesday each month)*

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

9.30 a.m. Friday Toddlers Group ***A***

3.00 p.m. Fortnightly Bible Group in the Church Lounge

Saturday

10.30 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.

Wonford Welcome Drop-In

Tea, coffee and biscuits are free.

(***A*** = No meeting during school holiday)