

# Wonford Methodist Church

## Contact Newsletter

October 2018

(No: 472)



**Minister: Rev Ben Haslam (01392 256716)**



Wonford is a  
Fairtrade church

The **Methodist Church**

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



@WonfordMethodistChurch



# A Message From The Minister

## **Dear Friends,**

At Synod recently, Graham Thompson, our District chair talked about a 'year of prayer' and of how he wanted to encourage deeper and more committed prayer across the district. The trouble with prayer sometimes is, we just don't know where to start. What I say to that is, start with scripture, and let the Word of God teach you to pray. I've put together for you a sort of prayer diary which may help to guide you in your prayers. You don't have to stick to it rigidly – let it be a springboard to assist you as you let God's word inspire you! The Bible is stuffed with prayers and they are often impassioned and extravagant, but always heartfelt – nothing timid or lukewarm here!. Let's learn from our ancestors in the faith how to bring ourselves fully, honestly, beseechingly before God in prayer. You'll need your Bible handy to look up the references!

## **Sunday - *Ephesians 3.14-16.***

On the day that we meet to worship together, Paul's prayer to the Ephesians church is apt. Paul prays nothing less than that they will experience to the uttermost the extent of God's love for them so that they can live richly, deeply and fully as Christ's people.

## **Monday - *Psalms 3.***

This is the prayer of someone up to their necks, who feels they can't cope any more. Like many of the Psalms, it's raw and honest but shot through with hope and trust in God.

## **Tuesday - *Psalms 51.***

Clearly, the prayer of someone who has messed up quite spectacularly and needs more than forgiveness – the Psalmist needs to be renewed, restored, refreshed and given the chance to make a new start. The Psalmist is in no doubt that God will grant it.

## **Wednesday - *Psalms 139.***

This is the prayer of someone delighting in their relationship with God which is at once cosily intimate and utterly awe inspiring (God knew and loved before we were even born is the message!)

**Thursday - 1 Samuel 2.1-10.**

In this famous prayer, like the even more famous Magnificat, Hannah, who has pleaded with God for a son, experiences an answer to prayer which opens her eyes to how God works – tending and watching over the outcasts and marginalised and humbling the arrogant.

**Friday - Nehemiah 1. 1,2-9.**

Nehemiah finds himself the leader of a people who have endured exile and loss and are yearning for home. This is still the experience of too many around the world and we are called to bring the brokenness and the divisions of our world to God in that essential task we call ‘interceding’.

**Saturday - Matthew 6. 5-15.**

The Lord’s Prayer. No commentary needed! Say the words of this prayer slowly, and put your heart into each word.

**With every blessing  
Ben Haslam**

## Dates For October

### Coffee

7th	Melanie & Eileen
14th	Pauline & Fran
21st	Madeline & David
28th	Ruth & Jenny



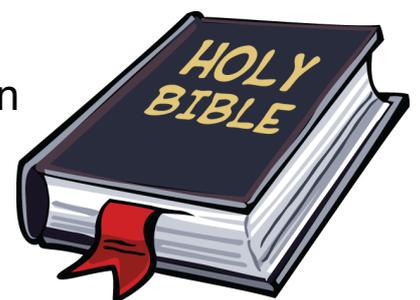
### Flowers

7th	Mandy - Harvest
14th	Eileen
21st	Madeline
28th	TBA



### Minister's Monthly Bible Study Group

Further information will be available via the screen in church on a Sunday morning.



## **Our Calling**

Our Calling, in the Methodist Church in Britain, is to:

*increase awareness of  
God's presence and to  
celebrate God's love*

*help people to grow and learn as  
Christians through mutual  
support and care*

*to be a good neighbour to  
people in need and to challenge  
injustice*

*make more followers of Jesus  
Christ*

Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

***Acts 2: 46-47***

## **Home Group**

This group is now meeting fortnightly through the autumn on Wednesday evenings at 7.30 pm in different members homes, as our Sunday Screen Notices will tell each time. We are hoping this new day will suit everyone and maybe also be good for some new ones to join us. Our studying and discussion will be based on Paul's epistle to the Colossians and will benefit very much from all we learn in our Theme Preaching using the same book. Come with your questions or thoughts to help us, please!

Our studies will go over into the New Year; and our dates for the autumn are always starting at 7.30pm on:

***October 10th & 24th, November 7th & 21st; and December 5th & 19th.***

Do come along and help us decide what's best - or phone/talk with Monika Noronha

## **Church Council Meeting**

This takes place on Tuesday 16th October 2018 at 7.30pm in the church. All are welcome to attend and join in the discussions but only church council members can vote on any item. If you have any items for the Agenda please let me know.

**Alison Howell**

## Themed Preaching for this Autumn - Paul's Letter to the Colossians

This series continues into October and November as detailed below.

Oct 14	Col 1 v24-2 v5	The Mystery Revealed	Andy Mulcock
Oct 21	Col 2 vv6-23	The Insider Threats	Monika Noronha
Oct 28	Col 3 vv1-11	The Old Self	Ben Haslam
Nov 11	Col 3 vv12-17	The New Self	John Carne
Nov 18	Col 3 v18-4 v1	The Christian Household	Ben Haslam
Nov 25	Col 4 vv2-18	The Faithful Church	Joan Wragg

**Plymouth and Exeter District**  
*Methodist Women in Britain*



### **AUTUMN DISTRICT DAY**

Thursday, 11 October 2018

Induction of Rev Jane Sperring as

Vice-President

Led by Revd Graham Thompson and

Revd Ben Haslam

(coffee from 10am: and tea afterwards)

Wonford Methodist Church  
Burnthouse Lane, Exeter EX2 6NG

**ALL VERY WELCOME!**

**This will include a Service of Holy Communion, a Forum with Rev Deborah Kirk and a presentation from the Devon Air Ambulance.**

**All are welcome.**

## **A BIG Thank You**

We would just like to say a very big THANK YOU for all the cards and flowers, kind words and thoughts which you have sent our way since Monika's Mum passed away in August. We have felt surrounded with love and comfort all the way.

### **Monika and family**

Joan & David Morrish's daughter, Claire Thorogood, would like friends at Wonford to know that she has now got two memorial plaques for her mum and dad at the Exeter Crematorium, which are situated around the central pond near the chapels.

## **Shoebox Appeal 2018**

Just think for a moment, a filled shoebox may be the only gift they have ever been given - their first gift, ever. Imagine the joy when they receive a box and then discover the presents inside - what a Christmas present for someone truly in need!

We are collecting boxes through Blythswood Care again this year, which is an established Christian charity based in Glasgow, Scotland. They bring hope to families in Europe, Africa and Asia through filled shoeboxes at Christmas, relief and development aid or social projects for young and old. Their motto is 'transforming lives through Christian care for body and soul'.



You need to cover a shoebox in wrapping paper with the lid wrapped separately and they can be for adults as well as teenagers and children. The categories are; Elderly Woman, Man, Woman, Teenage Boy, Teenage Girl, Boy or Girl.

I will bring in some sample boxes and the leaflets, which provide a full checklist of items that can be put in the shoeboxes. These include toiletries, hats & scarves, stationery, toys & sweets as well as some other items of clothing. For the adults things like candles, a hand powered torch or kitchen utensils are very useful. The donation towards cost of transporting each shoebox is £3. Date for final collection at Wonford Methodist is Sunday 18th November.

Most important items - toothbrush & toothpaste, soap & flannel, hat/scarf/gloves, sweets (dated at least March 2019), a small toy and pencils/pens/paper.

Other suggested items for children - a ball, skipping rope, hair accessories, puzzles, stickers. For adults - shampoo, deodorant, comb, sewing equipment, candles (but no matches), kitchen utensils, screwdriver/pliers, pack of cards, small wind up torch and for teenage girls/woman- sanitary products.

You might like to add in a Christmas card with a message, your name & town/country but do not put in your address.

If you have any questions or you want to donate a few items or money instead of filling a box then please let me know - all contributions are very welcome and will help to put a smile on the faces of people who live in such poverty. This shoebox may be the only gift they have ever been given.

**Sue Keatt**

PS. We really do need empty & unwanted shoeboxes to wrap so if you have any then please bring them in!

## **Long, Hot Summer!**

I was going to start by saying that I am a keen gardener but describing myself as a gardener implies some knowledge and I just stick plants in and hope for the best! So instead I'll say that I really enjoy gardening!

This long, hot summer has been wonderful but it has been a challenge to keep my plants alive! I have used 'grey' water ( bath and washing up water) on my flowerbeds and water from the water butt for my pots. I also used water from the butt to water my tomatoes as I didn't want them tasting of soap! There have been a few casualties but generally the garden has survived.

Girls' Brigade had a theme of 'Caring for Creation' last term and we planted bee friendly sunflowers. A big thank you to everyone who watered them for us! I am conscious though that we used tap water for this. Though water isn't scarce in the UK it needs substantial amounts of energy to extract, transport and treat it so when we use less tap water we save energy. Perhaps we could have a water butt at Church so we can collect rain water for the plants and save the tap water for us!

**Helen Moore**  
**Church Green Team**

## **Gift Aid Secretary**

Gift Aid is a government scheme which increases the value of donations made by tax payers to certain charities. As a church we benefit through this scheme and are able to claim several thousand pounds through it each year. I have administered this scheme for us over the past few years, but will be standing down from this role from May 2019. Although this seems a long way off, I would love to have someone work alongside me over this coming year so they can learn the ropes and ensure a smooth transition. If you'd like to know more, please speak with me [and also if you're a tax payer and don't already Gift Aid your donation!]. Although much of this work happens when no-one can see what is being done it is an important role.

This role should not take up too much of your time. The main work happens from mid-February to May when the weekly envelopes are prepared and given out before the beginning of April. During April/May the gift aid claim is made, and Church House is always there to support you with any help you may need. My replacement will need to be computer literate as all claims are made online with the use of e-mail, however this is not a complicated form to complete! Otherwise it is mainly record keeping, encouraging people to gift aid their offering and making sure weekly envelopes are ordered in a timely fashion. The record keeping can be done with the help of a computer or manually. I have found using a computer helpful but realise this may not suit everyone! So the main activity for this role is around Feb, March, April and May, roughly when the financial year is changing, so if anyone feels they are able to take over this role I would love to hear from them so I can guide them through the duties and perhaps some of their first year as Gift Aid Secretary. Without a Gift Aid Secretary we would not be able to claim the generous amounts we are at present claiming, so do consider this role very prayerfully.

Thank You.

**Linda Clarke, Gift Aid Secretary, Wonford Methodist Church.**



**Sunday 28th October 2018  
4.00pm**

**ALL Welcome**

# Prayer Focus for October

***Do not worry but pray about everything!***

I begin as usual suggesting that we pray for all who will lead worship here at Wonford each Sunday. October includes our Harvest Festival, Prisoners Week, in which this year we can think especially of the prison staff after a difficult year. Pray for the work that chaplains and volunteers do with the prisoners. Pray for One World Week when we remember those who distribute aid and work toward peace. Also pray for all who will lead our Bible studies and our Tuesday prayer meetings.

During October our politicians will be negotiating important decisions in the run up to Brexit. Please pray that the agreements they make will be fair for all and trade deals will be right for both exports and imports.

There seems to be a rise in knife and gun crime over recent months. Pray for our police force and judiciary service as they work together to make our country safe. Also pray for those who commit crime of any kind to stop and think of the consequences. Pray also for the victims of crime.

In the wider world pray for those who have been imprisoned falsely either for their political views or religious views or simply for being in the wrong place at the wrong time. I am thinking particularly of Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe but there are hundreds in the same position as her in other parts of the world.

**Julie Rothwell**

***May you all be richly blessed as you pray for all the activities at Wonford, surrounding area & the wider world.***

## **Our Prayer Phone Link**

Should you, or those you know, wish to be supported in prayer, the first contact is now Rev Alan Rothwell (01392- 926840). 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 Margretta Bowstead (01392-437329) or 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.



# Exminster 10th Christmas Tree Festival

Plans are underway for the **Exminster 2018 Christmas Tree Festival** over the weekend of 30<sup>th</sup> November to 2<sup>nd</sup> December with group visits on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>. All money raised goes to children's charities working in Devon.

Groups, organisations, families, individuals, churches and businesses etc. **are all invited to display a decorated tree at the Festival**. You can bring along your Christmas tree (real or artificial) and decorate it in your own colours, ideas etc. Why not start planning now! **Entry is free.**

**Entry forms and details are available from Jeny on 832553 or email [exminstermethodists@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:exminstermethodists@yahoo.co.uk)**

Last year there were 44 lovely trees on display and the £1,400 raised was shared between Action for Children and for Bramble children's ward at the RD&E Hospital. This being the 10<sup>th</sup> Festival, we are hoping for a record number of trees with extra things happening during the weekend.

**The festival is held in  
Exminster Methodist Church**

# Dates For Your Diary

## October 2018

Sat 6th	10.00 a.m.	Harvest gifts and decorating the Church
Sun 7th	10.00 a.m.	Harvest Festival - Rev Ben Haslam All Age Worship Ron Lurvey
Wed 10th	6.30 p.m.	Home Group meets **
Thu 11th	7.30 p.m.	Home Group meets **
	10.00 a.m.	Methodist Woman in Britain Autumn District Day at Wonford MC **
Sun 14th	10.00 a.m.	Andy Mulcock - Collossians Themed Preaching 3 **
	6.30 p.m.	Prof Tony Wragg - Prayer & Praise
Tue 16th	10.00 a.m.	The Roundabout Café meets (until 12pm)
	7.30 p.m.	Church Council meets in the Church **
Sun 21st	10.00 a.m.	Monika Noronha - Collossians Themed Preaching 4 **
	6.30 p.m.	Rev Steve Santry
Wed 24th	7.30 p.m.	Home Group meets **
Thu 25th	7.30 p.m.	Wonford Worms Book Club meets in the lounge
Sun 28th	10.00 a.m.	Rev Ben Haslam - Sacrament and Collossians Themed Preaching 5 **
	4.00 p.m.	<b>Messy Church</b>

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

France... (translated):

"When you enter this church it may be possible that you hear "the call of God". However, it is unlikely that He will call you on your mobile. Thank you for turning off your phones. If you want to talk to God, enter, choose a quiet place and talk to Him. If you want to see Him, send Him a text while driving."

***This notice was  
displayed in a French  
Church and  
translated into  
English***

***Thanks to Rose Smith***

# 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  
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. The Roundabout Café (3rd Tuesday each month)

## Wednesday

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\*

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 2018 Newsletter will be Sunday 14th October 2018. 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)