

Wonford Methodist Church

Contact Newsletter

July 2017
(No: 460)



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,

I write this just a couple of days after the tragic fire at the Grenfell tower block. I know that many of you have been deeply touched by the terrible images we have seen on our screens and in the papers. Of course our prayers are for those who have been affected by such devastation; those who have lost loved ones, those who wait, those beginning to recover from their injuries, the emergency services who came to provide immediate help, others who are responding to provide ongoing relief, those who now feel fearful and vulnerable in their accommodation. For many of us, even though we might be far away, our instinctive response has been to ask what we can do to help? To want to give, to respond in some way. The response by many, of all faiths and none, to this, and to the terror attacks in Manchester and London, has been heartening. Communities have come together to support those in distress, those left vulnerable. There have been countless stories of heroism, sacrifice, dedication, compassion and solidarity. There has been a determination to show love, to demonstrate that love will triumph over evil, tragedy, and despair. It is right to celebrate and give thanks for this love and such spirit. It is also true that in such acts we have a partial answer to the question of 'Where is God?'. For God is indeed seen in such acts of kindness as when the stranger is welcomed, the hungry fed, the widow and the orphan cared for.

However, I am troubled by the news that the first victim of the fire to be named is Mohammad Alhajali, a Syrian refugee, perhaps more vulnerable than most. Anger is, rightly, being expressed that such a tragedy should happen in one of the poorest boroughs, next to one of the richest boroughs in one of the richest nations on earth. As much as we celebrate and take heart from the kindness we have seen, I find myself being drawn back to the verse printed on our membership tickets for this year: "Do justice, love kindness, walk humbly with God" Micah 6:8

Kindness is only one aspect of what God requires of us. In many ways, kindness is reactionary, we respond with kindness to an immediate need. Without wishing to take anything away from the response that has been shown, we must not forget that God also requires us to do justice. This is about more than immediate response. It often requires commitment for a long time. It seeks change to end inequality, to prevent suffering. It requires us to face difficult truths and ask uncomfortable questions, including of ourselves. If indeed deregulation of social housing has contributed to this tragedy, it is not just politicians who must take responsibility. How have we cared for the vulnerable in our midst? To what have we turned a blind eye?

God is seen not just in those who love kindness, but those who do justice. Perhaps we ought to find the question of where is God in the wake of such

Volunteering at the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital

Within the NHS “Spiritual Care” has always been an important component in the overall care offered in hospitals through their Chaplaincy departments.

Here at the Department of Pastoral, Religious and Spiritual Care (known as Chaplaincy) in the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital we have a great group of voluntary team members who help us in various ways.

“It is such a privilege and honour to spend time with people – I am always surprised by how open and honest people are and how much they appreciate a listening ear”

These are words of one of our current volunteer ward visitors, who see patients by calling bed-to-bed on their assigned ward once per week offering a friendly listening ear. They also help us to discern where there are those who might need further support whether pastoral, religious or spiritual so that we can make sure that this element of care is provided on the patient journey.

We offer training for this vital work and the next course will start on Monday 18th September and run weekly for 8 weeks (2.30-4.30pm) here in the hospital. During the course we explore the place of spirituality in healthcare and practise basic listening skills as well as thinking about the effect of ill-health, loss and bereavement in our own lives and faith journey.

If you think you might be interested in finding out more about the course or joining our team then do call Juliet Horwood 01392 402024 or e-mail

rde-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net

Job Advert

Christian Aid Regional Coordinator - Devon, Cornwall & Isles of Scilly

Salary (full time):£32,329 Type of contract:Permanent

Contracted hours:35 Location:South West

Closing date:6 July 2017 Interview date:19 July 2017

They are looking for a Regional Coordinator to inspire churches, supporters and volunteers in Devon, Cornwall & Isles of Scilly to give, act and pray alongside the world's poorest communities. Are you that person or do you know someone who is? Click on the link below for further details.

<https://jobs.christianaid.org.uk/vacancy/regional-coordinator---devon-cornwall--isles-of-scilly-1274/1292/description/>

Open Air Praise Service

On Sunday July 9th we are again invited to Mandy Denton's for our open-air Praise Service in the orchard at Matford. This time there will be a cream tea too! Last year we had a really great time of worship together and look forward to more of you joining us this time. Plenty of car parking space - but watch for the rabbit holes!!! Let's hope and pray for a nice sunny afternoon. Put the date in your diary now.

Church Anniversary Services

A reminder that the wonderful Paul Smith is coming to be our Church Anniversary preacher for both morning and evening on Sunday July 16th. Do make a note of this important occasion in the church's calendar and join with us for both services if at all possible.

Ben's Trip to Malawi

Thank you very much to everyone who helped make our African celebration such a special morning! We managed to raise a fantastic £200 for the St Peter's Malawi Education Trust to buy mosquito nets to take over to Mtunthama.

Ben and the other students & staff from St Peter's High School set out on this year's expedition on Thursday 13th July and return in the early hours of Thursday 3rd August.

Please pray for the people of Malawi & the community in Mtunthama, for safety & good health, that the Lord will open the hearts & minds of the students and that many will personally come closer to God.

Ben and Sue Keatt



Church Youth Worker Job

City Community Church are a lively, spirit-filled, outward looking family church looking for a youth worker to oversee, develop & build upon our well established existing work with 11-18 year olds.

- Starts September 1st 2017
- 10 hours per week
- Initial 2 year contract
- Salary up to £20,000 pro rata (depending on qualifications & experience)

The successful candidate will:

1. Be a wholehearted follower of Jesus & of Godly character
2. Have the necessary experience, skills & flexibility of teaching the Bible to young people.
3. Have good communication skills with young people, their families & the wider church & community.
4. Be able to lead & take initiative.
5. Be a team player, willing to learn from others.

If you'd like to join our warm, wise & adventurous family, please send your CV & covering letter to hannah.richards@cccexeter.org. Closing date for applications 31st July 2017.

Exeter Evangelical Partnership (EEP)

EEP are organising a joint EEP/CTAX/ELF social on Tuesday 4 July at Double Locks at 12noon. Just turn up and order food if you want to. This is a social gathering that will give CTAX members an opportunity to meet with folk from other Fellowships in an informal way. The aim is to bring Christian people together more! A good way to spend a summer afternoon.

Girls' Brigade Cake Stall

The Girls Brigade Cake Stall at Wonford Community Day raised £79.65 for WaterAid!

Thank you to everyone who baked, brought and bought cakes!

Church Cleaning Rota

If you can help out with cleaning the church please see Bronwen or sign up on the form next to the coffee/flower rota in the hall.

The Salvation Army, Friars Gate, Exeter EX2 4AZ
PRESENTS

The award winning gospel vocal trio



SIMPLE FAITH

Saturday 12th August 2017

Doors open 6.30pm - 7pm start

ADMISSION FREE

Refreshments available

For more information contact 07964 752585 or 01392 216553
or email sabulletin@aol.com

Sunday 13th August 2017
morning worship 10.30am

worship will include contributions from SIMPLE FAITH

www.simplefaithmusic.com



www.facebook.com/simplefaithmusic



The Salvation Army is a Church and registered Charity in England (214779), Wales (214779), Scotland (SC009359) and the Republic of Ireland (CHY6399)

Exeter, Coast and Country Methodist Circuit

World Church Festival

Wednesday 12th July 2017

Exminster

Methodist Church

At 2.30 pm



Speaker: Hugh Scudder talking about local charity Christian Response to Eastern Europe's work in support of people in Moldova –

Europe's poorest country

Followed by tea in the hall

Exminster lies on the right hand side of the A379 Exeter to Dawlish Road. **The Methodist Church** is on the main road through the village (near the Post Office) at **EX6 8BT**

No 2 and 'B' **buses** (to and from Exeter) serve the village at 30 minute intervals. Please alight at the Victory Hall stop in centre of village (a short distance from the church).

Car parking (all free) is available in Dryfield Road, by the Victory Hall (note some spaces are for restricted periods) For those able to walk further, there is a larger car park at the Deepway Centre (just before the shops and narrows turn right up Deepway Lane – the centre car park is the second on the left – approx. 300 M up the hill).

Disabled passengers can be dropped at the church. The church and hall have disabled access and there are disabled toilet facilities.

Contact us at: exminstermethodists@yahoo.co.uk or Rev Julian Albrow on 01392 255791

Prayer Focus for July

For He himself has said,
"I will never leave you nor forsake you."
So we may boldly say,
"The Lord is my helper; I will not fear.
What can man do to me?"

Numbers 13:5-6 (New King James Version)

Week beginning Sunday 2nd

On this Young Church Anniversary Sunday, please pray that God will continue to bless all the children and helpers and prosper all that is done in the name of our Lord Jesus who called the children to Him and said, "Let the children come to Me and do not stop them, because the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these." (Luke 18:16 GNB).

Pray also for Ben Keatt as he prepares to go to Malawi with a group from St Peter's School.

Week beginning Sunday 9th

In these times of danger and unrest in the world it is reassuring to recall our opening verse, "What can man do to me? With the Lord, I will not fear." Please pray that the Lord will give peace and confidence to know that in times of trouble it is He who has the ultimate victory. Pray for all who grieve for lost loved ones and friends as a result of terrorism, warfare, disease and neglect.

Pray also for the Circuit Meeting on Monday, that God will give wisdom to those who have responsibility for decision making.

Thank God for the joy of uniting in praise and worship in the open air at Mandy's evening orchard service.

Week beginning Sunday 16th

As we celebrate our Church Anniversary today, please pray that God will continue to bless and prosper all those brought to faith through the power of His word, preached and proclaimed faithfully in our Church by annointed Ministers and Lay Preachers over the completed years.

Pray also for the 'prodigals' who have gone their own way, done their own thing, maybe forgetting that God never leaves or forsakes them and is waiting with open arms to welcome them back to Him.

Week beginning Sunday 23rd

Please pray for young people in our church and community as they begin their school holidays that God will protect them in their travels and keep them safe from evil influences.

Pray also for those leaving college and universities that they will be able to find meaningful work best suited to their talents and skills which the Lord has given to each.

Thank the Lord for godly teachers and tutors who have influenced and educated the children during their school days and are still carrying on the good work.

Week beginning Sunday 30th

Please continue to pray for Circuit Ministers and their families who are moving this year. Also for the Churches and Circuit Stewards who will be holding conversations with them and their possible replacements. Ask God for clear thinking and His direction at this important time for all involved.

As we try our best to live in peace and unity in this troubled world, pray that God will draw us into a deeper relationship with Him, pour into our hearts the love that casts out fear and bless with healing all who call upon the name of Jesus.

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

Messy Church in July

“Messy Church” is a place for people of all ages to enjoy sharing time together and exploring stories from the Bible.

It takes place from 4-6pm once a month on a Sunday. The next “Messy Church” takes place on Sunday 23rd July 2017.

Dates For Your Diary

July 2017

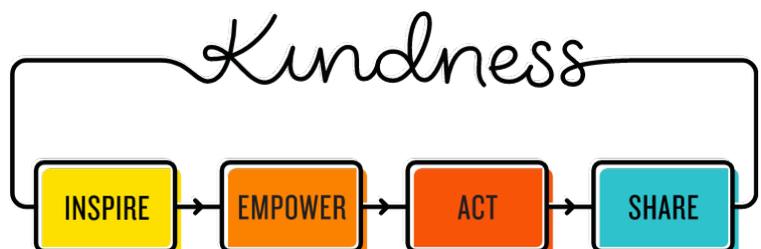
Sun 2nd	10.00 a.m.	Young Church Anniversary - All Age Worship
	6.30 p.m.	Rev Yangsun Yi
Tue 4th	12.00 p.m.	Exeter Evangelical Partnership Social at Double Locks **
	7.30 p.m.	Home Group Meets at The Manse **
Sun 9th	10.00 a.m.	Rev Bruce Sawyer
	6.30 p.m.	Mandy Denton - Praise in the Orchard (~time) **
Mon 10th	7.30 p.m.	Circuit Meeting at Seaton MC
Wed 12th	2.30 p.m.	ECCC World Church Festival, Exminster MC **
Sat 15th	8.30 a.m.	Monthly Prayers & Coffee
Sun 16th	10.00 a.m.	Rev Paul Smith - Church Anniversary **
		Followed by picnic at The Maer, Exmouth
	6.30 p.m.	Rev Paul Smith - Sacrament Service
Tue 18th	10.00 a.m.	Roundabout Café (until 12pm) **
	7.00 p.m.	Home Group meets at 18 Tuckfield Close - Summer 'Bring & Share' social - all welcome.
Thu 20th	2.00 p.m.	Monthly Bible Study in the lounge **
Sun 23rd	10.00 a.m.	Rev Bruce Sawyer - Sacrament Service
	4.00 p.m.	Messy Church
Sun 30th	10.00 a.m.	Paul Violet
	6.30 p.m.	Rev Yangsun Yi - United Service at Sidwell St MC

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

August / September 2017 Edition

Please remember that the next edition of this newsletter covers August AND September 2017

If you have any items the deadline is Sunday 9th July 2017.



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. 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 Prayers & Coffee *(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 August / September 2017 Newsletter will be Sunday 9th July 2017. 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