

Wonford Methodist Church

Contact Newsletter

July 2022
(No: 511)



Minister: Rev Ben Haslam (01392 256716)



Wonford is a
Fairtrade church

The **Methodist** Church 

www.wonfordmethodistchurch.org.uk

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 YouTube Wonford Methodist Church



A Message From The Minister

Dear Friends,

Meeting together to explore the Bible didn't begin with the early Methodists! In fact, here in Nehemiah 8, we have what may be the very first recorded Bible study! After all the toil and tears, the opposition and the acrimony, we are finally moving towards the purpose for which God commissioned Nehemiah to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem: to bring God's people together, so that they could be God's people together. The word of God is central to this. Ezra reads to the people from the book of the law and with him stand thirteen Levites, instructing the crowd on the words they are hearing. Not, perhaps, how we conduct our Bible studies, but it seems to have been effective! This is a pivotal moment in the book of Nehemiah. What is happening here is nothing less than revival. Rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem was never simply about marking off a piece of territory, but the reassembling of a worshipping community, a people called to devote themselves to the worship and service of God. Again, the word of God is central. There have been many revivals through the history of the Church, and one feature common to them all is a return to God's word, a reawakened awareness of the authority of scripture. Paul tells Timothy that, "All scripture is God-breathed" (2 Timothy 3:16) and in Hebrew we read that "The word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and actions of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12). Revival in the Church requires the recognition that scripture is all of the above, the key source of our doctrine and our inspiration in our common life. Churches decline when they begin to regard the Bible as just another book, or elevate their own understanding or the fads and fashions of the world around them above the truths of scripture.

The people, on hearing these ancient but still relevant words, respond wholeheartedly. They weep, as they realise how far they have been falling short of what God's word requires. However, they are told to dry their tears and rejoice, for this is a happy and wonderful day. Having rebuilt the walls, they have now returned home in the fullest sense. Ironically, the church makes great strides forward, not when it discovers something new, but when it rediscovers something which had formerly been forgotten or neglected. It is at such times that God's people realise that they have everything they need, there for the asking, and God's spirit is never unwilling to give without measure. What's equally important however, is how the people of God, you and me, respond to these truths. As Ezra read those

powerful and God-breathed words, they celebrated and rejoiced, as a prelude to a more committed, more hopeful, more faithful life. With this same hope in our hearts, we to have something to celebrate.

With every blessing
Ben Haslam

Dates For July 2022

Coffee

3rd	Rose & Paul
10th	Melanie & Eileen
17th	Terry L & Margaret D
24th	Elaine & Graham
31st	Liz & Pauline



Bible Study Group

Our fortnightly Friday Bible Study Group has already started using the Methodist "Bible Month" study of the Old Testament book of Isaiah. But of course, meeting fortnightly, our sessions will run into July for our final one! The themes of the 4 sessions are: "Tough Love", "Light to the World", "Faithful Servant" and "A New World", which all sound very interesting. So, do come and join us in our Lounge at 3pm to 4.30pm on any of those Fridays. They will be announced in the Sunday Notices too, if you are at Wonford.

Margretta Bowstead

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.

Saturday Morning Fellowship (10.30 am – 12.00 pm)

Everyone is welcome to join us and if you would like to help in any way, or have suggestions of things we can do, then please speak with one of us.

Mandy, Liz, Rose, Rev Ben and Sue K

Roundabout Café

The Roundabout Café will meet on Tuesday 19th July at 14 Grainger Close where there will be a coffee morning (weather permitting)

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



Green Team Article

World Nature Conservation Day – July 28th

The World Nature Conservation Day is an annual event that focuses on how vital a healthy environment is to maintain a stable and healthy society. It emphasises the need for us all to work together to preserve a stable environment and natural resources for our future generations. A primary aim of this is to protect against species extinction and loss of biodiversity.

This is a message that is not new to us. We hear similar messages throughout the year, with different worldwide events attempting to draw focus, raise awareness and prompt action. There is the danger of this important message being diluted and apathy seeping into society. People may feel that they have heard it all before. Perhaps some grow weary, not knowing what to do and feeling frustration when governments appear slow or unwilling to take the necessary action. Nonetheless, this message is one that is vital for our future generations and no matter how disheartened we may be, it is clear that we need to persevere. We are tasked with being good stewards of this world, of leaving a healthy planet for those coming after us. One thing we can do is to lead by example and nurture a love and respect of nature in the young. Among them are our future scientists, politicians, environmentalists and engineers.

So this July 28th, why not celebrate world nature conservation day by going out into nature and marvelling at how truly magnificent nature is, and how vital it is that we do our bit to protect it.

Alison Hobbs

Church Green Team

Green Team (Alison Hobbs, Alison Howell, Helen Moore, Margretta Bowstead, Martin Lloyd, Sue Keatt)

Prayer Focus for July

Prayer – Our Strongest Weapon – Pray Without Ceasing

Week Commencing Sunday 3rd July

Sing the praises of the Lord, you his faithful people;
praise his holy name.

For his anger lasts only a moment,
but his favour lasts a lifetime;
weeping may stay for the night,
but rejoicing comes in the morning.

(Psalm 30:4-5)

We give thanks to God for our Young Church, who celebrate their anniversary today. Please pray for all the leaders and helpers who teach and support the young people. Pray that the young people will grow in their faith and understanding of God.

Week Commencing Sunday 10th July. Action for Children Sunday

Defend the weak and the fatherless;
uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed.

Rescue the weak and the needy;
deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

(Psalm 82:3-4)

Please pray for the work of Action for Children. We give thanks for all they do to support vulnerable children and families. For more information, check out www.actionforchildren.org.uk

Week Commencing Sunday 17th July

For what you have done I will always praise you
in the presence of your faithful people.

And I will hope in your name,
for your name is good.

(Psalm 52:9)

Give thanks for our new-ish Saturday morning Fellowship! Thank God for all who serve to make it happen. Pray also for the Roundabout Café which meets once a month, that people will be blessed by the companionship they find there.

Week Commencing Sunday 24th July

Faithfulness springs forth from the earth,
and righteousness looks down from heaven.

The Lord will indeed give what is good,
and our land will yield its harvest.

(Psalm 85:11-12)

Pray for our Wonford Methodist Church Anniversary this Sunday. We give thanks for all the many years this church has served the community and reached out with the love of God in this place. We ask that God will continue to strengthen our ministry and guide us into even greater blessing!

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) or Margretta Bowstead (01392 437329).

After Service Prayer Support

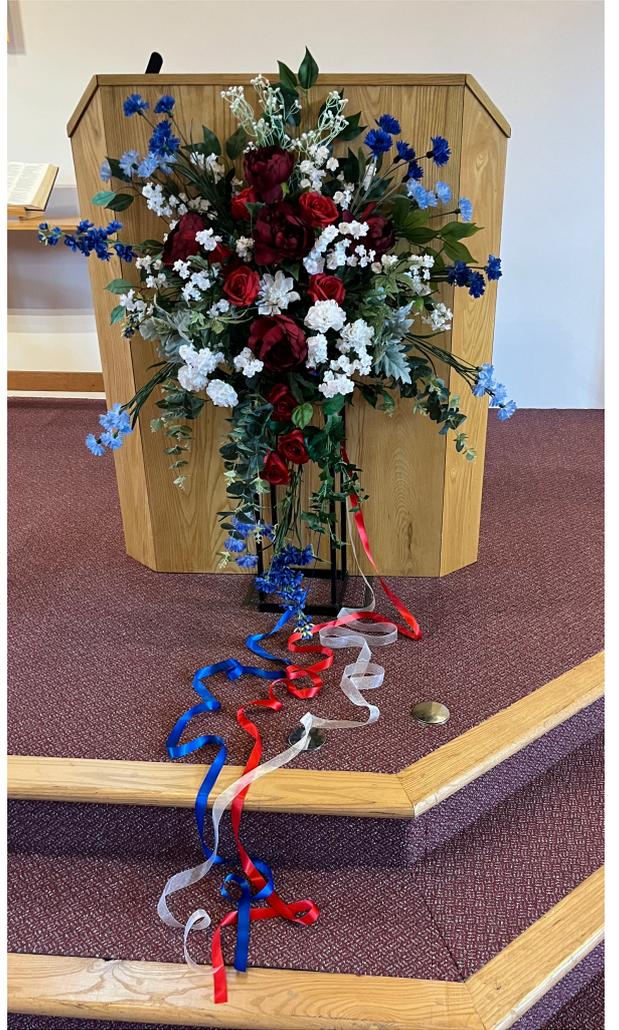
This is available in the Quiet Room on Sunday mornings. Two members of the Prayer Team will be available to pray with you.

The Prayer Team

Photos from the Saturday Fellowship Jubilee Cream Tea





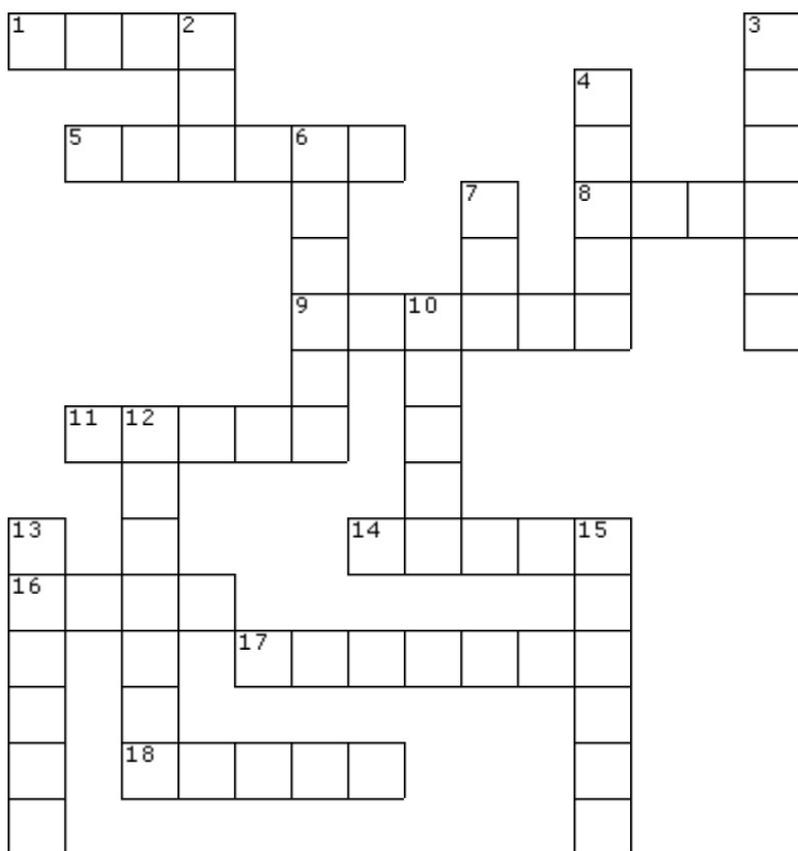


Methodist Prayer Handbook 2022-23

"**The Greatest Commandment**" is the title of this amazingly good help to all our prayers! In an A5 booklet with a double-page spread for each day, covering 1-to-31 days. So you just move steadily through it each month; covering world Methodist links on one page, and our UK Methodist Districts concerns on the other page as you pray. The booklet costs £4.15 each (with a large-print A4 version a bit more); and I'll be taking orders from now on. I'm not absolutely clear, but think this year they won't be available until August 2022. I'm happy to start taking orders anytime !

Margretta Bowstead

Old Testament Characters Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 He was the first king of Israel
- 5 She was a queen who saved her people from the wicked man Haman
- 8 He built the Ark
- 9 He had a coat of many colors
- 11 She was the wife of Abraham
- 14 He killed the giant Goliath with a slingshot
- 16 He was the first man
- 17 He was known as a wise king
- 18 He led his people out of slavery in Egypt

DOWN

- 2 He escaped the fires of Sodom
- 3 He won the battle for Jericho by blowing horns
- 4 He was swallowed by a giant fish
- 6 This prophet was taken up to heaven in a whirlwind
- 7 She was the first woman
- 10 The Queen of ___ visited Solomon
- 12 He was the father of Isaac
- 13 He was very strong
- 15 He was thrown in a lions' den but survived

Isaiah: Prophet & Book Word Search



By His stripes, Closed mouth, Counselor, Darkness, Day of trouble, Esteemed Not, Gentiles, Glory, God Saves, Gold, House of David, Intercession, Judah, Lie with lambs, Light, No Comeliness, Predicts Jesus, Prince of Peace, Prophet, Rejected, Righteous, Sawed in half, Smitten of God, Tender plant, We are healed

Dates For Your Diary

July 2022

Sat 2nd	10.30 a.m.	Saturday Morning Fellowship (until 12.00 pm) **
Sun 3rd	10.00 a.m.	Young Church Celebration - All Age Worship
Fri 8th	3.00 p.m.	Bible Group meet in the lounge **
Sat 9th	10.30 a.m.	Saturday Morning Fellowship (until 12.00 pm) **
Sun 10th	10.00 a.m.	Rev Ben Haslam - Sacrament.
	6.30 p.m.	Circuit Barn Service & Barbecue at Poltimore
Sat 16th	10.30 a.m.	Saturday Morning Fellowship (until 12.00 pm) **
Sun 17th	10.00 a.m.	Daniel Pratt Morris-Chapman
	6.30 p.m.	Daniel Pratt Morris-Chapman - Café Church
Tue 19th	10.00 a.m.	Roundabout Café (until 12pm) at 14 Grainger Close
Sat 23rd	10.30 a.m.	Saturday Morning Fellowship (until 12.00 pm) **
Sun 24th	10.00 a.m.	Rev Martin Turner - Church Anniversary followed by annual lunchtime Bible Study at Exmouth
	6.30 p.m.	Rev Martin Turner - Church Anniversary
Sat 30th	10.30 a.m.	Saturday Morning Fellowship (until 12.00 pm) **
Sun 31st	10.00 a.m.	Rev Wayne Grewcock

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

August / September 2022 Newsletter

Due to school holidays the next newsletter covers August AND September 2022. Can I please have items for both these months by Sunday 17th July 2022.



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. Saturday Fellowship Meeting

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 2022 Newsletter will be Sunday 17th July 2022. 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