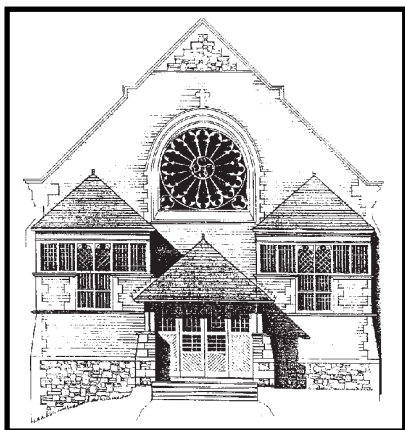


# Crediton Methodist Church



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October 2006

[www.methodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.methodistchurch.org.uk)   
The **Methodist** Church

## **Crediton Methodist Church**

**Minister: Rev Barbara Calvert, Tel: 01363 772441**

**Email: calvert2@fish.co.uk**

### **Services this month:**

- Oct 1<sup>st</sup>: 10.30: Rev B Calvert  
6.30 Mrs T Ely
- Oct 8<sup>th</sup>: 10.30 Rev Dr D Calvert  
6.30 Rev B Calvert (Sacrament)
- Oct 15<sup>th</sup>: 10.30 Rev B Calvert (All Age Worship)  
6.30 Mr G Bowstead
- Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>: 8.45 Rev B Calvert (Sacrament)  
10.30 Mrs P Murphy  
6.00 Talkback
- Oct 29<sup>th</sup>: 10.30 Rev B Calvert  
6.30 Mrs S Jones

### **Church Groups:**

Toddlers – meets on Tuesdays 1.30 to 3.15 during term time

(contact Ann on 01363 773088 or Sarah on 01363 774370)

Women's Open house at the manse – 3rd Tuesday each month at 7.30 p.m.

(contact Rev B Calvert 01363 772441)

Ladies Supper group: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month (contact Rev B Calvert)

Knit & Natter: Wednesdays 2.30 to 3.30 (Contact Wendy on 01363 77 2786)

Bright Hour: Fridays at 2.30 p.m. (Contact Kath Wollacott 01363775445)

Fellowship Groups meet regularly. (Contact Ken Saunders on 01363 773078)

Every Saturday: Coffee Morning from 10.30.

Church is open for prayer 9a.m. – 10 a.m.

Sunday Services at 10.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m (most Sundays)

Every Sunday: 10.30 a.m. Junior Church and Creche

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**Material for the November newsletter to June Redfern by  
October 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

Email: aredfern@onetel.com

## Harvest Moon

The small village church in rural Gloucestershire was decorated with hessian, hedgerow greenery and large yellow and earthy brown sunflowers. It was one of those perfect September days. The sun was hot, the sky clear blue, the air still, the apples ripening rosy red on the trees and the birds singing of a summer well spent. As I walked through the village, past the old village school, towards the church, music from the organ wafted through the air. It was harvest time' but family and friends from far and wide were gathering at the church this Friday afternoon not to celebrate the harvest but to celebrate the life of a young man from a farming family, the son of a close friend who had died at the age of 27.

Just as each flower, each vegetable has its own sowing, growing and harvesting time, so each of us has our own lifespan. The beauty of a God-given life is not determined by its length. The ending of *our* days is still unknown, uncertain. But for my friend's son, through the pain of the loss of one so young, we can see the beginning and middle and the end of his life, and it is whole, complete and beautiful.

As we journeyed back to Devon that evening there arose from the eastern sky a full moon, a harvest moon. It shone bold and majestic in the night sky, illuminating the blackness of the darkness of grief and offering hope for a new future.

And God said,

*'Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth.'* And it was so. God made two great lights, the sun to rule over the day and the moon to rule over the night.'

O God our creator, we thank you for the rhythm of your creation and of all human life and of our lives too.

Barbara Calvert

**New**

Weekly  
**Mid Week Service**

12.30

Wesley Room,  
Crediton Methodist  
Church

Starting Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October

The format will be informal with a 30 minute service of Bible reading, hymn, prayers and reflection led by the Minister, followed by chat over a cup of tea and sandwich (bring your own sandwich!)

**All Welcome**

## **What do we know about Network?**

Well, up until recently I, for one, knew hardly anything at all about the Women's Network of the Methodist Church which has been with us in its current form since 1987. It was only in recent months, when I became Crediton's representative, that I began to look into the background to Network and discovered a long history of the work and support given by women in The Methodist Church to the mission fields abroad and at home.

I would like to start by emphasising that men and children are very welcome to support Network, and join in the events and special services. We do want you along side us. However, the aims of the Women's Network of the Methodist Church are very clear: to encourage, enable and equip women to participate fully in the life of the church and society.

It all started way back in the early 1800s, when women in home churches, alerted by the wives of missionary workers to a need for help, began to meet together to knit and sew garments to send overseas. In 1838, Miss Twiddy went as a woman missionary to Jaffna, Ceylon as head teacher of a girls school, and following her requests, a Methodist Society to support Women Missionaries was started. It fairly soon came to be known as Women's Auxiliary, and in 1883 the first of the 'Easter Offering's was made, inviting families gathered for Christmas dinner to give 1d (old penny) towards mission work. In 1932 the society was renamed 'Women's Work', and continued in this form until 1987.

Alongside its sister society, a new society called Women's Fellowship began its work during the late 1930s and 1940s. Many of you will be familiar with this name as there are still Women's Fellowship meetings up and down the country. The efforts of this society was concentrated on Home Missions, calling all Women of Methodism to personal commitment to making Christ central in the home, the church and the community, and to encourage training for leadership and caring. Women's Fellowship did a great deal of welfare work, for example in Mother and Baby homes, prisons and holidays for needy children.

Eventually, with many women being involved both societies, and with an overlap of information and paperwork, both societies were merged, in 1987, into the Women's Network of the Methodist Church, known as Network.

So, what does Network do?

- One of the more visible features of Network with which you may be familiar is the quarterly magazine Magnet which contains news and information from overseas and at home, and with service material, poetry and beautiful photographs and drawings.
- Network also still organises the Easter Offering for work through the World Church, and it encourages the use of and arranges the distribution of our Methodist Prayer Handbook and the leaflet Mission Matters. And nationally, Network recently produced the Church's leaflet 'Our Calling'.
- Nationally, the Social Action Project for 2005 – 2008 is looking at ways in which we can help to prevent 'Trafficking'. There is a leaflet about this project in the church entrance hall.
- The Plymouth and Exeter District Network Project for 2005 – 2006 is in support of the Karibuni Trust which helps orphaned / street children in Kenya through education, children's homes and feeding projects.
- In order to prepare women for work in these areas, Network arranges study days, conferences and training. Network provides resource packs, eg dealing with the concerns and challenges for older women.

It seems that the next question to ask is what Network means for us in Crediton, and Rev Barbara Calvert and I will be looking at how, as a church, we can best tap into the resources available and support both Network and encourage, enable and equip women here to participate in the life and work of the church and society. When we have more information, thoughts and ideas for you, I will bring them to you in another issue of our Newsletter.

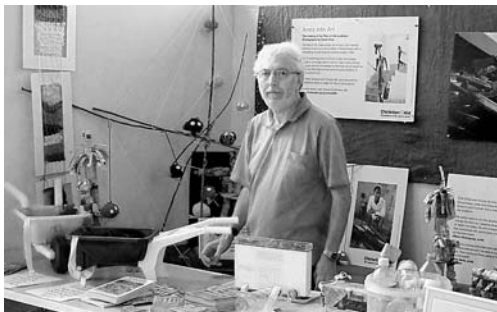
*Pam Murphy*



*Swords into  
ploughshares*

*Thankyou  
to the  
kitchen  
staff*





*Thankyou to  
those who pro-  
moted environ-  
mental concerns*

*Thankyou to  
those who  
manned the  
stalls and set-up  
the photographic  
exhibition*





*Thankyou to the  
Flower arrangers*



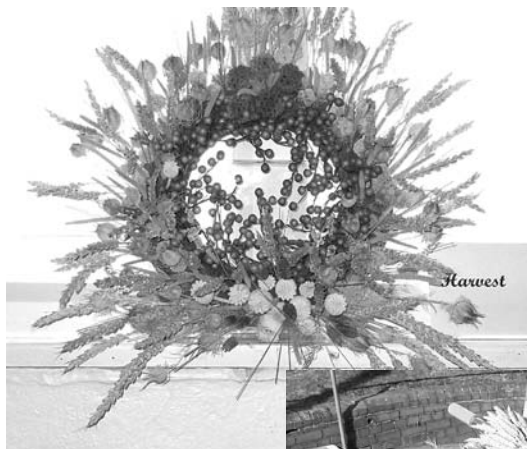


*For their creative talents*









*and to all  
those who  
helped in so  
many ways.*

## **God the Healer**

will be the theme for our morning services each Sunday in October. A booklet of the same title has been prepared by the Minister specifically for use by our Fellowship Groups, although it will be available for all. Do join a fellowship group, even if you have never been before. The discussion will be thought provoking and interesting – no one will make you say anything if you don't want to and no previous experience necessary!

Several groups will meet 7.30pm each Wednesday in October and there will also be a daytime group.

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You are invited to

### **Francesco Rojas School Thanksgiving Service**

On

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 2.30 p.m.

At

Cheriton Fitzpaine Methodist church

*Guest Speaker:* Rev Jonathan Kerry  
Co-ordinating Secretary for  
Worship and learning

Light Lunches will be served in the Schoolroom  
from 12.30 p.m.

## PRIOR NOTICE SHOEBOX SERVICE

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 10.30am Service

Thank you to all of you who ask about filling a shoebox for Eastern Europe and beyond. A lot of you know the sorts of things that are needed, but for those of you who don't, you will find some basic leaflets in the Church foyer, and I have put about six empty shoeboxes under the table in the upstairs kitchen if you have difficulty in obtaining a box.



It can be rather a trial covering a box, so if you want a quick way, just paste some pretty pictures on the sides and top – and don't forget to put a note on top indicating what age of person it is suitable for.

Thank you! *June Redfern 01363 84058*

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### Bright Hour

Oct 6<sup>th</sup>: Harvest Festival,  
Mrs Jenny Hext  
Oct 13<sup>th</sup>: Mrs Kathryn Cole  
Oct 20<sup>th</sup>: Mrs Margaret Hayman  
Oct 27<sup>th</sup>: Mr David Cole  
Meeting on Fridays at 2.30 p.m.  
Everyone welcome.

*The Bright Hour celebrate their 64<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary this month –  
Congratulations!*



Shannon (our minister 1998/9) and husband Dave have a little daughter, Natalie.