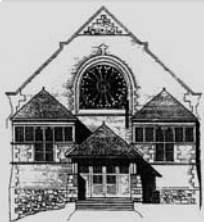




# Crediton Methodist Church

Newsletter

September 2007



## **Crediton Methodist Church**

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

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

### **Services in September**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept: 10.30 Rev B Calvert (Sacrament)  
6.30 At St Thomas
- 9<sup>th</sup> Sept: 10.30 Rev B Calvert (All Age Worship)  
6.30 Dr K Kite
- 16<sup>th</sup> Sept: 10.30 Mr L Smale  
6 p.m. Talkback
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept: 8.45 Rev B Calvert (Sacrament)  
10.30 Rev Dr N Collinson  
6.30 Rev A Sails
- 30<sup>th</sup> Sept: 10.30 Mr B Warren (Harvest Festival)  
6.30 Rev A Brazier (Harvest Festival)

### **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 Ann Spry on 01363 777796)

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 October newsletter to Ken Saunders by September 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

**editors: Ken Saunders, June Redfern, Sarah Turner**

**[www.creditonmethodist.org.uk](http://www.creditonmethodist.org.uk)**

**cover photograph: View from Redvers' Balcony, Rene Sankey**

## Credition Methodist Church, Wednesday Midweek Service 12.30pm September – December 2007

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Hymn</b>	<b>Theme</b>
Sept 5 <sup>th</sup>	Luke 14.15-24	145 Jesu, Jesu	Pride and humility
Sept 12 <sup>th</sup>	Luke 18.18-30	687 When we walk with the Lord	Obedient faith
Sept 19 <sup>th</sup>	Luke 22.54-62	526 It passeth knowledge	Relenting and repenting
Sept 26 <sup>th</sup>	Proverbs 17.1-5	789 Christ for the world	Oppression and justice
Oct 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Luke 9.43b-48	393 Jesus hands were kind	Closing the gap
Oct 10 <sup>th</sup>	Matthew 20.29-34	215 Amazing grace	Saving faith
Oct 17 <sup>th</sup>	Luke 5.12-16	395 O Christ, the Healer	Healing faith
Oct 24 <sup>th</sup>	Luke 22.39-46	673 Dear Lord and Father	Wrestling faith
Oct 31 <sup>st</sup>	Luke 1.46-55	402 For the healing of the nations	A kingdom of justice
Nov 7 <sup>th</sup>	Luke 19.11-27	230 There's a wideness	The returning sinner
Nov 14 <sup>th</sup>	Revelation 21.1-7	196 I know that my redeemer lives	The redeemer lives
Nov 21 <sup>st</sup>	Luke 17.20-37	237 Hills of the north rejoice	Solemn warnings
Nov 28 <sup>th</sup>	Luke 18.15-17	255 Crown him	Christ the King
Dec 5 <sup>th</sup>	Matthew 24. 23-35	246 There's a light upon the mountain	The approaching salvation
Dec 12 <sup>th</sup>	Matthew 12. 33-37	82 Hark the glad sound	The way of the Lord
Dec 19 <sup>th</sup>	Matthew 8.14-17,28-34	85 O come, O come	Healing in the wilderness

## Entertaining angels – a holiday encounter

July 2007

Robin Hood's Bay on the North Yorkshire coast has long been a popular tourist destination. Wandering through the quaint, narrow winding streets we came across a group of houses closely facing each other in an area rather grandiosely styled 'The Square'. One of the old buildings was called Wesley House and here in this pocket handkerchief sized square we could imagine the local fishermen and their families gathering, covering every inch of space, standing in doorways, leaning out of upstairs windows to hear the great preacher, John Wesley who in 31 years came to Robin Hood's Bay 11 times.

The cobbled streets led down to a small harbour. There were a few brightly coloured boats pulled up on the shore and a broad expanse of beach, flat rocks and rock pools. On the headland, a couple of miles distance a thin straggly line of houses could be seen. This is the village of Ravenscar. Peak is the old name for the village of Ravenscar. The village lies on the peak of the headland, the houses exposed to the full force of the wind and rain from off the North Sea. We walked along the cliff top to Ravenscar and even on this July day it was quite chilly.

Tourism is not the reason for Ravenscar's existence. As we wound our way up to the village through thick woodland there was plenty of archaeological evidence of the old alum and brick works that had brought those looking for work to the area two or three hundred years ago. Now many of the newcomers who choose to live here are seeking solitude. There wasn't even a welcoming coffee shop. However at the end of a deserted, long, straight road we could see a church which had hopefully put out on the pavement a sign reading, '*Open. Art Gallery. Teas and Coffees*'.

Inside was a beautifully converted worship space, the communion table to the left, rows of chairs in front and then an exhibition telling us in word and picture something of the history of the church. We discovered how just two or three years ago, following a bequest, the decision had been taken to combine the local Anglican and Methodist congregations, renovate the church and convert the rooms at the back into a fresh, bright, white painted art gallery for local artists to exhibit.

We, the only visitors, admired the paintings, mostly colourful landscapes – grey leaden skies, red and orange painted boats, the green and purples of the moors, many depicting places we had explored in the last few days – Staithes, Runswick Bay, Whitby and Goathland of Heartbeat fame.

We gratefully accepted the cup of tea we were offered and sat down for a chat with our host who was minding the gallery. We got talking and before long we confessed to both being Methodist ministers. This thrilled our companion, Griselda, herself a Methodist. She and her husband had moved to the nearby village of Staintondale about 30 years ago and raised a family of five children. When the children were small life had been quite lonely for Griselda and the local Anglican church had not been very welcoming. One Sunday morning Griselda noticed some children coming out of the old Methodist Chapel. She was quite surprised as she knew Sunday services were in the afternoon or evening so asked the lady locking up what the children had been doing. The lady told her that she ran Sunday School classes for the children every Sunday morning and that Griselda would be very welcome to bring her children along. That Sunday School leader, Joan Chapman, was to have a major influence on Griselda's faith journey. Joan ran the Sunday School on her own Griselda so soon volunteered to become a helper. Joan was delighted and offered to train Griselda as a Sunday School teacher. Now, many years later, two of Griselda's own children are training for the ministry and two are married to partner's training for the ministry!

But life in the villages in and around Ravenscar is not easy Griselda told us. She ran the local post office but it was about to close. The new church and art gallery was an encouragement but already it was proving difficult to maintain both in terms of people to keep it open and the running costs of the building. Griselda had worked very hard in her own local Methodist Church in a village a few miles from Ravenscar but recently it had been decided to close and join up with the Anglicans down the road. Griselda knew that this was the best course of action, to join the two churches but at the same time clearly there was sadness to see the closure of the Methodist chapel.

Griselda told us that remembering how lonely she had been when she first came to the village and was at home all day with small children she had for a number of years run a Toddler group in her house. Mums and Toddlers seemed to really appreciate this and came along for company, conversation and play. But Griselda worried that she hadn't managed to persuade any of them to come to church and so she thought of her efforts as a failure. She had also run several Alpha courses over the years but they hadn't had the results she would have liked either. Griselda seemed quite downhearted and I thought ...here is someone who had done and was doing so much.

Griselda was offering hospitality and friendship, meeting people's needs where they were, always available as a listening ear whether through her work in the post office or by opening up her home, working hard in her local church, and yet she felt she was a failure in the Lord's work. What was it that made her feel a failure? Did she have unrealistic expectations? Where we are today in our contemporary world is a very different place to where we were even a decade ago. Going to church on a Sunday morning is now a totally alien experience for the vast majority of the population. Work and the demands of modern life have led to a break down of relationships and community all over the country and I have come increasingly to believe that the first step, the first rung on the ladder for those committed to the mission of the church is simply to build community. This Griselda is doing. She is engaged in mission. Her sense of failure I think stems from being engaged in mission but feeling she has failed to evangelise.

'The gospel invitation', Susan Hope tells us in 'Mission-Shaped Spirituality', is to participate in something (the life of the trinity itself) rather than to subscribe to a particular set of doctrinal beliefs. She writes of the relational invitation to 'belong' before 'believing'. 'By knowing and loving God and each other we seek to enable non-churched people to develop a real relevant relationship with Jesus. The church is built on relationships; it is a church of hope, a church of people'. Disappointment and a sense of failure will be unavoidable if we engage in mission but our aim or intention, even if subconsciously, is to evangelise. Evangelism is 'that set of intentional activities which is governed by the goal of initiating people into the kingdom of God,' writes William Abraham, in the Logic of Evangelism, p95) Alpha courses for example have a proper place as an evangelistic tool. They are designed to move a person from A to B. Some do of course move from A to B though others don't. This means a certain failure is built into the system precisely because a certain outcome is looked or hoped for. Some of the people on our Pioneer Disciple course in Devon which is enabling and equipping us to develop Fresh Expressions of church are feeling frustrated I believe because they feel they are called to evangelise whereas the Pioneer disciple course is focused on mission. We have to be clear about the difference between mission and evangelism. Fresh Expressions of church do not have an aim in mind, an anticipated outcome. A fresh expression is an open ended offering. A Fresh expression exists to meet people where they are, simply to be there as an expression of

*our* faith and provide the opportunity or potential for new expressions of faith outside the church. It is no failure to run the local post office for years, often providing a facility for the most vulnerable – the elderly or those who lack mobility, it is no failure to welcome into your home lonely Mums and small children, it is no failure to work so hard for your local church and yet have the grace to realise when it is time to let one thing die in order that another may take root. Whether we do just one thing, organise a days family outing, a Toddler group a family picnic a special service of celebration and it is the only time in the year that the community comes into the church these are not failures. These experiences will be remembered by children and adults alike for the rest of their lives, they are what make community and they help each of us to become more rounded as a human being, to discover what it means to be human, to open doors for people... and to experience something of the depth of God's love for each of us...and maybe that was what Jesus was all about.

God bless you Griselda.

*Barbara Calvert*

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**CIRCUIT WELCOME SERVICE**  
**6.30pm Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2007**  
**St Thomas Methodist Church**

We very much look forward to welcoming to the circuit our new Superintendent Minister Revd David Easton who will be in pastoral charge of St Thomas and Alphington. We also welcome our new probationer, Revd Andrew Brazier, who will be in pastoral charge of Sidwell Street and Silvertown.

The District Chair, Revd John Carne, will preach and we look forward to this very special occasion in the life of our circuit.

Lifts will be arranged. Please speak to one of the stewards.

## KNIT AND NATTER GROUP

The **Knit and Natter Group** goes from strength to strength. There are now 16 in the Group. On 11<sup>th</sup> April we welcomed Avril and Jan, and on 14<sup>th</sup> July Janet and Anne. A large circle of “Friends of the Group” continue to donate wool, knitted and crochet garments of every size, shape and colour. We also have a “winder of wool” and a “sewer-up” of knitted and crochet squares to make sizeable blankets. We are truly grateful for all their help.

We were delighted to see Joan Cornish on 13<sup>th</sup> June who brought 3 beautifully designed and crocheted blankets. Rita returned to the fold on 27<sup>th</sup> June. It was good to see her again looking so well. We look forward to the time when Marjorie Ings is well enough to join us again. We often think of her and Anne Spry.

On July 12<sup>th</sup> the Group spent a lovely time at Middle Davidsland Barn. Our warm thanks to Adrian and June for their hospitality and all they do. After a superb buffet lunch we packed a box for the family we support in Odessa. We help them both financially and in kind. We left Adrian to seal and label the box ready for despatch to The International Aid Trust in Lancashire and onwards to Odessa. Thank you Adrian

In conclusion, new members are always welcome. We meet every **Wednesday afternoon from 2 – 3.30 p.m. in the Wesley Room.**

*Rene Sankey*





*I am very grateful to the **Knit and Natter Group** who have once again donated another £100.00 towards the work of **The International Aid Trust**. On this occasion the money has been donated towards the expenses of giving 4000+ children a holiday on the Black Sea Coast, where, liberated from high rise flats in unhealthy surroundings, they will experience good clean fresh air, have fun and learn about the love of God for them.*

### **Church of the Resurrection - Fastov – Kiev Region – Ukraine**

You may have seen in a previous article that Pastor Pieter has been working on the fringes of society in that area, working with drug and alcohol abuse and the consequences of this. In an e mail his daughter, when asked, said that the Church would be grateful for baby clothes, also tea, coffee, sugar and dried milk. This can be used when caring for these sad people. So if you feel that you can contribute in this way to the work of the Church in Fastov, starting in **September** there will be a large basket at the back of our church or in the foyer – depending where there is room. **Thank you** to those who have already contributed!

**June Redfern**

## **Information from the Circuit Manse Secretary**

During the recent circuit review meeting at Topsham, it became clear that many of our members knew very little about the workings of our circuit, so I thought friends may be interested to learn a little of my job. As ministers move churches at regular intervals, it would be unrealistic for them to own their own properties and so most live in church-owned manses.

As manse secretary, it is my job to ensure the care and fabric of the manses so that the ministers can devote their time to their ministry. Also to ensure that the circuit money (your money) is invested wisely.

We have five manses in the Exeter circuit - one for Sidwell Street (Andrew Brazier) at Aldrin Road, one for The Mint (Andrew Sails) at Sweetbriar Lane, one for St. Thomas (David Easton) at Dunsford Road and one at Crediton (Barbara Calvert). The manse at Wonford (Mark Gilborson) is owned by a charitable trust, for the living purposes of the minister at Wonford but is maintained by the circuit, under the terms of the lease.

My budget for the maintenance and upgrading of the five manses is fixed at the Circuit meeting and currently stands at £14,000 for the present year. All details of expenditure can be found in the Circuit treasurer's annual accounts and will be available in Sept/October.

Every five years, the properties are inspected by a chartered surveyor and electrician (the quinquennial inspection) to make sure all the properties are safe and sound and to advise on any problems. Any electrical work carried out now has to be certificated and annual safety checks carried out on all gas fires and boilers.

This year two ministers have moved away. David Laidler has retired and Andrew Brazier (a probationer minister) with his wife Ruth and two children have moved into Aldrin Road. David Easton, our new superintendent, with his wife Joan and extended family have moved into the manse at Dunsford Road. In the week of the "change over" there is quite a lot of redecoration and upgrading to be done at each of the manses to ensure the incoming ministers come to is very interesting a comfortable home and do not have to face too much upheaval during their ministry. They and their families are consulted about colour schemes and furnishings and as far as is practical we try to provide what they wish. They in turn are responsible for the cleanliness of the property and for keeping the garden tidy.

My time (6 years) as manse secretary ends next year - if anyone feels they would like to do this job, I am sure the circuit stewards would be pleased to hear from you. It is a great privilege to share in a small way in the home life of our ministers. It, sometimes fun, often hectic but very enjoyable. I feel a car is necessary as sometimes there is quite a lot of running around but of course all expenses are refunded.

I hope that we in the Exeter Circuit provide comfortable, safe, attractive homes for our ministers and their families, within the available finance.

*Gill Cook (Manse Secretary).*

## **Talkback 2007-2008**

**“Signs of our times”**

What relevance do the seven signs in

St John’s gospel have to us today?

Caroline Ralph will start the season with

### **Healing the palsied man**

John 5 vv 1-16

Standing on your own two feet.

Do you want to be healed?

His strength or ours?

September 16<sup>th</sup>

at 6:00pm

in the Boniface Centre

*This year we are going to experiment with*

*different formats for Talkback.*

*In September we will be setting the room out in a café style and having the refreshments before the discussion.*

*Do come and see how you like it.*

*We need to know what you think!*

## **Pennywell Farm**

### **A family Day Out**

Our Church is organising a visit to Pennywell farm, Buckfastleigh, on Saturday October 6<sup>th</sup>.

We hope you will be able to come and see the animals with us.

The cost is: Children free & Adults £10. This includes the cost of the coach and entrance to the farm.

More information from Sarah Turner or Margaret Scott.

Please make cheques payable to Crediton Methodist Church and book by 21<sup>st</sup> September.

Booking slips are available and although children are free they must be booked.

## Calendar 2008

A Calendar for 2008 is being produced to raise funds for our church. All the profits from the sale of the calendar (which will cost £5) will go to the church.

There are twelve attractive **colour** A4 photographs of Crediton and surrounding area and twelve further small photographs. Each month has an A4 page for daily information to be written.

To make this project worthwhile we need to sell in the region of 200 calendars!

A copy of the calendar will be available early September for viewing. Copies will be on sale at the church and at Phillips & Co but in order to get an idea of numbers required it would be helpful if you would sign an order list in the foyer later in the month.



## The Tater family (potato)

If you look in the eyes of a 'tater'  
What can you imagine to see?  
Perhaps a good representation  
Of folks like you and me.  
Number one is big 'Dic' tater  
Who is bumptious and known to  
shout;  
So full of self importance  
He orders people about.  
Don't be like him but always  
seek  
To be gentle, kind and meek.

'Agi' is another well known tater  
That's the one you can bet on  
your life  
Who is full of 'aggro' wherever  
they are,  
Will stir up trouble and strife.  
Try always to be a 'Peacemaker'  
But never an old 'Muckraker'.

'Common' is another tater  
Who always has plenty to say;  
No matter how a job is done  
He would have it done in a  
different way.  
It is better to look at a situation  
Through other people's eyes  
Than to do all the talking  
And readily criticize.

'Hesi' is another tater. Maybe not  
so bad.  
We say its just his way of putting  
off  
Until tomorrow what should be  
done today.  
Do the task that awaits you,

Your time always profitably  
spend  
For none of us know when our  
life will end.

'Medi' tater is a good one to be.  
If you meditate on the bible  
Many good things you can see.  
Stories of people like us all  
Who, when tempted, are prone to  
fall.  
We learn that God is ready to  
forgive  
And help us victorious to live.

Lastly 'Tes' taters who look at  
our assets  
And make plans ahead  
Of what they can leave the family  
after they are dead.  
If you have no material goods to  
leave  
You have an asset which is  
ample;  
Live your life so as to lead a  
good example.

*Eileen Tarr*

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**World Coffee Morning  
For Macmillan Cancer Fund  
In our Church foyer  
Fri 28<sup>th</sup> September  
9.30 – 12  
Come and support the  
world's biggest coffee  
morning!**

Crediton Methodist Church

Dancing to

**MINT  
SAUCE  
Band**



## **BARN DANCE**

**Sandford Village Hall**

**Sat 29th September**

**7—10p.m.**

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Tickets £5 incl Refreshments  
(children under 10 free)

Drinks on Sale

From Phillips & Co or ring  
01363 773078

**BARN DANCE**

## *Advanced notice*

To celebrate our World Missions weekend Nov 3rd/4<sup>th</sup>  
Crediton Methodist Church invite you to...

# **I am dreaming of a Green Christmas**

**Saturday November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2007 10.30 – 3.30pm**

The aim of the day is to rediscover the joy of preparing to celebrate Christmas simply.

Our objectives are to:

- have fun
- enrich the worshipping life of the church
- reflect on the simplicity of the birth of Christ in a stable
- resist the excesses of consumerism
- explore practical ways of celebrating Christmas simply and sustainably
- listen to voices of Christians from other countries
- support the work of Esperanza and the Francisco Rojas School, both in Peru

So far workshops include making Christmas petit fours, Christmas cake decorations, a BIG Christmas card for the whole church, Christmas knitting and crochet, Christmas table decorations, a sustainable Christmas tree, a Christmas billboard...

The day will be topped and tailed with church café with a Peruvian flavour.

So make a note of the date and if you have an idea of a workshop you would like to offer ...or know someone who could lead a suitable workshop for us...see Barbara

***STOP PRESS***...Debbie Thompson, recently returned from years living and working in Peru, will be joining us to celebrate our World Missions weekend. Debbie will give a presentation on the work of Esperanza, a group of women in Trujillo, Peru who make handmade greetings cards from recycled paper. [www.cardsfromperu.com](http://www.cardsfromperu.com)

**A course for everyone:**

## **‘Reading the Bible’**

First session:

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup>  
September 7.30pm in the  
Church**

This is for everyone. During the evening we will organise different groups to meet for the next three weeks for three Bible studies. ‘Reading the Bible’ will be the theme for our Sunday morning services in October. A specially written booklet by Barbara and David will be provided for everyone to follow. Then we will all come together again for:

Final session: **Wednesday  
24<sup>th</sup> October 7.30pm in  
the Church**

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## **Celebrating Bible Sunday**

**10.30am All Age Service  
Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October**

Life is challenging and most of us know what it means to live under pressure. Just getting by can take all our energy. So

where can we find the strength for today and hope for tomorrow that we sing about in church but don’t always feel we have?

The answer is on the way – when our church celebrates Bible Sunday on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October, 10.30am at our All Age Service. The theme this year is *Going Large* – which points to the big picture of Scripture as having the answer we need.

So get ready for an exciting and creative event – thanks to the brilliant resources provided by Bible Society. At the heart of it all is Paul’s message in Romans 15.1–6, to feed on ‘everything written in the Scriptures.’ And that’s what is going to be unpacked through the talk, special prayers, drama, video, music and more.

Of course this is only for those who get a bit stressed from time to time. Or who don’t always manage to keep God in focus no matter what. But if that’s you – and others that you know – don’t miss it.

Whatever you do, don’t miss the ‘Reading the Bible’ course and this year’s Bible Sunday.

## Women's Open House

Complaints have been made by the minister's husband about the increasing level of noise at our meetings. Apparently disturbing amounts of laughter have been shaking the Manse windows. The explanation offered for this conduct were the amusing topics of conversation emanating from recent topics of conversation. The Desert Island Disc and luxury item evening conjured up pictures of the group struggling for survival on the island together sharing each others luxury items of snorkelling equipment, harpoon for catching fish serenaded by the minister on accordion inside a mosquito net. We have had a favourite book evening which included 'The Road Less-travelled' by M. Scott Peck, 'Miss Garnet's Angel' by Sally Vickers, 'When the wind blows' by James Pattison, 'Skelligrigg' Willaim Horwood and an old child hood favourite 'Milly Molly Mandy'. Another good evening was 'A favourite picture'. The most recent 'Childhood memories and photograph' proved to be another evening of much mirth as we shared childhood memories and reminiscences together with the group dividing largely into town mice and country mice. The next evening of Women's Open House (prompted by the poem below scribed at a recent Women's Supper Club evening) is 'A Poem' one to read, one perhaps we will write...

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October 7.30pm The Manse**

**To Mary Tyson** (much missed at our recent gatherings):

There was a young lady called Mary  
who went to fetch milk from the dairy.  
She fell on her nose  
had time to repose  
sent a prayer to the Lord  
and is now in the broken leg ward.  
We all wish her well  
as this story will tell.  
Our glasses we raise  
and think of the days  
when lamb shank you will eat  
when next time we meet.

## Harvest Services

### 30<sup>th</sup> September

Brian Warren, from Coplestone, will be leading our morning Harvest Festival Service. Many of you will know that Brian is involved in the charity Farm Crisis Network, and is their local co-ordinator. The charity was set up in 1995 to meet the needs and loss that many families were suffering as a result of a high suicide rate among farmers. It was such an important help for farmers during and after the foot and mouth outbreak in 2001. We will be having a retiring collection at our harvest festival services and would like to be able to give £150 to farm Crisis Network.

The evening service will be led by Rev Andrew Brazier, a new minister of the Circuit staff, and this will be his first service at Crediton. Produce from the Harvest festival will be given to Age Concern.

*Marjorie Ashley*

## Bright Hour

Speakers for September:

Sept 7<sup>th</sup>: Mrs Pam Murphy

Sept 14<sup>th</sup>: Rev Kenneth Hext  
(Holy Communion)

Sept 21<sup>st</sup>: Church Housing Action  
Team. (CHAT)

Sept 28<sup>th</sup>: Mrs Jenny Hext.  
Meetings start at 2.30 pm on  
Fridays. All are welcome.

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## Thanks

Thank you to all my friends for their kind messages and prayers. I will be back home eventually I appreciated the sense of humour of the Supper Club! (see poem under 'Women's Open House'.

*Mary Tyson*

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## Charles Wesley Celebrations

At our Harvest Festival  
Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September

11 a.m. All Age Service

Rev Mark Gilborson

Followed by Lunch & Cream  
Teas (4 – 6 p.m.)

### Floral Display & Exhibition

Mon 11 – 5 p.m.

Tues 11 – 4p.m.

Light Refreshments

**Cheriton Fitzpaine  
Methodist Church**

## **Trinity Club Programme – Autumn Term 2007**

We hope you've enjoyed the meetings over the past few terms. Please keep your ideas coming and let us know things you would like to do with the club in future.

We hope to welcome new members from this term as well as any friends who you think might enjoy the club.

This is the programme we have arranged:

Sunday 9 September 7 – 8.30pm – Holiday Collage

Sunday 23 September 2pm Walk and picnic tea -  
meet at Holy Cross Car Park

Sunday 14 October 7-8.30pm

Sunday 28 October 7 – 8.30pm – Talent Show

Sunday 11 November 7 – 8.30pm

Sunday 25 November 7- 8.30pm

Sunday 9 December 7 – 8.30pm – Service & Party

On most evenings we will be having a range of games and craft activities, refreshments and then a time to talk together and meet guests finishing with a prayer. We are hoping to have a badminton session with some coaching.

At our first meeting we would like to make a holiday collage. Could you bring something from your summer holiday which reminds you of something enjoyable you did?

Our walk had to be postponed due to the bad weather and we hope to go on 23 September instead.

Other ideas are:

Helping at Harvest Supper

Visits from Tracey (Connect)

Running a Santa's Grotto at St. Nicholas Fair

Running our own short service

There will be a sub of 20p per session to cover the cost of refreshments.

Hope to see you soon!

Best wishes, Nigel (772669), Georgia, Allan & Sharon, Gill & Simon,  
David & Ann and Margaret

## Pause for Thought

An old Chinese proverb says:

*I was angry because I had no shoes: and then I met a man who had no feet.*

As I write this, the sun is shining on another lovely August day. It all seems so far removed from the downpours of June and July that dampened our expectations of summer life. I am looking forward to the prediction that we are in for a period of better weather proving correct.

I can recall feeling fed-up during the wet spells, waking up to grey skies, having soggy clothes and shoes and watching the plants struggling with the unseasonal weather in a sodden garden.

Soon, though, we were hearing about the flooding in the North East and a few weeks later in Gloucestershire. We immediately realised that our discomfort had been as nothing compared with the devastation and homelessness suffered by thousands of families, and our hearts went out to them as they face months of temporary accommodation and the permanent loss of treasured family memorabilia.

Then, we heard about the millions of people flooded out in the Indian sub-continent, including the loss of hundreds of lives. Media reports told us about Jenna Meredith, a single mum who had been made homeless herself in the floods in Hull. She had courageously taken up an invitation by Oxfam to visit India and see for herself both the similarities and the differences affecting families in both countries. She said: 'I cried when the floods came to Hull, but these people have nothing left'. Jenna was amazed that her Indian counter-part could find room in her own heart to express her compassion for victims in Britain.

In Psalm 139 the Psalmist says 'I will praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Marvellous are your works.' We can affirm his words ourselves, knowing that we have been made able to juggle our own everyday joys and disappointments, while feeling the loving response of compassion for others that stirs us to action and gives us some righteous indignation that will spur us on to support the work of rebuilding homes, communities and businesses and to encourage change where change is needed. All the better when we

do this with our hearts at peace, trusting and loving God that come what may, in the end all will be well.

*Drop thy still dews of quietness,  
Till all our strivings cease;  
Take from our souls the strain and stress,  
And let our ordered lives confess  
The beauty of thy peace.*

*John Greenleaf Whittier*

*Pam Murphy*

## **The Green Box Tip of the Month**

**Batteries (Household)** The U.K. generates 20,000-30,000 tonnes of wasted general-purpose batteries every year. The energy needed to manufacture a battery is on average 50 times greater than the energy it gives out. Cut down on batteries - use the sun! Buy solar power (or clockwork) equipment. Otherwise use a solar battery charger, which costs less than £10.00, and rechargeable batteries.

### **Eco-Congregation Award**

Earlier this year we applied for an Eco-Congregation award and on August 8<sup>th</sup> two independent assessors to see if we should be considered for this award visited us. They were looking at what we have done both physically and spiritually as a Church to make our congregation and the community aware of our need to preserve God's creation. They were very impressed with what they saw especially the way Barbara has linked services and events around environmental issues and made us aware that climate change effects the third world countries more than us. They have gone away to write up their report and they will be recommending that we should get the Eco-Congregation award. We will know the result officially in September. I hope to be able to update you in the October Newsletter with some good news.

*Bob Wright.*

## **Pastoral Page** **The Church Community**

O Living God, Maker of all things,  
We thank you that in Jesus we see  
that You care for each of us individually,  
and that you invite us to come to You  
for help and comfort.

Together we pray for all who are suffering in mind, body or spirit  
including those known to us...

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### **Those recovering from operations:**

Iris Mackie – recovering from a heart bypass operation,  
Mary Tyson – an operation to mend a broken leg

and it is good to see Marjorie Ing getting about again following her  
knee replacement operation.

### **Those who are not normally able to come to church at the present time:**

Joan Cornish, Enid Garrington, Allan Hooper, Phyllis Maunder, Ruth  
Mackmurdo, (Hillbrow), Kathy Nicholson and Clara Paige  
(Kenwyn), Les Sutherland, Arthur and Edna Tancock, Eva Whiting.  
And we also remember Sid and Cynthia Dixon and Arthur and  
Wendy Homeshaw.

### **Babies**

First grandchild for Sid &  
Bridget Deeble (past members)  
Effie Mae born 9<sup>th</sup> June

Eighth grandchild for Ken &  
Margaret Saunders.  
Lydia Mae born July 27<sup>th</sup>



## Monthly Diary of Events

## September

Thurs 30 <sup>th</sup> Aug	7pm Fundraising and Social group @Christine Marshall's
Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept	7.30pm Ladies Supper Club
Tues 4 <sup>th</sup>	Local Preacher's meeting @ St Thomas
Weds 5 <sup>th</sup>	12. 30pm Midweek Service
Sat 8 <sup>th</sup>	District Synod, Braunton
Tues 11 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 – 10.45 Bible Society Vision breakfast Belmont Chapel, Exeter
Weds 12 <sup>th</sup>	12.30pm Midweek Service
Tues 18 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm Circuit Meeting, Cheriton Fitzpaine
Weds 19 <sup>th</sup>	12.30pm Midweek Service
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup>	7.15pm Stewards' meeting Marjorie Ashley's
Tues 25 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm Church Life Group with Dave Martin (District Evangelism Enabler) @ the Church
Weds 26 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm Reading the Bible @ the Church
Sat 29 <sup>th</sup>	7pm Barn Dance, Sandford Village Hall

**Spring Cleaning day...** many thanks to all those unsung heroes who help to keep our church clean and tidy throughout the year. And a big thank you too to the large group of happy window cleaners, dusters, paint cleaners, step brushers etc. etc. who came along on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> August for our Spring Cleaning Day. Notice our beautiful, sparkling stained glass window in the front of the church! Barbara

For ideas on reducing your carbon footprint visit [Yahoo! For Good](#) this month.

## Welcome

We give a warm welcome to Rev David Gregory who has come to live at Epworth, Newcombes . David comes to us from Torrington where he has been a Methodist minister for twelve years. He is now semi-retired and we look forward to his sharing in the fellowship and ministry of our church.

# HOLIDAY CLUB 2007

