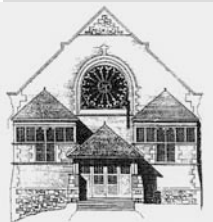




# Crediton Methodist Church Church

Newsletter  
June 2008



## Crediton Methodist Church

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

**Email: [barbara.calvert@methodist.org.uk](mailto:barbara.calvert@methodist.org.uk)**

### Services this month:

June 1<sup>st</sup>: 10.30 Rev Dr D Calvert (Sacrament)  
6.30 Rev P Collings  
June 8<sup>th</sup>: 10.30 Rev B Calvert  
6.30 Mrs M Hardy  
June 15<sup>th</sup>: 10.30 Mr L Smale (All Age worship)  
6.30 Mr C Arscott  
June 22<sup>nd</sup>: 8.45 Rev D Easton (Sacrament)  
10.30 Rev D Easton  
6.30 Prof. S Lea  
June 29<sup>th</sup>: 10.30 Rev B Calvert (Sacrament)  
6.30 At Crockernwell

### Church Groups:

Toddlers – meets on Mondays 1.30 to 3.15 during term time  
(contact 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 Margaret Kenshole 775144)

Mid-week service: Wednesdays 12.30 Bring a sandwich lunch/drinks provided.

Knit & Natter: Wednesdays 2.00 to 3.30 ( Wendy Homeshaw 01363 772786))

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.

The Ark: Saturdays monthly 4 – 6 p.m. (contact the minister)

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

Every Sunday: 10.30 a.m. Sunday Club

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**Material for the July newsletter to Ken Saunders  
by June 22nd.**

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

**[ken.d.saunders@btinternet.com](mailto:ken.d.saunders@btinternet.com)**

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

*Cover picture: The Last Supper- Salvador Dali 1955*

## Holy Conversations

An old man got on to the bus and made his way to the only vacant seat at the back. A bit of shuffling was required to let him in and then, as he was clutching a bundle of short canes, the man next to him said, ‘Are you going to plant your beans then?’ ‘No’, said the old man, ‘these are for my dahlias. I’ve given up growing vegetables in my garden now but I still like growing dahlias and chrysanthemums. Although I’ve just come from my girlfriends and I look after her vegetable garden. She is in sheltered housing now and I come up for a couple of days each week from Plymouth to see her and tend to her garden. I’m 83 you know, isn’t it wonderful, these free bus passes. I really enjoy getting about and I’ve just been on holiday to Austria and soon I’m going to Malta...’. The conversation continued pleasantly all the way to Exeter. The old man seemed very pleased to chat about what was important to him, still so full of the joys of life, to share with a stranger, and his zest for life affected all those around him. Millions of little conversations like this take place very day, part of what it means to be human.

Talking about what is important to us and what we really care about is the catalyst for change: exploring our perceptions and differences, talking about what we believe is important – stories, memories, hopes, conversation such as this strengthens and transforms us.

Start a conversation with yourself, with others and with God:

- Who are we?
- What has God called us to do?
- Who is our neighbour?

Conversation is holy because, at its best, it is about our understanding of our identity as a faith community, our sense of purpose and relationship with God. Real change begins with the simple action of talking about what we really care about.

Barbara Calvert

## Myanmar/Burma

This action to mark Aung San Suu Kyi's birthday came from the Fellowship of Reconciliation (an ecumenical group to which the Methodist Peace Fellowship belongs) before the terrible cyclone of a few weeks ago. Clearly the situation in Burma is even more desperate now. The suggestion below is a simple but powerful action we all could all take along with our prayers.

*'The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.'*

John 1.5

Dear Friends,

Burma's detained democracy leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi will mark her 63rd birthday on 19 June. She remains the world's only imprisoned Nobel Laureate, and is now in her 12th year of house arrest. She led her party, the National League for Democracy, to an overwhelming victory in the 1990 elections, but the ruling military regime refused to accept the results and instead imprisoned the victors and intensified its grip on power.

Although she is a Buddhist, Aung San Suu Kyi once told a foreign missionary that her favourite verse in the Bible is John 8:32 - "You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free." She also asked Christians around the world to pray for Burma.

On 19 June, please remember Aung San Suu Kyi in your prayers. As a mark of solidarity with her and the oppressed people of Burma, we request that you send a birthday card to her. It is not known whether or not she will be able to receive the cards, but the authorities will certainly see them. The more cards that are sent the better, because it will show the regime that the world will not forget Aung San Suu Kyi. Please send birthday cards, with messages of encouragement, to:

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi  
Nobel Laureate  
54 University Avenue  
Rangoon (Yangon)  
Burma (Myanmar)

## Crediton Green Churches Group

### **CAR - FREE SUNDAY!**

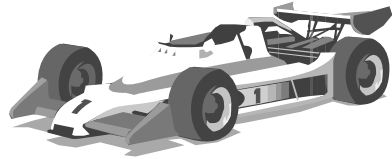
**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2009**

Go to church without the car.

Give your car a day of rest!.

**Or** .....If you can't get about without transport, offer others a lift.

Fill your car. Empty the car park!!



Crockernwell Methodist Church  
invites you to a  
**Songs of Praise**  
on a Summer evening



**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June**  
**2008**

Tea and cakes at 5.45pm  
Service at 6.30pm

### **Strawberry Teas – Saturday June 21<sup>st</sup>**

As this popular event looms again, we are hoping for some 'summer' weather to hail the arrival of the famous Strawberries, Cream and Scones that are served at this time of year by all the willing helpers here in Crediton Methodist Church. Come rain or shine (and Boy!, did it rain last year!) we will be here to create a little haven of Devonshire tradition for one afternoon in June. Make a date in your diary now - JUNE 21<sup>st</sup> and we will be waiting to give you the taste experience of yummy strawberries and cream.

## **PAUSE FOR THOUGHT – Mary Magdalene’s Riddle**

In a book I have been reading recently someone mentioned having an Autograph Book and I remembered that in my teens I also had one. School friends wrote the usual things in it, “by Hook or by Crook I’ll be last in your book” and so on. Older people gave me bits of good advice. My Father wrote “Do as you would be done by” and a family friend wrote “Always speak gently, it is better far to rule by love than fear”. Then Mr Johnson, my Geography teacher gave me a riddle, “Pas d’il y a Rhône qu’a nous”. I thought I was quite good at French, but I could not translate this. At last I gave up and asked him the meaning of his riddle. He just said “It’s gibberish really, just say it quickly. At last I understood, do you?”

I am writing this on Ascension Day, so I cannot help thinking of another riddle, of Mary Magdalene’s Riddle. Early on that Sunday morning when Jesus appeared to Mary in the eerie half-light of the garden he said, “Don’t cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father”. This must have bewildered Mary because it implied that when He was ascended she would be able to cling to Him.

The paradox deepens a little later when the Risen Jesus tells his disciples not to start witnessing yet, but to “Wait for the gift promised by the Father”.

Of course, we know the answer to Mary Magdalene’s Riddle and we know what the gift was – the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

There is no substitute for the Living Christ Himself and Mary Magdalene, the disciples and now we, have Him always in the third person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit.

The Vicar of Wilton, preaching against the early Methodists said, “There is sprung among us a new religion called Methodism. It is like the plague, they that have it infect whole families”.

But of course, it isn’t Methodism that is like the plague, it is the faith directed by the Holy Spirit. May 24<sup>th</sup> is Wesley Day, when we remember and give thanks for the work of the Spirit in the “warmed heart” of John Wesley.

The faith is made anew, re-minted in every generation. The promise from Our Lord is “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you and you will be my witnesses”.

*Cynthia Dixon*

*For the answer to the riddle – see later in the Newsletter!*

INTERNATIONAL AID TRUST in KENYA and other news.

**METHODIST CHURCH IN KENYA**  
**NYAMBENE SYNOD**

YOUR REF: \_\_\_\_\_

OUR REF: \_\_\_\_\_



P.O. Box 261-60600

Phone: 064-21002

MAUA

Email: mcknyambenesynod@yahoo.com

**CIRCUITS AND OTHER INVOLVEMENTS**

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Maui Circuit  
P.O. Box 61, MAUA  
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Mutuai Circuit  
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Njia Circuit  
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P.O. Box ..... MAUA  
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Laare Circuit  
P.O. Box ..... MAUA  
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Kiengu Circuit  
P.O. Box 340, MAUA  
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A'Kiongo Circuit  
P.O. Box 261, MAUA  
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Thitha Circuit  
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Kangeta Circuit  
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Kiegoi Circuit  
P.O. Box 261, MAUA  
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Athiru Gaiti  
P.O. Box 261, MAUA  
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Maui Methodist Hospital  
P.O. Box 63, MAUA  
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Lower Nyambene  
Mission Circuit  
P.O. Box 261, MAUA  
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St. Joseph's Circuit  
P.O. Box 261, MAUA  
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Machungulu Circuit  
P.O. Box 261, MAUA  
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North Kenya Mission  
P.O. B/Tulla  
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Water Development  
Department  
P.O. Box 261, MAUA  
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People's Development is  
the ultimate objective  
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14<sup>th</sup> December 2007

**THE PRESIDING BISHOP**  
**P.O. BOX 47633-**  
**NAIROBI**

Dear Presiding

**RE: FAMILY OF ISAIAH MUNG'ATHIA M'MAUTA**

Both parents are not employed or even self-employed. They own a small plot of land where they are living through subsistence farming. The food they grow does not even last them long.

The father looks after two native cows which cannot provide the family with enough milk. The older child had to leave secondary school due to lack of fees. Having a large family feeding itself is a problem. This is a family which is in dire need of assistance.

They like majority of Kenyan villagers, else eke a living by tilling their small plot. The proceeds from the farm are hardly enough to cater for the large family. Having two meals a day is not always assured. The children are in primary school, thanks to the Government's Free Primary Education (FPE).

The living conditions are wanting. Children cannot afford to change dressing. They wear the same for almost a week. Water is also scarce in this area. The family keeps on buying the water for their use.

**Yours in Christ**

**Bishop David Kaiga Munoru**  
**SYNOD BISHOP**

**SYNOD PRIORITIES**

- Develop a Spiritual base of the Church/New congregation development.
- Develop Church personnel to take care of Church expansion and growth.
- Establish a people's way of investing with God in God's work financially.
- Develop infrastructure to enable sustainability.
- Reach all the people with the Gospel in evangelism.
- Challenge all sins within and without.





This is the M'Mauta family written about in the letter from Bishop Munora, and we are very happy to be able to say that this family is now sponsored at £25.00 per month by a very kind gentleman in the North of England. We have many other families now in Kenya desperately needing support, together with families in Belarus and the Ukraine.

I have written before that the Kenya 'Link' is because Bernard Cocker spent a holiday in Kenya last year and happened to rub shoulders with a taxi driver whose wife worked among needy families. Bernard felt called to be involved, and the rest is history as they say!

This involvement at the moment means that International Aid has pledged \$900 per month for the mission.

**FASTOV – Church of the Resurrection – Ukraine - Thank You!**

Dear June and Adrian,

First of all on behalf of Fastov church I want to thank you for sending that parcel, which was received a week ago (April). My Mum told me that they took several photos, which I will send to you when I get them. It took a long time to get here, but it might just have been sitting in someone's office. The main thing is that it arrived.

**So please thank everyone who participated in any way. May God bless you all.**

Be richly blessed and keep in touch.

Lots of love

Irena Savochka (Irena's Father is the Pastor of the Church)

*Some of you might not know, but the candle we light every Sunday is held in a candle holder brought back as a gift from the Fastov Church for our congregation.*

*June Redfern*

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## Monthly Diary

## June 2008

Weds 4 <sup>th</sup>	12.30pm Midweek Service
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup>	Methodist Homes Sunday (MHA)
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm Local Preachers meeting, Silverton
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm Church Life Group (in the church)
Weds 11 <sup>th</sup>	12.30pm Midweek Service
Weds 11 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm Circuit Meeting, Whiddon Down
Weds 18 <sup>th</sup>	12.30pm Midweek Service
Sat 21 <sup>st</sup>	Afternoon Strawberry teas @front of the church
Weds 25 <sup>th</sup>	12.30pm Midweek Service
Sat 28 <sup>th</sup>	4 -6pm The Ark
Sun 29 <sup>th</sup>	Car free/Share Sunday

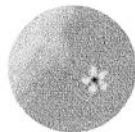
*Pause for Thought*

*Answer to the 'Mary Magdalene' riddle: 'Paddle your own canoe.'*

# Milestones or Millstones?

The early years of human life are marked by a succession of moves from one place of belonging to another. From Playgroup to Nursery, Nursery to Infant School and on to Juniors, Secondary School and maybe Sixth Form College. If a child plays sport or is involved in uniformed organisations or musical activities there are similar transitions through the age-groups. And each of these transitions is marked in some way as a rite of passage, often within a family and sometimes more publicly as well. As a child I remember the ceremonies in Church associated with Promotion Sunday as we left behind one group and began life in another, in a different room and at a different time.

But once we leave behind the milestones of our younger years, and pass those of young adulthood, middle age and advancing years, they become barely acknowledged and rarely celebrated, except for the birthdays with a '0' at the end and, eventually, retirement. And the milestones of later years – a bus pass, free TV licence or moving into a Care Home – are more often seen as reasons for commiseration, not celebration. The more milestones you pass, the harder the journey can become, and in a society dominated by a culture of 'staying young', ageist attitudes and stereotypes can turn milestones into millstones.



Methodist Homes Sunday has a new date this year – Sunday 8th June – and our theme ties in with MHA's 65th birthday celebrations. Sixty five years is a traditional milestone along the journey of ageing – a time to retire and put your feet up – though be assured, MHA has no intention of doing that! We are working with more older people than ever before, and increasingly that work is designed to help older people find meaning and purpose in their later years – so that milestones do not become millstones!

There can be few people who have a life-long ambition to live in a Care Home, so for most of our residents and tenants we can only offer a second-best solution to their needs. But we do aim to be the best second-best we can be, and to pay particular attention to addressing people's spiritual needs.

So on this Methodist Homes Sunday, we are asking again for your generous support. We invite you to remember the work of MHA, and in your worship to look beneath the headlines, re-examine the millstones and celebrate the milestones of ageing. These worship materials illustrate ways of building a service around our theme. The material can also be used in a midweek meeting or housegroup. If you want an electronic copy of these materials, they can be downloaded from our website at [www.mha.org.uk](http://www.mha.org.uk). You will also find some further illustrative material there as well. We hope you will want to join with us on this, our special Sunday.

MHA Envelopes are now in the church pews. They may be collected at any time but please return by MHA Sunday - June 8th.

# Car free/share Sunday June 29<sup>th</sup>

The Green Churches Network is promoting a car free day for Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June. We realise that it is not possible for everyone to not use their car to attend church that day so for the ones who have to travel by car can they please arrange to give lifts to other members of the congregation.

We all know how climate change is affecting our lives, with failing harvests resulting in higher food prices. If we think this is bad for us think what effect it is having in third world countries.

**Let Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> be a day when we have full Churches and empty car parks.** This is a practical way in which we can show our commitment towards slowing down climate change.

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## Bright Hour

Speakers for June:

6<sup>th</sup>: Rev K Hext

13<sup>th</sup>: Mr Sid Gardner

20<sup>th</sup>: Mrs Joan Charters

27<sup>th</sup>: Miss Marion Olds

Our meetings start at 2.30 p.m.  
on Fridays.

All are welcome.

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## Flowers

April 6/13<sup>th</sup>: Donated by  
Saunders family to remember

Wyll. Arr. by Margaret.

April 20/27<sup>th</sup>: Donated by Wynne  
Bradley to remember Arthur.

Arr. by Meg.

May 4/11<sup>th</sup>: Arr. by Margaret

May 18/25<sup>th</sup>: Donated & arr.. by  
Meg to remember Cyril.

## The Green Box

Recycling one aluminium  
can saves the same  
amount of energy that is  
required to power a  
television set for three  
hours

# Crediton Town Band

**Concert Friday 18th July**

**7.30 p.m.**



**Crediton Methodist Church**

**Tickets £5 from Phillips & Co  
or 773566 (includes refreshments)**

**Organised by the Methodist Church in aid of Connect**

## **International Church Action for Peace in Palestine and Israel, 4-10th June**

It's time for Palestine.

It's time for Palestinians and Israelis to share a just peace.

It's time to respect human lives in the land called holy.

It's time for healing to begin in wounded souls.

It's time to end 60 years of conflict, oppression and fear.

It's time for freedom from occupation.

It's time for equal rights.

It's time to stop discrimination, segregation and restrictions on movement.

It's time for those who put up walls and fences to build them on their own property.

It's time to stop bulldozing one community's homes and building homes for the other community on land that is not theirs.

It's time to do away with double standards.

It's time for Israeli citizens to have security and secure borders agreed with their neighbours.

It's time for the international community to implement 60 years of United Nations resolutions.

It's time for Israel's government to complete the bargain offered in the Arab Peace Initiative.

It's time for those who represent the Palestinian people to all be involved in making peace.

It's time for people who have become refugees for 60 years to regain their rights and a permanent home.

It's time to assist settlers in the Occupied Palestinian Territories to make their home in Israel.

It's time for self-determination.

It's time for foreigners to visit Bethlehem and other towns imprisoned by the wall.

It's time to see settlements in their comfort and refugee camps in their despair.

It's time for people living 41 years under occupation to feel new solidarity from a watching world.

It's time to name the shame of collective punishment and to end it in all its forms.  
It's time to be revolted by violence against civilians and for civilians on both sides to be safe.

It's time for both sides to release their prisoners and give those justly accused a fair trial.

It's time to reunite the people of Gaza, the West Bank and East Jerusalem.

It's time for all parties to obey international humanitarian and human rights law.

It's time to share Jerusalem as the capital of two nations and a city holy to three religions.

It's time for Muslim, Jewish and Christian communities to be free to visit their holy sites.

It's time in Palestine as in Israel for olive trees to flourish and grow old.

It's time to honour all who have suffered, Palestinians and Israelis.

It's time to learn from past wrongs.

It's time to understand the pent-up anger and begin to set things right.

It's time for those with blood on their hands to acknowledge what they have done.

It's time to seek forgiveness between communities and to repair a broken land together.

It's time to move forward as human beings who are all made in the image of God.

All who are able to speak truth to power must speak it.

All who would break the silence surrounding injustice must break it.

All who have something to give for peace must give it.

For Palestine, for Israel and for a troubled world.

It's time for peace.

Rev Dr D Calvert

## Pastoral Page

### The Church Community

*Psalm 3:3*

*You, Lord, are a shield around me. My glory, and the one who lifts up my head.*

*God of love, you watch with all who weep, worry or who are weary.*

*You offer hope to those in despair, and your calming presence to the troubled.*

*Give us peace.*



We pray for all members of our church family who are ill or distressed, and those who are no longer to join in fellowship with us on Sundays. Amongst those we name: Harold & Sybil Bayley (Hillbrow); Kim & Alan Clemens; Sid & Cynthia Dixon; Harold Hollingsworth; Allan Hooper, Bob Ings; Len Jenkinson; Iris Mackie; Phyllis Maunder, Kath Metherell; Joan & John Musty; Kathy Nicholson (Kenwyn); Clara Paige (Kenwyn); Rene Sankey; Eileen Tarr; Mary Tyson, Joy Wilshire. We are pleased to hear that Alisha Saunders is making very good progress and is hoping to return to school soon.

### Services in Residential Homes

Our services this month are:

Summerhayes Thursday 5 June 2:30 pm

Hillbrow Wednesday 18 June 2:30 pm

All are welcome to come.

### Crediton Hospital

CTIC have decided to discontinue prayer services in Crediton Hospital in favour of extending Chaplaincy work. It is intended that Revd. Caroline Ralph will continue her monthly visits, and that all Crediton churches will be included in a rota to make a second pastoral visit to patients each month.

### Your contacts for concerns about church family members are:

Karen Theedom: Pastoral Secretary: 775704

Pam Murphy: Pastoral Page news 773414