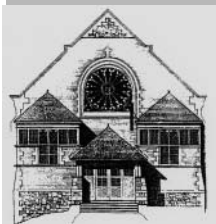


# Crediton Methodist Church



Newsletter  
July/August 2009

Dear friends,

I may not agree with some of their politics but I acknowledge the commitment of many who stand for election to our Parliament. I would not wish to be constantly under the microscope which seems to be the norm these days for politicians, and members of the royal family.

Their lives often like a ‘goldfish bowl’ existence, nowhere to hide, especially from the press who seem to go beyond acceptable boundaries to reveal ‘warts and all.’

I am not defending wrongful actions by any individual but have sympathy at this present time with politicians being all tarred with the same brush due to the expenses scandal. There are many honourable men and women serving our country.

What would be the reaction of journalists, sub-editors and editors if their whole lifestyle was exposed for all to read? Indeed how would we feel if the same applied to us? Some people are so quick to judge others; Jesus said ‘Do not judge, or you will be judged. For in the same way as you judge others, you will be judged.’ (Matt. 7 v 1 & 2) You may recall that He went on to say about the speck of sawdust in the eye of someone whilst ignoring the plank in our own eye.

We live in a world in which none are perfect and thus should be careful in expecting perfection. It is not easy to keep oneself ‘lily-white’ every day, try as we ought. Imagine wearing a set of white clothes for a whole week, no matter where we go, or what we do; I know mine would be soiled and marked at the end of the first day! I liken that to how our actual lives become soiled as we live each day; we all fall short of what we would wish to be.

Regarding the white clothes; we would put them in the washing machine, add the product which the manufacturer claims will remove all stains and dirt, (though some clothes may require a touch of ‘vanish!’) and the end result should be a white garment.

Do you find this letter morbid? Well, now for the good news: Our lives can be cleansed, every stain and blemish removed. The Psalmist wrote, 'Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.' (Psalm 51 v7). An old Sankey hymn has the words, 'What can wash away my sins? Nothing but the blood of Jesus'. Old fashioned words – but absolutely true!

Jesus can take away all the dirt and grime, and the little smudges! Through Him we receive forgiveness, a fresh start, guilt removed. When nobody else may forgive us, the Lord will, when we are truly sorry. Isn't that wonderful news to have and to share?

For those of you having a holiday over the next couple of months I wish you much joy and relaxation.

Finally, it has been a joy to share in ministry with you this past year.

*Every blessing, David Gregory*

*A Picnic Tea  
In the lovely garden of Dowrich House*

*Followed by Songs of Praise  
Led by Rev David Gregory*

*August 9<sup>th</sup>  
Picnic 4 p.m.  
Songs of Praise 6 p.m.*

## **Crediton Methodist Church**

**Minister: Rev D Gregory Tel: 01363 774312**

**Email: [minister@creditonmethodist.org.uk](mailto:minister@creditonmethodist.org.uk)**

### **Services this month:**

July 5<sup>th</sup>: 10.30 Rev K Hext  
6.30 Mr S Nightingale  
July 12<sup>th</sup>: 8.45 Rev D Gregory (Sacrament)  
10.30 Rev D Gregory  
6.30 At Wonford  
July 19<sup>th</sup>: 10.30 Rev M Gilborson (All Age Worship)  
6.0 At Cheriton Fitzpaine  
July 26<sup>th</sup>: 10.30 Mrs J Lee  
6.30 Prof. A Wragg

### **Church Groups:**

Toddlers – meets on Mondays 1.30 to 3.15 during term time  
(contact Sarah on 01363 774370)

Women's Open House: ( contact Christine Marshall 772012)

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 September newsletter to Ken Saunders  
by August 23rd**

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

**email: [kendsaunders@btinternet.com](mailto:kendsaunders@btinternet.com)**

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

## Francisco Rojas School in Peru:

Elizabeth Quispe is the girl we are sponsoring now. She comes from a family of 4 children. Her father left home last year & her mother works to maintain the family by selling fizzy drinks & sweets. An older sibling is due to leave school next year, the younger ones are 4 & 6 year olds. Elizabeth is 12 years old & beginning her secondary education.

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## Visit to Silverton:

Silverton's looking forward to being joined by CREDITON and Cheriton Fitz. friends on the 2nd August.

**4 pm guided walks,  
5 pm Cream Teas,  
6.30 Worship (with musical  
contributions from the  
Brazier/Palmer Friends)**

*If someone would be responsible for getting a list organised, a rough guide on cream tea numbers the week before would be very helpful for Silverton. (860483).*

I'm sure Cheriton Fitz. have been put in the picture again ?

Thanks for all your help. PR

## Thank-you letters

Dear Marjorie,  
A most sincere 'thank-you' to all the stewards for their lovely presentation of such a splendid copy of Hymns and Psalms – almost too precious to use, but I promise it will be used!

Very sincerely, Dorothy

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To everyone at CREDITON Methodist Church:  
A really big THANK –YOU! For the beautiful leather-bound edition of Hymns & Psalms which was presented to me last Sunday. It has been a pleasure to work alongside all of you, and I shall treasure this thoughtful gift. (With special thanks to Marjorie and Tina – and with special memories of Ken)

Margaret C.

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## Bright Hour

3<sup>rd</sup> July: Mr A Savage  
10<sup>th</sup> July: Rev David Gregory  
17<sup>th</sup> July: Jenny Hext.

Bright Hour meets on Fridays at 2.30 p.m..

Restart after the Summer break :

11<sup>th</sup> Sept: Jenny Hext.

# Crediton Methodist Church

# Talents

Here are some items for sale and services that people have offered as their talents. There will also be a table at our coffee mornings where you can buy and sell your produce, as well as the Junior Church BBQ. If you would like your service/goods to be entered into this leaflet, please can you let Glenn know as soon as possible.

As you raise the money, you can either place it in the offertory marked "Talents" or give it to Glenn. Please remember that if you are a Gift Aid Tax payer, we can gather in a further 28p per £1 for everything you manage to raise, so please indicate your membership number when handing it in.

If you have any queries at all, please contact Glenn (774370) or Christine Marshall (772012).

Please enjoy the produce for sale and make use of any services on offer.

## Greeting Cards for Sale

Pictures from our  
2008 Calendar

for more information contact  
Ken Saunders on  
01363 776674

Painting with Wax

for more information contact  
Christine Marshall on  
01363 772012

Birthday Day & Open 'Blank'

for more information contact  
Shirley Sharpe on  
01363 773565

## Garden Produce

Garden Produce Jam

for more information contact  
John & Marjorie Ashley on 01363 773851



Marmalade in various flavours  
& Raspberry Jam

for more information contact  
Kath Wollacott on 01363 775445



Runner bean Chutney

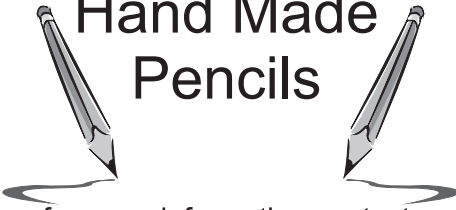
for more information contact  
Tina Turner on 01363 776411

Garden Produce Jam

for more information contact  
Margaret Pollard on 01363 773851



## Hand Made Pencils



for more information contact  
Alan Clemems on  
01363 776993

## Brussel Sprout & Leek Plants for Sale



for more information contact  
Sid Gardener on  
01363 776283

## Ironing Service



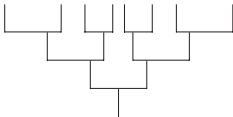
for more information contact  
Margaret Scott on  
01363 776477

## Have those old prints Renovated

Remove creases, marks, etc.  
Adjust the colour balance etc.

for more information contact  
Ken Saunders on  
01363 776674

## Research your Ancestry Tree



for more information contact  
Sarah Turner on  
01363 774370

## Computer Advice Maintenance and Training

for more information contact  
Glenn Turner on 01363 774370



## Have a trip in a Frogeye

“Austin Healey Sprite”

for more information contact  
Clifford Webb on  
01363 773347

## Odd Job Man

Absolutely anything  
considered



for more information contact  
Sid Gardener on  
01363 776283

## Pause for thought

Three point sermons (as those among you who have had to sit through some of my services will know) are not my forte. Neither, I fear, is my biblical scholarship up to much. What I've always tried to be is honest and true to how I feel about my faith and my God.

My life has been a good one. I had loving parents who cared for me and gave me everything I needed but not everything I wanted. I grew up in a community that knew me and that I knew. I now have a loving family of my own. I have always known love.

I love my country. I have always believed that our nation is a fair and just place. So to wake up on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June to find that the people of Britain had elected two members of the B.N.P. to the European Parliament I was truly horrified. I could not comprehend how we as a nation could have sunk so low, fallen so far in our levels of tolerance and sense of justice and fairness that right-wing extremists could have been voted into office in a national election.

But of course this is the problem. When your life is good, when you are treated fairly, when love and friendship have been a part of your everyday experience it is impossible to understand the way fear and hatred can be spread. How easy it is, when you are not treated fairly or even with respect, to be persuaded that it is someone else's fault. To look for a scape-goat. We have seen it happen before, Germany, Rwanda, Bosnia and closer to home in Northern Ireland.

Hatred base on race and fear were around in Jesus' time too. We don't have to look far into the gospels before we find the story of the Good Samaritan. Jews and Samaritans had a long-standing and deep-rooted enmity. It was not by chance that the Samaritan was chosen to be the one person in the story who behaved in a Godly manner. It points out clearly, to all who read it, the shortcomings shared by all people, whatever their race, creed or colour. It also beautifully illuminates true humanity. Responding to need, without thought of anything else.

Jesus knew what we were like, he knew how easily we could be swayed, after all he experienced it at first hand in Jerusalem. When we stop seeing

people as people and start to see them as a threat then we are reacting like everyone in the story of the Good Samaritan who passed by on the other side of the road.

Our nation has need of prayer from Christians of all denominations at this time. We need to be ready to stand against prejudice, hatred and injustice whenever and wherever it is found. Be that on the streets of Baghdad or Burnley.

*Chris Mann*

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## **Trinity Club**

For those of you who don't know, Trinity is a youth group that meet at the Boniface Centre every two weeks. We are made up of 10 – 15 year olds from the Parish Church, Methodist Church (James, Lauren, Miriam and Hannah) and Catholic Church.

Over the last year we have been walking on Dartmoor and have done a sponsored walk in aid of Christian Aid. We are also going for a walk later in the year around a farm near East Village. We have been ten-pin bowling and had games in the park. We have also had a Barbeque at the rectory. We will be going to the Sponge at Shobrooke Park.

Clinton and Charlotte from Connect also used to come along sometimes to play games and join in with us. (Unfortunately they're going home now so we are getting some new ones - hopefully as good as they where)

On a normal week we meet and play games and then have a quiet time at the end for prayer.

This group is great fun and there's something for everyone, we all enjoy it.

*James Mann*

# METHODIST RELIEF.....AND DEVELOPMENT FUND:

Stop Press report from Miss Margaret Simmons. "As I reflect on 'Make your Mark, Change the World with MRDF' District Conference held at Wonford Methodist Church to-day (June 19th), it was both informative and challenging.....a pity it was so poorly attended (12 people).

The first Speaker, from Stop Climate Chaos, highlighted the problems of climate change to peoples' lives when the rains don't come when they should or when there is too much rain and whole areas are flooded. 2009 is a big year in this respect as there are crucial talks by world leaders in Copenhagen in December. A big March is planned for London on the 1st weekend.

After lunch (very appetising and beautifully presented locally) discussion was shared on how we ourselves could make our mark and help raise awareness of the 'earthed' work of MRDF in our own Circuits and Churches. The afternoon's Speaker was from World Development Movement and she gave most interesting facts about how the big multinational companies make trade agreements with the poor countries that are not to the advantage of the people.

From MRDF staff during the day we learned of their support and strengths with very small projects, in parts of Africa, Asia, Latin America. The Organisation prefers working with small scale locally based overseas' Partners, finding that being along side the needy local people MRDF can give the support and training actually needed (not tell them what we think is needed). This way they are given the skills they need to lift themselves out of poverty.

Trustee Claire Boxall enthusiastically spoke on her role as MRDF Trustee, one of fourteen, who's supporting duties also involve carefully overseeing a properly run charity. The day was ably led by Silverton's Chris Rolls (Global Education Adviser in Methodist Schools working alongside MRDF) and Menka Jha (Programme Officer)."

Thankyou very much Margaret for making time to share your experiences in this way. Another encouraging aspect of the day was the age group of the day's staff and their commitment and enthusiasm. MRDF's aim is that every Methodist Church in the country should have an MRDF contact (Co-ordinator). So, even if not able to be present at this District event, what can you do? Remember, MRDF will be pleased to talk aspects through with you - 'phone 02074675132 / [www.mrdf.org.uk](http://www.mrdf.org.uk)  
What about it?

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# Diary

## July / August

- July 1<sup>st</sup>: 7.30 p.m. Circuit World Church festival 'Zimbabwe'  
At Mint Methodist Church. (see June newsletter)
- July 3<sup>rd</sup>: 3 – 5 p.m. Cream Teas at Alphington Methodist Church
- July 4<sup>th</sup>: 3 – 5 p.m. Games afternoon – badminton
- July 6<sup>th</sup>: 7.30 p.m. Ark planning at Oake House
- July 9<sup>th</sup>: 7.15 p.m. Stewards meeting at Church
- July 16<sup>th</sup>: 7.30 p.m. Church Life group at church
- July 18<sup>th</sup>: 4 – 6 p.m. The ark
- July 19<sup>th</sup>: Sunday Club BBQ –at our Church - everyone welcome.  
Cheriton Fitzpaine: Walk 2.45; Cream Teas 4.45;  
Recognition Service for Barbara Pratt as Worship Leader  
6 p.m.
- July 21<sup>st</sup>: 7.00 Sidwell St Methodist Church. Farewell service for  
Rev John Carne.
- Aug 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>: Street Market at Silverton  
Sunday: 4 p.m Guided walks; 5 p.m. Cream Teas  
6.30 p.m. Worship to include musical contributions  
From Brazier/Palmer family.
- August 9<sup>th</sup>: Picnic & Alternative Songs of Praise at Dowrich House.
- August 23<sup>rd</sup>: Silverton & Cheriton Fitzpaine join us at Crediton for  
Walk, tea and Communion Service led by Rev Andrew  
Sails.
- Sept 1<sup>st</sup>: 7.00 Sidwell St. District Service of welcome to Rev Peter  
Pillinger, our new District Chairman.
- Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>: Crediton Circuit Welcome for Rev Ed Kimes  
7.30 p.m.
- Sept 6<sup>th</sup>: 6.30 p.m. Section Welcome Service for Rev Ed  
Kimes at Crediton preceded by tea (5 p.m. – to be  
confirmed)





**The  
Sunday Club  
Invite you to a BBQ  
On  
Sunday July 19<sup>th</sup>  
after the morning service**