



Crediton Methodist Church



Newsletter
April 2011

Crediton Methodist Church

Minister: Rev Ann Varker

Email: minister@creditonmethodist.org.uk

Phone: 01363 777308

Services this month:

April 3rd	10.30	Mrs P Murphy	Mothering Sunday
	6.30	Rev A Varker	Sacrament
April 10th	10.30	Rev A Varker	
	6.30	Rev P Collings	
April 17th	8.45	Rev A Varker	Sacrament
	10.30	Mrs K Cordery	All Age Worship
	6.30	Mrs S Jones	
April 24th	10.30	Rev A Varker	Sacrament
	6.30	Rev A Sails	

Church Groups:

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

Women's Open House – (contact Pam Murphy Tel: 773414))

Ladies Supper group: 1st 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: Jenny Hext 0136385031))

Fellowship Groups meet regularly. (Contact Ken Saunders on 01363 776674)

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; Fish (10+ age group)

Material for the May newsletter to Ken Saunders

by April 17th

editors: Ken Saunders, June Redfern, Sarah Turner

kendsaunders@btinternet.com

Church website: www.creditonmethodist.org.uk

Dear friends

When I was a child my mum always made her own hot cross buns. On the Thursday before Easter a batch of sweetened bread dough would be prepared and left to rise. Once the buns were shaped and had risen, pastry crosses would be added to the top, before baking in a hot oven. The smell of the spices would get my mouth watering, but I knew that the buns would be put away until the following morning. Then we would have one for breakfast, and probably dinner and tea as well! Hot cross buns for Good Friday - the cross on top providing a reminder of the death of Jesus.

Nowadays I buy Hot Cross buns – although they don't taste like the ones mum used to make! And if I wanted to I could buy them all the year round. Most of the supermarkets no longer restrict this bakery item to the weeks before Easter. I wonder how many people who buy Hot Cross buns in May or October are aware of the significance of the cross.

Paul wrote in his letter to the Romans *'Since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities – his eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen.'* Even though this is the case most people simply don't acknowledge God in any meaningful way. Though surrounded every day with signs of God's love, including the cross on the top of a Hot Cross bun, the message of love has not found its way into many people's hearts.

This Easter we celebrate again the mystery of God's love – let us share that love with our friends and neighbours, so that the cross will cease to be a meaningless symbol and become a sign of hope.

With every blessing,
Ann Varker

Memorial Plaques – Remembering

Whilst discussing refurbishment, the subject of the memorial plaques within the Church came up. The question of where they would go in future and whether they should still be displayed openly etc was the topic of discussion, as you would expect. Recently the Historical Society had also stipulated that the writing on the outside plaques must be recorded before they become too weather worn and totally unreadable.

Coincidentally, the day I was photographing the outside ones, with a view to discerning the faint content with the help of computer manipulation, a lady turned up for our coffee morning that very same morning.

She was Janet Douglas, a niece of Doris Willson, one of our more recent benefactors (in terms of the age of the plaques), whose rent for her flat at Redvers still brings in funds for Crediton Methodist Church. Janet had come back for a visit to the place where her Aunty had lived, to go down the memory lane of places, streets, shops etc that she used to visit when she was a little girl. She remembered coming to Sunday School here with her brother and the good times they had in Crediton as children.

Whilst she spoke, someone recalled that a number of relatives to Richard Browning (another plaque), had also visited last year.

It is a timely reminder that the foundation of the Church that we wish to move forward during the 21st century has a long line of devotion and benevolence behind us, which has brought the Church to where it is now and still has its links to today. *Christine Marshall*

Church Annual General Meeting

**April 10th – After the morning service
Nominations for Stewards to Ann by April 3rd.**

Followed by Bring & Share Lunch

Crediton Food Bank

Hi everyone

Here are our Flavours of the Month for April:-

- Long Life juice or Squash
- Tinned puddings eg Rice, Sponge or Fruit
- Tinned/Mash potato
- Sugar

Many thanks. As usual, I have also attached a sheet of small flyers for you to print off if you wish to distribute 'Flavours of the Month' reminders to your congregations.

Some very good news - Sue Goode from CCC has just joined me as joint Co-ordinator for both the Foodbank and the Fishtank drop-in. Sue has been very involved as a volunteer with both the Foodbank and the Fishtank since they first started and her increased commitment and involvement is a real answer to prayer. I'm sure many of you will have the opportunity and pleasure of meeting Sue in the near future if you haven't done so already.

More good news - the much awaited Foodbank vouchers have finally been completed and will be issued to agencies over the next few weeks. This will be a big help to all those involved in running and using Crediton Foodbank and is another answer to prayer!

Please pass on the grateful thanks of many to all in your congregations who continue to faithfully and generously support the Foodbank and assure them of the difference they are making in this town in the name of Jesus.

Many thanks & God bless, Wendy

STEPPING OUT FOR THOSE LIVING IN POVERTY

On 30 April a group of walkers are going to be taking in the beautiful East Devon countryside - whilst raising funds for Tearfund. Could you and others from your church join them?

As well as enjoying the countryside, those taking part are asked to get family, friends and colleagues to sponsor them - helping to raise vital cash for Tearfund's work.

Suitable for all ages, although not for push chairs, walkers can choose between a 3.5 mile downhill stroll, a 7 mile trip or, for those wanting a bit more of a challenge, a 12 mile hike!

Get your church in on the act

Groups from many churches join the walk each year - it creates a great opportunity for people to spend time with one another; to meet with others from local churches and to maximise the amount of money raised! Why not commit to personally being involved this year and invite others in your church to join you?

You could set up online giving pages on either Virgin Charity Money <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/giving/> or www.justgiving.org - both offer great ways of promoting your exploits; asking people to sponsor you and collecting the money!

You can also get a more traditional sponsorship form at <http://www.tearfund.org/webdocs/Website/Giving/Sponsor%20Form%20ROI.pdf> Online giving is often more effective. If you use the form, don't forget to encourage tax payers to give using Gift Aid. You must obtain their post code on the sponsor form and tick the box.

Details This year's walk starts at Muttersmoor Plantation Car Park at the top of Peak Hill, which is between Otterton and Sidmouth.

To join simply be there for 9.15am for registration and prayer. It would be great if you let Paul and Barbara Woolley, the event organisers, know you are coming. You can contact them on 01395 232992.

The route : Leaving the car park at Muttersmoor we will be walking along the coast past Ladram bay and on towards Otterton, where the short walk will finish. Some walkers may wish to leave a car at Otterton (but not in the Mill car park). The 7 mile will continue and finish back at the car park. Those wanting more of a challenge will carry on up the river Otter and returning via Mutter's Moor.

Refreshments: Light refreshments will be available at the finishing point.

Flowers

Help with decorating the Church for Easter, Thurs 21st April from 9.30am , any donations of greenery or flowers would be very welcome and brought to the Church by 9.30am on the morning.

Also. (Message for the congregation.) If you would like flowers arranged in the Church to remember a special occasion, or would like to give a donation to the flower fund, then see either. Margaret Saunders, Meg Ellis, Bronwyn Nott, Christine Gregory, Elizabeth Greenslade. Julie Rowe. We will be happy to help you. The flower team has grown, if there is any one else who would like to join the team then see one of the above people.
Thank you - The Flower Team.

The Open House on a Desert Island

Once again, we all took ourselves off to that idyllic desert island paradise with a CD tucked under our arm and dreams of the luxury item to keep us happy.

We all met on the mountain top that is Jackie's house in Longmeadows, almost an expedition in itself before we contemplated going to sea to find our desert island! It was a great social evening with wonderful music, cakes and memories, we even broke into song at one stage (listening not recommended).

Jane had brought Doris Day with 'September in the Rain', which reminded us of the beautiful voice of Doris Day. Jane's luxury item was going to be 3 animals, as she could not decide which to take.

Jackie chose Maggie McDonald singing 'I don't know how to love him' and was going to take her hymn book, assuming that the Bible and Encyclopædia Britannica is already there.

Margaret Scott introduced us to Charles Graham, a singer at a wedding she had attended, who gave a lovely rendition of 'You Amaze Me' and she was taking the 40 volumes of family photographs to remind her of happy holidays. There was a story about how she only had 2 photos of her honeymoon because it was windy, but we won't elaborate on that.

Tina brought The Priests singing hers and Kens favourite 'How great thou Art' and wanted to take her nail file set, not for nails, but as a useful item to do other things -like tightening screws etc on the island. We suggested that opening oysters might be more useful.

Meg, who was a bit worse for wear, having taken a tumble, liked Jim Reeves and wanted to take an aeroplane to the island (not sure about the rules on that one).

Cynthia had Bryn Terfel and Aled Jones singing 'Panis Angelicus', which was beautiful and was going to re-live all the lovely walks she had taken in the past, by using an Ordnance Survey map as her luxury item.

Joan was also an Aled Jones fan and he sung 'Did you not hear my Lady' for her and she wanted the CD player on the island to be able to play all his songs.

Marjorie Webb was a Wurlitzer organ enthusiast and played Robert Wolfe from Thursford Hall giving a rendition of 'Make me a Channel' in a very moving, soft way, considering the size of the instrument it was played upon. She loves her hymn book and would take it for singing, prayers and contemplation.

Margaret Saunders allowed Pam Ayers to entertain us and bring smiles to our faces with the poems and stories about 'looking after your teeth', 'roly poly and spotted dick suet puddings' and 'poking the parrot off his perch'. She wants to take the 2 youngest grandchildren to enjoy playing on the beach and then send them home to Mum & Dad at the end of the day (good plan!).

Marjorie Ashley was another Aled Jones groupie, the room was full of them! He sang 'You raise me up' and Marjorie said that she thought it would cheer her up on those days when she got fed up with beautiful scenery, sandy beaches and coconuts etc. She is going to take a potter's wheel and a lump of clay to make something useful to put in her firing kiln, when she has built it – way too industrious and ambitious.

Pam played the most entrancing 'Adagio' movement from Rodrigo Guitar Concerto by John Williams and was taking her watercolour set to paint to her hearts content.

Christine played 'Clair de Lune' on her phone, which she was going to take with her as the luxury item (with a solar panel to charge it), so that she could keep in touch with family and friends in the outside world.

A good night was enjoyed by all, the Open House evenings are cheerful, social occasions and cover various subjects. Everyone is welcome, see Pam Murphy.

What would your favourite song and luxury item be?

Christine (Marshall)

Pause for thought

THE SENSE OF THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Some feel the presence of God on a lonely open moor, others watching the ceaseless crash of great waves on a rocky shore, others again looking up at the star-studded night sky, or in a private room where they can sit in silence, perhaps just murmuring, ‘God! God!’

I must confess, in my less active old age, the sense of God’s presence comes most to me on a late Spring or Autumn evening, when the sun is lowering in the sky, playing through the clerestory windows onto the Cathedral arches, with Bach on the organ!

Let me ask, ‘Where and when do you most sense God’s presence?’

[Time to think]

What’s this got to do with Crediton Methodist Church? Yes! Well, what has it? Is our Church a place where God is most readily felt?

Discussions are taking place in our Church about its refurbishment. I want to plead and plead, with those involved, to put the ‘sense of God’s presence’ at the heart of their planning.

It’s been said that our present age has lost the sense of God. And, yes, I think there’s something in that. But if the Church loses that sense, we’ve lost everything.

Other denominations may smile at our Methodist love for tea and chat. And, again yes; that kind of warm fellowship is important to our churchmanship. But, once more, if our desire for tea and talk outweighs the sense of God’s presence, we’ve lost everything.

Will Robinson

THE YEAR OF THE BIBLE!

2011 sees an exciting initiative – Biblefresh – that celebrates the place of the Bible in our lives. As one of the occasional series of articles from the Exeter Methodist Circuit aimed at informing local church members about current Circuit business and initiatives, the Revd Mark Gilborson writes about the Circuit's involvement in Biblefresh. Mark will contribute more next month!

Yes, the year of the Bible is truly with us and the 'Biblefresh' initiative is well underway. Exeter Methodist Circuit have been working closely with our ecumenical colleagues to provide a Biblefresh experience that is exciting, informative and challenging. With that in mind we have devised a four-Sunday series of sermons that has a uniting thread exploring significant themes. There are also follow-up Bible study notes that can be explored in existing fellowship groups or ones set up specifically for this four-week period. I am delighted to say that more than 30 churches of nearly every denomination will be united as we join in this opportunity to learn together as we explore the Bible together.

8 May: 'Help I am afraid of dying' (*Luke 8: 40-56*)

15 May: 'Help life is too busy' (*Luke 10: 38-42*)

22 May 'Help I've got it all' (*Luke 18: 18-30*)

29 May 'Help my dreams are shattered' (*Luke 24: 13-35*)

The themes have been designed to be informative to us, as regular churchgoers, but also eye-catching to those who may not go to church on a regular basis. Some churches have also ordered copies of Luke's gospel which could be given away to friends and neighbours with an invitation to come to one of these special services or study groups that explore these important 'life' themes.

This is the first time that we have undertaken such an event and it is my hope that we will prayerfully and enthusiastically make the most of this opportunity to deepen our own discipleship and take a risk and encourage someone else to join with us.

Chernobyl Tragedy 26th April 1986 @ 1.23am – 25 years on!

As I write this I am listening to the reports of the earthquake tragedy in Japan and more particularly the ongoing reports on the state of the Fukushima nuclear facility.

The tragedy at Chernobyl located in what was Russia (now the Ukraine) happened 25 years ago on 26th April 1986 at 1.23a.m. This has been mostly off the news agenda until now when the Japanese tragedy has again brought the events at Chernobyl back to our thoughts. During the ensuing 25 years the repercussions of this enormous accident still live on in its population in the Ukraine and Belarus (not forgetting Wales and Cumbria), and through the generations and in the animals and vegetation.

Although of course we were not there, our Russian friends, the Shevchenkos with whom we have been in contact (long before our International Aid work) for almost 25 years have talked in recent times at length to us about the meltdown of the 4th reactor at Chernobyl near the town of Pripyat. They had been too upset to even think about it for years and so it was with interest and concern that we listened to their experiences.

It was a public holiday in Kiev on this apparently pleasant April day in 1986, and people were out enjoying the sunshine totally unaware of the disaster that had taken place just 50 miles from their homes a few hours before. There was a total news blackout so this state of unawareness lasted for 3 days.



So it was that our friends Vitaliy Shevchenko, his wife Lusya and their two children, Valya about 10 at the time and Stasik aged 6 years, had no idea of the terrible event that would affect them and their extended family and so many other people for the rest of their lives. Vitaliy, responsible for planning the industrial electrical circuitry for the large and beautiful

capital city of Kiev left the flat as usual that morning for work in the centre of the city. Lusya busied herself with the usual household chores. Their city flat was part of a large regeneration project and as a result of this many trees and open spaces had been created. From the tall trees which surrounded all the blocks of flats there was always a cacophony of bird song from the branches. Valya was on holiday with her school, camping in the forest about 20 miles from Kiev about 60 miles from the nuclear reactors. Stasik was at home with his Mum.

Lusya suddenly became aware that there was no bird song, and being an intuitive person, she knew that something was wrong. Not long after, the telephone rang, it was Vitaliy telling her to get out of the city with Stasik and travel as far as she could away from Kiev. So together with Stasik they ran to the nearest Metro Station jostling with thousands of other people trying to purchase tickets to go anywhere away from Kiev. Whilst no-one knew what had happened, it was clear that somehow knowledge of some sort of disaster had occurred. They eventually managed to buy tickets to Kazakstan. Meanwhile Valya and her school camping in the forest were suddenly told to pack up their belongings and wait for the buses that had brought them to their camp site to take them back home. They waited and waited, and they were then told they must walk the 20 or so miles back home to Kiev, which is of course what they did. By now it had started to rain and so all the children had to walk back to Kiev with the invisible contamination from Chernobyl raining down on them. Of course they were totally unaware of this, and would have been unable to do anything about it anyway.

Later they were told that all the buses had been seconded to take fire-fighters to fight the fires at Chernobyl. These same buses evacuated 50,000 people from Pripyat, the nearest town to Chernobyl, the population was apparently evacuated in 2 hours. A population in excess of 350,000 were eventually evacuated.

Lusya's Mum, a widow, lived in the little village of Boyarka some 20 miles from Kiev. She loved her garden and the produce helped to supplement her meagre income. When we met her some years later, she told us that following Chernobyl all of a sudden the vegetables and fruit in her garden withered and died, the earth was laid bare and she had no idea what could have happened. As well as this in the local market there was a glut of cheap meat – why? She also noted that Government officials were missing from the area. Apparently they had gone to places like the Black

Sea – why?. Having no telephone she was not able to be contacted by her family so she was totally unaware of what had taken place.

The facts we do know are that Lusya's sister Leila suffers and still has to take iodine for her thyroid problems, as does Lusya. Lusya's daughter Valya did take this form of treatment a few years ago, but her problems are not so severe. Valya's young daughter Anya is in school with 'Chernobyl children' who are unwell in many ways. Leila's daughter Leone, has a rare form of an in-balance of red and white blood corpuscles necessitating regular draining off of the excess of red blood corpuscles which she produces - they do not know why. Lusya's Mum now has a very large cancerous lump behind one eye, which of course is very debilitating.

The last time we were staying with our friends in Kiev we were invited to supper at one of the other flats in the block, and there we met Ludmila Ovsyannikova Head of the Centre for Radiation Medicine of Ukrainian Medical Sciences Academy. Ludmila was one of many hundreds of scientists working on the after effects of Chernobyl. Sadly her English was not good, and our knowledge of Ukrainian/Russian even worse, so we could not ask her all that we wanted to know. Her part in the research work was to study the effects of the contamination on the local wildlife and vegetation at Pripyat and environs. She reported that animal and wildlife were thriving since the landscape was undisturbed by humans! Other details were too difficult for her to explain.

On our last visit to stay with Vitaliy, we took an evening stroll by the beautiful and expansive River Dniepr which flows through Kiev. The beaches alongside the vast river are sandy, Kiev is built on sand, and as we strolled along enjoying the late evening sunshine (in my open toed sandals) Vitaliy told me that all the warts on his hands had been cured by rubbing them into the sand following Chernobyl. I instantly screwed up my toes into my sandals! The river Dniepr has a tributary which flows through Chernobyl.

In our many letters following the accident at Chernobyl, Vitaliy used to tell me of the strange things he saw for sale in their local food market. The one I really remember is of a fish having an eye on his dorsal fin! When we last visited Lusya's Mum in Boyarka, the garden had again been planted with all sorts of fruit and vegetables. My private thoughts

questioned what this dear lady was ingesting from the undoubted ongoing soil contamination.

Of course with the sponsorship work we do with the International Aid Trust all this is not unusual, with the tragic ongoing effects still evident to this day in the people.

June Redfern

Japan Emergency Appeal

Save the Children Fund

More than 380,000 people have been forced from their homes by the disaster, including up to 100,000 children. The situation in the affected areas has been made more difficult by shortages of food, water and fuel, and now a drop to freezing temperatures, with snowfall across some of the worst-affected areas.

“Fuel is in short supply, making it difficult to move goods around the country, and we fear there are still communities where basic items are not getting through,” said Stephen McDonald, Save the Children’s team leader in Sendai. “Save the Children is now looking to ramp up its emergency response to make sure families have the essential supplies they need.”

To donate please see the basket in the foyer or phone:
0800 8148 148

Pastoral Life

*This joyful Eastertide, what need is there for grieving?
Cast all your cares aside, and be not unbelieving:
Come, share our Easter joy that death could not imprison,
Nor any power destroy, our Christ, who is arisen.*

F Pratt-Green



Church Life:

Let us give grateful thanks to God for our minister Ann, as in Christ's name she faithfully and lovingly ministers to us and our community here in Crediton.

Together, we are in the process of discerning who should be leaders of our church and we pray that God's spirit will guide us to make the right choices and decisions.

We are very pleased to welcome all who are becoming members of this church this month.

Thanksgiving:

We give thanks that Ann's mother, Margaret Bagwell has made a good recovery after her operation a few months ago. Ann and her family thank you for your prayers.

We are also thankful that Rita Ash and Anne Spry are back home after spells in hospital.

Those who need our on-going prayerful support:

Your prayers are asked for all who are unwell, anxious or vulnerable. Of those, we name here: Jane Avery; Ray Burnett; Estelle Chapple; Alan & Kim Clemens; Jude Coram and all his family; Ivor Coram; Horace & Doris Crispin; Beatrice Curle; Mary Greasley; Harold Hollingsworth; Arthur Homeshaw; Frank Howarth; Marjorie and Rob Ings; Len Jenkinson; Gillian Maunder; Lynda and Norman Medcraft; Kath Metherell; Bronwyn and Colin Nott, and Rachel; Alesia, granddaughter of Ken and Margaret Saunders; Margaret Scott; Shirley Sharpe; Arthur Tancock; Eileen & George Tarr; Mary Tyson.

Community and the world:

Your prayers are asked for:

those who are seeking employment in Crediton and surrounding areas;

those who are having to make difficult decisions about provision of services for the town;

for the people of Japan in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake and tsunami, and for

the whole of the Pacific region which has seen such severe natural disasters recently;

for peace in countries in north Africa and the Middle East in which unrest has been escalating.

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 in our hearts.

Residential Homes services:

Summerhayes:	Thursday	7 April	3:15 pm
Kenwyn:	Wednesday	20 April	3:15 pm
St Lawrence:	Thursday	21 April	11:15 am

Contacts: Pam Murphy:	Pastoral Secretary:	773414
June Redfern:	Prayer requests:	84058

Please let Pam know of anyone who would like to be included for prayer: for their calling and work in God's name; for reason for thanksgiving; for their need. Thank you.

Energy Saving Tips

Look out for the logo. When purchasing new appliances always look for the ‘Energy Saving Recommended’ logo. Energy Saving Recommended appliances are the most efficient in their category and could save you up to £34 a year. Also visit www.sust-it.net which lists thousands of appliances and how much they cost to run.

Unplug it. If chargers for devices such as mobile phones and mp3 players were unplugged when not in use, the UK could save enough electricity each year to power 115,000 homes. Turning off your mobile phone over night will mean you have to charge it less.

Turn your lights off. When you leave a room, turn the light off on your way out. It’s said that UK households spend £1.9bn on electricity every year for lighting. Using fluorescent strip lights in kitchens give long lasting bright light with lower running costs.

Night time light. If you have an outside light, replace the bulb with a low energy light bulb. You can also fit a timer or a motion sensor so it’s only used when it’s needed. You can also buy solar garden lights for night time lighting.

Energy Saving Light bulbs. In most homes, lighting accounts for 10–15% of the electricity bill. Energy saving light bulbs last up to 10 times longer than normal light bulbs, and each bulb fitted could save around £40 over its lifetime. They come in a range of styles, and often your energy supplier will provide you with some for free.

Easter **at Crediton Methodist Church**

Maundy Thursday

Communion at 7.30 p.m.

Good Friday

Procession of Witness

10 a.m. Roman Catholic Church

Time for Reflection

7 p.m. Methodist Church

Easter Sunday

Celebration Services

At 10.30a.m. & 6.30 p.m.

‘Is it any wonder people find it hard to believe in the resurrection of Jesus if we don’t throw our hats in the air? Is it any wonder the world doesn’t take much notice if Easter is celebrated as simply the one-day happy event tacked onto forty days of fasting and gloom. It’s long overdue that we take a hard look at how we keep Easter in the church, at home, in our personal lives And if it means rethinking some cherished habits, well, maybe it’s time to wake up.’

Bishop Tom Wright

Some dates for April

April 4th: Refurbishment meeting

April 5th: Ladies Supper Group

April 9th: The Ark

Creedy Choir Concert 7.30 p.m.

April 10th: Church AGM after morning service. Bring & Share lunch.

April 21st: Maundy Communion Service 7.30 p.m.

April 22nd: Good Friday Procession of Witness. 10 a.m.

Time for reflection – service at 7 p.m.

April 24th: Easter Sunday celebrations.

Ladies Bright Hour

April 1st: Jenny Hext (Pippins
Visit) Bring & Buy

April 8th: Mrs Jackie Harris

April 15th: Rev Ann Varker

Over £200

Over £200 was raised at the cake stall held in aid of ChinaKidz. Gerald and Elizabeth would like to thank everyone who contributed.

Flower Festival

**Celebrating 400 years
of the King James
Version**

**Kings Nympton Methodist
Church**

April 8th – 11th

Fri Sat Mon: 10 – 3.30

Sun: 12.30 – 3.30

Crediton Methodist Church

**Rooms available for hire
for Community use**



**Ring Clifford Webb
01363 773347**

A prayer for Easter

‘Hosanna’ to ‘Crucify’

The people shouted ‘Hosanna’ as Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.
Today, help us to worship and sing our praises.

Jesus drove the money changers out of the temple.
Today, help us to be angry at important things, especially when they affect others.

Jesus watched the widow put what she had into the offering.
Today, help us to give our time, our talents and our money, even if we only have a little. It is important to Jesus.

Mary did something beautiful for Jesus when she used expensive ointment to wash his feet.
Today, help us to do something beautiful for Jesus when we do something special for someone else.

Jesus at the Last Supper with his disciples.
Today, when we celebrate Holy Communion help us to remember all that Jesus did.

Jesus prayed ‘if it is possible don’t let this happen – but your will be done.’
Today, when we pray help us not to be disappointed when we think our prayers are not answered; help us to pray for God’s will to be done.

Peter denied Jesus three times.
Today, when it is easier to say we do not know Jesus, help us to know that Jesus stands by us and forgives us.

The crowd cried ‘Crucify’.
Today, help us to stand up for what is right and not always go with the crowd.
Amen

From Jenny Hext and the Fish Group

GENERAL CHURCH MEETING – 10 APRIL 2011

We will be holding our General Church Meeting on Sunday 10 April at 12 noon, Everyone is invited to this meeting which is an opportunity to hear more about and to discuss the life of our Church. There will be a break during the meeting for a bring and share lunch. Although not essential, it would help if those of you with surnames starting with A to F would bring a sweet and those with surnames from G to Z would bring savoury times.

In recent months, as a Church, we have been exploring our vision and last month, as part of this exercise, we held a worship consultation. Also, you have been asked to make suggestions for members to form a Leadership Team. The results of these consultations will be brought to this meeting.

During the meeting, as well as the Leadership Team, we shall appoint our Church Stewards for the next twelve months and elect up to 15 representatives to the Church Council who are willing to serve for the next twelve months. There are vacancies for Stewards and members of the Church Council. Although there is only a short time before the meeting, if you would like to know more about the work involved please speak to me or our Minister.

Nominations for the Church Council need to be made in advance of the meeting and this includes those existing members who wish to stand for re-election. If you wish to nominate a member please obtain their approval (including those prepared to be re-elected) by completing a nomination form which I can supply.

For your information the current stewards and elected members of the Church Council are:

Church Stewards

Marjorie Ashley
June Redfern
Margaret Scott
Gillian Sutton
Sid Gardener
Ken Saunders

Church Council

Meg Ellis	Margaret Saunders
Christine Gregory	Mary Tyson
Wendy Homeshaw	Kath Wollacott
Christine Marshall	Priscilla Wright
	Alan Clemens

(June Redfern and Margaret Scott will be retiring as Stewards at the end of this month.)

Other members of the Church Council are the Stewards, the Secretary (John Ashley), the Treasurer (Glenn Turner), the Pastoral Secretary (Karen Theedom) and the section Circuit steward (Ellen Palmer from Cheriton Fitzpaine).

Please put this important date in your diary and come to the meeting

John Ashley
Church Secretary