



# Crediton Methodist Church



Newsletter  
February 2011

# Crediton Methodist Church

**Minister: Rev Ann Varker**

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

**Phone: 01363 777308**

## Services this month:

<b>Feb 6th</b>	<b>10.30</b>	<b>Rev D Easton</b>	<b>Sacrament</b>
	<b>6.30</b>	<b>Mr L Smale</b>	
<b>Feb 13th</b>	<b>8.45</b>	<b>Rev A Varker</b>	<b>Sacrament</b>
	<b>10.30</b>	<b>Rev Ann Varker</b>	
	<b>6.30</b>	<b>Rev D Easton</b>	
<b>Feb 20th</b>	<b>10.30</b>	<b>Rev Ann Varker</b>	<b>All Age Worship</b>
	<b>6.30</b>	<b>Rev A Brazier</b>	<b>Sacrament</b>
<b>Feb 27th</b>	<b>10.30</b>	<b>Dr K Kite</b>	
	<b>6.00</b>	<b>Talkback (Meth Church)</b>	

## 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: 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; Jesus Squad (10+ age group)

---

**Material for the March newsletter to Ken Saunders**

**by February 20th**

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

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

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

Dear friends,

As I sit down to write a letter for this month's magazine I feel led to share with you an incident from my early childhood: I was probably seven or eight years of age, and even then had a love for making jigsaws. On the particular day that comes to mind I was putting together the edge pieces for my latest puzzle. One of our elderly relatives had come to stay and it was suggested that perhaps she would like to help me. I was a sociable child and happily agreed with the suggestion. As time went by I became less happy, for it became clear that auntie had little understanding of what was required. If one piece could be made to link up with another then that was done, with little sense of whether or not the colours matched. I didn't want to point out her mistakes, not wishing to upset her, so instead I kept a careful eye on what she was doing, and every now and then removed the pieces she had put in place.

That memory has come back to me after so many years as I have been reflecting on conversations I have had, and meetings I have attended at Crediton over the past months. It has become clear to me that sadly there are some "pieces in the wrong place"; people who are filling roles because there is a job to be done, rather than because they feel God has called them to serve in that place. In my experience this can have several negative consequences. The person in the wrong place can find that they become exhausted, disillusioned, and eventually even burnt out as they struggle to do what has been asked of them. In addition it can mean they do not have the time or energy to use the gifts God has given them in the way that he intends. It doesn't take too much imagination to see how this affects the life of the church as a whole, if it is allowed to continue.

If as you read this you think this applies to you then I would urge you to speak to me about it. If you are to fulfil God's purpose for you in this place at this time, then it is important

that you discover the gifts God has given to you and how this fits within the overall vision of the church.

I am reminded again of Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 12:

*'There are many different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good,'*

I am convinced that God is at work in this place. He longs to see us responding to his leading and moving forward to the place he will lead us. My prayer is that each of us will find our rightful place within the whole so that we can move forward together.

With every blessing, Ann

---

## **Fairtrade Fortnight (Feb 28 – March 13)**

### **Bees and Teas – the Traidcraft Connection**

As declining bee populations continue to feature in the news, developments in Kenya make Traidcraft's range of Fairtrade tea even more refreshing!

Until recently, smallholder farmers at Iriaini Tea Factory in Kenya – one of Traidcraft's newest tea suppliers – relied solely on tea grown on their small plots of land.

With limited space and some ground unsuitable for cultivation, many struggled to earn a living.



Now, thanks to training from Traidcraft, the tea growers have become beekeepers. They are also planting passion fruit – providing extra income for them and nectar for the bees.

Some farmers have begun water

harvesting and their small plots of land are flourishing, providing food for families and with surplus to sell.

Iriaini factory manager Mathew Ng'enda explained: “We attribute a lot to fair trade. The farmers are now seeing fair trade as a concept, not just in tea, but something that is bringing them together.

“We are so happy because all those activities engage our farmers and they have an extra income. We have become the pioneer beekeepers in the tea industry.”

Our coffee morning on March 5<sup>th</sup> will be promoting a large selection of our Traidcraft range including tea and honey.

Established in 1986, Traidcraft Exchange works to enable poor producers in Africa and Asia to grow their businesses, find markets, and engage effectively in trade.

They passionately believe that trade can provide opportunities for people to work their way out of poverty.

Our development programmes are directly benefiting over two million people, and touching the lives of a further 24 million. Countless more benefit from our policy and advocacy work.

# An International Movement



## Women's World day of Prayer

The World Day of Prayer is a worldwide movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year, and who, in many countries, have a continuing relationship in prayer and service.

It is a movement initiated and carried out by women in more than 170 countries and regions.

It is a movement symbolized by an annual day of celebration - the first Friday of March - to which all people are welcome.

It is a movement which brings together women of various races, cultures and traditions in closer fellowship, understanding and action throughout the year.

Through World Day of Prayer, women around the world:

- affirm their faith in Jesus Christ

- share their hopes and fears, their joys and sorrows, their opportunities and needs.

Through World Day of Prayer, women are encouraged:

- to become aware of the whole world and no longer live in isolation

- to be enriched by the faith experience of Christians of other

countries and cultures,  
to take up the burdens of other people and pray with and for them  
to become aware of their talents and use them in the service of  
society.

Through World Day of Prayer, women affirm that prayer and action are  
inseparable and that both have immeasurable influence in the world. The  
motto of the World Day of Prayer is "Informed Prayer and Prayerful  
Action".

This year's theme  
'How many loaves have you?'  
has been prepared by ladies in Chile.

And will be celebrated at  
Crediton Methodist Church  
On Friday March 4<sup>th</sup>  
At 2 p.m.



## Miss Rene Sankey M.B.E. 1910 – 2010

It is with sadness that the death of Rene Sankey was recorded on 25<sup>th</sup> December 2010. It is also with joy that we can celebrate her long life.

Rene was born in Birmingham and was trained as a nurse, Health Visitor and Queen's Nurse, and dedicated her life in educating and developing the Nursing Services within the community with the Queen's Institute of Nursing.

Having trained in Brighton, she worked in London during the war and her work as Superintendent; Principal Nursing Officer; and Consultant in District Nursing training at the Ministry of Health covered many journeys to Lytham St. Anne, Warwickshire, Birmingham and Devonshire areas.



Rene asserted her leadership in the training of nurses in the care of the community in their homes and whilst working for S.S.A.F.A , and the World Health Organisation, she developed a District Nursing Service and Nursing Training in Malaysia. She was always forward thinking and before retirement saw the need for a service for the 'Care for carers' which led to the inception of 'Crossroads' (Care attendant scheme) in Rugby and which has now spread throughout the country.

Unperturbed by retirement, she moved to Redvers House, Crediton in 1992. She gave her time to raising funds for International Aid Trust – taking under her wing a 'family' in the Ukraine. Writing her book 'Thankyou Miss Hunter' at the age of 90 was, I think, a great achievement.

It is with gratitude, I wish to thank all Rene's friends of Crediton who gave donations to International Aid Trust and for the care she received during her time here. My warm thanks to a good friend Wendy Homeshaw and the care she received by the staff of Hillbrow House Residential Care Home.

*Margaret Nelson (Neice)*

## Happy New Year to you all!

I would be very grateful if you could pass on the following information to your congregations please:-

A very BIG "Thank You" to everybody who donated food, treats and gifts to go into the Christmas hampers this year. The problems with the weather seemed to mean those receiving hampers were more grateful than ever! You all played a part in helping people in Crediton know that there are churches out there who care for them and ultimately a God who loves them. Thank you very much for your generosity.

'Flavours of the Month' for February are as follows:-

- Rice
- Spaghetti (dried)
- Pot noodles/instant pasta pots
- Jam

I have also attached a page of small 'Flavours of the Month'

flyers. At CCC, we hand one out to everybody coming to our Sunday services at the beginning of the month, along with our weekly newsletter. If you wish to copy these and pass them onto your congregations by whatever means suits you, please feel free to do so.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement with Crediton Foodbank. There are many people in Crediton, including some elderly and very young children, who would have gone hungry in the last few months if it weren't for the Foodbank. Please continue to pray and ask for God's blessing on this important work in the coming year.

Many thanks and God bless,

Wendy

## Disciple – going deeper

If you are interested in getting to grips with the Bible and want to deepen your relationship with God and are willing to really work at it then please come to Wonford on 16<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30 for one hour!

Why? Well...

On Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup> November 2011, twenty people gathered together in Exeter, from around the District to be trained in leading the ‘Disciple course’, we started at 8.45 and left at 5.15, it was an intense and tiring day with much to take in. It was also a brilliant day where we heard just how this course can deepen our relationship with God through a deeper understanding of the Bible. For me the best part of the day was sampling a two and a half hour Disciple session, there was a short but excellent video presentation, some reflection on what we had read, during the week before (there are daily reading set for each day of the week). There are then questions to consider and much opportunity to reflect and ask ‘what is God saying to us?’

In Exeter we are hoping to run at least one course and possibly two. Myself, David Easton, Janet Lee and Ken Kite all went on the training day and all came away enthused about the possibility that this presents. So Wednesday the 16<sup>th</sup> February is your chance to find out more, it will be an opportunity to meet, consider, ask questions and find out more about this life changing course. So if you want to:

- Be better informed about the contents of the Bible
- Grow into a deeper spiritually

Please come along, we are hoping that many of you will join us on this journey.

Yours in Christ. Mark Gilborson

# Biblefresh

Well 2011 has arrived and with it the year of the Bible. I am aware that some Circuits and churches have made a number of plans to use this anniversary to encourage people to engage with the Bible and to find ways of using the occasion as an opportunity for witness and mission. If you are still not sure what it is about and what you might do there is plenty of time! Please feel free to contact me and I am more than willing to come and talk to your church or circuit about some of the possibilities. In the meantime here are some of the things that are happening around the District.

## **Bible in a year**

Pete Pillinger has challenged us to read the whole of the Bible over 2011 and I know many of you have started. The District website <http://pemd.org.uk/1year/> has a number of excellent resources to do this and many of you are contributing to some engaging conversations, regarding the text, on a daily basis. It is our idea that each day's reading will have an accompanying commentary to help understanding and promote discussion, please let either Pete or Mark know if you would like to help write some of the commentaries or know someone who might like to.

## **Write the Bible**

A handwritten bible is going to be presented at conference this year. The Methodist people, District by District, around the whole country, are being invited to contribute. The Plymouth and Exeter District have been assigned Job 7-31, 1 Cor : 14-16 and 2 Cor 1-5, Psa 96-100 and the superintendent will soon be allocated specific passages and given special paper! Please start to think how you can be creative and give people an experience of the Bible in the completion of this. Is there a local bookshop that would host the writing? Can you involve schools? Can this be done ecumenically? We have until the end of May to complete our part.

## **Bible fresh Festival**

Please ensure that you have Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October in your diary, this is the day that the District will be holding its celebratory Biblefresh festival. There will be lively worship, drama and a mixture of activities, seminars and workshops that will include: Godly play, ethics and the Bible, the Bible and film, how to read the Bible, what does the Bible say to us today, drama and the Bible to name but a few! It is likely that the cost of this will be £5 per person and the full publicity will become available in the spring. Please talk about this in your church meetings and encourage people to come. We have chosen the Mint for its central location and excellent facilities, some people have asked about parking and I am in the process of establishing full details on the excellent park and ride system which operates in Exeter, something that we are encouraging everyone to use.

*From the District Mission team*

---

Watch out for local initiatives which include: distributing Luke's gospel to schools and at the Farmer's Market.



## **Christian Aid Roadshow Visits Crediton**

Crediton has been chosen for one of the stops on the Christian Aid 2011 Roadshow.

The date is Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February, at the following venues:

**Crediton Community Transport, 10 Market Street: 10.30 – 12noon**

Open Door – Coffee & Conversation with Christian Aid staff.

**Crediton Methodist Church: 2.30 – 4p.m.**

‘Beyond the Envelope’. Practical advice for Christian Aid Week.

**Crediton Congregational Church: 7.30 – 9p.m.**

Better Together: Poverty Over.

A multi-media presentation revealing Christian Aid’s work with the poorest communities

Everyone is welcome to these sessions – there is no charge.

# Pastoral Life

*A new heart I will put in you and a new spirit I will give you*

*Ezekiel 36:26*



## Church Life

We pray that God will enable this church to serve Him in all His ways in Crediton and in the world,

leading us through Jesus Christ our Lord in love, peace and joy. May we all find His will and purpose for our lives and respond with praise and thanksgiving.

## Thanksgiving

We give thanks for the life of our dear friend Irene Sankey who died on 25 December 2010, aged 100. We pray for Rene's family and friends at this time.

We give thanks to God for those who have joined the worshipping community in this place in recent months, and pray that they will feel welcomed and included in the life of this church. Although there will be sadness for them in moving away from their previous fellowships, may they find joy as we move ahead together into 2011. We pray that their skills and gifts will enhance our service for Christ and in his name.

## Our Church Family:

***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.***

And so your prayers are asked for all who are unwell, anxious or vulnerable. Of those, we name here: Rita Ash; Jane Avery; Margaret Bagwell, Ray Burnett; Alan & Kim Clemens; Jude Coram and all his family; Ivor Coram; Horace & Doris Crispin; Beatrice Curle; Mary Greasley; Linda Heard; Harold Hollingsworth; Frank Howarth; Marjorie Ings; Rob Ings; Len Jenkinson; Phyllis & Gillian Maunder; Lynda & Norman Medcraft; Bronwyn & Colin Nott, and daughter Rachel; Alesia, granddaughter of Ken and Margaret Saunders; Margaret Scott; Ann Spry; Arthur Tancock; Eileen & George Tarr; Mary Tyson.

## Residential Homes services:

Summerhayes:	Thursday	3 February	3:15 pm
Kenwyn:	Wednesday	16 February	3:15 pm
St Lawrence:	Thursday	17 February	11:15 am

Contacts: Karen Theedom: Pastoral Secretary:	775704
Pam Murphy: Pastoral Life page:	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.***

## **RECYCLING – DID YOU KNOW?**

Punchbowl Recycling Centre will now take a wider range of plastics than are collected from your home by Mid Devon District Council. Making a special trip to Punchbowl would defeat the object of trying to reduce your carbon footprint but it would make sense if you saved a large amount, perhaps with your neighbours?

Did you know that recycling **ONE** plastic bottle can save enough energy to run a 60w light bulb for 6 hours?

### **PUNCHBOWL WILL TAKE (PLEASE MAKE SURE EVERYTHING IS CLEAN):**

- All plastic household cleaning bottles
- Pre formed biscuit or chocolate box trays
- Plastic sandwich containers
- Yogurt pots, margarine tubs, ready meal containers etc.
- Plastic fruit containers (unless made from expanded polystyrene)
- CD's & cases
- Plastic flower pots (must be clean)
- All plastic drink bottles (please squash and put lid back on)
- Plastic milk bottles (please squash and put lid back on) **BUT THESE CAN ALSO BE COLLECTED FROM YOUR HOME!**

### **THEY WON'T TAKE ANYTHING NOT LISTED ABOVE – SUCH AS:**

- Anything contaminated with food, grease or oil (not clean)
- Anything made from 'biodegradable' plastic
- Anything made from more than one type of plastic
- Paint containers , plastic toys, videos, ink cartridges etc
- Pet food pouches or soft drink pouches
- Expanded polystyrene packaging including EPS food trays
- Individual crisp and shiny biscuit wrappers
- Anything lined with silver paper
- Cereal packet inners
- Cellophane wrapping

- Toothpaste tubes or disposable razors
- Containers for hand and other skin creams (unless very clean)
- Any large items made from plastic - No furniture
- Bubble wrap, cling film

Or the following BUT these can be collected from your home with your normal recycling!

\* Plastic bags      \*Waxed juice type containers (Tetrapaks)

## Dates for February

Feb 1<sup>st</sup> Ladies Supper Group; 7.00 for 7.30pm at Rose & Crown, Sandford

Feb 12<sup>th</sup> The Ark, 4.00-6.00pm. Theme; The Ten Silver Coins

Feb 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Sleeping Beauty at The Mint MC, 7.30pm

Feb 15<sup>th</sup> Church Council, 7.30pm

Feb 16<sup>th</sup> Youth Training with Steve Jones, 7.30pm

Feb 24<sup>th</sup> Open House at 13 Longmeadows, 7.30pm. Topic; Desert Island Discs

March 4<sup>th</sup> Women's World Day of Prayer Methodist Church 2pm

### Bright Hour

Fridays 2.30 p.m.

Feb 4<sup>th</sup>: Mr John Gooding

Feb 11<sup>th</sup>: Mrs Cynthia Dixon

Feb 18<sup>th</sup>: Jenny Hext (Pippins visit)

Feb 25<sup>th</sup>: Rev & Mrs Robinson

### Thanks

Heartfelt thanks to those in the church family who helped in the preparations for the service on 14<sup>th</sup> Jan.- for attending; clearing-up afterwards and for cards and donations received. Your help and kindness is much appreciated. The amount received for International Aid Trust is over £400

*Wendy*