

# Crediton Methodist Church



Newsletter  
October 2011

# Crediton Methodist Church

**Minister: Rev Ann Varker**

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

**Phone: 01363 777308**

## Services this month:

Oct 2nd	10.30	Mr B Warren	Harvest
	6.30	Rev D Gregory	Town Band
Oct 9th	10.30	Rev M Davies	
	6.30	Mrs C Colin	
Oct 16th	8.45	Rev A Varker	(Sacrament)
	10.30	Rev A Varker	(All Age Worship)
	6.30	Mr P Violet	
Oct 23rd	10.30	Rev J Budd	
	6.30	US at Cheriton Fitz	
Oct 30th	10.30	Rev W Robinson	
	6.30	Rev J Frogatt	

## 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)

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)

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**Material for the October newsletter to Ken Saunders  
by October 23rd**

**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)**

## **FishPicnic**

Please can you make a little bit of space in the Church magazine to say a big Thank You to the members of Fish who invited some of the adults to their picnic. I think we enjoyed getting to know a bit about them as much as they found out a bit about us! I think it is an excellent idea (I know they are thinking about planning more if this one was successful) and brings us closer together as a Church family. Many thanks!  
*Julie*

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## **Bright Hour**

Oct 7<sup>th</sup>: Mrs D Sheppard/  
Mrs J Hext  
Bring & Buy stall.  
Oct 14<sup>th</sup>: Mrs J Hext/Pippins  
Oct 21<sup>st</sup>: Songs of Praise  
Oct 28<sup>th</sup>: Mrs P Murphy

Meetings are held on Fridays  
at 2.30 p.m. in the Wesley  
Room.

Everyone is welcome

## **Macmillan Coffee Morning**



Margaret Scott is having a  
coffee morning at the  
Methodist Church on Oct 8<sup>th</sup>:  
10.30 – 12.00

She is holding this event for  
people to remember relatives  
and friends who have died of  
cancer.

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## **Speak Up**

"Our lives begin to end  
the day we become  
silent  
about things that  
matter."

- Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.  
*Civil Rights Leader*

## Successful Car Boot Sale

An early start was needed to set up the Car Boot sale on the Town Square on September 17<sup>th</sup>. By nine o'clock there were plenty of customers and sales were brisk



thanks to our talented sales people. Our thanks to Gerald and Elizabeth who organised the whole event, and to the many others who helped. The total amount raised was £210.



**Cheriton Fitzpaine Methodist Chapel  
Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2011 at 2.15 p.m.**

**FRANCISCO ROJAS SCHOOL  
THANKSGIVING SERVICE**

*Led by*

**The Revs. Ed. and Audrey Standhaft**

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Refreshments and stall after the service

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*A Soup & Sweet Lunch  
will be served in the schoolroom from 12.30 p.m.*

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## **Wanted**

If you or anyone you know has any CROCKERY, CUTLERY, COOKING UTENSILS or BEDDING that are surplus to requirement, they would be very useful to the Churches Housing Action Team for them to use when furnishing a home for someone who has for some reason or other found themselves homeless and with the help of CHAT are now setting themselves up in somewhere they can call home.

If you can help please contact either CHAT on 01884 255606 or Bob on 773566.

## **PAUSE FOR THOUGHT**

### **Forgiveness**

As we sat in Church on Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> September, we were reminded in the opening prayers of the 9-11 attack on the Twin Towers in New York ten years ago.

This was followed by our first hymn:-

Oh Lord my God when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee,  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee,  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,  
And hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze.

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee,*

There is so much beauty around us, so much to point us to God, not only in the woods and the mountain grandeur, but also in our family, friends and those we meet. Yet not everyone can see this beauty and they seek to destroy what God has created, in the name of their “religion”. They try to justify their actions.

How should we react to those, who by their actions, killed over three thousand people ten years ago? How do we react to those who hurt us in our everyday lives by what they say or do, very often without realizing it.

Our response to the prayers on that Sunday was: “Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us”, this is fundamental for our walk with Christ.

We read that when Peter came to Jesus he asked “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?” Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.”

There was a programme on television the other day called “The Twin of the Twin Towers”. It talked to the twins that had survived the terrorist attack, many of these (but obviously not all) had come to terms with what had happened to their twin and had taken comfort from the phone calls that they had received when they had realized that their death was imminent. It was truly forgiveness at it’s greatest.

One wonders how we would react under similar circumstances. Desmond Tutu in his book “God has a dream”, writes that “In God’s family, there are no outsiders. All are insiders. Black and white, rich and poor, gay and straight, Jew and Arab, Palestinian and Israeli, Roman Catholic and Protestant, Serb and Albanian, Hutu and Tutsi, Muslim and Christian, Buddhist and Hindu, Pakistani and Indian – All belong. Whether we like it or not, we are all brothers, the South African President and I, Arafat and Sharon, George Bush and Osama bin Laden belong together. God says, All, all are My children. It is shocking, It is radical.” Does this mean that the perpetrators of 9/11 are our brothers, part of God’s family?

As you all know, in the Leadership Team we have been reading Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations. I feel that the Sixth should be called “Radical Forgiveness”, for without forgiveness we cannot move forward as individuals and as a worshipping congregation. Jesus commands us to forgive seventy–seven times, at the very least.

It is so easy to be hurt and to hurt, somehow we do not have to try, it just happens. How we deal with that hurt is the all important question that defines our relationship with God. It is all too easy to hang onto our hurt or bitterness, it almost appears to be easier and can become a crutch, we convince ourselves that we are in the right about all the facts, not considering how the other person is feeling. We convince ourselves that it is how we feel that matters most, we lose sight of God and our relationship with God suffers.

Bitterness, hurt or grief, call it what you will, by holding on to it, it becomes cankerous, a poison, it festers, we need God's grace. True forgiveness is to allow the grace of God to work in us, for us to hand over to God all that we would hold onto, to let it go and to know the peace of God. It is not always necessary to say anything to any one, it is between you and God.

How can we grow in the likeness of Christ if we have not discovered the grace of God that enables us to forgive or to be forgiven. To accept forgiveness is sometimes as hard as to forgive, but it allows God to work in us in a way that takes us into the presence of God and makes us part of a truly worshipping church

We only have to ask, so easy, yet so hard.

*Tina*

**"Forgiveness is the fragrance the flower leaves on the heel of the one who crushed it."**

-David Jeremiah



# THANKSGIVING

# HARVEST

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October  
6.30 p.m.

With

THE TOWN BAND  
At  
CREDITON METHODIST CHURCH

Lead by  
**Rev. David Gregory**

Retiring Collection for...  
M.R.D.F.  
(Methodist Relief and  
Development Fund)  
...and Band Expenses.



## ShelterBox

Once a year, together with Ken we draw up a skeleton plan on the basic content of the newsletter for the next twelve months. As you know the newsletter is varied, allowing for inclusion of all sorts of items of interest, but as well as this we try to bear in mind the Christian calendar. Although ShelterBox does not appear in our Christian calendar, it is a remarkable, almost local charity and, as we did last year, well worth inclusion in our newsletter.



### **Extract from their Website:**

#### **WHAT WE DO**

**We provide emergency shelter and lifesaving supplies for families around the world who are affected by disasters at the time when they need it the most.**

We are now firmly established at the forefront of disaster relief and our work constantly earns the respect of outside agencies.

#### **PEOPLE WE'VE HELPED**

**Our goal is to help 50,000 families who lose everything in a disaster every year and with your help we will achieve this goal.**

Each large, green ShelterBox is tailored to a disaster but typically contains a disaster relief tent for an extended family, blankets, water storage and purification equipment, cooking utensils, a stove, a basic tool kit, a children's activity pack and other vital items.



ShelterBox aims to connect donors directly with the people we are helping. By giving each box a unique number, and carefully recording where each one goes, donors can track their box to its final destination. ShelterBox also believes that the generosity of our donors should be recognised and celebrated. To this end, we have a roll of honour of all our donors.

***This was downloaded from the website of ShelterBox.***

***When you have time you may like to visit their website.....***

***<http://www.shelterbox.org/>***

*June Redfern*

# Biblefresh

Yet, this year is not yet over and as this year has been ‘the year of the Bible’ there are still opportunities to get involved.

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October at the Mint** is ‘our’ Biblefresh festival, these have been held all over the country and ours is the last – I reckon that it should be a brilliant day. Starting at 9.30 and finishing at 5.30 there are a whole variety of finding ways of engaging with the Bible. Drama is being practiced, worship prepared and many other activities so that whatever your age or knowledge of the Bible there will be an opportunity to get involved and learn more.

The day itself will be a mixture of gathering together and joining in ‘experiences’ you can chose from a wide variety: Bible and music, Bible and drama, Bible and ethics, Bible and juggling(!). Those with an interest in films might like to come to the session about how the Bible and film relate to one another. You can also find out about how the Bible is still being translated into new languages every year. We will have a report from Pete Pillinger about reading the Bible in a year (a good number of Wonford people will be involved in this!) Paul Smith will be presenting 7 Bible verses that will change your life and we will have a panel answering questions that you ask throughout the day – oh and we will also have balloons!

So, please sign up and book your space by contacting Fiona Budd 01363877281, Tickets are only £5 each and those in Full Time Education are free. More information can be obtained from Mark Gilborson 01392 256716

What a brilliant start to our new year and all on our doorstep!

# Advent Abseil



Mince pies  
& Santa  
Suits  
provided!

Princesshay  
Shopping Centre  
Exeter

Saturday 3rd Decemeber  
2011

**Make a difference**  
This Christmas to the lives of  
some of the uk's most vulnerable  
children by taking part in our  
Christmas themed charity abseil.  
**Register now!**

text 'SANTA' or Telephone  
Jamie Lee on 07812 205 395  
or Email: [jamie.lee@actionforchildren.org.uk](mailto:jamie.lee@actionforchildren.org.uk)  
[www.actionforchildren.org.uk](http://www.actionforchildren.org.uk)

Registered charity no. 207600. SCOPED COMPANY no. 4744212  
Incorporated in and under the laws of England

*as long as it takes*

# **Crediton Foodbank Update**

**September 2011**

**Since its launch 11 months ago, Crediton Foodbank has.....**

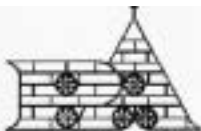
- Received over 70 referrals for people living in Crediton and surrounding villages.
- Those referrals have been made by Health Visitors, Children's Centre Project Workers, Social Workers, Citizens Advice Bureau, Mental Health Teams, School Nurses, Church Housing Action Team and Housing Associations.
- The main reasons given for those referrals have been Redundancy, Benefit delays, Low income, Debt, Domestic violence and Homelessness.
- The Foodbank has fed almost 40 children since it opened.
- Food donations: these can be made at any of the churches in Crediton who each have their own Food Collection box as do many of the village churches now and also the Yellow Bookshop in the High Street. Some local schools and pubs are also involved in collecting food for the Foodbank.

## Our Vision

Over the past few months the Leadership team has been meeting with a view to discerning what God is calling us to be and do in the coming years. As part of this process they have drawn up the following vision statement, by prayerfully considering the question ‘what do you hope the church will look like in fifteen years time?’

A first draft of the vision statement was discussed at the Church Council on the 8<sup>th</sup> September, and has been modified in the light of comments received. It is printed here for your consideration, and will be taken to the Church Council on the 11<sup>th</sup> October, at which the leadership will propose that it is approved and adopted.

**Our vision is of a dynamic worshipping Christian family seeking to play our part in the world wide mission of God by constantly nurturing, encouraging and supporting one another; disciples of Jesus Christ committed to praying and learning together; a congregation radiating God’s love by reaching out to the community, serving the poor and vulnerable, intent on changing the world in partnership with others; an inclusive group of believers, welcoming all, with a desire to become a living vibrant church, to the glory of God.**



# "CAROLS DOWN THE LINE"

on the South Devon Railway

Coordinated by Paignton (Palace Avenue) Methodist Church  
(E-mail: [carols@carolsdowntheline.org.uk](mailto:carols@carolsdowntheline.org.uk))

**Tuesday 06 December 2011**

**Wednesday 07 December 2011**

**Thursday 08 December 2011**

**Come and join us for an evening of steam and carol nostalgia**  
(Bring a torch or lantern)

**Seats must be reserved in advance**

(Go to [www.carolsdowntheline.org.uk](http://www.carolsdowntheline.org.uk) to download a Reservation Form)

**Buckfastleigh Station**

**7.00pm for 7.30pm Departure**

**Cost £8.50 per person**

**Coffee and a Mince Pie served en route**

(kindly donated by Brakes Fresh Ideas)

**Last year 'Carols Down the Line' donated £4837 to charities  
Including £1500 to Action for Children and £606 to Shelterbox.**

**Marjorie Ashley has 24 tickets booked for the Wednesday  
evening**

**For more information please see Marjorie or the leaflet on the  
notice board.**

## **Are you Interested?**

**Two upholstered arm chairs, colour lichen green.**

**Reclining chairs operated by hand lever.**

**No charge but please give a donation to your chosen charity.**

**Must be collected.**

**Ring Wendy 01363  
772786**



### **Do we need to replace our pews?**

A grandmother took her four year old granddaughter to church, a new experience for the little girl. The church still retained its traditional pews. When the minister announced a time of prayer and granny leaned forward the little girl said ‘Granny, who are we hiding from?’

# Pastoral Life

*The Lord is gracious and compassionate,  
slow to anger and rich in love.*

*Psalm 145: 8*



## **Church Life**

We pray for our Church Council as the members meet this month to discuss and make decisions on church matters.

## **Good News**

Many congratulations to Colin and Bronwyn Nott who recently celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary.

We also send love and congratulations to Ann Green, now living in Lapford, who will be 100 years old this month.

We are very pleased to hear that Alisha Saunders is making good progress.

## **Condolences**

We send our love to Jim Cornish and all the family who are in our thoughts and prayers following Joan's recent, sudden death.

## **Our Community and the World**

- We pray for the elderly in Crediton, especially those who live alone and those cared for in residential homes.
- We pray for insight and good judgement by those who have power and influence in the worlds of finance, commerce and politics across the world to enable nations to have a period of sound stability and the ability to care for their citizens most in need.
- In a troubled world, please pray for peace and friendship between nations.

## **People who need our prayerful support**

*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.*

Your prayers are asked for all who are unwell, anxious, waiting for news or who are vulnerable.

We ask prayers for: Jane Avery; Ray Burnett; Estelle Chapple; Alan and Kim Clemens; Jude Coram; Ivor Coram; Beatrice Curle; Mary Greasley; Harold Hollingsworth; Frank Howarth; Len Jenkinson; Gillian Maunder; Lynda and Norman Medcraft; Bronwyn and Colin Nott, and Rachel; Edith Pullen; Shirley Sharpe; Anne Spry; Arthur Tancock.

### **Residential Homes Services**

Summerhayes  
Hillbrow

Thursday 6 October; 3:15pm  
Wednesday 19 October; 3:15pm

*Contacts: Pam Murphy: Pastoral Secretary;  
and to give notice of pastoral news. 773414  
June Redfern: Prayer requests: 84058*



One of the prayer stations at the Day for Prayer & Fasting. *Photo Julie*

## October Dates for Your Diary

- Sat 1<sup>st</sup> Music Day for All, in & around Exeter Cathedral, 10.00am-5.00pm
- Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> Harvest Festival (see separate notice)
- Tues 4<sup>th</sup> Ladies Supper Club at Waie Inn, Zeal Monochorum; 7.00 for 7.30pm
- Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Leadership Meeting at Kentina; 7.30pm
- Sat 8<sup>th</sup> The Ark, 4.00-6.00pm; Theme is '*Love Your Neighbour*'  
Biblefresh Day at The Mint MC
- Sun 9<sup>th</sup> Cheriton Fitzpaine specials 'for' *Francisco Rojas School* in Peru. 11am Communion Service led by Rev Peter Jarvis; 2.15pm Thanksgiving Service for *Francisco Rojas School* with guest speakers Revs Audrey & Edward Standhaft, followed by tea.
- Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> Church Council, 7.30pm
- Tues 18<sup>th</sup> Leadership Meeting, 7.30pm (venue tba)
- Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> Ladies Open House at 7.30pm. Topic is 'A favourite picture, photo or poem'. Venue tba

### Advance notices

Sat 19<sup>th</sup> Nov Quiz Night

Wed 7<sup>th</sup> Dec Carols Down the Line. Book your seats now with Marjorie Ashley (773851)