

# Crediton

## Methodist Church



## Weekly Notices

Working out God's love in Crediton

### Sunday 31st August

10.30am Morning Service in Church led by

Rev Norman Wallwork

Hymns: StF340 Ye servants of God

StF557 Let him to whom we

StF323 I will sing the wonderous story

StF348He is Lord

StF457 Author of faith

Readings: Isaiah 40:25-31

Hebrews 13:1,5-8

or join the service from 10:00am on your computer

or mobile app with Worship on the Web

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

or call in (audio only) - 020 4526 8593

Phone Conference ID: 419 576 441

Dear Friends

A while ago, I'd sent out the Order of Service to our music group and we met in church to practise the hymns. One was StF72 - *"Father God I wonder how I managed to exist without the knowledge of your parenthood and your loving care"*. As that opening line is rather long (!) the title is usually abbreviated to the first four words. In this case there was a small 'typo' where, instead of the 'o' in wonder, an 'a' had been typed, resulting in *"Father God I wander"*.

Our hymn playing got interrupted for a short while as that mis-typed word was pointed out and caused an impromptu rendition of 'The Happy Wanderer' song ("I love to go a- wandering") with some dubious attempts at yodelling for the chorus of "Val-deri, Val-dera," etc. After our foray into frivolity had died down, you'll no doubt be pleased to hear that appropriate decorum was restored for the remainder of our practice!

However, it led me to think about the endless things there are to wonder about. I remember our son, when about 5 years old, rushing in from the garden early one morning, wide-eyed with excitement, urging us to follow him outside, explaining that something amazing had happened overnight. He led us to the old washing up bowl in the flower bed that served as his makeshift wildlife pond and pointed out that what had been a tadpole the previous day had now become a tiny frog. Oh how we marvelled together at this miracle of metamorphosis! On another occasion, less spectacular but no less miraculous, there was more incredulity as first a shoot and then some leaves eventually emerged in a flower pot where he had planted an old conker at the end of the previous season, and which was now proving its potential to become a huge horse chestnut tree.

It reminds me that Jesus encouraged the little children and urged us to be child-like, retaining or rediscovering a sense of wonderment and emulating their simple faith and trust. In times of wondering about things that seem implausible, I'm with the Psalmist who, after acknowledging God who 'knit me together in my mother's womb', admits *"such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain"* (Psalm 139). I appreciate anew the words of Psalm 8: "When I consider the heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars ..... What is man that you are mindful of him....?"

I would recommend listening to this song (below) which can help us to contemplate the most wonderful love of God in sending Jesus to earth for us. There are some lovely versions online. *"I wonder as I wander, out under the sky, how Jesus the Saviour did come for to die, for poor ordinary people like you and like I; I wonder as I wander, out under the sky."*

Happy wandering (and wondering)! Hilary

## FOR OUR PRAYERS AT HOME:

Creator God, maker of all things seen and unseen above and here below, you created it all for our enjoyment and pleasure.

Forgive us when we despoil nature in all its forms here on earth, and that now with all our technical requirements here on earth, may we be careful not to pollute and leave debris circling the heavens above.

Teach us Lord to see you and treasure all things from the minutest forms of life to the grandeur above us. AMEN

*"O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars which you have set in place. What is man that you are mindful of him, the Son of Man that you care for him? You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet. O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!"*

Psalm 8 v 1,3,4,6, & 9

In the words of Thomas Traherne (1636-74) in his book *Centuries of Meditations* he writes:-*"You never enjoy the world aright till the sea itself flows in your veins, till you are clothed with the heavens and crowned with the stars, till you so love the beauty of enjoying it you are earnest to persuade others to do so too".*

## MEETING for PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP and BIBLE STUDY

What was previously our Monday Discipleship Group is moving to Wednesday evenings, and the first meeting of the new 'term' will be on Wednesday 10th September, starting at the slightly earlier time of 7 pm. We very much look forward to getting back together, and to having some new members join us.

More details to follow a little nearer the time, but for now please put the date(s) in your diary.

Here are all the provisional dates leading up to Christmas:

Wednesday 10th September

Wednesday 24th September

Wednesday 8th October

Wednesday 22nd October

Wednesday 5th November

Wednesday 19th November

Wednesday 10th December

Finally, we want to find a new name for the group. It has already been decided to move away from the general term 'Discipleship Group' - we might perhaps call it a 'Home Group' or similar, but it would be confusing to call it the 'Wednesday Home Group', as there is also the daytime group that meets on a Wednesday at the church. So, please send in any suggestions you may have for a new name, or come armed with suggestions on 10th September.

Looking forward to catching up on 10th September (if not before).

Every blessing. *Cathy and Pam*

Week beginning Saturday 30th August		
Sat 30th Aug	10:00-11:30 am	Together 4 Coffee donations for Church Funds
Sun 31st Aug	10:30 am	Worship in church or on the web led by Rev Norman Wallwork
Mon 1st Sept	8:00am	Start the week in prayer in church or wherever you are
Fri 5th Sept	10:00 -12:00pm	Coffee and Chat
	2:30pm	Friday Focus
Sat 6th Sept	10:00 -11:30 am	Together 4 Coffee donations for CHAT
Sun 7th Sept	10:30 am	Worship in the Church or on the web led by Rev Donna Leigh. <i>Communion</i>

## FRIDAY FOCUS

Anna Chaplains – who are they and what do they do?

At our September meeting please come and welcome our guest speaker, Eileen Brassington, who works in Crediton as one of two Anna Chaplains. Some of you will know Eileen from the Held Together services and the World Day of Prayer, and Eileen will be telling us more about her chaplaincy role.

## CHURCH FAMILY

Thank you for the many messages and encouragement that I have received in the last few days. I had the hip replacement operation on Thursday morning and was able to come home the same day after passing walking and stairs tests. Now its going be a gradual process along the road to recovery. *John.A*

**CREDITON FOODBANK** requests this week: Cartons of long life fruit juice, Tinned tomatoes, ravioli , custard, fruit ( not grapefruit or prunes please) Small jars of coffee (not decaff at the moment please) Jars of curry sauce , Biscuits, Crisps, Toilet rolls

Contact Details
Rev Donna Leigh tele 01392 207785 <a href="mailto:revddonna1@outlook.com">revddonna1@outlook.com</a>

Notices to Gill by noon on Thursday please.  
Tel: 01363 773641 or email: [notices@creditonmethodist.org.uk](mailto:notices@creditonmethodist.org.uk)