



IVYBRIDGE METHODIST CHURCH

Sharing Life
Sharing Faith



March 2017

Newsletter

From the Minister

Why you should become a Full Member of Ivybridge Methodist Church

All those who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour and accept the obligation to serve Him in the life of the Church and the world are welcome as members of the Methodist Church

Dear Friends,

When I took over as minister at IMC last year I soon became aware that there were quite a few of you on my pastoral list who were regularly attending worship and even getting involved, but who weren't members. Having mentioned it to a few of you on my pastoral visits I thought I'd explain why you need to become full members of IMC as soon as possible.



What does it mean to be a member of IMC?

Do I qualify?

Good question! First of all, you can become a member of IMC if you are a Christian – as per the definition above. What is a Christian? A Christian is a follower and disciple of Jesus Christ. A true disciple of Jesus Christ believes truths which are based on the revelation of God through His Holy Word, which is the Bible. Here is the Deed of Union of the Methodist Church, which forms our constitutional basis:

"The Methodist Church claims and cherishes its place in the Holy Catholic Church which is the Body of Christ. It rejoices in the inheritance of the apostolic faith and loyally accepts the fundamental principles of the historic creeds and of the Protestant Reformation.

It ever remembers that in the providence of God Methodism was raised up to spread scriptural holiness through the land by the proclamation of the evangelical faith and declares its unfaltering resolve to be true to its divinely appointed mission.

The doctrines of the evangelical faith, which Methodism has held from the beginning and still holds, are based on the divine revelation recorded in the Holy Scriptures.



The Methodist Church acknowledges this revelation as the supreme rule of faith and conduct."

There are a few points to clarify here:

Holy Catholic Church – does not mean the Roman Catholic Church, but Catholic in the sense of its correct usage – meaning all together or united. We belong to the one true church of Jesus Christ, which accepts the historic creeds.

Which leads to my second point. What are the historic creeds. Yes, creeds not creed. There are two creeds that affirm and confirm one another and which are totally based on the truth of the Bible. There are two creeds – the Nicene Creed and the Apostles' Creed. For those of you who've been coming along to my evening services I've been preaching through the Apostles' Creed line by line since I came to IMC to try and help people understand what they believe and why they believe it.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day He rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen!

I like the Apostles' Creed because it's personal! It is in the first-person. I'm involved – it's what I believe. If you believe the same, you're welcome to become a full member of IMC!



The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
begotten from the Father before all ages,
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made;
of the same essence as the Father.
Through Him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
He came down from heaven;
He became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and was made human.

He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried.
The third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again with glory
to judge the living and the dead.
His kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life.
He proceeds from the Father and the Son,
and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
He spoke through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and to life in the world to come. Amen.

Both of these Creeds are non-negotiable! In others words, you can, of course, believe what you like, but if it doesn't fully concur with the above two creeds you place yourself outside of orthodox belief and are therefore not a Christian and do not qualify to be a full member of the Methodist Church. You are,



however, welcome to worship with us until the Holy Spirit confirms these truths to your heart and you believe and trust in Jesus Christ as your personal Friend and Saviour.

The other thing to mention if you want to become a member of IMC is that you have to be baptised with water. As it says in the Nicene Creed – ‘We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.’ If you haven’t been baptised as a believer and would like to find out more please speak to me.

Methodist Membership is important because it has official status! By becoming a member of IMC you become an important crew member as opposed to a passenger. There are certain responsibilities expected to becoming a member of IMC which you are called to:

Worship within the local church, including regular sharing in Holy Communion, and through personal prayer.

Learning and caring through Bible study and meeting for fellowship, so that you may grow in faith and support others in their discipleship.

Service by being a good neighbour in the community, challenging injustice and using your resources to support the Church in its mission in the world.

Evangelism through working out our faith in daily life and sharing Christ with others.

Now you might have read all the above and said ‘yes’ but still don’t think it is necessary to become a full member of IMC. You might have various reasons. One of them is that it makes no difference. Wrong! If no one made the commitment to become a full member IMC would cease to exist. It is reliant on people becoming official members for its very existence both as a legal entity and to play its part within the true church of Jesus Christ. It is a growing trend within 21st Century Western thinking to be a floater – not committing to things officially. This is counter-productive and is more to do with indecisiveness than coherent reasoning.

Another reason I’ve heard comes from the mistaken belief that in some way becoming part of a denomination is becoming partisan or divisive in some way. On the contrary, for IMC to be effective it needs as many full members as possible to play their part, shoulder to shoulder with other Christians of any denominations to make Christ known. Being officially part of IMC increases our influence within the denominational structures, the wider Christian church and in society. The larger the official numbers the more effect we can have in



the proclamation of the Gospel. We can play our part with other Christians, not in competition with them.

Yet another reason I've heard is that people say, well really I'm an Anglican or a Pentecostal. So am I, but I'm still an official member of the Methodist Church as this is where God has called me to serve Him! I was confirmed at a Local Ecumenical Partnership in Bedford – so am half Anglican and half Methodist! I was 'Christened' in a Methodist Church, was brought to Christ by a Brethren evangelist, after seeing the difference Christ has made to three born-again Roman Catholics whilst visiting the Holy Land as a teenager, baptised by full immersion at an Assemblies of God Pentecostal Church and received the baptism of the Holy Spirit under the prayerful leadership of an Elim pastor! I'm a Christian hybrid! I'm a Kingdom-first Christian, but still am a full member of the Methodist Church without compromise or hindrance to serving God – in fact being a member has enabled me to be more effective in the service of my wonderful Saviour Jesus Christ, as it will for you too as a full member of IMC!

Another important factor regarding full membership is that we can have a greater influence for good as evangelical Christians across the Circuit (Area), District and nationally (which is called Connexion in Methodist-speak!). You may not realise it, but IMC is a bit of a flag-ship church as far as the Methodist Church is concerned in the South-West. If our membership increases it is an officially understood way to see that God is blessing this work and that we are committed to Christ, one another and this part of the church, which bears His name. As full members you can have a godly influence locally, regionally, nationally and even inter-nationally as the global Methodist family is approximately 80 million. We are a sizeable part of the body of Christ and as such we can and must speak prophetically at this time.

On a more local level, being a full member means that you can have an official say regarding the direction of IMC through the Church Council who are the Managing Trustees (i.e. legal guardians) of this church and, if called, to be part of the leadership so that we can discern God's will together as we seek Him and move forward.

Finally, becoming a full member means that we are being accountable to one



another and supporting one another in this important way. In Scripture we are encouraged in the principles of discipline, accountability and spiritual oversight. Through full membership we sign up to this for our mutual caring, corporate responsibility and in obedience to the Holy Spirit.

So I urge you to sign up as soon as possible! Talk to me so we can move forward together as local Christians committed to our local church and serving Jesus through it as we officially stand together for the Gospel. I implore you to become a crew-member; not a passenger, associate, attender or adherent, but a fully-committed member of this part of God's family.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours in Christ,

Rev Mark



Women's Ministry at IMC

March Programme

Monday 6 March

Recipe Share Evening 7:30pm
(see separate notice on page 22)

Monday 20 March

1:30-3:00 pm in the Café
Bible study - A Biblical view of hospitality

Saturday 25 March

9:00 am - 12:00 noon
Quiet morning at the Church
Theme - Being the best that we can be - The Proverbs 31 Woman.
The morning will start with tea/coffee and croissants/fruit
and will include some Bible teaching, discussion
and time for private reflection.

Carolyn Lawrence

Email: markcarolyn1983@gmail.com

Tel: 01548 852073





March Worship

IVYBRIDGE

Mar 5	10:30 am 6:30 pm	Rev Mark Lawrence Rev Mark Lawrence - Communion
Mar 12	10:30am 6:30 pm	Rev Simon Leigh ENGAGE - Mr Paul Courtney
Mar 19	10:30 am 6:30 pm	Rev Mark Lawrence - Communion Prayer Service led by Mrs Gill Cowsill
Mar 26		Mothering Sunday
	10:30 am 6:30pm	Mrs Carolyn Lawrence Rev Terry Higgins
April 2	10:30 am 6:30 pm	Rev Mark Lawrence Rev Mark Lawrence - Communion
April 9	10:30 am 6:30 pm	Dr Philip Walsh Prayer Service led by Mrs Gill Cowsill

BITTAFORD

Mar 5	10:30 am	Rev David Youngs - Communion
Mar 12	2:30 pm	Rev Simon Leigh
Mar 19	10:30 am	Mr Keith Angilley
Mar 26		Mothering Sunday
	10:30 am	Mr Nigel Norris, MBE
April 2	10:30 am	Rev David Youngs - Communion
April 9	2:30 pm	Rev Simon Leigh

*The speakers have been taken from Circuit Plan
and are correct to the best of the Editor's knowledge.*

From the Editor ...

If you would like to include anything in the April Newsletter, please let me have the details by Friday 10 March in any of the following ways :-

- ♥ send it by email to ***contact@jennyhansford.co.uk***
- ♥ ring me on ***01752 894634***
- ♥ hand it to me at church on a Sunday
- ♥ place it in the "H" pigeonhole in the Church Concourse
- ♥ post it through my letterbox at ***10 MacAndrew Walk, Ivybridge***

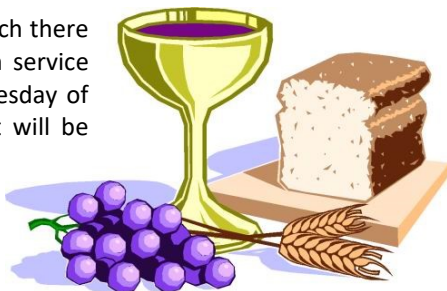


Jenny Hansford

Mid-week Holy Communion

Dear Friends,

Just to let you know that as from March there will be a mid-week Holy Communion service held in the concourse on the first Tuesday of the month to follow the lunches. It will be from 1:30 pm and will be a simple service with a couple of hymns, a bible reading and a short word. The service will last about 20 minutes or so.



I pray that this will be a blessing to all those who'd like to attend and will add to the different styles of worship that we offer at IMC.

So here are the dates in advance for your diary:

7 March
4 April
2 May
6 June
4 July

With every blessing,

Rev Mark

Rules of the Road

Back in 2003, based on many years' experience of life as a pedestrian in Phnom Penh, I drew up a set of 'rules of the road' for Cambodia. My visit there last October confirmed that they are still valid today.

1. Drive on the right (except when you drive on the left).
2. Never give signals when turning; anyone stupid enough to be a pedestrian does not deserve to live.
3. Mirrors are for checking that your hairstyle is in order.
4. When turning left into a major road, always cut the corner and drive along the left side of the road against the flow of oncoming traffic until you can cut across to the right.
5. Sounding your horn is as effective as having diplomatic immunity: it enables you to get away with anything.
6. Never carry fewer than 50% more passengers than the number your vehicle is designed for.
7. Commit yourself to a manoeuvre first, and look second; it is the responsibility of other drivers to avoid you.
8. If there is a shortcut across a petrol station forecourt on the corner of an intersection that can enable you to avoid waiting at a traffic light before turning, always use it, even when the traffic light is green.
9. Smaller gives way to larger (sometimes).
10. When going past a red traffic light in order to turn right, you have priority over all other road users.
11. When looking for somewhere to park, searching for an address, or just out for a leisurely drive, always drive as close to the centre of the road as possible and as slowly as possible.
12. Ambulances use sirens and flashing lights because their drivers are aggressive; do not let them pass you.
13. In heavy traffic, if there is a space, fill it.
14. If a foreigner is involved in a road accident, it is always his or her fault.

On a more serious note, poor driving standards, driving under the influence of alcohol and perhaps a fatalistic view of life and death all contribute to a high level of road accidents in Cambodia.

Fact: *World Highways* reports, "Official data from the National Police reveals that there were 1,717 people reported killed in crashes in Cambodia during 2016, while there were also 6,607 people seriously injured in road crashes throughout the year." Last year, Ear Chariya, director of Cambodia's Institute for Road Safety, claimed that traffic accidents remain the leading killer in Cambodia and one of the major challenges for national development,



destroying not only lives but national morale, dignity, property and development efforts.

Pray: Please pray about the underlying causes of road accidents, including disregard for the law and poor enforcement, high alcohol consumption, procurement of driving licences without passing a test, a low value placed on human life.

Myers Cooper



**Brunel
Manor**

Ladies Celebration Day

Saturday 8 April 2017

Our speaker this year is Louise Sibley.

Enjoy a day of worship, teaching,
prayer and relaxation.

Arrive for coffee at 9:30 am and finish
the day with tea and cake at 3:30 pm.

£20 per person

(includes refreshments and a light lunch)

Early booking advised



Brunel Manor, Teignmouth Road, Torquay, Devon, TQ1 4SF

Tel: 01803 329333 info@brunelmanor.com



24-7 PRAYER

PRAYER, MISSION AND JUSTICE

THANK YOU SO MUCH !!

I've started on the Vision Course! Here is an extract from a message I sent home during the first week:

"On Monday I met the three other Vision Course students as well as the 24-7 and Emmaus Road teams (Emmaus Road is the church in Guildford, which grew out of the original 24-7 community, and is the local expression of the wider movement), and spent some time worshipping and praying over each other. The rest of the day was spent meeting and moving in with my host family from the church. I'm with a young couple who live in a very cool apartment right on the high street, which is ideal because almost everything is within 5 minutes walking distance. They're both really great and I feel so at home already which is such a blessing.



Tuesday was a day of lectures in the 24-7/Emmaus offices, and we also found out what our usual weekly schedule would be throughout the course:

Mondays and Tuesdays are the main teaching days when we'll have lectures from 9-5. Having had one of these this Tuesday I'm already very excited about what these are going to be like, as the teaching was fantastic!

The rest of the week varies depending on which of the Emmaus Road teams you're serving on, but generally Wednesdays are pretty free so you can spend time in the prayer room/processing stuff from the previous two days of teaching. We also then have collectives (like a house group) in the evenings.

Thursdays are the day when most of us will be serving on a team at Emmaus (usually preparing for the two Sunday services). It seems like everyone is really excited to get me involved with the worship team, which is so exciting and such a blessing. It's also a bit scary because they're so good, so I'm going to be really stretched (which is exactly what I was hoping for). Prayers about that in particular would be great!



Fridays and Saturdays we're pretty free to do what we want, although we will probably have time with our mentors/slots in the prayer room.

Sundays will be a very busy day of serving on teams at both services (we have to be at church at 7:00 am!)."

Thank you so much for your giving (I raised about £2,000), prayers and support for the worship marathon. I was overwhelmed by people's good will and generosity!

Tim Stephenson



Friday 27 January 2017

Sophie Phillips, supported by Katie Reville, gave us an interesting presentation on the South Dartmoor Community Energy organisation of which she and Katie are Directors. More information on what they do can be found at www.southdartmoorcommunityenergy.org.

It covered a number of topics including:

- Home energy efficiency measures
- Why and how to switch supplier to get a better deal and save money
- Community renewable energy projects
- Other schemes available from energy suppliers

It was a very helpful presentation, especially if people are able to get a cheaper and better deal for their energy supply, and I know that Sophie has already helped a number of people in this respect and would be more than happy to meet on a one to one basis and discuss how she can help.

We followed up afterwards with a very enjoyable and tasty meal at Nandons Indian Restaurant in Ivybridge. Twelve of us went for a meal which was also a good opportunity to catch up with people, as we had plenty of opportunity to chat. 16 people came to the presentation which was held in the Church Cafe.

Please look out for future meetings and join us for a good evening of fellowship. If you have an idea for a future topic then do please let me know.

David Bithell



March News

If you have anything you would like included in the Church News please let Judy Jago know at church, or ring her on 894829.

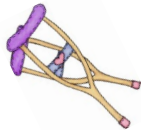
No new babies this month to welcome - but I'm sure we will have next month !!

First we have a belated greeting to Eva Carr who was 90 back in February (or a bit earlier). We don't want to miss the opportunity to wish you many blessings and many happy returns. We send our love and hope all your celebrations went well.



More warm congratulations - to Kim Gentle and Daniel Chew who were engaged at the end of February. It's lovely news and we send congratulations and much joy to you both as you plan your future together.

We continue to pray for Barry and Aileen during Barry's illness and also send our love.



It's lovely to see Margaret Blackhurst back in Church and walking so well after her operation - we hope all continues to go well Margaret and you can throw the crutches away soon!

There are some families within our congregation dealing with redundancy and unemployment at the moment and we want you all to know you are in our prayers and we look forward to hearing some good news soon.



Maureen Scoble recently had a small operation and we trust by the time this is being read she will be much better and all will be healed. We send our love and very best wishes for a speedy recovery Maureen.

Sadly, we send our deepest sympathy to Terry and Ruth Farndell and Sara and Ken Bromage who have lost loved ones very recently.





Terry, Ruth and family said goodbye to son Tim at a lovely ceremony towards the end of February after Tim lost his battle with cancer.

Sara's Mum had also fought a long term illness steadfastly but died on the 21 February with the family with her.



We send our love to both families, and our prayers to surround Sara and family as her Mum is laid to rest.



Wise and Wonderful

We meet fortnightly in the IMC Café: see dates below.
Meetings are on Fridays, from 2.30 until 4:00 pm
with a charge of £1 each time



Spring Programme 2017

10 March

Leah Parsons from Dementia Friends

24 March

Visit by an officer from the
Devon and Somerset Fire Brigade

7 April

"A Good Shepherd"
A reflection by Mary Andrew

Summer programme starts on 28 April

Please contact one of us for more information:
Valerie Marriott 893614 Sara Bromage 894198
Judy Jago 894829 Sue Pengilley 896444
Christine and David Moulder 892858

We are an open fellowship and all are welcome!



STEPPING OUT

A WRITING COMPETITION ORGANISED BY METHODIST WOMEN IN BRITAIN (MWiB), INSPIRED BY THE LIFE, WRITING AND WORK OF REV JULIE HULME

You are invited to submit a meditative or reflective piece of writing on the theme of 'Stepping Out' in prose or poetry. Entries must be no more than 500 words. Each must be an original piece of work, not previously published either in print or electronically.

ABOUT JULIE HULME:

Julie was a Methodist minister and a prolific writer. She was the last President of Women's Network in 2010-11, becoming the first Vice- President of MWiB in 2011-12. She explored forms of spirituality developing outside the Church, especially as these related to the building of confidence. Her main method of research was to pay close attention to her own responses, explore the ideas in relation to the Bible and express what she was discovering in writing and in art.

She died of cancer in early 2014 in her mid-50s, leaving behind a rich legacy in the form of her writings; this material can be accessed on the website www.imaginingabundance.co.uk.

HOW TO ENTER:

The competition is open to British residents, male and female, aged 16 or over, other than relatives of the organisers or judges. You may submit up to three entries. The closing date is midnight on Wednesday 19 April 2017.

There will be a prize of £150 for the winner and £50 for the runner-up. The winner and runner-up will be announced on the evening of Friday 23 June 2017 at a fringe event of the Methodist Conference to be held in Birmingham. The competition judges are Hannah Belsham, Dr Liz Burroughs, Lynne Ling, Rev Jenny Pathmarajah and Jackie Smith. The organisers are Rev Anne Cash, Linda Crossley, Lynne Ling, Rita Rowe and Glenys Vere.



COMPETITION RULES:

All entries MUST be typed and sent as Word documents. The maximum length is 500 words. Ideally entries should be sent as an email attachment to writingcompetition@mwib.org.uk including your name, address, telephone number and the title of the piece in the body of the email. DO NOT put your name or any identifying details on the entry. Email entries will be acknowledged by email.

Alternatively, typed entries may be sent by post to **Writing Competition, PO Box 9298, Loughborough LE11 9FY**. Postal entries should include a separate cover sheet with your name, address, telephone number and the title of the piece. DO NOT put your name or any identifying details on the entry. If you require acknowledgement of a postal entry, please enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

Copyright will remain the property of the writer, although it would be our intention to publish the material on the MWiB and Imagining Abundance websites. **The judges' decision is final.**

Published by Methodist Women in Britain (MWiB)
PO Box 9298, Loughborough LE11 9FY www.mwib.org.uk



Being family

On 10 December David broke his leg. It was not so much a shock, actually, as a surprise: the Moulders do not usually go in for drama.



And then, within two minutes, we started to make the discovery of two major facts. Firstly, that when things veer off course, God instantly has a new Plan A. We've seen that in the many good and unexpected things which have happened as direct results of the accident. We are also really grateful that The Leg is on schedule to make a good recovery.

Secondly, we have always known that we belong here, in the IMC branch of God's own family. Now we also know how His family responds, when someone is in need: we have been totally surrounded and supported, with love and practical help. Friends have shopped, vacuumed, given lifts, visited, prayed. To be in the centre of all this has been a wonderful experience, and a great reminder of who we are, and what we are about.

So thank you for being family to us, and God bless.

David and Christine Moulder

STILETTOS CONFERENCE

Saturday 29 April at Methodist Central Hall

Last month I told you about the one day Stilettos Conference being held at Plymouth Methodist Central Hall on Saturday 29 April on the theme of "Revolution". The Conference runs from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, and costs £25 for the whole day however, if we can get a group of 10 or more going we can get tickets for £22.50 each.



I went last year for the first time and cannot recommend this day highly enough! I will definitely be going again this year, so if you are interested in joining me please let me know. You can go online to stilettosconference.com for more information.

The two guest speakers this year are -



Michele Cushatt. Michell lives in Colorado with her husband and six children, aged 8 to 23. A storyteller at heart, Michele inspires audiences with the warmth of her transparency and presence. Her unique style makes you feel like you just spent an afternoon with a good friend, sparking tears one moment and laughter the next. Having experienced both the best and worst of life, she's unafraid to disclose her imperfect spaces, so that you know you're not alone in yours.

Rev Canon J John. J John is married to Killy and they live in Chorleywood, Hertfordshire. They have three sons and one daughter-in-law. Described as refreshing, humorous, passionate, accessible, earthy and dynamic, J. John is an Evangelist, minister, speaker, social activist and writer. He has a remarkable gift for communicating the truth in an engaging, stimulating and practical way. His passion for story telling enables him to bring the gospel to life in a fresh and contemporary manner. Many of our young people will know J John from when he has spoken at Soul Survivor.



I have already had a few ladies who are interested in coming this year, but I would love for more ladies to come. Lifts can be arranged for those who need them. Please come and see me so we can arrange tickets and lifts.

Jenny Hansford



Devon Churches Green Action

Proposed Devon Churches Green Action Plymouth Group



Invite to Meeting

Our vision is to establish a local networking group of ***Devon Churches Green Action*** in Plymouth to promote awareness of local ecological issues among the communities/churches of Plymouth and encourage people to take appropriate action to make their lifestyles more sustainable as an integral part of loving their neighbours and following God faithfully.

Ideally this vision would be supported by A Rocha UK, Churches Together groups, Christian Aid, Tearfund, Cafod, Green Christian and other agencies

We'll be covering five key areas of church life: Worship and Teaching, Building Management, Land Management, Community and Global Engagement, and Lifestyle.

The inaugural meeting will be at St.Budeaux Parish Church Hall, The Green, Higher St Budeaux, Plymouth PL5 2HN on Saturday 1 April, from 10:30 am until Noon.

All are welcome!

Informal Programme

10:30-10.45 am	Registration and Coffee
10:45-11:00 am	Welcome and Prayer - Martyn Goss, Diocesan Environmental Officer
11:00-11:30 am	Introduction to proposed Plymouth Churches Green Action, David Curry
11:30 am-Noon	Questions/Discussion

If you, or any members of your church, community or agency are interested in joining this new networking group and attending the meeting please contact David Curry at: david.curry@arocha.org

There is a small car park but please try and use car share or alternative means of transport. There is plenty of room for cycles and a bus stop immediately adjacent the church hall.

Moving People: Moving Stories

The **Methodist Church**
World Church Relationships



MWM World Mission Conference 2 - 4 June 2017

at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick

Refugees, economic migrants, and people seeking new lives
in new places mean more people are on the move across
the globe than ever before.

Follow the churches' journey alongside some of these people
and explore how we can become a church of all nations.



**Methodists for
World Mission**

Celebrating diversity and promoting mutual
partnership around the globe.

www.mwm.org.uk

Email: MWMsec@gmail.com

Twitter: [@MWM_charity](https://twitter.com/MWM_charity)

Facebook and Youtube:
'Methodists for World Mission'



Calling all Men!!

As from this month we are starting a

Men's Breakfast,

and all men (young and old)
are invited!

It will be held on the **second Saturday** of each month starting at 8:30 am and finishing by 10:00 am. The cost will be £3.50 which will be for a Full English Breakfast cooked for us by our very own chef-in-residence - Tony Merriman!

After the meal there will be a testimony or short word of encouragement.

This is where you come in as I'm happy to hear from you as to who would like to share something! Do let me know!

Here are the dates for your diary for the whole year!

11 March

8 April

13 May

10 June

(Special with the Tough Talk team in Kingsbridge)

8 July

9 September

14 October

11 November

9 December.

Booking will be essential as Tony needs to know how many meals to prepare in advance. You can contact him on 01752 894265 or his mobile 07841 015762, or email him at mrmeritt@icloud.com

I look forward to seeing you then.

Blessings,

Mark Lawrence

You are invited to a

Recipe Share



Make your favourite cake or biscuits and bring it along with several copies of the recipe.

If you don't like baking, come anyway and join the tasting!

When? Monday 6 March 7:30 pm

Where? 'Lower Oat' Western Road, Ivybridge
(Maureen Scoble's house)



For more information contact Carolyn Lawrence on 01548 852073

Email: markcarolyn1983@gmail.com



The Bad Christian's Manifesto

by Dave Tomlinson

I came across this book in Ivybridge library, and found it thought-provoking and very readable and enjoyable.

The author is a vicar, who is apparently also a frequent contributor to Radio 2. While this

Vicar has some very liberal views, he comes across as a very genuine Christian, truly "walking the walk" and trying to live as he feels Jesus would have.

The book reprints the following, which he describes as "bullet points for living in the large mind". With Mark preaching on the Beatitudes at the moment, I think you might also find this excerpt interesting.

John Henson's translation of the Beatitudes

(from Good as New: a Radical Retelling of the Scriptures,
by John Henson, 2004)

Splendid are those who take sides with the poor:
they are citizens of the Bright New World.

Splendid are those who grieve deeply over misfortunes:
the more deeply they grieve, the stronger they become.

Splendid are the gentle:
the world will be safe in their hands.

Splendid are those who have a passion for justice:
they will get things done.

Splendid are those who make allowances for others:
allowances will be made for them.

Splendid are those who seek the best for others and not themselves:
they will have God for company.

Splendid are those who help enemies to be friends:
they will be recognised as God's true children.

Splendid are those who have a rough time of it
because they stand up for what is right:
they too are citizens of the Bright New World.

Sue Pengilley

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If you have any items for the

April Newsletter

please get them to the Editor by

Friday 10 March

at the latest please.

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Visit our website at

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