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IVYBRIDGE METHODIST CHURCH

Sharing Life
Sharing Faith

In your unfailing love you will lead the people you have redeemed. In your strength you will guide them to your holy dwelling. (***Exodus 15:13***)

Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. (***Proverbs 3:3***)

But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. (***Psalms 13:5***)

Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. (***Psalms 23:6***)



Dear Magazine Reader

“But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:



The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. The LORD is my portion, therefore I will hope in him.” **(Lamentations 3:22-24 NRSV)**

In these times of upheaval it is so important that we spend time to be with the Lord without the distractions around us. I recently spoke to a member of our Bittaford congregation who said that during the lockdown she tries to go for a walk every day. I encouraged her and to talk to the Lord as she went. She did and chatted to Him all the time. **Wonderful!** I was reminded of that lovely old hymn ‘**Trust and Obey**’, which says,

**“When we walk with the Lord
In the light of his word,
What a glory he sheds on our way!
While we do his good will,
He abides with us still,
And with all who will trust and obey.”**
(John Henry Sammis)

Walking with the Lord! We started off with those amazing words from Lamentations. If you’ve ever read the book of Lamentations you’ll know it is full of laments! It is lamenting the fall of Jerusalem in 586BC because of their sin and the consequent divine judgement. However, right in the middle of all that we have the precious verses as above.

2021 seems to have got off to an interesting start! We don’t know how things are going to unfold. However, we call this to mind and therefore we have hope – the steadfast love of the Lord never



ceases. The book of **Lamentations** begins with a lament (**1:1-2**) and rightly ends in repentance (**5:21-22**). Knowing that God is merciful, the author (probably Jeremiah) appeals in prayer to God for mercy. So should we on behalf of our world, nation and community. Only God can bring good out of all this and only He can bring hope to the human heart day by day.

As we continue to move forward under Him continue to pray/ talk/ chat to Him about all that is on your mind, good and bad and let Him grant to you His faithfulness which is new every morning.

If you'd like someone to talk or pray with do get in touch. We're here to help and support with the help and comfort we've have received from the Lord Jesus Himself.

Keep the faith ☺

Blessings in Christ,
Rev Mark

Got questions about...?
// Faith // God // Life //

Online Alpha Course
from the comfort of your living room

Starting Feb 2nd // 7:30



Alpha

For more info or to book
contact Phil : 07816910152
phil_blunti4e@hotmail.co.uk



FEBRUARY NEWS

If you have anything you would like to include in the **Church News** please let Judy Jago know by ringing her on **01752 894829**

Welcome once again to our news section. We are aware that we may be missing some news, so please do get in touch if you have something we can share. How wonderful it will be when we can get properly back in touch with everyone - hopefully sooner rather than later.

Firstly a belated congratulations and many happy returns to **Gwen Corfield** who celebrated her 90th birthday back in January. **Gwen** is a loyal **Wise and Wonderful** member and worships at **Bittaford** when she can. We do hope you had special day with your family Gwen and we send love and blessings for the year to come.



Also huge congratulations to **Chris Phillips** who was awarded an **MBE** in the recent Honours List for his services to **Aggie Westons in Plymouth**. **Chris** does a lot of work, very quietly behind the scenes (keeping the property committee sorted is another role!), and this honour is richly deserved.



It was great to hear that **Hannah Butterworth-Smith** (Alison White's daughter) passed her major professional exams in **Paediatrics** back in December. It's been a lot of hard work - and for anyone in Medicine that goes on - but we hope, having this all sorted **Hannah**, gives you space to enjoy some free time. Her full title is now **Dr Butterworth-Smith MRCPCH!! Many congratulations.**



Keeping on the medical theme - we send very best wishes to **Helen Skinner** as she soon takes up her new role as an **Epilepsy Specialist Nurse** in North Devon. It sounds as if



there will be a lot of development work for you to do **Helen** and we pray for wisdom, energy and inspiration as you begin.

Just at the moment there are a lot of folk associated with our fellowship undergoing tests, waiting for results, caring for others, having been in hospital, awaiting surgery and trying to support families in a different part of the country so please would you to keep these areas in your prayers. Please also pray for those in **Nursing Homes** including Joyce and Brian & Sue. Good to hear **Jean Wilson** is back at Abbeyfield - and we hope you're continuing to improve **Jean**.



Lock down is affecting us all but in many different ways and its good to belong to fellowship that really cares - so as we all live through this may we continue to think about who might need a phone call, a text or a zoom coffee!!

Spiritual Sustenance when Isolated

FREE phone lines for prayers and news
from the Methodist Church

Listen to our weekly prayer: **0808 281 2514**

Listen to the President & Vice-President: **0808 281 269**

Listen to news: **0808 281 2478**

Content is updated weekly



FEBRUARY WORSHIP



Due to the current restrictions and any possible extension of these restrictions, all services are liable to change. As I write this all services are via Zoom or Live Streaming but this could change, so please check if you are unsure.

Ivybridge Methodist Church - Gift Day

Normally around this time of year IMC would hold a gift day to support some chosen work. As we all know giving, is a way to acknowledge our Father's love to us through His son Jesus. But with the current lockdown we are all discovering many things have had to be adapted or delayed. The leadership team have therefore decided to delay the gift day until after the lockdown. This will allow the act of giving, which is a part of our worship to be more appropriately conducted when we are all able to meet more freely as a fellowship within the church.

However, many people find it helpful to review their giving annually and should you be doing this or maybe thinking about doing this, then you might find these ideas below helpful on how to help IMC continue its mission and work in the community.

- ✚ If you currently give only occasionally, then maybe consider setting up a standing order. Giving received in this way helps the Leadership Team to plan for forthcoming church expenditure.
- ✚ If you are a current a regular supporter of IMC, it might be time to think about increasing the amount you give, but only if you are in a position to do so.
- ✚ If you are a regular giver to IMC and a tax payer, did you know that if you complete a gift aid form, IMC can reclaim 25p per £1 given from HMRC at no cost to the giver, but a very great help to the church.
- ✚ Should you wish to make a one off donation this can be done by making a Bank Transfer.

All information about those who support IMC financially is in the strictest confidence.

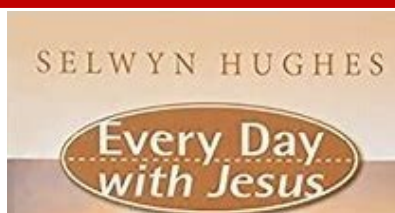
IMC's bank details are below and if you need any assistance please do not hesitate to ask the treasurer.

IMC's bank details are:

Account name: Ivybridge Methodist Church Trustees
Account number: 08262683
Sort code: 53-61-57
Account type: Business account with the NatWest

Gift aid forms are available from the treasurer, Robin Duckering – robin.duckering@gmail.com or by post 6 Scoldens Close, Modbury, Ivybridge, Devon PL21 0SN

I've been redeeming the time by tidying my office! I have a more or less complete set of **Every Day with Jesus** by **Selwyn Hughes**



bible study notes for those unfamiliar – covering the 1990s, but timeless, I would say. It seemed a shame to dump them. Please ring 01752 893846 if you'd like them.

Phil Walsh

Visit our website at

www.ivybridgemethodistchurch.co.uk

where you can see a **colour version** of this Newsletter.

If you wish to contact Tony regarding the website you can do so at **mrmerrit@icloud.com**

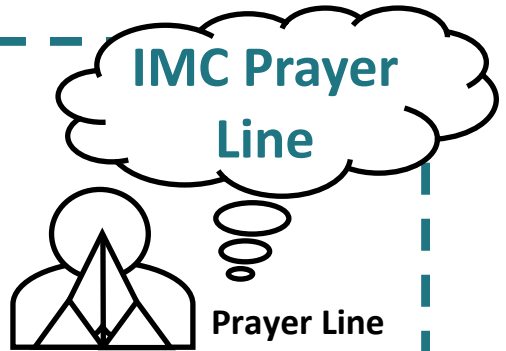
Church Contacts

Minister:

Rev Mark Lawrence

Tel: **01752 651910**

email: revmark@live.co.uk



Prayer Line

07801 956695

Senior Stewards:

Reg Marriott Tel: **01752 893614**

Alison White Tel: **01752 691039**

Room Bookings:

Pam and John Montgomery

Tel: **01752 894083**

email: imcbookings@gmail.com

House Group Information:

Helen Maddaford Tel: **01752 892810**

Youth Work:

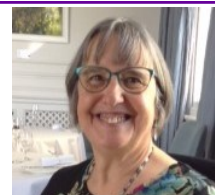
Phil Blunt Tel: **07816 910152**

Church Address: Fore Street, Ivybridge, PL21 9AB

Ivybridge Methodist Church registered charity 1192612

From the Editor

If you would like to include anything in the **March Newsletter**, please let me have details by **Wednesday 17 February** in any of the following ways:



- ◆ send it by email to: imc33chris@gmail.com
- ◆ ring me on: **01752 892341**
- ◆ post it through my letterbox at: **33 Julian Road, Ivybridge PL21 9BU**
please put your name on it