

IMC NEWSLETTER



IVYBRIDGE
METHODIST CHURCH

J
U
L
Y

2
0
2
2

REJOICE!

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Do not quench the Spirit. Do not treat prophecies with contempt but test them all; hold on to what is good, reject every kind of evil.

1 Thessalonians 5: 16—22

Sharing Life
Sharing Faith

From Amanda...

Do you remember the game 'Follow my leader'? It was an easy game to play, with one child chosen to be the leader and the others had to get in line behind and follow his or her actions. Young children love it and are eager to volunteer to be part of the game. But at a past youth club, when playing with older children, we used to put a blindfold on those who were going to follow the leader – and that made all the difference! What would have been an easy game, just following the leader as they jumped or hopped or clapped, often became a much trickier exercise. What if they bumped into a chair or a door and hurt themselves? We certainly didn't want that and so we came up with an idea - we got a piece of rope, and gave it to the leader to hold and then passed it along the line so each of the followers held onto the rope as well. As long as they kept holding on to the rope, they found they could safely follow the leader.



That reminds me of one day, when Jesus was walking along the road with some of his disciples, someone said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.' Jesus replied, 'Foxes have holes to live in, and birds have nests, but the Son of Man doesn't even have a place to lay his head.'

It isn't always easy to follow Jesus. Sometimes we are like the children who played 'follow my leader', who raise our hands and say, 'I will follow you wherever you go' without even knowing what we are going to be called to do. We may find that we are like the children who are wearing blindfolds - it isn't easy to follow the leader when we can't see the way.

So what can we do? Well, Jesus is holding out His hand.

Just like those children who held onto the rope in order to move safely around and enjoy the game, sometimes we need something or *someone* to hold onto. Let me encourage you to hold onto Jesus. He will guide you through the difficult days of your life, and He won't let you fall and hurt yourself, as long as you are holding on. That goes for us as a church as well. Sometimes we lose sight of Jesus and lose our grip, and attempt to hold onto other things instead, like traditions and buildings, but remember we follow a leader who didn't even have a place to lay His head.

There is a song I like called, "Hold on to Jesus" by Erin O'Donnell, that says it like this:

*I wish I could protect you
from the worries of this life.
but if there's one thing I could tell
it's no matter what you do
hold to Jesus, He's holding onto you.*

*Christ's blessings,
Rev Amanda*



If you have an electronic copy of the newsletter,
[Click here](#) to hear the song



July 2022 Services



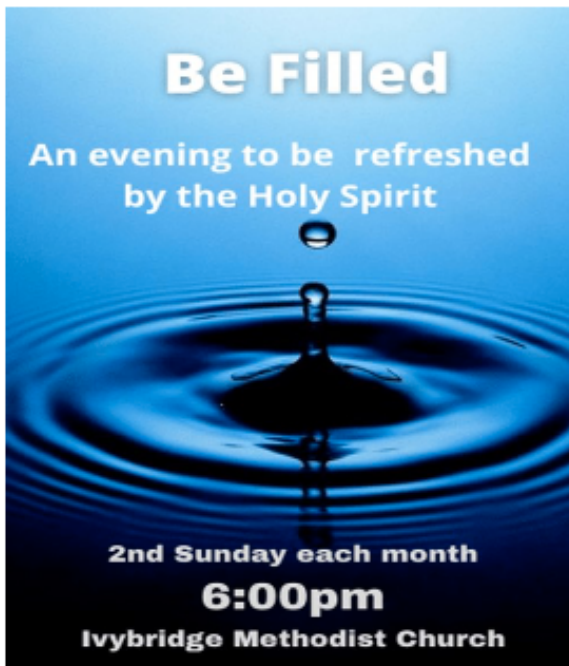
IVYBRIDGE

July 3	10:30 am	Revd Amanda Roper Communion
July 10	10:30 am	Mr Paul Whitell
	6:00 pm	Revd Amanda Roper "Be Filled"
July 17	10:30 am	Revd Amanda Roper All Age Worship
	6:00 pm	Reflective Service led by Gill Cowsill
July 24	10:30 am	Mr Paul Courtney
July 31	10:30 am	Mrs Jean Walsh

BITTAFORD

July 3	11:00 am	Revd David Youngs Communion
July 10	11:00 am	Mrs Brenda Youngs
July 17	11:00 am	Mrs Gillian Higgins
July 24	11:00 pm	Mrs Di Smart
July 31	3:00 pm	Revd Amanda Roper "Songs of Praise"

Be Filled
 An evening to be refreshed
 by the Holy Spirit



2nd Sunday each month
6:00pm
 Ivybridge Methodist Church

family
WORSHIP SUNDAY



**3rd Sunday each
 month**
 @
10:30am



Tea and Toast served from 10am

**Bible Study with Joan
 every 2nd and 4th
 Tuesday in the month.
 10am at 20 Grosvenor
 Court**



Dear Readers

Welcome to July's edition of the newsletter. I hope you enjoy it. It's lovely that we have news from so many of our people, and my thanks are due to Judy and Val for their hard work collating it.

We hope in future to develop the newsletter to include such things as book reviews, prayers, and testimonies. Perhaps you have a testimony of how God has cared for you that you can share with everybody? Get in touch with us and we can help you publish it in the newsletter.

With love to you all

Penny



JULY NEWS

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

I think we're back in real time now and I hope you enjoyed catching up on the belated news in the June newsletter. Please don't think your pastoral visitors were late with your newsletter, it really didn't come out until mid June - and then only with a great deal of time and effort from Penny and the team, to whom grateful thanks are extended.



It was lovely to hear of the engagement of Hosanna (Amanda and Mark's younger daughter) and Caleb. It's all very exciting and we wish you many blessings as you plan your wedding and future life together.

A wedding to celebrate - Jenny and Tony's son Chris married his fiancée Amanda in early June. We hope it was a great day and many memories were made and shared. Congratulations to the newly weds and blessings for the future.



Carol and Ken Kempthorn have recently moved from the top Cleeve Drive to Manor Way and we do hope all went well with the move. I guess the boxes are gradually diminishing and its beginning to feel like home!! We wish you every happiness in your new abode.

Congratulations too to Sophie Phillips as she takes up a new post with the Diocese of Exeter as their Net Zero Carbon Officer. This is something Sophie is passionate about and we wish you every success and much enjoyment in your new role Sophie.



Much love and many congratulations to Helen who celebrates a big birthday this month. Remember, it's only a number Helen and enjoy your celebrations.

Happy birthday as well to Lester who celebrates his 80th birthday this month. Many congratulations, Lester - you look too young to be 80!!

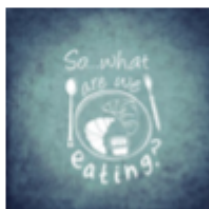
We are so pleased that Evie, Nicky and Dave's granddaughter, and Mike who have both had emergency stays in hospital recently are now home and well on the way to full recovery. Sadly, Linnie still has a few more weeks in hospital to weather before they can operate so we send much love and many prayers, Linnie, for peace and ultimately regaining full health.

A special message from Sue Flood

I want to thank all my lovely friends who've been praying for Karen and her family, Mark, Will and Ellie.

Karen has finished her chemotherapy and radiotherapy, still has to have medication but is doing well. Will and Ellie have had wonderful support from their schools. Ellie, who is 8, wrote in one of her notes to her Mum - things have changed Mummy but we are always connected by an invisible string". I thought, how lovely is that and how true. Even when things are really difficult Jesus, our friend, never lets us go and walks beside us always. Thank you all. God bless. Sue

Tuesday lunches—advance notice for Tuesday August



30th:

We are planning a Special Meal — 3 courses £8 — Booking essential.

Look out for the menu in the August newsletter and then make your choices and book as soon as possible.

Church workdays—second Saturday in the month

We meet from 9:30 am to 12 midday approximately, so feel free to come for whatever time you can spare. There is always a break for coffee, cake and fellowship half-way through the morning.

Future dates are July 9th and September 10th. There is no workday in August because of the summer holidays.

For more information, contact Joy Phillips.



Annual Church Meeting

This year the Annual Church Meeting will take place on 3rd July, and will form part of the regular Sunday morning worship



Wise and Wonderful.....



....is a fellowship group, open to all.
We meet from 2.30 to about 4,
on alternate Fridays in term time,
in the hall and café of the Methodist Church.

July 8 Summer Flowers

A talk and demonstration kindly given by the IMC flower ladies.

The Autumn programme

....is nearly ready, with a good variety of interesting speakers
and "in house" activities. Book the dates in your diary!

September 9 and 23

October 7 and 21

November 11 and 25

December 9

For more information, please ring one of us:

Judy 894829 Val 893614 Sue 896444

Christine and David 892858 Carole 894676 Maureen
945799

List of Ivybridge Methodist Church Ministers For The Last One Hundred Years

For those of you who are interested in the history of IMC, David Moulder has collated this list of our ministers since 1918

There is a longer list, starting in 1813, when one of the Preacher/Ministers of the Ashburton Circuit signed the letter registering the first chapel with the Bishop of Exeter.

Sept 1918 - Aug 1922	W Clifford Caddy
Sept 1922 - Aug 1925	J E Cooper
Sept 1925 - Aug 1928	Harold Wildblood
Sept 1928 - Aug 1931	Percy D Clay
Sept 1931 - Aug 1933	J Henry Fenn
Sept 1933 - Aug 1939	Stanley G Corke
Sept 1939 - Aug 1942	Frank Mellor
Sept 1942 - Aug 1947	E D Bonnar
Sept 1947 - Aug 1948	R J M Wilkes
Sept 1948 - Aug 1949	[unclear, J H Alexander or J G Rolley?]
Sept 1949 - Aug 1950	R G Jones (later Conference President)
Sept 1950 - Aug 1951	Alfred Lawson
Sept 1951 - Aug 1954	John C Creber
Sept 1954 - Aug 1955	Norman Knock
Sept 1955 - Aug 1956	Norman Renshaw
Sept 1956 - Aug 1957	Brunskell Harris
Sept 1957 - Aug 1959	Harold Urch (lived at Sunnyside, the manse)
Sept 1959 - Aug 1965	W J E Tregenna-Piggott
Sept 1965 - Aug 1970	Arthur Hunt
Sept 1970 - Aug 1975	Reg Homer
Sept 1975 - Aug 1977	Thomas (Tom) S Nicholas
Sept 1977 - Aug 1986	Reginald (Reg) M Mitchell

Sept 1986 - early 1988	Len Bunker (Lay Pastor, with Geoffrey Senior, Minister)
May 1988 - Aug 1989	Chris Ambler
Sept 1989 - Aug 1996	Mark Davies
Sept 1996 - Aug 2004	Alastair Bolt
Sept 2004 - Aug 2011	Stephen Caddick
Sept 2011 - Aug 2016	Ralph Ward
Sept 2016 - Aug 2021	Mark Lawrence
Sept 2021 - present	Amanda Roper



Church Contacts

Minister:

Revd Amanda Roper

Tel: 01752 651910

email: mandaroper@btinternet.com

Senior Stewards:

Reg Tel: 01752 893614

Alison Tel: 01752 691039

Room Bookings:

Pam and John

Tel: 01752 894083

email: imcbookings@gmail.com

House Group Information:

Helen Tel: 01752 892810



Church Address:

Fore Street
Ivybridge
PL21 9AB

Ivybridge Methodist Church registered charity 1192612

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