

IMC NEWSLETTER



IVYBRIDGE
METHODIST CHURCH

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Praise the LORD.

Praise God in his sanctuary;

praise him in his mighty heavens.

Praise him for his acts of power;

praise him for his surpassing greatness.

Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet,

praise him with the harp and lyre,

praise him with tambourine and dancing,

praise him with the strings and pipe,

praise him with the clash of cymbals.

praise him with resounding cymbals.

Let everything that has breath praise the LORD.

Praise the LORD.

Psalm 150

Sharing Life
Sharing Faith

From Amanda...

What a lovely Summer we've been having! I know the heat has been a bit much for some, but for others it has proved a real blessing, especially for those camping or enjoying a beach holiday.

One of the things that people often do whilst on holiday is visit a Theme Park. There's many dotted around the country and each boasts rides and attractions, usually with one special unique mechanized thrill machine, known for its scare factor, which becomes a defining feature of the amusement park.

I will lay my cards on the table early – I am not a fan of theme parks. Someone once said that the great thing about a theme park is that you can have a good lunch and then go on a ride that allows you to see that lunch again - I don't want to pay for that! I always think there must be a time, even for the toughest and most experienced thrill-seekers, just before the rollercoaster turns them upside down at 70mph, when they ask 'why am I doing this?'. But I get that it's about experiencing the thrill and something a little bit risky.

We all live with risk each day. While thrill-rides may fool my brain into thinking there is risk, it is in fact only a carefully managed ride. The real risk is about how I live my life, and how that affects where I will spend eternity.

I believe at the heart of the universe is a God who

risks. To create human beings not as automatons, but with free will, was an incredible risk. Sending His only Son into the world on a rescue mission was an incredible risk. And because He did, it means we don't need to live in a state of risk anymore.

Those of us who have chosen to live for Jesus, know within us His assurance and peace. There is no risk anymore, our home in eternity is promised. This Summer, may the centre event not be a theme park – but the challenge of Jesus to live life His way, for Him and with Him.

*Christ's blessings,
Rev Amanda*





August 2022 Services



IVYBRIDGE

Aug 7	10:30 am	Revd Dave Martin Communion
Aug 14	10:30 am	Dr Philip Walsh
	6:00 pm	No service
Aug 21	10:30 am	Revd Amanda Roper All Age Worship
	6:00 pm	No service
Aug 28	10:30 am	Miss Judith Walker

There is no mid-week communion during August

BITTAFORD

Aug 7	11:00 am	Revd David Youngs Communion
Aug 14	11:00 am	Miss Sue Bolt
Aug 21	11:00 am	Revd Terry M Higgins
Aug 28	11:00 pm	No service
	3:00 pm	Revd Amanda Roper "Songs of Praise"



AUGUST NEWS

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

Many congratulations are due to four of our young people who have been steadily working on their first and second degrees with huge success.

Meg Gentle gained her Masters in Social Work with a merit in June. She plans to continue working in or near York for the time being and we wish you every success Meg and blessings as you and Morgan make plans for your wedding next June.



In the midst of a difficult time for the family Tim and Naomi Ricketts have both attended their Graduation ceremonies this week (July). Tim is now Dr Tim Ricketts and currently working at a hospital in Bath and Naomi has successfully completed her degree in Physiotherapy and plans to work in Wales for a few years. We wish you every blessing as you step into the next step of your careers.



Carla Patrick, amidst worship group leading and family life, has kept studying and has been awarded a Foundation degree with Distinction. So very well done Carla and many blessings on the next steps in your career advancement.

At the wonderful age of 97 Beryl Norman (Lindsey's Mum) has moved from Grosvenor House to Willow House in South Brent as she now needs more care. She is an amazing lady and we do pray that she will settle well into Willow House and begin to enjoy all it offers.



Much to her relief Linnie Davis has now had her operation and is the owner of a brand new hip joint!! She is recovering well and has been so appreciative of everyone's prayers, cards, good wishes and texts during her long spell in hospital and sends her thanks.

We continue to pray for Simon who is now in Derriford that he will recover well and regain strength and energy to enable him to do this. Be assured you are much in our thoughts Simon as is your lovely family.

It is always sad to relay the news of bereavements and at this time our hearts and prayers go out to Jean Lewis, David, Matthew and their families as they readjust to life without Malcolm who died recently. It's hard to see how life might be when such an important person is no longer there but we do pray that you will all know God's peace and can find comfort in His promises of life eternal.

NEWS FROM THE STEPHENSONS

Dear Friends,

Is it really almost five years since we moved on to St Matts? We've managed to keep up with news from IMC through Lois' mother, Joan, and I expect some of our news has filtered back to you over that time. There have been a lot of romantic developments for all four of our children (it feels strange to still call them children as they are well and truly adults now!) over the last few months and we thought it time to give an update for those who are interested.

Keziah completed a Masters in Comparative Government at Oxford and for the last three years has been working in London for the Archbishop of Canterbury. Her current role is as his Researcher and Parliamentary Advisor. She got engaged at Easter to Johnny whom she first met when they were at university in Oxford but only started dating last autumn. Johnny works with a Peer in the House of Lords and a Think Tank called The Legatum

Institute. They are getting married in Devon in October.

Ben did a Geography degree in Durham and for the last three years has been working for KPMG in London, where he is about to qualify as a Chartered Accountant. He met Hannah, who happens to be a good friend of Keziah's, at David's Tent last August and they are getting married in London in November. Ben has been given a nine month sabbatical from his firm from January and they plan to spend much of their first year of marriage travelling, before Ben returns to KPMG and Hannah hopes to start training for ordination into the Church of England in Oxford from September.

Tim finished his degree in Aerospace Engineering and has spent the last year working for his church in Bristol and (with Jonny) writing and releasing worship songs under the title 'Emissary', while also working on other people's songs as a freelance producer. He got engaged to Maisie, who was a housemate during Covid, in June and they plan to marry next summer. Maisie has just finished a degree in Theology.

Jonny is three years into his four year degree in Electrical Engineering in Bristol. He is getting married to his Californian sweetheart Karina, whom he met in 2019 at the end of his year at Bethel Church in California. They managed a long-distance relationship through Covid and got engaged in March. Theirs is the first wedding, at the beginning of September in Mallorca. They plan to live in Bristol for a few years before probably moving out to Los Angeles, though they may also divide their time with Spain where Karina has family roots.

Lois has continued to work in various primary school teaching roles, and recently returned to supply teaching after two years through Covid in a Catholic school in Plymouth. Jeff is approaching retirement from St Luke's Hospice and has been accepted for ordination training with the Church of England, possibly starting in September 2023.

It has been good to keep abreast of the news from IMC through
Continued overleaf

Joan and you have been in our prayers at various times. You are most welcome to come to Keziah's wedding service, which will be at St Matts Church in Plymouth at 1pm on 22nd October. The other weddings in London and Mallorca would be a bit of a tall order to get to!

Every blessing,

Jeff and Lois



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



family
WORSHIP SUNDAY

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



Tea and Toast served from 10am

ADVANCE NOTICE:

I am planning a walk to the Ten Commandments Stone and a visit to Widdecombe in September. If anybody would be interested in joining me, please contact me and I will let you have more details. Email: trehame2@gmail.com or TEL: 01752 892460
Christine Treharne

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.

Autumn Programme

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| Sept 9th | Mark Skinner from South Dartmoor Energy will advise on energy saving, and answer all our questions |
| Sept 23rd | Round table teasers. All sorts of interesting puzzles and questions to work on, in small groups round the tables |
| Oct 7th | Visit to Otter Nurseries, leaving in cars at 2, home about 4:30. Please be sure to book your seat |
| Oct 21st | Local historian Sheila Hancock on <i>'The Old Buildings of Ivybridge'</i> |

After half term

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| Nov 11th | Sara Hladkij, Mayor of Ivybridge |
| Nov 25th | <i>'Telling my Story'</i> |
| Dec 9th | |

For more information, please ring one of us:

Judy 894829	Val 893614	Sue 896444
Christine and David 892858	Carole 894676	Maureen 945799

The Worship Group

By Carla Ricardo



Sunday worship is the opportunity to create a space where we can set aside all other distractions and really focus on what God is saying to us. It is the time to let the Holy Spirit work on us and through us and when this happens it can be a really powerful feeling.

When arranging the songs for a Sunday morning my first step is to read the Bible Scripture. I try to let it sit with me for the day and pray that God will tell me what He wants. If I don't really understand the Scripture I will research further to look at themes highlighted within the passage.

Usually as I am doing this worship songs with similar themes start seeping into my conscience. I wouldn't say I am good at listening to what God wants me to do. However, when it comes to music I find His voice is crystal clear. Having said this, there have been times where I may have misunderstood or tried to put in a song that is not quite right. God is very clear to point out my mistake by flooding my brain with the song He does want and I can't get the song out of my head until I correct my mistake.



Sometimes the preacher will have a song choice. I always try to include these as clearly God has put the song on the preacher's heart while they wrote their sermon.

We have a Thursday evening practice where we try out different ways of playing the song. Our aim is that every word we sing is meant, and not sung out of habit or memory of knowing the song. Music practice gives us this opportunity to find ways of creating the music that almost pushes

us into a place where we think about the words we are singing.



Despite there being a very obvious point to our worship practice, we do also worship ourselves. We get a real sense of the Holy Spirit and know that this sense will return during worship when more of us join together to lift His name. Because, more than everything else we do, our main purpose is to praise our Creator.

As it says in Isaiah 43 v21, 'The people I formed for Myself will declare My praise.'

So this is what we shall continue to do, to declare His name because He, and He alone, is worthy of all our praise.



Church Contacts

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Room Bookings:

Pam and John

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House Group Information:

Helen Tel: 01752 892810

**IMC Prayer
Line**



**Prayer Line
07801 956695**

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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