

# IMC NEWSLETTER



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*And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself by becoming obedient  
to death—even death on a cross!*

*Therefore God exalted him to the highest  
place and gave him the name that is above  
every name, that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bow, in heaven and on  
earth and under the earth, and every tongue  
acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.*

*Philippians 2: 8—11*

*Sharing Life*  
*Sharing Faith*

## *From Amanda...*

By the time these words go to print, we will all have settled into a new era in our lives – one marked by the reign of a new King. And there is the feel of change all around – we will have new coins minted, new stamps produced and new words to sing for the national anthem. There is always a lot of change in Autumn though, with nature demanding our attention as one season gives way to the next.



Of course with less light, the leaves on the trees begin to lose their strong green colour, and suddenly other colours begin to become visible. Browns, yellows, and oranges have all been in hiding until now, whilst other colours like reds and purples also surface due to chemical reactions inside the leaf. It's an amazing drama to watch unfolding.

This Autumn, I urge you to go outside and pick up a leaf. Choose one and hold it in your hands. Think about the different shapes, sizes and shades of the leaves around you. Feel the texture. Smell its fragrance. I find it awesome that God pays so much loving attention to something so small and delicate as a leaf. We can only stand back and marvel at His



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goodness and creativity. The fact that the same God pays even more loving attention to us is mind-blowing – to realise that we are worth more than many leaves, or trees, or the birds that sit in them.



I wonder if you have hidden colours? I wonder if there are beautiful things about you just waiting to surface? For you are wonderfully and fearfully made. Our Creator God, who set the stars in the sky and the planets in motion, who orchestrates the seasons and is intimately involved in nature, wants a relationship with you. He desires to see your life unfolding and giving glory to Him, in the same way a leaf testifies to His unique creative love. May you find the time this Autumn to give thanks to God for the leaves, but also to spare a moment to reflect on how your life demonstrates the immense but subtle beauty of His creative love, and may the gifts He has set within you surface, just like the colours in those Autumn leaves...

*Christ's blessings,  
Rev Amanda Roper*





## CHURCH NEWS

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

Welcome to October's news and a very warm welcome to those families that have recently joined us. We hope you are settling in and getting to know folk.



After much frustration and many delays Miles and Madeline have finally made the move from Bittaford into Ivybridge. We are delighted it all went well in the end and hope things are getting sorted in your new home.

Many congratulations to Terry and Ruth Farndell as they celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary this month. We send our love and warmest wishes for the special day and pray many blessings for more years together in the future.



It's good to see Pat Fox and Linnie Davis up and about after their major surgeries but we are aware that to get to full recovery takes more time than one realises. So we send our love and assurance of ongoing prayers that your healing and recovery will continue to progress.

Trevor Elcock is now home from hospital but is also facing a journey to build up strength and deal with life in a new way. Trevor, you are much in our prayers and we pray you will feel things are progressing as you would like them to.

Sending love and very best wishes.

Joan Bulman is still in hospital (Derriford at the moment of writing) and Joan we do pray that your injuries heal fully and you are able to come home soon. Be assured that many are praying for you and we look forward to seeing you back with us.

Gill and Simon are still walking their long and arduous journey of Simon's recovery and to you we send especial love and pray you will know God's comfort, reassurance and presence day by day.



I'm pleased to report that Val has had her surgery and that by the time this newsletter reaches you, she should be home again from hospital. We pray for a quick and complete recovery for you, and for you to draw very close to God during this time of trial.



## September 2022 Services



### IVYBRIDGE

Oct 2	10:30	Revd Amanda Roper Communion
Oct 9	10:30	Paul Courtney
	6:00	Revd Amanda Roper "Be filled"
Oct 16	10:30	Revd Amanda Roper Harvest Festival/ Bring and share lunch
	6:00	Revd Amanda Roper Prayer
Oct 23	10:30	Judith Walker
Oct 30	10:30	Paul Whitell

### BITTAFORD

Oct 2	11:00	Revd David Youngs Communion
Oct 9	11:00	Revd Terry Higgins
Oct 16	11:00	Brenda Youngs
Oct 23	11:00	Nigel Norris
	3:00	Revd Amanda Roper Songs of Praise
Oct 30	11:00	Revd Alistair Lowe

### **The walk to the Ten Commandments Stone**

*On a gorgeous Autumn afternoon, a group of us ventured across the moor to Buckland Beacon, at the foot of which lie 2 huge slabs of granite. On these are inscribed the 10 Commandments, various verses of Scripture and the 3rd verse of Isaac Watts' great hymn -*

*"Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,  
from everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same"*

*Our voices rang out across the hills and tors as we lustily sang the hymn, and we marvelled at the magnificent views; moorland, sea and sky.*

*Later, we drove to Widecombe and enjoyed tea and cakes in the cafe, before returning home.*





The logo for the IMC Bible Book Club is set against a background of three horizontal blue bars of varying shades. A white rectangular box is positioned in the center, containing the text 'IMC' in a bold, black, sans-serif font, followed by 'Bible' in a black, cursive script font, and 'BOOK CLUB' in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

**IMC**

*Bible* **BOOK CLUB**

During September, we launched our Bible Book Club at IMC. The vision is that, as a whole church, we will be reading the same portion of God's Word, on our own, each week. So each Sunday, there will be an invitation to read a portion of the Bible in the coming days. If you would like to join the club, you simply sign up, and I will send you some notes by email, about the book we are reading, with some background information, and maybe some questions. Some of our housegroups may choose to look at the same book in their sessions too. We are also going to offer a monthly Bible Study, led either by myself or Dr Phil Walsh to keep us on track! We so desire for God's Word to be central to our life here at IMC and this is one step towards us growing together in Word and Spirit.

Amanda

The poster for 'Be Filled' features a blue background with a central image of a water droplet creating ripples. The text is white and yellow.

**Be Filled**  
An evening to be refreshed  
by the Holy Spirit  
  
2nd Sunday each month  
**6:00pm**  
Ivybridge Methodist Church

The poster for 'family WORSHIP SUNDAY' has a blue background with a silhouette of a family at the top. The text is white and yellow.

**family**  
**WORSHIP SUNDAY**  
3rd Sunday each  
month  
@  
**10:30am**  
  
Tea and Toast served from 10am



### **Taize Service**

Our next Taize service will be held at St John's church, Ivybridge on Sunday 16th October at 6.00 pm. All are welcome.

Bible Study with Joan at 20 Grosvenor Court is CANCELLED until further notice. We pray that Joan will recover rapidly.

### **Letter from the Editor**

Dear friends,

First, an apology. I'm sorry that this month's Newsletter is late. It's entirely my fault for not scheduling my commitments better.

Secondly, a request.

The Newsletter always needs contributions! If you are involved in a specific ministry, for example as one of those who serves coffee after the service, or someone who participates in a house group, or someone who works with our young people, or someone who takes part in the team providing prayer ministry during Sunday morning worship— it would be lovely to have a brief article for the Newsletter.

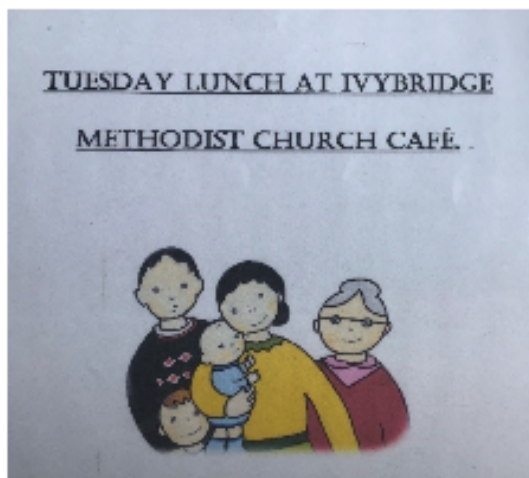
Ideally, your contribution should say something about how you express your faith in Jesus through your participation in a ministry.

It's a testimony, really. Something between 100—250 words would be ideal.

You can send it to me by email at pennygadd51@gmail.com, or hand me a longhand copy at the Sunday morning service.

Blessings

Penny



### **CHEWSDAYS at IMC**

Chewsdays are good news days.  
Take a seat, have a bite to eat  
Make and meet friends here,  
In a welcoming atmosphere.  
Home cooked food  
That tastes Oh so good!  
The café at IMC  
Is the place you want to be  
On a Tuesday at twelve-thirteen!!

**MEN'S BREAKFAST Full English RESTARTS ON SATURDAY  
8TH OCTOBER 8:30 a.m.—£4**



**PLEASE GIVE YOUR NAME TO TONY OR EMAIL HIM IF YOU  
INTEND TO ATTEND.**

**Date for your diary Sat 12th November 2022 Men's Breakfast, Phil  
Blunt will update us on what he has been doing since leaving IMC**

## 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

# Church Contacts

## Minister:

Revd Amanda Roper

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## Senior Steward:

Reg Tel: 01752 893614

## Room Bookings:

Pam and John

Tel: 01752 894083

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## House Group Information:

Helen Tel: 01752 892810



Prayer Line  
07801 956695

## Church Address:

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Ivybridge

PL21 9AB

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Visit our website at

[www.ivybridgemethodistchurch.co.uk](http://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](mailto:mrmerrit@icloud.com)