



Methodist Church Circuit

IN TOUCH



September
2014



Chairman of the District

Revd. Stephen Wild M.A.

Minister

Revd. Charles R. Gibbs 422406

Local Preachers

Barbara Hasler Len Michell

Gordon Bird

Christopher Savill

Circuit Stewards

Mrs Christine Savill 423563

Mr Mervyn Bird 423117

Mrs Beryl Read 422977

Mr Len Michell 422409

Circuit Treasurer Mr Christopher Savill 423563

Circuit Meeting Secretary

Church Stewards St. Mary's

Mrs Claire Jenkins Mrs June Lethbridge

Mr Philip Lethbridge Mrs Beryl Read

Mrs Sue Williams Mrs Leigh Kendrick

St. Martin's Mr Derek Perkins

St. Mary's

Treasurer Mrs Sue Williams 422605

Church Council Secretary Mrs Beryl Read 422977

Property Secretary Mrs Anne Gurr 422224

Gift Aid Secretary Mrs Stephanie Bird 423117

Organist Mr Len Michell 422409

St. Martin's

Church Council Secretary Mrs Jackie Perkins

Church Treasurer Mr Alan Terry

Organist Mr Rodney Ashford 423109

Connexional Link Person Beryl Read 422977

Thoughts from the Manse



September is usually a fine month on the beautiful Isles of Scilly and we look forward to welcoming visitors to our islands at our worship in the Methodist chapels on St Martin's and St Mary's.

September is also the month of Harvest Thanksgivings with the service on St Martin's being on the 7th at 6pm and that on St Mary's being on the 21st.

Most of my ministry has been in what is often called 'Rural Circuits', mainly in East Anglia, but despite this I have to confess that I have never really grasped the ins and outs of farming and agriculture. I know that farmers work very hard in preparing the soil and planting in the hope that they will be blessed with a good harvest, but with no real certainty that this will be the case.

Farmers must know that a lot of their efforts can be lost if the weather is bad and I have also heard that they are never really sure how worthwhile their efforts have been until their crops get to market because prices can vary a great deal. All of these details are true for our Scillonian farmers and especially for our flower growers. The flowers on Scilly are harvested during our mild winters between the months of November and April. They certainly need the right sort of weather to produce the best harvest and surely one of the toughest jobs must be picking the flowers in windswept fields in heavy rain. Yes, we pray for our island farmers and we give thanks that there is still a demand for this unique Scillonian crop among our friends on the mainland.

One of the most used Bible readings at our harvest thanksgivings is the 'parable of the sower' which was told by Jesus in the first year of His ministry. This must surely be one of the best known of Jesus' parables and whenever I hear it read it always reminds me of how life is; somehow it rings true, it speaks about how our lives really are, and it certainly reminds us yet again that all too often the ways of the world in which we live are very different to those of God's Kingdom.

Farmers all over the world know that despite their efforts, some of the seed that they scatter in the hope of a good crop will be wasted. Some will be eaten by birds, the growth of some is hindered by poor soil and yet more is choked by weeds. This is one of the harsh facts of being a farmer, but thankfully most of our farmers do not give up, but instead continue sowing seeds in the knowledge that some will take root and produce a good harvest.

This picture of wasted seeds is seen in other areas of life, and it is a picture we are familiar with in the life of our church. We all know that as a church we long to see more trust being put in the saving grace and love of God. We know that some of our ventures in evangelism have not

produced the fruit that we hoped for, and if we are honest we know that there have been many occasions when we have been disappointed by the numbers attending events put on in the life of our church. But the parable of the sower reminds us that despite our failures and setbacks God is true to His promises and His Kingdom will surely come and be seen among us.

The same is true in our own personal lives. We know that our hopes do not always come to reality. Sometimes we encounter things that make us despair or we find ourselves in situations that may cause us to doubt God's power to help us overcome the great turmoils of life but Jesus reminds us that even in situations such as these all is not lost.

We each know that on our journey through life there have been things that have been a great disappointment to us. We know that we have faced times when we have not grasped the opportunities before us and when we have made foolish decisions or have not made use of our God-given gifts. The words of Jesus in this great parable remind us that the farmer did not give up because of the rocks or the thorns but instead pressed on trusting that in the end there would be a good harvest. Just as the farmer trusted that God was at work in the soil so we too are reminded that God is always at work in our lives. God certainly keeps His promises and, despite the set-backs, His Kingdom will surely come.

While on the subject of harvests I will take the opportunity to remind you of the special harvest event at our St Martin's chapel on the 8th of this month. On that evening there will be a short harvest service in the chapel followed by the annual St Martin's Harvest Sale. During the evening freshly baked pasties will be served and this is always a very popular event for the island community. We would love you to come along and join us. Just let me know you are coming so that I can arrange the boating. Numbers will be limited so telephone me soon on 01720 422406 to book your place.

Many holiday-makers and island residents have thanked us for the fine exhibitions of photographs about island life in our two chapels. It is good to see our buildings being used mid-week in this way and is certainly a cause to give thanks. Also, on St Mary's, over the summer months we have been providing freshly baked fruit scones which have been very popular with visitors and locals alike. Each pack of two has a message from the church which we change from time to time from a prayer, a message about what we believe, or just some words reminding people that our church is there for them. These are just two examples of practical ways that as a church we are seeking to sow seeds for the promised harvest and again, we give thanks that these things are possible.

The Harvest Thanksgiving on St Mary's is on the 21st with all-age worship at 10.30am and an evening Songs of Praise at 8pm and we are hoping many will come and join us. On the next day the harvest gifts will be distributed among residents of St Mary's. Also on St Mary's there will

be a harvest supper. Please speak to Beryl Read if you are able to help with this. On the Saturday of the harvest weekend we will have our annual Church Gift day. Details of this are given elsewhere in this magazine (page 5).

So it is that at harvest time we thank our farmers for the planting of seeds and their nurturing so they will produce a good harvest. Our evangelists are to be thanked for their planting of the seeds of faith, and our preachers and worship leaders are to be thanked for reminding us of our precious Christian faith.

As a church on these islands we are committed to taking every opportunity that we have of sharing the Good News of the Gospel and despite the setbacks we, like our farmers, will continue to plant in faith that our efforts will be blessed and we will witness the harvest of lives changed by truly knowing the saving grace of God to us in Jesus.

In Like's Gospel we read 'He will come with His winnowing fork in His hand to clear His threshing floor and to gather the wheat into His barn'. God is indeed faithful to His promises and we rejoice in the promised coming of His kingdom.

Throughout our nation in chapels and churches faithful souls will gather at their harvest thanksgivings and will sing '*For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take His harvest home; From His field shall in that day all offences purge away; give His angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast, but the fruitful ears to store in His garner evermore!*'

May we continue to sow the seeds that lead to life eternal. May we continue to meet week by week to pray for the promised coming of God's Kingdom, and may the seeds that have been planted through the witness of our church continue to be nurtured by our love of one another.

I remain, by the grace of our Sovereign God, the Methodist minister on these remote yet beautiful islands for a while.

Charles R. Gibbs

With our faith in mind...

It is but right that our hearts should be on God when the heart of God is so much on us.

Freedom comes by filling your mind with God's thoughts. *Erwin Lutzer*

God works in us and with us, not against us or without us. *John Owen*

News from St Martin's

August is always a busy month, and so it is important to make time for worship, for reflection – for one's God.

Derek P. was unwell, actually in Chapel in one of Chris Savill's services (what better place?). He was taken to Treliske by air ambulance for surgery. We are pleased to report that he is making a good recovery and he praises all the people involved in his care and rehabilitation. He can't wait to get back to his bulbs and potatoes!

Rodney has also had a difficult time, healthwise, so we hope that his next visit to the hospital on the mainland will be able to sort things out for him.

We also wish Mary Evans a happy time in her new home in Truro. We will all miss her, but I am sure she will be getting lots of visits from her friends from St Martin's.

It is the summer fete season again, and Gladys resplendent in Venetian boater (and her helpers) ran her traditional 'white elephant' stall to raise a good sum to boost Chapel funds. It was a glorious day and very well attended

As I am rather late with my contribution, I can include another amazing milestone for Gladys and Derek who celebrate their 67th wedding anniversary on the 19th. Congratulations!!

Val Thomas

PS. If you have any news from St Martin's that you would like me to include, please let me have it by the 12th of the month.

Back to school

Young James finished his summer holidays and went back to school. Two days later his teacher phoned his mother to tell her that James was misbehaving. 'Wait a minute!' protested his mum. 'I had him here for weeks and I never once called YOU when he misbehaved!'

Gift Day

On the Saturday of our Harvest Weekend (20th September) we are holding our annual St Mary's Gift Day Appeal. This is an important occasion in the life of our Methodist Church on St Mary's. In the past year much has been spent on the redecoration and repair of our historic chapel and it is hoped that this year on our gift day your generosity will help to meet these costs and also contribute to the ongoing work and mission of our church. Refreshments will be served in the Manse on the 20th from 10am to 6pm, so do please come to give your gift and help celebrate the precious witness of our church.

If you are unable to come to the Manse on the Saturday, please send your gift to Rev Charles Gibbs, The Manse, Church Street, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly TR21 0JT. Please make all cheques payable to 'St Mary's Methodist Church'.

Report from the District Policy Meeting

The Cornwall District Policy Committee met at Truro Methodist Chapel on Wednesday 16th July. This meeting was chaired by Rev Steve Wild, and our Circuit Treasurer Mr Christopher Savill attended together with our Superintendent Minister Rev Charlie Gibbs.

At this meeting it was agreed that a grant of £10,000 for two years be granted to the Isles of Scilly Circuit whilst ecumenical conversations are held about shared ministry on the Islands concluding in time for the stationing processes beginning in Autumn 2016.

Rev Steve Wild is hoping to come to our Autumn Circuit meeting to help us explore what this may mean.

Holiday Club 2014

20 years of Holiday Club and still the children come. Our aim is to present the Love of God shown through Jesus Christ in a fun but positive way. We believe this has been achieved through the power of your prayers. To the many helpers we say a big THANK YOU; without you it would be quite impossible, without the blessing of God it would not be worth doing.

This year's theme was the Armour of God (Ephesians 6) and all the games, crafts and teaching was based around that. The Chapel was transformed into a Roman scene with the staff dressing as Romans (bedsheets for Togas etc), although Keri of Radio Scilly said he wasn't too sure about the socks. We had a model of a soldier on stage which we dressed in: belt of TRUTH, breastplate of RIGHTEOUSNESS, shoes of PEACE, shield of FAITH, helmet of SALVATION, sword of the SPIRIT. The theme song 'Put on the Armour of God' helped the children remember the Bible teaching. We had lots of fun sowing seeds in faith expecting a harvest by God's grace.

Gordon and the TEAM

Editorial Team

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This is the Circuit magazine but it needs your contributions to make sure everyone knows what is happening. Please send your contributions to the editor by 15th of the month.

In Touch can be read on line. Just go to our Circuit website www.scillymethodists.co.uk and click on the link to the newsletter. Back numbers of In Touch can also be accessed. If you would prefer to read In Touch in this way please let us know and we can save the cost of a paper copy.

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Some material in this magazine was obtained from [www.parishpump.co.uk](http://www.parishpump.co.uk). We thank them for providing material for magazine editors to use.

## **Operation Christmas Child – time to pack shoeboxes again**

Since 1990, caring people across the world have packed more than 113 million shoebox gifts for Operation Christmas Child, which means that millions of girls and boys in more than 150 countries have experienced the joy of Christmas.

2013 was the first year that OCC UK sent shoeboxes to Zambia – 41,000 in total. 4,000 of these boxes were distributed in an extremely remote part of Zambia, which takes two days to reach by road. Our local partner said, 'One cannot explain the joy and excitement that hit not only the children but the entire community because they have never experienced that kind of love expressed through a simple shoebox'. The gift box means so much more than the sweets, balls, crayons, etc, but also the greater expression of God's love to children in the remotest areas.

One little girl in remote Zambia had always longed for a pair of sunglasses. When she opened her shoebox last Christmas, she found on top the very thing she has been hoping for! Her squeals of delight told of her joy, as she snatched up the sunglasses and put them on to show her friends.

*If you would like to help with this project, look out for information as to who is organizing it in Scilly this year and start collecting items to go in the boxes. Last year we managed to send a lovely lot of boxes.*

### **A grain of sand at a time**

This autumn, do you feel overwhelmed with all the things that you need to get done? Then think of your life as an hour glass. There are thousands of grains of sand in the top of the hour glass; and they all pass slowly and evenly through the narrow neck in the middle.

We are like that hour glass. When we start in the morning, there are hundreds of tasks which we feel that we must accomplish that day. But if we do not take them one at a time and let them pass through the day slowly and evenly, as do the grains of sand passing through the narrow neck of the hour glass, then we are bound to break our own fragile physical and mental structure. Do not attempt more than God designed you to do.

## **Read any good books lately?**

At one end of the Broadway in the town where I live there is an empty shop, as prominent as a missing front tooth. Until this Spring it was an excellent general bookshop, which had served as a kind of cultural centre and browsing point for hundreds of customers for a couple of decades. Now it's to be turned into flats - and a 'small retail outlet'. Judging by current practice, that will be a hairdresser, nail bar or take-away. Food for the mind will be replaced, I have little doubt, by food for the tummy or pampering for the body.

So, a few polite questions. When did you last buy a book? Was it a present for someone? Did you buy it online? Was it in electronic form? And - more pertinently - if you read it, did you enjoy it? These are questions that are troubling authors, publishers and booksellers. Overall, book sales in the UK are fairly steady - a little down in some categories (children's books, sadly) and a little up in others (celebrity recipes, as you might have guessed, and memoirs of football managers). But the local bookshop - whether independent or part of a chain - is fast disappearing from the high street, and with it the wonderful experience of simply browsing (what a lovely word) - plucking books off the shelf, reading the blurb, noting the author's name and finally deciding whether it will tuck nicely into the bag on holiday, or sit engagingly on the coffee table of an Autumn evening.

Mind you, some erstwhile readers probably agree with the old Preacher in the Bible. He was not a great fan of literature: 'Of making many books there is no end, and much study is a weariness of the flesh', he said. On the other hand, there is plenty of incentive to reading elsewhere in the Bible, especially in the New Testament: 'Give attention to reading', Paul's assistant Timothy is urged. And it is assumed that Christians will read the Bible, or listen to it being read.

Books declutter the mind, help us to imagine and enjoy the experience of others, inspire us with great lives and stretch our knowledge and our interests. The bookshop and the library are Aladdin's Caves, rich with treasures. Our society will be impoverished if we stop reading books, whether it's on paper, Kindle or even listening to a 'Book at Bedtime' on Radio 4. But let's keep the joy of browsing, too!

*Canon David Winter*

## **We Plough the Fields**

This hymn was written by a layman, Matthias Claudius (1740- 1815). The author of the original German words was in turn a Commissioner of Agriculture and Manufacture, a newspaper editor and a bank auditor. His Christian faith wavered under the influence of the eighteenth-century view that man was his own saviour and master of his own destiny. However, after a serious illness he turned again to the Maker of all things, and the heavenly Father who loves and cares for His children.

He wrote this hymn as part of a dramatic sketch; its theme was the festival of harvest thanksgiving at a German farmhouse.

We plough the fields and scatter  
The good seed on the land.  
But it is fed and watered  
By God's almighty hand.  
He sends the snow in winter,  
The warmth to swell the grain,  
The breezes and the sunshine,  
And soft refreshing rain:  
*All good gifts around us  
Are sent from heaven above;  
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord,  
For all His love.*

He only is the maker  
Of all things near and far,  
He paints the wayside flower,  
He lights the evening star.  
The winds and waves obey Him,  
By Him the birds are fed:  
Much more to us His children,  
He gives our daily bread.

We thank thee then, O Father  
For all things bright and good,  
The seed-time and the harvest,  
Our life, our health, our food:  
Accept the gifts we offer  
For all thy love imparts,  
And, what thou most desirest,  
Our humble, thankful hearts.

Translated by Jane M. Campbell (1817-78).

With thanks to Trinity Methodist Church, Royton.

## **New scheme to help the 'Vicar of Baghdad's' parishioners in war-torn Iraq**

As Iraq faces continued unrest, a Christian ministry called 'Leading The Way' is partnering with Canon Andrew White, who is known around the world as the 'Vicar of Baghdad', to distribute 3,000 Navigator 'pocket missionaries' throughout Baghdad.

The Navigator is a solar powered audio player that has the capacity to hold the Bible as well as a selection of Christian teaching material. Its version in Arabic can be given into the hands of Iraqi people in areas around Baghdad, where many people have a low level of reading ability, but are in desperate spiritual need.

'Leading The Way' President and Founder, Dr Michael Youssef, is a friend of Canon Andrew White, the UK-born vicar of the only Anglican church in Iraq, where some 1000 of his people have been killed in the last five years.

Dr Youssef said: "We are delighted to be able to send Andrew White these Navigators, because some of his people dare not go to church, the bombings are so bad." If you would like to help, please go to: [www.leadingtheway.org.uk](http://www.leadingtheway.org.uk)

### **Feel the tug**

Have you ever wondered how you can be certain about who and what God really is? One Christian put it this way: "I'm reminded of the story of the little boy who was out flying a kite. The wind was brisk and large billowing clouds were blowing across the sky. The kite went up and up until it was entirely hidden by the clouds. Then a man came by and asked the little boy what he was doing, staring up at an empty sky. "I'm flying my kite," he replied. The man replied: "What kite? How can you be sure it is still there? You can't see a thing." The little boy agreed that he could see nothing, "but every little while I feel a tug, so I know for sure that it is still up there and is connected to me!"

When it comes to God, you don't need to take anyone else's word for it. You can find him for yourself by inviting Jesus Christ into your life. Then you too will know by the warm wonderful tug on your heartstrings that though you can't see him, he is up there, and that he lives in you. You are connected!

## Birthday Greetings

This month we send our love and best wishes to Patti Brooks, Angela Jenkins, Lois Morris, Flora Newrick, Mary Ratcliffe, Vicki Smith and Sue Williams.

*Happy Birthday to you  
To Jesus be true  
God bless you and keep you  
Happy Birthday to you!*



## Action for Children

The Methodist charity Action for Children this year celebrates its one hundred and forty fifth birthday! Originally called The National Children's Home, for all those years the organization has been listening to the needs of vulnerable children – the homeless, the neglected and those with other needs. It has endeavoured to protect and support them in many different ways.

It is a lovely Christian outreach that we try to support here in the Isles of Scilly with several different endeavours. Most recently we held a Grand Book Sale in the Methodist Hall on Saturday July 26<sup>th</sup>. Lovely helpers enabled us to sell books very cheaply and provide superb refreshments from mid-morning till mid-afternoon. The effort was well worthwhile, raising £90. Sadly we did not say goodbye to as many books as we had hoped! If you missed the opportunity to get something to read on your journeys we still can help! There will be small collections of paper-backs etc in the Methodist Hall, in the front garden of the Manse, and on the table at 'Annet' where superb scones are sold for Chapel funds.

Sadly, many children today still need our help via Action for Children, as in Victorian times!



*Gwen Clarkson  
Action for Children Representative*

## **Gaza, Israel and Iraq: Methodists called to pray**

The situations in Gaza, Israel and Iraq dominate the news and papers, capturing our attention and prompting our compassion. In response the Revd Ken Howcroft and Gill Dascombe, the President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference [call on all Methodists](#) to urgent and informed prayer, commending all the peoples of the region to the care of Almighty God, and regular prayer for the needs of the Land of the Holy One.

Methodists are not alone in this task. Christian Aid have provided a prayer for the region; an appeal for funds to help in the situation; and a call to sign a letter to the Foreign Secretary asking for Britain to take some action. These can be found on [Christian Aid's website](#).

Holy God,  
holy and strong in love,  
holy and immortal. have mercy on us  
and on all in the land called holy.  
Where fear brings despair, let there be hope.  
Where the urge to defend others brings violence,  
let there be love.  
Where the causes of conflict and the means of reconciliation  
are beyond our comprehension,  
may the peace of the Lord, which passes all understanding,  
guide everyone's hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.  
Amen.

### **Quotes**

For beautiful eyes, look for the good in others; for beautiful lips, speak only words of kindness; and for poise, walk with knowledge that you are never alone.

A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks.

The older one gets the more one finds the present must be enjoyed; it is a precious gift, comparable to a state of grace. *Marie Curie*

## Advance Notice

Where does the Methodist Church go in the light of recent government legislation on marriage ?

This Act Reads: Marriage of same sex couple is now lawful.

In these seven short words, section 1(1) of the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013 enacted a fundamental change of the law of England and Wales. What will our response as a church?

In June of this year, our minister was asked to represent the Cornwall District of the Methodist Church at the Methodist Conference. Part of this seven day conference was to hear a report from the church working party on marriage and civil partnerships as regards this change in law. Starting in September on Friday evenings at 7.30 on St. Mary's, a series of meeting will be held to look at the details and implications for Methodists here on Scilly.

|                         |                                        |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Week 1<br>are today.    | Setting out the background of where we |
| Week 2<br>report.       | Themes which have emerged form the     |
| Week 3<br>connexion.    | A cross-section of comments from the   |
| Week 4<br>consultation. | Emerging thoughts form the             |
| Week 5<br>be revisited? | Should the Methodist Church's position |

Please make every effort to come and listen. There will be the chance to comment and debate. For more details contact Charlie Gibbs ☎422406. It is hoped to hold the first of these meetings on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September.

SUNDAY 21st SEPTEMBER  
**ST MARY'S**  
**HARVEST**  
**THANKSGIVING**  
IN THE METHODIST CHURCH  
**10.30am MORNING SERVICE**

*With Beryl Read & Rev Charlie Gibbs*

A CELEBRATION OF HARVESTIME ON ST MARY'S  
REFRESHMENTS SERVED AT 11.30

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**HARVEST SONGS OF PRAISE**  
**At 8pm**

*With the Harvest Hymns that we love to sing.*

*Led By* **Rev CHARLIE GIBBS**

*With Len Michell on the organ.*

COME AND CELEBRATE HARVEST TIME IN OUR HISTORIC METHODIST CHAPEL.

*A WARM WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS.*

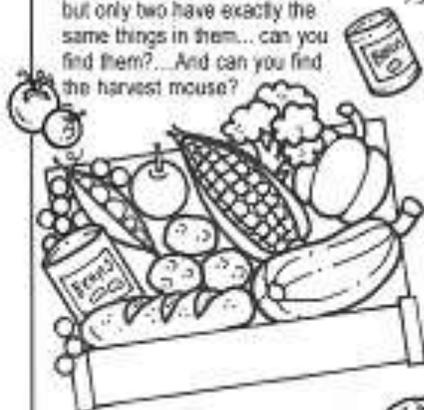
REFRESHMENTS SERVED AT 9pm.

ST MARY'S METHODIST CHURCH AT THE HEART OF THIS ISLAND COMMUNITY.



## Mouse Makes

The boxes are full of harvest food for Harvest Thanksgiving, but only two have exactly the same things in them... can you find them?... And can you find the harvest mouse?



*'Let us fear and respect the Lord our God. He gives us autumn and spring rains at the right time. He makes sure that we have the harvest at just the right time.'*  
Jeremiah 5:24



## HARVEST THANKSGIVING

*'May the peoples praise you, God!  
May all the peoples praise you.'*

The land yields its harvest;  
God, our God blesses us."  
Psalm 67:5-6



*'Honour the Lord with your wealth and the first part of your harvest.'*  
Proverbs 3:9



*'God...gives you rain from heaven and good harvests at the right times. He gives you plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy'*  
Acts 14:16-17



## **AUTUMN ST MARY'S FELLOWSHIP MEETINGS**

A warm welcome to all at these meetings at the Manse at 7.30pm on Friday evenings. Co-coa, Tea, Coffee, and Ham Sandwiches are served at 9pm. The opportunity to learn, to debate, and to explore the many challenges of being a disciple of Jesus today.

SEPTEMBER 12th, 19th, 26th, OCTOBER 3rd & 10th

A series of 5 meetings looking in great detail at one of the greatest challenges before our church today. What is the church's response to the change in law now allowing same sex couples to marry. Led by Rev Charlie Gibbs based upon the report from the working party report to the 2014 Methodist Conference.

Please ask for separate leaflet giving details of these important meetings.

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OCTOBER 17th AN EVENING WITH STEVE WILD

Steve will be speaking about the Methodist Church Overseas.

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OCTOBER 24th AN EVENING WITH LEN MICHELL

Subject to be announced.

.....

OCTOBER 31st AN EVENING WITH BARBARA HASLER

Subject to be announced

.....

NOVEMBER 7th AN EVENING WITH MARY RATCLIFFE

Subject to be announced

.....

NOVEMBER 14th & 21st

**MEMOIRS OF A FIRST WORLD WAR CONCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR**

The moving and graphic description of life in Dartmoor Prison  
& an insight into family life during the Great War in Britain.

Introduced and led by Mrs Mary Gibbs.

## PRAYER CHAIN

In the first instance please contact me, Mary Ratcliffe 423030 or Revd. Charles Gibbs 422406. I will then pass on the prayer request to the first name in each of the groups.

**Mervyn & Stephanie Bird**      **423117**  
Sue Williams                      422605  
Merryn & Vicki Smith            423360

**Claire Jenkins**                    **423546**  
Margaret Snowball                422896  
Gordon Bird                        422550  
Sonia Crompton                    422854

**Barbara Hasler**                   **422208**  
Margaret Crane                    422596  
Len & Sylvia Michell              422409  
Pamela Thomas                    423115  
June Lethbridge                    422404

**Beryl Read**                        **422977**  
Gwen Clarkson                    423106

*For the Prayer Chain to be effective it is essential that requests are forwarded to the person in the column beneath your name, if that person is not available please ring the next person on the list.*

If anyone else would like to join in this special ministry please contact Mary Ratcliffe on 423030. We thank God that we can be channels of His grace.

## SEPTEMBER SERVICES

### St Mary's

|      |         |                                                                 |
|------|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7th  | 10.00am | All Age Worship                                                 |
|      | 11.00am | Rev Charlie Gibbs<br><i>Holy Communion</i>                      |
|      | 8.00pm  | Rev Charlie Gibbs<br><i>Songs of Praise</i>                     |
| 14th | 9.15am  | Barbara Hasler and Beryl Read                                   |
|      | 11.00am | Rev Ray Birch                                                   |
|      | 8.00pm  | Rev Charlie Gibbs                                               |
| 21st | 10.30am | Rev Charlie Gibbs and Beryl Read<br><i>Harvest Thanksgiving</i> |
|      | 8.00pm  | Rev Charlie Gibbs<br><i>Harvest Songs of Praise</i>             |
| 28th | 9.15am  | Len Michell and Vicki Smith                                     |
|      | 11.00am | Rev Charlie Gibbs<br><i>Holy Communion</i>                      |
|      | 8.00p   | Barbara Hasler                                                  |

### St Martin's

|      |         |                                                  |
|------|---------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 7th  | 6.00p   | Rev Charlie Gibbs<br><i>Harvest Thanksgiving</i> |
| 14th | 11.00am | Rev Charlie Gibbs<br><i>Holy Communion</i>       |
| 21st | 11.00am | Rev Ray Birch                                    |
| 28th | 6.00pm  | Rev Charlie Gibbs                                |