

SUMMER

June to August 2019

WARMINSTER UNITED CHURCH

(Methodist/URC)

George Street, Warminster BA12 8QA



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Dear Everyone

The question, “Why”?

I’ve been to St Ives in Cornwall several times this year, it's a popular all year holiday destination. But my reason for going was to attend a Methodist Church Supervision training course. One of the early questions to ask in any Supervision session is “Why this, why now?”



We can often ask “Why?!” particularly when life throws a curved ball when we least expect it, or when things happen that we have no explanation for, or are not are not in our control.

“Why?!” can create a multitude of problems: becoming a rhetorical question, seeping energy, damaging faith. It is no new phenomenon, appearing within the Bible over 500 times.

The following quotation is apparently written by an unknown confederate soldier, who must have asked the “Why?!” question many times.

I asked God for strength, that I might achieve; I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey.

I asked for health, that I might do greater things; I was given infirmity, that I might do better things.

I asked for riches, that I might be happy; I was given poverty, that I might be wise.

I asked for power, that I might have the praise of people; I was given weakness, that I might feel the need for God.

I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life; I was given life, that I might enjoy all things.

I got nothing that I asked for, but everything that I had hoped for.

Almost, despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered. I am, among all people, truly blessed.

With all best wishes for the summer.

Rev David

Spiritual Tea



a clumsy name for the meeting but it does sum up the event. On 3rd May 'two or three gathered in his name' to share tea and cake and to talk about our faith. We did this in relation to the challenge by the Area that we should be growing spiritually and involving the local community in spiritual growth too because until we know what we believe, how can we help other people become disciples of Jesus?

The sermon that day had been on Doubting Thomas and we so were talking about doubts. Is it okay to have doubts about what we have heard in the sermons? Is it okay to be confused about some of the things in the bible? How much of the life of Jesus do we really understand?

We talked together and moved around different topics we have found challenging. We all listened, we all prayed, we all spoke. It was a friendly meeting and everyone shared kindly and each comment was listened to kindly. We discussed everyday life as well as church life. Did we come to any great conclusions? Yes, we all agreed that doubts are normal. There is nothing wrong with wanting to know more facts, more details. Equally there is nothing wrong with putting a biblical story aside for a few years, to ponder on it prayerfully, to read the rest of the bible passage nearby, to join a discussion group to air our thoughts and concerns. And to wait for God through the Holy Spirit to help us understand.

**There will be a Spiritual Tea on the first Sunday of June
and the first Sunday of July - at 4pm.**

Anyone is welcome to come, to talk, to listen, to eat cake.

Karen Woollard

There will be a
CHRISTMAS SERVICE
On 14th July 2.30 p.m.
at Monks Chapel, Corsham
SN13 9PH
Led by Rev David Coppard.
All Welcome
(Yes you did read the date correctly!)



SUNDAY SERVICES 10.30 a.m.

JUNE

2nd Margaret White

9th Tom Hill

16th Jacky Williams

23rd Rev David Coppard HOLY COMMUNION

30th SECTOR SERVICE - details below

JULY

7th Rev Heather Morgan

14th Rev Mike Burrell

21st Rev Graham Warmington

28th Rev David Coppard HOLY COMMUNION

AUGUST

4th Paula Johnson

11th Rev David Coppard HOLY COMMUNION

18th Tom Hill

25th Karen Woollard

SECTOR SERVICES

When there is a 5th Sunday in a month that service will be a Sector Service; a joint service of all the churches in the sector of which Rev David Coppard is the Minister. This will happen 4 times a year.

On 30th June the first of these services will be
at Westbury Methodist Church
10.30 a.m.

There will be NO service at our church.

It is hoped that most people from our church will be able to join in the service in Westbury. There will be a flip chart up in the weeks before where people can request and offer lifts.

David will be leading the service and it will be similar to the All Age Worship services he leads with us.

The next 5 Sundays month will be September. The services will move round David's churches – so one will come to us.

WEDNESDAY MORNING SERVICES 10.45 a.m weekly

Rota for Church July, August and September 2019

July	Vestry (V)/ Opening(O)	Books/Welcome	Coffee	Flowers
7	Sue Hewitt O/V	Andy Simmons Joan Stephens	Wendy and Diana	Jenny Sanderson
14	Pauline O/V	Dennis and Pat Mills	Hilda Hanks and Dana	Kay Skillman
21	Karen O/V	Derrick Copeland Arthur Pimm	Pam Copeland Anita Silk	Paula Johnson
28	Marion Barton O/V	Paula Johnson and Stuart Brydon	Helen and Kevin Dawson	Helen Richards
August				
4	Andy Simmons O/V	Sue Hewitt and Chris Walton	Erica Castle and Hilary Reynolds	Hilda Hanks
11	Barry O/V	Karen Woollard Arthur Pimm	Wendy and Diana	Erica Castle
18	Brenda O Helen V	Muriel May and Jenny Sanderson	Brenda Goodwin Yvonne Syrett	Pam Copeland
25	Hilda O/V	Sandra Matthews Derrick Copeland	Joan and Evan Jones	Jenny Sanderson
September				
1	Marion Barton O/V	Joan Stephens Karen Woollard	Helen and Kevin Dawson	Sandra Matthews
8	Barry O/V	Dennis and Sylvia	Pam Copeland and Brenda Goodwin	Mary Treadwell
15	Sue Hewitt O/V	Andy Simmons Arthur Pimm	Hilda Hanks and Dana	Pat Mills
22	Joan Jones O Karen V	Hilary Reynolds and Betty	Joan and Evan	Wendy Womersley
29 (Sector Service)	Pauline O/V	Dennis and Pat Mills	Brenda Goodwin Anita Silk	Joan Stephens

OUR CHURCH FAMILY - PASTORAL CARER'S REPORT

Our thoughts at this time are with our older family friends, many of whom newer members to our church family, have never meet.

The Cooper family as we remember them at the loss of Bernard; our prayers as they recall the happiness with which he celebrated life.

With Howard after a fall in the garden which meant leaving home for a time.

With Jenny and family, as we remember her sister. Daphne was a quiet, loving lady who supported us in prayer as she was unable to attend services due to her ill health. She was a strong steadfast Christian who gave much to the church in past years. The service to celebrate her life will be held on 14th June at 10:30am here at George Street.

We also remember Vera, a long term friend, of Jenny's who died earlier this spring.

We pray for our friends in their homes -Tony, Joy, Joan D and Joan A as well as Joan J. as she recovers from her knee operation. Lots of Joan's!

But we celebrate with joy the christening of Angel, welcoming her into our Christian family.

Sebastian is now taking a greater interest in us all as he discovers the wonder of our church, what a blessing he is.

We welcome all our new friends visiting us, learning what we offer and pray that they find fellowship, friendship and the love of God with us.

Finally for those of you celebrating special birthdays in the next month or two – "Happy Birthday"

Marion Barton

EASTER FAMILY ACTIVITY DAY

Singing, stories and craft enjoyed by all



Adults tried the crafts

Lunch time

CHILDREN IN THE CHURCH

It was great to share an action packed morning with children and adults at the Easter Activity Day. Many thanks to all who helped organise and run this event.

Hopefully there will be another such activity during the school summer holidays. The date has yet to be decided.

It is also good to welcome more children on a Sunday mornings to join with Solomon and Ebenezer. Kylie and Eureka have been with us several weeks and we are also pleased to have welcomed Ivanah and Zion a couple of times and hope to see them all regularly.

The small team who work with the children would be very pleased for others to join us . Some weeks an extra pair of hands would be very useful!

Sebastian and Angel are growing rapidly and will soon want to join in with the other children, so if you feel you could help please let me know.

David Coppard has suggested holding Mini Praise Services for Toddlers and their parents or carers (see David's article on back page) – a wonderful idea which he has done in other places. He would like there to be a couple of helpers from the church at each service.

Joan Jones

WALKING

The first of this year's summer walks was on a sunny evening in April. 15 of us explored footpaths around and above Warminster Park and the Nature Reserve before returning to the church for a delicious Ploughman's Supper prepared by Helen Dawson. This was followed by Plum crumble or Sherry Trifle and was a real treat. 3 non-walkers joined us for the meal. Donations collected at the meal raised £150 for Christian Aid. Thank you Helen .

It has not been possible to arrange a walk in May . I am currently unable to organise walks because of my knee operation but if anyone else would like to please go ahead.

Joan J

TREASURERS REPORT

I am pleased to report the income from our offerings for the last 3 months:

February	£1781.71
March	£1969.41
April	£1863.80

As the tax year ended on 5th April we are making a gift aid claim for the last 12 months. Anyone who is a taxpayer can fill in a Gift Aid Declaration Form which enables us to recover the income tax paid on that money.

A lot of our offerings are made by Standing Order and anyone who wishes to contribute in that way can get a form from me to set that up. You can also use envelopes to make your offering and that can be discussed with me also.

With grateful thanks to all for your contributions for running our church and for the Ministry and Mission of the wider world.

Hilary



tearfund ACTION

THE TIME IS NOW – 26TH JUNE

Climate change is happening now and people in poverty are bearing the brunt of its devastating effects. Join us in Westminster at 1-4pm on Wednesday 26th June with thousands of others for a mass lobby of Parliament to declare that *The Time Is Now!* Unless our politicians take action on climate change and the environment urgently, progress to tackle poverty will unravel due to the stresses on our planet.

The time is now to call for bold action because in the coming months the government will decide whether to address the UK's contribution to climate change by committing to a net-zero emissions target. They also have the chance to commit to a stronger Environment Bill.

Organised by Tear Fund , supported by Christian aid, Green Party, World Wildlife fund etc.

(item contributed by Karen)

More details www.tearfund.org/about_you/action/mass_lobby_2019/

Charity Coffee Mornings 10 a.m. to 12 noon

2019	CHARITY	ORGANISER	
January 12 th	Action for Children	Barry Treadwell	£200
February 9 th	Sachibondu Mission Zambia	Marion Barton	£185
March 9 th	Warminster Stroke Club	Elaine Hunter	£200
April 13 th	Zimbabwe Victims Support Fund	Pam and Derrik	£250
May 11 th	Warminster Food Bank	Jean Colgrave	£155
June 8 th	Christian Aid	Karen Woollard	
July 13 th	Shelter Box	Joan Jones	
August 10 th	Dementia UK	John Alpin	
September 14 th	Guide Dogs for the Blind	Anita Silk	
October 12 th	School in a bag	Helen Richards	
November 9 th	Christmas Shoebox Appeal	Joan Jones	
Dec 14 th	Air Ambulance	Anita Silk	

EXTRA COFFEE MORNINGS

22nd June For St John's Church heating and roofing

Same time and format as usual monthly coffee mornings

Also – Karen Woollard intends to hold a Coffee morning for Christian Aid at her home – watch notice sheets for details.

CHURCH LETTINGS

I am taking over, from Pauline , the responsibility for the letting of church premises . There is now a dedicated email address for this churchlettings@aol.com . The phone number to contact is now 07986491612.

Can anyone wanting to use any of the rooms for church meetings etc please be sure to let me know so as to avoid double bookings and make sure heating is provided when necessary. Thank you Pauline for all your help.

Joan Jones

**THERE WILL BE A
SERVICE TO CELEBRATE THE LIFE OF
DAPHNE COLE
14th June
10.30 a.m.**



MINI PRAISE AT THE UNITED CHURCH

Mini Praise is a short but special service for babies and toddlers, along with their parents or carers.

It will be a monthly midweek service and we hope to launch in July.

The service will be informal, consisting of singing, stories and some action events.

Each service will last around 15-20 minutes and will conclude with a special Mini Praise prayer followed by biscuits and drinks and the option to stay and chat/play.

Whilst the key focus is for babies and toddlers everyone is invited.

For further information please speak to Rev David

