

Isles of Scilly



Methodist Church Circuit

IN TOUCH

April/May 2021

Chairman of the District: Revd. Stephen Wild M.A.

Superintendent Minister:

Revd. Michael Pullan B.Ed., B.D. 422406

Local Preachers:

Mr Len Michell-(*not taking services this quarter*) 422409

Mr Christopher Savill 423563

Circuit Stewards:

Mrs Christine Savill 423563

Mr Mervyn Bird 423117

Mrs Beryl Read 422977

Mr Len Michell 422409

Circuit Treasurer: Mr Christopher Savill 423563

Gift Aid Secretary: Mrs Stephanie Bird 423117

Circuit Meeting Secretary: Mrs Heather Terry 422329

Church Stewards:

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Mr Philip Lethbridge Mrs Leigh Kendrick
Mrs Sue Williams

St. Martin's Mrs Barbara Jones

St. Mary's

Treasurer: Mrs Sue Williams 422605

Church Council Secretary: Mrs Beryl Read 422977

Hall Booking Secretary: Mrs Anne Gurr 422224

Organist: Mr Len Michell 422409

Deputy Organist: Mr Philip Lethbridge 422404

St. Martin's

Church Council Secretary: Mrs Jackie Perkins 422814

Church Treasurer: Mr Alan Terry 422329

Connexional Link Person: Mrs Beryl Read 422977

Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Barbara James 422674

From the Manse

Dear Friends,

"The Journey of Life's" Roadmap

It might be true to say that for many people from all walks of life, differing backgrounds, different age groups etc., the dates of April 12th, May 17th and June 21st are firmly in the mind and on the calendar. These dates might be called markers on the journey through the lockdown roadmap (England). They remind us of it being one year since the first lockdown and how Covid 19 has dominated life.

However, this time of year includes significant dates in the Christian year and, arguably, an important part of the roadmap of life for Christians and the journey to life for those not yet committed to Jesus.

We will journey through the wilderness in Lent and continue through the dramas of Holy Week, culminating in the Last Supper, the 'trial' and sentencing of Jesus and the pain and suffering of His crucifixion on Good Friday, all of which remind us of the strength of God's love and the fact of Jesus identifying and being with us in all of life's struggles, pain and suffering.

We celebrate Jesus' resurrection on Easter Day, April 4th, (and do so each Sunday in worship) and trace the 40 day path to the Ascension, May 13th, during which Jesus appeared to those already committed to Him; all of which show us the difference Jesus can make in giving us 'new' life and hope and promising always to be with us.

Then a ten day wait until the day of Pentecost (May 23rd) and the coming in power of the Holy Spirit to energize the disciples to share the good news of Jesus with people everywhere.

As lockdown will, hopefully, follow the plan laid out, may Good Friday, Easter Day, Ascension Day and Pentecost be continuing significant days for us all, assuring us of God's caring love, presence and power to change us, challenge us and equip us to make His difference in peoples' lives across the world.

A Happy Easter and a Powerful Pentecost.

Michael.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**There will be a service in St. Mary's Chapel
on
Good Friday, 2nd April, at 10.30 a.m.**

E A S T E R

E nvision	with love	DEEPLY
A ccept	with love	WILLINGLY
S eek	with love	CONTINUALLY
T rust	with love	IMPLICITLY
E mbrace	with love	WHOLE HEARTEDLY
R eturn	with love	GENEROUSLY

News from St. Martin's

We continue to meet on Fridays and Revd. Michael has led worship whenever he can get over to us. He has been ably supported by Christopher and Jackie who led us in a 'Songs of Praise' on one occasion. Our numbers have swelled recently with an average of 10 in the congregation! We have been delighted to welcome 94 year old Gladys back to Chapel and also Margaret, Edna and Mandy.

Although we are looking forward to spring bringing brighter colours and warmer weather, it is with a heavy heart that we have said goodbye to two local personalities on the Island.

Pat, Mum of Brenda and mother-in-law to Peter Evans of Plains, passed away in January and Keith Low died in February. Pat was our oldest resident and moved here with Peter and Brenda in retirement; she was loved by many.

Keith was born on St. Martin's and grew up with several of us to become a real Island character who loved this place and could often be seen picking flowers, fishing and sharing local folklore. There is little Keith did not know about these Islands and his colourful character will be missed by us all.

We send our condolences to the families of both Pat and Keith. May they rest in peace.

As we were unable to hold a Mothering Sunday service, Revd. Michael combined thoughts of mothers at our service on Friday 12th March when we remembered Mary, mother of Jesus, who was a very special mother. We could do well to follow her example.

With Eastertide approaching, we experience the sadness of Good Friday and then the joy and hope of Easter Sunday.

With the gradual opening of the Islands and welcoming our visitors back, we look forward to a new season and hope that this very special place remains safe for us all.

Val Thomas

Some Memories of Scilly

Rev. Jeremy and Sheila Dare

When Sheila and I heard in 1987 that we were requested to visit the Isles of Scilly to explore the prospect of a few years ministry, we were excited and, at the same time, unsure if we had much to offer to a kind of community we had never lived in before.

We were impressed by our warm welcome, with the friendly enthusiasm and prayerful consideration the Methodist people held out to us. In our hearts we felt it was God's will, and a privilege, to accept the invitation.

A few months later we moved from south London to Scilly, a quite amazing contrast. Met from the ferry by Gordon Bird, we drove to the Manse and I remember him being amused as I went to put a 'krooklock' on the steering wheel! We had a lot to learn and a surprise or two. Looking out from the pulpit on the first Sunday I was let loose and seeing Harold and Mary Wilson caused me to wonder whether what I had prepared was okay! What super people they were.

Getting used to boat trips on some Sundays to St. Martin's was a new activity for us and so very interesting. I remember the boatman, Roy Guy, challenging me that the hymn, 'Eternal Father strong to save,' with the later line, 'for those in peril on the sea,' was nonsense as he considered being on the sea alright, it was being in it that was the problem!

The occasional burial at sea was something I had no previous experience of before being on Scilly. I found them very memorable and dignified occasions. I was so ably guided by Alf Trenear, especially when the sea was not smooth.

The slide shows were very enjoyable. During the first couple of seasons I stuck to the script as I did not feel in any way like an expert on island life. Listening to others speaking about the images was fascinating. Those events were a super way of meeting some of the visitors and the quantity of pictures produced each year by the team was so impressive.

Occasional open air services at Carreg Dhu, when it was in its infancy, were exciting and lively times of worship and picnics.

The way the lifeboat and its crew were appreciated was very moving. Memories from Richard Lethbridge of earlier services gave most interesting insights into its history. The annual Lifeboat worship event was new to me and meaningful too. The couple of occasions when the Lifeboat Secretary asked if we could accommodate some rescued folk were valuable experiences too.

Not having had much to do with bird watching, one sunny, calm autumn day in our first few months, I remember greeting a visiting enthusiast with a positive comment about the weather. His response was very negative! He wanted gales to blow unusual birds ashore!

The heart of our time in Scilly was the sense of being part of a very friendly, faithful Christian family. We have so many memories of expressions of commitment of people to the Lord, His Churches and to the island community. Concern and love for those of all ages not connected with the Church, and for needs beyond the shores, was so good. The fun of being with ecumenical colleagues was a great encouragement. Some shared school assemblies and Sunday Services were affirming and uplifting.

The helpful support of the Methodist Church Home Mission was invaluable, as were visits by the District Chair which were such an encouragement. Also, four times a year, exchanges with ministers in Cornwall helped us to see a little of the County and meet other congregations.

Finding ourselves in such a wonderful place attracted many family members and friends to come and stay for holidays! Sheila became used to catering and changing spare beds. We remember a telephone call one afternoon from John Morley asking if we were expecting Sheila's Mum and Dad for a visit. 'Yes,' we said, 'they are due tomorrow.' 'They are at the Penzance heliport now, could we confirm their booking, please!' How kind, considerate and helpful, and for so many trips too.

An occasional blessing for us was to be able to camp on Chris and Christine Savill's site on St. Martin's during the May half term break; wonderful memories with time to appreciate the beaches and amazing sea colours. Scilly was such a pleasant and safe place to bring up our young daughter, Marianne.

I think one aspect of being a minister which I valued on Scilly, was having more time to spend with people, whether it was at sad or anxious times, exciting and joyful times or in normal 'Thank God for life' times. The gift of seven years with such fine encouraging Christians has been a blessing indeed.

We are both so grateful for continuing friendships, love and prayers.

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### **On a Flagstone in Leith, Edinburgh**

So with the darkest days behind  
Our ship of hope will steer  
And when we doubt, just keep in mind  
Our motto 'PERSEVERE.'

*Contributed by Alison Drever  
A regular visitor to the Isles of Scilly.*



## **Good News - From death ..... to Life.**

'There was no other good enough  
To pay the price of sin;  
He only could unlock the gate  
Of Heaven and let us in.'

*(Cecil Frances Alexander)*

The Bible tells us that Jesus is contemplating the cross and all that lay before Him – not only the excruciating physical agony, but the fact that He was to die for the sins of the world. "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son....."  
(John 3:16).

Jesus, was greatly distressed, troubled, and sorrowful and begged God, the Father – three times – that the cup of sorrow which awaited Him might be taken away – removed from Him. (Read all about it in Mark 14:32-42) He even said to God, His Father, "All things are possible for you, remove this cup from me" – but then – "Yet not what I will, but what you will."

Thank God and praise Him, for Jesus suffered, bled and died for my sin and your sin. How greatly Jesus must have loved me – for what were we that Thou on us such love should ever pour, I bow and filled with joy and awe, Father and Son adore!

'O let Thy love my heart control  
Thy love for every sinner free,  
That every fallen human soul  
May taste the grace that found out me.  
That all mankind with me may prove  
Thy sovereign, everlasting love!

*(Charles Wesley)*

*Pauline Jackson Cocking*

## **Fund Raising 1970's Style!**

In the summer of 1970 the organ in St. Mary's Methodist Chapel was in need of expensive repairs and thoughts were turned as to how the money could be raised.

'Johnny' James came up with the idea of a 24 hour sponsored Table Tennis Marathon in the Chapel Hall. Most people laughed and said we would never do it – that was just the incentive we needed to spur us on!

Teams of two were recruited which consisted of:-

Johnny James and son, Barry

Barbara James and Elizabeth Green

Len Michell and Lambert Perry (Sandy Banks worker)

Cyril Thomas (Barbara's Dad) and Bert Haigh (Council Surveyor)

Johnny spent some weeks gathering sponsors and a plan was formulated. Each pair would play for three, two hour sessions with six hours rest between each. Rosemary was only ten weeks old so my playing time had to be worked around 'feeding times'!

Play started at 6 p.m. on a Friday in early September with a handful of sceptical spectators. Mr. Steve Ottery recorded the scores for every game.

As the final game ended at 6 p.m. on the Saturday, the Hall was full of people who were amazed at the achievement.

Over £100.00 was raised which, in 1970, was a good amount towards the costs of the organ repairs. (*Approx. £1,500 today.*)

Aching muscles followed but it really was a lot of fun!

*Barbara James*

## Thoughts about our Young People

During the second long lockdown which began on January 5<sup>th</sup>, I have found myself thinking more and more about our young people all across the country.

While fully recognising that for some there will have been genuine mental health issues, I believe government and society in general must consider the negative messages being relayed to our children and young folk via the media.

I was recently forwarded the simple script below, which sums up my personal view, and I trust is the view of all those working in schools and colleges now that they are open again. It has been good to hear teachers speaking with enthusiasm about welcoming their pupils back, and noting the efforts made to make it a positive return.

Let us pray for young people's happiness and positive attitudes, so they may move forward into adulthood with the strength of character to face the way ahead.

*Don't tell me I'm behind,  
Don't tell me I'll be held back for ever,  
Don't tell me I need longer at school,  
Don't tell me I'm lost.*

*Tell me you'll help me,  
Tell me you believe in me,  
Tell me we'll do it together,*

*Yours sincerely,  
The children.*

*Heather Terry*

**Songs of Glory** ..... *by William J. Reynolds*

Saviour, Thy dying love Thou gavest me,  
Nor should I ought withhold,  
My Lord, from Thee;  
In love my soul would bow,  
My heart fulfil its vow,  
Some offering bring Thee now,  
Something for Thee.

At the blest mercy-seat  
Pleading for me,  
My feeble faith looks up,  
Jesus, to Thee;  
Help me the cross to bear,  
Thy wondrous love declare,  
Some song to raise, or prayer –  
Something for Thee.

Give me a faithful heart,  
Likeness to Thee,  
That each departing day  
Henceforth may see  
Some work of love begun,  
Some deed of kindness done,  
Some wanderer sought and won –  
Something for Thee.

All that I am and have,  
Thy gifts so free,  
In joy, in grief through life,  
O Lord, for Thee.  
And when Thy face I see,  
My ransomed soul shall be  
Through all eternity,  
Something for Thee.

Sylvanus Dryden Phelps, author of this hymn, was educated at Brown University and Yale Divinity School. Ordained to the Baptist ministry, he served for thirty years as a pastor at two churches, one in Connecticut and one in Rhode Island. Later he became editor of a religious journal, *The Christian Secretary*. His poem appeared in this journal in 1864. Phelps submitted it to Robert Lowry and Lowry composed the music. The words and music first appeared together in 1871.

On Phelps' seventieth birthday he received a letter from Lowry saying, "it is worth living seventy years even if nothing comes of it but one such hymn as 'Saviour, Thy Dying Love.'

Over the years Phelps wrote quite a number of hymns on various subjects, but only this one remains in our hymnals.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Lord, keep our care for money from turning into greed. Help us to use it wisely to meet each others need. For whether poor or wealthy, we have so much to share and open hearted giving will show Your loving care.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Jesus excluded no one. He built bridges among people; they gained new life and a new world came into being. Not a single grace held back. All included.

*Revd. Richard Teal  
President of the Methodist Conference*

## **Prayer Focus - Sampling the Prayer Feast.....**

By Chris Webb, writing in 'Magnet' magazine.

As a child my packed lunch for school was almost always the same jam sandwich, crisps and an apple. It did the job but as I got older I discovered just how limited and, frankly, boring that was! I often meet people who have a similar diet of prayer; always the same spiritual jam sandwich. Yet there are so many nourishing varieties of prayer!

### **Starter (need):**

The Bible can be holy ground for us, a place to meet with God prayerfully. Those who practice *lectio divina* (sacred reading) slowly and meditatively read short passages of scripture, turning them into fuel for prayer. Others pray the psalms daily, perhaps simply using one every morning for inspiration or drawing on the rich tradition of the *Daily Office*. Some find daily reading notes to be fruitful food for both thought and prayer.

### **Main Course (listen):**

Music, of course, helps many people to pray. For some, it is enough to listen to "songs, and hymns and spiritual songs" (Ephesians 5:19) on the radio or online; others often take joy in offering their own voice in song. Instrumental music alone, whether heard or played, has the power to draw us into the presence of the Divine.

### **Dessert (see):**

The visual arts can be a powerful means of prayer. Many Christians have discovered the arresting depth of praying with icons, while for others the soaring majesty of a beautiful cathedral or the humble simplicity of a country chapel can become "none other than the house of God .... The gate of heaven" (Genesis 28:17). Of course, our own art can be an expression of prayer, whether painting or sculpture, embroidery or photography.

## **Coffee (move):**

Prayer can be deeply physical. C. S. Lewis describes human beings as “amphibians ....half spirit and half animal,” reminding us that our spiritual life is rooted in the material world around us. So some find using prayer beads or rosaries helpful, while others have a holding cross to focus their attention. There are those who ‘prayer walk’ through their neighbourhood and some who meditate as they pace round a labyrinth. Of course, there are people whose joy in God can only be spoken as a dance!

Prayer is a great and varied feast which we are invited to enjoy with God.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Prayer is a plant, the seed of which is sown in the heart of every Christian.

If it is well cultivated and nourished it will produce fruit, but if neglected, it will wither and die.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

## **Giving**

On St. Mary’s the offerings for January amounted to £653.00 and in February £740.00.

These amounts are lower than usual but the expenses remain high. If you usually give to the Church, will you, please, consider continuing to do so.

*Sue Williams, Treasurer*

## **Rubbing Together .....**

From Nick Fawcett's book 'Daily Prayer 2'

*Iron can be used to sharpen iron; likewise one person helps to hone the character of another.*

*Proverbs 27:17*

Have you ever wondered what it is that makes the stones on the beach so round and smooth? They didn't start that way; far from it. Their gentle, almost welcoming contours are down to the sea remorselessly pounding them against each other, day in day out; a process that, over the course of time, transforms coarse and angular chunks of rock into innocent pebbles. Such is the ocean's power to remove rough edges and even a jagged shard of glass can be transformed in just a few months from a hazard to a child's plaything. But, of course, the water alone doesn't do this; it's only when rocks and stones rub up against others that change really starts to happen.

We, too, need the company of others if we're to be rounded individuals. Each of us has our rough edges, our quirks and flaws – they're part of being human. But those are kept in check by interacting with others. We learn from their reaction just as they do from ours; we profit from exposure to experiences, ideas, questions and suggestions different from our own. Without such outside influences to help shape us we would end up eccentric at best, but more likely opinionated, misguided and impossible to live with. 'No man is an island' said the poet John Donne, and at least part of what he had in mind is this need we all have to rub shoulders with other people if we're to develop into well-adjusted social individuals.

That's as important for Christians as for anyone. We need to interact with others, and I don't just mean other Christians. Unless we are involved with the wider world, relating to those of other faiths and none, our horizons will inevitably be narrowed and the relevance of our discipleship diminished. Make time for others, both for their sake and yours.



*Ask yourself:*

Do you mix with other Christians as often as you should? Do you mix with non-Christians? How much opportunity do you give for the rough edges in your life and faith to be smoothed by interacting with others?

*Pray:*

Loving God, I think sometimes I can get by on my own, but of course, I can't. I need people in all kinds of ways, not least to help fashion me into a better-balanced individual. Help me then, to be more open to others, more ready to listen and learn, more willing to consider other points of view. Challenge my preconceptions, broaden my horizons, soften my idiosyncrasies and correct my faults so that I may become more fully the person you would have me be.

*Remember:*

Live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love ..... Be kind and compassionate, forgiving each other, just as in Christ, God forgave you.

*Ephesians 4:1, 2, 32*

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A very sick man turned to his doctor as he was leaving the surgery after paying a visit, and said, 'Doctor, I am afraid to die. Tell me what lies on the other side.'

Very quietly the doctor said, "To be truthful, I don't know." "You don't know! you, a Christian man, and you don't know what's on the other side?"

The doctor was holding the handle of the surgery door, on the other side of which came a sound of scratching and whining and as he opened the door a dog sprang into the room and leapt onto the doctor with an eager show of gladness.

Turning to his patient, the doctor said, "Did you notice my dog? He's never been in this room before. He didn't know what was inside. He knew nothing except that his master was in here and when the door opened he sprang in without fear.

I know little of what is on the other side of death, but I do know one thing: I know my Master is there, and that is enough for me. When that door opens, I shall pass through with no fear but with gladness."

~~~~~.

Children's Letters to God

Dear God,

I bet it is very hard for you to love all of everybody in the whole world. There are only four people in our family and I can never do it.

Dear God,

Maybe Cain and Abel would not kill each other so much if they had their own rooms. It works with my brother.

My Saviour First of All

When my life work is ended and I cross the swelling tide,
When the bright and glorious morning I shall see;
I shall know my Redeemer when I reach the other side,
And His smile will be the first to welcome me.

*Chorus: I shall know Him, I shall know Him,
And redeemed by His side I shall stand.
I shall know Him, I shall know Him
By the print of the nails in His hands.*

Oh, the soul thrilling rapture when I view His blessed face,
And the lustre of His kindly beaming eye;
How my full heart will praise Him for the mercy, love and grace
That prepared for me a mansion in the sky.

Oh, the dear ones in glory how they beckon me to come
And our parting at the river I recall;
To the sweet vales of Eden they will sing my welcome home,
But I long to see my Saviour first of all.

Through the gates to the City in a robe of spotless white,
He will lead me where no tears will ever fall;
In the glad song of ages I shall mingle with delight;
But I long to see my Saviour first of all.

The Redemption Hymnal

*Written by Fanny Crosby who was blind but was
very sure that she would see her Saviour on entering Heaven.*

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Thank you, Father, that your power is greater than any storm
on my horizon.

Our Daily Bread.

From the Manse Window

By Revd. Susan Sarapuk writing in 'People's Friend'

On a Wednesday morning I used to go to church, then take a leisurely walk with the dog before getting on with some writing. But recently I've picked up a part-time job and now I have a quick coffee after the service and then dash home to walk the dog before rushing out of the door at one-thirty sharp.

It's a shock to the system after working from my desk for ten years. Many of us have busy lives and often things can overwhelm us.

I remember when I was working full time and didn't know what to do next because there was so much on the to-do list. Often me-time suffered, but mostly it was time with God. Arrow prayers became standard and there was little time to read the Bible.

We know the story of sisters Mary and Martha – how Martha rushed around, seeing to guests, while Mary sat at Jesus' feet, listening to him. When Martha remonstrated, Jesus told her that she was anxious about many things but only one thing was important. Stuff had to be done, of course; we all have commitments. But Mary chose to forget about some of that. Jesus was there and she wasn't going to pass up the chance to sit and listen to him. She didn't allow herself to be put off by the idea that she should be in the kitchen instead of sitting with the men.

When Peter, James and John went up the mountain with Jesus and saw him transfigured alongside Moses and Elijah they heard a voice. "This is my son. Listen to him." "He who has ears to hear, let him hear," Jesus often said after a parable.

How often in our church do we have meetings to talk about stuff and to decide what to do, instead of listening to what the Spirit is saying and being guided by him? Martha was frazzled and so she became impatient. She thought she knew what needed to be done and nobody was helping her to do it. She was annoyed and so she told Jesus what he should be doing about it; "Tell my

sister to help me!" We can't tell God what to do; we have to listen and get in line with what he's already doing.

So, don't be overwhelmed by the many things that need to be done. One thing is necessary for our peace and our wellbeing. Take time out to sit at the feet of Jesus and listen to him. "Come to me, all you who are weary and heavy-laden and I will give you rest," he invites us.

Can you find that moment in the day, a little patch of time, when you sit at the feet of Jesus and let him take over? It's not just a good idea – it's essential.

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Dates for the Diary:

**CIRCUIT MEETING – Thurs. 20th May, 1.30 p.m.
St. Mary's Chapel.**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2021

As you will be aware, I postponed the World Day of Prayer worship scheduled for March 5th because of the situation with Covid.

I am now intending to hold the service prepared by the women of Venuatu on **Friday 2nd July at 2.00 p.m.** in St. Mary's Methodist Chapel. A **planning meeting** will be held in the Chapel at **2.00 p.m. on Tuesday 22nd June.** By then we trust all Covid restrictions will have been lifted, and the elderly and vulnerable will have had their second vaccination.

I very much hope that those of you who are interested in participating in the service can come along to the planning meeting and others will join us on **2nd July** to share worship. All are most welcome.

I will include any necessary updates to these plans in the June/July issue of 'In Touch.' It would be good to be able to tell you that we can, once again, sing!

Heather Terry

**Written by a student in a Methodist School in
Western Super Mare as part of work for
'Well-being week'**

- F**ind compassion and understanding
- O**pen your heart and share with others
- R**each out to others to heal their troubled minds
- G**ive everyone a chance to make up for their mistakes
- I**nside no one is perfect
- V**engeance will always make you feel sad
- E**very time you forgive you mend another heart
- N**ever too late to ask for forgiveness
- E**very day is a new day
- S**aying 'sorry' has the power to change everything
- S**haring is caring

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Every time you smile at someone it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing.

Mother Theresa

Keep Driving

One day a young lady was driving along with her father. They came upon a storm. The young lady asked her father what should she do, he said "keep driving." Cars began to pull over to the side; the storm was getting worse. "What should I do?" the young lady asked again, "Keep driving" her father replied. A little further on she noticed that eighteen wheelers were pulling over. She told her Dad, "I must pull over as I can hardly see ahead. It is terrible out here, everyone is pulling over." Her father told her not to give up, just keep driving.

Now the storm was terrible but the young lady never stopped driving and soon she could see a little clearer. After a couple of miles she was on dry land and the sun was out. Her father said, "Now, pull over and get out." She said "but why now?" He said, "Get out and look back at all the people that gave up and are still in the storm. You never gave up and now your storm is over."

This is a testimony for anyone who is going through a difficult time. Just because everyone else, even the ones that appear to be the largest and strongest, gives up, you don't have to because, if you keep going, on ahead your storm will soon be over and the sun will shine upon your face again.

You are blessed beyond anything you can ask or imagine.
Never give up for God will never give up on you.
Just put your trust and hope in God.

Contributed by Revd. Michael Pullan

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Like Noah, concentrate on what God has given you to do and
leave the rest to God.

Genesis 7

The History of St. Mary's Methodist Church

Bible Christians arrived in the islands and began preaching from the Bishop and Wolf Inn. The first chapel was built on Church Street in Hugh Town around 1836 and is now used as the Masonic Hall.

The current chapel was built at a cost of around £1,300 between 1899 and 1900 to the designs of the architect A. J. Trenear. The foundation stone was laid on Thursday 20th April 1899 in the presence of Revd. W. B. Lark, President of the Bible Christian Conference.

The Governor of the islands, T. A. Dorrien-Smith, agreed to take the old chapel which adjoined St. Mary's Girls' School and build a new Sunday school adjoining the chapel.

Alfred Trenear was contracted for carpentering, painting and glazing at £746 and Messrs. John Ellis & Son were contracted for the masonry and plastering at £444. Local farmers carted stone from the quarry free of charge. The chapel was built to seat 350 people, 198 on the ground floor and 152 in the gallery.

George Woodcock of Church Street, St. Mary's laid the principal foundation stone; Jabez Gibson of St. Martin's laid the Visitors stone; Miss Ada Jenkins of St. Mary's laid a stone on behalf of the Christian Endeavour and Norman and George Roberts laid the Sunday school stone.

In the 1930's it merged with the Wesleyan Methodist Church and the rostrum and communion rail were moved from the Wesleyan chapel and installed in the Church Street chapel. The current communion rail was a gift from the Ridsdale family in memory of their parents/grandparents, Paul and Beryl, who for many years were faithful members of the congregation.

The pipe organ by Hele and Company of Plymouth was installed in 1910.

Editorial Team

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This is the Circuit magazine and it needs your contributions to make it informative and interesting. Please send news, notice of events with dates etc. and personal reflections to the editor by 15th of the month. Articles from our mainland readers are always welcome.

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.

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BIRTHDAYS

April

Gwen Clarkson, Mary Gibbs, Barbara Hasler, Stephen Morris, Jenny Nightingale, Alex Schwartz, Aurelia Schwartz

May

Mervyn Bird, Andy Brooks, Michael Jenkins, Nick Jenkins, Fraser Clark

Happy Birthday and every blessing on your special day.

PRAYER CHAIN

Please contact Revd. Michael Pullan (422406) who will pass on the prayer request to the first name in each of the groups.

Mervyn & Stephanie Bird **423117**
Sue Williams 422605

Claire Jenkins **423546**
Margaret Snowball 422896
Sonia Crompton 422854
Jean Duncan 422527

Len & Sylvia Michell **422409**
Pamela Thomas 423115
June Lethbridge 422404

Beryl Read **422977**
Gwen Clarkson 423106
Barbara James 422674

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 Revd. Michael Pullan on 422406.

We thank God that we can be channels of his grace.

May Services

St. Mary's - In the Chapel

| | | |
|------------------|------|--|
| 2 nd | 1030 | Revd. Michael Pullan |
| 9 th | 1030 | Revd. Michael Pullan – <i>Holy Communion</i> |
| 16 th | 1030 | Revd. Stephen Radford |
| 23 rd | 1030 | Revd. Michael Pullan – Pentecost |
| 30 th | 1030 | Revd. Michael Pullan – Trinity |

St. Martin's

| | | |
|------------------|------|--|
| 2 nd | 1100 | Mr. Christopher Savill |
| 9 th | 1500 | Revd. Michael Pullan |
| 16 th | 1100 | Revd. Michael Pullan – <i>Holy Communion</i> |
| 23 rd | 1500 | Revd. Michael Pullan – Pentecost |
| 30 th | 1800 | Revd. Michael Pullan – Trinity |

***ALL SERVICES SUBJECT TO POSSIBLE CHANGE
According to COVID restrictions***

April Services

St. Mary's - In the Chapel

| | | |
|------------------|------|---|
| 2 nd | 1030 | Revd. Michael Pullan – Good Friday |
| 4 th | 1030 | Revd. Michael Pullan – Easter Day
<i>Holy Communion</i> |
| 11 th | 1030 | Revd. Michael Pullan |
| 18 th | 1030 | Mrs. Beryl Read |
| 25 th | 1030 | Revd. Michael Pullan |

St. Martin's

| | | |
|------------------|------|---|
| 4 th | 1500 | Revd. Michael Pullan – Easter Day
<i>Holy Communion</i> |
| 11 th | 1500 | Revd. Michael Pullan |
| 18 th | 1100 | Revd. Michael Pullan |
| 25 th | 1500 | Revd. Michael Pullan |

**ALL SERVICES SUBJECT TO POSSIBLE CHANGE
According to COVID restrictions**