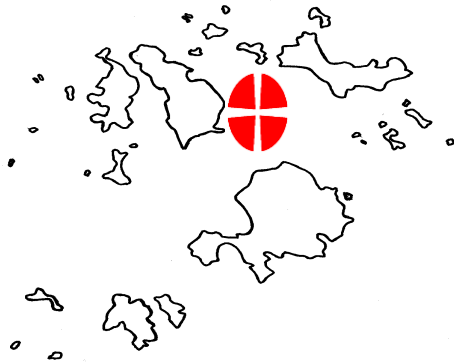


Isles of Scilly



In Touch

October
2016

Letter from the Manse



As we left the chapel on Sunday morning after the Harvest Festival service the organ was playing “The Heaven’s are telling the glory of God”, a wonderful and stirring piece of music expressing the wonder we often feel as we look around us at the natural world. Certainly here in this beautiful place where we can look into the night sky and see stars in a way that’s impossible on the light polluted mainland, it does make me catch my breath in amazement.

Then I turn on the television and see the pictures from ‘deep space’ of planets and galaxies and stars with minute, but vital spaces between them and we can even hear the ‘singing of the spheres’. Truly a glorious world.

Then the pictures on the news move on and from the glory we turn to other things and the chaos of warfare, desperate people seeking safety, political and religious divisions and so the world begins to take on a different face. Even in a place of beauty and peace we know sadness and confusion.

My husband, John, and I have been asked to come and serve you, through the Methodist church, for one year and it’s a real privilege to be with you. We thank you for the warmth of your welcome and acceptance of us; we look forward to our time together. However I have to ask myself what it is that the church (any church) and I as a minister have to offer in this incredible world where joy and sorrow, beauty and ugliness, great sacrifice and great selfishness are so often intertwined? I have to admit that we, the church and church people often get things wrong - because we are human and can make mistakes.

So I don't offer THE CHURCH just as an establishment. I can only offer what I have known from personal experience in times of sorrow and joy; times of hope and despair, times of gain and loss. In every time I've found the friendship, wisdom and presence of Jesus has been the fixed point and guiding principle of my life. he came to earth to serve so that everyone could know the truth that everyone is important to and loved by God. And, as He serves others, I serve Him, through the church of which He's made me a minister. We Methodists love singing - both old hymns and new! One of the old writers said "Let me commend my Saviour to you, I set to my seal that Jesus is true," and while I have a computer rather than "a seal" I would say the same. So, I thank you for allowing us to come and live here, and all I can offer is myself - for Jesus' sake.

Jane X

The reality of Jesus

Overwhelmed by the reality of Jesus
life changes,
begins afresh
in an altogether different dimension.

Overwhelmed by the reality of Jesus
there is purpose
and energy and a calling
to leave the comfortable known-space
to go in joy and brave obedience
wherever He sends.

Overwhelmed by the risen
and real and living Lord Jesus,
everything is possible in our "Yes!"

Daphne Kitching



News from St Martin's

This month has been an interesting blend of local preachers who have ably bridged the gap after Charlie left and before Jane arrived.

We were so pleased to welcome Rev Jane Wilcock back, and her first service with us was our Harvest Festival. The chapel looked wonderful, as usual, and it was good to welcome family and friends to our traditional harvest service. Our Monday celebrations were sadly not so well attended.

A big thank you to Chris Savill who has decided to retire. He has been our very able, hard working, auctioneer for over 30 years, so well supported by wife Chris and the recorders. Alan and Jackie. Quite a marathon, and much appreciated. There was an amazing selection of produce, from pickles to lobsters, and the pasties for supper were very tasty.

We hope this important fund-raiser can continue, so are looking for someone with a commanding voice and a sense of humour! This is the time of the year when many of us are looking forward to a break, after the harvests are all 'safely gathered in'.

Val Thomas

Harvest Festival at St Mary's

This year's Harvest Festival was held in the Chapel on Sunday 18th September. It was a joyous occasion as brothers and sisters from the Parish Church and many visitors joined in this celebration of God's goodness and loving kindness to us all. The Rev. Jane Willcock led the service with lesson readers from the Parish Church.

She reminded us of the occasion of the feeding of the five thousand and Jesus's command to his disciples " You yourselves give them something to eat" A timely reminder that the responsibility for caring for others needs lies upon our shoulders. As on that day the little that was given was multiplied and so it will be with our gifts.

Praise God for the harvest of farm and of field,
Praise God for the people who gather their yield,
The long hours of labour, the skills of a team,
The patience of science, the power of machine

Praise God for the Harvest that's sent from afar,
From Market and harbour, from tropical shore'
Food packed and transported, and planted and grown
By God given neighbours, unseen and unknown.

Praise God for the harvest, which comes from the ground,
By drill or by mineshaft, by opencast mound;
For oil and for iron, for copper and coal,
Praise God, who in love has provided them all.

Praise God , for the harvest of science and skill.
The urge to discover, create and fulfil;
For all new inventions that promise to gain
A future more hopeful, a world more humane.

Praise God, for the harvest of conflict and love,
For leaders and peoples who struggle and serve
To conquer oppression, earth plenty increase,
And Gather God's harvest of justice and peace

September Synod.

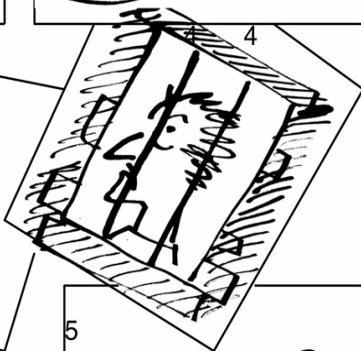
It was a great blessing to be present at the Autumn Synod and several articles in this magazine reflect the work being done by those who spoke at the Synod. **Rev. Steve Wild** spoke about his year as President of Conference and thanked everyone for their prayers for him and Laura during a very busy year. He thanked everyone who had taken on extra duties during this time especially thanking Danny Reid, Carol Holmes and Alison Gill (who had arranged all his travel). He has returned full of ideas from observing many instances of outreach to communities. Rev. Steve spoke of the need to use modern means of communication e.g. Facebook to reach people with the good news that God loves everybody. He certainly shared his time as President to many through this medium.

He recalled seeing one striking image of a sculpture, on the wall of Toxteth Methodist Church, of Christ breaking out of the Church. An image to remind us that Christ's work is not to be confined to our buildings but in the communities in which we live. "What is the Spirit saying to our churches, let's listen to our communities and be prepared to live sacrificially so that the Gospel is heard by many".

Rev Dr. Andy Dye spoke of the need to support refugees, 1 in every 113 people in the world who are displaced. The total being 65 million.

The young people from Truro Methodist Church had set up a compound in which they were enclosed for the day and dependant on the goodwill of passers by to provide them with food and shelter. He urged us to support All We Can - and the young people outside.

Do I have to keep on forgiving?



Do I ever get to a place when I can stop forgiving? Not according to Jesus! His early followers hoped there might be a cut-off point - maybe after forgiving seven times. But no Jesus said - you must forgive 70 times seven! In other words keep forgiving for ever. He told a story about a King who forgave his servant, only for that servant to refuse to forgive a fellow-servant - and throw him in jail. The King felt betrayed so he threw the first servant in jail! And that's what happens when we don't forgive - we end up in a jail of our own making! **How about you? Are you a good forgiver?** Read more in Matthew 18: 21-25.





Smile Lines

Three little boys were bragging about how tough they were. "I'm so tough," said the first boy, "that I can wear out a pair of shoes in a week." "Well," said the second little boy, "I'm so tough, I can wear out a pair of jeans in a day."

"That's nothing," said the third boy. "When my parents take me to see my grandma and grandpa, I can wear them out in just one hour."

Not any more

Two young tourists went into a Quaker Guest house in Lakeland. As they were strangers, the warden approached them and asked; 'Are you Friends?' The answer came back politely, 'Oh no, not now, we are married.'

Oddest

The parish magazine was reporting on a recent parish away-day at the seaside. It said: 'The results of our competition for the oddest item found on the beach were: First prize: Mrs Wainwright; second prize: The Vicar; and third prize, Mr Simpson.'

Who is God?

During a youth service, the minister asked if anyone could tell her who God is. One youngster waved a hand, and ventured: "Isn't God the man who saves the Queen?"



The Arthur Rank Centre

A report was given to the Synod by Mr Gerry Marshall about the work of the Arthur Rank Centre based at Stoneleigh Warwickshire,. I have taken much of the following information from their website.
(M.R.Ed.)

The ARC was set up by the Churches (with partners) in 1972 and today is their ecumenical rural resources unit, and the home of the National Rural Officers.

The ARC's mission is to lead the Christian churches in their efforts to improve the quality of life of those living and working in rural communities and to develop greater understanding and links between rural and urban communities, and between different faith groups.

Our work, which supports Christian mission and ministry in the countryside in a variety of ways, focuses on serving the practical, educational and spiritual needs of churches in rural communities which must contend (more now than ever) with poor resourcing, thinly spread leadership, lack of volunteers and a general lack of appropriate information, to live, worship and grow.

This work currently includes the following initiatives:

- Providing free practical resources for church projects, worship materials, information on rural issues, case studies and much more at arthurrankcentre.org.uk.

- Learning for lay and ordained people through practical courses, the Centre for Studies in Rural Ministry, and the work of the National Rural Officers.
- Helping the church to engage with the wider community and expand participation, with a scheme to encourage and support social entrepreneurship.
- Providing ordinands from urban or suburban backgrounds with learning opportunities to do with rural ministry.
- Exploring and developing alternative models of ministry, including 'local collaborative ministry'.
- Supporting community outreach by providing easy-to-use online toolkits for post offices and community shops in church buildings.

Once again delegates to Synod were reminded of the great time of change which we are living through and that in future change will be even more rapid. A speaker at Fresh expressions Michael Volland states that we need courage, ability, energy, innovation and vision to proclaim the faith afresh. We need to work with community, taking risks but realising that the fruit of such work will be from God and not us, though our nurture of others through different expression of church is vital. The need for sacrificial love in accepting new ideas is vital

A workshop was held where we were asked to identify who was missing from our worship and then we heard of places where these groups were coming to worship again often through activities like Messy Church, Café Church and Mum's Alpha. Many of which were arranged on a weekday. Worship on other days of the week provided those with children, whose out of school activities often take place on Sunday mornings, with the opportunity to worship.

Observations on the Christian pilgrimage

The fruit of the Spirit is not push, drive, climb, grasp or trample....
Life is more than a climb to the top of the heap.

Richard J Foster

He who passively accepts evil is as much involved in it as he who helps to perpetrate it.

Martin Luther King

Genuine art was never created for its own sake, it was always a means of worship, an affirmation of belief, an aspiration pointing beyond itself. The beauty of art is reflected beauty.

Thomas Molnar

Your Rock is Christ, and it is not the Rock which ebbs and flows,
but your sea.

Samuel Rutherford

No one is so much alone in the universe as a denier of God.

Johann Richter

Beauty is God's handwriting.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

There is a living God. He has spoken in the Bible. He means what He says and will do all He has promised.

J Hudson Taylor

You can't build a church with stumbling blocks.

Fred Beck

Be united with other Christians. A wall with loose bricks is not good. The bricks must be cemented together. Corrie ten Boom

The church is a workshop, not a dormitory.

Alexander MacLaren

Hymn singing then and now It is always controversial when a new hymn book is produced and the cost of buying seems extremely daunting. This cartoon illustrates the trend for everyone to have smart phones or tablets on which you can download copies of the Bible and You Tube videos of praise. There is certainly a place for new hymns and certainly for new tunes, recently I was with youngish worshippers and they remarked that the hymns I chose had awful tunes and there was I thinking how good they were! The new Methodist Hymn book *Singing the Faith* is a treasure of hymns old and new, containing hymns which are relevant to the problems of today and appealing for God's help in our solving of them. We talk a lot about sacrificial love but are we prepared to move on and sing hymns and songs which mean something to the younger generation? Mary Ratcliffe



Thanks to technology, replacing the worn-out hymn books didn't cost a penny



A lady had recently become a Christian and been baptised. Curious, one of her colleagues at work asked her what it was like to be a Christian.

The lady was caught off guard and didn't know how to answer. Then she saw the office 'jack-o'-lantern' on a nearby desk and blurted: "Well, it's like being a pumpkinkin."

Her colleague asked her to explain that one. And so she said: "Well, God picks you from the patch and brings you in and washes off all the dirt on the outside that you got from being around all the other pumpkins.

"Then He cuts off the top and takes all the yucky stuff out from inside you. He removes all those seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc.

"Then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside of you to shine for all to see.

"It is our choice to either stay outside and rot on the vine or come inside and be something new and bright."

Are you something new and bright? Will you be smiling today, and shining with His light?

Learn to ‘wait well’ for things

‘My future is in Your hands...’

In her helpful book: *When, God, When?* Joyce Meyer writes: “God has taught me to keep living the life I now have, while I am waiting for the things that are in my heart to come to pass. We can become so intent on trying to birth the next things that we neither enjoy nor take care of the things at hand. I had a vision from God ten years before I began to see it fulfilled. During those years, I believe I missed a lot of joy trying to give it birth outside of God’s timing.”

Learn to enjoy where you are, while you’re waiting to get to where you want to be. After all, all your life you will spend more time waiting than you will receiving. And when you receive what you’re waiting for now – you’ll begin waiting for something else. That’s life! If we don’t learn to ‘wait well’, we’ll live with endless frustration.

Waiting well is what will deliver our dream. Listen: “in due season we shall reap, if we faint not” (Gal. 6:9). “Due season” is when God knows we’re ready, not when we think we are. He has set appointments to accomplish certain things in our life, so we might as well settle down and wait patiently, because that’s when it will happen – and not before.

God knows what you need, He knows when you need it and He knows how to get it to you. All He asks you to do is trust him.

From UCB ‘Word for Today’ Have a word with Sonia if you would like a copy



Jamie Lee the South West representative spoke at the Autumn meeting of the Cornwall District Methodist Synod about the work they are doing to help disadvantaged children throughout the District.

Kernow Young Carers offers support and activities throughout the year to provide the young carers with a much needed break from caring and additional help. There are 850 children caring for a parent or sibling in Cornwall. The youngest of these carers is only four years of age.

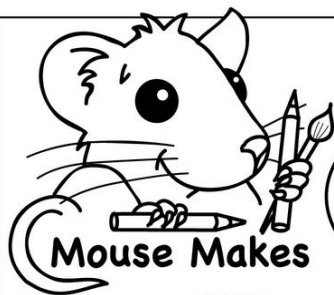
S.P.A.C.E. These are services that support disabled young people in their own homes or to access their local community and have fun can make a real difference to them.

The goal is to ensure disabled children have the same opportunities in life as their non-disabled peers. Our community-based services do just that. They support children to make and meet friends, connect with their communities and enjoy new opportunities and experiences.

We encourage children to be ambitious about what they want to do and work with them to make their wishes a reality. The approach is about being inclusive, flexible and, above all, fun. If you have a Direct Payment or Personal Budget we can offer you services tailored to your individual needs.

Action for Children also support families in difficulties and provide meeting places for separated families so that parents can spend time with their children in a loving and safe environment.

Gwen Clarkson thanks everyone for their generous donations for the blackberries. We give thanks that we support Action for Children.



WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

GOD'S WORD IS...

Look up the bible verse and fill in the blanks.

Your _____ is a _____ for my
_____ and a _____ for my _____

Psalm 119:105



BLESSING COMES FROM...

Cross out every second letter to read the bible verse.

"BALEEYSYPESDV ADREEM TKHCOUSMED
WAHROS HPEKAMRS TWHAU WHOGREDN
ATNODL OABLEPYW IFTO"

Lpurkdes 11:28



WISDOM COMES FROM...

Change the backwards words to read the right way.

"For the Lord gives wisdom;
from His mouth come knowledge
and understanding."

Proverbs 2:6



Is not my _____ like
_____ declares the Lord, and
like a _____ that breaks a
_____ to pieces?

Jeremiah 23:29



UNDERSTANDING COMES FROM...

Change each letter to the letter **after** it in the alphabet.

SGD SDZBGHMF NE XNTQ VNQC
FHU DR KHFGS RN DUDM SGD
RHLOKD TMCDQRSZMC

Orzkl 119:130



Birthdays in October

Happy Birthday to you,
May God Bless you today and every day.

Rodney Ashford, Kathy Banfield, Ann Farr, Sonia Crompton,
Joy Morris, Derek Perkins, Maria Tomlinson, Judy Williams,
Melanie Woodcock

Birthdays are times for remembering past times but we are called to live in the present. Giving thanks for all that is past and with hope that is all to come. May the Lord pour rich blessings on us all.

Thanks to www.parishpump.co.uk for the use of their material.

Editorial team Anne Gurr e.anne.gurr@gmail.com
Val Parker martinandval.parker@gmail.com
Mary Ratcliffe maryratcliffe@live.com

We do publish the magazine on line at Isles of Scilly Methodists, www.scillymethodists.co.uk, and also have a Facebook Page. St Mary's Methodist Church.

It is good to receive feedback about the articles in the magazine and we do appeal for contributions. Please could you let us have them by the 15th of the month preceding publication. Thank You.

St. Mary's

October 2nd

- 9.15 a.m. Rev Jane Willcock and Kim Watson
- 11.00 a.m. Barbara Hasler
- 4.00 p.m. Park House Rev Jane Willcock

October 9th

- 10.15 a.m. Len Michell and Beryl Read
- 6.00 p.m. Rev Jane Willcock

October 16th

- 9.15 a.m. Rev Jane Willcock and Sonia Crompton
- 11.00 a.m. Rev Jane Willcock
- 6.00 p.m. Rev Jane Willcock

October 23rd

- 9.15 a.m. Mary Ratcliffe and Mervyn Bird
- 11.00 a.m. Gordon Bird
- 6.00pm Rev. Jane Willcock

October 30th

- 9.15 a.m. Gordon Bird and Sonia Crompton
- 11.00 a.m. Mary Ratcliffe
- 6.00 p.m. Len Michell

St. Martin's

October 2nd

- 11.00 a.m. Mary Ratcliffe

October 9th

- 11.00 a.m. Rev Jane Willcock

October 16th

- 11.00 a.m. Gordon Bird

October 23rd

- 11.00 a.m. Rev Jane Willcock Holy Communion

October 30th

- 11.00 a.m. Len Michell