

January 2010 Issue No.86

Celebrating Who We Are

"Is the church more like a home or a shop?" This was the challenging opening of a three part sermon by Rev. Christina Le Moignan at St. Ouen on Sunday evening, December 6th as their 200th anniversary celebrations drew to a close. Of course it is a place where you find friendship and support like in a home. Yet it should also be like a shop, welcoming to all sorts of people and staffed by people who are enthusiastic and knowledgeable about its contents. A thought-provoking opening.

She then went on to describe us as first **people with a story**, the story of a God who sent his son Jesus to live and die and rise again as our Saviour, This was followed by reading from 1 Cor. 15, v.3-8, saying together the Song of Resurrection (H&P 830) and singing 'I know that my redeemer lives'

Then we are **people with standards**, a way of living set by the Beatitudes, which we read responsively, interspersed with words from Psalm 25 'Show us your ways, O Lord,, Teach us your paths'. We concluded this section by singing 'O Jesus I have promised'.

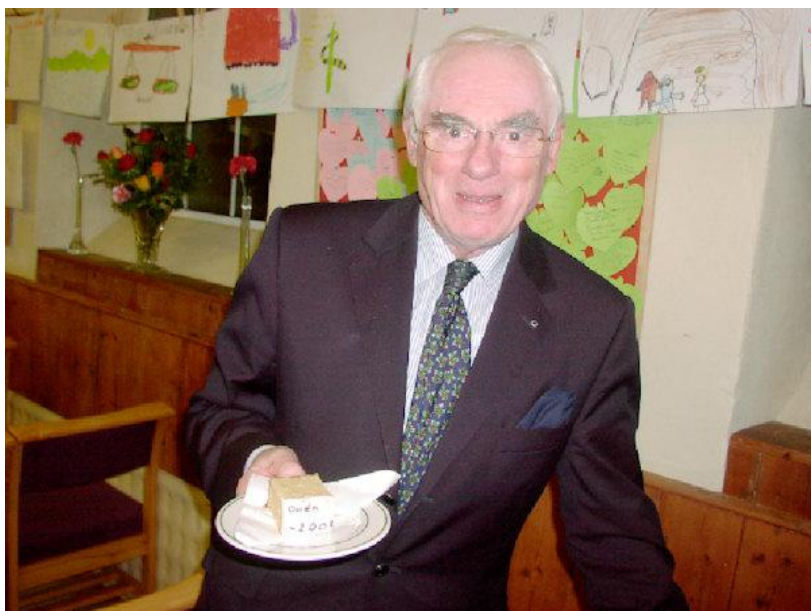
Finally we are a **people with stamina**, a word much loved by her mother, apparently, as she regretted its fading as she grew older. We are to reach out to those who are not like us but are still God's children. She used the image from Revelation 5 v. 6, of the slaughtered lamb still standing, for the sacrificial love we are to offer. We read some verses of the 'Te Deum' and sang Charles Wesley's great hymns, 'O for a thousand tongues to sing'.

After prayers of intercession, led by Rev Christine Legge we ended with another great Charles Wesley hymn, 'All praise to our redeeming Lord'

Rev Christina Le Moignan, is a past President of Conference who has family connections to Jersey and was specially invited to lead this Circuit service.



Christina and Christine cut the celebration cake after the service. It was enjoyed by the congregation with a cup of tea or coffee.



The former St. Ouen deputy, Ken Syvret had ' - 2009 ' on his piece of anniversary cake. He was one of many people from the community who had joined in some of special anniversary year events

Ed Le Quesne

St. Ouen 's news

In 2005 during the 24/7 prayer one of our members opened her bible at Isaiah 58 v.12 'Your people will rebuild what has long been in ruins, building again on the old foundations '. How God has honoured His promise (and some people wanted us to close). As we go forward in faith and excitement into our third century we know that God will continue to build this Church so that we may be a light shining brightly for Him.

Our bicentenary year has been a real celebration of faith, as the members worked together for the glory of God. We have welcomed new members and our Sunday School has increased wonderfully. Thanks to Mark Syvret and Nick Owen for refurbishing the rooms.

We have had a lot of fun with the quiz, the barn dance and the Sunday School outing, but the prayer labyrinth, Easter and Harvest services, flower festival and just recently our Church Anniversary celebrations have been a time of meaningful gathering. We celebrated the 175th anniversary of the Sunday School in November with two wonderful demonstrations by the children. The Church was packed with members, parents and old scholars and enjoyed Jesus telling the disciples to cast the net on the other side of the boat, and then the wedding in Cana. All the artefacts were made by Lloyd Le Gresley and we thank Lloyd and Grace for their hard work and dedication.

The actual opening of the Church was on December 3rd 1809. so in 2009 the Church was open between 10.30 and 12 noon and served coffee for anyone who popped in.

On Friday, December 4th we had a wonderful Rally in the Parish Hall. Over 100 people came to a buffet supper before enjoying the Rally led by the Rev Christine Legge. The Speaker was the immediate past President of Conference, the Rev Stephen Poxon, who came over for 24 hours for the occasion. What an inspiring speaker he is. Thanks to Nick and Joy Owen for making arrangements for his visit.

On Sunday, December 6th, we had our final celebrations attended by His Excellency the Lieut. Governor and Mrs. Ridgway in the morning. Christine led this service and the Rev. David Coote preached an inspiring sermon on 'The Methodist way '. Afterwards His Excellency and Elaine A 'Court, our oldest attending member cut a celebration cake made by one of our members. In the evening we had a [Circuit Service](#).

We thank Stephen and Christina for coming over specially for the events, and the representatives from each church and old scholars and friends for joining with us. Thank you to Christine for all her input and support throughout the year and to all our members who have worked so hard to make the year so meaningful for everyone. As we walk with the Lord into 2010 and beyond, we pray that He will continue to guide us into new mission and service for Him.

Finally, thank you to everyone who has prayed for us, supported and encouraged us and attended our various events. May we wish you all every blessing for the year ahead. **Valerie Remon**

Puppet Ministry Team at St. Aubin



St Aubin Puppet Ministry Team led a worship service recently with the theme 'animated creation.' The team (5 young people + 3 adults) worked really hard selecting suitable material from songs and scripts while other members made some really creative puppets and props to go with it. The team would love to be asked to perform it again as it is such a worthwhile message to young and old of how we each need to play a part in making the world a better place. If you would like to bring it to your church, please email lizlambotte@jerseymail.co.uk

KINETIC - leadership training for young people



Kinetic began with a residential at Bethlehem Methodist Church. The weekend was packed with both a mixture of theory and opportunities for the young people to lead in a variety of games. We explored what a leader might look like; if it is someone with certain characteristics or personality traits. Research points out 'the capacity to lead is rooted in virtually any individual,' but we sometimes think that God only uses people bubbling over with confidence or those who are particularly outgoing. We only have to look at the many characters from the Bible to realise that God chooses very ordinary people. Much fun is had with the young people leading various team games: minesweeper, nuclear reactor, scrabble as well as Ready, Steady Cook where both leaders and young people enjoy tasting the results. Already we are half way through the course with 12 young people signed up to complete the training course by March 2010.

Kinetic is led by five dedicated leaders as well as each young person having a mentor of their choice. We hope that this training will help young people gain in confidence, develop new skills and equip them into making their dreams become a reality.

Youthwork The Conference 2009

Six of us attended Youthwork The Conference in Eastbourne on Nov 20th to 22nd weekend and both Matthew and Eleanor have written about their experience.

A team of us (Liz, Kara, Chloe, Helen, Matthew and myself) from St Aubin's attended a Christian Youth work conference in Eastbourne recently. The theme of this year's conference was 'Transform- knowing the word, knowing the world and see the kingdom established in earth.' The Conference involved Bible teaching, lively times of worship, quality 'how to' sessions, hanging out with people of a similar mindset, prayer, and generally having a good time.

The main highlights included speeches from Mike Pilavachi and Jim Wallis, who spoke about Jesus and Big politics, as well as vibrant worship sessions with Ben Cantelon and Vicky Beeching (whose Albums are recommended)

We have all been challenged about the idea of discipleship and have come back with fresh ideas for the future of our youth at St Aubin's.

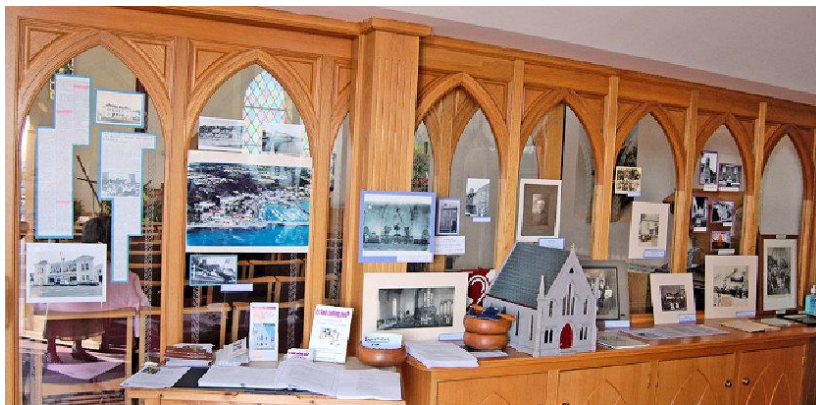
Eleanor Lambotte

This year's conference entitled 'Transform' was both interesting and informative. The worship was vibrant and modern and the speakers gave very good talks. The workshops I went to were:

'It's Not Rocket Science 'Or Is It ', 'Connecting With The Un-churched ' and 'Adolescence: Bodies, Brains And Behaviour '. These were all very good and I got a lot out of them. The hotel was great (much improved on last year's!) and in a nice location. Here's hoping next year's conference will be this good (or better!),

Matthew Speight

St Aubin Festival Weekend



During the St. Aubin Festival Weekend at the end of September St. Aubin Methodist Church shared in the theme 'Temps Passe '. This was a display of photos retrieved from many sources and shown in the entrance of St. Aubin Methodist Church. It was officially opened by Senator Sarah Ferguson. It was a fascinating display of so much information from the past years.



To link with this theme St. Aubin Methodist Church carried on the theme 'Temps Passe ' to their Harvest display. In the entrance flowers and vegetables surrounded a banner from VE day, a Red Cross parcel, war time soap and photos of the distribution of Red Cross parcels. Inside the church there were two old ploughs with a hand tool, a vrac fork even with some seaweed. A milk churn and batter pats, old cider bottles, a lobster pot and genuine tomato baskets including the tissue paper once used to wrap them. Also genuine vegetable baskets, a potato barrel and potato forks together with genuine Jersey potatoes and even some seed potatoes in their box getting ready for next year. To accompany these items were photos of people working on the farms and some of the tools that were used.

Surrounding these displays were lovely flowers, vegetables and fruit many not available in times past. This was a fitting opportunity to give thanks for times past but also the gift of God 's world around us.



Hundreds of people came in to look, over a hundred on Saturday afternoon alone, bringing back others to share the display. Thanks go to so many for their help in the displays including inside the church.

Barbara Coote

Recognition Service



Andrew Bird was recognised as a fully accredited local preacher at a Circuit service at St. Martin on Sunday November 22nd. Rev Graeme Halls led the service as David Coote was away.

Two preachers from Samares, where Andrew is a community worker, read the lessons. Alan Colback read Joshua 1 v.1-9, where Joshua is promised God's support as he leads the people into the Promised Land while Stephen Higginson read John 15 v.1 - 16, where Jesus declares that he is the true vine. Rev. Billy Slatter, who was Andrew's mentor, preached on the theme from John 15 v.16 'You did not choose me, I chose you and sent you out to produce fruit, the kind of fruit that will last' with amusing illustrations from playground games, picking teams. Preachers secretary Ed Le Quesne read the letter from the President, David Gamble, and Andrew was presented with an NIV bible.

Andrew thanked those who had encouraged him on the way, including his wife Monica and then we sang the hymn he had chosen, 'Great is thy faithfulness'

After thoughtful intercessions led by Christine Legge we finished with 'This, this is the God we adore'

Andrew is now preparing to offer himself as a candidate for the presbyteral ministry.

Ed Le Quesne

A letter from the Superintendent

Dear Friend

January, as many of you will know, has its roots in Roman mythology and Janus - the God of gates and doors, beginnings and endings. He is most often depicted as having two faces or heads, facing in opposite directions.

Politicians and not only politicians are said to have the capacity to face both ways. We prefer people to be single minded and consistent. We know where we are with them. I used to go and listen to Donald Soper on Tower Hill in extended lunchtimes when I was working with a building company in the City - that is before I candidated for the ministry. Soper was always predictable in his responses. A convinced socialist and pacifist and a man who could deal with matters of faith of pain and suffering with a clarity I have rarely met before or since. And he was quick-witted too. A man for some bizarre reason shouted out one day from the crowd, 'What about flying saucers ?' to which Soper responded 'I haven't time to deal with your domestic difficulties now!'

Earlier in life I was also influenced greatly by a youth club leader. I remember one particular incident when one Sunday we had a visit from a Dr Davy, of Mission House who told us that the Methodist Church was supporting the building of a hospital in the Ivory Coast. He looked up to the gallery and pointing from the huge rostrum of the Southall Central Hall said to us sitting in the back rows, 'What are you good for - £500 '. Remember this is c 1961. Afterwards we met as the youth group of about 24. 'We can't do it '. 'Never do it '. 'Far too much '. 'Oh yes ', said the youth club leader 'we can. £500 is possible but let's aim for the impossible. Let's aim for a £1,000 '. The majority of us voted to do so and within a year we raised over £1,200!

I guess now I am in my retirement year I am looking back more than I would otherwise do so. It would I think only be unhealthy if I was not equally excited by the future. But retirement and 'sitting down' as we quaintly say in the Methodist ministry does mark an ending of some sort. I am extremely thankful to God for people like Soper and Harry - the youth club leader who were unquestionably big influences on my life. Both had vision and both had a confidence in what God can do if we trust our lives to Him. I have met others like that on the journey and yes here in Jersey. Wouldn't it be wonderful if all of us lived our Christian lives as Amy Luce conducted the Holmchase Choir. Totally committed, fully involved, determined to the best possible job and equally determined to help others to do the same.

So as I look forward to what this new year will bring and my 'sitting down'. I give thanks to God for those who have shown me how life at its best can be lived and who have pointed me in the direction of Christ, without whom as far as I am concerned life would lack purpose and whose single minded determination to witness to God's love provides the basis of our Christian faith.

May 2010 be for all of us both an end and a beginning. And may 2010 be for us all another year to thank God for all that has been and an opportunity to trust Him for all that's to come.

Every Blessing

David Coote

Preachers meeting



Rev. Howard Mellor chats with John Perkins after a session for about 20 preachers and worship leaders on Sat. Oct. 17th at Bethlehem. His Bible study on the lesson for the first Sunday in Advent was found to be very helpful.

An evening session at Georgetown, open to the circuit, was felt not to be quite what we expected on the theme 'God still calls '. However all enjoyed the fish and chips, from the local chippie, eaten during the mid-evening break. We now look forward to a visit in February from Rev. Dr. Mark Wakelin, holding a seminar on Sat. Feb 27th at Bethlehem.

Ed Le Quesne



GOOD NEWS FROM THE BRIGADES

BB/GB Development Officer appointed

For some time now the circuit has been considering the future of Boys Brigade and Girls Brigade on the Island, and also the future of Les Freres. It was agreed that we should look to employ a development officer who could assess the situation as a whole, and help us to find a way forward in our work with children and young people. Following adverts in the JEP three people applied for the post and were interviewed. The unanimous view of the interview panel was that Stephanie Cormack-Dexter should be appointed. She is a part-time lecturer at Highlands College and also works with Mencap, teaching art. The appointment is for 18 hours per week. She will begin the appointment in February and we very much look forward to her working amongst us. There will be more about this appointment in the next edition of the Jersey Methodist.

Graeme Halls

Stophetraffik

A large audience assembled at St Helier Methodist Centre on November 20th to enjoy a concert of music and poetry on the theme of freedom given by young Jersey musicians, the [Jersey Festival Choir](#) and Beaulieu choir. Then Steve Chalke spoke powerfully about an illegal trade greater than drug trafficking and just behind arms trading, trafficking of people. He is leading a UN campaign against this evil trade. Over £2000 was collected to go towards this campaign.

During the week team members from STT conducted assemblies and lessons in all ten secondary schools. This culminated in a walk by over 100 sixth formers, starting from Victoria College, down to the Royal Square on Friday lunchtime. There they were addressed by Steve Chalke.



Steve speaks from the United Club balcony

8. MOSES & GOD 'S LEADERSHIP represented by THE BURNING BUSH Exodus 2:1-4:20
9. ISRAELITES & THE PASSOVER and EXODUS represented by THE LAMB Exodus 12:1-14:31
10. GOD & THE GIVING OF THE TORAH AT SINAI represented by TABLETS (pages) OF THE TORAH (law) Exodus 19:1 20:20
11. JOSHUA & THE FALL OF JERICHO represented by a RAM 'S HORN TRUMPET Joshua 1:1-11, 6:1-20
12. GIDEON & UNLIKELY HEROES represented by a Clay Water Pitcher Judges 2:6-23, 6:1-8:28
13. SAMUEL & THE BEGINNING OF THE KINGDOM represented by a CROWN 1 Samuel 3:1-21, 7:1-8:22, 9:15-10:9
14. DAVID & A SHEPHERD FOR THE PEOPLE represented by a SHEPHERD 'S CROOK & HARP
1 Samuel 16:1- 17:58, 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 7:1-17
15. ELIJAH & THE THREAT OF FALSE GODS represented by a STONE ALTAR 1 Kings 17:1-16, 18:17-46
16. HEZEKIAH & FAITHFULNESS and DELIVERANCE represented by an EMPTY TENT 2 Kings 18:1-19:19, 32-37
17. ISAIAH & THE CALL TO HOLINESS represented by FIRE TONGS WITH HOT COALS Isaiah 1:10-20, 6:1-13, 8:11-9:7
18. JEREMIAH & THE EXILE represented by TEARS Jeremiah 1:4-10, 2:4-13, 7:1-15, 8:22-9:11
19. HABAKKUK & WAITING represented by a STONE WATCHTOWER Habakkuk 1:1-2:1, 3:16-19
20. NEHEMIAH & RETURN AND REBUILDING represented by THE CITY WALL Nehemiah 1:1-2:8, 6:15-16, 13:10-22
21. JOHN THE BAPTIST & REPENTANCE represented by a SCALLOP SHELL Luke 1:57-80, 3:1-20, 7:18-30
22. MARY & THE HOPE FOR THE FUTURE represented by a WHITE LILY Luke 1:26-38
23. ELIZABETH & JOY represented by MOTHER & CHILD Luke 1:39-56
24. ZECHARIAH & ANTICIPATION represented by a STONE TABLET & PENCIL Luke 1:57-80
25. JOSEPH & TRUST represented by A CARPENTER 'S SQUARE AND HAMMER Matthew 1:19-25
26. MAGI & WORSHIP represented by STAR & CANDLE Matthew 2:1-12
27. JESUS & THE BIRTH OF THE MESSIAH represented by THE MANGER Luke 2:1-20
28. CHRIST & THE SON OF GOD represented by the CHI-RHO SYMBOL John 1:1-18

Georgetown at Christmas

Different groups in the church contributed to displays depicting the Nativity story



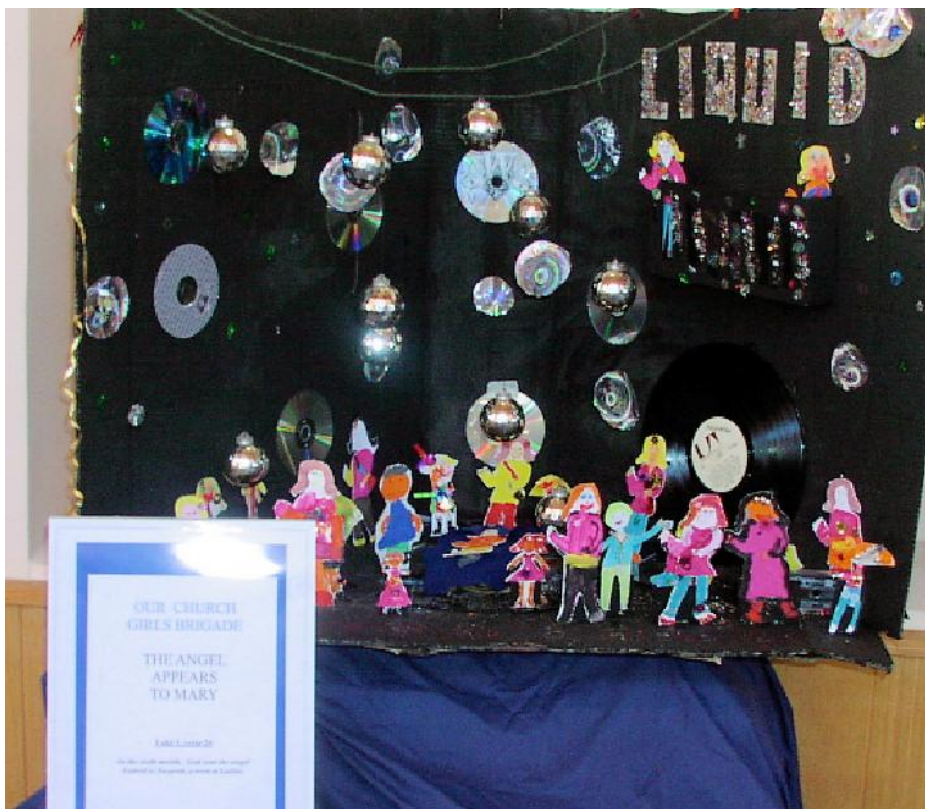
At the front was **The Jesse Tree** by the Monday group. 28 discs portraying a range of Old Testament characters as listed on previous page lead up to the Chi-Rho symbol, representing Christ, at the top.



Images drawn from the **prophet Isaiah**, depicted by church steward Gladys Renouf, making use of her studies on the Disciple course.



The Census. Crowds flock to Bethlehem. Produced by the Manse, including many knitted figures. On the scroll on the left many members added their name and birthplace.



The angel visits Mary depicted by the Girls Brigade. They chose to show a modern day Mary in the Liquid disco receiving her message from God by text.



The Church Network group made the **Angel who visited Elizabeth**, mother of John the Baptist.



The **baby in the manger** was displayed by the Activity group, using a kind of mosaic



The Angel appears to the Shepherds, prepared by the Parent and Toddlers group.



Plat Douet School display by Year 4 shows the **visitors from the East**. They collected different coloured sands from beaches on the East of the Island to make their display.



The Wise Men come bearing gifts prepared by the Neighbourhood Club using some traditional figures.



The Word became flesh, as seen by the Wednesday Group.

Messy church at Georgetown

On December 13th, the service began with members putting their coats back on and singing a couple of carols on the doorstep of the church.



Inside everyone sat round tables and congratulated Roy and Sylvia Le Plongeon, celebrating their golden wedding anniversary.



On the various tables were items which children brought up to add to the display at the front of the church.



There was excitement as crackers were handed out to all the young people.



Pat Bougeard 's signing group led one of the carols.



After the service ended, people shared a cup of tea or coffee at the back of the church or in the Hall.

On November 1st, for a trial morning **Children 's Circuit service** members at Georgetown turned by 90 degrees to face the Hall. Rev Graeme Halls led several hymns with his guitar. His talk was illustrated by a range of images on the screen



Young people from St. Helier Methodist Centre and Bethlehem also took part.



Brian Roberts, shown with his grand- children Max and Grace, made a magnificent model lighthouse to illustrate the theme 'I am the light of the world '

Afterwards Grace Roberts, age 7, wrote

The Lighthouse poem

A cold winter 's night,

The clouds floating across the sky,

Seagulls screaming and squawking,

Boats crashing the sea.

The light is showing the way.

The original was illustrated by a lighthouse with a Flybe plane and Condor ferry passing by.

Beverly Waller & Ed Le Quesne

News from Sue Le Riche, who was a local preacher in Jersey till 2 years ago

This e-mail was circulated by the Circuit Office in December.

'Just a quick line to wish you a very happy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

It is a time of change here in the Okeford Benefice. I have been asked to become an OLM (ordained Local Minister) I am in the process of praying and contemplating whether this is the right move and if it is really God's calling.

I lead worship along with David Shaw, a retired Minister in our village church, and now help with the sacraments so I suppose ordination is the next move. We are blessed at the moment. We now have a Sunday School, first time in 15 years that we've had enough children, we have 2 youth groups that meet in a monthly basis in the village

primary school, and we have very good contact between the primary school and the church. Being Diocese Governor in the school I have become the link. So we are growing. We have a very active house group which meet weekly and pray together often. And wait for it .. our very very middle class, 'set in their ways congregation', allow music group and computer in church for family worship. Hallelujah. God is really moving here.

Hope all is well in the Jersey Circuit, may God Bless you all in your work '

In a further e-mail, Sue adds

'Okeford Fitzpaine is a conservation Village, approximately 9 miles north of Blandford Forum. It is a mix of traditional thatch cottages, social housing and many farms. It has a village school of 79 pupils that come from the village and surrounding area. I am the Diocese of Salisbury Foundation Governor, and safeguarding governor. We still have a village shop/post office and of course the church.

The church is becoming more involved in the community and less involved with its self. We have a 1st Friday lunch at the village hall. All are welcome and the lunch is funded by contributions of those attending so open to all no matter how little they have. I do not work at a day job per se, but work with the school, church, indoor bowls and golf keep me busy.

Amy is loving her school Clayesmore Prep, and is doing really well, she is beginning to read really well now. She is now in year 5 and does not have a class teacher but is in tutor groups. She is the goal keeper for the under 10 hockey team, plays netball and swims for the school as well, although swimming is her weaker sport. Amy is now a weekly boarder at school and is thriving there. Sometimes it is hard to get her to come home at weekends, as school is so much more exciting. '

A MESSY ANSWER TO PRAYER



Refreshments ready

Has your church ever prayed for the seemingly impossible? I'm sure you have as indeed we too have at Philadelphie and, no doubt like you, we are continually amazed at the ways in which God responds to those prayers, but never more so than the way in which He has answered us recently, for He has caused us to be instrumental in nurturing an ever growing mess! Let me explain.

Just over two years ago whilst visiting the north of England my husband, Bill, and I were introduced by friends to a new and exciting way of 'being Church'. It was exciting because young families, many of whom did not normally engage in worship, were flooding through ancient Methodist church doors to hear the gospel message. That in itself we found amazing; but what really caught our attention was the way in which this was being achieved.

For we were informed that these people were not meeting on a Sunday but once a month on a midweek afternoon after school, and worship did not proceed in a traditional manner but by allowing everyone to experience God through His creative Spirit in a time of hands-on craft activity before engaging in a short time of worship followed by the fellowship of sharing a meal together.

It sounded fun! It sounded inclusive, but above all it felt as though God's hand was over it all. Bill and I felt privileged to bow our heads in prayer alongside our enthusiastic friends and give thanks for the way in which God was building a Christ-centred community in their area and indeed throughout Britain as the phenomena, affectionately known as 'Messy Church' swept the land.

With Messy Church firmly in my heart we returned from our holiday and I kept finding myself talking to God about boundaries! If Messy Church was being so effective in the UK why not in Jersey? Surely there was a church in the Island who had a young energised team and the right facilities to do it. I spoke with a couple of people at church and we prayed about it. I prayed, over the phone and by e-mail with our friends in Durham. We were all convinced God would not exclude Jersey from His plan but where could He plant His Messy Church?

The answer came, as it quite often does, at a most unexpected time! I was at the manse speaking with our then new minister, Revd Christine Legge when out of the blue she asked if I'd heard of Messy Church. I'm sure I don't need to add that it took us no time at all to discover we were as passionate about it as each other and felt that God was prompting us to get moving! But where and how? We prayed some more!



Craft work in progress

After some time and convinced that we were meant to be taking Messy Church out into the community we drew up a short list of possible venues - God blocked them all! Then, prompted by our Durham friends, He led us firmly back to Philadelphie.

We had no team; arguably not the most suitable facilities; no resources and no finances - we were ready to go!

We took the idea to Church Council - they loved it! (We had previously introduced a couple of mini-versions of Messy Church to everyone in All Age Worship services to give them some idea of what it was all about). Now, with all the church praying and with a very enthusiastic Circuit Steward encouraging us (thank you again, John!) things really started to move!

God chose His team - we just did the asking! Some of the 'zone' leaders (we have six craft stations); catering team; and musicians, are from our congregation others from outside the church.

The facilities have proved to be perfectly adequate albeit we had to be quite inventive in finding ways of seating 73 folk for a meal at our December meeting (the second time we'd met) and will need to be even more so if God keeps doubling the numbers because we started off with 42 in November!

Resources are building up thanks to the generosity of all involved.

As for money? Well, we still haven't got much of that but we seem to get by, I really don't know how. but God does!

Katie Norman

Philadelphie Messy Church

Jersey Women 's Refuge Appeal

Thank you for such a wonderful response to the appeal for the Jersey Women's Refuge. You have responded in all sorts of ways, there was even a team from Georgetown in the tug of war organised by the prison officers. But this is not a one church matter. The Refuge is a facility for all the island and therefore is a matter for the circuit as well, so Elaine and I are delighted with the response to the Christmas card project, which has so far raised over £1700. It makes a real statement when we as Methodists act together, often alongside others, for the betterment of the community and those who live here, especially those in most need.

The gospel is shaped on the life and work of Jesus, who sought out the most needy in body, mind and spirit, and helped them. Wherever there is such need, here or overseas, I am sure we will continue to respond, as Methodism has done here for over 200 years. Most churches will allocate an amount of money, or a percentage of income each year for charitable giving. Many churches who have misgivings about this will nevertheless, on trying it, find that generosity (of money and spirit) will encourage others to be generous too. If our members back what we are doing then the role of the church in our society will be a living demonstration of our faith in a living, loving God.

Graeme Halls

A response from the Refuge

To date, (December 11th) we have received 63 cards, some being sent on behalf of a group of several people, and an incredible amount of cheques and cash, totalling £1,592.00 !!!

We are absolutely thrilled with this amazingly generous response, along with the many, many kind words and expressions of appreciation that have accompanied the gifts.

Every amount received has been receipted, but on a time and cost basis, it has been impractical to post the receipts - and many gifts came either without an address, or in the case of a cash amount, were anonymous. We do hope therefore that, on our behalf, you will be able to circulate an official 'thank you' to the many members of the Methodist Churches in Jersey who have responded to our plight with such generosity and blessings.

Many thanks.

Linda

*I will update you again asap!

Jersey Women's Refuge, PO Box 708

Jersey JE4 0PW

'Bible in a Year ' project

A couple of months ago a leaflet dropped through our door, as many do each week, but this was about a 'Bible in a Year' idea. It means an individual could read through the Bible in a planned way, and this seemed to us to be a good idea. Now for sure Selwyn Hughes and 'Every Day with Jesus ' notes might not be everybody's style, but the framework of the project seemed great, and you do not have to agree with what every writer (or preacher!!!) says.

Billy Slatter had a suggestion of a weekly opportunity to come together as those who are sharing the journey, to talk, encourage, and share what we are learning. This is happening each Wednesday at St Martins. But what is really great is that 65 Bibles have been purchased and are now in the hands of those who began on 1st January. I am sure we wish them all well and pray that they will find faith and growth as the year progresses. If you have not yet joined in and would like to, it is not too late, you can start where the others are at any point and join in the group if you wish, and then complete it at the beginning of next year. If you would like a copy then contact us...

Graeme or Elaine Halls

Circuit Archive

Rosemary Millow, our Circuit Archivist, is keen to remind you to send her material of all sorts for our collection. She is also willing to help anyone trying to research an aspect of Methodist history. Her phone number is 721802.

Circuit Safeguarding

Are you planning to help with Children's work in 2010, are you planning to help with an Easter Holiday club or church camp?

Consider completing the required CRB (Criminal Record Bureau) Disclosure form now. You will receive help completing the forms and once completed, the certificate will last for five years for the same role within the Jersey Methodist Circuit.

CRB Disclosures are free for volunteers.

Please contact the Circuit Safeguarding Officer for more details. Bev Waller 731002 (Home) 730914 (Georgetown Church Office)

A Senior's Prayer

Today, Dear Lord, I am 90 and there's much I haven't done,

I hope, Dear Lord, you will let me live until I'm 91.

But then if I haven't finished all I want to do Would you let me stay awhile till I'm 92 '

So many places I'd like to go to, so very much to see So perhaps, dear Lord, you'd manage to make it 93!

The world is changing very fast. There is so much in store; I'd like it very much to live until I'm 94.

And if by then I'm still alive, I'd like to stay 'til 95.

More planes will then be in the air, so I'd really like to stick And see what happens in the world when I am 96.

I know dear Lord it's much to ask (and it must be nice in Heaven) But I'd really like to stay until I'm 97.

I know by then I won't be fast, and sometimes I'll be late, But it would be, oh so pleasant, to be 98.

I will have seen so many things and had a lovely time, So I'm sure that I'll be willing to leave at 99.

But why not make it until I'm 100 !!!!

Anon

(Passed on by **Maureen Bougourd**, Georgetown)

A vegetarian's Valentine message:

Cabbage always has a heart; green beans string along. You're such a Tomato, will you Peas to me belong?
You've been the Apple of my eye, you know how much I care; so Lettuce get together, we'd make a perfect Pear.
Now, something's sure to Turnip, to prove you can't be Beet; so, if you Carrot all for me let's let our Tulips meet.
Don't Squash my hopes and dreams now, Bee my Honey dear; or tears will fill Potato's eyes, while Sweet Corn lends an ear
I'll Cauliflower shop and say your dreams are Parsley mine. I'll work and share my Celery, so be my Valentine.

Anon (in SHMC magazine, Feb 09)

I vow to Thee my Country

I vow to love my neighbour, whatever race or creed, to join her in her suffering, to plead with him in need.
This love will always question, will search out right from wrong, will give itself for justice, for those who don't belong.
This love will never falter, till every soul is free, till nations held in bondage can sing of liberty.

Through scenes of devastation, through famine, drought and war, we'll work in ways of gentleness,
work hard till we restore the visions of the people, the hope of human grace.
till nations dwell in peacefulness together in this place; till all the world together can sing in joyful praise
till all have found communion together in our days

Andrew Pratt

Can be sung to any 8787D especially Ebenezer

Jersey Women 's Network

2010 theme 'Enough for all '



Saturday 23rd January 10am -12noon

Seminar at Ebenezer looking at 'Enough for all ' and what we can do including recycling and dealing with poverty among us.

Speakers

Gerry Padden (Grace Trust)

John Rive (Recycling Officer)

John Hodge (Shelter Manager)

Saturday 12th June from 2.30

Cup of Tea Day in Margaret Le Cornu's Garden in St. Martin. Please make a note in your diary.

Wednesday 16th June

District Day This is our opportunity to visit Network friends in Guernsey, and meet with others from Alderney & Sark.

The Triennial Competition

- Organised by Guernsey Network this time.

Make 4 cards and 4 bookmarks depicting one of each of the four seasons. Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter.

Choose from the following categories:-

Birthday, Special Occasions, Children's, Gentlemen, Religious, Open

All 4 cards can be made from 1 or more categories but all 4 seasons must be depicted.

Card 4 x 6 inches

Insert optional, please include envelope

Bookmark 1 1/2 x 6 inches

Any medium can be used and any design. i.e. glass paints, crayon, felt pens, templates, peel-offs, paper folding, 3D, stitching etc.

Only 4 cards and 4 bookmarks per entry for the competition

Judging 12th June 2010

Barbara Coote

'Enough for all ' is the theme of Poverty and Homelessness Week which is from Sat. 30th January to Sun February 7th.

The Jersey Homeless Outreach Group will be organising Morning Thought on Radio Jersey for this period. In Jersey, very few people are sleeping rough, but very many are paying a very high proportion of their income in rent or mortgage payments. Providing affordable housing for all should be a high priority for any society and Jersey does not do this very successfully at the moment. The recent report by Professor Christine Whitehead gives the opportunity for a fresh look at how Jersey organises its housing policy.

Ed Le Quesne

Atheist holy day

In Florida, an atheist created a case against the upcoming Easter and Passover Holy Days. He hired an attorney to bring a discrimination case against Christians, Jews and observances of their holy days. The argument was that it was unfair that atheists had no such recognised days.

The case was brought before a judge. After listening to the passionate presentation by the lawyer, the judge banged his gavel declaring, 'Case dismissed!' The lawyer immediately stood, objecting to the ruling saying, 'Your Honour, how can you possibly dismiss this case? The Christians have Christmas, Easter and others. The Jews have Passover, Yom Kippur and Hanukkah, yet my client and all other atheists have no such holidays.'

The judge leaned forward in his chair saying, 'But they do.. Your client, counsel, is woefully ignorant.' The lawyer said, 'Your honour, we are unaware of any special observance or holiday for atheists.'

The judge said, 'the calendar says April 1st is April Fools Day. Psalm 14:1 states, 'the fool says in his heart, there is no God.' Thus, it is the opinion of this court, that if your client says there is no God, then he is a fool. Therefore, April 1st is his day. Court is adjourned.'

from SHMC magazine, May 09

Hymn Quiz

Work out the names of these well known hymns given these pompous definitions

1. Every member of the human race who reside on the third planet
2. To the Supreme Creator give exultation, he has performed large deeds
3. I sigh for ten times one hundred muscular organs of taste to make sounds in tuneful succession.
4. You employees of the Divine Being, openly declare your boss
- 5 We turn the soil over in the paddocks and spread the perfect containers of future plants over the ground.
6. I moved to music before lunch at the time the universe was born
7. Listen, the proclaiming heavenly messengers make vocal music
8. May the complete universe in all its right angles vocalise tunes
9. Warm affection of God, better than other fondness
10. Place many monarch 's circlets on his head, the sheep 's offspring sitting on his chair of state

Answers

Lunch Clubs at the Mayfair



Ken King spoke on 'Accents ' to the joint lunch clubs in December. His ability to speak in a wide range of accents and the amusing situations that occur when they are misunderstood made for an entertaining talk. He was introduced by Nance Hicklin, on his right. Other committee members on top table are, from the left, Carol Du Feu, Rosemary Perchard and Maureen Rayson. In other months, the Men meet on the first Monday and the ladies on the second Monday.

For the men in September, Graeme Halls gave a photo presentation 'From there to here ' which summarised his life so far, nearly always with a beard! In October, Nick Owen gave a talk on the financial crisis, which caused great interest and was summarised in the recent 'Jersey Link '. In November, Jane Delap gave a fascinating account of her life as a pilot on 777 aircraft, which also led to many questions. The Men's lunch welcomes men from other denominations and has always reached its minimum of 20 members. Andrew Bird started 2010 with an account of his time in Angola with Medair with a Christian Relief Organisation.

Attendance at the Ladies lunch is much larger than the Men's but both offer opportunities for fellowship between different parts of the Circuit.

Fairtrade in 2010 would have started with a visit from Harriet Lamb, executive director of the Fairtrade Foundation, but it was postponed due to the bad weather. A website www.fairtradejersey.org is launched. The theme of Fairtrade Fortnight at the end of February is 'The Big Swap '. Swap your usual brand for a Fairtrade brand. The rise of Fairtrade over the past 15 years has been greatly helped by Methodists who care what they buy. Thank you for your support.

Ed Le Quesne

All contributions for the 87th issue and offers of help by March 15th, to: Ed(itor), 16, Millais Park, JE2 4RU. or to edleq@jerseymail.co.uk

Also see the website www.ci-methodist.org.uk

Answers

1. All people that on earth do dwell
2. To God be the glory, great things he has done
3. O for a thousand tongues to sing
4. Ye servants of God, your master proclaim
5. We plough the fields and scatter the good seed on the ground
6. I danced in the morning when the world began
7. Hark, the herald angels sing
8. May all the world in every corner sing
9. O love divine, all loves excelling
10. Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon the throne