

Rejoice



The first type of ground was hard and the seed could not sprout or grow at all and became snatched up instantly. The second type of ground was stony. The seed was able to plant and begin to grow, however it could not grow deep roots and withered in the sun. The third type of ground was thorny and although the seed could plant and grow, it could not compete with the amount of thorns that overtook it. The fourth ground was good soil that allowed the seed to plant deep, grow strong, and produce fruit.

**South Molton and Ringsash Methodist
Circuit**

March 2020 to May 2020

South Molton and Ringsash Methodist Circuit

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**The articles in this magazine are submitted by individuals
and are not necessarily those of the Methodist Church**

Dear Friends

Rejoice Pastoral Letter March 2020

Over the past couple of months, you may well have noticed my absences from the Circuit. One of these, the India visit, I will mention elsewhere, but I bring you here some thoughts about the District Retreat in St Ives which I attended at the beginning of February.

Some might question why Rachael, Nick, Linda and myself all took time out of the Circuit to attend a retreat. I can almost hear some saying 'they're off on a jolly'! It was not a 'jolly' but rather a time for reflection, prayer and for building ourselves up. All four of us went because there are times when we too need to receive from God, a time for being rather than doing.

As Methodists we can all focus too much on doing rather than being. We want to get embroiled in serving our communities, leading or taking part in worship, engaging in mission and taking part in social action. What we sometimes forget is that we also need to spend that quiet time with God – how else do we hear his voice and find his leading.

As we worked through the first 12 chapters of Mark's gospel, so we were allowed to focus on subjects like, 'honouring the body', 'the mission of the disciples – shaping community', 'Sabbath and hospitality', 'discernment', 'arguing as we travel and forgiveness'. Through scripture, led reflection, prayer and quietness (or discussion) we delved into these areas of grace and came out with our own conclusions as well as learning what others were wrestling with.

From the feedback I have had from the others and from my own reflections I believe that each of us has benefitted in some way. We thank you for allowing us this time for building and reflecting, for discussions and planning, all in the presence of God.

For me the concept of the 'Sabbath' was a major issue and discussions made me realise that I need to take a day off with God as well as a rest day. For me Sundays are so much a workday rather than a Sabbath.

What would you gain from a retreat or even an away day in the quiet with God? It doesn't even need to be a formal gathering. A sunny day at Rosemoor sat on a bench reading and reflecting, praying and listening, on your own or with friends, can focus the mind and bring you closer to God.

If people feel that something 'arranged' is needed please let me know and I will gauge the response to see if this is possible.

The Diocese of Cuttack – a District Visit

For a number of years, the Plymouth and Exeter Methodist district has had a partnership with the Diocese of Cuttack in the Church of North India. There have been several visits by District representatives and some good relationships have been established. However, the partnership was at a point where we, as a District, were uncertain as to whether it was something worth continuing. The visit in January was a follow up to an earlier visit aimed at either re-establishing the partnership or formally closing it.

I know that our partners were not aware of the critical nature of our visit which meant that we were shown no special treatment during our stay – we saw things as they are, ‘warts and all’. The group were Revd Graham Thompson, Revd Deborah Kirk, Revd Liz Singleton, Mrs Anne Browse, Miss Shannon Beveridge and Revd Stuart Innalls. I should also say that those who went were self-funding so there was no cost to the District. The conclusions of the visit were that we would recommend that the partnership should continue and to cement this we are looking to invite a group to come across to us in 2021 – this the District will pay for, reflecting the social standing of those who are likely to come.

Whilst Christians are in a minority in India and in many places face persecution there is a vibrant church and we can learn much from them which could lead to growth for us and they will benefit from our experience as a church as well.

My good memories will be the people (who always appeared to be smiling!), the churches witnessing in adversity, the Christian Schools bringing education to the children in poorer communities, the kindergarten in Puri and the Christian Hospital treating the poor in their community with an outreach clinic into the ‘tribal’ lands.



An operating theatre in the hospital

At no point were we asked for money or financial support, but we could see the needs before us and when we asked for information it was readily available. The Stewart Schools sponsorship by churches in the Netherlands is due to come to an end leaving an uncertain future. The kindergarten is looking to grow into a school and there are costs to meet. Some of the churches are still looking to rebuild after Cyclone Fani.

But the direst situation is the Christian Hospital in Berhampur where, due to a change in legal operating requirements, they need to do extensive building works. Here there is no government support, the income is restricted because no one is turned away even if they can't afford treatment and the cost shocked me. £4m needs to be raised for the whole project with the essential elements accounting for over a half of that figure. If I had £4 million sitting around, they could have it, their work and witness is that important. But their view is that God will provide – such strong faith. The Hospital Director is their main surgeon, his wife is also a surgeon. They live on site in modest accommodation and are on call 24/7. They are not rich financially but see their work as being God's work and so see the blessings that they bring as Christians.

Over coming weeks you will get a flavour of what I saw and heard, though not what I ate as I am all curried out having eaten this at least twice a day (yes sometimes it was served up for breakfast as well!).

It is difficult to move people by words and photos but if you want to know more any of the visiting team would willingly speak to a church group (or an outside group). Please contact me should you want this to happen. If you would like to sponsor a child through school or kindergarten, donate to the hospital, or partner with a church then feel free to discuss this with me and let me have details of what you are thinking of and I can advise how best to do this.

Please also pray for our partners so that they may be blessed by our concern and love.

Stuart

**World day of Prayer Service on Friday March 6th at
10.30am in the Methodist Church.**

Theme—Rise! Take our mat and walk

Prepared by women in Zimbabwe (all are welcome)

Circuit services March to May 2020

Chittlehampton Methodist Church invite you to a Circuit
Service
on **29th March at 3pm**

Led by Rev Stuart Innalls who will focus on the District
Visit to Cuttack

Tea to follow - A warm welcome to all.

Methodist Women in Britain Easter Offering Service at
South Molton on **3rd May at 11am**

Preacher Mrs Anne Browse

Sunday Club for Children

Churches Together in South Molton Pentecost Service
in the Pannier Market on **31st May in the morning**

full details to follow.

Activities for children will be available

Bible Month 2020 Ruth

Sessions will be run at 2pm and repeated at 7pm on the dates below in South Molton Methodist Church.

Thursday 4th June Ruth 1

Thursday 11th June Ruth 2

Thursday 18th June Ruth 3

Thursday 25th June Ruth 4

If a Circuit Church should want their own sessions, then please contact Stuart to agree dates (which could be later in the year)

Part Time Circuit Pastoral Visitor (6 hours per week)

Full details are to be advertised shortly.

In brief this is to undertake regular visits to housebound members or others needing regular visits, taking extended communion to people in their homes and very occasionally doing a hospital visit.

If you might be interested, please leave your details with Anita in the Circuit Office and she will send out a pack as soon as it is available.

Ashreigney

Our Christmas Pop Up Nativity in the village bus shelter went well, with a good number of adults and children attending.

Suitable attire was offered and used, and we started in the shelter and then progressed to the hall, continuing with carols and prayers. Warm pasties and other goodies were on offer with a much needed hot drink to round off the evening, and any donations were for Action for Children.

Our Community Worker, Rachael, organised for everyone to take home a gift to shine a light on their Christmas celebrations.

Our Old Christmas Day concert was given by the Stowford Meadow Singers and a good number of people joined with us on that evening also. Donations were again given to Action for Children.

With that behind us, we are now looking forward to sharing our Palm Sunday Service in the hall with our Anglican friends, at 11am, and then on Easter Day, we will share with them in the Parish Church, again at 11am.

As I write, its blowing and hailing, but as I look out of the window, I can see snowdrops and one daffodil swaying in the wind!

The promise of Spring is there.

Rosella Turner

Burrington Methodist chapel

Our Wednesday coffee morning group is going well, donations enabled us to send Cheques for £250 to five local charities. Chemotherapy hero. Over and above. Farming community network. Age concern. Encompass.

Christmas was celebrated with a lovely evening of carols and lessons on December 22 . We were joined by our Church Friends and we enjoyed mince pies afterwards.

Bill and Eyrllis two of our friends were very poorly over Christmas and New Year, we wish them a speedy recovery. Amy Chapel has now moved to Torrington, and we all wish her well.

A Chapel meal at Chulmleigh Golf Club was enjoyed by 30 members.

Chapel council meeting arranged for Tuesday March 10 at 7 pm.

Date change. Next Wednesday night special arranged for Wed. March 4 at 7 pm by James Marshall. On Thatching.

Advance notice. concert on April 3 Friday. By Jubilate Singers. At 7.30. In aid of Chapel funds.

Lorna Ward

Brayford

By the time this” Rejoice news “reaches you 2019 will have gone and a new year will be on its way. 2019 had brought us glad times and sad times, we thank the lord that the has been with us through all our experiences.

Now we have the joy of this spring around us “snow drops” and some daffodils and the buds of tulips beginning to swell. The circuit choir presented a lovely concert in November much enjoyed by a full chapel and a supper at the Close. The book bags attached to the chairs are proving to be useful. We thank those who kindly made them for us.

The Monthly coffee morning is ongoing occasion, from 10.00 am to 12 pm on the first Wednesday of every month. It is open to all, no age limit and there are toys for toddlers. Though we are a small number, we do like to sing although an organist is proving to be a problem. So, after much thought we have decided to have a screen and projector fitted and 2 or 3 are having lessons on how to use it. This could be useful for other occasions other than a Sunday service.

By the time the next Rejoice is published we shall be celebrating Easter, Gods wonderous gift of salvation.

Blessing to you all

Mrs. Gladys Barrow

Chittlehampton

Once again this report brings news of the loss of one of our hard-working, loyal and committed members, Arthur Needs. Known to most of you in the Circuit, Arthur was a Local Preacher and supporter of LPMA (now known as LWPT), taking Services both locally and further afield. Always ready to help, whether booking Concert groups or being the welcoming face at the door on Coffee Mornings, Arthur was there, unobtrusively doing his part.

In a full Chapel, Rev. Stuart led a lovely Thanksgiving Service for Arthur, with his daughter Monica giving family reminiscences and Derek Summers speaking on behalf of the Local Preachers. Arthur lived his Faith, which was so much a part of his life to the full and, although latterly ill health meant both he and Hazel were unable to be with us, we miss their presence amongst us.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Hazel, Monica, Clifford and all the family.

Our Christmas events have come and gone. The Carols and Cake organised by Dave and Judy was, as always, well received, with trays of delicious homemade cakes, all made to encourage the expansion of our waistlines! Readings and Carols ably accompanied by Rob Paynter on the keyboard completed a very enjoyable afternoon.

Each week at the beginning of our Service during Advent we have a short reflection on one aspect of the events leading up to Christmas, with readings and verses of a hymn from a set leaflet, and the lighting of a candle on the Advent ring.

The Carol Service was led by Mr. Derek Summers who this year took a different slant on events, looking at the Christmas Story from the Gospel of Matthew. Thank you Derek for a thought provoking Service.

Messy Church report by Wendy

In December we had a lovely Christmas Party which all the children enjoyed. First they had lots of party food and then watched a D.V.D. on Jesus' birth. We then did some crafts including making angels from ice-cream cones which we covered in melted white chocolate, adding an icing sugar head and some wings made from paper doilies. We made some Donkey Dung sweets, a messy stable and printed some wrapping paper. The afternoon finished with lots of games which included balloons etc.

In January, after having food, our theme was Jesus as a boy in the Temple, which we watched on D.V.D. We then made Temples, with Jesus inside holding a scroll. We made scrolls and did some cooking, making gingerbread men.

In February after our usual meal, the theme for the afternoon was Samuel and listening. We watched a D.V.D. then made some listening cups, headbands with animal ears, created a picture of Samuel in bed, first asleep and then awake, and a zig zag book of Samuel's life. We finished the afternoon with games such as Chinese whispers.

We always have a song to sing with actions, and if anyone has a birthday that particular month, we sing Happy Birthday and they blow out candles on an artificial cake.

Wendy

Future events.

Sunday March 29th at 3.00pm. We will be hosting the Circuit Service followed by a Tea. Please come and join us for this afternoon Service followed by a delicious Sunday Tea, you don't even have to put the kettle on!

April 5th Palm Sunday. We will be holding an Ecumenical Walk of Witness from the Village Hall at 10.45 am culminating in a joint Service in the Chapel led by the Rev. Stuart Innalls.

April 9th Maundy Thursday. Again, following on from an encouraging time last year, we will be hosting an Ecumenical Passover Meal in the School room at 7.00pm.

Good Friday April 12th. There will be a United walk of Witness starting from St Hieritha's Church at 10.00am, progressing through the Village and culminating with the placing of a Cross at the top of Abbots Hill followed by hot cross buns in the Schoolroom.

Sunday April 26th. This year our Annual Rogation Service, combined with The Umberleigh Fellowship and the Chittlehampton of group of Churches will be held at Brightly Barton, Umberleigh, the preacher being our Vicar the Rev David Coleman.

For those of you who love a good sing, we are holding our annual Sankey Evening on Sunday June 26th at 7.30pm followed by a pasty and bring and share supper. Come and hear something of the life of Moody and Sankey performed by our own Mr Dwight L Moody and Mr Ira D Sankey, you will be in for a good evening!

Josie Turner.

North Molton

Our last fundraising event of the year was a Christmas Extravaganza table top sale which raised £252 of which 15% went to Children's Hospice SW. Many thanks to all who attended or helped in any way.

In Mid November a lovely day was had by all who attended the Christening of Ottilia Muegge, granddaughter of Mike and Rosemarie Courtney, then everyone being invited to join with the family for a meal after the service.

Our annual Community Tea, held in December, was attend by more than 50 people. This was followed by a celebration service led by Sue Radley with the theme of Unity. We were also entertained with a song from Youth Club member Careenza, and four members of the cast sang excerpts from North Molton Primary School's production of *Wind in the Willows*.

This year our Sunday Club members asked for our help with supporting the North Devon Food Bank by donating food and Christmas items on the four Sundays in Advent. Many boxes were filled and these were then given to Father Christmas, with help from the Elf on the Shelf, who visited during the Sunday before Christmas carol service.

On New Year's Eve several church members had a very enjoyable evening attending an *Open House* party at West Millbrook by kind invitation of Mike and Rosemarie.

January's Christian Unity service was held at All Saints Parish Church when the preacher was Mrs Sheila Collier. This was followed by many of the congregation enjoying lunch together at the Sportsman's Inn, Sandyway.

Wishing everyone in the Circuit a very Happy Easter.

Ruth Govier

South Molton

The Annual World Missions meeting took place at Duke Street on 6th November 2019, entitled 'Bells, Songs & All Sorts', when the Ashreigney Hand Bell Ringers delighted us again with their skilful harmony and diversity of melodies. There was also entertainment from members of the Circuit Churches displaying a variety of talent including sketches, recitations and musical items both vocal and instrumental. The bring and share - supper completed an enjoyable evening.

We remember in our prayers those who have lost loved ones in December, Mrs Gillian Chilcott whose husband passed away on 18th December, and the family of Mrs Joyce Shapland whose Thanksgiving Service was held at this Church on 20th December.

Christmas Celebrations began on Sunday 19 December with tea in the Hall organised by Gwen Kingdon and her helpers, followed by 'Carols by Candlelight' led by Rev. Stuart Innalls. The soft lighting created a peaceful atmosphere for worship which was enjoyed by the large number attending.

Christmas events continued on 18th December with the Harmonica Singers who gave an enjoyable evening of Christmas music and traditional carols with audience participation. This was followed by coffee and mince pies. Admission was free, the retiring collection was for the Girls and Boys Brigades.

The celebration of Christmas began with Christmas Eve Communion and quiet reflection, and the Christmas Day all age worship service conducted by Rev Stuart Innalls. Christmas day lunch and entertainment was provided in the Hall for people who would have been on their own, organised by Kathleen Hasler and appreciated by those who attended Hall for people who would have been on their own,.

Sunday 9th February -- Morning Worship was led by Open The Book Team. Rev. Mike Miller explained how this project offers primary school children the opportunity to hear key Bible stories, and to understand and appreciate them.

What started by a group of Christians in 30 schools in Bedford in 1999 has now spread to 3,100 primary schools all over England and Wales with 17,000 volunteers, who visit primary schools weekly. In 2013 it had become so large it was taken over by the Bible Society.

The local group led by Rev. Miller and Rev. Andy Jarvis, acted the story of the 'Miraculous catch of fish and the calling of Peter' (Luke 5), as they present it to the children, in costume with props, a model boat, fishing net and fish, giving the adult congregation an insight into their important work in an enlightening way. We pray that Open The Book continues to extend further into more local schools inspiring more children as they bring the Bible stories to life.

Jean Blake

New Stock! Here are just a few of the Titles on the South Molton Methodist Church Bookstall:



■ **Be the Hands and Feet – by Nick Vujicic** – Another book by a Best-Selling Author. Nick says, 'If God can use a man without arms and legs to be His hands and feet, then He will certainly use any willing heart!'

Taming of a Villain - by Allen Langham – Allen was a former professional rugby league player with a promising future who threw it all away on the path of drinks, drugs and crime. He was in and out of prison. The book relates a change in his life when he had an encounter with Jesus and became a Christian.

Mum, please help me die – by Thy Cameron – Shirley Cameron asks a question that is familiar to so many: ‘If God loves her, then why do so many things close to her heart seem to get taken away?’ She struggled with depression and rejection, diagnosed with bone cancer and thought it was punishment from God. She then found God’s love beginning to invade her life. This is an honest account of how she struggled with her suffering and how she has felt God’s presence.

All About Heaven - by David Oliver – When he lost his son to cancer at the age of 38, David felt he needed to do some research about heaven. This book answers, biblically, so many questions people have about their loved ones, their destination and their future. It’s a must read for us all!

Making Disciples – How did Jesus do it? - by Tony Pullin – Jesus commanded us to ‘Go and make disciples of all nations’ but how do we do that in the 21st century? This book gives us some practical suggestions and real-life examples.

Israel – A Sign and a Wonder – by Andrew Baguley – In March Andrew will be speaking at a Conference at Torrington Methodist Church. You may like to read the Biblical perspective of Israel’s history and God’s eternal plan.

Fiction books: - ‘Prince Edward’s Warrant’ - by Mel Starr and ‘The Memory Book’ by Penelope Stokes

CDs include: - ‘Top 50 Praise Songs’ and ‘The Best of Stuart Townend’ Live . . . ‘

Derek Summers

South Molton Circuit Choir

The Methodist Church Hall at Duke Street was full to capacity when the Circuit Choir, together with the South Molton Training Band presented a Concert to raise funds for Carezza to go to Uganda working with Amigos. Carezza, one of our teenage Choir Members was also able to sell some of her own Craft work and in excess of £600 was raised during the evening. We would like to congratulate Carezza on achieving her target for funding some 6 months ahead of the due date and for her eloquent presentation when 'dropped' in it by our chairman of the evening, Mike Courtney.

Several Christmas pieces were included in the Concert, the audience participated in various Carols and the Training Band played us some rousing pieces. In the second half Carezza sang a solo and we are so blessed to have the young voices of both Carezza and Sara in our choir. Near the end of the Concert some of the young Band members were advised of their results from recent examinations and congratulated on their achievements. We are very grateful for the help of the Band and hope we can get together again in the future. The evening would not have been complete without the very capable Mike Courtney with his usual plethora (yes, I found this word in Word power!) of jokes, thank you.

Some of the Choir Members erected and decorated 'our' Christmas Tree for the Festival in the Anglican Church and many visitors enjoyed the amazing display of about 130 trees glistening throughout the Church.

Just before Christmas some of us joined the staff and residents at East Street Eastleigh for their Carol Service, led by Andy Jarvis and Stuart Innalls. A number of visitors were also present and everyone appeared to enjoy the food and fellowship at this festive time.

Early January we went to the Royal and Fortescue for our annual dinner, where most of us enjoyed a Carvery with the option of a fish or vegetarian dish. This was well attended and we were able to enjoy a social time with our Choir Colleagues – it is always good to enjoy this fellowship together as well as complete some serious work at rehearsals – not that rehearsals are always serious!

We are now preparing for our 1st concert of 2020 which will be at Marwood Methodist on 18th April, the Saturday after Easter at 7pm. Please come and support us and the Chapel if you can, we would love to see you. We are still looking for more Choir Members, particularly men, we feel sure you would enjoy your time with us.

Well, that about wraps it up for this time, just to say hope 2020 will be a Happy and Healthy time for all our readers.

Morley Chapple



Methodist Women in Britain

AGM

January saw our AGM and gave us the opportunity to look back over the past year and see what we had achieved.

Our 2019 Easter Offering Service took on a different form in that a Circuit Service was held at South Molton Church which was followed by coffee and a Bring and Share Buffet lunch, which was a great success. It was good to see so many people from different churches around the Circuit talking together and sharing in fellowship with each other.

The service raised through the envelopes given out at churches prior to the service £545.10, the collection taken at the service amounted to £306.53. The gift aid resulting from South Molton realised £26.65 and from Kings Nympton £1.25 producing a grand total of £879.53 which was in aid of the World Mission Fund.

Our Bring and Donate stall raised £98.00 which was donated to the Air Ambulance Trust as a contribution to our newly chosen project.

Summer Event

In July we held our Summer Event. This was in the form of a Pudding Party with entertainment by 'Harmony 4' and kindly hosted at the home of Norman and Arthur Latham, to whom we say a very big thank you. Though the weather was not too kind to us that evening, it was greatly enjoyed and raised a grand total of £590.00 for the Air Ambulance Trust.

Adding all these sums together means that during the year we raised a total of £879.53 for the World Mission Fund and £688.00 for the Air Ambulance Trust which together produces a grand total of £1567.53 which is a tremendous result. Thank you all in the Circuit who have helped us achieve this wonderful sum.

Looking ahead

Our Easter Offering Service this year will, once again, be a Circuit Service at South Molton on Sunday, 3rd May and will be led by Mrs Anne Browse on the theme “Into all the world”. There will once again be coffee and a ‘Bring and Share Lunch’ to follow. We do hope you will be able to attend.

On Friday 24th July, venue to be decided, there will be our Summer Event with entertainment by the Appledore Singers. Further details will follow later.

The District Day will be held at Wonford on 13 May.

We hope that you will be able to join with us to support these various events.

Stella Hickman

Youth Worker News

Since September the work in both schools has continued to thrive. In Chulmleigh this year I am supporting the RPE department with all five year 7 groups. This gives me the opportunity to give the Christian perspective on the theme the students are looking at. Out of this I have had four new students coming to the Christian Union since November. We have been looking at the film 90 Minutes in heaven and now myself and Janet May, the Curate in Chulmleigh, are starting an overview of all the books in the bible and answering any question. I'm still working with the RPE department and this is a great opportunity to show them a real Christian perspective on the things that they are just reading about. Also, I still run a discussion on a Thursday lunchtime, and we are looking at our lives and how our decisions affect others and also how we cope with life in general. Along side this Janet and I are mentoring a number of students.

Over at South Molton I'm working in the RE department mostly with year 9 upwards and as in Chulmleigh I get the opportunity to give a "live" Christian perspective on the subject. Ignite continues to run on a Friday lunchtime. Here we are seeing about 10 to 15 young people coming along. This has developed into a place where years 11 and 10 can come for emotional support and a chat. As in Chulmleigh I'm mentoring some students who are struggling emotionally within a school setting.

Youth Clubs across the circuit are going really well. At Brayford we have been to Ilfracombe lifeboat station and had a fascinating tour around the station and the lifeboat. Also, we have had a film evening where we watched the Disney film Frozen and had a really fun night at Air extreme followed by MacDonald's. At North Molton we have had a number of club nights and been to skittles and had a beetle drive

At South Molton with the brigades we have been looking at a number of youth sermons with the young adults. Here we have discussed what has been said and how they are relevant to their lives. With the older girls we have looked at the theme of sex and sexuality and how God sees this.

The Messy Church at Chittlehampton is still going well. We are seeing about 10 children once a month and we are trying to get parents more involved with the craft activities and the service at the end. Over the last few months we have looked at Samuel as a child being called by God, the little boy with the loaves and fishes and young Jesus in the temple - asking who he was listening to, God or his parents

At the Circuit youth group, we are seeing 6 Young people twice a month and we have been looking at how we cope with the death of a loved one and how Jesus is with us day to day.

Looking to the future there are discussions taking place of how I can be better used in the Circuit with the possibility of being involved in one new youth club and joining another existing one. More details on these when they are finalised.

Nick Jefferson

Children and Families Worker: South Molton Methodist Church

As always, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my personal gratitude to all those that support me in 'working for God' with children and young families from within our church community.

Brigades

Since the beginning of the year both the explorers and the junior section of Girl's Brigade have increased in number, which means that on a Monday Evening between 5.30pm and 6.45pm Monica and I are delightfully greeted by even more lively enthusiasm!

The Boy's Brigade members are now completely immersed into their new Programme of Work, which means that between 6.00pm and 7.15pm on Tuesday Evenings they have engaged in activities such as; making Chinese dancing fire dragons, bird feeders and cooking with chocolate. I think that it is safe to say that they are having just as much fun as the girls!

On behalf of all of our Brigade members and workers, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Harmonica for supporting the Brigades throughout the year by raising money for us, through their concert performances - which I know have been enjoyed by many.

Messy Church

Our last Messy Church, which took place in January, was focused on the story of Creation.

During this event we thought about how and why the perfect world that God created is now 'less than perfect'. Crafts for this session included making, moon and star biscuits, Earth coloured Pom-Poms, endangered species mobiles. Also included was splatter paintings, plate decorating, and seed planting.

Our next Messy Church is taking place on the 22nd March, which is a revised date, and will be focused on 'The Dreamer'.

Sunday Club

I am delighted to say that requests for Sunday Club to be run more frequently than just one Sunday in the month, have been voiced from amongst those that currently attend. Considering its growing popularity, considerations and discussions are taking place around the possibility of frequency for Sunday Club being increased by to two Sundays in each month. Watch this space!

Parent, Baby and Toddler Groups (for families)

I am delighted to say that our well-established Thursday morning group continues to thrive, even though many other groups have recently started to be held on Thursday mornings throughout the town. I think that this is a very clear indication of the need for this provision to continue. As always, I am on the lookout for more volunteers for this group. However, we have recently been fortunate enough to welcome Heather onto the team. Please pray for more like her.

At the end of last year, for new parents that found the lively atmosphere of the Thursday group ‘overwhelming’, we began to provide a Monday afternoon quiet space, which is referred to as B2B (Birth to first Birthday).

It is my plan to extend the B2B group to also include provision for families going through the stages of pregnancy. Before I can do this however, I need to undergo training in antenatal awareness. My training begins in May!

Kids Matter

Families that meet the criteria to take part in ‘Kids Matter’ are now invited to attend the programme, which will commence in March. This will be our launch into facilitating this type of provision. Exciting times!

School Visits

Dates are now in the diary for me to conduct assemblies at all the local primary schools that I have been assigned to.

Wider Local Community Projects

Dates are yet to be confirmed for projects taking place at the library in South Molton

Photographs

Please see photos of all past children and family events on our website.

Linda Mitchell

Sunday Club and Messy Church dates for 2020

Messy Church at South Molton Methodist Church
4.00pm – 6.00pm (Refreshments included)

Messy Church at South Molton Methodist Church
4.00pm – 6.00pm (Refreshments included)

Date	Theme
19th January	In the Beginning
22nd March	The Dreamer
17th May	The Lion's Den
19th July	Secrets Shared
20th September	Good Friends
15th November	The Battle

Sunday Club at South Molton Methodist Church
11.00am – 12noon

Date	Story Focus
5th January	Miriam – Caring Sister
2nd February	Barnabas – Kind Encourager
1st March	Deborah - Brave Prophetess
5th April	Palm Sunday
3rd May	Ester – Bold Petitioner
7th June	Peter Courageous Preacher
5th July	Abraham – Trusting Follower
2nd August	Mary – Devoted believer
6th September	Moses – Faithful Leader
4th October	Lydia – Sincere Seeker
1st November	David – Man after Gods own Heart
6th December	Mary – Obedient Servant

“For I know
the plans I
have for
you.”



Jeremiah
29:11 ESV

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Deborah (The prophet)



Dates for your Diary

March

4th—Burrington James Marshall talk on thatching 7.00pm

10th— Burrington Chapel Council Meeting 7.00pm

**29th— North Molton Circuit service followed by tea
3.00pm**

29th— Chittlehampton Church Circuit service 3.00pm

April

3rd— Burrington Concert by the Jubilate Singers 7.30pm

**5th—Ashreigney Palm Sunday walk of Witness from the
village hall 10.45**

**9th—Chittlehampton Maundy Thursday Passover meal in
School Room 7.00pm**

12th—Chittlehampton United walk of Witness 10.00am

**26th— Annual Rogation service at Brightly Barton Umber-
leigh**

May

**3rd—Methodist Women in Britain Easter offering at South
Molton Methodist Church 11.00am**

**31st— Churches together service in the Pannier Market in
the morning**

From the Editors

This edition of Rejoice Magazine has been edited by Denise and Pip Lerwill (nutynora@gmail.com)

Our Address is 20 Kingsway, South Molton, Devon EX36 4AJ

The ABSOLUTE deadline for the next edition is Friday **15th** of May 2020. Entries may be posted, emailed, put in the Rejoice Pigeon Hole in the Church Hall or handed to one of us personally.

Either way, they must be with us by the deadline.
One or two items were not included in the current magazine as they arrived too late!

Please may we say a big thank you to all those who have proof read the magazine this month. It can be a daunting task but your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Thank you

Denise and Pip