

NETWORK

Cullompton Baptist Church

April & May 2019

Minister: Rev. Glen Graham 01884 34077 Church Secretary: Marilyn Bidmead 07749 086976

Hello, and welcome to our magazine. I hope you find something to stimulate you in this issue.

One sentence changed the course of human history. *“He is not here, he is risen”!*

The angel’s words, spoken to the women tending Jesus’ body, had huge implications for them and the whole world.

For the women, the time of grief and disappointment was over as they became the witnesses to the promised Resurrection. For the disciples, it meant their dreams of a new rule of God, in which they would take part, were very much alive. For the world, it meant that God’s sacrifice for sin had been accepted and the final enemy death had been conquered. It also meant that the followers of Jesus’ from that moment were part of a new people who lived by his power exercised through the church of God’s rule of justice, love and peace.

I reminded folk at our recent A.G.M. that as a local church, we are those who are being made holy by the Holy Spirit. We are also priests who serve each other within the fellowship of our church and in the wider community where we live. If the power that raised Jesus from the dead is within each one of us, then the world can truly be changed by our prayers and our sharing of the Gospel in word and deed.

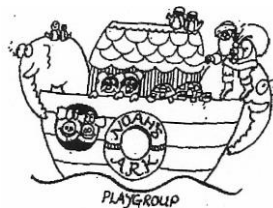
We look forward to sharing the drama of the Easter story through our services. I want to draw your attention to our **Maundy Thursday** gathering. We meet at 7 p.m. on 18th April to share a simple meal and communion. For those of us who go, this has become a highlight of our year.

In closing, I want to draw your attention to a couple of things from our A.G.M. I am pleased to tell you that Joan Jenkins and David Alder were both elected as deacons. Please pray for them and all our deacons as they seek to serve us. We also want to try out a transport scheme. Many folk need lifts to medical appointments or to church meetings. I am looking for some willing drivers who subject to their availability may be able to offer lifts to people. If folk would benefit from a lift, please give me a ring on **01884 34077** and I will try to match you up with a driver. If you want to volunteer your driving services, please let me know.

May the Lord bless you all this Easter time.

Yours in Christ.

Glen and Rowan Graham.



Noah’s Ark Preschool report for the 2018/2019 Cullompton Baptist Church A.G.M.

To all our friends at Cullompton Baptist Church.
It’s really hard to believe that another year has flown by... And what a year we had.

2018/2019 has again been a year of change and growth for us at preschool. Opening for 5 full days has made a huge impact on the care, support and education we have been able to give to the children, parents and their wider families. We are so lucky to have recruited 2 wonderful members of staff this year who have already made a massive amount of changes to the way we run. I for one am really excited for the coming year and what other changes we can make to enhance the early years experience for these children.

Our reputation for supporting children is growing rapidly. Comments from visitors to the preschool are “aren’t they calm” “it looks really fun here I want to stay and play”. We are moving across to giving children experience with real life items—such as china cups and saucers for the role play area, hammers, nails, saws, etc. and further away from plastic toys. This is called the Curiosity Approach. We provide real items that can be used for open ended play—such as small wood slices, which can be coins or treasure.

Our partnership with Tesco and the food-share scheme has continued to be very successful and beneficial to our snack time and families. Although there is a lot less than in previous years due to Tesco finally sorting their policies to produce less food waste.

Bridge Books, Connecting people to God, 3 Okehampton Street, Exeter EX4 1DW. 01392 427171, sales@bridgebookshop.co.uk, <http://www.bridgebookshop.co.uk>
Discover a large selection for all ages of Bibles, Christian books, Children’s and teaching resources, gifts, cards, artwork, music and D.V.D. Shop open Monday to Saturday 9.30 am to 5 pm.

Our Early Birds club continues to be a great success—opening for an extra half an hour at the start of a session has attracted more families to us as we are the only preschool in the town to offer this. We are looking at a very busy Summer once again. The Autumn term is already looking very busy!

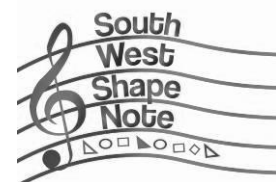
Over the Summer we were able to give the garden a makeover which has been really well used. We are very lucky to have the support of Men in Sheds to help us with getting it all done.

On a sadder note, our dear friend and former preschool assistant at Noah's Ark, Sue Fox, died at the end of February. Her funeral is 29th March at 1.30 at the crematorium. Sue worked at Noah's Ark until 2011 and then continued to help us out with lunches and extra cover until 2015 when she retired (again) to spend more time with her family. Sue was responsible for designing the Noah's Ark logo and for making the wall hanging that we still have displayed today. We will have something appear in the garden soon in her memory.

On behalf of the committee, staff, children and parents I really want to thank you for your support of our group over this last year. We hope this coming year is a fantastic year for you all and Cullompton in general.

With kind regards,

Wendy Manager, Noah's Ark Preschool



The next **South West Sacred Harp Singing Day** is on Saturday 8th June 2019 in the Schoolroom. Several of the congregation have come along on previous days to listen or to sing with us, so don't be left out, come and see what we do and perhaps join us for a cuppa!

Doors open at 10.00 a.m., we sing from 10.30 a.m. - 4.30 p.m., so do pop in at any time. There is no set charge, but we do take up a collection to cover costs and to make an extra contribution to church funds.

Sacred Harp music (part of the "shape-note" tradition) is both worship music and a chance to have a jolly good sing! Think community singing with hymns, sung in unaccompanied, robust four part harmony. We sing from The Sacred Harp, an American hymn book dating from 1844. Some tunes you might recognise from English hymn singing, some from folk songs or films, others will sound like nothing you have ever heard before! The songs, many based on metrical versions of the psalms, speak of all life's experiences. We do not rehearse, we are not performing, we are sharing the music, and would love to share it with you too!

Contact us for more information on 01884 563138.
Steve: 07976 605692, steve@mulberryhouse.org.uk
Martin: 07721 451406, catherwoodsreticule@hotmail.co.uk



Church Diary *Welcome!*

service

You are welcome to join in any of our activities. Newcomers to the town and holiday visitors are particularly welcome.



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Services are at 10.30 on a Sunday morning. We have a regular Morning Sunday School. Children take part in the 10.30 service before going to their own activity. Please join us after the service for coffee in the Hall.

April

7 th	am	Rev. Glen Graham
14 th	am	Rev. Glen Graham— <i>Communion</i>
21 st	am	Rev. Glen Graham— <i>Easter Sunday</i>
28 th	am	David Beazley (Leprosy Mission)

May

5 th	am	Rev. Glen Graham
12 th	am	Steve Elland
19 th	am	Rev. Glen Graham— <i>Communion</i>
26 th	am	Rev. Glen Graham

Clark's Court

23rd April.

House Group Monday mornings—venue announced in notices previous Sunday.

Prayer Meeting Sat. 27th Apr. and 18th May 9.30 a.m. in vestry.

Deacons' meeting Mon. 15th April 7 p.m.

Springfest Saturday 13th April
Afternoon tea, Traidcraft and Sunflower planting 3-5 p.m.

Maundy Thursday meal Thursday 18th April, soup and roll.

Good Friday Walk of Witness

Friday 19th April, 10 a.m.
—meet at Tesco?

Culm Valley Crusade Choir Concert

Sunday 21st April 7.30 p.m.

Family film night

Friday 26th April 6 p.m.