

# Crediton Methodist Church



## Weekly Notices

Working out God's love in Crediton

### Sunday 23rd March

10.30am Morning Service in Church led by

Rev Ben Haslam

*Communion*

Hymns: StF20 Be still, for the presence of the Lord

StF464 God it was who said to Abraham

StF568 Alleluia, sing to Jesus

StF548 Blessed assurance

Readings: Genesis 12: 1 – 9

Mark 10: 35 – 45

or join the service from 10:00am on your computer

or mobile app with Worship on the Web

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

or call in (audio only) - 020 4526 8593

Phone Conference ID: 419 576 441

See [www.creditonmethodist.org.uk](http://www.creditonmethodist.org.uk) or phone 01363 777308 for details

**Dear All,**

Two lads were looking forward to their day out together. They'd set off early and arrived at Waterloo Station in good time to catch the train to Alton. The journey took just under 1½ hours and, on disembarking, they were excited to get as quickly as possible to their destination. It was in the early 1990s, before the days of mobile phones and GPS navigation. They assumed it would be obvious how to get there from the station - it was after all the largest theme park in the UK. After wandering around for quite a while and eventually asking for help they came to the shocking realisation of the predicament they were in. I wonder if you can guess? They were totally in the wrong place. Alton Towers is in Staffordshire and they were in Alton, Hampshire! A real 'schoolboy error'!

I first heard about this escapade on my son's wedding day when his Best Man retold the tale in his speech of how he and Simon, on a trip out during their school Half Term, had ended up 200 miles away from where they expected to be!

Not long after we moved to Devon, for one of our days out exploring the local area we planned to go to Bampton. I looked online at the 'Visit Bampton' site for information. It explained Bampton had been a wealthy wool town, gave details of an interesting town trail and also recommended a riverside walk. It mentioned that part of the walking route would be along Thames Path. Really? We used to live close to the River Thames in Hampton, but that's 190 miles away. Something was clearly not quite right.

Slowly it dawned on me that there is another Bampton. It's a Cotswold town in Oxfordshire, where Downton Abbey was filmed. Confusion had arisen because of the similarities in that both 'Bamptons' had become wealthy as a result of the wool trade and both also had river tributaries flowing through the town. In Bampton, Devon, however, it flows to the River Exe (not the Thames!)

These examples of being in the wrong place have resonance with the parables of the lost coin and the lost sheep. What happened wasn't deliberate. The coin perhaps just got dropped and rolled away, the sheep simply wandered off and ended up not being in the right place. Like the woman who searched for the missing coin and the shepherd who left everything to look for his sheep, God shows His unconditional love and grace in that, when have gone astray or are lost, inadvertently or in whatever way, He will search and find us. 'Amazing grace' indeed, so that we can say "I once was lost but now am found". *Hilary*

## FOR OUR PRAYERS AT HOME:

Loving Lord, as with your Son Jesus Christ when he was wandering in the desert, being tempted, we too feel the need of help and guidance in our lives.

Thank you for those times when despite feeling without a rudder, needing direction, we suddenly become aware and feel your presence with us and the confirmation that we are never alone.

Dear Lord, bless us and keep us in your reassuring presence this and every day, trusting in your endless goodness and filling us with faith in you and confidence in your undoubted plan in our lives. AMEN

*"Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. For it is written worship the Lord your God, and serve him only."* Matthew 4 v 1

Week beginning Saturday 22nd March		
Sat 22nd March	10:00-11:30 am	Together 4 Coffee donations for Methodist Women in Britain
Sun 23rd March	10:30 am	Worship in church or on the Webb lead by Rev Ben Haslam
Mon 24th March	8:00am	Start the week in prayer in church or wherever you are
	3:30—5:00pm	Big Top
Wed 26th March	10:30am	Lent Coarse
Fri 28th March	10:00 -12:00pm	Coffee and Chat
Sat 29th March	10:00 -11:30 am	Together 4 Coffee donations for All We Can
Sun 30th March	10:30 am	Worship in the Church or on the web led by Pam Murphy

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

Saturday 12th April - Film Night

Sunday 27th April- Church Anniversary and Lunch

Saturday 17th May - Beetle Drive

Saturday 24th May - Table Top Sale

Saturday 28th June- Strawberry Tea

Saturday 12th July -"Away day " to Budliegh Salterton details to be announced

#### Contact Details

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Notices to Gill by noon on Thursday please.

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