

The Methodist Church

Sidwell Street Exeter

Services 10.30am every Sunday
and 6.30pm on the first Sunday of
the month.



Update

Our Monthly News

March 2017

Dear Sisters and Brothers!

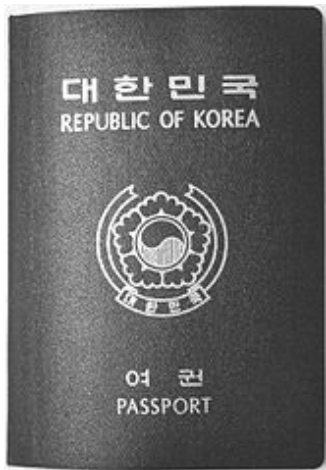
I feel that I have not been at Sidwell Street for ages, mainly because I have been on holiday in Korea. It was my first visit back there in what has been a year of 'firsts'. In my first year in the ministry I have been very busy because whatever I did, it was my first time. However, it does not mean that I was busy only with the ministry but also preparing for my visit back to my family in Korea. I had my first experience of shopping to buy presents for my 18 month old niece. When my father was in hospital with pneumonia she was only about three months old and even though he eagerly wanted to see her, he was not able to see her even once before he died. So I decided to 'seize the day' and as a result went slightly 'overboard' with gifts for my niece!

I was very excited while I was buying and packing her presents because I could imagine how excited she would be with her presents. Even on the day, as I carried my suitcase, which was full of presents, I was very happy because I would see her the very next day. I have not seen her since last summer even though I have often spoken with her over Skype.

I started driving to my friend's house in London, where I was to park my car. Then I planned to travel from there to Heathrow Airport.



When I was just about to pass by Honiton I suddenly realised that, with my mind full of her presents, I had left my passport at home. I hesitated to go back home because I had already been driving for about twenty minutes and I had not given myself much time. If I returned home and had to come back to the same point near Honiton I would waste another forty minutes. For a three hours & twenty minute drive another forty minutes on top was a big chunk of time for me especially as I am not familiar with motorway driving. However, as I am fully aware that no one can travel without a valid passport, from my experience working in an airline, I had to come back to pick it up.



Brothers and sisters!!!

I believe our journey to the Father is the same as my journey to Korea. Just as I have to present my valid passport to go home at the check-in desk, you and I should have Jesus Christ who is the Way to the Father within us when we enter into the Father's house. This is because there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we can be saved (Acts 4:12). But there's an issue here, as no one knows when we are going to enter His house. Even though I had my passport at home, I couldn't prove to the check-in agent that I have a valid passport except by presenting my passport at the check-in desk; you and I cannot say that we had Jesus in or with us in the past. So it is that whenever our time comes, Jesus should be presented with us when we enter His house. Therefore, Jesus Christ should always be present in and with, you and me. So I would encourage and pray that each one of you and I, have and keep the faith in Jesus until we enter into His house at His time.

By the way, my niece was delighted with all her presents!

Yangsun



Church Family News

Anne Edwardson writes “Thank you for the interest, good wishes & prayers for my replacement hip operation. As so many of you told me to behave myself in hospital—I did! The op was very successful, the surgeon & anaesthetist were pleased and willing to recommend surgery on my other hip. I am recovering well and look forward to being back with you in early March”. Better news too from **Diana Jones**, who is now permitted to walk outside and beginning to socialise once more. We hope to see you back with us very soon. Both **Betty Hicks** and **Linda Cory** have needed to be in hospital recently and we wish them both better health than they’ve been experiencing.



Congratulations are in order for **Mary & Richard Euridge** who will be celebrating their Golden Wedding on March 18th. We wish you many more years of happy marriage. **Angela Grant** thanks all those who sent cards, good wishes & generally contributed to make her recent birthday a really ‘special’ one!



Our condolences are offered to the family of **Don Long**, a long-standing member of Sidwell Street, cared for in the last few years by his family in Sussex. We think too of other members of our congregation who have suffered bereavements and those worried about other health situations. Named or un-named, you are in our prayers and in God’s loving care.



Tuesday Fellowship

You are welcome to come and enjoy the fellowship on Tuesday afternoons in the Reed Hall. The meetings start at 2.30pm, have elements of worship and usually a speaker and of course no meeting would be complete without a cup of tea and a bit of chatter! There is no pressure to attend every Tuesday but hopefully there is something in the following programme you will find of interest.

March 7th Rev Paul Collings City Centre Chaplaincy

This meeting also includes a Bring & Buy stall

March 14th Members' Afternoon

March 21st Mrs Ronnie Tanner Florence Nightingale



March 28th Mr John Tucker 'From City to Sea'

For further details of these meetings, contact Ronnie Tanner on Tel 669355

Company & Craft



In February, Mrs Mary Bailey, had us working with our sewing needles as she guided us in the art of quilting and inspired us by showing some of the beautiful articles she has made. A change of needles when we meet in the Reed Hall on **Friday 3rd March**, starting at 2.30pm.

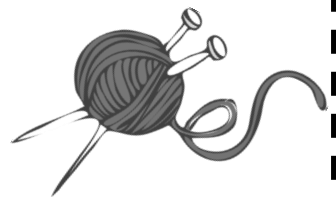
This month we shall be knitting

for premature babies and Mrs Mary Euridge will be giving us some guidance. If you have any baby wool, double knitting, 3 or 4 ply, please bring it along and any needles sizes 8,10 11 or 12.

Do come along and bring your friends.

It doesn't matter if you don't knit, you can

still enjoy the company and help make the tea!



Men's Group

Everyone is welcome (ladies too) on **Wednesday 8th March** in the Linger Longer Lounge starting at 7.30pm. This month our minister Rev Yangsun Yi will be talking to us and there will also be chocolate cake on offer with your cup of tea.

We look forward to seeing you .



Rainbow Community Garden



Now spring approaches, the Community Garden has opened again. You are welcome to come along each Monday from 3.30pm and help with the jobs that need doing, planting the garlic, spreading some compost or tying in the broad beans. Please make an extra effort to come on

March 1st when apart form the AGM you will be able to enjoy Welsh cakes!

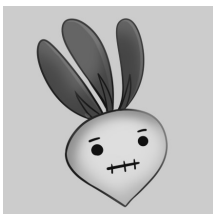
Hints for Christian Gardeners

Plant five rows of P's - Presence, Promptness, Preparation, Perseverance and Purity.

Three rows of Squash - Squash gossip, Squash criticism, Squash indifference.

Four rows of Lettuce - Let us be faithful to the work,
Let us be unselfish in our service,
Let us be true to our obligations,
Let us be obedient to the rules of the world.

Remember that no garden is complete without turnips.



Turn up for meetings, Turn up with a smile,
Turn up with a willingness to serve, Turn up on time.

These plants can be sown at any time, but for best results, they should be carefully cultivated all the time.

Dear Sidwell Street Friends

For a while, Roslyn & I felt that although we were very happy at Sidwell Street, we should move to a nearer church, to which we can get under our own steam, i.e. walk! I recovered from cancer in 2010 but the chemotherapy had a permanent effect, so we asked Yangsun to transfer our membership to Wonford.

In 1972 we moved from Plymouth to Topsham and soon I preached at Sidwell Street and at Wonford. At Sidwell Street I first met the late Harold Gayton, who very graciously was unperturbed when I told him we were distantly related through family connections in North Devon.

In 1995, I was able to retire early and was invited to a lay pastoral role at The Mint, so we transferred there. Sadly the then chairman of the district became ill, so David Laidler took over as Chair of the district temporarily and I was asked to fulfil a pastoral role at Sidwell Street for a time. Equally sadly David also became ill and he asked me to carry on and hold the fort, so we transferred here. The pastoral role extended for longer than expected until Andrew Brazier arrived from college as a Probationer and lifted up our spirits. The time at Sidwell Street was an experience which I cherish and am grateful for the kindness and forbearance shown to me then and to Roslyn and I ever since.

Roslyn and I do intend to keep in touch with you, particularly at the Badminton Club (Roslyn) and on Wednesday mornings (Roger). There are decisions and changes to be made at Sidwell Street and we shall pray that you and Yangsun together will maintain your Christian fellowship and witness.

Very best wishes,

Roger (Thorne)

Dementia Awareness

Dementia is a word used to describe a group of symptoms including memory loss, confusion, mood changes and difficulty with day-to-day tasks. You are invited to hear Marion Pollinger speak on **Monday 27th February** at 2.30pm in the Rowe Hall at The Mint Methodist Church. Marion is campaigning for a more Dementia Friendly Devon and this meeting may be of particular interest to our Pastoral Visitors, Stewards and those on the welcoming rota.



Church Meetings

Would members of Church Council please note that there has been a change of date, we shall meet on **Monday 16th October** at 7.30pm.

The Annual Church Meeting, which is open for everybody connected with the church, not just council members, will be held after the morning service on **Sunday 30th April** and we shall then share a Faith Lunch together.



The Iona Community is holding a Regional gathering at

The Mint Methodist Church on **Saturday 18th March**

from 11.00am - 4.00pm

Facing up to Fear : Opening up to Hope

Please see further details on the poster in the vestibule


Lunch at Otter Nurseries

Once again our church will be meeting at Otter Nurseries to enjoy lunch together on **Thursday 9th March**. We shall be meeting there at 12 Noon for 12.30pm. Please sign the list in the vestibule if you intend to come and either need or can offer a lift. If you wish to invite a friend to join us, please do so. Smaller meals are available if requested when your order is placed.



Action for Children

Diana Jones has decided that she is no longer able to call in the Action for Children collecting boxes and we are looking for someone to take this job on. At the moment there are 16 collectors and the boxes are brought in once a year during April/May. This is a charity that Sidwell Street supports very generously and the boxes make up a considerable part of that support. If anyone feels they could take on this task, please speak to Janice Price,

 01392 437075