

Christ Church Barnstaple Methodist/United Reformed

News Update June 2025

Communication is important!

We'd like to have The Messenger, in colour and with photos, up and running again in the near future – meanwhile, this Update has news of both regular and special events. Please do share it widely.

If you (or someone you know) could become more involved in producing future editions of The Messenger, PLEASE speak to one of the elders, or to me.

Marilyn

Website: www.christ-church-barnstaple.org.uk

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AWAY DAY 2025:

Saturday June 14th, 10.00am – 4.30pm

Westward Ho! Baptist Church.

Still just chance to book for what promises to be a very enjoyable day (contact Anthea Coates 01237 471740). A day shared with Newport, Sticklepath, Fremington and High Bickington, exploring how, where and why, God is leading us as a group of churches, into the future. Transport can be arranged if needed.

For those who are coming: Please don't forget to bring with you an example of a special talent or skill, or simply something you enjoy doing, to share with others; and also (if possible) do bring a musical instrument which you play (even if it is the spoons!)

The day will help us, as a group of churches, as we look forward to welcoming, and working with, Deacon Sheralee from September.

June Diary

Sun	1 st	10.30am 3.00pm	Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev. Sue Macbeth Causeway Service
Tues	3 rd	No Tuesday morning Communion this month	
Sun	8 th	10.30am 4.30pm	Morning Worship: Alison Cairns Café Church
Mon	9 th	10.00am	Sound It Out
Sun	15 th	10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev. Marilyn Tricker
Sun	22 nd	10.30am	Morning Worship: Brenda Prentice
Mon	23 rd	10.00am 2.30pm	Sound It Out Friendship Group: Cream Tea
Sat	28 th	2.30pm	Games Afternoon, with tea – all welcome.
Sun	29 th	10.30am 6.30pm	Morning Worship: Shirley Baxter Oasis (a time of worship and reflection)

Regular meetings:

Tuesdays: Rainbows and Brownies 5.30pm (term-time only)

Wednesdays: Parents and Toddlers 9.30am (term-time only)

Thursdays: Twins (Multiples) 10.00 – 12.00am (term-time only)

Thursdays: Circuit Zoom Service 7.00pm

All welcome on any Friday:

Hobnob Coffee Morning 10.00 – 11.30am

Other Events in June

Sat. June 14th - Church Away Day (see elsewhere)

Sat. June 28th 2.30 – 4.00pm Games Afternoon, with tea – all welcome.

Join the Feast and explore the Gospel of John: During June, the Circuit is encouraging all churches to use Bible Month resources – this year focussing on the Gospel of John.

Tues. mornings: June 3rd, 24th, (NOT 10th or 17th) and July 1st
10.30am at Christ Church Braunton

Repeated on:

Wed. afternoons: June 4th, 25th, (NOT 11th or 18th) and July 2nd
2.30pm at Sticklepath Methodist Church

Sunday services in June

Recent Elders' Meetings have taken a snapshot of our church life. We are being challenged by changes which very few foresaw years ago, and we can all feel overwhelmed at times. So in our services this month we are all asked to listen for ways we might respond as a church and actions we can take as individuals.

At least one aspect of each service – maybe hymns, prayers, Scripture, address or conversation – will draw attention to how God may be calling us, and challenging each of us to make a personal response. Each leader of worship will take their own approach.

So: how will God be speaking to you in the coming weeks?
These are exciting times!

Churches Together in Barnstaple

- CTiB have a new website: www.ctib.org.uk Have a look!
- During the week before Pentecost (30th May – 6th June) we are especially encouraged to pray for our local area here in North Devon.
- Pentecost Weekend (6th – 8th June): “Love North Devon” activities. Includes churches finding various ways of ‘Blessing Communities’ on the Saturday

Sat. June 7th at 7.00pm, Barnstaple Baptist Church.

Update on Ukraine.

A visit from David Bute who leads a Christian Ministry in Cherkasy, Ukraine. All are welcome to come and learn more about what is happening, and to gain understanding for our ongoing prayers for Ukraine.

Friendship Group: Summer meetings (at 2.30pm)

Mon. June 23rd Cream Tea

Mon. July 14th Games Afternoon and Tea

Mon. Aug. 11th Quiz with Dave Stephens

Northern Devon Foodbank:

There are official Foodbank Centres in Barnstaple, Bideford, Braunton, Holsworthy, Ilfracombe, South Molton (plus a new centre at St Peter’s Church Hall) Fremington. The foodbanks operate using a voucher referral system. See: www.northerndevon.foodbank.org.uk

Christ Church has regularly supported the Foodbank, especially at harvest time. There is also a box in the foyer where donations of food (and other essentials) may be left – though many people give through collection points in supermarkets and other shops.

Ongoing needs, especially with families in mind, include: Tinned vegetables, meat, fish and soup; cooking sauces; longlife milk and fruit juice; tinned fruit, rice pudding, custard; jams and spreads.

Christian Aid Week:

The Big Brekkie raised £302.25. A great, happy event, supported by a good number of folk from the church and Hobnob, friends and family. It was good to welcome Ian Roome MP. Many thanks to all involved.

STOP PRESS!! Plant sale for Christian Aid on May 23rd raised £365

Causeway:

We've begun looking at the Lord's Prayer.

In May Kathryn led the worship. The service focused on:

'Our Father who art in Heaven, Hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, Your will be done, as it is in Heaven.'

Everyone drew a beautiful garden and went home with a reminder to reflect on how the Holy Spirit helps us to be like Jesus and to do the things God asks us to do.

On June 1st Rev. Marilyn will lead us in thinking about "Give us this day our daily bread.

All are welcome!

Café Church: Pentecost Sunday June 9th 4.30 – 6.00pm

Everyone is invited to come along to celebrate Pentecost Sunday!

Some of the team will be away – **SO please bring your own picnic** (not bring and share!).

Drinks (and some extra goodies) will be provided.

Come and reign, O Christ,
in our home and its life;
in our church and its mission;
in our nation and its politics;
in our world and its affairs.
Come, O Christ. Come and reign.

Written by Mary Sumner (1828 – 1921)
As relevant to our world today as it was then

A hymn written for Thy Kingdom Come – a global ‘Wave of Prayer’ in the 10 days between Ascension and Pentecost (29th May – 8th June)

This year ‘Thy Kingdom Come’ resources are exploring the Lord’s Prayer, under the title: “The Lord’s Prayer: How to Pray, How to Live. (this runs alongside the ‘Love North Devon’ resources)
This hymn seems so relevant to our society today.

We seek your kingdom throughout every sphere
We long for heaven’s demonstration here,
Jesus your light shine bright for all to see
 Transform, revive, and heal society

Before all things, in him were all things made
Inspiring culture, media, and trade
May all our work serve your economy
 Transform, revive, and heal society

Peace, truth, and justice reigning everywhere
With us be present in our public square
Fill all who lead with your integrity
 Transform, revive, and heal society

Forgive us Lord, when we have not engaged
Failing to scribe your heart on history’s page
Make us again what we were made to be
 Transform, revive, and heal society.

Faithful to govern ever may we be
Selfless in service, loving constantly
In everything may your authority
 Transform, revive, and heal society.

Written by Noel Robinson, Andy Flannagan, & Graham Hunter
Sung to the tune of ‘Abide with me’

From the Elders' meeting, Wednesday 14th May 2025

- Rev. Stephen opened with prayer and readings.
- Four apologies were noted, and minutes approved.
- News of the fellowship was shared and prayers said.
- The safeguarding report had been circulated, details noted; thanks to Maureen Thomas, safeguarding officer.
- No new report from the Worship Group.
- Church practical issues.
 - Finding a new bookcase for the worship resources in the 'little chapel' is ongoing.
 - URGENT: volunteer to produce/edit our church magazine, the Messenger. Help available. Please speak to an elder or Rev Marilyn Tricker.
- Action for Children. Rev Marilyn gave an update – the 'Multiples' group will meet in our premises this term so that both we and they can see how it could work, and if it could carry on into the future. They will be supported each week by two people from Christ Church; Hobnob have offered some financial help.
- Finance. Several people have responded positively to the appeal to increase weekly giving. It remains to be seen if this will be sufficient to keep us a viable congregation. URGENT: Still looking for a new treasurer!
- Property. Updating the notice board + weeding outside is in hand. Water heater in the ladies toilet has been on order for a while – we may need to look for a different plumber.
- The young church. Parents & Toddlers, Rainbows and Brownies all thriving. Thanks to all involved in any way.
- Dates: Fri. 30th May – children's activities at Hobnob; Sat. 31st May – afternoon tea, Sat. 18th Oct. – Quiz & Pasty evening, Sat. 8th Nov. – simplified version of the church fair.
- The church website is undergoing a major update.
- Next meeting Mon. 9th June at 7:00pm, at church.

Our Mission Statement:

Christ Church seeks to express the love of Christ for everyone.

All at Christ Church Barnstaple are committed to the following Safeguarding Principles:

- The care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and all adults.
- The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable.
- The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.

(Methodist Safeguarding Guidelines, online: www.methodist.org.uk)

Contacts:

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Rev. Stephen Caddick: 01271 345956

Alison Cairns (Church Secretary) 343154 alisoncairns@hotmail.com

Kathy Jeacock (Church Treasurer) 373555

Church Elders: Chris Marshall, Jenny Newman, Staveley Dawson, Janet Marshall, Shirley Baxter, Elaine Stevens, Anthea Coates, Jennifer Allen

Pastoral Team (Church Friends): Shirley Baxter and Elaine Stevens

Room Bookings: 371808

Christian Aid Reps: Janet Marshall and Paula Littlewood

Janet: jcbmar18@btinternet.com

Information for the July News Update: to Rev. Marilyn Tricker (marilyn@mtricker.plus.com) by Wed. 18th June – so copies can be printed for Sunday 29th June

