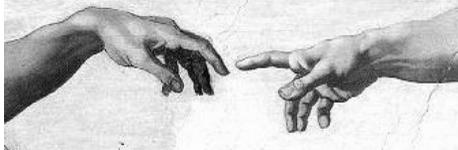


In touch



information from Strand Church

the church at the centre of town

April 2014

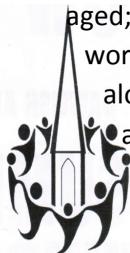
FROM THE MINISTER

Easter is a time of new beginnings, reflected in the new growth of spring, but centring on the transformation which God brings about in our lives as a result of the resurrection of Jesus.

Peter, devastated by his betrayal of Jesus, is forgiven by the risen Jesus at the lakeside, and is commissioned to lead the group of disciples. Later Paul, the leading persecutor of the church, encounters the risen Jesus on his way to Damascus and he leads the church in understanding what it means to be a follower of Jesus - with new beginnings for Gentiles as well as Jews and for women and slaves as well as men and citizens. New beginnings are possible if we allow ourselves to be transformed by the risen Lord.

United Christian Action in Dawlish and District offers the Strand Community Trust the opportunity of new beginnings in the Inspire Café as it takes a share in its management; it also offers new relationships with the town through its Advice Centre for traders, its Nightshift (on the streets this month), and for debtors through its links with Christians Against Poverty.

Another development with the potential to be a significant new beginning is Life, Love and Praise, which is Churches Together's monthly free worship event of modern songs, prayer and short address. It is held in our auditorium; it is culturally relevant, particularly but not exclusively to the younger middle aged; and it provides worship for those who find traditional church worship unenthusiastic. It is not for everyone, but it is worth coming along to catch a sense of the presence and power of the Holy Spirit and to be lost in worship, love and praise, and as it enables Christians to sense the Lord's presence it transforms them and it can be a new beginning for the rest of us.



ROGER WHITEHEAD

RAM GIDOOMAL'S VISIT A GREAT SUCCESS



Everyone seems to have regarded Ram Gidoomal's visit last month as a great success. At the centre of it was Ram himself, a humble Christian deeply committed to serve the world in Christ's name, particularly those least able to help themselves. His talk to the traders attracted nearly 20 with as many sending their apologies. He spoke simply and challengingly about looking for opportunities and then seizing them. He stressed that Dawlish has a unique window of opportunity created by the publicity over the railway, and it should take advantage of the publicity. He was also able to announce that UCADD would consult with the traders about establishing an Advice Centre offering one-to-one help on a range of topics which concern small businesses.

The churches' party was also a great success. About 100 Christians and their friends enjoyed a delightful buffet lunch provided by Anglicans, Methodists and the URC, after which Ram spoke about his life in business and politics, urging everyone to get involved as an expression of God's unconditional love for the world. As one person said, "I could have listened to him all afternoon." Ram also commended the setting up of UCADD and the demonstrable way in which people were working together following the example of the minsters and church leaders, In a spontaneous gesture challenged UCADD to set up a Fairtrade shop in the Strand Centre and offered all goods with a 30% discount! He then formally opened the Inspire Community Café by unveiling a large banner – a visible sign of Christian unity serving the community.

The Jeffersonian Dinner ended the day well. It is named after the early American president who invited community leaders to dinner, banned small talk, and got them discussing matters of state. Thirteen people gathered for a delightful meal provided by Dawlish Christian Fellowship to talk about how together we can help the town. The conversation stressed the importance of bringing the right people together to take projects forward; but it is important to know what people want.

It was recognised that it is sometimes hard to get much needed volunteers. It is important we bear in mind the lifestyle of those in the 40s-50s with children.

Getting people involved is the best way to build sustainability in any project.

When the discussion turned to the vision for Dawlish in 2020, the railway dominated thinking. The consensus was that Dawlish needs to build on that. Ideas included a working large model of the Atmospheric Railway, a railway museum (Ram suggested possibly funded by a community bond) and imaginative ways of preventing further storm damage to the railway, including creating a lagoon by building a breakwater of stone between Coryton Bay and Red Rock to absorb the ferocity of a stormy sea, which would provide a lagoon for swimming, sailing and other sea activities. Those present, including Anne-Marie Morris MP, agreed that they would like to have another Jeffersonian dinner.

UCADD is very grateful to everyone who helped to make the day a memorable one.

SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Maundy Thursday (17th) 8.00



Tenebrae (in the auditorium)

A quiet meditative service reflecting the growing darkness of the day. It includes Holy Communion

Good Friday (18th)



11.00 **Good Friday Meditation** (our church)

A devotional service leading into a procession to The Lawn for the Churches Together Open Air service.

12.00 **Open Air Service of Witness** (on The Lawn)

Our traditional ecumenical service of readings, hymns and sharing of hot cross buns.



7.00 **Celebration of the Crucifixion** (auditorium)

This month's Love, Life & Praise reflects on the triumph of the cross with appropriate songs and prayers

Easter Day (20th)



5.45 **Dawn Service** (on the beach)

Celebrate the resurrection at the hour when the women found the tomb empty. On the beach (Jesus met his disciples on a beach). Breakfast will follow in the Strand Hall.

10.30 **Easter Celebration** with Holy Communion

A service for all ages, and eggs for the children!

UNITED CHRISTIAN ACTION IN DAWLISH AND DISTRICT

At its last meeting the UCADD Board began to take forward the inspiration which came from Ram Gidoomal's visit.

Setting up the Advice Centre meetings UCADD is committed to holding a monthly Advice Centre at which Christian business people will engage on a one-to-one basis with traders. Several names have been suggested; the idea will be developed at a joint meeting with the Chamber of Trade on 1st May to which all traders will be invited.

The next Jeffersonian dinner It was agreed to hold another Jeffersonian dinner, the details of which would be discussed at the next meeting. News of this has reached Eric Pickles MP, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government who has asked to be kept informed about it.

Inviting inspirational speakers Ram Gidoomal's visit was first thought of as bringing an inspirational speaker to Dawlish to encourage and enthuse local Christians. Detailed thought is needed on the format and timing of such meetings and the speakers; this will be done at the next meeting.

Meeting together for prayer Ram emphasised the importance of the ministers being spiritually together, and it was to meet monthly for breakfast and prayer; the first one will be on Thursday 15th May from 8.00 to 10.00 in the Strand Centre. All those attending the Board meeting would be invited to attend the inaugural meeting, after which it would be decided whether this should be particularly for the Ministers Group.

Ministers Away Day It was agreed that the regular meetings of the church leaders on their own had been crucial in the development of UCADD. The ministers agreed to hold an Away Day (or half day) in autumn 2014 when the Methodist probationer minister is in place.

The Inspire Community Café The Board is considering a draft Agreement between UCADD and the Strand Community Trust to run the Inspire Community Café as a joint venture. It will be overseen by a Joint Management Committee appointed by both bodies tasked with seeing the café reaches its full potential. In addition volunteers need to be recruited. It is likely that someone with commercial experience will work with the Joint Management Committee on its development and the proposed Traidcraft shop.

Nightshift The training for Nightshift is progressing. Teignbridge District Council had promised a substantial grant to add to the £2,500 grants already confirmed.



Initiative in Christian Education in Dawlish (ICE Dawlish) Simon Croft reported on a very satisfactory appraisal of Kay Partridge after six months work. It was agreed to reappoint her for a further six months and that a further appraisal should take place in the summer. During this time discussions are taking place with ICE Exeter about the relationship between it and UCADD.

Christians Against Poverty UCADD is convening a Teignbridge-wide meeting of church leaders on Thursday 3rd April to see whether there was enough support to go ahead with a district-wide CAP. UCADD has prepared a possible Agreement by which a Teignbridge-wide CAP local support group could be established, and this will be part of the discussion.

Youth work The Board learned of the possible closure of Red Rock and the desire of the County Council to find an organisation willing to take on some of its activities, including the Friday night youth club. Board members are looking into whether this is something which UCADD could become involved in.

Other business included discussion about increasing the number of directors from one to two per church, and noting that UCADD has been awarded charity status. Concern was also expressed that there was not adequate representation from the Methodist Church which will have to wait until the Methodist Probationer minister arrives in September. Roman Catholic participation is also being discussed. A meeting with the trustees of Open Daw is being arranged to ensure there is no unnecessary overlap.

A UCADD Concert It was agreed to invite the Cockwood Community Choir to hold a concert in the Strand Centre for UCADD funds. The date will be fixed at the next Board meeting.

The retiring offering About £110 was given in the retiring offering at the party with the intention that half should be given to charities designated by Ram Gidoomal. He has said that UCADD should retain all the offering for its own use. The Board expressed its thanks and appreciation for this.

To become a UCADD Friend phone 889098 or email secretary@ucadd.org

NOTICEBOARD



Lent Lunches for Christian Aid on Fridays 12.00 - 1.30

4th St Agatha's (with St Gregory's) 11th Dawlish Christian Fellowship

Dawlish Art Group Spring Exhibition 22nd to 26th April

Members of the Dawlish Art Group will be holding its annual spring Exhibition in the auditorium setting up on Monday 21st in the afternoon. There will be no other bookings during the week, and the Inspire Café will be open all day and run by the Art Group.

Choir 86 Concert on 10th April



Choir 86 is one of the most popular local choirs, and as we approach the centenary of the start of the first World War, it will be presenting a programme including some of the songs made popular during the wars. Although this is a serious subject, there is both lightness and humour within the material, to provide a thought provoking yet entertaining evening. The proceeds will go to the Ramp Fund.

Male Voice Praise

The annual West Country Festival of Male Voice Praise will be held in Southernhay URC on 5th April at 6.45. More details on the noticeboard.



Want to follow work on repairing the railway?

A new webcam shows the Dawlish beach and the railway works - to get a great view visit www.dawlishbeach.com. It is averaging 50,000 hits per day from all over the world.

FLOOD RELIEF CONCERT

Saturday 5th April at 7 pm

by THE ENTERTAINERS

Entertainers Choir

Organ & piano solos (Aubrey Maybin)

Readings (Geoffrey Wildley)

Violin solo (Caroline Clemens)

Retiring collection for flood relief

CHOIR 86

Thursday 10th at 7.30

REFLECTIONS ON WAR



One of South Devon's most popular choirs

Tickets £5

inc refreshments

for the Ramp Fund





FOR YOUR PRAYERS TOWARDS EASTER

Two Easter hymns to reflect on



When my love to God grows weak,
when for deeper faith I seek,
then in thought I go to thee,
Garden of Gethsemane.

There I walk amid the shades,
while the lingering twilight fades;
see that suffering, friendless one,
weeping, praying there alone.

When my will to love grows weak,
when for stronger faith I seek,
Hill of Calvary, I go
to thy scenes of fear and woe.

There behold his agony,
suffered on the bitter tree;
see his anguish, see his faith,
love triumphant still in death.

Then to life I turn again,
learning all the worth of pain,
learning all the might that lies
in a full self-sacrifice;

and I praise with firmer faith
Christ, who vanquished pain and death;
and to Christ enthroned above
raise my song of selfless love.

God came in Jesus,
human life sharing;
gave his life for us,
suffered and died;
then, Resurrection!
Death could not hold him;
by love's perfection
death was defied.

Then, as they waited,
all of a sudden,
strong and elated,
freed of all cares;
with no misgiving,
joyful apostles
knew that his living
Spirit was theirs.

He will be coming
mighty and glorious
universe humming
loud in acclaim,
through resurrection
all of creation
brought to perfection
praising his name.

Alan Gaunt

OFFERINGS AND OTHER SPECIAL INCOME

Sunday Offerings*

Special Collections and Events

2014 2013

February £1,680 £363 ¥
Year (so far) £2,925 £1,074

Sunday coffee money now goes to
the Centre which provides the coffee

* includes standing orders etc but not Gift Aid rebates ¥ services in the hall

SERVICES IN APRIL



Sunday Morning Services at 10.30 unless otherwise stated

6	Adult Baptism & HC	Revd Roger Whitehead §
13	Palm Sunday	Mrs Jean Potter §
20	5.45 Easter Dawn Service	<i>on the beach followed by breakfast</i>
	10.30 Easter Communion	Revd Roger Whitehead §
27	Café Worship	Revd Roger Whitehead §

Other services

27 6.30 **Iona Service** United with the Methodists in our church §

For Holy Week services see page 3

REGULAR CHURCH EVENTS

Tuesdays	2.00 - 4.00	Knit & Chat (8 th only) §
Thursdays	10.00 - 12.00	Coffee & Kids (with play area for children 3 rd § & 24 th †)
	2.30 - 3.30	Keep Fit (in the hall on 24 th) §
Fridays	11.30 - 12.15	Prayer Meeting (not 18 th) Carey Room
	12.00 - 1.30	Christian Aid Lent Lunches (4 th & 11 th only see page 6)
	5.45 - 6.45	Choir practice (not 18 th) §

§ in the auditorium † in the Strand Hall ✕ Strand Hall lounge # in the foyer

ADDITIONAL MEETINGS IN APRIL

(in the Strand Centre unless otherwise indicated)

Tues	1	6.00	Elders Meeting ✕
Sat	5	10.00	Table Top Sale §
Thurs	10	7.30	Choir 86 Concert § (see page 6)
Fri	11	7.30	Filling Station (Shaldon School - lifts available)
Sat	12	3.00	Wedding of Adam Miles and Danielle Simmonds §
Sat	19	8.30	Men's Breakfast (<i>cancelled this month</i>)
		9.30	Decorating the church for Easter - helpers needed
21st - 26th		all day	Exhibition by Dawlish Art Group § (see p 6)
Fri	25	3.45	Messy Church , Methodist Church Hall
Tues	29	12.30	Churches Together Ministers Meeting 28 High Street



for UCADD visit
for the church visit
for the centre visit

www.ucadd.org
www.StrandChurch.org.uk
www.StrandCentre.org.uk

