

Appendix 7 - Report from Culm Valley Methodist Church to Willand Parish Council.

19. 02. 24. EX15 2PL. greetdj@hotmail.com.

Our regular Sunday Morning Christian Worship continues each week at 10.30 am. with a regular and devoted congregation with occasional visitors. Recently we have had two new families join with us. An answer to prayer. We are told our singing is a joy in itself and the quality of our visiting Preacher's words, really quite remarkable, thought provoking and inspiring. Visitors are always welcome and very warmly received. Might it be for you? For those who cannot join us, we also provide an on line "Circuit" weekly Worship format which is also printed off, and personally delivered to those who do not do "modern technology." This with a welcomed smile from its deliverer and time even for a chat, if that's what you want.

We are now working to eco church standards of sustainability and have both bronze and silver awards. So still a little more to do. The long installed solar panels have been a great asset. Now completely paid for. Our lawn now has its own bench, with daffodils in the border (now in full bloom) and with the scent of lavender later in the summer to promote pollinators. We use, where possible, eco- friendly products and buy fair trade goods. Around our lawn and in the tree and shrubs we have installed bird feeders, bug houses and a hedgehog house to encourage the wildlife.

During January and February, we again opened on Thursday afternoons, our "Warm Space Club". Free to all. Warm company, warm heartedness, to each other and piping hot tea, coffee and chocolate as well as savoury snacks and yes of course, many varieties of **CAKE**. Warm and inside, warm in our insides too. A recipe for recuperation. Several large jigsaws completed, finger puppets and hot water bottle covers knitted, dominoes learnt, word searches achieved, birthdays celebrated. All ages, young and young at heart and just in case it should be forgotten, with **CAKE** too!

Our giving, through service, as well as financial, is quite remarkable. Our Christian mission to care for the poor and vulnerable has led us to provide a cupboard just outside the gate for public use. We need to thank everyone who has so kindly donated much "stuff" over the past year. The highlights being a complete beer making kit (Non-alcoholic I hope!) A vivid red and yellow "Noddy" car, enough crockery and cutlery to open a restaurant, clothes all washed and pressed, workshop tools, and a most wonderful dolls house, with all its furniture, which has been donated to a local Pre-school. Many items also gratefully received by our brothers and sisters from Eastern Europe who wait for their bus there. Once again, our Christmas ministry included filling and donating yet another 137 shoeboxes for distribution in Romania, Moldova, Bulgaria & Ukraine.

Our bi-monthly creative worship "Prospects" for people with a Learning Disability continues to grow in number and by regard. With people now joining us from South Devon and Somerset, feeling that making the journey is well worth the effort. "Whole and Holy in the Spirit of God".

The Circuit ladies "Occasional Singers" meet in our building weekly, with afternoon and evening rehearsals to meet people's needs. If it's for you too, they'd love you to come and join in. Just contact us.

We enjoy Fellowship with the dear people at Somerville House on a Thursday afternoon, on the even month. Recently one lady specifically asked for a "Sankey Afternoon". She was in raptures and the other ladies joined in with gusto too. We continue the outreach created from the old Culmstock Chapel on the last Sunday of every month at Trafalgar Court in Uffculme and at Kent Farm Care Home, monthly on a Monday afternoon.

Don't forget we are open to everyone, with our free alternate monthly Saturday lunchtime meal, "Soup and Something" and Friday "Coffee Mornings" at which of course you might find **CAKE** if you look hard. All of course with no fee requested. We hope you also enjoyed your pancakes and their many fillings, at our Party on Shrove Tuesday afternoon. So many attending that we had to send out for more supplies and £160 sent to "Action for Children" (the Methodist Children Charity).

Our building is also used by several other secular organisations. For Music, Art and Learning. We have a few session spaces still available, morning, afternoon and evening. So let us know if we can accommodate your group too. We have our own "WIFI" available and have recently improved our car park facilities, as you might have noticed.