

Report from Culm Valley Methodist Church to Willand Parish Council.

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Our regular Sunday Morning Christian Worship continues each week at 10.30 am. with a regular and devoted congregation. Visitors are also always welcome and very warmly received. Recently as an answer to prayer, we have formally welcomed 7 new members into our congregation, through the offices of our Superintendent Minister. This is a joy, so we followed it in a celebration, with **CAKE** (which we often do!) We are told our music and singing is a joy in itself and that the quality of our visiting Preacher's words, are really quite remarkable, thought provoking and inspiring. Might it be for you? (We may well have cake to follow!!) For those who cannot join us, we also provide a "Circuit" weekly Worship sheet, which is printed off, and personally delivered to all those unable to join us. This with a welcomed smile from its deliverer and time even for a chat. If that's something you might like to join in with, please just let us know.

It'll be our delight to visit you.

Once again, part of our Christmas ministry included filling and donating yet another **238** shoeboxes for distribution in Romania, Moldova, Bulgaria & Ukraine. Much of the contents are given to us by people in the village. Thank you. This total added to by our friend's at Willand St. Mary's. Thank you to you too. We now have lots of pictures of those receiving them. If you're interested, we'd be pleased to share them with you.

If you were one of those, kind enough to have donated items, we are truly grateful.

During January and February, we again opened on Thursday afternoons, our "Free 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! We have our own "WIFI" available

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 so much "stuff" over the past year. The highlights being a complete all in one, pram, pushchair and car seat, virtually brand new. A couple of brand-new animal carriers. Much crockery and cutlery and one complete and unopened 24-piece crockery table set. All the clothes and bedding are all washed and pressed, many workshop tools, and much garden and camping equipment. We are also very grateful how tidy you keep it and we now do our own litter patrol to the subway and back.

Working to eco church standards of sustainability we 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, wherever 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. Sadly, the cherry tree had become dangerous so we have planted 3 young shrubs to replace it. 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. 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 had her 100th Birthday and specifically asked us for a "Sankey Sing". 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!** All of course with no fee requested. We hope you also enjoy the many fillings at our Pancakes Party on Shrove Tuesday afternoon. All donations will be added to the £300 already raised 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 have recently improved our car park facilities, and all assisted facilities.