



**in**

**Touch**

**The MA**gazine

May 2016

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or email [minister@seatonroad.org.uk](mailto:minister@seatonroad.org.uk)

**Methodist Matters in the Felixstowe Mission Area**

*Dear Friends*

Many thanks to both Jane and Mike Cassidy for leading us recently in a wonderful Circuit Service which was hosted at Trinity on the evening of the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April.

During this season of Eastertide we revisit many of the Resurrection appearances of Jesus. The Cassidys provided us with much food for thought and provided a most helpful resources list which I hope many of you have, like me, found inspiring.

Of all the Resurrection appearances the story of Thomas has to be one of the most misunderstood in the New Testament.

In the Easter season Thomas makes two notable appearances, one much more significant than the other. If you are like me, for years you may have been consoled by Thomas doubting that Jesus had been raised from the dead. We have been told that Thomas doubted Jesus. But if we read the story very carefully, we realise it is not Jesus that Thomas doubts, it is the disciples. In fact, when Jesus appears to them a week later, Thomas has the opportunity to share in the experience of the risen Lord and, like the others, Thomas then believes. Thomas calls Jesus "My Lord and my God" which is one of the greatest claims made in the Gospel. History has been unfair to Thomas. He should be remembered as "confessing Thomas" not "doubting Thomas". Some of us, too, at various times in our lives can have doubts about all sorts of things in our faith. There are very few believers who get through life without asking some serious questions of God and of the Church. These questions are good in themselves. They are necessary for a mature, adult faith. What we need to ensure is that we sincerely want to search for answers to these questions. Thomas is the patron saint of all of us who sometimes struggle to believe what everyone else in the Church seems able to accept, and he is an encouragement to us to have the courage and patience to wait and seek for answers and to sometimes live with paradox.

The story of Thomas tells us that Christ can take our fears and doubts and transform them into a powerful Christian witness. That where we can only see our woundedness, hopelessness and death, that through Easter, faith, hope and love can have the final word.

*Diane*

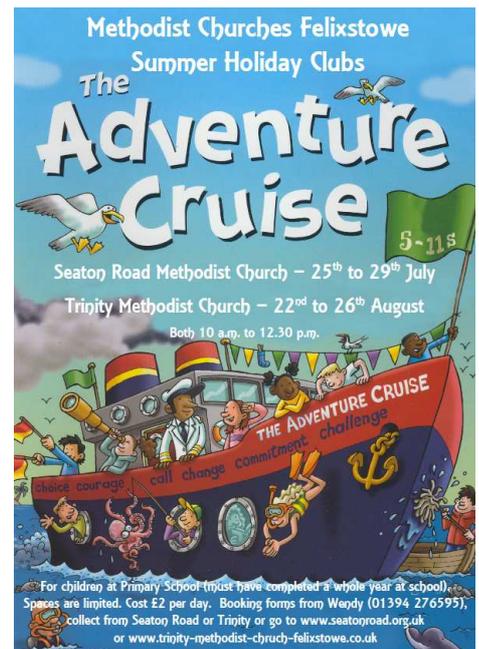
## The Adventure Cruise Holiday Club

The Mission Area Holiday Clubs will be taking place at Seaton Road from 25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> July and at Trinity from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> August.

Please pray for our holiday clubs as preparations are going on behind the scenes.

Please consider if you could give any time to help with these events. We need many pairs of hands to run successful weeks. Even if you could only commit to helping for one day please speak to Robin or Mary Pattinson, Diane Smith or Steve Wyatt.

The next planning meeting has been arranged for Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm in the Upper Room at Seaton Road, for anyone interested in being involved.



Churches Together in Felixstowe  
Annual General Meeting  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 7.30 p.m.  
Christ Church  
All welcome.

## Singing Practice.....

We will be learning some of the newer hymns from *Singing the Faith* on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00 pm at Trinity for about an hour.

Do come along and join us.

Anne Clarke



**Congratulations** to the 'Trinity Players' on their recent performances of 'The Telescope'. They provided a great evening of thought provoking material which was very well received by each of the audiences on the three evenings. *Robin & Mary Pattinson*

## **Services at our Churches.....**

### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May**

Kirton – 9.45 a.m. – Rev Diane Smith (Communion)  
Seaton Road - 9.45 a.m. – Rev David Keeble  
Trimley – 11.00 a.m. – Rev Diane Smith (Communion)  
Trinity – 11.00 a.m. – Mrs Alyson Ellis  
6.00 p.m. – Mr Michael Peck

### **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May**

Kirton – 9.45 a.m. – Mrs Carole Almond  
Seaton Road – 9.45 a.m. – Rev Diane Smith (Communion)  
Trimley – 11.00 a.m. – Mrs Diana Sawyer  
Trinity – 11.00 a.m. – Rev Diane Smith (Communion)  
6.00 p.m. – Rev Barry Middleton

### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Pentecost – Christian Aid Week**

Kirton – 9.45 a.m. – Rev Diane Smith  
Seaton Road – 9.45 a.m. – Café Worship!  
Trimley – 11.00 a.m. – Rev Diane Smith  
Trinity – 11.00 a.m. – Café Worship  
6.00 p.m. – Rev Diane Smith

### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May**

Kirton – 9.45 a.m. – Rev Jane Cassidy  
Seaton Road – 9.45 a.m. – Rev Diane Smith  
Trimley – 11.00 a.m. – Rev Mike Cassidy  
Trinity – 11.00 a.m. – Rev Diane Smith  
6.00 p.m. – Mr Stephen Wyatt

### **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May**

Kirton – 9.45 a.m. – Rev Martin Dawes  
Seaton Road – 9.45 a.m. – Mr Roger Fern  
Trimley – 11.00 a.m. – Rev Martin Dawes  
Trinity – 11.00 a.m. – Mrs Marilyn Watsham  
6.00 p.m. – Mr Michael Peck

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## Seaton Road Lunch Club

Our April lunch club day coincided with the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, so we decided to celebrate the occasion too. On the menu was coronation chicken followed by birthday cake. The church hall was decorated with Union Jack tablecloths, serviettes, flags and bunting. After the meal we raised a toast to the Queen and sang the National Anthem.

If anyone would like to join our happy gathering, we lunch every third Thursday in the month and the price is only £4-00 for a two course meal, plus tea or coffee.

Telephone for a place on 271861 or 270973.

*Daryl Read and Kathy Fullick.*

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The baptism of Jax Garnham at Seaton Road on April 10th

## NEW FLOOR COVERING FOR SEATON ROAD CHURCH HALL

Seaton Road are extremely grateful to the Sports Relief Community Cash Fund for awarding us a grant of £1000 towards a new floor covering for the church hall. We are looking at fitting the area with a polycarbon (vinyl) covering that will be more practicable, for which the estimate is £1600. We have already raised over £200 thanks to the Spring Fair and Daryl's Costa Rica evening. So we're slowly getting there in reaching the amount we need. But we'd welcome any ideas you may have for fundraising to reach the final amount. The new flooring will benefit all hall users which include our own church activities – FUNKY, Kids Club, Holiday Club, Brownies, Rainbows, Little Fishes, Knit & Natter and the Community Lunch as well as the many groups who hire the hall. Put your thinking caps on and help us improve the appearance and usefulness of our church hall.



*Sue Hockenhull*

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### Seaton Road Methodist Church **Knit & Natter**



May 16th. 2pm  
June 20th. 2pm  
July 18th. 2pm  
August 15th. 2pm

Why not join our  
group of like minded  
people for the  
afternoon  
over a cup of tea / coffee.

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**Christian Aid Week** – 15<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> May – look out for further details in your church notices.



# *Singing the Faith Day*

*When: Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2016 2 p.m.—7 p.m.*

*Where: Trinity Methodist Church Felixstowe IP11 7AN*

You are warmly invited to a day exploring the fantastic new music in 'Singing the Faith'.

**Session led by professional organist and choral director Robin Walker.**

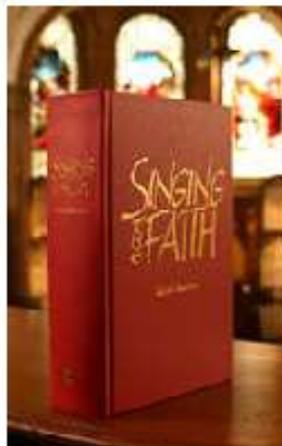
A day full of music offering something for people at every musical level.

*So, whether you want to enjoy a good sing, encouragement to try the new music in 'Singing the Faith' or practical tips on how to keep your worship music fresh and interesting, there will be something for you.*

Why not come for the day, take in Fish and Chips along the seafront, and then join us? Comfort breaks and light refreshments provided.

The day concludes with Worship and we close and depart at 7pm. Singing the Faith music books will be available on the day, but please bring your own copy, if you have one. Should you require further information please phone Anne Clarke on 01394 285305

*There is no set fee but a suggested donation of £5 to cover costs.*



*We hope you can come and join what promises to be a wonderful day of music and fellowship.*