



September Service
At 3.00 pm
Sunday 6th September 2026
Led by Revd. Kevin Hooke
in conversation with
Rev Erica Roberts.
We hope you can come

Service and Picnic at Exminster on 9th August 2026 at 10.30 am



This now annual service first started at around the time of the pandemic when friends from Ashburton and Poundsgate joined with the congregation at Exminster in an open air service at Exminster led by Revd. Kevin Hooke. This year the service is being led by Dr. Sue Jones with

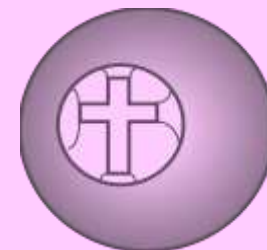
great musical support from Trevor, Nancy and Roger. Afterwards there will be an opportunity to join in a picnic on the church lawn for those able to stay. If hot we will use the shade of the big Liquidambar tree or the church hall if the weather is unsuitable. We hope you can come. Please bring a picnic. Drinks are provided.



Exminster Methodist Church (**EX6 8BT**) If approaching along A379, take the first turn right into the village and go under the motorway bridge and follow the road to the centre. Turn left into Dryfield, by the village hall, for parking which is a short walk from the church.

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Poundsgate Methodist Church



Teignbridge Circuit

Beside the main road from Ashburton to Tavistock about 1/2 mile on the moorland side of Poundsgate village (**TQ13 7NY**)



August 2026



August Service
At 3.00 pm
Sunday 2nd August 2026
Led by Revd. Kevin Hooke
in conversation with
Alwyn Marriage
We hope you can come

Dear friends,

I suspect that many of you were unaware that there is a Methodist Modern Art Collection – it's not something that we speak about, nor is it something that is exhibited in the West Country often. But you can find out more about it easily enough through a quick google search. Modern art can be a bit like marmite, but hopefully whatever your personal taste, there will be images there that will capture your imagination, or at least make you think.

As it happens there is a painting based on the lectionary gospel reading for this Sunday, the feeding of the 5000 from Matthew's gospel (it's by Eularia Clarke). The artist has represented Matthew's assertion that there were children and women present as well as the menfolk, and has transferred the imagery into something more contemporary, with fish and chips instead of bread and fish. As the blurb on the Methodist website says, it is more akin to a church picnic than a biblical miracle.

Does this reframing detract from the biblical text? Is it sacrilegious? Part of immediately wanted to say, 'yes!' After all, all four gospel writers include the feeding of the 5000 partly because of its links to communion, and are clear to state the actions of Jesus in taking, giving thanks, breaking and giving the bread.

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**Please be sure to stay for tea/coffee
and cake after the service**

Our Minister: Revd. Kevin Hooke
Tel: 07772571647

Please send email messages for
Poundsgate Chapel, and
requests for this newsletter, to
poundsgatemethodists@gmail.com



But then again, the gathering at the time was very much one of ordinary people, a cross-section of community life, and the loaves and fish were everyday fare, and isn't the sacredness of communion not just about a ritual we do in a church service but also about Christ meeting us where we are? And wasn't Jesus' feeding of the crowd that day not just about their physical hunger. As you can tell, this painting at least got me thinking!

This month we have join us Alwyn Marriage, who earlier this year was involved in a project writing poetry based on the Methodist Modern Art Collection – I don't know whether the feeding of the 5000 is one of the paintings she will talk about, but we are delighted she is joining us again, and it promises to be a fascinating afternoon.

**With best wishes as ever,
Kevin**

You can read about Alwyn by following this link:
<https://www.marriages.me.uk/alwyn/2026/05/16/celebrating-the-joys-of-art-and-poetry/>

Rota We continue to seek someone to help provide tea/coffee and cake once every four months. If you would like to join the rota and help in this or another way, please let us know. **Thank you.**

Front Page Painted Lady Butterfly