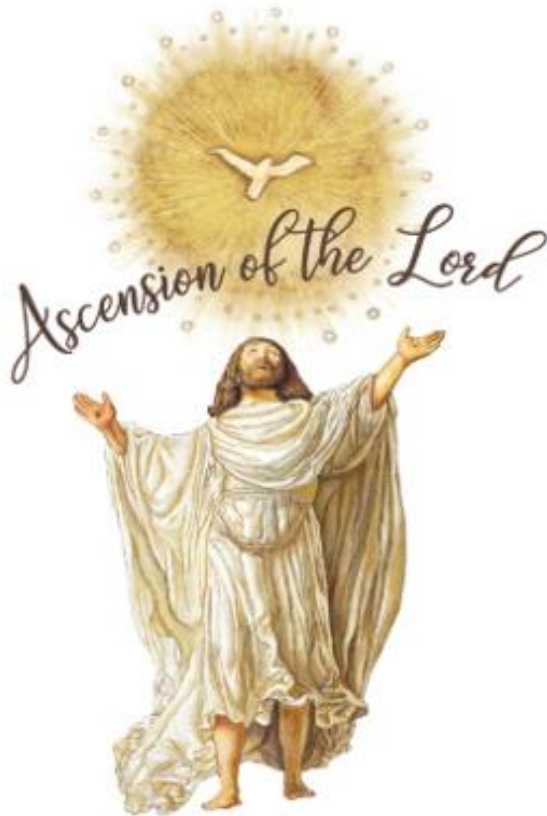


Muddiford



United Reformed Church

(The Chapel in the Valley)



Stepping

Stones

May 2023



MUDDIFORD MONTHLY



Date	Service Leader	Reader
7 th	Duncan Withall	Chris
14 th	Local arrangement	
21 st	Paula Littlewood	Rod
28 th	Rev Colin Biggs	Paul
	Flowers	Tea & Coffee
7 th	Penny	Gill & Adrian
14 th	Gill	Pam & Jean
21 st	Jean	Penny & Gary
28 th	Pam	Sheila & Dorothy



**Coastal Path Event -
Saturday 20th May 2023**

10.30am South West Awake

Stand on the South West Coast Path with thousands of Christians to pray.



For the background to this event go to:-

<https://www.southwestawake.com/>

SPED, Autism, Dyslexia & ADHD Awareness Week.

When you have a neurotypical child, you feel reasonably assured that class participation and decent study habits will result in good grades. These children have close friends. They get invited to participate in social things like parties, play dates and weekend gatherings. They make the teams, auditions, organisations and clubs.

But when you have a child with certain differences, this is often not the case. Learning may take longer, both academically and socially. Despite their tremendous efforts, results are often a fraction of their peers and social acceptance is fleeting, setting them up for painful comparisons and bitter frustration. Instead of a fun and fulfilling experience, school can become a breeding ground for depression and anxiety, and assignments a battle ground at home. It is exhausting for parent and child alike.

This is the week of SPED (Special Education), Autism, Dyslexia, and ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) awareness.

For all the children who struggle every day to succeed in a world that does not recognize their gifts and talents, and for those who are walking beside them, please let this be a gentle reminder to be kind and accepting of ALL people. Recognize that the playing field is not always a level surface.

Children who learn differently are not weird: they are merely gifted in ways that our society does not value enough. However, they want what everyone else wants - to be accepted!!

If you choose, please "copy and paste" (by touching and holding the text) onto your profile in honour of all children who are deemed to be different.

Our world would be far less beautiful without them.

***Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth,
to you be glory and praise for ever.***

***From the darkness of death you have raised your Christ
to the right hand of your majesty on high.***

***The pioneer of our faith, his passion accomplished,
has opened for us the way to heaven
and sends on us the promised Spirit.***

***May we be ready to follow the Way
and so be brought to the glory of his presence
where songs of triumph for ever sound:***

***Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.***

Do Not Judge Too Hard

*Pray not to find fault with the man that limps
Or stumbles along the road,
Unless you have worn the shoes he wears
Or struggled beneath his load.*

*There may be tacks in his shoes that hurt,
Though hidden away from view,
Or the burdens he bears, placed on you back,
Might cause you to stumble, too.*

*Don't sneer at the man who is down today
Unless you have felt the blow
That caused his fall, or felt the pain
That only the fallen know.*

*You may be strong, but still the blows
That were his, if dealt to you
In the selfsame way at the selfsame time,
Might cause you to stagger, too.*

*Don't be too hard on the man who sins
Or pelt him with words or a stone
Unless you are sure, yea, doubly sure,
That you have no sins of your own.*

*For you know, perhaps, if the tempter's voice
Should whisper soft to you
As it did to him when he went astray
'Twould cause you to falter, too.*



Author unknown Taken from 'Friendly Companion'