Vision for Bridgerule Methodist Church.

**‘For surely you know the plans I have for you…plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope…and I will restore your fortunes.’**

**Jeremiah 29:11-14. NRSV.**

Bridgerule is a small Methodist Church, situated alongside the village of Bridgerule straddling the Tamar. We are a small congregation, but that does not mean we are despondent, for we are developing a vision and believe the Spirit is calling us to be of service.

Our application comes in three parts but is of a piece.

1: The Church has raised over £2000 to help refurbish the interior of the sanctuary. This space is for worship and also where the Tamarside Choir find their spiritual home and base. The choir is a fundamental part of the church’s mission as it forms a means of outreach. The choir brings a message of hope and the joy of the Christian faith in a simple communicable medium. If the choir is to have an effective witness in the church, then the surroundings need to be updated and improved. The sanctuary now stands in stark contrast to the refurbished after school club room and kitchen.

2 and 3: The after-school club has now grown to 14 children plus helpers. It is ably led by Gemma. Our relationship with the local primary school, almost opposite the church, is deepening. Revd Simon has become involved with their assemblies and we are planning an interactive nativity in and around the stable at the rear of the church. The church council wishes to pursue the redevelopment of the stable into a youth room. There is little to no provision for young people in Bridgerule, which is an expanding village. With a growing after school club the church council believes that provision should be made for a future youth club. At least one leader has been identified, but we will seek advice and direction from the circuit Youth Worker.

Sheila Cholwill.

Revd Simon H Leigh