

NEWS & CHAT Thursday 30 September 2021

Welcome to the joint weekly newsletter of Christ Church and the Bridgwater Drive Church.

The online service will remain ‘joint’ while each church has its own service as pre-pandemic. For the foreseeable future, the online service will be live-streamed from the church where the minister is leading, but always on the Christ Church Facebook page.

Please remember that: Face coverings are no longer mandatory for worship (except when singing), but are **strongly recommended**

**Sunday 3 Oct. 10.30am – Harvest at CC, led by Robert Dart
Ian Miller at BDC**

**Sunday 10 Oct. 10.30am – Joyce Berry at CC
Rev Trevor Williams at BDC**



A REMINDER this Sunday is Harvest (CC) and there will be **HARVEST LUNCH** after worship at 12:15pm Shepherd's Pie or Vegetarian Lasagne, Fruit Pie desserts.

TWAM

Also for Harvest - Tools with a Mission (TWAM) is our focus.

Please leave items (tools and sewing machines) at the church on the 3rd or 10th (10th preferred if you are there that day) for collection on 12 October. Many thanks. Wendy Norris

ART CLUB – our new monthly art for fun session meets on **Saturday 2 October, 10-12 in the worship area.** No need to bring materials – we have some available. No need for any artistic talent – there are plenty of easy things to do including colouring books (adult not children’s!). Or just come and have a chat.

A reminder that Space for Prayer will NOT meet on 7 October. Our next meeting will be on Thursday 4 November.

The Minister will be on **annual leave – 27 Sept. – 10 Oct.** This week is a pre-prepared News & Chat. Next week Phil Gendall with guest edit (thank you Phil). Please send him any items you have as soon as possible (N&C may need to go out a day earlier next week).

We hope to hold a (Christmas) Art and Crafts fair (raising money for the building project). This will almost certainly be on **Saturday 27 November, so hold the date and start creating** (and don’t buy Christmas presents anywhere else, except Traidcraft from Wendy!) We will probably combine this with a ‘re-use’ sale (aka jumble!) so please be collecting items for that too!

TIPS & IDEAS

An idea from the Synod Ministers’ meeting this time – we spent about 30 minutes reading and reflecting on Psalm 23. This psalm is so well known that we often don’t really pay attention to it (a bit like the Lord’s Prayer – we end up saying it by rote). Try reading it aloud. Try reading different translations. Try listening to, or singing, different musical versions (there are lots to choose from!) and see what speaks to you or if you discover something new.

RESOURCES A new reflection from St Paul’s Cathedral, by Brian Draper - a speaker, retreat guide, labyrinth curator and creative consultant, seeking to help people of all faiths and none to see the world from a creative and engaging spiritual perspective.

<https://mailchi.mp/fc0117ea3068/coming-up-from-st-pauls-cathedral-8251084?e=e30a1f608a>

PRAYER CORNER

I invite all of you to set aside time daily to pray for our churches and members but also for the whole nation and world. This week as we celebrate Harvest, and the start of autumn, we pray especially for those who do not have enough to eat, and those whose harvests have been destroyed by climate change.

This week's prayer theme (prepared by Gwyneth). **Harvest Thanks.** We thank the Lord for the abundance we enjoy in so many aspects of our lives. All good gifts come from the Lord, and to Him we give our thanks and praise this harvest season.

Particular prayer requests this week:

Audrey

Brian, Jenny C's brother

Bill & Beth

Bill and Jenny, friends of Phil T

Georgie, Anna and Richard's niece

Peter C.

Sheila S

Della

Irene C.



Della is now living at Brooklands. She has a mobile phone and would enjoy a chat.

Tel. (07440) 225466. She plans to have it switched on from 9 - 10 a.m. and from 7:30 - 9 p.m.

Della would also be pleased to see anyone who could visit.

Please book this with a member of staff Tel. (01702) 525375

Brooklands, 25, Lambeth Road, Eastwood, SS9 5XR

HOUSE GROUPS

We will meet from **2.30pm, at Christ Church**, on the following **Thursday** afternoons:

30 Sept.- 1. 'Desire' (Genesis 8 and Psalm 24.) led by Robert

7 Oct. – 2. 'Greed' (Luke 12:15) – led by Ian Miller

14 Oct. – 3. 'Righteousness' (Psalm 1 vs 6.), led by Naomi

21 Oct. – 4. 'Justice' (Micah 6 vs 8), led by Naomi

28 Oct. – Summary, led by Naomi

The House Groups are open to ALL from both churches – we would love to see some new faces. Join, any week – it doesn't matter if you have some! More information on posters at the church.



ECO RESTORATION: PEATLANDS

(Taken from UN Eco Restoration Project 2021)

Though they cover only 3 per cent of the world's land, peatlands store nearly 30 per cent of its soil carbon. They control water supplies and prevent floods and droughts and provide many people with food and fuel. They also house plants and animals unique to these watery environments.

cottongrass.jpeg



Peat moor on Bleaklow in need of restoration

Despite their importance, peatlands around the world are being drained and converted for agriculture, infrastructure development, mining oil and gas exploration. Peatlands are also being degraded by fire, overgrazing, nitrogen pollution and the extraction of peat for fuel and as a growing medium.

To prevent dangerous climate change, we need to **hold peatland carbon where it is - wet, and in the ground. At the same time, we must re-wet and restore drained and degraded peatlands. Here are some ways to do that.**

Protect peatlands: Include these sensitive ecosystems in protected areas to prevent their drainage, conversion and overuse

Dam the drains: Keep peatlands healthy by closing drainage channels and slowing water flows, for example by putting rocks in ditches and streams and growing trees along their banks.

Accelerate recovery: Plant and seed peatland plant species, such as native grasses and mosses, to boost their natural regeneration.

Limit pressures: Outside protected areas, work with stakeholders to establish sustainable use of peatlands, for instance as extensive grazing lands. Promote alternative energy sources to reduce demand for peat as a fuel.



Cottongrass on peat moor at Ribblehead

Find out more:

The International Mire Conservation Group has produced a peatland restoration guide and a collection of case studies that can give you some ideas on actions to take in peatlands.

Elizabeth Pryor