

Connected

Two Churches, one Lord

Christ Church and Emmanuel

Weston-super-Mare



This Week...

Celebrate VE Day with the
Royal British Legion

Verse For The Week

...the faith and love that spring
from the hope stored up for
you in heaven and about which
you have already heard in the
true message of the gospel that
has come to you.

(Colossians 1: 5-6a)

Watch today's service

at www.ccwsm.org.uk

Go to the 'We are still here!' menu and
click on the 'Sunday Services' page.

Contact Details

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V.E. Day Special Edition



Queen Elizabeth and King George VI visit East London

Sermon Snippets

Colossians 1: 1-6

I was born a good few years after VE day and it's easy to forget how hard and fearful it must have been during WW2. But there was a "decisive moment" after which the outcome of the war was never in doubt – and that was in June 1944; D Day. Knowing, however hard it still was, that victory was in their grasp – must have been the greatest encouragement to the troops.

A similar situation is mentioned in our passage Colossians 1 v 3-5. It talks of "the hope stored up for you in heaven". It's a certain hope because the decisive moment at Easter has occurred – the victory will be won - and knowing it can be any Christian's encouragement. Heaven awaits – really - and that prospect can make all the difference to our lives now. As our passage says "the faith and love that stem from the hope stored up for you in heaven".

Prayer Pointers

Monday

May we pray for all working in GP surgeries, especially our own, and for staff in the pharmacies that we use. Please pray for protection, encouragement and great skill with their patients, and protection for their families.

Tuesday

Please pray for the main organisers and all members of our Crash Team as we play our part with community work as well as care of our own congregation. Pray for the pastoral work of the Home Group Leaders and those telephoning encouragement to others.

Wednesday

Please pray for families with young children in small homes and flats; for families linked to the Toddlers group, JaM club and Christ Church School; for our own extended families with children.

Thursday

Please pray for all small businesses represented in our congregation and for the shops that we use each week as they struggle to stay afloat. May we pray for the ministry of our two churches and the financial shortfall that this shut-in will inflict on both Christ Church and Emmanuel.

Friday

May we remember those whom we know, either personally or through church, who need God's healing touch in their lives. We think especially of the family and friends of Janet Webb who sadly passed away recently, and John & Wendy Langdon as they mourn the loss of John's mum Dorothy.

Saturday

Pray that God's hand will be on all the elements of the online service tomorrow and that Tom and the team will be used by God to be a blessing to the many hundreds who log on and join in the worship.

Newsletters

You can find the following newsletters on the Christ Church website, under the 'We Are Still Here' menu and clicking on 'Keeping In Touch':

- CAP (Christians Against Poverty) - new in this week
- Rosemary Aldis
- ROC (Reaching Our Communities)

If you'd like a copy of the latest news from Mike and Helen Morrissey, please email me at the church office.

Notices

(Please see last week's *Connected* for more details)

Daily Hope Phone Line

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has launched a free national phone line as a simple new way to bring worship and prayer into people's homes while church buildings are closed because of the coronavirus.

'Daily Hope' is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044

Telephone Chaplaincy

This service seeks to provide faith-based face-to-face pastoral and spiritual support to people of all faiths and none in times of emergency. It has been adapted to become a direct dial phone line for people affected by the COVID 19 crisis. It is especially for anyone facing end of life issues, those who are bereaved, or anxious about someone in hospital, residential care or in isolation.

To access this service, people can dial: 0330 229 1700 from 8am-11pm 7 days a week.

Life Groups

We are all learning how to be church in a different way. If you're not in a Life Group at the moment and would like to join one please contact Bev Hall on 01934 626590.

Plants For Sale

There are some plants for sale outside church or on Penny Lester's driveway. Please contact Penny for more details. All donations will go to church funds.

Christian Aid's Big Brekkie

This will take place during the 2nd week of May. More details will be published in next week's *Connected*.

Victory in Europe, 1945

A Time to Celebrate



There are any number of sources of information about V.E. Day. Here's an excerpt I picked out from Somerset Life:

"When the news finally broke through, the party began even though heavy rain was falling over much of Britain. In towns, cities and villages all over the country people gathered in groups and crowds. They just wanted to be with each other and the normal reserve gave way to hugs, kisses and back-slapping. This was VE Day and, even though there was still war raging in the Far East, the nightly worry about bombings was over.

Somerset celebrated along with everyone else. People listened to the King broadcasting the good news over the wireless to the Empire – as it was then. Everyone wanted to hear those words over and over again – ‘there is victory in Europe – the war is over’.

In Bath, Bristol, Taunton, Yeovil and Weston-super-Mare it was time to switch the street lights back on – well, almost. Permission still had to be received and one of the first to ask for and receive that permission in the entire country was indeed Weston-super-Mare where everyone was determined to celebrate not only the end of the war but also the return to being a seaside resort.

The music and dancing licences were extended to the early hours, the well-stocked pubs ran out of beer and the streets were filled with people of all ages taking part in what had become almost a family party. There were bonfires too and special guests, as locally-based servicemen from Poland, Australia, Canada and America were invited and needed no second invitation. This was a celebration of the freedom to live in peace and it knew no national or any other boundaries."

Click on this link to read the full story:

<https://www.somerset-life.co.uk/people/what-ve-day-means-for-somerset-1-6620335>

My Memories

"I came second in the three legged race in the Stanley Avenue street party with Tony. We had spent many years in a shelter in his garden sleeping on a triple bunk bed. The adults had to sit upright every night.

My grandmother walked up the garden to the kitchen in her house next door several times a night and made tea in china cups. Wearing a tin helmet she walked slowly down the garden carrying a tray with a teapot and china cups often as the bombers were overhead and later as doodlebugs droned over us.

When the street party came the ladies somehow managed to save enough coupons to buy bread and jam for sandwiches and jelly with ice cream - quite a treat!"

Keith Hallett



Bev is clearly getting in the mood to celebrate!

More on V.E. Day

"As I was only 17 days old on 8 May 1945, I do not personally remember anything about this day, but my mother took me home from St Margarets Nursing Home, Glasgow to Giffnock - nine miles south of Glasgow. She also took 'nurse' with her to help for 4 weeks!! How times have changed".

Carl Evans



The dedication of the World War Two Memorial Plaque in Christ Church, 26th October 2014

Thoughts from the Royal British Legion

This coming weekend there were to be many events in Weston in celebration of the 75 years since VE Day. These local events have all been cancelled of course, but the Royal British Legion are suggesting that people might like to be involved in other ways. In case you may not have seen their ideas, here is a link to the RBL website:

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/remembrance/remembrance-events/ve-day-75>

Here are some of the ways you can join in on Friday 8th May:

- A live VE Day 75 livestream at 11.15am
- National moments of Remembrance and thanksgiving, including a Two Minute Silence
- A UK-wide singalong to Vera Lynn's 'We'll Meet Again' at 9pm
- A VE Day learning pack for children aged 7-14 years
- An evening of memories and music in partnership with the BBC from 8pm on BBC One

"There are many parallels between the struggles of the Second World War and what we are going through today. We look to our Second World War generation to learn from their experiences, and we continue our work to protect them from the threat we currently face."

from the RBL's website

Next week we'll be back to the popular 'Coffee Time After The Service' section of *Connected*.

As there won't be a June/July edition of Link Magazine, I will be very happy to receive and publish short articles.

Thank you to all those who have contributed this week.