

Connected

Two Churches, one Lord

Christ Church and Emmanuel
Weston-super-Mare



This Week...

- Pre-school news and updates
- Houseparty news
- In Loving Memory
- Horse in trouble!

Verse For The Week

To God's elect, strangers in the world ... who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ.

(from 1 Peter 1: 1-2)

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

Rev. Tom Webber (709343)
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Christ Church Pre-school News



It's Cleaning Day!

After much debate, organisation and a week's delay (because of the hospital closure) we opened Pre-school on 8th June. Government guidelines required us to split the room, garden and equipment into two 'bubbles' in which the same staff and children would stay.

Only 13 children have returned with most parents deciding to keep their children at home. Those that have returned soon got used to the new way of playing in their groups and understood they couldn't mix with the other group. We introduced staggered drop off and pick up times and used the garden entrance to reduce the number of people entering the building with the children playing outside as much as possible, and there has been plenty of hand-washing and anti-bac hand gelling taking place!

Sermon Snippets

1 Peter 1: 1-2

This Sunday we are starting a new series – on 1 Peter. The first readers of the letter were probably finding life difficult as Christians and also feeling quite alone. This situation may well ring bells with us! Peter's response is to encourage them as God's elect – they may well have felt scattered but they would still be central to the purposes of God. As we look into 1 Peter, I pray that we would be encouraged by the future God has in store for us and a better grasp of what He asks us to do in the meantime. It's a letter to motivate our faith – even as we may feel marginalised and perhaps isolated.

Prayer Pointers

Monday

Thank God for our new Archbishop of York, Bishop Stephen. Please pray for him as he sets out in his new role, and for Bishop John in his retirement.

Tuesday

Please pray for anyone who is unwell, anyone who is grieving and anyone who is having a difficult time during lockdown. Ask that they will know God's presence and comfort. We particularly remember Grace Monk.

Wednesday

As the summer progresses we might expect to see more holiday makers in Weston. Please pray that our tourism businesses will be able to make a reasonable living but also that everyone will be responsible about their social distancing and hygiene.

Thursday

We're excited for Hayley that she has a new job to go to next month. Ask God to help her as she moves on and to bless her in her new church.

Friday

Today we all have to start wearing masks in shops. Pray that people will comply and that God will help us to manage the strangeness of it.

Saturday

Remember in your prayers our leaders as they continue to prepare online services, daily prayers and family packs. We pray that they will all get opportunities for rest and refreshment.

For further prayer topics, do have a look at the newsletters on the [Christ Church website](#), under the 'We Are Still Here' menu and clicking on 'Keeping In Touch'.

A new Prayer Sheet from the Morrisseys has just arrived. Please email the Church Office if you'd like a copy.

Crash Team Contacts

If you are a member of either of our two churches and are in need of some practical assistance, please call the Crash Team:

- Liz Cole (01934 782886)
- or
- Jane Milsom (07766 678446)

Church News

Houseparty News

Christ Church and Emmanuel had a houseparty booked for October 2021. Sadly this has had to be cancelled owing to the closure of Brunel Manor.

SO there will be a HOUSEPARTY AT HOME in 2021. Those who remember the one we held a few years ago will recall a wonderful time together. It is also an opportunity for people who don't usually join the Houseparty Away to come and enjoy time together at Home.

We also have to report that we tried to book Sidholme for October 2022, but Sidholme has also had to close and is up for sale. Christian Guild that owns Sidholme has also closed Willersley Castle in Derbyshire and Abbot Hall Hotel in Cumbria. As a result of the pandemic Christians have lost special places where we can take time away together. All this is so sad and perhaps we should pray for a return, somehow, of such valued places in the not too distant future, but, in the meantime, we have our HOUSEPARTY AT HOME to look forward to.

Sandra

Preschool updates

We have now finished for the summer holidays but if anyone is looking for a place for their 2, 3 or 4 year old please contact Sarah on 07720 488967.

We will be back on Tuesday 01 September, and will be open from 9am to 3.30pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. We will review this during the half term break.

News about Services

We are putting on two special services for people to remember those who have passed away during the last few months.

A Thanksgiving Service will be held Sunday 04 October where we can give thanks for the lives of members of our two congregations who are no longer with us. The other is a Memorial Service on Sunday 01 November which will be for folk in the community to remember loved ones. Unfortunately, because numbers will need to be restricted, both services will be ticket-only events. More details will follow.

Coffee time after the Service...

In Loving Memory of Gwen Miller



Gwen Miller died peacefully last week aged 96. She had not been well since Christmas and for the last period had been in a nursing home. Gwen was a Westonian, born and bred, and had always been a member of Emmanuel.

Her husband was called up in the war but returned safely. However, he died a few years later leaving Gwen to fend for herself and their young daughter Christine.

She did all sorts of jobs to keep herself afloat financially, but I only knew her in later years when she was retired. Christine had left and was married and had 2 daughters of her own, Elizabeth and Katherine. They were a great joy to Gwen. Katherine did a degree in Civil Engineering at the same time as my son and during their year out in industry Katherine was working on the new suspension bridge over the Severn and Duncan on widening the M5 over the Avon, and we used to compare notes!

Gwen was great at visiting people who were ill or house-bound - she walked everywhere. She worked for the Red Cross, was a leading member of the Mothers Union, and for many years along with Barbara Judson (Sheila's mum) was our Deanery Rep.



She had a great 90th birthday party in the church hall but after that her health wasn't so good. She felt she needed to move and be near her daughter who was having treatment for cancer. She left a big hole at Emmanuel as she had always been there.

Very sadly her daughter died about a year after she had moved.

Our prayers are with her family.

Meg

Twiglet's In Trouble!

I help my daughter Gail care for her horses, but last week Twiglet, a 14.5 hands grey mare, decided to take the metal gate off its hinges and took the small hurdle that was attached to it with her and walked along a track to the bottom field. Luckily Gail found her soon after. She must have knocked the bantams' A-frame en route and they escaped not to be seen again. Then she decided to rub on a section of fencing, broke most of it but did not escape so we repaired it by attaching a sheep hurdle with baler twine. However the baler twine was old and she broke it all so I repaired it again with newer baler twine and all is well. She is a bit fed up as her intake of hay has been reduced, and what she does have has to be soaked, so I think she is making her displeasure known!

Here's a photo of Twigs in her new fly rug in early April. It does not look like this now as it has been rolled on and washed a few times. Luckily Charlie, a 12.5 hands Welsh Mountain pony, has been behaving, although she gets very impatient at all the time given over to Twiglet and rakes her hooves up and down her metal gate (ugh - not a pleasant sound), to show her displeasure!

Carl



More Coffee, anyone?



In Loving Memory of Carol's Mum

First of all, I would like to thank you for your care, cards, flowers, prayers and thoughts for me at this difficult time as my mum passed away suddenly on 4th July. Without your prayers and support, especially from Tom, Angeline, Pat, my cherish sisters, and other church family, I don't think I could have got through the darkest moment in my life.

I have known and seen lots of grace from God our Heavenly Father in the last couple of weeks, who is always in control and loves everyone of us, cares about us deeply, especially our relationship with Him, and wants to embrace us all the time if we let Him. I have been broken down completely in Him and I have prayed Father God to look after my family in Hong Kong - my dad and brother Keith and sister May, and my sister Brenda in the USA recently waiting for the flight to Afghanistan for her work.

God did His work in His perfect way and timing. We have been apart but God connected us through technology, and we could all join the funeral earlier this morning. I could say goodbye to my mum who I miss deeply but I know she is in a better place, no suffering, no pain, only joy. She looks peaceful and I personally have the deep sense of peace from God for the last couple weeks. I thank you again for your prayer and support - I am grateful and thankful for everything.

"Be still and know that I am God". This is the verse in my heart all these days and I could sense His presence with me to get through, to know the things I have, or the things God wants me to do. I would sincerely like to share my testimony with you. The walk I have with God is taking me to the next phase where God wants me to be. He has given me another opportunity to serve His people. I was asked yesterday to go in to the workplace I had when the lock down started in March. At the workplace, I can talk to people, share my experience with God and let people know that God cares about them. I think God wants me to share this with more people. I used to work at nights, but I am now working daytime from 8:30 to 5pm up to 31 August. God opens doors for me one after another. If I can't talk to people, I listen to UCB2 radio and there are lots of songs to encourage me, preaching to teach me and keep me connected to God.

I hope this could encourage you and be thankful for me too. I am much better now and ready for the next phase that God wants me to be in. God bless you all.

Carol

Open e-Gardens

We're off to Jeff & Sandra's this week. I'm no expert, but the lawn looks really good to me!

Would you like to include your garden in this series? Simply email your garden photos in to the Church Office for inclusion in a future edition of *Connected*.

