

# Connected

*Two Churches, one Lord*

**Christ Church and Emmanuel**  
Weston-super-Mare



## *This Week...*

- The World's Indigenous Peoples
- Dates For Your Diaries
- Heavenly Prescriptions
- 'Open e-Gardens' keeps growing

## *Verse For The Week*

But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written:

"Be holy, because I am holy".

*(1 Peter 1: 15, 16)*

## *Watch today's service*

at [www.ccwsm.org.uk](http://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)  
(Day off - Tuesday)

Church Office (641016)  
(8.30-12.30 Mon-Fri)  
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# International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples



*Photo: UN/IFAD/Petterik Wiggers*

In December 1994, the UN General Assembly decided that the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples shall be observed on 9 August every year.

Here are some facts from the United Nations website:

- More than 86% of indigenous peoples globally work in the informal economy, compared to 66% for their non-indigenous counterparts.
- Indigenous peoples are nearly three times as likely to be living in extreme poverty compared to their non-indigenous counterparts.
- Globally, 47% of all indigenous peoples in employment have no education, compared to 17% of their non-indigenous counterparts. This gap is even wider for women.

Let us thank God for those who work amongst these people groups, including some of our own Mission partners.

## Sermon Snippets

*1 Peter 1: 13-21*

We are pilgrims on the way to glory but we are not there yet. Peter reminds us that it is through the grace of God that we have forgiveness of sins and life eternal, but that there is something for us to do, or rather to be, and that is to be holy. What might holiness look like? Is it for now or something to aspire to?

# Prayer Pointers

*Commandment focused prayer pointers (Ex 2:2-12/Mt 22:37)*

## [1] LOVE

Give thanks that we know God as our loving Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Pray that we may continue to put our love for Him first in our lives, and for all who spread His love to others that they may come to know Him personally.

## [2] PRIORITISE

Give thanks that God loves all who put Him above all else. We ask God's help not to make 'modern idols' of wealth, status, possessions or power. Pray for all who do not know the harm they do to themselves and others by making these things their primary focus.

## [3] RESPECT

Give thanks that we know it is wrong to misuse the name of the Lord in casual conversation or foul language, and ask that we may only speak of Him with honour and love. Pray the knowledge of God's love and power on all who shout out or write His name as insult, curse or threat.

## [4] WORSHIP

Give thanks that we can worship our Lord together each week without persecution. Even in difficult times we can come together virtually to give praise, offer prayers and learn more about Him. Thank God for all who make this possible and pray His protection on all whose faith in God puts their lives at risk.

## [5] HONOUR

Give thanks to the Lord for our parents, relatives and church family. Honour the memory of those close to us who are now 'His saints in glory'. Pray for all (especially children and young adults) whose experience of close family is negative or non-existent, and ask that the Lord's love and 'church family' care may surround and encourage them as they grow. Also pray for patience and resilience for all who care for family members of any age.

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'.

The latest Prayer Sheet from the Morrisseys is now available from the Church Office if you'd like a copy.

# Notices

*Tom is currently away*

Tom and Chris are having a week's holiday and will be back on Wednesday 12th August.

## *Online Services*

In case you missed last week's edition of *Connected*, the online services will continue to be the main act of worship for our two churches for the time being. Tom said that this will ensure the significant number who do not feel able to physically attend church services when they restart can still feel part of what we're doing, thus maintaining unity.

In September, short Reflective Services will commence for a 'transitional period' for those who are able to attend.

## *Dates for your Diaries*

- Sunday 6th September - 9.45am  
Reflective Services begin at Emmanuel.
- Sunday 13th September - 9.45am  
Reflective Services begin at Christ Church.
- Sunday 4th October - 4pm  
Thanksgiving Service\* (to remember those in our two congregations who are no longer with us).
- Sunday 1st November - 4pm  
Memorial Service\* (for the community to remember loved ones who passed away during the lock-down period).

*\*Note - these two services will be ticket-only events. More details will be given in due course.*

## *Connectedness*

Do you know of a church family member who doesn't have a computer? We are delivering *Connected* to 28 such people, thanks to some dedicated deliverers! Please do let Phil in the Church Office know if you think we may have missed someone.

# Coffee time after the Service...

## Donna's Ditty For Hayley



If you missed last Sunday's online service, we sadly said goodbye to Hayley, pictured above, who has been with us for the last four years. Hayley has a new position as Youth Minister at St Mary's, Stoke Bishop.

Here's what Donna had to say:

*There once was a young girl named Hayley  
who travelled to Weston so bravely.*

*And once she reached there  
she showed her youth work flair.*

*'I can do this' she thought, 'well, maybe'.*

*But now Hayley is a grown-up young lady  
who is clever and funny and zany.*

*The future may look a bit scary and new,  
but exciting adventures are waiting for you  
and never forget - God will be with you daily.*

We pray that God will bless Hayley in her new life and ministry, and we give thanks for all that she has meant to so many people in Weston.

### 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)

## Heavenly Prescriptions

A minister was visiting an elderly lady who had been very ill for many months. It was evident that her long confinement had resulted in a period of melancholy.

Seated at her bedside he said: "Now, if I were your doctor, you would expect me to write you out a prescription. Well, that is exactly what I am going to do." Taking a card from his pocket he wrote on the back:

*Fear not, for I am with you;  
be not dismayed, for I am your God;  
I will strengthen you, I will help you,  
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.  
(Isaiah 41: 10)*

On the bottom of the card he wrote: "For use before retiring, upon awaking, and as often in the day as needed".

Have we ever thought of the Bible as God's pharmacy? Between its covers we can find prescriptions to meet our every need. In moments of depression it assures us of God's tender care. In moments of temptation it provides us with the power to prevail. In moments of penitence it assures us of his love and mercy and His abundant pardon. In the black night of dark despair it speaks to us from the heart of God:

*Fear not, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by your name. You are mine. When you pass through the waters, I shall be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you ... For I am the Lord your God.  
(Isaiah 43: 1-3)*

Have we stocked the shelves of our hearts with these prescriptions from heaven? Can we reach into the storehouse of our memory for just the right word at just the right time - or just the right word of comfort, correction, admonition or encouragement? Surely, we have every reason to pray the ancient collect: "Blessed Lord, who has caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may in such wisdom hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of Thy holy Word we may embrace, and ever hold fast, the hope of everlasting life, which Thou hast given us in our Saviour, Jesus Christ."

To those who "hear, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest" the Holy Scriptures, they are indeed filled with "prescriptions from heaven."

*Robin*

# More Coffee, anyone?

## *The List of Open e-Gardens Photos Keeps Growing!*



Liz and Chris have kindly sent in these fabulous photos of their garden.



*I hope you're enjoying the Open e-Gardens series. If you would you like to include photographs of your garden, simply email your photos in to the Church Office for inclusion in a future edition of Connected. Hopefully, next year we'll get back to enjoying the gardens in person!*



### *Are you a writer?*

Thank you to those who have sent in articles for inclusion in *Connected* this week, and for the other articles and photos which I have kept for future editions. There won't be a Link Magazine covering August and September, so I'm on the look-out for more budding writers!

Please email your articles to the Church Office and I'll do my best to include them in future editions.

*Phil*