

Connected

Two Churches, one Lord

Christ Church and Emmanuel

Weston-super-Mare



This Week...

- Life Group cream tea in the park
- People and their Pets
- Family News Announcement
- Coming back to Christ Church

Verse For The Week

He sat down, called the twelve disciples over to him and said, "**Whoever wants to be first must take last place and be the servant of everyone else**". (Mark 9:35)

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)
(Day off - Tuesday)

Church Office (641016)
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Moving together

We're just entering our next phase as Church with some of us being able to meet together for our new "Sunday Prayers" at both churches. That's an exciting development and I'm looking forward to being part of these more reflective services. . . .

However, I'm aware those services will not be appropriate for all of us. That's why we're keeping our main focus as the online services – something that the great majority (if not all of us) can make. And in that way we can "keep as much as possible together" even if it is by watching and worshipping from our living rooms!

Tom

Sermon Snippets

Friends: the one where the least is the greatest

We've been tricked into believing that our view of greatness is right but Jesus comes along and says, "Your view is upside-down. This isn't the way things are at all. Let me turn things the right way round for you"

The Bible passage is Mark 9:33-37

Prayer Pointers

Sunday 6th

Commit to the Lord the first Sunday church service today since March at Emmanuel. Ask the Lord's blessing on the people able to attend and be with those who can't be there this Sunday.

Monday 7th

Pray for the children getting into the routine of attending school after many months. May it be a safe and happy time for them and their teachers.

Tuesday 8th

Pray that Phil and Julia will feel refreshed after their week's holiday and Phil will soon get settled into the work of the church office once again.

Wednesday 9th

Commit to the Lord any Emmanuel or Christ Church people who are unwell at present, remembering Ann Eastabrook, John Allchorne, Mike Thomas and Anne Tyler.

Thursday 10th

Pray for those researching for a vaccine for Covid 19, especially with the autumn and winter coming on.

Friday 11th

May the Lord give much wisdom to the government for decisions that have to be made in light of both Covid 19 and Brexit.

Saturday 12th

Pray it may be possible for many of the children's and adult's weekly meetings at church to start up again soon.

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'.

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)

Notices

Every Day With Jesus

There is a complete year's worth of Every Day With Jesus in the office. If you would like to take it (there's no charge), please let Phil know in the Church Office.

Operation Christmas Child

This is a follow-on reminder from the August 23rd issue of *Connected*. It is something our two churches get involved with each year, and we want to make sure that despite the current restrictions we can do the same this year.

We will be posting more details on how this is going to work from a practical perspective, but in the meantime why not click on one of these links to the Samaritan's Purse website:

- [Here are some great craft ideas of what to make for your shoebox.](#)
- [This is a link to the main website where you'll find lots of information and an inspiring video to watch.](#)

Free To A Good Home...

Stella & Dave have a barely-used Mothercare travel cot which they'd love to pass on free to anyone in our two churches who needs one.

Annual Parochial Church Meetings

The meeting at Christ Church will be held on Wednesday 14th October at 7.30pm. The date for the Emmanuel meeting will be announced as soon as possible. Please watch this space for more news about how the APCMs will be run this year.

All are welcome to attend these meetings, but only those who are registered on the Electoral Roll will be able to vote for new PCC members and any other matters discussed at the APCMs.

If you are not on the Electoral Roll, or if you have moved house or reached your 16th birthday since 8th April last year, please get in touch with Phil at the Church Office as you will need to complete a form. The deadline for new registrations is Monday 21 September.

Coffee time after the Service...

Dates for your Diary

Reflective Services (now called 'Sunday Prayers')

Sunday Prayers will run as additional services for a transitional period. They will start at 9.45am, will last for approximately 30 minutes, and will include a short meditation. The main teaching will continue to be part of the online service.

The services commence at Emmanuel Church on Sunday 6th September, and Sunday 13th September at Christ Church. They will run weekly in both Churches with a couple of exceptions at Christ Church. These will be announced nearer the time.

Thanksgiving and Memorial Services

These will be ticket-only services because of the need to limit the number of people attending. Bookings are being taken at the moment, and there are still spaces available.

The **Thanksgiving Service** will be on Sunday 4th October at 4pm at Christ Church. We will be giving thanks for the lives of Christine Baker, Jean Hancock, Brian Kellock and Janet Webb, all of whom sadly passed away during the lock-down period.

The **Memorial Service** will take place at Christ Church on Sunday 1st November at 4pm. The aim is for members of the community to remember loved ones who passed away during the lock-down period.



In Other News...

Family News Announcement!

Congratulations to Anne and Martin Jones who have become Grandparents again.



Their Daughter Abie and her husband Rich became parents to a baby boy Rowan James Evans weighing 7lb 6oz on the 29th August. Many congratulations to you all.



Hayley!

Congratulations to Hayley who has achieved a 2:1 in her degree in Applied Theology.

Cream tea in the park



Our **Life Group** has been meeting virtually each week since mid-April with only occasional technical hitches, sharing news, studying the Bible by focusing on The Creed and praying together.

On the evening of Thursday 20 August we met together, socially distanced of course, for a cream tea supper in Ashcombe Park. The get-together went ahead at the third attempt having been foiled mainly by the weather on previous occasions. The homemade scones with jam and cream were delicious and very much enjoyed [a big thank-you to Wendy for baking them for us just hours earlier]. It was so good to be able to meet in person in the fresh air and catch up with much that has happened over the last five months.

For the future we plan to continue to meet via Zoom each week throughout the coming months focusing on New Testament Letters plus an Advent Bible study during December. We ended our evening by sharing The Grace with one another as dusk fell, leaving only foot prints and a few crumbs. Terry & Margaret, Paul & Roseanne, Hayden, Helen & Rob and Sheila [not in the picture due to a technical hitch!]

More Coffee, anyone?

Coming back to Christ Church

When you come back to services at Christ Church things will be a bit different. Here are some guidelines about what you will need to do – so that we can be loving to our neighbours and keeping everyone safe.

Watch the short video on the website to get some idea of what to expect.

Face coverings are now a legal requirement when in church (unless exempt)

Please follow all the instructions and, above all, try to maintain social distancing which is so difficult when meeting people you know.

Please leave blocks of 3 or 4 chairs for family groups unless all other seats are taken.

It is a legal requirement that face coverings are worn in Church (unless exempted)



Please keep moving in the aisles

Reminders

- Wear masks
- Social distancing
- No hugging/shaking hands etc
- Hand sanitizer
- Read all the signs
- Do not move any chairs
- Follow the arrows
- One way system
- Leave service as directed by leader



PEOPLE AND THEIR PETS



As August Bank Holiday approaches it makes me think of how Alfie my cat came to live with me. A few years ago I had a major operation and on the day I came out of hospital Ginger, my big ginger tom cat was discovered dead in our garden. It was not a happy home coming from hospital. My neighbour Jane came in to see me (she was a volunteer with Cats Protection) and she happened to mention that a cat had been brought in to the centre and was in need of a home. So this is Alfie's story.

One August Bank Holiday Monday Alfie was found by some passers-by on the Locking Road. He had been hit by a car and was lying at the side of the road. The people who found him covered him with a jacket and called for help. The emergency vet who attended told me afterwards that it was all very dramatic as a police car came first and they then called the vet. He took Alfie back to Beaconsfield Road Vets Clinic and only gave him a 20% chance of surviving. But the good news is that despite his injuries he did pull through and the vet said that although he was in a lot of pain he didn't grumble or lash out once. He was such a lovely good-natured cat that the vet decided to take him home! However his dog didn't like cats so that didn't work out which is how Alfie came up for re-homing with Cats Protection - which is where I come in.

I brought him home and he settled in nicely. One day at church I was telling my friend Sue that I had a new cat, a lovely big tabby. A couple of days later a card arrived addressed to Alfie from Sue's cat Dillon and from then on they enjoyed a happy correspondence and wrote to each other regularly. Dillon would talk about his adventures in his garden, and what his favourite treats were and even included little paintings and Alfie would tell him what was happening in his neck of the woods.

Although they never met, they became firm 'cat friends' and their friendship lasted for several years until, very sadly, in the fullness of time Alfie and Dillon passed away. Both cats were greatly mourned and missed by many people, but I am very grateful for the time that we had together and have many happy memories and funny moments to look back on. Although it would be very hard to replace Alfie, I am secretly hoping that one morning I will open the back door and find a big cat sat there, maybe a black and white one this time, asking for a home and I have already decided upon a name for him. Watch this space.....

Shirley West