

Connected

Two Churches, one Lord

Christ Church and Emmanuel
Weston-super-Mare



This Week...

- Churches closed for Public Worship
- Remembrance Day
- Windows of Light
- Making a Difference

Verse For The Week

I lift my eyes to the hills -
where does my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord,
the Maker of heaven and earth.

(Psalm 121: 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)
(Day off - Tuesday)

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**Even though we won't
be together in Church,
we will still
remember
them.**

As you are probably aware, churches have had to close for public worship under the guidelines of a second lockdown. As there will be no service in church, Tom and Julie will be broadcasting the Remembrance Day service which you can watch online starting at 10.30 Sunday morning. The service will include the two-minute silence at 11am. Please see more details of how you can watch it on page 2.

As we remember those who served in conflicts past and recent, let us also remember those who are engaged on the front line of the struggle against Covid-19.

Sermon Snippets

Psalm 121

Keith writes:

In 1944 thousands of Allied soldiers landed on the beaches of Normandy facing determined opposition, well dug in defensive positions and with carefully positioned machine gun posts. Into the face of this ferocious onslaught young allied troops had to jump into the shallows and wade ashore before rushing across the beach.

I met one of those men who made it years later laying in hospital very ill with cancer. I was just out of the services and had spoken in the hospital ward service about prayer. The man in the bed beckoned me over with a crooked finger and said "I prayed once when I jumped out of a landing craft at Normandy....."

Prayer Pointers

Church Family

Father God we pray for all those who took part in LightFest, that their hearts may be touched by you. We thank you for Nicky and the team, for their hard work and perseverance to make LightFest happen. As Lockdown hits again please take time to reflect on our church family and how we are all affected: those living on their own, those having to work from home again with all that that entails, those who are furloughed, those who are self-employed. We also hold Tom and our leadership team up to our Lord as they change their plans for our morning services, and Phil as he supports both of our churches. We lift up to you Lord our loved ones, those in our Church family who are sick, suffering, lonely, frightened, hurting or bereaved.

The Local Area

We pray for all those in our community that are on the poverty line, thinking of CAP at this time and all the people involved in the running of this. We pray especially as they struggle with the Covid-19 restrictions to reach people and talk to people by video link. As Christmas approaches CAP are seeking donations of money towards the distribution of food hampers to people who are struggling with debt in time for Christmas. Please pray that they are able to source the funds needed and that they are able to hand deliver these gifts to those in need. Praise God for those being helped in the Weston area: the clients that are paying regularly into a debt management plan, those that are debt-free, and for those whose financial problems have been resolved.

National Prayer

Please take some time to reflect on our situation as a nation regarding Covid-19 and our trading relations with the EU. We pray for unity and wisdom for parliament and the right clear decisive actions to be taken over the days and weeks to come.

Global Prayer

Pray for pastors in Northern Nigeria who remain at great personal risk as they shepherd their flocks. Pray especially for those who are facing persecution for their faith. We give thanks to the Lord that here we are free of such persecution. We lift to our Lord all those affected in Cyprus and Turkey by the earthquake that has caused such loss of life with many people injured and missing. Also we pray for Austria, for all affected by the recent shooting. We pray for the American people and the elections, that peace will flow through this nation.

Notices

CAP Christmas Hampers

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) organise hampers to be delivered to their clients each year, and this year is no exception. For more information on how to donate to this important work, please see the latest [CAP Newsletter](#) on the Christ Church website.

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 (01934 417776)

Churches open for Private Prayer

Despite being closed for public worship during the period of this second lockdown, our two churches will be open for private prayer at the following times:

- Christ Church will be open Monday to Friday from 9am until 12noon.
- Emmanuel will be open each Wednesday from 10.30 to 11.30

Watching Services Online

Because our churches have had to close, our services will once again be shown online - at least for the month of November. This will start with the Remembrance Day service this Sunday, 8th November starting at 10.30.

To watch the service online, go to the [Sunday Service page](#) of the Christ Church website. The service will appear on Sunday morning at the top of the list of services. If you are used to watching services on YouTube, go to the ccwsm channel as usual.

Traidcraft



If like me you are finding Christmas shopping difficult this year may I suggest you look at traidcraftshop.co.uk to see their selection of gift ideas.

Please e-mail or phone Liz Cole with your order. You will be helping the poor of the world and our church will be getting 10% of your order.

Coffee time after the Service...

Memorial Service Feedback

Here are a few comments received from people who attended the Memorial Service last Sunday:

"Can you please pass on my thanks for today's service to everybody involved. It was much appreciated and conducted beautifully."

"Just wanted to thank you and everyone involved for organising the lovely Memorial Service yesterday. We all felt it gave us as a family the chance to celebrate and acknowledge Tony's life, even more-so now with a new lock-down pushing any hopes of a bigger celebration ever more unlikely for the future. The service was well planned, and friendly and we were made to feel very welcome to Christ Church."

"I would like to thank all the team that took part on Sunday at the Memorial Service - it was lovely. It must of been hard work working out where people sat. Please pass this on to all that took part, and we look forward to coming again next year."

Preschool Remembers

Children at the Christ Church Preschool have been busy decorating poppies and thinking about Remembrance Sunday. You can see the display in the Spire Centre window.



Windows of Light

As we head into another time of lockdown, things may well feel a bit gloomy. I was thinking back to the Spring and Summer and how much I enjoyed being outside in nature and how much I enjoyed seeing all of your gardens each week in *Connected*. It was so good to know that you were all still out there, even if we couldn't all be together!

On 31st October we held our Lightfest event online. We had a really great time sharing and celebrating Jesus, The Light of the World! With the colder weather and dark nights ahead, wouldn't it be good to share a bit more of that Light with each other and our community? Back in the Spring, we were all encouraged to put rainbows in our windows as a sign of hope...mine is still up but I was thinking that I could create something different for this season and maybe you'd like to join me?!

Using whatever you have available at home why not have a go at creating a Window of Light! You could use card or paper from your recycling box to create some silhouettes, you could put up some of your Christmas fairy lights and send a message of hope out on to your street. You don't have to be super crafty, just tap into that wonderful imagination that God gave you! Here are some ideas to get you started....



I'll share mine in the next issue of *Connected* but it would be great to see yours throughout the weeks ahead! And as we move towards Christmas, maybe you could create an Advent or Nativity Window?

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. John 1:5

Nicky

More Coffee, anyone?

Two Opportunities to Make a Difference

These two items are extracts from last week's *Connected*

1 - Intensive Engagement

We have been invited to join an exciting project being introduced to Weston by Avon and Somerset Police in partnership with North Somerset Council. 'Intensive Engagement' is a process which has been used in other parts of the country and aims to:

- engage with communities which are experiencing social problems
- look at the problems from the community's point of view
- identify assets and skills and form a working group
- design solutions and implement them
- evaluate and escalate

The police have asked us to take part because they think we could help make the project a success, bringing our own particular abilities and viewpoint. They need people who desire positive improvements in Weston, are willing to learn, are team players – being supportive and positive. They will be trained and will see a massive and lasting impact derived from focused effort. The project is expected to last a few months and will not require a large investment of time.

This is an amazing opportunity for the church to work in our community and I am very encouraged that our determination to serve in the recent past has been recognised by the police and the council. Please pray and think whether you could be part of this exciting project, then get in touch with me and we'll take it from there.

Bev

2 - Community Mentoring

Would you be interested in helping young people and families by providing support and a friendly ear as a Mentor?

Redeeming Our Communities (ROC), in partnership with COACH Community Mentoring, aims to empower disadvantaged young people and families and build resilience in individuals through one-to-one mentoring.

We are looking for Mentors who will work with young people and their families through difficult times, and with goal-focused mentoring you will help them explore their strengths and try new things. You would be fully trained and supported.

If this is something you want to explore, please email daveandpennyroc@gmail.com.

Signs of the Times



A Message from Bishop Ruth

Bishop Ruth has the following message, following the Government's announcement today (31st October) of a second national lockdown from Thursday, 5 November.

"The news of a second national lockdown will be devastating for so many people. Our churches will be able to remain open as places of sanctuary and solace in these dark times, for private prayer, for funerals and to provide essential voluntary services according to the Government's guidance released tonight. I pray tonight for all those made most anxious and fearful by the new lockdown, and I thank God for those who will continue to serve on the front line throughout this period. It will be a challenging month for so many of us but I know we will come together again to support one another and come through this period into the light and hope of Christmas."