

# Connected

Sunday 19th September 2021  
16th Sunday after Trinity

## Verse For The Week

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

2 Chronicles 7: 14)

## Sermon Snippets

*Nehemiah 3: 1-12*

Nehemiah was a very practical guy living in exile in Babylon. When he heard about the ruined state of Jerusalem he was determined to go there and rebuild the city walls.



Before he started he prayed, which all practical people should do. He then made a plan and organised his workforce.

He used all sorts of people from all walks of life, not just specialists, and built them into a team. As they built the wall they were also building a sense of community. The City of David, God's city, was being rebuilt to the glory of God, and the nation was being rebuilt as the people of God.

## Watch this Sunday's Service

at [www.ccwsm.org.uk](http://www.ccwsm.org.uk)

Go to the 'Church Life' menu and click on the 'Sunday Services' page.



## Operation Christmas Child

Sadly, a number of factors have led us to the decision that we are unable to organise a Christmas Shoebox collection this year.

It has not been an easy decision to make as, for many of us, packing a shoebox is a very tangible way of sharing God's love with children around the world.

If you would still like to pack a shoebox it's very easy to do online through the Operation Christmas Child website. The site contains a helpful video which explains what to do. You can choose who you would like your box to go to, and even pick items to be included in it.

Simply go to [www.shoebonline.org.uk](http://www.shoebonline.org.uk) to find out how you can put a smile on a child's face this Christmas.



## Contact Details

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# Prayer Pointers

## Monday

Please pray for Dexter and Rosie who were married on Saturday, that they will grow ever closer to each other as time goes on. Pray also for all marriages in our two churches and our own families, that God will protect them. Do not forget to pray for those who live alone and have to face all life events without a partner.

## Tuesday

Bring to God all the many groups that are at last restarting. Most, if not all of them, have not met throughout the pandemic. Some Life Groups are meeting in person others still online.

## Wednesday

Keep on praying for the forthcoming COP 26 conference to be successful in committing the countries of the world to net carbon zero. Ask God to help you do your individual part in reducing emissions and waste. (*also see page 3*)

## Thursday

Many in our church families are unwell or grieving. Please pray for their healing and comfort. Pray for those still isolating or too frail to go out.

## Friday

Remember to pray for Tom and Chris, and for Larissa, and their families. There are many leaders, both clergy and lay, who give their time for the sake of the gospel: pray for them to receive God's wisdom and encouragement. There are many more who serve in quiet, unobtrusive ways. May they be filled with enthusiasm and be blessed by our loving Father.

## Saturday

Lord we pray for people suffering from poverty, injustice, persecution and conflict. Please have mercy on them and grant that they find help in their distress.

## *Tom on Holiday*

Tom and Chris will be away from Sunday 26 September to Friday 01 October inclusive. Please pray that they will return feeling refreshed.

## *Office Closed (again!)*

Please note that the Church Office will be closed on Monday 20 September.

# What's On This Week

## Mon 20 Sep

Ladies Together at 2.30pm in Christ Church

## Tue 21 Sep

Parish Prayers at 10.30 at Emmanuel Church  
The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel Church.

## Wed 22 Sep

Holy Communion at 10.30 at Emmanuel Church  
Book Club at 7pm in the Spire Centre

## Thu 23 Sep

Welcome Group at 2.30pm at Emmanuel Church.  
Craft & Chat at 2.30pm in the Spire Centre.

# Notices

## *Open Gardens*

Just a reminder that the last in a short season of Open Gardens will be hosted by Alan and Maureen Whitfield on September 18th, between 2.30 and 5.30. As always, it would be helpful if you could put a folding seat or two in your car boot, in case there is a need.

## *Emmanuel Gardening*

The team will be gardening at Emmanuel on Friday 24 September, 10am - 12 midday. Please come along and join in the fun!

## *Bible Notes 2022*

Where has the year gone! It is now time to order Bible Notes for next year from Scripture Union and CWR. Click [here](#) to order and pay via the Christ Church website. It is also possible to pay by card at Christ Church or by cheque in either church by asking for an order form and remittance envelope. All prices are for a year's supply of Bible notes and some are completely free. All orders are due by Sunday 17th October.

## *Emmanuel Coffee Mornings*

Emmanuel Church will be restarting the popular Coffee Mornings. These will take place on the first Saturday of each month from 10.30 until 12noon. The first event, which includes a bookstall, will be on Saturday 02 October. We look forward to seeing you there!

# Coffee time after the Service...

## Climate Sunday Service

*The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands. (Psalm 19:1)*



*My thanks to Bev for taking these photos of the Prayer Evening a couple of weeks ago.*

## Eco-tips

Last month, the UN issued its starkest warning yet on climate change, they described this as “a code red for humanity.” They went on to say that we can avoid climate catastrophe by taking action now. To quote the report, very low levels of greenhouse gas emissions “would have rapid and sustained effects to limit human-caused climate change”.

Switching to green energy remains one of the most impactful changes we can make, we can also do some small things like cutting waste: -

- Keep your fridge cool at 5C
- Extend the life of greens such as lettuce, by wrapping leafy greens in a paper towel
- Store leftover food in containers and keep in the fridge but never put hot food in the fridge – cool to room temperature first.

*Hayden*

*Click on this Eco Church logo for more information*



## Larissa's Ordination



This coming week Larissa will be preparing for her Ordination (next Saturday, 25th September) at Wells Cathedral. An important part of the week is the three-day retreat she goes on leading up to the Saturday. Do be praying for her as she makes this important step in her own vocation and in the weeks that follow.

Sadly, because of Covid restrictions, her guests are necessarily limited to her family, friends and myself. No doubt we'll hear a bit more about it on her return.

*Tom*

## Carl's Open Garden

After the cold weather at the beginning of the week, I thought we would all be sitting indoors with the heating on during my Open Garden on 4 September. But God was very gracious and we had a glorious, warm and sunny day which was just as well because forty people would certainly not fit into my lounge. My daughter's comment was, “where on earth did they all park?”

As it was, the garden was getting a bit crowded, but a seat was found for everyone and a time of great fellowship enjoyed by all; it was lovely that Tom and Larissa were able to join us.

My grateful thanks go to Helen and Amy who made endless mugs of tea, my neighbour Debbie who was in charge of distributing cake and scones, and to Meg (whose house had been covered in scaffolding and could not hold the event as originally planned), who kindly provided three cakes and helped in the kitchen.

*Carl*

PS - My pup Laddie enjoyed his afternoon baling. He sat in the tractor (they have two seats these days) secured by the seat belt through his halter, happily watching the birds, another tractor also going up and down a field and having the odd snooze!