

Connected

Sunday 19th February 2023

Sunday Next Before Lent

Everyday Faith 2023

Everyone, Everywhere, Growing in Faith

This year's Everyday Faith event has explored growing in faith and how this might be achieved in practice for each of us as Christians. This compliments well our verse for the year, engaging with being salt and light in the world.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 22nd February, when we mark Jesus' testing in the wilderness. Instead of giving up something for Lent, perhaps you might like to do something extra to deepen your faith or to take your faith more fully onto your frontline?

For our daily prayers for the week commencing Monday 20th February, we'll be using the Everyday Faith videos to think about how we could grow in faith and be more 'salty' and 'lighty'.

Throughout the week we'll be exploring six themes which contribute to our spiritual GROWTH:

- Monday - Growth
- Tuesday - Rhythms
- Wednesday - Others
- Thursday - Word
- Friday - Together
- Saturday - Hope



We hope this will provide a thought-provoking start to your Lent - offering you a quiet five minutes each day to think about the growth of your own faith, the opportunity to ponder whether any new spiritual rhythms might be beneficial and, of course, some good ideas about how to share your faith with others.

We hope you'll hear something that resonates with you. Is there an idea which you think you might try? We'd love to hear about it!

Finally, we are proud and delighted that our very own Donna Pilgrim has featured in the videos! Well done Donna!



Larissa

Sermon Snippets

Christ Church

Romans 12: 9-21

Living Out Our Faith In A Lost World



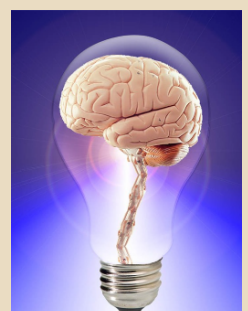
Romans is a letter to a church Paul had not visited - it is general not personal. Chapters 1-11 are theological. Chapters 12-16 are practical application - both individual and corporate. Our lives are a noticeboard for Jesus. We should be "A Living Sacrifice" and our lives are in God's hands. We will look at:

- (1) Spiritual Issues - what is love? Agape vs World's.
- (2) Practical Issues - early churches were "together and had everything in common". How do we work this out?
- (3) Impossible Issues - seek peace, not revenge.

Emmanuel

1 Corinthians 3: 1-11, 16-23

This week at Emmanuel we will be looking at the wisdom of men and the foolishness of God.



Prayer Pointers

Monday - We pray for all the people in Ukraine and Russia suffering because of the war in Ukraine. We pray that You will bring a change of mind to President Putin and peace to the region.

Tuesday - We pray for all the thousands struggling because of the earthquake in Southern Turkey and Northern Syria. Comfort the grieving. May the right help reach those in need and grant wisdom to those in authority.

Wednesday - We pray that You will be especially close to all those elderly and lonely people living in care homes in our town. Help them to trust in You and grant them patience.

Thursday - We thank You for our two churches, Emmanuel and Christ Church - the fellowship that we share and the opportunities that it brings. Please bless Tom and our church leaders with Your wisdom as they seek to guide us on our faith journey.

Friday - We pray for all those who have fled or are fleeing war situations and are now having to live in huge refugee camps with food shortages and no life outside their tents. We pray also for all the agencies seeking to help, that they will be provided with the necessary supplies.

Saturday - We pray for all Christians everywhere - especially in North Korea and women in Afghanistan, Syria, and Nigeria, who are persecuted because they bear Your name. Encourage them and lift them up to know the wonder of Your love for them.

Sunday - O Jesus, Light of the World, be our guide through the times of uncertainty ahead, with many changes in our lives because of climate change or the economy. Teach us to walk by Your light no matter what dark days there may be coming.

Watch the Morning Service

at www.ccwsm.org.uk

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

What's On This Week

Monday 20th February

Ladies Together at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre

Tuesday 21st February

Parish Prayers at 9:30am at Emmanuel
The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel

Wednesday 22nd February

Seedlings Toddler Group at 10:15am at Christ Church
Holy Communion (Lent) at 10:30am at Emmanuel

Thursday 23rd February

Craft & Chat at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre
Welcome Group at 2:30pm at Emmanuel
JaM Club at 3:30pm at Christ Church
(pre-registration is required for the above event)

Sunday 26th February

Meditation for Lent at 6pm at Christ Church

Notices

Tom & Chris Away

Please note that Tom & Chris are on holiday from Friday 17th til Friday 24th February inclusive.

Church Office 'Closed'

Please note that, during the week commencing 20th February, the office will be manned daily but not necessarily during 'normal office hours'.

Verse For The Week

" Do not deceive yourselves. If any of you think you are wise by the standards of this age, you should become 'fools' so that you may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God's sight. "

1 Corinthians 3: 18-19a

DEANERY SERVICE OF LIGHT

The annual Deanery Service of Light was held at All Saints Weston-super-Mare with around 150 people attending.

The service contained a variety of worship; testimonies from five churches in the Deanery which celebrated God's workings among His people, the receiving of the Deanery candles, and a collection for the work of the Foodbank (which realised a total of £521).

It was a time of joy, reflection, prayer, fellowship, and renewed friendships. A truly affirming and uplifting celebration.

Hayden

Coffee after the Service...



URGENT HELP NEEDED IN TURKEY & SYRIA

Both Samaritan's Purse and Tearfund are responding in the aftermath of the major earthquake in the Middle East. Much of southern Turkey and northern Syria has been impacted and communities have been devastated by the disaster. The number of dead and wounded is still rising. Whole towns have been flattened. Tens of thousands of people whose homes have been destroyed are now at the mercy of a freezing winter.

The church is rising up to respond - and you can make a difference right now. Please pray as a church and help show the love of Christ to people in desperate need.

If you would like to donate to either Samaritan's Purse or Tearfund, we now have a dedicated page on our website - click on this link: <https://ccwsm.org.uk/turkey-syria-earthquake-appeal/> For other ways to donate, please see the notice displayed on the flipchart at the back of church.



Safeguarding Sunday

On Sunday 26th February, Christ Church will be marking Safeguarding Sunday.

As a church we'll have the opportunity to express our commitment to our safeguarding responsibilities, to affirm that our safeguarding practices are grounded in the Bible, that we wish to acknowledge the safeguarding mistakes and injustices made throughout the Church of England (and other denominations), and that we will do our utmost to make our two churches as safe as possible as part of the living out of God's justice.

We will be giving thanks for Anne's dedication to this challenging work of mission, done on behalf of all of us.

We hope this is something that you will find positive. This is a new thing for Christ Church and we would be grateful for your feedback.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Larissa or Tom.

Lent Quiet Day

Friday 24th February, 10am-3pm
Christian Retreat Centre, Uphill BS23 4SD

Growing up in Lent
— Ash, Olive and You —

A Quiet Day to explore the Lenten story through the natural world
Led by Revd Anthony Hick
Methodist Minister in Bristol

Suggested donation £10 includes cooked lunch
Contact Revd Steve Marr to book your place 01934 633311
Email: s.j.marr@btinternet.com
christianretreatsuphill.co.uk

Contact Details

Rev. Tom Webber (Day Off - Tuesday)
t: (01934) 709343
e: vicar@ccwsm.org.uk

Rev. Larissa Trust (Day Off - Tuesday)
t: 07379 754372
e: curate@ccwsm.org.uk

Church Office (09:30-12:30 Mon-Fri)
t: (01934) 641016
e: office@ccwsm.org.uk
w: www.ccwsm.org.uk



Prayer Chain



As one part of the prayer ministry of our two churches, we have what is called a Prayer Chain Group. This is a group of people from the churches who have agreed to pray for urgent issues when they receive either a WhatsApp message or phone call, depending which system they have signed up for (Christ Church) or receive an email (Emmanuel).

It is available to use by any member of our congregations if they have an urgent need for prayer for themselves or someone close to them, regardless as to whether they are part of the prayer team or not.

If a need for prayer arises, then please contact Sandra Crocker or, if she is not available, Pam Waters (for Christ Church) or contact Meg Hill (for Emmanuel). Their telephone numbers are in the Church Directory. All messages are treated confidentially.

If you would like to be part of the praying group, please speak to one of the leadership team.

Tom