

Connected

Sunday 1st October 2023

Seventeenth Sunday After Trinity

Christ Church

Psalm 136: 1-9

I think we would all agree that we have so much to be thankful for (particularly living in the affluent west). As Christians, we acknowledge that everything we have comes from God. So, as we teach our children from an early age, it seems right that we should say thank you.

But how do we keep these acts of thankfulness fresh and sincere? God surely deserves a '5-star review' and yet sometimes we forget all together.



Emmanuel

1 Corinthians 1: 10-17

United we stand, divided we fall. Today's hot topic - Unity!

When we disagree about so many things is it possible to remain one with each other?

What does Paul have to say to a divided church?



Harvest Service - Christ Church

The harvest season is now upon us. Last week we celebrated the season at Emmanuel and raised funds for "The Ripple Effect" in Zambia and this week we will be celebrating at Christ Church where we will be collecting for Foodbank.

Donations gratefully received. Please see 'Coffee after the Service...' (below) for a list of items which they are in particular need of.



I've just returned from a wonderful (if a little wet!) holiday in the Lake District and it's reminded me of the wonder of God's creation.

As we rejoice in all that we receive at harvest, let's remember to give thanks to our creator.

Tom

"We thank You then, O Father, for all things bright and good, the seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food. Accept the gifts we offer for all Your love imparts; we come now, Lord, to give You our humble, thankful hearts."



All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above, then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all His love."

What's On This Week

Monday 2nd October

Ladies Together at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre

Tuesday 3rd October

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

Wednesday 4th October

Seedlings Toddler Group at 10:15am at Christ Church
(please note that this event is currently full)
Bereavement Course at 2:30pm at Christ Church

Thursday 5th October

Craft & Chat at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre
Welcome Group at 2:30pm at Emmanuel

Saturday 7th October

Coffee Morning at 10:30am at Emmanuel

Sunday 8th October

Deaf Church at 3pm at Emmanuel

Notices

Larissa Unavailable

Please note that Larissa will be unavailable on Saturday 30th September and Sunday 1st October and from Friday 13th to Sunday 15th October inclusive.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE

There is a Confirmation Service at **WELLS** Cathedral on:
Saturday 4th November (2pm)

Confirmation is an outward sign of living out your Christian faith. If you are interested in being confirmed, please speak to Tom or Larissa.

Verse For The Week

" Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.
His love endures for ever. "

Psalm 136: 1

Watch the Morning Service

at www.ccwsm.org.uk

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

Prayer Pointers

Sunday: Let's be honest - how many of us in Christ Church and Emmanuel have the opportunity to spend any meaningful time in personal prayer or Bible reading? Perhaps only those who are retired or self employed. "Drop Thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease; take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess the beauty of Thy peace".

Monday: Back to work or school - 'the daily round, the common task...' - hurry to catch the train, bus, whatever. Dear Lord, please be with me today. I've got such a lot to get through - quite apart from getting the children up, dressed, breakfasted, and off to school. Father, forgive me if I haven't much time except to say "hello" to you and "thanks for a good night's sleep".

Tuesday: Isn't the news depressing? All those forest fires, earthquakes, floods. Thousands - not hundreds - swept away. Scores of thousands bereaved. Father, comfort and heal all those who are in any way distressed in body, mind, or spirit - that they may be delivered out of all their afflictions.

Wednesday: Find out about the work of some aid agencies : Tearfund, Barnabas Fund, Christian Aid, Cafod, The Red Cross, London City Mission, and others. The Foodbank in this town and elsewhere. Pray for them - especially for people in Christ Church and Emmanuel who are involved with them.

Thursday: Jesus promised he would return and, in a number of his parables, he warned us to be ready but he didn't say when! A Christian man I once knew had a little card propped up on his mantelpiece. It bore just two words: "Perhaps today". Pray about your situation today.

Friday: What's the most hazardous thing you do? When you hear a plane flying high overhead, as we often do in Weston, send up a prayer for all the passengers and crew in it - that they may arrive safely at their destination.

Saturday: Pray for those in our two churches who will carry the responsibility for the Sermon tomorrow. May their words, led by the Spirit, stir us to compassion, to action, and to a renewed faith in Jesus.

Coffee after the Service...

Emmanuel Coffee Morning



There will be a 'Coffee Morning and Sale' at Emmanuel on: Saturday 7th October 10:30am-12noon

Come and enjoy a browse and a chat over coffee and cake.

ACTIVE MEN'S GROUP

THIS MONTH'S ACTIVE MEN'S GROUP ACTIVITY IS TO BE 'A WALK IN THE COUNTRYSIDE' (LED BY DAVE MILSOM) AND WILL BE TAKING PLACE THIS COMING THURSDAY, 5TH OCTOBER.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN BUT HAVEN'T ALREADY CONFIRMED THAT YOU ARE ATTENDING, PLEASE SPEAK TO DAVE MILSOM OR NOTIFY EMMA IN THE OFFICE.



All harvest donations at Christ Church this year will be going to Foodbank. Please see list below of items they are in particular need of:

- Pasta
- Rice
- Biscuits
- Snacks
- Savoury snacks
- Tinned meat
- Custard
- Rice pudding
- Instant coffee
- Long life milk
- Honey / jam
- Tinned / instant soup
- Tinned spaghetti / ravioli
- Tinned tomatoes
- Shower gel / shampoo
- Deodorant
- Washing powder
- Washing-up liquid
- Nappies size 5 & larger
- Toothpaste / toothbrushes
- Pet food

Reminder...

This Sunday, 1st October, the Emmanuel Church family have been invited over to the Quakers for coffee and cake after the service.

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

Christian Retreat Centre Uphill Methodist Church

is holding a QUIET MORNING
on THURSDAY 5th OCTOBER (10am-12noon)
led By MISS ROSEMARY KRULL

No booking is required but everyone is very welcome to use the quiet time to deepen spirituality and renew peace in a busy life.

More coffee anyone...

Open Gardens Report 2023

The idea of inviting church members from Christ Church and Emmanuel to open their gardens to visitors for refreshments was originally instigated to help pay for the newly erected Spire Centre.

It was intended that these should cease when the building had been paid for, around 2009.

However, they proved so popular that they have continued ever since!

In the early days, gardens were opened on various days of the week and they could be morning or afternoon events. More recently, they have fallen into a pattern of fortnightly Saturday afternoons between 2:30pm and 5pm (although 'closing time' tends to be a bit elastic, depending on the weather and the number of visitors!). Newcomers will find Open Gardens a great way of getting to know people from both churches.



The season began at the garden of Grace Monk on May 20th, on one of the hottest days of the year when some shade was very welcome! The next events were held in June with Terry & Margaret Baillie and then John & Kathy Hinchliffe.

In July we visited Martin & Nicky Boardman - this was a new venue and what a delightful garden it was!

Alan & Maureen Whitfield followed in August but had to hold the event indoors because of the rain. Also in August, Barry & Glenys Sutton-Jones offered their garden at the aptly named Southridge Heights which provided extensive, but sometimes draughty, views across the Severn Estuary and beyond.

The programme was rounded off in September by Tony Cornford and his neighbour, Sandy Beckford, who have removed the boundary between their properties to give a good-sized and attractive back garden. And, finally, Meg Hill invited us for a return visit to her garden. Unfortunately, this was also a rainy event which prevented us from going outside. Nevertheless, we were well looked after by Meg and her daughter, with the customary table of cakes and pastries.

The layout of the printed programme continues to be very attractive and for this we have to thank Emma in the Office and also Terry Baillie who puts together the animated screen displays at Christ Church. Thanks also to David White at Christ Church and Carl Evans at Emmanuel who record the donations given at the various events.

The future of Open Gardens depends entirely on those willing to host them. We have lost several venues in recent years and have yet to attract newcomers to come forward with what they can offer. Although intended primarily as social events, voluntary donations raised £445 from the three events held by Emmanuel and £530.70 for the remaining five hosted by Christ Church.

Can we look forward to 2024...?

Barry

