

Connected

Last Sunday after Trinity

Sunday 27th October 2024



Annual Memorial Service Christ Church

Next Sunday, 3rd November, we are holding our annual 'Memorial Service' (4pm at Christ Church). It is a gentle reflective service for anyone who would like to give thanks for someone who has passed away. This might be something that's happened recently or maybe some time ago - the time doesn't matter.

Bereavement is not a matter we 'sort out', rather it is a loss that stays with us - and to come together to give thanks to God can be a helpful stage on the journey.

As you come to the service, you can suggest the names of loved ones to be read out in the service itself. If you can't make it to the service - do email me (revtom@ccwsm.org.uk) and I can make sure they're included.

Bereavement is something that affects many in our community. Do invite along a friend if you feel it would be helpful (there are a few invites available at the back of both churches).

Tom

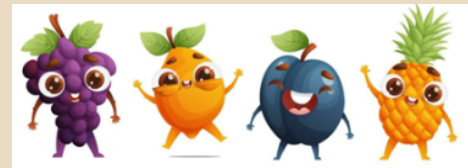
Sermon Snippets

Christ Church John 15: 1-17

Producer Or Consumer?

Most of us produce very little of the food we eat. We are consumers who buy what others provide. We acknowledge this every Harvest. But, following on from our Church Weekend At Home, we left the passage from John 15 where Jesus asks us to remain in his love without looking at his intention. Jesus says abiding in him should produce lasting fruit. We are not merely to be consumers of his love but producers also. What does that mean?

Playing a gooseberry is embarrassing, being a lemon is not nice, and he didn't want us to be spouting rhubarb.



What sort of fruit grows from our abiding in Jesus? We shall explore further this morning.

Emmanuel John 14: 15-31

Over the last six weeks we have explored the fullness of life Jesus came to give us and His invitation to Be with Him. The question now is: what do we do next?

Over the next four Sundays we have a preaching series called ROOTED and FRUITED. We have spent much time exploring how we abide, dwell, remain, make our home in, Be with Jesus. But, as Jesus explains in John 15, the result of being 'rooted' in Him is that we produce good fruit.



In Scripture we see the disciples spending time with Jesus, sitting under his teaching and then moving into action; rooted people becoming fruitful people, who are being changed through their Being with Him.

Let's explore what this looks like in our lives, as we come together each Sunday.

What's On This Week

Saturday 26th October

Men's Breakfast at 8:30am in The Spire Centre

Monday 28th October

Ladies Together at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre

Tuesday 29th October

Parish Prayers at 9:30am at Emmanuel

The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel

Wednesday 30th October

No Seedlings Toddler Group this week

Thursday 31st October

No Craft & Chat this week

Welcome Group at 2:30pm at Emmanuel

Lightfest from 4:30pm-6:30pm at Christ Church

(registration required)

Saturday 2nd November

Coffee Morning from 10:30am-12noon at Emmanuel

Sunday 3rd November

Memorial Service at 4pm at Christ Church

Notices

Nicky Unavailable

Please be aware that Nicky will be unavailable on Tuesday 5th & Wednesday 6th November.

Church Office Closed

Please be aware that the Church Office will be closed on Friday 8th & Monday 11th November.

Verse For The Week

" If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you for ever - the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. "

John 14: 15-17

Watch the Morning Service

at www.ccwsm.org.uk

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

Prayer Pointers

Monday : As nights are lengthening and cold weather is in the offing, remember in your prayers all who are homeless or who cannot afford to adequately heat their homes. Pray that there will be provision for their needs over the coming months.

Tuesday : Thank God for all the works of art and music which are available for us to enjoy, and for the places we can go to experience them. Give thanks that He has blessed you with the faculties with which to enjoy such pleasures.

Wednesday : Pray for the Chancellor as she presents her first budget today. Pray that God will guide her to do what is right in His sight and give her wisdom to take the necessary measures to improve our country's economy, create employment, and provide benefits for those in need.

Thursday (All Hallows Eve) : Hallowe'en nowadays is treated as a celebration of all that is deathly and evil. Praise the Lord that these are the very things that our Saviour triumphed over by His resurrection. Celebrate that in your prayers today. Pray for the success of Lightfest this afternoon and for all taking part in it.

Friday (All Saints Day) : Today is the day we give thanks for all Christians who have gone before us. Praise the Lord for all the "saints" in your life: those who brought you to faith, developed your faith, and helped you maintain your faith in times of trial.

Saturday : Give thanks for our churches; for all the love, support, and fellowship we receive from one another and for all working to achieve our mission to Live God's Love. These are the "saints" of today; name those who have shown you recent kindnesses in your prayers and thank God that His Spirit is active in our churches.

**Don't forget...
the clocks go back
this weekend!**



Coffee after the Service...



Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

This year we are, again, encouraging folk to support Samaritan's Purse with the Operation Christmas Child project.

The most straightforward way to participate is by packing a shoebox online. This can be done in two different ways:

1) Go to <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/shoebox-online/create-a-box> and create your own shoebox(es). Each box costs £25. This way you can choose the gender/age of your child and pick items to go in your box(es).

2) Go to <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/shoebox-online/send-a-pre-packed-shoebox> to send a pre-packed shoebox(es). Here you can simply confirm how many boxes you wish to send and donate accordingly (again, £25 per box).

Alternatively, there will be a few pre-printed shoeboxes available should you wish to physically pack your own complete shoebox. Leaflets explaining what to put in a box will also be available. If packing your own shoebox, Samaritan's Purse also asks for a donation of £5 per box to cover shipping costs. Please see David White or speak to Emma in the Church Office regarding payment of this.

Lastly, if you aren't able to pack a shoebox (either online or physically) but would like to donate money towards the Operation Christmas Child project, please see David White or speak to Emma in the Church Office.

For further information relating to Operation Christmas Child, access to all relevant links, and 'ways to pay' if donating, please visit our website:

<https://ccwsm.org.uk/shoebox-appeal-2024/>

The boxes, including those packed online, will be dedicated during our Sunday service at Christ Church on November 10th.

Thursday 31st October - 4:30pm - 6:30pm
Donations needed! Registration open!

LightFest 2024!

Donations requested are as follows (to be placed in the basket at the back of Christ Church or delivered to the Office):

- Sweets for Goody Bags - such as... fun-sized chocolate bars, mini bags of Haribo, wrapped chews, wrapped lollies/chocolates
- Packets of individually wrapped cakes - for the packed tea
- Tea Light Candles & Battery Tea Light Candles

NO MORE JAM JARS REQUIRED - THANK YOU

For more information and registration, please see the Events page on our website : <https://ccwsm.org.uk/events/>

Emmanuel Coffee Morning

The next 'Coffee Morning and Sale' at Emmanuel will be taking place on Saturday, 2nd November from 10:30am-12noon



Men's Breakfast

Saturday 26th October
8:30am-10am

If you weren't able to sign-up for this last Sunday but would like to come along, please contact Paul Sodzi



More coffee anyone...?

We enjoyed a wonderful time together! Folk from both our congregations have mixed so well; I've been aware of many helpful conversations between people who either didn't know each other or didn't know each other so well. God has really been building us up.

There was a large number of people who made the weekend run smoothly - cooking/washing up/running sessions and activities/behind the scenes admin/children's activities/life group material/song writing! Our sincere thanks to all of them.

In particular, we want to thank Donna for bringing us a brilliant message about abiding in Jesus in the reality of our lives. It was clear, easily accessible, and certainly inspiring. We're so grateful for her relaxed manner and the way folk were encouraged to share together.

The congregation at Christ Church each contributed a wax crayon which were collected and melted together to create a multi-coloured heart (pictured) - a great demonstration of us being brought together in fellowship in Christ.

Tom

If you were not able to attend the Church Weekend At Home but would like to hear the teaching, Donna recorded three videos which can be accessed as follows:

Friday evening: [click here](#)

Saturday Part 1: [click here](#)

Saturday Part 2: [click here](#)

Or speak to Emma in the Church Office who can email the links to you.



crayon heart

Fellowship

Joy

Getting to know different people

Laughter

Fun

Food (for tums! and for thought!)

Blessing

Spontaneous

Jesus in the car!

Personal

Abide

Togetherness

Thank you!

I want to thank everyone who worked together so well to make the CW@H the joyful experience it was - as Tom said, it took a whole army of us to make it happen.

But I'd like to express my specific thanks to all of you who came along. We experienced 'Being With Jesus' in a special way last weekend, but that was the result of us all being 'all in'! We tried new things, stepped out of our comfort zones, shared honestly, laughed and cried together, came with open minds and hearts, and allowed space for God's Spirit to move.

Nicky's crayons on Sunday summed it up for me. We all jumped into the melting pot on Friday, trusting God to see where it would take us, and emerged on Sunday more closely connected to Jesus and to each other.

But, whether we were there in person or not, let's continue the journey of remaining in His love, of truly loving each other, and being 'all in', because this is the awesome life we have in The Kingdom of God.

Donna

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