

Connected

Sunday 19th October 2025

18th Sunday After Trinity



Annual Memorial Service - Christ Church

On Sunday 2nd November we will be holding our annual 'Memorial Service' (4pm at Christ Church).

This 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. Sian Collins will be giving the talk at the service this year.

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

Matthew 7: 24-29

This week we meet Jesus as he's just finished giving (arguably) the most famous speech in history - the Sermon on the Mount. Now he turns to a little story that reminds us that life's storms come to everyone - wise or foolish.

Jesus never promised storm-free living but he did promise storm-proof faith for those who obey Him.



Emmanuel

Psalm 1

The Bible's set of 150 Psalms is quite a collection of praise, lament, and wisdom to name a few. The first Psalm was chosen to introduce this most famous of collections. So what does it say? How does it set the scene for what follows?

Essentially, it presents us with a clear choice about what we look to for guidance.

I wonder, what will you decide?

The Way of the Trees and the Chaff (Psalm 1)



Prayer Pointers

Let us take time to pause and pray:
Come, Holy Spirit, fill our hearts with Your presence and guide us to Your Truth, fulfilling the deepest longing of our souls.

Church Family:

Lord, thank you for our families here at Christ Church and Emmanuel, for the opportunities you have provided; we pray that we will all experience the peace of God that exceeds all understanding, and that we will not worry about things we cannot control, but that you will guard our hearts and minds and keep us trusting you.

Lord, we lift to you our loved ones, and those in our Church family who are sick, suffering, hurting, or bereaved.

The Local Area:

Lord, we think of our Deanery at this time. Locking Deanery is one of the largest Deaneries in the Diocese with a community of wealth and of deprivation, with new housing being built leading to a greatly expanded community. We also pray for the work planned on the "Estates" (areas of deprivation). This all brings about change. We pray for the Lord's guidance and for correct decisions to be made.

We pray for our NHS and for social & welfare services as they prepare for winter-time.

National Prayer:

Praying for those people who have cancer and many other life-threatening illnesses; we ask for wisdom for those who distribute the resources in the NHS, and for the cancer charities who also work tirelessly.

We pray for the work of Friends International who start a new academic year welcoming new students from Ireland & England, some of whom don't know the Bible. We pray for the work of the Holy Spirit as the students make big decisions during their year. Let us pray for the new Archbishop of Canterbury - the Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally DBE.

We pray about the attack on Heaton Park Synagogue and all those affected by it - that God's love will shine through.

Global Prayer:

We pray for the situation in Ukraine and the impact this war is having on the everyday people still trying to live in the country.

What's On This Week

Saturday 18th October

Ambassadors Breakfast at 9:30am at The Beefeater

Monday 20th October

Ladies Together at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre

Tuesday 21st October

Parish Prayers at 9:30am at Emmanuel

The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel

Wednesday 22nd October

Seedlings Toddler Group at 10:15am at Christ Church

Thursday 23rd October

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

Welcome Group at 2:30pm at Emmanuel

Saturday 25th October

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

Notices

Tom & Nicky Unavailable

Please note that both Tom & Nicky will be unavailable on Monday 20th & Tuesday 21st October.

Verse For The Week

"From the ends of the earth I call to you, I call as my heart grows faint; lead me to the rock that is higher than I. For you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the foe. I long to dwell in your tent forever and take refuge in the shelter of your wings. For you, God, have heard my vows; you have given me the heritage of those who fear your name."

Psalms 61: 2-5

Operation Christmas Child



We are supporting Operation Christmas Child again this year - please see next week's Connected for more information regarding this.

We will be encouraging folk to pack a box online (as this is the most straightforward option for us and for Samaritan's Purse) but, if you do want to pack your own box, please see one of the Wardens or speak to Emma in the Office.

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW

Coffee after the Service...

Men's Breakfast - Christ Church

Saturday 25th October
8:30am-10am

COST: £4

Bacon butties,
toast, and
drinks... then
"An Interview
With Andy
Page".



Last chance to sign-up this weekend - pop your name on the sheet at the back of Christ Church or speak to Emma in the Church Office early next week and she can add your name to the list.

going the distance

For a vibrant and lasting marriage



'Going The Distance' is an event hosted by Care For The Family. For more information and to book tickets, please either see the poster or pick up a flyer at the back of Christ Church, or visit their website.

*** We have four complimentary tickets for this event - please speak to Emma if you would like to make use of these ***

Contact Details

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

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



LightFest! 2025

Lightfest 2025!

Friday 31st October
4:30pm-6:30pm

**REGISTRATION
NOW OPEN!**

TO REGISTER, please go to ccwsm.org.uk/events/ - click on the LightFest tab for more information. Then fill out the online form and wait for an email from Nicky containing a link to pay. The cost is £2 per person (babies under 6 months go free).



ALSO, the sign-up sheet to be on team is on the flip chart at the back of church - please join us if you are able. If you need more information, please contact Nicky - email: family.ministry@ccwsm.org.uk

AND FINALLY, if you are able, we would really appreciate donations of sweets for the goody bags - small/individual packets of Haribo-type sweets, wrapped sweets, small 'fun-sized' chocolate bars, etc. No nuts please. There will be a tub at the back of Christ Church for donations to be put in on Sundays. Otherwise, please leave them with Emma in the Church Office. Thank you!



Rural Forum 2025

Calling in the countryside

What is God saying to us in our rural setting?

How can we encourage others in using their gifts in our churches and communities?



Monday 3 November



Bagley Baptist Church, BS28 4TG

To book a place, please scan the QR code or email sophie.moore@bathwells.anglican.org



Thank you

Just a quick note to say many thanks to everyone for the kind applause and gift last Sunday - it has been a pleasure to serve Christ Church and Emmanuel on the preaching team over recent years.

Jeff

CONNECTED | ISSUE 279

More coffee anyone...?



The beginning of this month marked twenty-five years since Preb Julie Birkett started in ministry. It's been an amazing journey which continues on today. She has served at a number of churches including ours, Locking, Hutton, and St Johns. She also exercises brilliant and sensitive pastoral care in her role at Weston College, as well as Hospicecare and the hospital. And this is all on top of her responsibilities as Prebendary at the Cathedral. John says "She did all her training while working, bringing up three kids, and (hardest of all) looking after me!".

She has served us along with others who were licensed around the same time - Meg Hill, Chris Cole, and Pam Smith.

Julie - our thanks and congratulations - and it was very fitting that you were preaching and presiding at Emmanuel on 5th October to mark this occasion.

Tom

Some Sad News...

Many of you will have known Jon Simons (junior). We are sad to inform you that Jon passed away last week.

Please keep John Simons (senior), Maggi, Jack, Harriet, & Sam in your thoughts and prayers.

Details of his funeral will follow in due course.

Christ Church Singers: Update

As some of you may know, our contact (Vicky) at Nashley House has moved on to pastures new. Those pastures happen to be in the Summer Lane area where a new care home, Mead Field Manor, has just been built.

We have kept in touch with Vicky and she invited us along to entertain the residents there at the beginning of October. The home itself is very modern, light, and spacious, and feels like a 5-star hotel! Vicky and all the staff made us very welcome.

We sang through our programme and the residents really seemed to enjoy it, singing along with all the songs, which were a selection of hits from the 50s, 60s, and 70s, and a couple of songs from musicals. For our Christian input we sang that wonderful gospel song "Oh Happy Day".

It was a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon and we really enjoyed the time spent there, especially when we circulated afterwards chatting to the residents. I had an email from Vicky later in the evening and she said that the residents had really enjoyed the afternoon and that they had had a lot of fun with us.

We are invited back next month!

William



BIBLE READING NOTES

Time to order your Bible reading notes for 2026!

If you would like to place an order, please contact Sandra Wilkes. Payment of one year's subscription will be required on placing the order (Sandra can let you know how much this will be). Payment can be made by either cheque, cash, card, or bank transfer.

If you have not had Bible reading notes before, please do speak to Sandra.

