

Connected

Sunday Next Before Lent

Sunday 15th February 2026

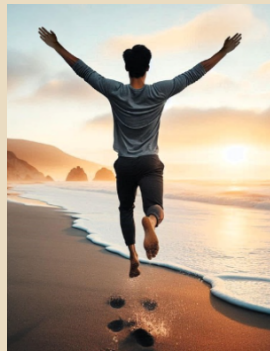
Sermon Snippets

Christ Church

Isaiah 55: 1-13

Why do we tend to "settle for less" in life when we can have so much more in God? Quite often we leave God out in our decision making and our way of life and, by doing so, settle with unpleasant situations.

But God is inviting us to live life to the full with a new way of life in him.



Emmanuel

Isaiah 40: 21-31

+ *Matthew 11: 25-30*

"Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God...". These words were spoken by Isaiah to an Israel in exile. In truth, the Israelites did know and they had heard... but, in their defeat, they'd forgotten.

It can be easy when life is busy, or even when we're dealing with disappointment, to take our focus off God and who He is. Perhaps even a little like Israel had?

But, if we put God back at the centre of our lives, we can (re)discover the fathomless nature of His energy, strength, and love.



Church Directories

It is now time for new editions of our Church Directories to be published!



With regard to Emmanuel...

...work on this started back in the autumn and is now nearing completion. Meg Hill currently has a copy of the latest draft. If you haven't already done so (or want to double-check the current version), could you please:

- (1) see Meg to confirm (or otherwise advise) that your details are all up-to-date and correct and;
- (2) let Meg or Emma in the Church Office know if you would either like a photo to be included or wish to have an updated one.



With regard to Christ Church...

...the first stages of updating this have been completed. A full draft copy of the Directory will be in church for the next few weeks.

Could you all please:

- (1) check your entry - if all the details are up-to-date and correct, please put a tick inside your box or, if any details need adding/removing/amending, please make the necessary corrections on the draft copy and;
- (2) write 'photo' inside the box if you would either like a photo to be included or wish to have an updated one.

If you are not currently in the Christ Church Directory but would like to be, please see Emma in the Church Office or one of the Wardens who can supply you with a consent form to fill in.



What's On This Week

Saturday 14th February

Repair Cafe from 10am-12:30pm at Christ Church

Monday 16th February

Ladies Together at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre

Tuesday 17th February

Parish Prayers at 9:30am at Emmanuel

The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel

Families Together Pancakes at 4pm in The Spire Centre
(for those signed up)

Wednesday 18th February

No Seedlings Toddler Group this week

Holy Communion at 10:30am at Emmanuel

Alpha Course at 7pm in The Spire Centre
(for those who have signed up)

Thursday 19th February

Active Men's Walk - *contact Dave Milsom for info*

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

Welcome Group at 2:30pm at Emmanuel

Saturday 21st February

Ambassadors' Breakfast at 9:30am at The Beefeater
(for those who have signed up)

Notices

Church Office Closed

Please note that the Church Office will be closed
from Monday 23rd February until
Tuesday 3rd March inclusive.

Verse For The Week

" Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on
him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake their
ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let
them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on
them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon. "

Isaiah 55: 6-7

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

Prayer Pointers

MONDAY: At the start of this week we remember those in our church family, our friends, colleagues, neighbours, and acquaintances. Lord, especially bring to mind those who might feel their problems are mountainous. May we unite around your biblical exhortation to command mountains to be moved. Lord, answer our prayers in your way.

TUESDAY: Lord, as we approach Lent, help us to be a disciplined people empowered by your Holy Spirit and guided by Scripture. May our godly lifestyle be a witness to your world.

WEDNESDAY: Ash Wednesday reminds us of Jesus looking ahead to His crucifixion and His willingness to die for mankind. Father, inspire us to die daily to our selfish wills and ambitions that challenges all that you desire for us.

THURSDAY: Lord, we thank you for our two churches' ministers, leaders, and teachers - especially the heroic efforts of Nicky and the Family Ministry Team. We are reminded that our children are not tomorrow's church but today's. May there be future leaders among them, we pray. May we elders continue to offer our experience and knowledge that is vital for a mature balanced church.

FRIDAY: At this busy time through Lent we particularly pray for our Bishops of Bath & Wells and Taunton. Lord, give them power and wisdom for fresh impetus into our Diocese. We also pray for both Christ Church's and Emmanuel's leaders and members at every level.

SATURDAY: We pray concerning our stewardship. Help us to be faithful, both financially and with our time and abilities. We give thanks for so many already faithful, experiencing your faithfulness. We find, Lord, that you are no man's debtor because of your abundant blessings toward us.

Watch the Morning Service

at www.ccwsm.org.uk

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

Coffee after the Service...

Men's Breakfast Christ Church

Saturday 28th February
8:30am-10am
COST: £5

Bacon butties,
toast, and
drinks...
followed by
"An Interview
With Keith
Hallett".



If you would like to attend,
please add your name to the
sign-up sheet at Christ Church.
Or, if you are at Emmanuel and
would like to come along,
please notify Paul Sodzi or
contact the Church Office.

The Ambassadors Women's Group



Saturday 21st February
9:30am at The Beefeater

Please do sign-up on the
sheet at the back of
Christ Church if you
would like to attend.

Or, if you are at Emmanuel
and would like to come
along, please notify Kathy
Hinchliffe or speak to
Emma in the Church Office.

Barry Sutton-Jones' Funeral

Many of you will have known Barry Sutton-Jones.

We are sad to inform you that Barry passed away last week.

Please keep Glenys and the rest of the
family in your thoughts and prayers.

The funeral will be held at Christ Church
on: Friday 27th February at 10:30am

All church family are invited.



THANK YOU

Could I please say a big thank
you from myself and the family
for all the prayers, love, and
support we have received
from our Christ Church family
during this difficult time.

Sending special thanks to
everyone who was involved
in making Terry's final
journey last week a real
celebration of his life.

Val

BARRY LESTER'S FUNERAL

THE FUNERAL FOR BARRY LESTER

WILL TAKE PLACE ON:

MONDAY 23RD FEBRUARY

AT 3PM AT CHRIST CHURCH

ALL CHURCH FAMILY ARE INVITED.



Lent Course At Emmanuel

Sundays 12:15pm-1:45pm

Starting 22nd February for seven weeks

Don't forget to bring your lunch!

Please see last week's Connected
for more information regarding this
course which will be led by Julie
and John Birkett. Flyers are also
available at both churches.



REPAIR CAFE

THE NEXT REPAIR CAFE WILL BE
HELD THIS SATURDAY, 14TH
FEBRUARY, FROM 10AM-12:30PM
AT CHRIST CHURCH

More coffee anyone...?

THANK YOU!



Thank you to everyone who donated mugs to Emmanuel...

...our trays of mugs are complete once more so, again, thank you so much!



If you would like to sponsor (or perhaps join!) Jolyon who is participating in The Men's March (and running 10k beforehand) please do...

...speak to Jolyon or you can donate via this link:

www.justgiving.com/page/jolyon-trickey-2

BRIDGWATER CONVENTION

MAKING A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER

13TH & 14TH MARCH 2026

Friday 7pm-9pm

Saturday 9:30am-4pm

Ticket price: £20

The main speaker this year will be Neil Powell who is CEO of The London Project and also works for City to City Europe. He has also written a book called 'Together For The City'.

For more info:

www.bridgwaterconvention.com

A Biblical Pattern For Christians Working Together

Join us as we explore how God calls His people to work side-by-side in unity and purpose. This event will unpack practical, biblical principles for serving together in the church and making an impact in the world around us.

Whether you're just starting out in faith, a young adult seeking where you fit in, or a seasoned believer, come be encouraged and equipped to make a difference — together.



Ash Wednesday

ASHING SERVICE

A short open-air service to mark the beginning of Lent

'A quiet moment to return to God'

A small cross of ash is traced on the forehead...

A sign of humility.

A sign of repentance.

A sign of our need for God's mercy and grace.

Join this united act of reflection, worship and witness.

Wednesday 18th February 2026 – 12 Noon

Italian Gardens - High Street - Weston-super-Mare

12,205,900

→ **Shoebbox Gifts**
→ **Children Reached**
→ **Gospel Opportunities**



Thank you so much for supporting the 2025 Operation Christmas Child Appeal. Long after Christmas has passed, your shoebox packing, processing, and prayers are still making a global impact as children experience joy, love, and hope through gift-filled shoeboxes.

In 2025, Samaritan's Purse packed over 12,205,900 shoebox gifts! This includes 232,844 shoebox gifts from the UK alone!

This means that over 12.2 million children experienced great joy and a heartfelt reminder that they are loved and not forgotten. And it all started with simple acts of kindness and generosity from people like you.

Each child who receives a shoebox is offered the opportunity to join The Greatest Journey - twelve fun and interactive Bible lessons where they get the chance to discover who Jesus is, begin their journey of faith, and receive a New Testament in their own language.

Please join us in praying for all the children who embark on this journey.

