

The Messenger

"When times are good, be happy; but when times are bad, consider: God has made the one as well as the other." *Ecclesiastes 7:14*

Christ Church Barnstaple
Methodist & United Reformed Church

March 2021



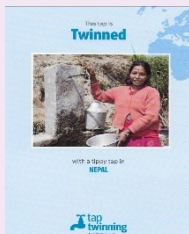
The young people of Christ Church rise to the 'Noah and God's Promise' Challenge—Pages 2 and 8



March's Recipe: Easy Irish Apple Cake—Page 11



Out & About - Page 20



Tippy Tap Twinned - Pages 4 & 13



Keeping Busy in Lockdown—Pages 8 & 20

March 2021

All activities are cancelled or postponed until further notice.

As the church magazine is printed once a month you may find more up to date information on the church website. I strongly recommend that, if you are able to, you have a look there for updates.

Our family matters

Christ Church Family News

Delighted to have some good news - David and Ronnie now have two grandsons. Their daughter, Clare, has given birth to Ira, a little brother for Reuben. See page 20 for a picture of the new arrival.

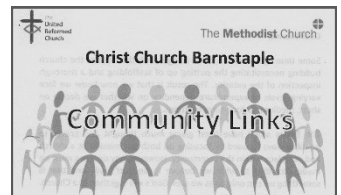
More good news - congratulations to Dr William Seymour after over 4 years of hard work on his PhD. We hope to have a picture of his graduation ceremony complete with 'silly hat' in due course.

While we are not meeting together please look out for each other and let our Church Friends coordinator know of any concerns.

And still a lot of work continues behind the scenes.

It was good to see over 40 people at the Covenant service on Zoom last Sunday (February 7th). Once again, many thanks to Don and other members of the team for massive efforts - and a vast amount of time - given towards thinking of ways to keep us all connected as much as possible.

Fundraising for our Community Links Project has made further progress. We have now received a pledge of a £10000 grant from Garfield Weston. We are getting closer to our target but must be patient for a while yet.



The young people of Christ Church were issued a challenge (amongst lots of other things - like planting bulbs). You can see some pictures of their responses this month. The Sunday Club leaders thought some of the young at heart, if not in years, might like to send in a response to the challenge too.

Noah and God's Promise Challenge

We invite you to create something :-

a picture a collage a model a prayer a poem a story

Possible themes include rainbows, Noah's Ark, animals, something you like or hopes & promises.

Please send a photo of your creation to the editors - see page 19.

Message

Dear friends,

One of the risks of being a minister is that strangely people can mistakenly believe that I have all the answers, to life, the universe, and everything; to which I would add that one of the risks of being a man is that sometimes I mistakenly believe they are right.

Believe it or not (please believe it) I do not know everything and I'm increasingly forgetting the little I did know. Which is why I always turn down any opportunity to take part in quiz events. Sometimes I can surprise myself with a fact that has been locked away in some far recess of my mind only to be amazed when it leaps to mind the moment I'm asked about it, but usually my mind goes blank...

During Lent we are encouraged to remember, to look back and reflect, and to look at ourselves as we truly are, and to look forward to redemption, renewal and the new life of Easter.

The season of Lent places us firmly where we are by inviting us to reflect on who we are and how we became the flawed people we are and so to remind us of our need for God to lead us to hope and new life.

Perhaps this year, as we approach an entire year of intermittent lock-downs for many and constant shielding for others, we are more aware than ever of our need for the hope of new life that God promises to us. So let's remember this Lent that not only did Jesus walk the way before us but walks alongside us now and while we may travel through the darkness the dawn is coming.

God bless,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don", followed by a comma.

Prayers for March

7th March

Lord, we ask that you renew our love for you.

Open our eyes to see fresh things, open our ears to hear with more clarity, open our minds to recognise new ideas – that we may be willing to grow and change and to become more like your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

14th March

Heavenly Father, we worship you as the life force of the universe, flowing through all things, sustaining and reviving.

We worship you in the light that falls on us unseen, blessing us and guiding us towards you.

We worship you for the love that nurtures us.

Life, light and love, we adore you. Amen.

21st March

Lord of all,
we thank you for giving your all to include us in your love.
Help us to follow your example,
and to take up our cross and follow you.
Make us ready to care for all who come to us,
so that they too 'may see Jesus'. Amen.

28th March

Lord of all, when Jesus entered into Jerusalem, the people welcomed him with praise and gave him the best they could offer.
As we pray we ask you to fill our hearts with joy and love.
Help us to understand what it means to give freely and extravagantly of our time, our treasure and our talents.
Most of all, inspire us to give you our love and praise. Amen.



World Day of Prayer

– Friday 5th March 2021 at 2.30pm



Due to current restrictions, this year's service will be by Zoom.
It has been planned by the ladies of Vanuatu, and the Barnstaple Service is being organised by the Salvation Army. The theme is "Building on a Strong Foundation". All are welcome at this service but will need the Zoom link. Please let me have your email address so that I can invite you. I will soon have the Order of Service booklets for WDoP. Please let me know if you would like one so that you can use it at home or join in the Zoom Service. As usual, it contains information about the country, Vanuatu, as well as the service details and information about the World Day of Prayer.

Eff Poole - Tel. – email



'Toilet Twinning'

Two taps have also been twinned for Christ Church, which should have appeared in last month's Messenger - sorry Eff. I'm not sure how many taps there are in the church but there's certainly more than two. Each one costs £60, the same as the toilets, and I'm happy to collect and put together smaller amounts for a team effort. The remaining toilets have been twinned (but could be twinned twice of course, or we could start on the manse!) - hopefully the latest certificates will be in next month's Messenger.

If anyone would like to donate, please contact Kathy Jeacock (see inside back cover).

For more information see www.toilettwinning.org



A few weeks ago Joan Cole heard a poem that Robert had written and she suggested it might go in The Messenger.
Robert is a member at High Bickington - his poems have been printed in the Village Ramblings, and Jenny Gooding has collected them and sent in these two.

A Poem for March - The Song Thrush -

The song thrush perches high to sing On twigs with buds as yet unfurled, Where hazel catkins hang and swing And spread their pollen to the world	Beneath the arched and ice-blue sky, Repeated phrases outward ring, As if to say that Spring is nigh And sign the end to Winter's sting.
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Robert Domleo

A poem for March - Moonshine or is it? -

Some folk would claim that the moon's phase can sway
The vigour of the crops we seek to grow
And, in some strange and esoteric way,
Should influence the time we choose to sow,

Alas! The thing it surely cannot do
Is match the season's weather to its phase
And thus I hold it in but slight regard
As guide to sowing crops we wish to raise.

Far from gazing upward at the moon,
Much better to look down beneath my boots
And judge when soil conditions meet the needs
Of germinating seeds and tiny roots.

Robert Domleo

Events Committee

Being really optimistic, we are thinking ahead to better times and hoping we will be able to have an Autumn or Winter Fair to raise some much needed Church funds.

So, if you are having a lockdown clear-out, please save any good quality items or unwanted gifts for us.

If you are a crafter of any kind and you need to fill the long days of lockdown, could you make some small items? Christmas cards and decorations always sell well but any contributions would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you very much.

'Choose the World You Want' Fairtrade Fortnight - 22 February to 7 March 2021



During **Fairtrade Fortnight 2021** the highlight was on 'the growing challenges that climate change brings to farmers and workers in the communities that Fairtrade works with. ... Only with more money will they feel equipped to meet their everyday needs and deal with the challenges they face from climate change'. We too can help make a difference.

We were advised that, as part of the Fairtrade movement, we have the power to drive long-term change, not only with our shopping choices but with our support in spreading the message – joining the farmers to speak out about the challenges they face. Their voices need to be at the heart of tackling the climate crisis – and heard. Like us, climate change is one of their biggest challenges and they themselves want to work towards a sustainable future for people and planet. Supported by Fairtrade, they are already taking steps to tackle climate change.

So how does Fairtrade support farmers in the Climate Crisis?

Fairtrade is about social, economic and environmental justice. These are built into their standards and drive everything they do. Tackling climate change is at the heart of the fair trade movement, as it threatens the livelihoods of those they are working to protect.

Environmental protection is deeply ingrained in Fairtrade. A large amount of farmland is protected by Fairtrade climate change adaptation plans. The farmers are supported to combat climate change through technical advice, fairer wages, special partner supported programmes and their environmentally friendly Fairtrade Standards.

Here are five ways Fairtrade farmers contribute to protecting the environment:

FAIRTRADE FARMERS PLANT TREES

We are all aware of the problems of deforestation and its consequences.

Fairtrade actively promotes both the protection of forests and the planting of trees. Forests and trees provide a habitat for natural pollinators and stabilise soil and climate. Trees are deliberately grown alongside crops and/or animals, improving nutrients and water cycling, preventing soil erosion and increasing biodiversity.

Fairtrade Standards prohibit the felling of forests with high conservation value and require farmer co-operatives to map risk areas, raise their members' climate awareness and promote climate-friendly production methods.

FAIRTRADE FARMERS ATTEND CLIMATE MITIGATION WORKSHOPS

Local Fairtrade staff in Africa, Asia and Latin America organise workshops and training for farmers on climate-friendly production practices. The aim is to identify climate actions that will also benefit the farmers; these kinds of ideas often start spreading through the grapevine.

The Fairtrade Standards include many points related to reducing climate damaging emissions. For example, plantations must reduce the use of non-renewable energy, and small farms are guided to do the same.

FAIRTRADE FARMERS REDUCE THEIR USE OF HARMFUL PESTICIDES

Fairtrade trains and supports farmers to reduce their use of harmful pesticides and offers training on how to adopt organic pest control and use natural fertilisers.

From a coffee farmer in Peru come these wise words: 'What I recommend is not to use herbicides nor insecticides, because they contaminate our land. And producers when they use them they too are contaminated, however they don't realise this. We are poisoning ourselves, our children and our land...'

Fairtrade recommends the use of so-called integrated pest management: the selection of appropriate varieties, cultivation methods and organic pest control. For example, in some circumstances, water can provide an effective method to remove pests. Studies show that Fairtrade has reduced the use of chemicals in many production areas. Kenyan Fairtrade roses is a good example of this. They also have a lower carbon footprint than their Dutch alternatives, even considering air transport to Europe.

FAIRTRADE FARMERS PROTECT BIODIVERSITY

Fairtrade supports over a thousand dedicated biodiversity guardians managing 2.38 million hectares of Fairtrade farmland.

Fairtrade farmers undertake a wide range of activities that support biodiversity, such as composting, which promotes biodiversity, as composted waste can replace artificial fertilisers. The climate also benefits as less methane-producing organic waste ends up in the landfill. The use of compost often significantly improves the soil's nutrient levels and water retention capacity. At the same time, the farmer saves money from not having to buy artificial fertilisers. Agricultural and food waste composting are widely used by Fairtrade farmers.

FAIRTRADE FARMERS BENEFIT FROM CLIMATE - FOCUSED PROGRAMMES

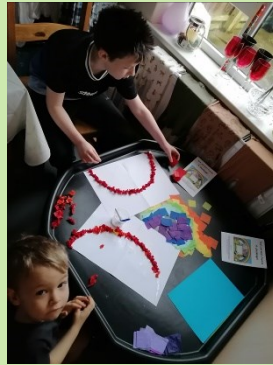
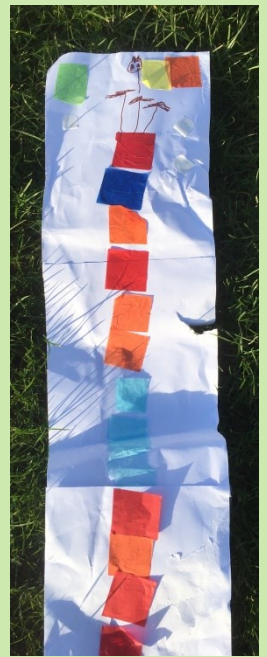
Fairtrade runs programmes to support farmers through the climate crisis. These include the Climate Academy in Kenya (2017-2020), a training and technical support programme formed to increase the climate resilience of coffee farmers. In West Africa, they are looking to pilot the production of drought-resistant yams on cocoa farms to promote food security and diversification.

When you buy Fairtrade products, you are supporting farmers to become more resilient in the face of the climate crisis.

We are interconnected globally and must work together...

'Together, we can still win a better future.'





There were some fabulous designs produced as part of the 'Noah & Gods Promise' challenge



The young people of Christ Church have been keeping busy during lockdown. Here we have bird watching, star counting, wildlife cards, tree art, and fruit kebabs!

Young Families Work

Don, Eddy, Alison, Maureen, Eff, Anthea and I met on Zoom with Café Church and Sunday Club families on Sunday (31st January). We had a lovely worship time led by Alison on the theme of light. We were pleased to have Don to work all the Zoom technology including video clips and virtual halos and hats which were all very amusing! The families had previously received a special package in the post, to be opened together during the Zoom – a special glow-stick! We are now looking forward to our Zoom Party on 21st February at 4pm.

Would anybody like to learn the ukulele? Lockdown Ukulele Club has begun! We already have 3 adults and a teenager learning the chords for 'Amazing Grace' and 'Ten-Thousand Reasons'. If you are interested, I can email you a Power-Point and send resources in the post.

I am currently completing a course on supporting children's mental health ('Mental Health Champion' training via Place2Be). If you would like feedback of key information from this course, just let me know.

May God Bless You, Love Jo

Children's Message



Read

in the



bible

-

Matthew 18 21-22



God

gives us a lot



more



grace

than we could ever



imagine.



Could we do the same for others?



You



know

that



you're not



perfect.



And



thankfully



God



does not ask



you

to be.



God's



grace

is for - it washes away



all

those



times

when



you



are not



perfect.

When God gives you His grace. He then asks you to do something for Him: *remember no-one else is perfect either. Give a little grace to those around you.*

God asks you to give others the same grace that He gives you, but He also wants you to give grace to yourself. You're not perfect, and you will mess up. Just don't forget to forgive yourself too.

SAINT PATRICK OF IRELAND FEAST DAY 17th MARCH

Saint Patrick, known as the Apostle of Ireland is another of the Celtic saints, he was around in the fifth century and is arguably one of the best known saints of the United Kingdom. Patrick was of noble birth and from a Christian family. However, he was an unruly youth and not in the least pious. Legend has it that at sixteen he was captured by pirates from Ireland and sold there as a slave.

He was set to work tending sheep. Although not a Christian at that time, he later recalled that his kidnapping was because he had rejected God, departing from the teaching of the priests and not following the ways of Jesus. He believed that his years caring for animals on the Irish hills was a punishment. These six years of isolation at such a tender age, did give him time to ponder and he formed a relationship with God. He became a man of deep spirituality, saying more than one hundred prayers during the day and a similar number at night. He also experienced many mystical encounters with the divine.

He developed into a man of dreams and visions and ecstatic spiritual experiences, in one of his visions he saw a boat which would carry him away from slavery. He watched out for an opportunity to escape and when the moment came, travelled over two hundred miles along the coast of Ireland until he saw the boat from his vision. At first he was denied entry into the boat but he persisted with his request and eventually was allowed to board the boat that was bound for France. During the trip a great storm arose and all on board feared for their lives. Patrick told them the story from the Bible of Jesus calming the waves, after which he stood on the deck of the boat and prayed. The storm abated and all was calm. After three days of sailing they alighted in Britain, all left the ship and wandered in the wilderness, after twenty eight days they were all starving. Patrick prayed for sustenance and a wild boar appeared. This was shortly after Patrick had urged them to put their faith in God. As can be imagined his prestige was greatly increased and there were several converts to Christianity.

After many experiences in a strange land (probably northern France) Patrick returned to his own country, he was much changed. Whilst at home he received some training for the priesthood including the Latin Bible which he came to know well. His education was not formal higher education for which Patrick always felt a lack and for which he was often criticized.

Palladius was the first Bishop of Ireland but his mission does not seem to have lasted long. Amidst much opposition Patrick was the next Bishop to be sent to Ireland. He worked principally in the north, in Armagh setting up the church into territories, or districts.

Patrick's writings, although not learned, are sincere in simplicity and deep pastoral care. He was concerned with abolishing paganism, sun worship and idolatry and made no distinction of class in his preaching. There is evidence that he wrote to Coroticus (the fifth century King) protesting against British slave traders. Patrick was quite prepared for death or imprisonment in the following of Christ. One of the traits that remained with him was that he was a simply educated former slave and fugitive, who had learned to trust completely in God.

Patrick refused to accept patronage from wealthy converts and thus had very little protection from his enemies, he was beaten, robbed and left in chains. Many years later he was imprisoned for sixty days.

As with all the Celtic saints there are many legends which are attached to them. Supposedly Patrick rid Ireland of the druids, sun worshippers and pagans and single-handedly converted the whole of Ireland to Christianity. Clearly this could not be the case, there were several Christians before him spreading the word. He

did, however, found several monasteries and nunneries and was a simple and devout man who treated all with respect. He cleverly incorporated some pagan customs with Christianity to effect a smooth transition.

It is said that Patrick rid Ireland of snakes, this is probably a reference to ridding Ireland of the Druids, who had a snake as one of their symbols.

Patrick spent six lonely years away from his family as a slave tending animals. He appeared to show no bitterness about this but rather took the opportunity to communicate with nature and then with God. At first he thought he was being punished by God for turning away from the teachings of the priests, but later came to view it as an opportunity sent by God to show him his path in life.

MUSIC TO LISTEN TO: Ina Boyle - Symphony Number 1

I Bind Unto Myself Today (St Patrick's Breastplate)

VERY EASY IRISH APPLE CAKE

INGREDIENTS

For the crumble topping

4 ounces (100gms) self raising flour
3 ounces (75gms) butter or vegan margarine
2 ounces (50gms) rolled oats
½ tsp ground cinnamon
3 ounces (75gms) demerara sugar

For the cake layer

4 ounces (100gms) butter or vegan margarine
4 ounces (100gms) self raising flour
4 ounces (100gms) caster sugar
2 free-range eggs
½ tsp ground cinnamon

Approximately 2 large cooking apples, or 3 – 4 crisp eating apples, peeled, cored and very finely sliced.

METHOD

First make the crumble topping by rubbing the fat into the dry ingredients, then mix in the sugar. Leave in a cool place whilst you prepare the cake. Prepare a 9" cake tin, preferably one that releases at the side.

I do this by putting all the cake ingredients into a bowl and mixing with a hand-held beater, if you prefer you can use the creaming method. Place cake batter in the cake tin. Spread the apple slices evenly on top in concentric circles. Don't layer the apple too thickly or it won't cook through. Spread the crumble topping over the apple and bake in a pre-heated oven 180° Electric Gas 4 for about 1 hour. To make sure the bottom cake layer is cooked through test with a skewer or thin knife. Traditionally it is served with stirred custard, but also delicious with cream, ice cream or yoghurt. This cake works well with gluten-free flour, just add more liquid to the cake mixture, or an extra egg. For a vegan cake add 1 tsp baking powder and 2 tablespoons cider vinegar, you may need to add a little plant milk if it is too stiff.

If you wish to make a small cake, as I did for the photograph (see *front cover*), halve the mixture and bake in a 7" tin.

Jennifer

Amigos and Kira Farm news

Phil Pugsley (Founder of Amigos) writes:

'We are stepping into 2021 with great excitement, ready to equip hundreds of Ugandans with the tools they need to be self-sufficient and build a secure future for their families and communities. After the impact of COVID-19, we are more motivated than ever as we kick-start our life-changing programmes and give a 'hand-up' to those who need it most. We are expectant to see what this year brings and already have lots of news to share with you!'

And the news I have to share with you today is that not only is Scovia back on Kira Farm returned safely from the lockdown in her village, but that she has recently sent her first letter to us since her return....

'Hello Friends at Christ Church

It is awesome to be writing to you again. Happy New Year! I thank God for the protection during this Covid season. How are you doing? Is everyone okay? I came back to Kira on the 3rd of January 2021 and all is well. We have so far learnt many new things in tailoring, hairdressing and other learning areas like farming.

I thank you so much for the continued support in my training. I am praying to God to pour more blessings and protection upon your life. Now that I am back, I look forward to talking to you every time. I have sent you a photo of me doing farm work.

Blessings, Scovia'

NB – we did not get the intended picture of her doing her farm work but a picture taken during her computer class!!

And then there is news of a 'Cabinet Reshuffle' in the Amigos UK team.

Phil Pugsley, known to many of us, is handing over his CEO baton. He has tirelessly and passionately worked for Amigos for 20 years, having set up the charity and developed its work in the most amazing way. But to quote his UK team:

" 'Fear not – our fantastic founder Phil, isn't going anywhere. He's still busy working away for Amigos and won't be disappearing any time soon!!' He is handing over his CEO baton to Tim Monger who brings many years of valuable experience working as a development worker in Africa, Tim has been an amazing asset to our team already this year and we have loved having him on board!"

Another new team member is Lois Hernández who is responsible for Amigos' Communications and Social Media and who has been working part-time with Amigos since the beginning of October.

Tim and Lois join Phil - now officially known as the Founder, Michaela Squire - Child Sponsorship and Office Manager, and Steve Scofield - Director of Finance. We wish them all well as they continue their journey together in 2021.

Please pray for the work of Amigos in Uganda and for the new team here in the UK. Please also pray for all at Kira Farm – trainees and those who care for them - and especially for Scovia. We are humbled by her prayers for us here and thank God for her faith. May God bless her and all who work with and for Amigos.

Anthea

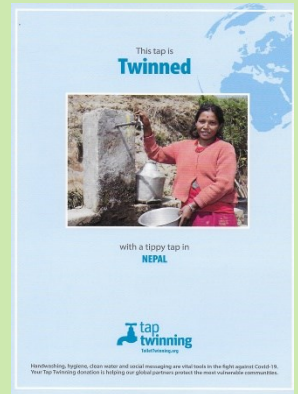
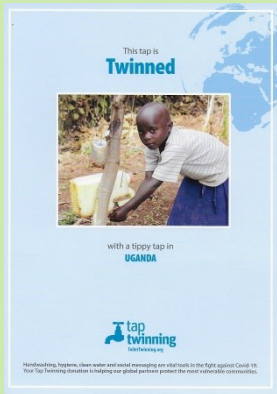


Scovia in computer class



Phil passes on the baton

Tap Twinning



A village water user committee is usually appointed to ensure the tap is properly maintained and kept clean—see page 4 for how

Zoom Tea parties on Friday afternoons have been keeping up the coffee morning atmosphere.



Passed from Nicola to Eff to the Messenger - Nicola and Eff thought it would be interesting for the Messenger as Angie was one of our Brownies, Guides and Guiders. 'I'm sure there will be some who recognise her but even if some don't, it's good to know that our "youngsters" are being so useful. Some may remember Angie from when she worked at Wellesley House and used to bring some of the residents to Café Church.'

Dear hospice friends,



My name is Angie and I'm a Healthcare Assistant for your Hospice to Home team. I was working last weekend and got to experience some of the unique weather that happened here in North Devon. Whereas some of our team were on visits in the rain and some were on visits in the sunshine...I was on a visit in thick snow.

I went to the outskirts of Exmoor to help look after a gentleman who is nearing the end of his life and I was also able to offer invaluable support to his wife too. Having us on hand means that so many people get to spend their final

days at home, which is often what people really want to do. Thankfully we have a 4x4 which means we can still reach people in really remote places, like houses on Exmoor or farms at the end of mud tracks, in any weather, including our recent ice and snow!

So much of what we do is behind closed doors in people's homes and most of the time you would never know we were there. But we definitely are there, day and night, and we're still doing all that we can to provide care and support to people.



The 4X4 was purchased after a local appeal, funding from St Austell Brewery Charitable Trust and the Torrington Town and Lands Charity.

Climate Crisis – what Christ Church Barnstaple is doing about it



Climate Sunday is an initiative encouraging churches throughout the UK to hold a climate-focused service on any Sunday before 5th September 2021, to raise awareness and encourage action in the lead up to the COP26 United Nations Climate Summit in November. It

has been organised by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland with support from charities including Christian Aid, Tearfund, A Rocha and Operation Noah. It has the backing of most major denominations and faith groups, including the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church.

We will definitely be having a Climate Sunday service at Christ Church, but no date has been fixed as yet. It would be wonderful to have it when we are able to worship together in the Church building again, but we have no idea yet when that will be safe. We will also include the Sunday Club and Café Church – maybe we can all be together or maybe on-line. Whatever form it takes it will be a great celebration of the wonderful world we have been given. “God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.” Genesis 1, 31. We have a great responsibility to make it very good again. There are lots of ideas and further information at

www.climatesunday.org

Director of Global Advocacy at Tearfund, Dr Ruth Valerio said: “The current crisis has changed the way we see the world. It has reminded us of the fragility of life, exposed the gap between rich and poor, and revealed the damage we’ve done to the wider creation. But it has also helped us love our neighbours and brought communities together. Climate Sunday is a great opportunity to respond to these societal shifts; to pause and reimagine what life could be like; to commit to living differently ourselves and to call on the UK government to rebuild our economy in a way that tackles the climate emergency and builds a better world for everyone.”

What can we do as individuals?

We need to make our voices heard to tell politicians that we want a cleaner, greener, fairer future at the heart of plans to rebuild a strong economy. The Climate Coalition is the UK’s largest group of people dedicated to action against climate change; it’s a collective of over 140 organisations including: The National Trust, Christian Aid, the W.I, Oxfam and the RSPB. Why now? We are at a turning point. Our best chance of building a stronger economy goes hand in hand with tackling climate change. By working together, investing in growing clean industries and preserving green spaces we can build a cleaner, fairer world for future generations, instead of locking in pollution for decades to come. The UK will be the hosts of COP26 this year - this is our opportunity to lead the world into a greener future, but first we need to invest in the solutions to climate change at home. Ahead of the summit, the UK must lead the world by ensuring our recovery gets us on track to net-zero emissions and





limits the rise in the global temperature to 1.5°C. The Climate Coalition has put together, "The Time is Now", a declaration for individuals and churches to sign:

***Dear Prime Minister,
The time is now to lead the UK towards a healthier, greener, fairer future. Ahead of hosting the United Nations climate summit in Glasgow in 2021, we can build back better together if we:***

- ***Unleash a clean energy revolution that boosts jobs across the UK, making our transport, power and housing fit for the future***
- ***Protect, restore and expand our green and wild spaces; allowing nature to thrive, taking carbon from the air and boosting the nation's health***
- ***Leave no one behind by increasing support to those most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change at home and abroad***

The UK must lead the world by ensuring our recovery gets us on track to net-zero emissions and limits the rise in global temperature to 1.5°C. Our best chance of building a resilient economy goes hand in hand with tackling climate change.

We are ready to play our part, and we call on you to join us.

If you are online and would like to sign the declaration, you can find it at:

thetimeisnow.uk/declaration?partner=106

If not, you can write to your local MP. For North Devon that is:

Selaine Saxby MP, Church House, Church Lane, Barnstaple. EX31 1DE

By taking action and making a stand we can show our concern for our beautiful world and be part of "making it very good" again.

To see what else Christ Church is doing and see some more ideas for what you can do, [click here](#) to see the new pages on the church website.

Liz Seymour



Over and Above Hospital Charity

1 d · 🌐

!! Calling all knitters !! We know you like a little project, and we have one for you...

We are on the search for someone to make these colourful 'stress balls' in the pictures, for our dementia patients. We have managed to find a similar pattern here

<https://nurturingfibres.com/product/rainbow-ball/> but the ones we currently have are

slightly elongated. If it is possible to have them the same shape as the pictures I have attached, that would be even more

AMAZING!! They can be sent to The Fundraising Office, Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust, Raleigh Park, Barnstaple, EX31 4JB.

Please could you send them in a sealed bag so we can keep them in quarantine for 48 hours. Thank you 💜

Sue McMenemy passed on this request from the hospital:-

(I've looked at the website and the pattern is free to download - if that's a problem, let me know and I'll post you a copy. Kathy)



Weekly Meetings

Monday	7.30pm	Friendship group	(2nd & 4th Mondays of each month) contact Rose de la Cour tel
Tuesday	9.30am - 12.00 noon	Coffee morning	
	9.30am	Prayer meeting ...	except the last Tuesday of each month)
	10.30am	Holy Communion ...	(last Tuesday of each month)
	5.30pm - 7.00pm	Brownies ...	contact Heather Collins
	5.30pm - 6.30pm	Rainbows ...	contact Nicola Wilkins
	7.00pm - 8.30pm	Guides	
Wednesday	1.30pm - 3.00pm	Parents & Toddlers	contact Jo Grant
Thursday	2.30pm	Ladies Fellowship ...	
	7.30pm	Bible Study...	contact Shirley Baxter tel
Friday	10.00am - 12.00 noon	Hobnob coffee morning	
	10.30am	Bible Study...	contact Shirley Baxter tel
Saturday	8.30am	2nd Saturday of each month - circuit event	
		Men's Breakfast	contact Mike Smith tel

All at Christ Church Barnstaple are committed to the following Safeguarding Principles:

- * the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and all adults.
- * the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable.
- * the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
(Methodist Safeguarding Guidelines, online: www.methodist.org.uk)

Sunday Offertory for 2021

		Cash	Envelopes
January	2nd	£0.00	£0.00
	9th	£0.00	£0.00
	16th	£0.00	£0.00
	23rd	£0.00	£0.00
	30th	£0.00	£0.00

An increasing number of people are donating money direct to the Church account by standing order. Currently this offertory is £1945.00 per month. While we are not meeting together for Sunday worship in Bear Street, some of you are also sending in donations by cheque. Over the last four months this has amounted to over £3500. Many thanks to all of you. If you have given me an envelope number your gift will be included in the offertory in the accounts, otherwise it has been recorded as a donation. *If you are a tax payer* and would like the church to claim back the tax on your giving or if you change your address or other details, please contact Judith Smith on or speak to a serving elder - Thank you.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT
Christ Church seeks to express
the love of Christ for everyone.

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the love of Christ for everyone.**

*If you are visiting Christ Church today we extend a warm welcome.
Please take a Messenger home with our good wishes.*

tel.

tel

Elders

Telephone Directory

Church Secretary

Jenny Newman

Eff Poole

Liz Seymour

Elaine Stevens

Circuit Administrators

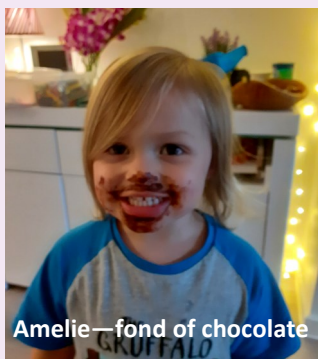
Kathy Jeacock

www.christ-church-barnstaple.org.uk



Sam—helping to sweep the flu

Christopher Punt has twinned 2 toilets on behalf of his grandchildren, Sam & Amelie



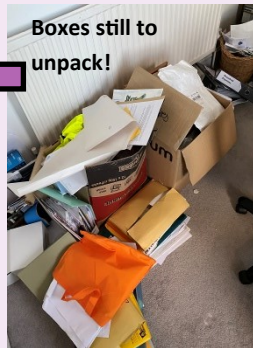
Amelie—fond of chocolate



Another jigsaw completed!



Empty shelves!

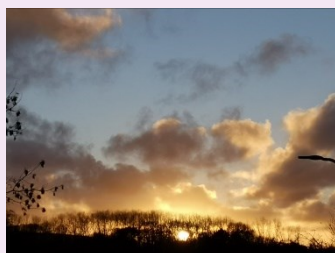


Boxes still to unpack!

David & Ronnie Wilson have moved to Bristol to be near their new grandson, below. Congratulations Clare!



Nick Wilson & Becca in the New York snow



Other members of Christchurch have also been keeping busy inside and enjoying the outdoors

