

The Messenger

“Celebrate the Feast of Harvest with the firstfruits of the crops you sow in your field.”
Exodus 23:16

Christ Church Barnstaple
Methodist & United Reformed Church



October 2021



October 2021

All activities are cancelled or postponed until further notice but look out for updates as things start to change.

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

After a few weeks we're beginning to get used to singing with a mask on and not sitting too close to our neighbours. But we're looking forward to making sure the organist knows that they're not alone in the building!

Sadly, since the September Messenger, two members of our congregation have died: Norah Cooke, Liz Seymour's mum, and Betty Porterfield. Services for both these lovely ladies have already taken place at the crematorium.

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

Harvest Donations for The Freedom Centre

The Freedom Community Alliance are a Christian charity outworking the vision of Freedom Church to help those who are marginalised and socially excluded, demonstrating the heart and love of God in our community. They work with vulnerable people including homeless people, those suffering from addiction issues, people with poor physical and mental health, debt and poverty.

They have a base at The Freedom Centre in Barnstaple which includes a day centre. This is currently closed for building work, but their fantastic work continues and is needed more and more in these difficult times. We usually ask for donations of food at our Harvest week-end for this amazing and worthwhile local project. However, this year they have asked for donations of money instead. There will be an opportunity to give cash donations at our Sunday morning church service for the next two weeks. If you are unable to attend and would like to make a donation, please call the Freedom Centre on 01271 321171

To learn more about their work, go to: freedomcommunityalliance.org.uk



Message

Dear friends,

I have recently been re-reading the pastoral letters of Paul and reflecting on what he would do today. Letter writing is far less common than it used to be. Long gone are the days of my childhood when letters dropped through the letter box early in the morning as well as later in the afternoon.

Admittedly many were official looking in brown envelopes with typed names and addresses. But there were also letters in white envelopes from friends and relatives addressed in instantly recognisable handwriting. It really was exciting, and because it took time it seemed more considered than the most obvious modern equivalent of texting.

In many ways what we have now is better; instant texts we can reply to instantly; news shared immediately and responded to, family photographs sent and received just as quickly. No need to wait for a film to be developed and copies printed. Now photos (and videos) can be taken on a phone and quickly shared.

But as I write I think letters still have their place, thankfully.

Recognising the passion and energy of Paul I am absolutely sure that if he were alive today he would be texting constantly, encouraging, challenging, even berating. But I think he would also be writing long letters to churches and to individuals. Letters with more considered words, perhaps on occasions apologising for less considered, hastily sent texts. On other occasions perhaps gently encouraging those seeking to follow Christ to spend time reflecting, praying, thinking about how important they are, how important you are, to the body of Christ, the Church you are a vital part of.

A letter from a friend can say many things but what it always says is "I am writing to you because you are important to me".

Please know that you are important to me and to the church family you are a part of.

With love,



Calendar

October

Sun 3rd 10:30am	Church Anniversary	Communion
	Rev Don Macalister	
Sun 10th 10:30am	Rev Jonathan Richards	
Sun 17th 10:30am	Rev Don Macalister	
Sun 24th 10:30am	Rev Don Macalister	
Sun 31st 10:30am	Shirley Baxter	

Prayers for October

3rd October

Lord God, we don't always want to accept that we have an inner child. One that longs to skip and dance with you. As we come to you, we pray that you will take away all our stuffiness and self-importance. Then we will be able to come freely to you with a childlike spirit, and rejoice in your goodness and love. Amen.

10th October

Thank you, God, that all things are possible with you.

You are always there to guide us, to keep us on the right track.

You keep us on the straight and narrow way when we need it most.

Thank you, God, that with you everything is new. Through you we know we have the way to eternal life. Thank you, Lord. Amen.

17th October

God our creator, we are made in your image, create and reshape us anew for your purposes. God our sustainer, by your grace, forgive us where we have hurt your world. God our guide and inspiration, open our hearts to receive your wisdom, inspire and direct us – in Jesus' name. Amen.

24th October

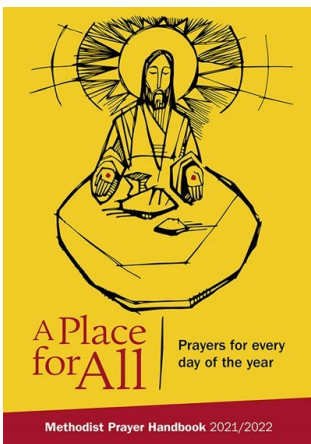
We thank you, Lord, that you are a God of action – and interaction.

You see and want to be seen by us. We thank you for the amazing sights you have for us, if we are prepared to call on you. We thank you that you are a God of healing, and whichever way you choose to act is always best. We thank you, Lord. Amen.

31st October

God of love, you are so much more than anything we could ever imagine.

Abundant love flows from your very being. We know your love is the greatest of all. We bask now in that love, making our small offering in return. We love you with all our heart, all our understanding, and all our strength – and always will. Amen.



Methodist Prayer Handbooks

Every year, in addition to pre-ordered copies of the Methodist Prayer Handbook, the circuit purchases a few extra for people who would like one, but didn't pre-order. There are 4 of the usual A5 size, and 2 large print versions, available from the circuit office at a cost of £4.15 each. If you can't get to the circuit office on a Tuesday or Friday morning please speak to Chris on Sunday. If you are not able to do that either, give me a ring.

Kathy (01271 373555)

Pray in urgency and with hope ahead of COP26

Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God. - John 6:68-69

Lord to whom else can we go,
As we look at our world, and what we have done?
Lord to whom else can we go,
When we see our climate in crisis?
Lord to whom else can we go,
When we feel powerless before decision makers?
Lord speak your words of life
Into negotiations and corridor conversations
Lord speak your words of life
Into global choices and global decisions
Lord speak your words of life
That climate justice may be done
Lord to whom else can we go,
In the urgency of the hour?
Lord speak your words of life
Into our prayers and petitions Amen

Pray to make space to listen to the global community

Lord, open our hearts and minds as we pray. Give us the wisdom to listen, and strength to act.
Today, we ask that COP26 will lead to a breakthrough for those facing the greatest impact from the climate crisis.
May the voices of the most vulnerable be heard and may they know a sense of hope that only you can bring.
We pray in a moment of stillness.
Quieten our hearts and minds, so that we can hear the calls of our global brothers and sisters.
Lift up their voices, so those in positions in power are moved into action by the power of their stories.
We pray together now, lifting up their voices with you.

Amen

With grateful thanks for your ongoing support,

Janet

What's happening?

A brief report on some of the things under discussion at the last elders' meeting, on August 25th 2021.

- Pastoral matters were reported and prayers said for all those mentioned.
- Church roles and responsibilities were discussed, revealing the obvious need to encourage more people to offer help in several areas. It was suggested that it would be a useful start to highlight some of the help that will be needed, here in the church magazine. The following is not a complete list as we expect that other gaps will emerge as we gradually return to opening up other activities. Indeed some of the activities may not be able to start up again without some additional help. Please give all of these roles and responsibilities your prayerful thought, as we try to fill the vacancies.

Church bookings secretary

Property committee and property steward

Communion steward(s) - preparation etc for Communion Service

Organist - for one Sunday a month

Pulpit secretary - including readers list

Projectionist & Sound operator - at least 3 people would be good so it could be once a month

IT - setting up Sunday service on the church laptop - at least 2 people would be good

URC Synod rep - involves some travelling but lifts may be possible

Elders elections take place at the church AGM, which would normally be at the beginning of November. We have already missed one AGM in 2020 and at the present time plan to postpone the 2021 AGM to January 2022. The elders serving at the time of the first lockdown will continue in office until then.

- Update on Community Links Project

Stage 1: The building work is on target to be completed at the end of September and the scaffolding will start to come down. *(This will not be completed until the foundation stone has been renovated so it is protected at street level - 2 or 3 more weeks.)*

Stage 2: Christ Church should join 'One Barnstaple', an organisation which links volunteer organisations together, to enable a more joined-up approach to working with and for the community.

- Because of the grants we have received towards financing our CLP stage one, our income for 2020/2021 has gone over the threshold for exemption from registering as an independent charity. We will need to apply to the Charity Commissioners to ask if we may retain the exemption as our income will fall again next year.
- There are separate items in the Messenger regarding work with young people, Eco church and Christian Aid.
- If everything continues to go well we hope to plan to start gradually opening up other activities at our next meeting. Meanwhile Liz has prepared rotas of available elders to steward on Sunday mornings.
- Next meeting Wednesday 29th September on Zoom

Brief update, regarding church activities, from Wednesday 29th September

- One of the main items under discussion was, of course, starting up some more church activities. It was decided initially to invite Sound it Out, Parents & Toddlers, Friday afternoon Tea Party (a social event, along the lines of coffee mornings and open to anyone) and the Street Pastors to complete risk assessments, prior to starting up again - soon we hope. Each to be responsible for leaving the building in a clean, tidy and covid-safe state. Extending to other activities is on the agenda for next month - it will depend on how well October goes etc.
- Although hand-sanitising and masks will remain for Sunday Worship - it was felt this must be kept as safe as possible for anyone still feeling anxious - there will be some relaxation of other restrictions.
- ***Before we can start up many more activities, we need to fill the vacant role of Bookings Secretary - this will become increasingly urgent and if one cannot be found will delay groups getting back into the building. If you feel you might be able to help in this way please speak to Don or any of the elders for more details.***

The Wave Of Hope



Nearly all readers will have seen the Wave of Hope display on the windows of the church vestibule, prior to the G7 international conference in Cornwall earlier in the year. But not all of you would have read them. They were first on the other side of the stonemasons' site and could only be seen at a distance from the road. And then, after the end of lockdown, when the church reopened for Sunday morning worship you would pass by them quickly as you made your way into church.

They had been prepared by our young families in response to the challenge made by Christian Aid to join the Wave of Hope, along with countless other charities and organisations, and thousands of people throughout the UK. Through displays of waving hands a very special message would be sent to the world leaders to work together to make the world a better place, and to give us all a brighter future.

Here are some of the more moving messages:

Fair prices for farmers
Look after our planet
Heal our home before it is too late
Stop climate change. Go eco
Protect endangered animals
My hope is we can protect our wild life and green areas
A better world for girls
Stop racism and hate
We hope for peace
Please help us to be wise
My hope is people live as Jesus would and love each other.



They are perceptive and show great awareness. And that was only a selection.

Tony and Anthea Coates



Joyful Kira Farm Students with Powerful Stories to Tell



Boreholes providing clean water to villages



Scovia is very happy with her maize harvest

Rise to the Moment



Christian Aid Prayer Boats

Together we stop this climate crisis



“Setting sail for climate justice.”

See photo on front cover and article on page 11

More news from Scovia, Kira Farm and Amigos

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5

This month brings more encouraging news from Scovia who, like us, is also enjoying the easing of a further lockdown in her country.

Dear Anthea and Tony and friends at Christ Church,

How are you doing my dear sponsors? Let me hope that everything is well with you. I am doing very well, learning so many things. My friends on Kira told me there are no restrictions in your country, it is good news to hear that. We have also just come out of the lockdown and it feels good to see people from outside Kira Farm.

This month we are making pillars and plastering walls for a house in the building class. In just a few months I can now do so many things to better my life and family, I am really so proud of myself. I have just finished harvesting my maize and the harvest has been mind-blowing. I have never seen such big maize come out of a small plot of land. I am very happy, these things are very real. I can't wait to share this knowledge in my community.

That is what I have been doing this time. Uncle Joshua is in Kaliro now, I think he will go to Gulu very soon and I can send him to take a photo of my family and I can see them after a long time.

I look forward to hearing from you again soon.

May God bless you and your family

Scovia

It is wonderful to hear how Scovia is continuing to be so thrilled with the learning of new skills, but also to be looking forward to being able to share them with her family and community in order to improve their lives. As with many of us she has also missed seeing her family a great deal. Hopefully Uncle Joshua has been able to take a picture of her family to bring back to her at Kira Farm – her only way of seeing them after such a long time.

The further easing of lockdown restrictions has brought many benefits to Amigos and Kira Farm (hence Scovia's reference to Uncle Joshua being away) as well of course to the wider community in Uganda. Good things have been happening since the last update – *'Countless reasons to praise God'...*

Road Trips have been happening

Every year a team sets out (which includes Joshua who is central to the smooth running of Kira Farm) to make a mammoth journey across Uganda. They visit many of Amigos' projects and communities. They connect with churches and pastors and reach out to new communities and collect success stories from the many families involved with Amigos' child sponsorship programme. They also conduct the interviews and recruit for next year's Kira Farm trainees and visit farming groups in Kaliro for monitoring and evaluation. This process of recruiting can be heart-breaking as there are only a limited number of spaces available at Kira Farm. Lots of hard decisions have to be made. But Amigos is grateful that it is in a position whereby it can bring hope and training for those who need it most.

Joseph (the overseer of the Child Sponsorship programme) has also been away travelling, visiting Amigos' sponsored children and caregivers in the community,

picking up their hand-written letters and helping organise progress reports. The children though are still not back at school as I write, but at the moment the plan is for the schools to reopen on Sept 30th and for the churches and public places to follow. They have been waiting for the time when more vaccinations have been administered to essential workers. Other good news is that with the travel restrictions being lifted the caregivers of the sponsored children are now able to transport food produce to markets to sell.

More villages are being transformed by boreholes and clean life-changing water...

The amazing number of 10 boreholes have already been drilled this year thanks to the generous supporters of Amigos. Now more have been started in two villages in Kaliro. These clean water sources are absolutely life-changing – so much more than ‘just clean water’. They contribute to the safety of the women and children who otherwise would have to take risky journeys in the dark after school and work hours to collect water which is, more often than not, putrid water. Boreholes help prevent water-borne disease. They save precious lives.

Our prayers

We thank God for all that is being achieved at Kira Farm and especially for Scovia - for her enthusiasm, and for her readiness and eagerness to learn yet more. We pray that when she returns home with her new knowledge and hopes and dreams for a better future, that her community will receive it with equal enthusiasm and readiness to use it and benefit from it.

We continue to thank God for all the valuable work that Amigos has been doing through Kira Farm and the wider community. Please continue to bless them in all they do. AMEN

And a final word from Amigos: *We feel so blessed to see how God is continuing to move and use us as a charity, 21 years on from our humble beginnings! Be encouraged - your prayers are moving mountains and bringing hope to those who need it most.*

And now an invitation to spend an evening in Uganda

Amigos is really excited to announce that this Autumn they will be hosting some Zoom evenings for us to see how lives today are being turned around through Amigos’ interlinking programmes...

‘Whether you are new to Amigos or have supported us for years, come and see what has been happening this year in the hearts and minds of some wonderful Ugandan young people, families and communities through programmes that equip them with practical and life skills to transform their lives.

In October, we begin with Kira Farm Development Centre and the precious young people who are partway through their year of training. Listen to their powerful stories, see the effect their time on Kira Farm is having on their lives and hear their hopes for a different and life-filled future.

Come join us at 7:30pm on October 4th, 5th or 6th and spend an evening in Uganda! It’s free!

Please register at <https://www.amigos.org.uk/amigos-live-events> to be a part of the evening of your choice.

Young Families Work News

and a new challenge from Christian Aid for us all

Welcome to Autumn! Summer holidays may be a distant memory, but schools and colleges have started back again bringing much to look forward to. Many of the children and young people we know well will have been enjoying being back at school again, seeing and playing with their friends, much missed over the holidays. Some of them will be making new friends as they have moved on to a new school or to college. And quite a number of the little ones have started school for the very first time – with both excitement and maybe a little apprehension! We are thinking and praying for all our families and hoping that all is going well.

Sunday Club has been a happy and relaxed time over the holidays, the children full of energy and just happy to be back together and in the building again. Though we are not yet back in the service in church, we have settled in Room 1 with a variety of activities – and always lots of chat! We have heard the stories of the Feeding of the Five Thousand and the Parable of the Sower and during them heard something of the work of the Food Bank in relation to celebrating harvest. There is always a very warm welcome for all those who come - but we are grateful and it is still always helpful to hear from anyone who is hoping to come, if at all possible.

Having successfully responded to the Wave of Hope challenge, we now have another one for our families and for Sunday Club children – **'Rise to the Moment'!** **For together we can stop this climate crisis.** And we are hoping that anyone who reads this will join with us and respond too. In the way that the 'Wave of Hope' was organised to send a special message to the world leaders at the G7 Conference, so this has been organised to lead up to the COP26 Conference. You are not being invited to decorate and send messages on hands this time, but to join us in making paper prayer boats and to set sail for Climate Justice. **'We are all in the same storm, but not in the same boat'.**

So what is 'Rise to the Moment' and what do we have to do? Christian Aid has joined together with the Young Christian Climate Network (YCCN) **to help raise awareness that we all care about climate justice and creation care**, and crucially to take a special message to all those world leaders and decision makers at the COP26. In order to do this, YCCN - a group of young people under 30, together planned and organised a journey of Prayer and Action – a relay route of 1200 miles which started from Carbis Bay on the 14th June and will reach Glasgow in November in time for the conference. All those involved are now well on their way and have stopped off at many places for awareness-raising activities and events. As I write they are at York. Whilst travelling, they are carrying **a boat - a representation of our hope that we will all 'Rise to the Moment' and use this year to set sail towards a more just future.**

One way that Christian Aid and the group are asking us to show our support for them is **by making paper boats** and creating a display of them in our churches to act as **a prayer focus**. In fact, thousands of boats from across the country will come together in a special installation at COP26 to deliver prayers and messages to the world leaders but we are also being asked to make our own display – which is something we can do at Christ Church. Those of you who came to church on the Harvest Festival Sunday will already have seen the beginning of Christ Church's display, made by Janet and Chris Marshall, on the Communion Table. This should encourage us and is something already there that we can add to.

So let's all make paper prayer boats! Let's all Rise to the Moment and help stop the climate crisis. We can have a fleet of them! How do we make them? If you feel very adventurous and creative, there is a helpful Christian Aid site with an activity pack to download which includes written instructions on how to 'Create a Boat' as well as other information about the relay:

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/resources/get-involved/rise-moment-activity-pack>

There is also a URC website 'Rise to the moment' which has a video on it showing us how to make a boat. The instructions look quite complicated but many of us remember how to do it from our younger days or our Rupert Bear Annual days!!

<https://urc.org.uk/latest-news/3881-cop26-rise-to-the-moment.html>

Or, maybe much easier, there are also on page 17 illustrated instructions to follow, but please make sure the piece of paper you use is oblong and not the square it looks like! But please if all this looks too complicated, just make or draw a boat of any sort! All will be very welcome. If you would prefer a template to colour in or to use to make a larger boat like the beautiful one in the church, or you would like the instructions printed out, please just drop in to Sunday Club and we will have them waiting for you!

To help our prayers to be focussed we have been asked to write our own individual prayer on the paper we are using to make our boat (any A4 or A5 paper will do, or even newspaper). Suggestions for prayers are the impact the climate crisis is having on vulnerable communities around the world, the safety of all the volunteers involved in this campaign, and of course the willingness of the world leaders to listen to what we have to say and to do the right thing.

The children and young people will be encouraged to make boats in Sunday Club and a request will already have been sent out to our other families. It is something we can all be a part of and join in together, and a subject that is not only close to our minds and hearts but vital to us all.

Anyway, happy boat making! Please bring your contributions to church where they will be gratefully received and added to the fleet! We look forward to seeing them.

With love, prayers and blessings from us all at Sunday Club, Café Church and Parents and Toddlers.

A Christian Aid prayer:

'God of Hope,

We pray for world leaders attending COP26. Bless them with wisdom, creativity and a shared vision of hope for all creation. May they find the determination to take strong action to halt the destructive effects of climate change and the political will to act together for the common good. Amen.

All things Bright and Beautiful

This familiar and much loved hymn was written by Mrs. Cecil Frances Alexander, and was first published in 1848. There are several stories of what moved her to write it, ranging from Psalm 104 to The Rime of the Ancient Mariner. Many places claim to be the inspiration for this lovely poem, one of which is Exmoor. We took some photos on our walk there last weekend.

Bruce & Liz



All things bright and beautiful



All creatures great and small



All things wise and wonderful



The Lord God made them all



Jennifer's Recipe—page 15



It is now officially Autumn and the nights are longer than the days

*“As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer & winter, day and night will never cease.” **Genesis 8:22***

SAINT JUDE

Saint Jude is the Patron saint of Hope and impossible causes and one of Jesus' original twelve Apostles, he was the brother of Simeon and St James the Less, who were also Apostles. They were believed to be fishermen.

He preached the gospel with great passion, often in the most difficult of circumstances. Through this power of the Holy Spirit, he made profound differences in people's lives.

St Jude is traditionally depicted carrying the image of Jesus in his hand. This recalls one of his miracles during his work spreading the word of God. King Abagar of Edessa asked Jesus to cure him of leprosy and sent an artist to bring him a drawing of Jesus. Jesus was so impressed by Abagar's great faith that he pressed his face on a cloth, leaving the imprint of his face upon it. He gave the image to St Jude who took it to Abagar and cured him.

The patronage of 'Hopeless Causes' was said to have originated because very few people invoked him for anything as his name so closely resembled that of Judas Iscariot who betrayed Jesus, therefore he favours the most desperate of causes, many alleged miracles have been recorded in the Times newspaper.

An Answer to Prayer

About 70 years ago, Danny Thomas, a struggling entertainer with a child on the way, visited a Detroit church and was so moved by the service he placed his last \$7 in the collection box. Realising what he had done he prayed to St Jude to help find a way to pay his hospital bills. Almost the next day he was offered a small part in a show which would pay 10 times the amount of his donation. Two years later he had achieved moderate success, but was struggling to reach the next level. Once again he prayed to St Jude to help him find his way in life. His career soon began to take off and he moved his family to Chicago to pursue his career. Danny visited a church and remembered his pledge to St Jude to build him a shrine. He asked for St Jude to show him a way to honour his pledge.

Danny's career flourished through films and TV becoming an internationally known entertainer, He never forgot his struggling origins, nor the promise to St Jude to build a shrine.

In the early 1950's he began discussing with a group of friends what form his vow might take. Gradually the idea of a children's hospital in Memphis began to take shape, it became the first fully integrated hospital in the South. This was to become a research hospital devoted to curing catastrophic diseases in children. More than a treatment centre it was to become a research centre for the children of the world, regardless of race, religion or financial status.

Danny started raising money in 1950. By 1955, the local business leaders who had supported his dream began seriously fundraising. Danny criss-crossed America by car often accompanied by his wife, Rose Marie. Although enough money had been raised to build the hospital, they now faced the daunting task of funding its annual operation.

To help solve the problem Danny, of Lebanese descent, turned to his fellow

Americans of Arabic-speaking heritage thinking they should, as a group thank the United States for the gift of freedom given their parents. Danny also felt the support of St Jude would be a noble way of honouring the immigrant fathers who had come to America.

Danny named the hospital St Jude's and through striking improvements in paediatric leukaemia and other tumours, St Jude's has pushed overall survival rate for childhood cancers from 20% in 1962 to 80 per cent today. Danny died in 1991 and Rose in 2000. Today their daughters, Marlo and Terre and their son, Tony, carry on the work and remain a driving force in fulfilling their father's mission.

Recipe Plum and Custard Crumble Cake

Ingredients

For the Cake

12 ounces (300 gms) plums
6 ounces (150 gms) Self raising flour
2 ounces (50gms) custard powder
1 level tspn baking powder
6 ounces (150gms) butter or margarine
3 free-range eggs
Few drops of vanilla essence

For the crumble

2 ounces (50gms) Self raising flour
1 ounce (25gms) ground almonds
2 ounces (50gms) rolled oats
1 ounce (25gms) dessicated coconut
2 ounces (50gms) demerera sugar
(or you could use your usual favourite recipe for crumble)

Method

- 1 Make the crumble topping
- 2 Prepare a 7 inch cake tin.
- 3 Stone the plums and cut into quarters
- 4 Use a little of the custard powder to coat the plums
- 5 Sift the remaining dry ingredients into a bowl
- 6 Add the softened butter or margarine, the eggs and vanilla essence and beat well together.
- 7 Put mixture into cake tin, smooth the top and add the crumble topping
- 8 Cook in a pre-heated oven, Electric 170 Gas 4 for about 1 hour

This is delicious served warm as a dessert, but just as good the next day for tea-time.

Music to Listen to

Hey Jude by the Beatles

Jennifer

Plastic Free North Devon

PFND have been really active this summer with some new projects starting as well as all the usual work, such as beach and park cleans.

Textile Repair Café – this was a new venture to enable people to 'repair and re-use' instead of buying something new. The first one was held in Braunton in August. A brilliant team of volunteers shared their sewing expertise; repairing clothing, toys and soft furnishings in return for a donation to PFND. It was a great success and more are planned in the future

Ocean Explorers interactive educational outreach hub – an interactive experience designed to engage children (and adults) in the amazing underwater world we have on our doorstep. The aim is to educate and inspire us all to protect the amazing and fragile ocean ecosystem.

Petitions and pledges to sign - petitions include calling on the UK Government: to ban some of the most polluting single-use plastics; to double environmental protection budgets to fight river pollution; to make sure the ocean is at the forefront of climate negotiations at COP26; to stop dumping plastic waste on other countries; and calling for a ban on disposable BBQs in open countryside and moorland. The North Devon UNESCO Biosphere Reserve are asking us to read their Nature Recovery Plan and sign the declaration.

Events Update -

16th October - [Fete of the planet - Sustainability Fair](#), Ilfracombe

29th October 11am - 1pm [National Trust Clean, The Tors, Ilfracombe](#)

7th November 11am - 1pm Big Saunton Beach Clean

5th December 11am - 1pm Big Saunton Beach Clean

Their [#looklocal directory](#) allows local people to be aware of the amazing producers and suppliers that serve our community. They also have a full list of our local SAS [Plastic Free Champions](#)

For more details on all these activities, go to: www.plasticfreenorthdevon.org

Liz Seymour

Thank you

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone that prayed and sent cards, emails, and gifts after my recent cochlear implant operation. I felt very supported throughout the procedure and I have recovered very well. Hopefully by the time you are reading this, I will have received the processor, and will be learning how to interpret the sounds I am hearing.

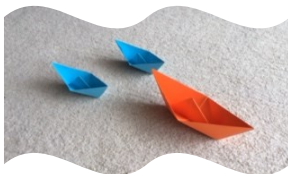
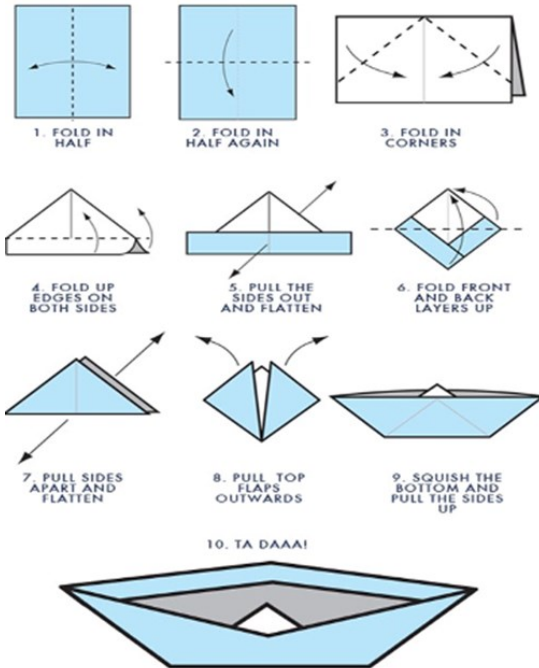
Don and I would both like to say thank you for all the cards we received on our Ruby wedding anniversary. We were able to celebrate with the family in Bristol, on a beautiful sunny day, just like the day we were married. We feel very blessed.

Eddy

Liz, Bruce, Will and Hannah would like to thank all their Church family for the love, prayers, cards and care which they have received since the death of Norah. It has all been a great comfort and has been very much appreciated.

The internet-free instructions for making a paper boat

It might look square, but you need a rectangular piece of paper. A4 or A5 is good but any rectangle will do. Picture 1 is portrait, open it out again and turn to landscape for picture 2. Good luck!



I found smaller rectangles easier and careful flattening and squishing very important.

Weekly Meetings

Monday	7.30pm	Friendship group	(2nd & 4th Mondays of each month) contact Rose de la Cour tel 830824
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 - 6.30pm	Rainbows	
	5.30pm - 7.00pm	Brownies	contact Nicola Wilkins
	7.00pm - 8.30pm	Guides ...	tel 07813620615 or 01271377154
Wednesday	1.30pm - 3.00pm	Parents & Toddlers	
Thursday	2.30pm	Ladies Fellowship ...	
	7.30pm	Bible Study...	contact Shirley Baxter tel 375560
Friday	10.00am - 12.00 noon	Hobnob coffee morning	
	10.30am	Bible Study...	contact Shirley Baxter tel 375560
Saturday		2nd Saturday of each month	- circuit event
	8.30am	Men's Breakfast	contact Chris Punt tel 343716 or Staveley Dawson tel 373213

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 and Envelopes	Gift Aid
August	1st	£147.50	£240.00
	8th	£68.50	£0.00
	15th	£783.50	£60.00
	22nd	£53.11	£0.00
	29th	£143.10	£550.00

An increasing number of people are donating money direct to the Church account by standing order. Currently this offertory is £1859.00 per month. 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 Janet Marshall or speak to a serving elder - Thank you.



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

Christ Church Minister
Rev Don Macalister

tel. 01271 345313
dasmacalister@icloud.com

Young families worker

Elders

Shirley Baxter	Kathy Jeacock (treas)	Jenny Newman
Alison Cairns	Chris Marshall	Eff Poole
Anthea Coates	Janet Marshall	Liz Seymour
Staveley Dawson	Jack Neville (sec)	Elaine Stevens

Telephone Directory (01271)

Church Secretary	
Church Treasurer	373555
Room Bookings	
Circuit Administrators	379116

Editors:

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Your Pictures



Welcome to the world Amalia!

Born in August to Nick and Becca, a new granddaughter for David & Ronnie Wilson



Serena in her lovely new school dress, made by Mum!



Finials have been repointed

Building Works Update



Replacement stones and general repointing