

SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP & JUNIOR CHURCH

10.30 am

MON	Age UK Exercise 9.00-12.00 noon Ronka Gbadebo	07952381160
	Yoga for All: 1.00-2.30pm Karen Bell bluevalleyyoga@talktalk.net	07713629477
	Age UK Exercise: As above	
TUES	Morning Badminton 10.00am – 12 noon Allen Oakes allen@oakesa.co.uk	
	Rainbows, 5.00pm Liz Kelly 783434 Mobile 07714481089 liz.kelly@jcpce.com	
	Brownies: 6.00pm Susan Fairgrieve . s.fairgrieve21@gmail	
	Guides and Rangers: from 7.00pm Liz Kelly 783434 Mobile 07714481089 liz.kelly@jcpce.com	
	Ladies Coffee Club: 3.00pm (3 rd Tues) Contact: Sarah Cleverley	515257
	Cobweb Orchestra 7.30 – 9.30pm In the Sanctuary Contact: Christine Oakes 518608 or Penny Oxley 514612	
WED	Morning Badminton: 9.30am Sarah Cleverley	515257
	Knitter, Natter Crafts & Chatter 2.00 – 4.00pm Joan Cooper	515682
	Afternoon Bowls 2.00pm Andrew Cleverley	515257
THURS	Morning Badminton: 10.00-12.00 Allen Oakes allen@oakesa.co.uk	
SAT	Country Dance Club: (Varies from month to month) Contact: Shirley Forster	
SUN	Orchestra: Norm. 4 th Sunday Andrew Hamnett 518485 (not August) Christine Oakes 518608	

A Message from our Minister, Rev'd Julian Sanders

Dear Friends,

Having returned from a 3-month sabbatical, I am looking forward to worshipping with you in the churches again. Before I left, the churches were starting to open up again after the lockdown, and you by now will have had a few months of regular Sunday services which I hope will continue. Restrictions continue to be lifted, and even though we are able to sing now underneath our masks, I hope it will not be long before it is deemed safe enough for us to worship freely, without masks, as we would dearly love to do.

It is amazing how quickly you become used to some things, and how easy it is to become used to not doing things. During my sabbatical I have been making a special effort to break the routine of what I would normally do, and to experience a new way of doing things. By doing this I hopefully have discovered new things which I like, and want to hold onto, but also recognise those things I don't like and will try hard not to do such things again. It is good to break these habits occasionally so that we don't just do things out of habit, but that we do things intentionally because we know they are good.

In trying to do new things, I have intentionally not attended churches on a Sunday morning in order to break that routine, and reassess what is good and what is not so good about this practice. Like all of us during lockdown I found some nice benefits in doing this, but missed the other positive benefits of attending church regularly.

As I return from my sabbatical and take up the routines again, I am all too eager to encourage others to pick up routines and habits that might have fallen away for them during the past 18 months. Much of what we do in church, and as a community together, has such positive benefits and once we recognise those, we perhaps have to work a little harder in order to make them habits again.

Some of our members follow the teachings of Brother Lawrence who was a Carmelite friar and published a book on spiritual practice called "The Practice of the Presence of God". One of the teachings attributed to Brother Lawrence is this: "That there needed neither art nor science for going to GOD, but only a heart resolutely determined to apply itself to nothing but Him, or for His sake, and to love Him only."

Lawrence talks of being 'resolutely determined' to apply ourselves to our spiritual practices (whatever they may be) in order that we find and know and love God more.

I look forward to being with you again, as we together might be 'resolutely



determined' to take up the habits and routines again that will lead us closer to God and his love. With every blessing, **Julian**

Margaret Brock

Refugees and Asylum Seekers September 2021

West End Refugee Service

In June WERS celebrated Refugee week by hosting their first WERS Garden Café, where they invited the people they support, their volunteers and partners over two days to share food prepared by the WERS community. The garden project continues and now comprises a group of 15 who meet each week, alternating between gardening tasks and creative group activities. They have built four raised beds, grown herbs and vegetables and run painting and craft workshops. They are planning to develop the garden as a social space for all. There is also a new partnership with Scotswood Garden. This is intended to help people build skills and help develop social connections.

During August WERS has had a visit from the Shadow Immigration Minister, Bambos Charalambous, MP, and they were able to tell him about their work and why they need to do it! He listened to individuals' stories of the issues they face as well as the contributions they can make to the local communities.

The website features a tribute from one of their clients *"WERS has helped me to find myself. I now believe in myself, I have confidence and I value myself. WERS has given me the open space and the opportunities to be me."*

This year's AGM will be held on Zoom on Monday 8th November at 6.30pm (joining details available next month).

Justice and Peace

The J&P project reports that *"Until parishes are able to fully resume food collections, we continue to find it difficult to meet the demand for food from donations and are purchasing additional items weekly. Anything further that can be done to assist with parish collections would be very much appreciated. ... We are delighted to receive donations of food, clothing and footwear on Mondays between 10.30am and 1.30pm, unless an alternative prior arrangement has been made with [the Project Coordinator]."* The financial support that has been forthcoming has been acknowledged. They say *"Your contributions at a time of hardship for many of us – show a kindness and humanity that is truly humbling. They are making a huge difference to the lives of hundreds of people as a result."* Funding for the Project Coordinator's post for a further two years has been confirmed. Last month I alerted people to the fact that there was going to be an advertisement for a new Project Worker and I had hoped to have been able to provide details here. Unfortunately the closing date for applications was 12 August.

Please continue to remember these projects in your prayers and in whatever practical ways you can. Thank you.

UPDATE AND FURTHER DETAILS REGARDING WEDNESDAY LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

As highlighted in last month's Magazine, the Autumn Lunchtime Concerts will be returning on September 22nd with the Virtuoso Jazz Trio, always very popular, and on October 20th with a concert of familiar and much loved concert pieces performed by Jessica Graham (violin), Rachel Jeffers (flute) and our own Ken Irvine (piano).

As there will be fewer seats available we will need to raise the cost of admission to £4 in order to cover artists' fees and other expenses.

There will be no special ticket prices or sponsorships for this series. As we are not sure what the demand will be you may, if you wish, book seats in advance by emailing kdirvine@sky.com or telephoning 01670 515870 giving your name, contact details and number of seats required. Please note this will only ensure that there is a seat for you, not which one it will be.

Booked seats should be claimed by 12.15 on the day of the concert.

Doors will be open from noon and please ensure that you give yourself plenty of time to park as the large car park next to the church is no longer available to us. The church car park will be for artists and anyone with a disability. There is a new car park at the East end of Gas House Lane and Morrison's car park is within easy walking distance.

Although it is no longer mandatory, the URC still encourage the wearing of face masks in consideration of others so please come prepared.

Tea and coffee will be served but in disposable cups.

We have thought long and hard about the logistics of resuming these concerts and feel that with care and consideration they will be just as well supported as they have been in the past. If the general organisation on the day takes a little longer please be patient with us and if you have any questions please ring us. We feel sure that with these few precautions we will once again be able to enjoy a relaxing hour in the company of talented, entertaining musicians.

Gillian and Ken

Before setting off on a business trip to Birmingham, I called the hotel where I'd be staying to see if they had a gym. The hotel receptionist's sigh had a tinge of exasperation in it when she answered. "We have over 100 guests at this facility," she said. "Does this 'Jim' have a last name?"

St George's URC Afternoon Bowls Club

St George's Afternoon Bowls will recommence on Wednesday 15th September at 2.00 pm.

Following the sad death of Dr Jared Johnson, Andrew Cleverley was asked to run the Afternoon Bowls.

A meeting of representatives of both the Afternoon Bowls and the Evening Bowls was held on Thursday 19 August at which it was decided to merge the two organizations. This was mainly due to low numbers of Evening players. The joint group will now play together on Wednesday afternoons.

Unfortunately this means that after more than 50 years there will no longer be any Evening Bowls and people who work or have other commitments on Wednesday afternoons will no longer be able to play.

New players are always welcome to our afternoon sessions.

In line with St George's current COVID advice players will be required to wear masks and to sanitise their hands on entering the Church.

DO NOT ATTEND THE BOWLS IF YOU ARE FEELING UNWELL OR HAVE ANY SYMPTOMS OF COVID

Please contact **Andrew Cleverley tel. 01670 515257** if you are interested in playing.

Wednesday Morning Badminton

The Wednesday Morning Badminton group are restarting on Wednesday 8th September.

We meet at 9.30 in the church hall and usually play until about 11.15. We would welcome new members and even if you have not played for a few years do come along.

For more information, please contact **Sarah Cleverley, 515257**

In line with St George's Church Covid advice please wear a mask while in the building, though this can be taken off to play, please use hand sanitiser when entering the building and do not come if you have any symptoms of Covid.

Another message from Andrew in Jerusalem

I've just returned from three weeks of leave in the UK, visiting Ted, family and friends. I was so sad to hear the tragic news that Jared had passed away. Bless Margaret and the family. He was a bit of a legend of the church really, including for us young folk, always jovial, always cheering people up, and always helping out in whatever events the church was putting on. He was such a good actor too, putting on great performances in the productions in the hall upstairs, which despite trying to be a 'with-it' teenager I really enjoyed. So much so that I was inspired by Jared when my wife Kirsty nudged me to join the school parents' version of A Midsummer Night's Dream this year.

The thing was rehearsed in a surreal environment: with all the trouble and fighting in Jerusalem and Gaza, we would rehearse in the mornings when it was usually quiet, then hunker down for the afternoons and evenings, and work. It was a great way to switch off from what was going on around us. But a bit uncomfortable too to be messing around with slapstick and innuendo on five aside pitches that usually hosted orthodox Israeli and Palestinian youth in the same space, but was now deserted for fear of violence. Our Norwegian director was very good at helping us to shake the troubles off and loosen up. The show must go on! When we put the show on – first at the school and then in the garden of a nearby hotel – the war in Gaza had ended and tensions in Jerusalem were being restored to their usual levels. Now finally I can appreciate all the work and love Jared and the players would put into a few hours of entertainment for us.

I hope covid restrictions in the UK can lift enough so that – who knows – before long the church is playing host to another performance, inspired by Jared's great acting and enthusiasm.

Best wishes to everyone.

Andrew

Wee trailer photo from the play. I'm the green fella behind the wee bush.

AISJ PARENT THEATRE GROUP
PRESENTS

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Ambassador Hotel Sheikh Jarrah

Friday 11 June 2021
17:00 & 19:30



Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
1 Kings 1: 5-53

King David was now very old, but he had still not said which son would be king. Adonijah decided to make himself king.

Adonijah had a big party at Rogel Spring for all his friends, including Joab and Abiathar, to tell them he was the king. His brother Solomon and Nathan and Zadok were not invited.

Nathan told Solomon's mother

You must tell King David. If Adonijah is king, he will kill you and your son.

You promised our son Solomon would be king, but Adonijah says he is now king.

Nathan told David

He's having a big party to celebrate right now!

I will keep my promise! Solomon will be the next king. Zadok and Nathan, take him to Gihon Spring, anoint him and tell everyone!

So they went to Gihon with Solomon riding King David's own mule.

He was anointed king and a trumpet was blown.

Long live King Solomon!

At Adonijah's party they heard the noise.

What's going on?

David has just announced that your brother Solomon is now king.

Solomon was anointed and everyone is cheering.

Everyone ran away. Adonijah was so scared he ran to the sacred tent for sanctuary.

King Solomon sent for Adonijah.

If you don't cause me any trouble, I will not hurt you.

Crossword for September

Clues Across: **1** 'Through [Christ] we have gained by faith into this grace' (Romans 5:2) (6) **4** Deprives of sight (Deuteronomy 16:19) (6) **8** The words of a hymn do this (mostly) (5) **9** Faithful allegiance (1 Chronicles 12:33) (7) **10** Belgium's chief port (7) **11** Where John was baptizing 'because there was plenty of water' (John 3:23) (5) **12** Imposing height (Psalm 48:2) (9) **17** Jesus' tempter in the wilderness (Mark 1:13) (5) **19** Comes between Amos and Jonah (7) **21** 'Your will be done' ... as it is in heaven' (Matthew 6:10) (2,5) **22** Gale (Matthew 8:24) (5) **23** Axle, eh? (anag.) (6) **24** 'Out of the... I cry to you, O Lord' (Psalm 130:1) (6).

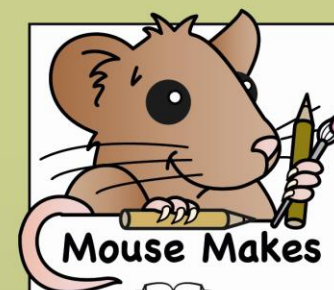
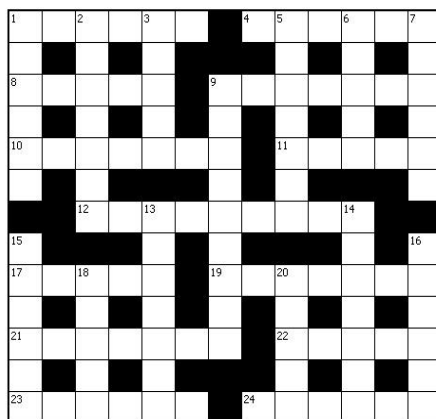
Clues Down: **1** Popular Christian author and humorist, Plass (6) **2** Transparent ice-like mineral (Revelation 4:6) (7) **3** Method of compelling surrender by surrounding target of attack (2 Chronicles 32:1) (5) **5** Expose (Isaiah 52:10) (3,4) **6** Lonny (anag.) (5) **7** Utterance (1 Timothy 1:15) (6) **9** Husband of Deborah, the prophetess (Judges 4:4) (9) **13** Burial service (Jeremiah 34:5) (7) **14** What Christ threatened to do to the lukewarm church in Laodicea (Revelation 3:16) (4,3) **15** Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net (John 21:11) (6) **16** His response to Jesus' decision to return to Judea was 'Let us also go, that we may die with him' (John 11:16) (6) **18** There will be weeping and gnashing of ... (Matthew 8:12) (5) **20** Walkway between rows of pews in a church (5).

Solution on page 17

Laugh... This morning I saw a neighbour talking to her cat and you could tell she thought the cat understood every word. I came back home and told my dog. We got a big laugh out of that.

FOR SALE BY OWNER.

Complete set of Encyclopaedia Britannica, 45 volumes.
Excellent condition, £200 or best offer. No longer needed, got married,
wife knows everything.



Read this story in
1 Kings 17:7-16

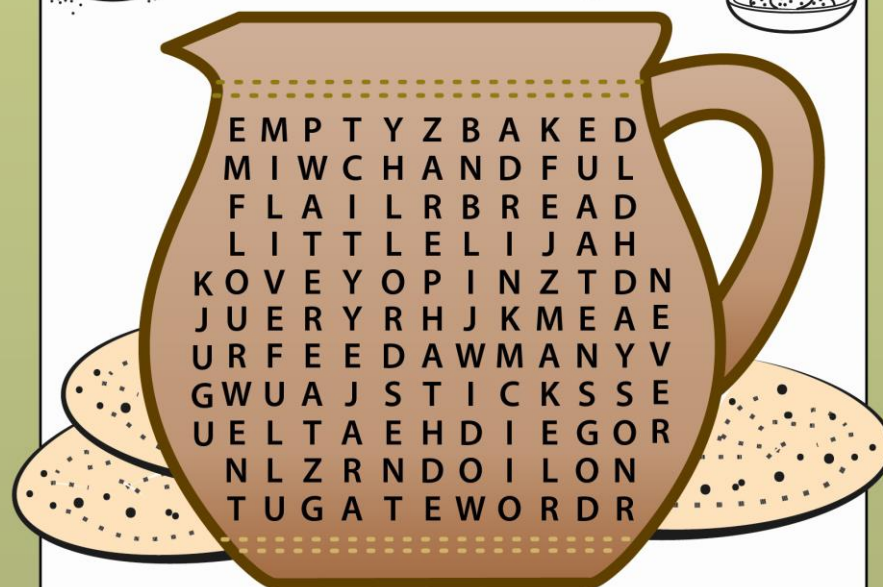
The bowl of flour and the jar of oil

It had not rained for months and months, there was a drought in the land. God sent His prophet **Elijah** to the town of Zarephath. At the town gate he saw a widow gathering firewood.

"Please bring me a drink of water and some bread," he asked her.

She answered "All I have is a handful of flour and a drop of oil in a jar, it is our last meal." "Do not worry," Elijah said, "Make the meal and make a small loaf for me."

The woman did what Elijah had asked and God blessed her ...
... The bowl never ran out of flour and the jar never ran out of oil until it rained again!



Find these words from the story in the word search:

WORD • LORD • GOD • ELIJAH • SENT • ZAREPHATH • GATE • CITY • WIDOW
STICKS • WATER • DRINK • BREAD • FEED • HANDFUL • FLOUR • LITTLE
OIL • SON • EAT • DIE • FULL • WENT • MAKE • BAKED • ATE • JAR • JUG • MANY
DAYS • LIVE • NEVER • EMPTY

Great North Run

On 12 September I will be taking part in the Great North Run. I was supposed to do it last year but, as you will know, it was cancelled. However I deferred my place and will be taking part this year instead. The course has been changed to accommodate Covid 19 regulations so we will not be ending up in South Shields as normal but will be starting and finishing around the Town Moor. However, as I have never run it before, it won't make any difference to me.

I will be running on behalf of the National Trust and I have requested that the money I raise goes to Wallington, as this is one of my favourite places. It is a great place for a day out, either by myself or with friends and family, and I visit regularly to explore the beautiful gardens and surrounding countryside walks. If anyone would like to sponsor me I should be very grateful.

My Just Giving page can be found using the following link:
<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Karin-Jackson3>

Thank you very much, **Karin Jackson**

Thank You

As you know we have been pretty overwhelmed by the arrival of Brian, our grandson. Our preparedness emotionally and practically was very much helped by our friends at St George's. Your thoughts, prayers and offers of practical support have enabled us to welcome Brian into the world, and to support his parents Josh and Melissa.

Many, many thanks. **Laurence & Teresa**

The Flower Fund

During Lock Down we have tried our best to distribute flowers to people who have been unwell or for special Birthdays/ Anniversaries. There are a number of vacant slots in the Flower Calendar; but people have very kindly donated money to the funds which are very healthy at the moment. In September in particular there were no names on the list; but we will use the Fund to ensure there are flowers in place each Sunday. If you know of anyone at any time who would appreciate receiving these flowers, please let the Representative for that month know.

Thank you all for your support. **Dorothy Luke**

St James the Least of All

The Rev Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'...



On the perils of taking a wedding.

The Rectory
St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

As with many of your ideas, your intentions are admirable; it is just that they don't work.

So it was with the recent wedding in your church, where you allowed the happy but quite mad young couple to try and imitate the marriage of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. It was kind of them to want to celebrate Will and Kate's recent 10th wedding anniversary, but it did not seem to occur to anybody that your church, converted from a 1960s warehouse, is fractionally less impressive than Westminster Abbey. And I feel that a backdrop of a car park and canal make a poor substitute for the Houses of Parliament and the Thames. Finally, even 43 very enthusiastic young people can hardly pretend they are a congregation of several thousand.

However, I do applaud your decision to invite me to take it, in order to impart a degree of gravitas to the proceedings, though of course I would not presume to upstage the Archbishop of Canterbury. (Although were he to ask my advice on how to run the Anglican Church, I have several helpful suggestions to hand.) But even I struggled to keep things on a proper course when the bride, lacking a horse-drawn carriage, simply walked up the lane with her ancient pony. (Which then tried to bite me at the church door!)

Her arrival was greeted with music. I will pass no comment on this, as the Bible says we are to make a joyful noise, not necessarily music, unto the Lord. I am sure that drums and kazoos and guitars all have their place – somewhere or other. It was a pity that the groom, unlike Prince William, had not thought to get to the church on time – or indeed, at all. It was fortunate that the bride's mother found him in that pub nearby, or really, we would have struggled to complete the wedding.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

It was our Harvest Festival Sunday. My husband had cut his ear while shaving. We arrived at the church just in time to sing: 'First the blade and then the ear'.

Septembers' Sudoku... Solution on page 17

		7		6				3
1	6		4		3	9		
			1				8	
7	8							
9	2		8		4		6	1
							7	2
	1				2			
		8	9		1		3	6
2				3		1		

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Bifocals...A preacher went into the pulpit one Sunday morning wearing a pair of new bifocals. The reading portion of the glasses improved his vision considerably, but the top portion of the glasses didn't work so well. In fact, he was experiencing dizziness every time he looked through them. Finally, he apologised to the congregation. "I hope you will excuse my continually removing my glasses," he said. "You see, when I look down, I can see fine, but when I look at you, it makes me feel sick."

Men and the TV remote... Men don't want to see what's on television. They want to see WHAT ELSE is on television.

Online meetings: Not muting your mic is the new Reply to All.

Listen... My three-year-old was saying his nightly prayers in a very low voice. "I can't hear you," I finally whispered. He said firmly, "Wasn't talking to you."

From a church report on renovations at a Youth Centre in Northants: 'The lift and the new windows are installed and the non-alcoholic bar is already plastered.'

From a church notice sheet:
PLEASE NOTE: 'From this Sunday the evening service will begin at 8pm. This will continue until October.'

St George's Ladies Coffee Club



The Ladies Coffee Club meet on the third Tuesday of each month, apart from December, from September to April. We usually have a speaker and have covered a wide variety of topics over the years. The most recent talks have included The Swinging Sixties, The People's Kitchen and Contact to name just a few. We have a Christmas lunch, in January and a Spring Lunch in May. New members and guests are always welcome to our meetings.

Our first meeting will be held at 3pm on Tuesday 21st September in the church rather than the Drysdale Room. This will be our much-delayed AGM and will be an opportunity to meet and discuss our future meetings. We hope we will be able to serve tea or coffee.

For more information contact Sarah Cleverley, co-ordinator, on 515257 or come along to the meeting on Tuesday 21st September.

In keeping with St George's Church Covid advice please wear a mask when coming into the building, sanitise your hands on entry and do not come if you have any symptoms of Covid.

Sarah Cleverley

Knitter Natter Coffee group

We will be restarting our weekly meetings on Wednesday 8th September from 2.00 – 4.00pm. Please enter by the front door.

Joan Cooper



Tidying Kitchen Cupboards

To all groups which store their refreshments items in the Church Hall Kitchen. For Health and Safety reasons, all out of date tea, coffee and sugar has been thrown away.

Sarah Cleverley, Housekeeping team

The sentence, 'Are you as bored as I am?' can be read backwards and still make sense.

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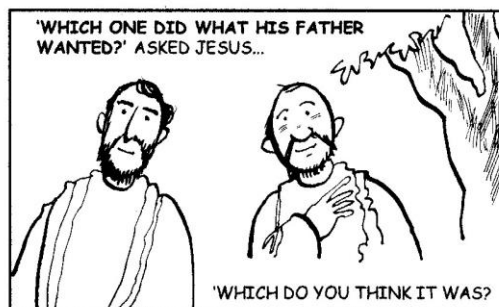
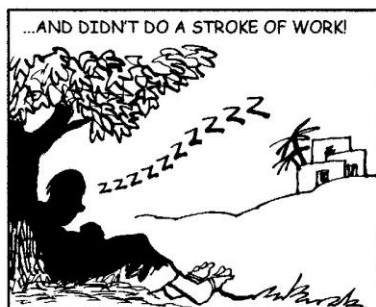
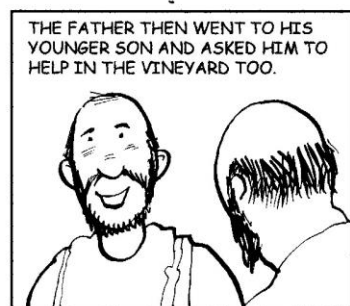
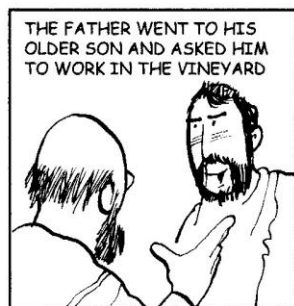
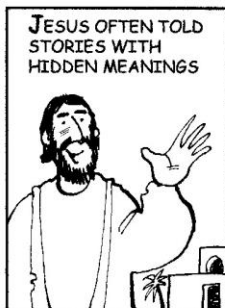
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The tale of the Two Sons



Wordsearch for September

The Parable of the Weeds

(Matthew 13.24-30)

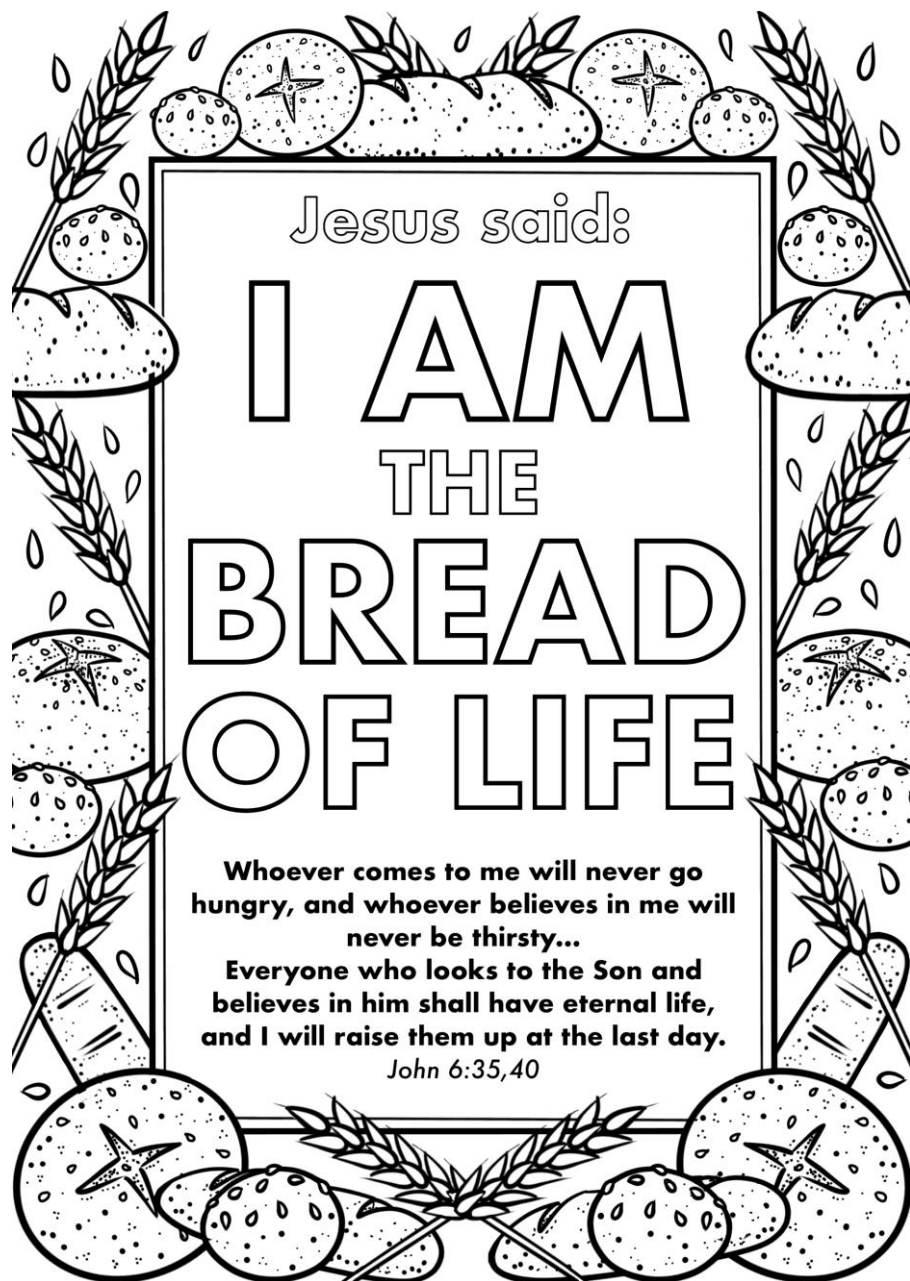
Ever wonder why there is both good and evil allowed in this world? Jesus told a parable that touched on this subject – it is called the Parable of the Weeds. It runs like this: Consider the world as if it were a field where a Farmer has sown good seed. But then an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat. So when the wheat came up, so did the weeds. What to do? Instead of destroying the weeds, and thereby risking the wheat, the Farmer tells his reapers to wait and let both wheat and weeds grow together until the harvest. At the harvest he will instruct the reapers to gather up the wheat, but to discard the weeds. So do not despair when evil seems to thrive in this world – there is a reckoning still to come, and justice will be done.

R	E	N	N	T	E	N	G	R	O	W	
R	M	N	W	D	G	A	K	S	D	R	E
H	A	O	A	A	N	I	R	H	E	E	E
T	S	W	T	L	N	E	V	A	E	H	D
N	T	H	E	G	E	O	P	G	R	T	S
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R	R	O	E	I	E	N	I	A	R	G	L
D	M	M	E	P	T	R	S	V	D	O	E
E	Y	T	S	E	V	R	A	H	S	T	I
E	I	S	E	E	N	N	G	O	O	D	F
W	V	N	D	L	T	E	O	O	N	O	G
H	L	O	H	S	B	A	R	N	E	M	A

Kingdom Heaven Good Seed Field Sleeping Grain Weeds Enemy Servants
Master Sow Gather Reap Root Let Together Harvest Bundles Barn Burned.
Solution on page 17

Flying bishop...The new Bishop wanted a bird's eye view of his new diocese, so he had an idea. He rang his local airfield to charter a flight, and was told that a twin-engine plane would be waiting for him. Arriving at the airfield, the bishop spotted a plane warming up outside a hangar. He jumped in, slammed the door shut, and shouted, "Let's go!" At once the pilot taxied out, swung the plane into the wind and took off. Once in the air, the bishop spent several minutes enjoying the views, and looking for local landmarks. Finally, he instructed the pilot, "Fly down the valley now and make low passes so I can take pictures of some of the best of the old parish churches." "Why?" asked the pilot. "Because I'm the new bishop," he replied happily, adjusting his camera, "and I want some good aerial views of my diocese." The pilot was silent for a moment. Finally he stammered, "So, what you're telling me, is, you're NOT my flight instructor?"

Colour in



News from Great Bavington URC

We are looking forward to welcoming Julian back after his sabbatical and hearing about what he has been studying during this time. Julian will be leading the services on:

Sunday 5 September at 6.30pm

Sunday 19 September at 6.30pm

Nicola

Do you have a bike or a flute which you don't need any more?

Local charity Northumberland County of Sanctuary supports asylum seekers who are living in Northumberland (mainly Ashington and Blyth). They are looking for bikes (children's or adults') to give to people whom they support, so that they can get around more easily – for example, one of the girls is starting secondary school in September and she could go by bike.

Bicycles need to be in good working order. If you have bike locks, lights, tyre pumps, hi-viz jackets/vests etc they would be much appreciated too. NCOS has received a grant to provide new bike helmets, and everyone who receives a bike through NCOS does bike safety training so that they can ride safely.

One of the people whom NCOS supports plays the flute, but he had to leave his flute behind when he fled his country, and he would love to be able to start playing the flute again. So if you happen to have a flute which you do not need any more, he would be thrilled to give it a new home.

If you do have a bike, bike equipment or a flute which you would like to donate to NCOS, please get in touch with Anne Murray: sayhellotoanne@gmail.com; 07706 181306 to arrange.

NCOS has a Just Giving page

<https://www.justgiving.com/northumberlandcountyofsanctuary> and if you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Sarah, at: sarah.bredin.kemp@outlook.com.

NCOS is a charity run by a small group of dedicated volunteers. They support people as they navigate the challenging asylum process and settle in to their new homes across Northumberland.

Their aim is to empower people who are often marginalised, vulnerable or misunderstood, and to promote inclusion in the wonderful communities of Northumberland.

They hold weekly women's groups and drop-in sessions in partnership with the British Red Cross, and regular 'meet and eat's, football matches and days out during school holidays. They also do our best to procure bicycles, furniture and all the other things people need in their new homes.

Solutions

Crossword: **ACROSS:** 1 access; 4 blinds; 8 rhyme; 9 loyalty; 10 Antwerp; 11 Aeon; 12 loftiness; 17 Satan; 19 Obadiah; 21 on earth; 22 storm; 23 exhale; 24 depths

DOWN: 1 Adrian; 2 crystal; 3 siege; 5 lay bare; 6 nylon; 7 saying; 9 Lappidith; 13 funeral; 14 spit out; 15 ashore; 16 Thomas; 18 teeth; 20 aisle

8	9	7	2	6	5	4	1	3
1	6	5	4	8	3	9	2	7
4	3	2	1	9	7	6	8	5
7	8	1	5	2	6	3	9	4
9	2	3	8	7	4	5	6	1
6	5	4	3	1	9	8	7	2
3	1	9	6	5	2	7	4	8
5	7	8	9	4	1	2	3	6
2	4	6	7	3	8	1	5	9

R	E	N	N	T	E	N	G	R	O	W
R	M	N	W	D	G	A	K	S	D	R
H	A	O	A	A	N	I	R	H	E	E
T	S	W	T	L	N	E	V	A	E	H
N	T	H	E	G	E	O	P	G	R	T
S	E	L	D	N	U	B	U	R	N	E
R	R	O	E	I	E	N	I	A	R	G
D	M	M	E	P	T	R	S	V	D	O
E	Y	T	S	E	V	R	A	H	S	T
E	I	S	E	E	N	N	G	O	O	D
W	V	N	D	L	T	E	O	O	N	O
H	L	O	H	S	B	A	R	N	E	M

23rd September is the autumnal equinox (if you live in the northern hemisphere) or the vernal (Spring) equinox (if you live in the southern hemisphere) The equinoxes occur in March and September, when the Sun is 'edgewise' to the Earth's axis of rotation, so that everywhere on earth has twelve hours of daylight and twelve hours of darkness.

65 years ago, on 16th Sept 1956 that Play-Doh went on sale in the USA. It was originally sold as a wallpaper cleaning compound, but was then relaunched as a modelling compound when the inventor's nephew discovered that nursery school children were using it to make Christmas ornaments.

60 years ago, on 11th Sept 1961 that the World Wildlife Fund (now the World Wide Fund for Nature) was founded in Switzerland.

50 years ago, on 15th Sept 1971 that Greenpeace, the international environmental group, was founded in Vancouver.

20 years ago, on 11th Sept 2001, that the 9/11 terrorist attack on the USA took place.

WIDDRINGTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

PRAYING TOGETHER

During September please pray for:

People in war zones and refugees

Those suffering religious persecution (of any faith)

Victims of natural disasters

Victims of crime

The work of relief agencies

Those suffering from Covid19 throughout the world, especially in countries where health services are less advanced. That vaccines may be fairly distributed.

Health workers, shop workers, delivery drivers, postmen and anyone else doing essential work at this time

Farmers and farm workers; pray for the harvest.

Researchers working on covid19 vaccine and treatments and teams working to deliver the vaccines

Those who have still to receive the vaccine; vaccine delivery in third world countries.

Those whose mental health has suffered over the past year.

Students returning to school, college, and university, particularly those changing school or beginning their first year in further or higher education

The homeless

Your neighbours

"Prayer, the Churches banquet, Angels age,

God's breath in man, returning to his birth,

The soul in paradise, heart in pilgrimage,

The Christian plummet, sounding heav'n and earth" (George Herbert)

Seven days without prayer makes one weak

WIDDRINGTON CHURCH NEWS

I'd like to invite everybody to contribute information that they think might be of interest. Just give me the details *in writing* either on a piece of paper or by email to elliemist@gmail.com and I'll do the rest. (I'd still welcome articles though). Perhaps you have some reflections on our situation which you'd like to share?

The **Copy Date** for each magazine is the Sunday prior to the 20th of the month before the next issue. If you miss the deadline your contribution may have to be held over to the next issue.

Flowers: Flowers for September by Fiona and for October by Kathleen (Harvest flowers for October 10th) Gifts of garden flowers or cash donations would be appreciated.

Fund raising: Our first post-COVID venture, Coffee Club at Cook's Hemmel (thank you, Diana) raised £67.00. As they say, every little helps!

Easy Fund Raising (Easy?) Do you shop online? Have you joined Easy Fund Raising yet? If not, now would be a good time to get busy! The chances are that your vendor will be part of Easy Fund Raising. Amazon and John Lewis are, for instance. This means that if you register for Easy Fund Raising at easyfundraising.org.uk and select Widdrington United Reformed Church as your Good Cause 1 or 2 % of the purchase price of your item will come to us at no extra cost to yourself. Please talk to Fiona about it soon (though you can easily register with no help from me, as all our members have discovered). We have raised over £340 so far with just ten members. Unfortunately we still haven't raised enough for a payout this quarter.

Worship:

Please join us when you feel able. Wearing face covering is now voluntary. Continue if you feel you need to. You will still be asked to sanitize your hands on entry. Apparently we no longer need to keep track and trace records. We will revert to taking up the offering within the service from September 5th. We will be serving coffee/tea after the service for those who feel able to partake. Don't worry if you don't feel able to stay yet.

For those who don't feel able to return to church, St George's services will continue to be in YouTube later in the day

Preachers scheduled for September along with those on duty are:

Preachers	Vestry.	Door and Offering
5th Rev'd Julian Sanders.	K. Bailey.	E. Whinham. A Grieves
12th Worship Group.	D. Hogg	F. Middlemist R Gordon
19th Margery Tate.	L. Walden.	K. Bailey. J. Hart
26th Rev'd Julian Sanders.	F. Middlemist.	D Hogg M Scott

Social

Friday 8th September: Treasure Hunt: from Church car park: cars leave from 6.00pm. Please bring a contribution for supper. Cars need at least two people: one to drive and one to write. But if you haven't a partner, come along anyway: we will be glad to fit you in somewhere or give you some passengers.

Regular events:

1st Tuesday: Coffee Club meets on the 1st Tuesday in the month. Venue for September to be decided

1st Wednesday: Prayer Group: Prayer Group in will be in person at Cook's Hemmel, at 7.00pm on Wednesday 4th.

Every **Thursday** the church will be open for Prayer, Refreshments and Fellowship from 10.30am to 12.30pm. We would love to see you. If you would be interested in joining the stewarding Rota (we need two people each week) please let me know.

Facebook: If you are on Facebook, have you checked out our Facebook page yet? Search for Widdrington United Reformed Church. Please like us and let me know if you think I've missed anything that should be on. The page now has 166 likes, with another 6 people 'following!' Any information we have about service arrangements will be published there. Thanks to Liv for her contributions. Please note: Sean, our sheep, has his own Facebook page! Search for 'Sean'. Sean now has 24 (+2 following!) page 'likes' but he wants some more, so please tell your friends about him! He is really happy to see us back!

The website is at: www.widdringtonurc.org.uk

I'd appreciate some help to improve it, as it's very wordy at the moment, partly because I'm happiest with words. I'm still looking for volunteers to be additional site editors. Someone with hardware that can post pictures would be good. We are now considering a relaunch - watch this space.

Churches Together in Widdrington and Ulgham

Any new events will be communicated through Facebook, church notices, or directly by phone/word of mouth. There is a meeting in 7th September

FEM