

Bringing you the latest news from

Christchurch

www.christchurch-clevedon.org.uk

and the Community

Sunday 2nd August 2020

Dear Christchurch family,

Welcome to our first and last letter in August. Normally we would be saying have a great holiday yet things for many are very different this year.

The good news is that 'Christchurch on-line' will be with you every Sunday as usual with the Summer teaching series, the 'I am' sayings of Jesus in John's Gospel:

Date	Theme	Readings
26 th July	'I am the Bread of Life'	John 6:25-35
2 nd Aug	'I am the Light of the World'	John 8:12-20
9 th Aug	'I am the Gate'	John 10:1-10
16 th Aug	'I am the Good Shepherd'	John 10:11-21
23 rd Aug	I am the Resurrection and the Life'	John 11:17-27
30 th Aug	'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life'	John 14:1-6
6 th Sept	'I am the True Vine'	John 15:1-8

We have really enjoyed shaping this summer teaching series and we hope it complements your Summer Bible reading and stimulates conversation, reflection, thought and prayer.

Covid 19 regulations and gathering for Worship

Along with every other Church, we are keeping a close eye on the Government and Diocesan regulations and the advice that is forwarded to us week by week.

We long to be able to gather again in the Autumn yet we need to do this wisely and safely.

With this in mind you will have received a questionnaire from us with a few questions that we would ask you to complete by **Friday 14th August**, please. In amongst all the advice we receive it will help the leadership team and the ECC to hear your views and concerns and help us shape a strategy to move forward into October and the months to come. We will communicate that information as soon as we have met in September and have a clearer way forward.

If you know of anyone from Christchurch who does not have internet access, perhaps you could ask them the questions over the phone and fill in the questionnaire on their behalf?

A Huge thank you

There have been many people in our congregation who have served the community in amazing and innovative ways. There are those who have been on the 'front line' in their everyday work and many who have carried on serving and working under difficult circumstances, many from their own homes.

We are all aware of the pain, grief and cost the Pandemic has brought to our Church family in so many ways. Like many, we as a leadership team have not been immune from the struggles yet as a Church Family we have all been sustained through prayer and care.

On behalf of all the leadership team can we say a huge thank you and be assured of our ongoing prayers for each and every one of you and the community we all serve. Thank you for the amazing stories we are hearing of God's love in action. May that love, caring and sharing continue and increase through these Summer months.

In September we commence a new teaching series, 'Unleashed: Church-what we can learn from Acts'. Each home group leader will have received the teaching notes, and with that in mind, if you aren't yet connected into a home group, contact Carolyn Waite carolynmwaite@gmail.com for more details, some groups are meeting online.

As we step into August, let's join together in the Lectio 365 daily prayer:

Father, help me to live this day to the full, being true to You in every way.

Jesus, help me to give myself away to others, being kind to everyone I meet.

Spirit help me to love the lost, proclaiming Christ in all I do and say.

Amen.

With every blessing,

Clive, Russ, Suzy and the whole Christchurch leadership team

Praying Together Wherever We Are

Pointers for Prayer for August

During August we are encouraged to Pray at 5 following the theme of the Sunday services.

These will be based on the 'I am...' sayings of Jesus in John's Gospel.

Linked with this is an opportunity to pray for the 5 people you prayed to come to know Jesus or reconnect with Him during the 'Thy Kingdom Come' nine days of prayer leading up to Pentecost.

So let's join in Praying at 5 for 5.

Week commencing 2nd August - I am the Light of the world (John 8: 12 - 20)

'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'

Holy Spirit, lead our prayers and help us follow the light of Christ. As Paul urges the Ephesians, *'Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true) and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.*

May others see Christ's light in the way we live our lives.

Prayers contd.

Week commencing 9th August - I am the Gate (John 10: 1 - 10)

'I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved.....The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.'

Pray that those who feel there are barriers in the way and blocking them from living fully in Christ, that those would be removed, opened or overcome.

Week commencing 16th August - I am the Good Shepherd (John 10: 11 - 21)

'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.'

Ask God to show you what you are being asked to lay down, or set aside, to be able to support and encourage another in their faith, their coming to Jesus, the good shepherd.

Week commencing 23rd August - I am the resurrection and the life

'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?'

Lord, help us believe that we may have life. Pray for those who refuse to believe and yet.....and yet. To those who are dead in their unbelief breathe an inquisitiveness.

Week commencing 30th August - I am the way, the truth and the life - John 14: 1 - 6

'Do not let your hearts be troubled... You believe in God, believe also in me.I am the way and the truth and the life.'

Pray for those who are troubled by uncertainty or feel anxious and don't know or can't find meaning and purpose in their lives. May they find someone who knows Jesus and find in Him the way, the truth and the life in its purpose and fulfilment.

Let us also remember Uganda in our prayers with this recent update from Terry Game:

Lockdown restrictions are continuing to be eased in Uganda but schools remain closed with the teaching mainly carried out through radio centres.

Their school year doesn't end until December and although the government has pledged to provide families with radios these, and other benefits, often do not reach the rural areas.

Due to rising prices and food scarcity many families in the Mbale area are, literally, running out of food and although UWCM are doing their best to support families in this region, the numbers are growing. There has also been a small outbreak of Covid19 in this area and people are, understandably, fearful and some staff from UWCM have been told to quarantine due to exposure to one of the victims. They ask us to pray with, and for, them at this time.'

Have you invited anyone to join the

Any questions? - Let's Explore course beginning on 30th September? Is it time you did?

Jesus offers us the greatest invitation of all:

'Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.' Matthew 11: 28 - 30

News & Information

August Newsletter

This newsletter will cover the whole month of August;
our next newsletter will be sent out on **Friday 4th September**.

Kathryn will be on annual leave from the **6th -28th August** and will therefore not be responding to emails sent to admin@christchurch-clevedon.org.uk during this time. Contact details for other members of the staff and leadership teams can be found at the bottom of this newsletter.

“Christchurch Businessmen” - Wednesday 19th August, 8-9pm

We are hoping to meet at the Salthouse by then, to be confirmed.
Any enquiries to me, t.simpson@uk.iccc.net / 872 618 / 077 66 11 0718

Men’s BIBLE STUDY Group

Tuesday, 25th August at 7.30pm

The Men’s Bible Study Group will still be meeting on Zoom in August.
Please contact John if you would like details on how to join in: john.deborde@btinternet.com

Men’s Group

The Men’s Group will be taking a break in August but look forward to seeing you all again in September.

Any Questions? Let’s Explore!

7.30pm weekly via Zoom, 30th Sept- 21st Oct 2020

Join us online to explore the meaning of life and ask challenging questions about the Christian faith.

If you are just curious or want to find out a bit more this is a great way to do it.

This is especially helpful if you haven’t attended a group like this before.

To register and/or to find out more, please email Jean: prayer@christchurch-clevedon.org.uk

LOVE-IN-A-BOX

Love-in-a-Box will be taking place this year even during the present situation.

Please support this part of the Church’s outreach which is now part of who we are.

The requirements are as in previous years:

basic toiletries, pens, pencils and notebooks, hat and gloves and small toys.

The collection date will be in early November, but as we don’t know yet when we will be able to return to church, please start to collect your goodies and assemble your shoeboxes, and be ready to help us make this a bumper year.

If you need any further information- and a leaflet when we have them, please call me, Marilyn Barrow, on 876132 and I will be happy to help.

CPAS Ventures

Emy and her family spend one week every Summer at Blandford 3 CPAS Venture having lots of fun, making new friends and learning about God. This summer the Venture is going online from

Monday 3rd to Sunday 9th August.

This is a fantastic opportunity to have a look at a Venture if you have never been before.

You can join in from the comfort of your own home.

There are fun challenges and activities planned as well as finding out more about God.

If you are interested in joining in with the Virtual Venture, email Emy at:

sundaychildrenandfamiliescoordinator@christchurch-clevedon.org.uk

or sign up for free at [https://cpasventures.brushfire.com/events/470448?](https://cpasventures.brushfire.com/events/470448?fbclid=IwAR3v4YI1Vlglzxd6eWg5U8TOb5iP-Le7RLMtmySH6g8nR5Use1IdNbMwUQ8)

[fbclid=IwAR3v4YI1Vlglzxd6eWg5U8TOb5iP-Le7RLMtmySH6g8nR5Use1IdNbMwUQ8](https://cpasventures.brushfire.com/events/470448?fbclid=IwAR3v4YI1Vlglzxd6eWg5U8TOb5iP-Le7RLMtmySH6g8nR5Use1IdNbMwUQ8)

Elsie Calderbank

Thank you all for your thoughts and prayers since the death of my mother, Elsie Calderbank, whose funeral was on 20th July. Thank you also for the worship and fellowship that my mother so much enjoyed during the ten years she lived at Averill Court.

Special thanks go to those on the transport rota, who ensured that she could attend, and also to all those involved in running the lunch club.

My mother always looked forward to the opportunity to enjoy a lovely lunch in good company. God bless you all. Roger Calderbank.

FOOD PARCELS FOR UGANDA

Although many people in our country are struggling to provide food for their families as a result of Covid19, people in Uganda, as in many developing countries, do not have the luxury of food banks/furlough schemes/other government & charitable support and many are, literally, struggling to get enough food for each day.

We are in close communication with the staff at Uganda Women Concern Ministry and although they are not able to carry out their normal community activities due to lockdown restrictions, they are distributing emergency food and household parcels to families who, without this support, would literally have nothing to eat.

Each family was given 10kg of maize flour and 3 kg of beans which lasts approx. 3-5 days depending on the size of the family and UWCM said:

“This changed the story of these families because they saw it as a miracle as they did not expect anything of the kind in such a moment and the package was termed as God hears and answers prayers.”

It costs approx. £10 to provide these parcels and if you would like to make a donation to help provide food parcels for more families, please go to our [‘Giving’](#) page where there are full details on how to make a donation.

EVERY PENNY OF YOUR DONATION WILL BE SENT OUT TO UWCM TO PROVIDE FOOD/HOUSEHOLD ITEMS FOR FAMILIES IN DESPERATE NEED.

Please contact Terry Game (878049) or visit www.ugandaconcernuk.org if you have any queries.

United Breaks Out- New Wine comes into your home this year! Thursday 30th July– Monday 3rd August

It's not too late to join in with New Wine online this year (and catch up on what's already taken place) free of charge! For all events and information, please go to their website: new-wine.org/breaksout

Hiroshima Day Commemoration at the Peace Tree



This year marks the 75th anniversary of the first atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima on the **6th August**.

Members of Clevedon Meeting will be present by the Peace Tree (planted in November 2018 as a joint venture with CTiC and Clevedon Quaker Meeting) from **10 am to 3 pm** on that day.

We are all invited to visit The Peace Tree on the seafront, perhaps pause to remember the victims of the bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, place an origami crane on the cage round the tree and offer a prayer for world peace.

Giving

If you would like information on becoming a regular giver, please take a look at our Giving page on the Christchurch website: <https://www.christchurch-clevedon.org.uk/giving/>
or contact John de Borde: finance@christchurch-clevedon.org.uk

If you were giving by way of the yellow 'gift aid' envelopes or the Goodbox on Sunday mornings and would like to continue donating to the ongoing costs and work of Christchurch during this time, we've linked up with Stewardship to enable givers to donate online:

www.give.net/20033670

(information on Stewardship can be found at www.give.net)

Here to Help

If you would like some practical or prayer support, please get in touch with either your home group leader, or Carolyn, our Home Groups Co-ordinator (carolynmwaite@gmail.com).

Please note that although the answer machine in the church office (tel: 01275 871483) will be checked as often as possible, it is advisable to contact one of the clergy (by phone /email) or one of our Wardens if the matter is urgent.
All contact details can be found below.

Items for the newsletter can be emailed to: admin@christchurch-clevedon.org.uk

Facebook page: [Christchurch Clevedon](#)

Children's blog: www.christchurch-kids.blogspot.com .

Prayer Chain requests: prayer@christchurch-clevedon.org.uk

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