

# TRINITY TIMES

OCTOBER 2021



## WHAT'S INSIDE

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EVENTS - 16

ECO CHURCH - 20

MOTHERS UNION - 22

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## SERVICE TIMES

### SUNDAYS

**9.00** Holy Communion

**11.00** Morning Worship  
Contemporary service including  
Kids Church

**15.00—17.00** Youth Group

### WEDNESDAY

**10.00** Holy Communion



On the 2nd, 4th and 5th Sunday of the month there is **Kids Church and Crèche** in the hall for those aged 0-10.

We are currently doing a series looking at the Fruits of the Spirit.

On the **1st Sunday of the month**, we meet at Trinity First School for 'Wild Worship' (at 10am) and on 3rd Sunday, we all stay together in Trinity for Cafe Church.

## A word from the Wardens

I wonder how many of you have played the age-old card game, Happy Families? It certainly brings back childhood memories for me....the names of the families are still clear in my head, such as Bun the Baker, Soot the Sweep, Bones the Butcher and Dose the Doctor!

We are privileged to live in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Britain, where happy family life is something that most people experience, although I am fully aware that for some, this is anything but the case. However, we do have to chance to belong to the 'Happy Family' that is Holy Trinity Frome. As we embark on a twelve month vacancy, the importance of that family increases significantly as we lean on each other for guidance and support as the quest for a new Vicar is instigated.

I've recently been reading again some of the later chapters in Genesis, focussing on Jacob's extraordinary journey, starting in Chapter 28 with him fleeing for his life from his brother, Esau, and ending in Chapter 35 (after a somewhat miraculous reconciliation) with Jacob being renamed Israel by God! It's quite a tale – full of 'buying' brides, bigamy, sexual abuse of slaves, idols, and superstitions surrounding the breeding of certain types of flocks! It all seems a little remote from our (so called) civilised society that we know today. After all, isn't the list above far removed from Western cultures, especially within the church? However, when delving a little deeper, we see clear

examples of jealousy, rivalry, heartbreak, manipulation, deviousness and breakdown of relationships that are all too familiar. Which one of us has not experienced at least some pain in our closest relationships?

We are used to considering our relationship with God in very individualistic terms, but in these chapters we see God at work through a family, even though many of the individual members of that family might not have a personal relationship with God. Nevertheless, we see God revealing himself and working out his purposes through all the arguments, back-stabbing and self-serving actions.

Spending an hour or so considering Jacob and his family from ancient times, gives me hope for my own family but also for the special community of Holy Trinity. Sadly, human nature hasn't changed throughout the millennia, but fortunately, neither has God! Hebrews 13:8 clearly states that 'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.' Hundreds of years before Paul wrote those words, God promised Jacob, 'I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go.....' (Genesis 28:15). And he still promises that for us today! What a promise! What a God!

Thank God now for being a part of his family.

Chris and Libby



## **FOUR LOVES - FOUR Ws**

We are just emerging from an unprecedented shut down of society and church and some of us are asking; "Do I want to go back to church as it was?" It is certainly a good time to reassess what we are doing and why we are doing it! Why do we need to meet together?

The writer of Hebrews (10 v 24) suggests that we need to get together to encourage one another and spur (ouch!) one another on to love and good deeds. The best context for this is often small intimate groups and they have been part of the life of Holy Trinity for many years. To encourage growth and mission, some of us have been using the 4W cell church model and found it very helpful. The 4Ws actively encourage the four great loves of our life:

### **LOVE ONE ANOTHER - WELCOME**

A member of the group shares a story about their faith journey.

### **LOVE GOD - WORSHIP**

Another member leads a time of focus on God and his goodness. Not necessarily singing but anything that draws us closer to God.

### **LOVE GOD'S WORD - WORD**

Someone else leads thoughts and discussion on God's word. This is not a talk but may be asking three questions about something we have all read before coming together or a YouTube video.

### **LOVE GOD'S WORLD - WORLD**

We talk and pray about the World we live in - our families, friends and neighbours. There is not usually time to pray for all this so we send around a summary so we can continue praying through the week.

Every member is expected to lead at least one of these and so grow in faith and confidence. We encourage members to invite their friends and for the group to grow and divide when it reaches about 12 members.

The P.C.C. has agreed that new groups that start going forward will seek to use this model to help us to "live and tell the story of Jesus". If you are interested in starting or joining a group call me on 0786 073 990 or email : - [tomharflett@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tomharflett@hotmail.co.uk)

# Frome Folk Dance & Social Club

Started our new season on Tuesday 7th September 2021, meeting fortnightly at Trinity Church Hall 14.30—16.30 Why not come along and enjoy a social afternoon with some gentle exercise at this friendly club? New members always welcome anytime.

Free entry for the first visit then £2.50 for the afternoon which will include tea and biscuits.

Besides Folk Dancing we have other social events which include a Spring holiday, a pre-Christmas break, and a New Year's lunch.

During the Summer break from dancing (July/August) we enjoy a visit to the gardens for cream teas, a summer lunch and an evening for skittles.

For more information:

Phone 01373 462112 or 01373 452150



IMAGE FROM: [https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.northoxfordassociation.co.uk%2Factivity-calender%2Ffolk-dance%2F&psig=ADVvaw3XctvxaFlx07zMEPceJ\\_1c&ust=1631792617234000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CAwQjhxqFwoTCNidw7HzgPMCFQAAAAAABv](https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.northoxfordassociation.co.uk%2Factivity-calender%2Ffolk-dance%2F&psig=ADVvaw3XctvxaFlx07zMEPceJ_1c&ust=1631792617234000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CAwQjhxqFwoTCNidw7HzgPMCFQAAAAAABv)

# 'COINS FOR CASH' FUND RAISING FOR HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Two months ago, I asked you to dig out your old coins and banknotes to help raise funds for our church, any old coins or banknotes from any part of the world as well as more recent coinage.



You took me at my word and when I collected the offerings from the Church Office, I was staggered – literally staggering under the weight of your generously donations. I could barely lift the 'booty'.

The project was instigated with the help of David Ayling of Somerset Coins, who, as well as being a major dealer in the South West, helps churches and charities who raise funds this way.

I did a preliminary sort out of the hundreds of coins and banknotes before

David arrived three days later to inspect our collection. He was mightily impressed and told me that the pile was significantly larger than most he had seen from other church collections. We looked through some of the coins and notes gathered, David showing genuine excitement over some of the finds.

A few days later David emailed me to congratulate us on raising

## £337.50

A wonderful collection for church funds.

David also listed some of the highlights of the collection, which, as a former collector myself, were fascinating. Some of these are outlined below, quoted or paraphrased from David's comments or email:

A small number of coins and banknotes were still currently in use – these will be banked. Whilst there was nothing individually of great numismatic value, there were quite a number of coins that were worth £2 to £4 each (which made up around £60 of the total) and the odd small silver-content coin here and there added £84 in 'bullion value'.

The oldest coin was a 1705 Portuguese copper 5 Reis (worth only £3, but nevertheless interesting); the most valuable, a Portuguese India colonial One Quarter Rupia from 1881 (£25).

British pre-decimal coinage extended

back to the reign of George III, much of it highly worn. We had spotted a few old, silver groats (1829 & 1838) and there was an 1829 6d (£6 value), plus a nice condition 1902 One Third Farthing which was a coin issued for use in Malta (£8 value). This small coin, worth a twelfth of an old penny, had a face value of about 0.035 of a modern penny. Not bad for the power of inflation – or was this a case of the ‘widow’s mite’ - a true gift of immense value?

There was a lot of South African & Portuguese coinage which contributed well to the total .... we guess from two individual donors who had past connections with those countries.

David’s favourite were a pair of Canadian \$1 notes from 1954 which are famous in the banknote world as the Queen’s hairdo had a ‘devil’s face’ in the design (by accident of course); so the note had to be redesigned and reissued. Value is around £20 the pair. Is this the first time a reference to the ‘evil one’ has helped swell church funds?

A few coins told of the social history of the nation. A very worn ha’penny had four holes symmetrically punched into it. David explained this would have been done to turn the old, low value coin into a button for an overcoat worn by a labourer in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

So, a very big ‘thank you’ to everyone who donated their loose foreign change, old coins and banknotes to make a huge contribution to Holy Trinity Frome.

Tim Harris



## PARISH NURSE NEWS

Greetings Trinity family!

I hope you are all keeping well as we slowly acclimatise to our new world where Covid 19 remains at large but we have learnt to live with it, and the restrictions it has forced upon us. It is great to be back in church again, and able to sing now behind our masks.

Praise God for the gift of scientists such as Prof Sarah Gilbert, who led a team and produced a vaccine in such a short time frame. I read in an article, that if she had gone with her instincts, the latest coronavirus vaccine might never have been developed!

As a young student, she was energised by the diversity of thought and experience in the biological sciences department, but when she progressed to her doctorate, at the University of Hull, she found the tunnel-like focus was not to her liking. She considered leaving science and doing something different but decided to stay as she needed the income.

At Oxford, Dr Gilbert rose through the ranks, becoming a professor at the university's prestigious Jenner Institute. She set up her own research group in a bid to create a universal flu vaccine, meaning a vaccine which would be effective against all the different strains. In 2014, she led the first trial of an Ebola vaccine. And when the Mers - Middle East respiratory syndrome - virus struck, she travelled to Saudi Arabia to try to develop a vaccine for this form of coronavirus.

The second trial of that vaccine was just beginning when, in early 2020, Covid-19 emerged in China. Prof Gilbert quickly realised she might be able to use the same approach. "We were quick," says her colleague at Oxford, Prof Teresa Lambe. As Chinese scientists published the genetic structure of the new virus "over the weekend, the vaccine was pretty much designed. We went pretty fast with it." And the rest as they say is history!

I hope you have all now been double vaccinated!

In my other nurse role within a surgical day unit we have to tell each patient on discharge about the risks of sepsis following surgery, so I thought I would raise awareness again as I did several years ago now.

### WHAT IS SEPSIS?

Sepsis is a life-threatening reaction to an infection. It happens when your immune system overreacts to an infection and starts to damage your body's own tissues and organs.





You cannot catch sepsis from another person.

Sepsis is sometimes called septicaemia or blood poisoning.

### **SPOTTING SEPSIS**

Sepsis can be hard to spot. There are lots of possible symptoms which can be vague. They can be like symptoms of other conditions, including flu or a chest infection.

#### **URGENT ADVICE: CALL 111 IF:**

You, your child or someone you look after:

- feels very unwell or like there's something seriously wrong
- has not had a pee all day (for adults and older children) or in the last 12 hours (for babies and young children)
- keeps vomiting and cannot keep any food or milk down
- Has swelling, redness or pain around a cut or wound
- Has a very high or low temperature, feels hot or cold to the touch, or is shivering

Do not worry if you're not sure if it's sepsis – it's still best to call 111.

They can tell you what to do, arrange a phone call from a nurse or doctor, or call an ambulance. Sepsis can be very hard to spot in babies and young children, people with dementia, people with a learning disability, and people who have difficulty communicating information.

### **WHO IS MORE LIKELY TO GET SEPSIS?**

Anyone with an infection can get sepsis but some people are more likely to get an infection that could lead to sepsis, including:

- babies under 1, particularly if they're born early (premature) or their mother had an infection while pregnant, and people over 75
- People with diabetes or a weakened immune system, such as those having chemotherapy or recently had an organ transplant
- People who have recently had surgery or a serious illness
- Women who have just given birth, had a miscarriage or had an abortion

You cannot catch sepsis from another person. It happens when your body overreacts to an infection.

### **HOW TO HELP PREVENT INFECTIONS**

It's not always possible to prevent sepsis. There are things you can do to help prevent infections that can lead to sepsis.

**DO** keep up to date with vaccinations especially for babies, children, older people and pregnant women. Clean and care for any wounds. Follow the instructions when taking antibiotics. Take all your prescribed antibiotics, even if you feel better. Wash your hands regularly and teach children how to wash their hands well. **DON'T** ignore symptoms of sepsis.

## TREATMENT FOR SEPSIS

Sepsis needs treatment in hospital straight away because it can get worse quickly. You should get antibiotics within 1 hour of arriving at hospital. If sepsis is not treated early, it can turn into septic shock and cause your organs to fail. This is life threatening.

You may need other tests or treatments depending on your symptoms, including:

- ☒ treatment in an intensive care unit
- ☒ a machine to help you breathe (ventilator)
- ☒ surgery to remove areas of infection

You may need to stay in hospital for several weeks.

## RECOVERING FROM SEPSIS

Most people make a full recovery from sepsis. But it can take time. You might continue to have physical and emotional symptoms. These can last for months, or even years, after you had sepsis. These long-term effects are sometimes called post-sepsis syndrome, and can include:

- Feeling very tired and weak, and difficulty sleeping
- Lack of appetite
- Getting ill more often
- Changes in your mood, or anxiety or depression
- Nightmares or flashbacks
- Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)

**DON'T** try and rush your recovery; **DO** take time and take things slow.

## BEREAVEMENT JOURNEY COURSE

After the success of the Bereavement Journey course I will be re-running the course in January 2022. Those who attended gave feedback that it really helped them to be able to talk with and to others, in a safe supportive place about their own bereavement journey.

Please contact me (07423 318929) if you are interested.

I am working each Monday from 9-5 pm, please contact me if you would like a visit, following hospital discharge for support, signposting to other services and prayer.. Take care and stay safe, blessings,

Jan x

# COMMEMORATION SERVICE

**You are warmly invited to the service to be held on**

**Sunday 31st October 2021**

**at 3pm**

when we will commemorate our loved ones who have died. During the service there will be the opportunity to light a candle. Also, if you wish, the names of the departed will be read out. If you would like the name(s) of any loved one(s) to be included please enter them in the book in the Parish Office beforehand. There will be an opportunity to add names to the list on the day of the service.

Please share this invitation with anyone you know who have lost loved ones.

We pray that those who have been bereaved will receive comfort in the love of our Lord Jesus Christ and we will be free to share fellowship over refreshments afterwards.

With love, the Bereavement Team



# O C T O B E

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
9.00 Holy Communion 11.00 Morning Worship 15.00 HTF Youth	14.00—16.00 Good Afternoon Choir Podiatry 19.30 Prayer for the Va- cancy	14.30—16.30 Folk Dance	10.00 Holy Comm 13.00—16.00 Stroke Associatio 19.30 Zoom Focu
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
9:00 Holy Communion 11.00 Morning Worship and Baptism 15.00 HTF Youth	14.00—16.00 Good Afternoon Choir		10.00 Holy Comm 13.00—16.00 Stroke Associatio 19.30 Zoom Focu
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
9.00 Holy Communion 11.00 Morning Worship 15.00 HTF Youth	14.00—16.00 Good Afternoon Choir  19.30—20.30 Prayer for the Vacancy	14.30—16.30 Folk Dance	10.00 Holy Comm 13.00—16.00 Stroke Associatio 19.30 Zoom Focu <b>NOVEMBER MA DEADLINE</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
9.00 Holy Communion 11.00 Morning Worship 15.00 HTF Youth	14.00—16.00 Good Afternoon Choir		10.00 Holy Comm 13.00—16.00 Stroke Associatio 19.30 Zoom Focu
<b>31</b>			
9.00 Holy Communion 11.00 Morning Worship <b>15.00 MEMORIAL SERVICE</b>			

# R 2 0 2 1

	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2
		2.30pm St. John's WORLD DAY OF PRAYER	
	7	8	9
Communion on Focus on Faith	10.00 Trinity Toddlers 17.00 Food @ Five		
	14	15	16
Communion on Focus on Faith	10.00 Trinity Toddlers 17.00 Food @ Five 19.30 Gateway Club		
	21	22	23
Communion on Focus on Faith <b>GAZINE</b>	10.00 Trinity Toddlers 17.00 Food @ Five	HALF TERM STARTS	
	28	29	30
Communion on Focus on Faith	10.00 Trinity Toddlers 17.00 Food @ Five 19.30 Gateway Club		



# MISSIONS

## **Pioneer Ministers for Young Adults in Frome**

Church members can struggle to know what Pioneer Ministers are doing. It can feel as if you are looking into a dark space. It is very hard to see. And if you ask the Pioneer, their answer might sound vague and waffly. This is because the Pioneer Minister also feels as if they are looking into a dark space – trying to work out what God is doing – outside the worshipping community, where the young adults are.

Our time is spent primarily building relationships with young adults – some 10% of the population. We hang out in parks, coffee shops and hospitality venues, with a uniform group, those working in retail, secular youth works and support organisations for young adults. We are trying to discern what God is doing so that we can join in.

Christians in Frome have been loving and praying for young adults for a long time. We therefore expect that, as we build genuine relationships, some of the young adults in this town will meet Jesus and begin to walk in his way. We will work with them, encouraging them in their discipleship and helping them to build a new worshipping community that is authentic to both young adult culture and the way of Jesus.

We are grateful to be working with you as together we introduce young adults to Jesus.

**Andrew and Elizabeth Alden**



'Ride+Stride for Churches' was founded in Suffolk in 1982 and is the single most important event of the county churches trusts' annual fundraising calendar. Since its beginning, over £35 million has been raised to be returned in grants to enable churches, chapels and meeting houses to carry out essential repairs, restorations and adaptations to ensure they are available for worship and their community for generations to come.

Here in Somerset, a total of almost £479,000 has been raised during 'Ride+Stride for Churches' since the Trust was founded in 1996. This has been a significant contribution to the total of £771,150.00 that the Somerset Churches Trust has given in grants to more than 400 churches. This is the reason why participation in 'Ride+Stride for Churches', and the sponsorship obtained, is so important to the work we do. But then so is the 50% of all money raised that is returned to the church or other registered charity of the participant's choosing.

Considerable effort goes into the challenges that people set themselves for 'Ride+Stride for Churches' and this year, our Silver Jubilee, is no exception. Top of the list must be the Skydive that supporter and Trustee, Marion Jeffrey, will be doing on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September, the official date of 'Ride+Stride'; Simon Hill, Archdeacon of Taunton and also a Trustee will be attempting to cycle around the churches of his archdeaconry; 92 year old Ted Marsh of St Mary Magdalene, Sparkford, South Somerset, inspired by Capt. Sir Tom, Moore, will be walking 50 laps around his home village, a distance of approximately 37 miles; David Sisson, past chairman of the Trustees of Somerset Churches Trust is to cycle around the churches of his Axbridge Deanery; and Trust coordinator, Philip Skelhorn, together with other members of the Trust, will be making a pilgrimage from Woodspring Priory, three miles north of Weston super Mare, to Wells Cathedral, a distance of approximately 26 miles, visiting eight spectacular churches designated either Grade I or Grade II \* 'en route' through some of the most beautiful countryside Somerset has to offer.

What better way to have fun, exercise and fresh air and make a real contribution to the work of Somerset Churches Trust.

Philip G Skelhorn

WHO

WHEN

WHERE

HOW

WHY

WHAT

# TRINITY NOTICEBOARD



## Church Flowers

10 October display is in Loving Memory of David Hill  
17 October display is in Loving Memory of Carole Hawes

## Amazon donates to your chosen charity for every purchase you make

If you are buying anything on Amazon, you could donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases to Trinity at no extra cost to you.

Go to <https://smile.amazon.co.uk> and select The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of Holy Trinity, Frome as your chosen charity, do your online shopping as normal.

This is to notify you that Amazon has donated £11.25 to your organisation (The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Holy Trinity, Frome) as a result of AmazonSmile programme activity between January - March, 2021.



## Focus on faith:

is an interactive study group looking at key elements of the Christian faith. We use it as a follow up course for Alpha but it is open to anyone who wants to explore together what we believe. For more information email: [tomharflett@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tomharflett@hotmail.co.uk) or phone 01373 462408.



CALL FREE ON 0800 328 0006

# Weighed down by debt?

Free debt counselling in your community from an award winning charity



capdebthelp.org



Relaxed, candid & creative wedding and family photography by James Markham Photography.

See [www.jamesmarkham.org](http://www.jamesmarkham.org) or contact me via [jamesmarkhamphotography@gmail.com](mailto:jamesmarkhamphotography@gmail.com) for more details

Daisy May Cards—Mo Mossman Customers can purchase goods through my website: [flamingopaperie.co.uk/web/momossman](http://flamingopaperie.co.uk/web/momossman) Facebook page is : Daisy May Cards. [Daisymaycards@gmail.com](mailto:Daisymaycards@gmail.com) or 07980894339. Orders generated from HT will make a 10% donation to Holy Trinity funds or any other charity nominated by the purchaser.



**If you ever have a mobile phone or tablet in need of repair, Martin is the bloke to speak to. Always helpful, professional and has rescued many a desperate person with a smashed screen, or drowned phone!**

**Mobile Phones & Tablet Repairs**  
MJ Communications  
Martin 07846 296 545



***I'll Cook, You Pour*** Here to get you out of the kitchen, into the party. Home cooking lessons, dinner parties, buffets, Weddings & Barbecues. Chef to carve, charity events, Stag/Hen Do's, Birthdays or simply a treat for Mum's night off. CONTACT: GARETH BURGESS Phone: 07703 145511  
Email: [icook.youpour@gmail.com](mailto:icook.youpour@gmail.com)  
Instagram: [icookyoupour](https://www.instagram.com/icookyoupour)  
Facebook: [@icookyoupour](https://www.facebook.com/icookyoupour)





**SHOEBOX APPEAL**—Most children who receive a shoebox receive one only **once in their lifetime**, so it's a very special gift for them. For £20 you can select boy/girl age group, add the specific gifts to your box, and then leave a photo and a personal message in your box. Look on the Samaritan's Purse website <https://shoeboxonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk/> or ask in the office where Rachael or Kally can help, please do let us know how many boxes are sent so we can celebrate the total of lives touched.

### RECYCLING AT TRINITY :

**STAMPS:** We collect ALL used postage stamps, international stamps from other countries are especially appreciated. Tear off just the stamp, leaving about 1cm of paper around the stamp. Place them in the pink box at the back of the church. When there is 1kg or more they are sent away, the company that buys them from Trinity pays for postage so this is a great little fundraiser at no cost to Trinity.

USED INKJET PRINTER CARTRIDGES for the following brands only: **Canon, Dell, Hp, Lexmark, Neopost and Samsung.** All others need to go to the recycling tip. Only the cartridge is needed, none of the other packaging.



**WRITING INSTRUMENTS** are accepted: Any brand of pen, felt tip, highlighter, marker, correction fluid pot, correction tape, mechanical pencil and eraser pen regardless of their composition. **Note: No wooden pencils, chalk, glue sticks, erasers, rulers or other cutting objects that could disturb the recycling process.**



# WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

(A WOMEN LED, GLOBAL, ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT)

## **BUILD ON A STRONG FOUNDATION**

Women of the Republic of Vanuatu (located in the South Pacific Ocean) have prepared this year's service. The black and white sandy beaches, coral reefs with coloured fishes, lovely birds, fruits and nuts in the forest, all make the islands a pristine environment but they are vulnerable to frequent tropical storms, earthquakes, cyclones, tsunamis and active volcanoes.

Women, men and children of all ages are called to 'Build on a strong foundation' and live in unity, love and peace in the context of ethnic and cultural diversity like Vanuatu and so many other places around the world.

World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation, which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world; their hopes, concerns and prayers. The preparation for the day is vast. An international committee IS based in New York and national committees in each participating country. Regional conferences meet to consider the service and then local groups make their plans.

Finally, at a church near you on Friday 1 October 2021, people will gather to celebrate the service prepared by the women of Vanuatu. The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 170 countries. It begins in Samoa, and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world – through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 39 hours later.

**World Day of Prayer is hosted at St John's, starting at 2.30pm on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October. All are warmly welcome to attend what promises to be an uplifting and inspiring day.**

For further information and resources, together with details of services in your area see the WDP website: [wwdp.org.uk](http://wwdp.org.uk)

# What can the church learn from creation and working together to care for it?

'How many are your works, Lord! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.' Ps 104:24

A message left by a visitor in a church simply read: *"Love your life. Be grateful for breath and the chance to experience the wonders around you. Life truly is amazing if we see it with open eyes and open hearts."* This unassuming statement reminds me of one of my favourite quotes (apologies!): *'Keep learning; keep humble; keep living in wonder.'*

Both the message and the quote form part of the answer to the question above. The truth is there is so much we can learn from creation and working together to care for it. The Professor of Geophysics at Cambridge, Bob White succinctly offers 5 reasons why Christians should care for creation:

- We should care because God cares. Page 1 of the bible - God repeats six times that in every stage of creation He 'saw that it was good'.
- Care for creation was the first commandment God gave to mankind (see Gen 1&2). God is calling us to be His 'vice regents' in caring for creation.
- Care for the world is an important way of sharing our love for our neighbours (locally and globally).
- Care for creation reflects the Christian hope for the future, the promise of a new creation. Just as He longs to be at work in us, transforming each of us to become 'a new creation', He wants us to share in His work of repairing the damage we have done to His beautiful creation.

(See [https://youtu.be/Vb\\_Elss1W4](https://youtu.be/Vb_Elss1W4))

John Samways

# What have we been up to in Holy Trinity churchyard in 2020-2021?

Working together in the churchyard has not been easy over the past 18mths but the eco area in the far reaches have been clearly marked by a series of stakes. The aim is to create a central area of grassland and wild flowers and to allow the perimeter to provide shelter and space for local hedgerow species and trees. Two crab apple trees and a wild cherry have been planted and a number of hedgerow species (eg. hawthorn, blackthorn, spindle, elderflower, dog rose and buddleia) are present. Bird boxes have also been fixed in the churchyard and it was a joy to see a Slow Worm emerge from the grass pile!

We are planning for members of the Somerset Botany group to come and identify the array of flora early next summer and looking forward to continue working with other church groups in Frome to establish a churchyard biodiversity trail not only in Frome but across the Deanery.

It is very early days and we have much to learn and discover but some early 'foundations' have been laid for the coming years. It is so encouraging a number of people have expressed interest and we are looking forward to seeing how this project grows.

**Maggie Hancock and John Samways**

*A question to ponder, to be addressed in a future magazine:*

*Is it more important for Christians to save people or save the planet?*

## **Some Autumn tips for the garden from A Rocha 'Eco Church':**

- allow vegetation to die back naturally and leave seed heads, especially on plants such as teasels, thistles and sunflowers. This provides food and shelter for birds through the coldest months.
- Don't totally cut back your perennial plants but trim them instead and leave plenty of foliage at or near ground level for insects and birds. Piling up leaves and other vegetation to create an open compost heap could provide the perfect hibernation spot too.

Clean all your bird feeders to avoid the spread of disease to winter migrants and put up a nest box well in advance of breeding season. A nest box could also prove a cosy spot for small birds to spend the night on particularly cold winter evenings ahead.

# Mothers' UNION

## Christian care for families

This month I am enclosing news from our Link Diocese with Bath & Wells in False Bay, Cape Town. (which happens to be the birthplace of Kally Dunn and Ali Mathieson).

Ruby Unthank, the MU Diocesan President of False Bay, requests prayers for the tragic situations in the province of Kwa Zulu-Natal (Durban). It follows the start of the imprisonment of South Africa's former President, Jacob Zuma awaiting trial on corruption charges.

This province, Kwa Zulu-Natal, is home to the Mothers' Union Worldwide Trustee for Zone E (Africa) - Thembside Mchunu. She reports that the situation is indeed terrible. "The people were just mad, they started looting shops and taking everything inside so now there are no open shops. Pharmacies were burnt and people cannot get medication for chronic treatments. All the trucks bringing deliveries were burnt, so there will be no new deliveries anytime soon. People are at home without food, no electricity and water supply is unreliable"

Also the 3rd wave of Coronavirus has arrived. The hospitals are full and will become more packed as the looters ignore precautions for the virus. 800 shops have been looted; buildings, factories and a chemical plant have been set ablaze; and over 200 deaths recorded.

Currently the Covid figures remain high keeping them in Level 4. They have sadly been losing MU members.

Churches have been closed for worship and any other gatherings except

funerals. The morale is currently very low especially with the looting and unrest in Kwa Zulu-Natal. There wasn't any unrest and looting in Cape Town because the local communities rose up in unity and protected their own communities as the police were overwhelmed by the scale of the riots and looting. In some areas of Kwa Zulu-Natal the police either turned a blind eye or were compliant in the destruction of property.

In a country where poverty is extreme and senseless violence a daily occurrence, these new stresses are pushing people beyond anything they have experienced previously.

Things in False Bay are really tough but they will not lose hope. The wine industry is closed and a severe (mini bus) taxi war means people can't go to work. Many families are losing their income. The MU in False Bay is assisting 61 households in the Groot Drakenstein area with food parcels. Our mothers are scared, anxious and depressed. We try to stay in touch via social media to keep Members motivated - to rebuild their hope and confidence.

Ruby asks for prayer for them and their country:

Father,

We pray for the situation in South Africa, especially in the Provinces of Kwa Zulu-Natal and Gauteng.

Be with those that are afraid of the violence and the looting.

Protect those that are fearful, those that are concerned for their country's future.

Wrap your loving hands around those that cannot access basic food and

transport due to the violence.

Send your spirit to bring peace, not only to the area but to those rioting.

We also pray for all the businesses that have been destroyed and the livelihoods affected.

Wrap your loving arms around them.  
Amen.

For more information, please contact  
Mary Earle or Susan Clark

## C O N N E C T

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READERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ann Phillips,</li><li>• Tom Harflett</li><li>• Phil Gray</li><li>• Dorothy-Anne Bryant</li><li>• Miriam Hare</li><li>• Wendy Rootes</li></ul>	
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