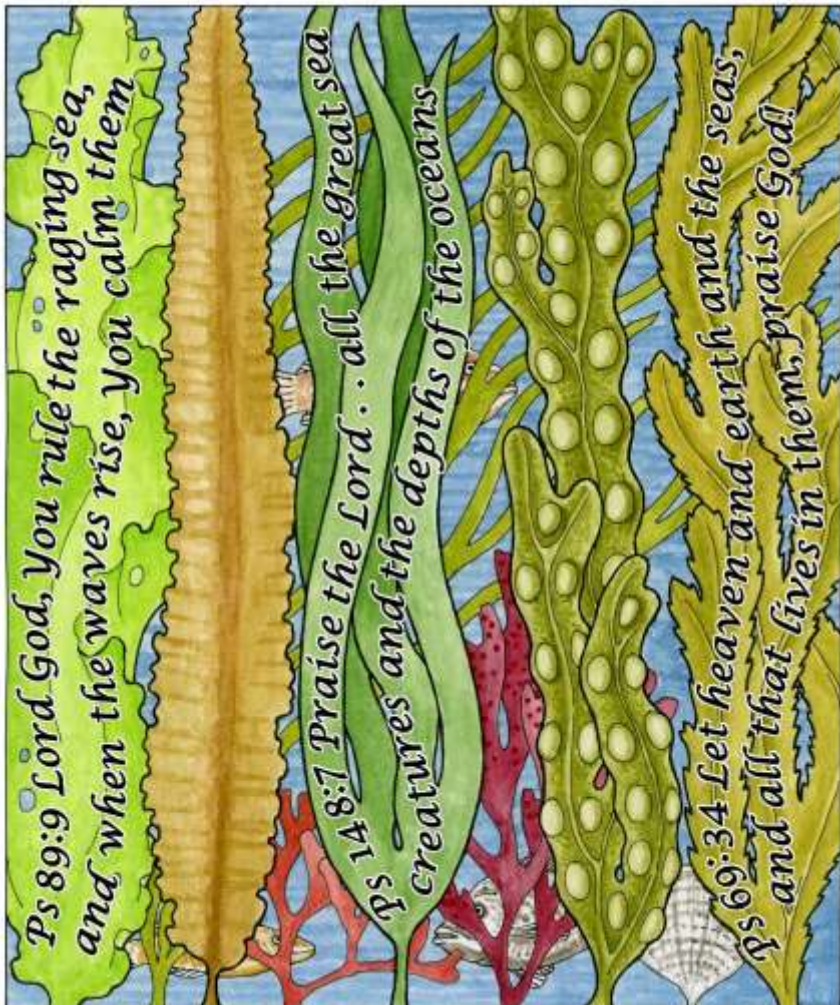


Winterbourne Churches' Newsletter

www.fromsidechurches.org.uk

www.salemchurch.org.uk



July &
August 2026

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Church Lane, Winterbourne, BS36 1SE

Acting Rector: **Rev David Jones**,
Phone: 07737 529687
Email: david.jones@fromesidechurches.org.uk

Associate Priest **Rev Joanne Hodge** Phone: 07758 648264
Email: j.hodge@fromesidechurches.org.uk

Associate Priest **Rev Julia Chard** Phone: 07811 524533

Churchwardens **Chris Greef** 01454 774479
Derek Andow 01454 775024

BENEFICE AND PARISH OFFICE

95 High Street, Winterbourne, BRISTOL, BS36 1RD

Administrator **Nessa Jarman** Phone: 01454 776518
Email: office@fromesidechurches.org.uk

Opening hours Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9am-1pm

WEDDINGS/BAPTISMS/CONFIRMATION/FUNERALS

Enquires should be made to the Benefice Office - 01454 776518

PASTORAL VISITING

If you need a pastoral visit or know someone who does, please contact Pearl on 01454 314184

St Michael's Community Centre Bookings Contact the Benefice Office

SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

Factory Road, Winterbourne, BS36 1QL

Minister **Rev Leigh Maydew**
Phone: 07388 083488
Email: leigh.maydew@methodist.org.uk

To whom enquiries for Weddings, Baptisms, or Funerals should be made.

Senior Steward **Margaret Johnston** Phone: 01454 773626
Email: 123margaretjohnston@gmail.com

Hall Bookings **Jayne Glass** Phone: 07935 377790
Email: jaglass103@gmail.com

A message from Revd. David Jones

Ordinary - That'll be nice. Or not?

The church has just entered the season of “ordinary time”. The church year starts at Advent as we prepare for Christmas; as Christmas ends we move into preparing for Lent, then Easter, Ascension and Pentecost and then Trinity Sunday. The manic months end at the start of June and things become ordinary. Not quite so ordinary this year, as, praise be to God, we have lots of weddings over the coming months and a good number of baptisms to keep us busy.



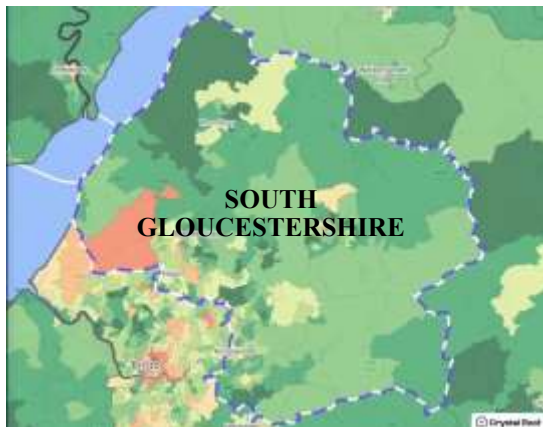
I ponder what “ordinary” means. We set expectations on ourselves and on others based on a whole range of cultural expectations. When we conform, we are ordinary or even worse, normal. Who sets the standard for these things? Is the standard set by how we view ourselves, our families, our geography and our communities? Is it set by our politicians, the media, Karen or Kevin on Facebook? (sorry to anybody called Karen and Kevin) Is it set by our academic credentials or by what we choose to do in our leisure time? Is it to do with ‘that is just how the world is’? Whose world and where?



Of course there is no clear opposite to ordinary. Is it odd, or is it extraordinary? Perhaps it is just different. We live in a world of ordinary people doing extraordinary things and sometimes behaving in ways which may seem odd. We must always be aware that for each observation we make we are assuming our own cultural and political reference into the situation.



Jesus was odd; he certainly was not ordinary. He called his followers to be extraordinary in their love and care for each other and for the wider world. When we look at the world today this truly would be extraordinary, in a divided world where we seem to easily forget to love our neighbour; when we focus too much on what we can achieve in terms of wealth and power, when we enter into a culture of one-upmanship. This is easily justified because this is an ordinary way to be, we are conditioned for it. However, we are not then living in the spirit of Christ's intention for us. For he said do not take a bag or a purse or two coats. Jesus called us to act in humility and service of others.



So, my prayer is that we, in our part of South Glos, would be extraordinary communities, renowned for our care, our compassion, our love for our neighbours. That we would rekindle the sense of supporting and building others up in love. That we would do things that may appear to be odd, when we have had enough of ordinary being not good enough.

Dave

AUGUST AT SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

2nd August	Mrs Jenny Clark
9th August	At Winterbourne Down Methodist Church (Holy Communion)
16th August	Local Arrangements
23rd August	Mr Bob Wood
30th August	Miss Naomi Sharp

SUNDAY WORSHIP IN OUR CHURCHES

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

5th July 6pm St Saviour's Church, Coalpit Heath
HOLY COMMUNION
see page 11

12th July 10.30 St Michael's Church
PARISH COMMUNION



19th July 10.30 St Michael's Community Centre
CELTIC WORSHIP

26th July 10.30 St Michael's Church
PARISH COMMUNION
see page 11 for August services



Also Thursdays at 10.30 - Holy Communion in SMCC
& 1st Sunday at 8am - Holy Communion in St Michael's Church

See page 17 for details of special events
www.fromesidechurches.org.uk

SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES at 10.30

5th July MHA Service
12th July Rev Leigh Maydew (Holy Communion)
19th July Miss Naomi Sharp
26th July Mr Howard Wilson



see opposite for August services

Further details on the website www.salemchurch.org.uk



We hear a lot about the increased risk of flooding as a result of climate change. Gone are the times when our weather consisted of some sunshine interspersed by drizzly days which went on and on but didn't produce vast amounts of rain. Instead, we now have long periods of drought brought to an end by heavy rain, which is what causes the flooding.

Flooding always has been an issue of course and in our own area parts of Bristol were at one time subjected to flooding after heavy rain when local streams and rivers feeding into the Avon in Bristol burst their banks. The River Frome is a case in point, being responsible for flooding in the Eastville area, and this was made progressively worse as development at Yate produced more and more hard surfaces that encouraged the water to rush into the river. With this type of situation in mind it has always seemed odd to me that the thinking at one time was to straighten river courses to get the water downstream as quickly as possible – it might have reduced local effects but it just resulted in a much bigger problem downstream.



It is now understood that an important way to reduce flooding risk is to slow down the water so it doesn't all arrive in a rush. The problems on the River Frome were hugely reduced when the Tubbs Bottom weir at Iron Acton was built. After heavy rain, the weir is closed to hold back all the water coming down from Yate, deliberately flooding adjacent fields. Once the rain has stopped the weir is reopened to allow the water to flow in a controlled manner. I recall that the field opposite my house in

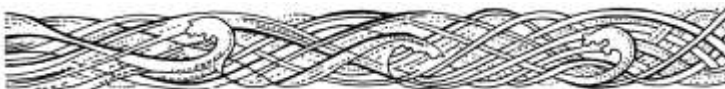
Frampton Cotterell regularly flooded after heavy rain, but this completely stopped once the weir was built. In many places now, work is being done to slow our rivers down, building leaky dams upstream (these can be simply a few tree trunks put into a stream near its source), 'rewiggling' a river that was previously straightened out, or even allowing nature to do the job for us by reintroducing beavers. Did you know that there are supposed to be beavers somewhere in the River Avon catchment?

We can do our bit too. Simply installing a water butt to capture the run-off from our roofs not only stops more water getting into the drains but also saves precious water for our gardens. Or, if you're more ambitious, you could install a rain garden, basically a leaky trough that is kept filled by rain water and planted with wet-loving plants.



One thing we should **not do** is be tempted to pave over our gardens. This seems to happen very commonly now, either to create car parking space or just to reduce garden maintenance, but it increases the risk of flooding. A major UK flood insurer of last resort has said that places that have never flooded before are now experiencing low level surface water flooding and that the risk of this is increasing rapidly with climate change. This problem is particularly acute in heavily built-up areas which inevitably have a lot of impermeable surfaces, so hanging on to all those green water absorbent spaces is key to controlling the risk. If we don't, flooding will just get worse and we'll all suffer as insurance premiums are forced to rise, whether we live in a flood-prone area or on top of a hill.

Chris Greef



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Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
1 Samuel 24

God chose Saul to be the King of Israel, but Saul chose to disobey Him. God said that the next king would not be Saul's son.

Saul didn't know that God had chosen David to be the next king.



David was very successful as a fighter and very popular.



David had to go on the run and hide.



One day, Saul and his army were in En-Gedi. Saul needed to pee, so he went into a sheep fold built next to a cave...

David and his men were hiding at the back of the cave!



David crept over and cut a piece off Saul's robe.



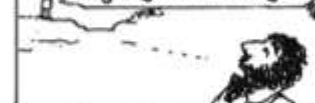
Then David felt bad.



David waited until Saul was far enough away then he shouted to him.



Your majesty, I could have killed you today, but I knew it was wrong. I want to prove to you I'm not trying to harm you.



David, you are better than me. I would have killed you but you were kind.



Now I know you will be the next king, but please look after my family.

David promised, and Saul and his army went home.



What's the Big Idea?

An Introduction to the Books of the Bible: Ruth

The book of Ruth is a story of God's grace operating in difficult circumstances, during the period of the Judges. It unfolds as a four-act drama, telling the story of how Naomi, her husband and two sons left Judah for Moab, where her sons married. When Naomi's husband and sons died, she returns to Bethlehem in Judah.



In the first act, Naomi tells her Moabite daughters-in-law, Orpah and Ruth, to stay in Moab. However, Ruth refuses to leave Naomi and accompanies her to Bethlehem (chapter 1). In the next act Ruth meets Boaz, a relative of Naomi, while gathering barley in his fields (chapter 2).

The third act takes place at the threshing floor where Boaz is asleep and Ruth lies at his feet. She expresses her desire to marry him, as her kinsman-redeemer. But Boaz tells her of another prior claim (chapter 3). Finally, at the city gate, the other relative renounces his claim, and Boaz marries Ruth (chapter 4).

In Ruth's story we see God's unseen hand directing the lives of the characters to accomplish his purpose e.g. *'Naomi returned from Moab accompanied by Ruth, arriving in Bethlehem as the barley harvest was beginning'* (1:22). He transforms Naomi's sorrow into joy, rewarding Ruth with a place of honour in Israel's history. In Boaz, we see a foreshadowing of the work of Jesus Christ, as he pays the price to secure Ruth's future.



'In its artful telling of this 'outsider' widow, uprooted and obscure, who turns out to be the great-grandmother of David and the ancestor of Jesus, the book of Ruth makes it possible for each of us to understand ourselves, however ordinary, as irreplaceable in the full telling of God's story.' (Eugene Peterson).

A special day for the Benefice...

HOLY COMMUNION

to welcome Val Slade
after her ordination in Bristol Cathedral

SUNDAY 5th JULY at 6pm

St Saviour's Church

Coalpit Heath

AUGUST SERVICES FOR ST MICHAEL'S

2nd August 4pm St Michael's Community Centre
ALL-AGE PRAISE

9th August 10.30 St Michael's Church
PARISH COMMUNION

16th August 10.30 St Michael's Community Centre
CELTIC WORSHIP

23rd August 10.30 St Michael's Church
PARISH COMMUNION

30th August 10am and 6pm - see page 13



Also Thursdays at 10.30 - Holy Communion in SMCC
& 1st Sunday at 8am - Holy Communion in St Michael's Church

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Sunday 30th August at 10am
HOLY COMMUNION
FOR ALL THE BENEFICE
at
St James Church
Iron Acton



Sunday 30th August at 6pm
CHORAL EVENSONG
at
St Michael's Church
Winterbourne



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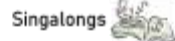
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Further information from Edna Snaith 07789 662694

CROSSWORD

Across

1 Proverbs describes her as being 'of noble character' (Proverbs 31:10) (4)

3 'Shall we go up again — — against the Benjamites, our brothers?' (Judges 20:23) (2,6)

8 A descendant of Shem (Genesis 10:28) (4)

9 'Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my — ' (Luke 14:27) (8)

11 Resentment(Ephesians 4:31)(10)

14 In Cain(anag.)(6)

15 'Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to—' (Psalm 139:6) (6)

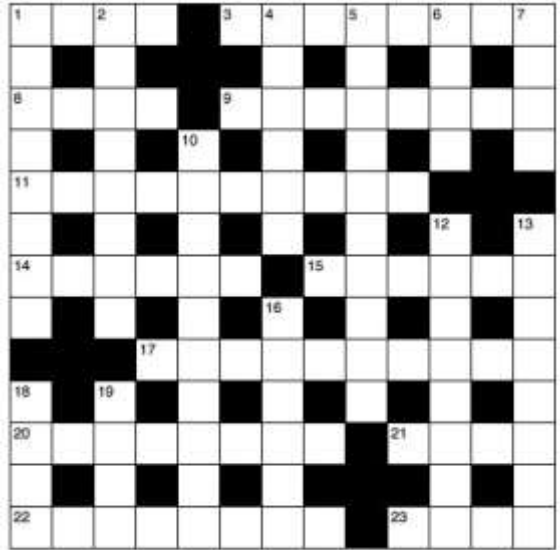
17 Intense (1 Thessalonians 4:5)(10)

20 Third Order of the Roman Catholic Church(8)

21 'At midnight the cry rang out, "Here's the bridegroom!Come out to — him"' (Matthew 25:6) (4)

22 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in — ' (2 Corinthians 12:9) (8)

23 'As the — pants for streams of water,so my soul pants for you, O God' (Psalm 42:1) (4)



Down

1 Nickname of popular First World War chaplain, the Revd G.A. Studdert Kennedy, — Willie (8)

2 Occasion of religious joy (Lamentations 2:22) (5,3)

4 'We three kings of — are' (6)

5 Allegation or charge (Jude 9) (10)

6 Kind (1 Chronicles 12:33) (4)

7 'Open your — and look at the fields!' (John 4:35) (4)

10 Also known as the Feast of Lights (John10:22)(10)

12 Area that saw the healing of two demon - possessed men and a herd of pigs stampeding to their deaths (Matthew 8:28) (8)

13 Forebear(James2:21)(8)

16 Name given to the first two books of the Apocrypha(6)

18 Esau sold his birthright for this (Genesis25:34)(4)

19 Rear(anag.)(4)

Answers on page 27

Salem Diary

These regular activities continue through the summer :-

Coffee morning
on Wednesday July 1st at 10 a.m.



Bacon butties /toasted teacakes
on Saturday July 18th at 10 a.m.

The film afternoons will take a break during the summer months and re-commence on September 8th



We look forward to joining the Frampton Festival Assembly Bangers on Saturday July 11th at 2pm. Some of the songs we sang in school assembly have long since faded away, but there are some that have stood the test of time.



Our minister, Leigh, has been on Sabbatical for 3 months and we look forward to welcoming him back on July 6th. During that time he has been exploring more about being an Army chaplain and has also attended the Methodist Conference in Telford. In his absence Naomi has looked after us well. She has worked extremely hard and we thank her for the support she has given to us.

Special events in & around St Michael's

Saturday 4th July from 3.30-5.15
MESSY CHURCH
in St Saviour's Church Hall



Sunday 5th July at 6pm
HOLY COMMUNION
at St Saviour's, Coalpit Heath
to welcome Val Slade
See page 11

Sunday 26th July at 6pm
A SPECIAL SERVICE
at All Saints, Winterbourne Down
to say "goodbye" to Deborah Henney



Saturday 1st August from 3.30-5.15
MESSY CHURCH
in St Saviour's Church Hall

Sunday 23rd August at 4pm
CAFÉ CHURCH
at St Michael's Community Centre



Sunday 30th August at 10am
HOLY COMMUNION
for the Benefice
at St James, Iron Acton



Sunday 30th August at 6pm
CHORAL EVENSONG
at St Michael's, Winterbourne

BELLRINGERS OUT AND ABOUT

Bellringers? Who are they? An invisible group who hide in church towers and make a great deal of noise? Not a sociable group at all! How wrong can you be! Bellringing is a very sociable activity - all the ringers in the local towers know each other and can be found out and about around the area and further afield

For one group comprising members from South Gloucestershire, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire, this included a trip to Northern Ireland. The group spent a happy five days ringing at 13 of the 17 churches with bells in the Province. But ringing wasn't all they did - they visited Carrickfergus, one of the oldest towns in the area, the Giant's Causeway, Hillsborough Castle (the home of the king in Northern Ireland) and in the course of their extensive travels learned so much about the history of the province from those they met

If you like the idea of joining such a group by learning to ring bells, contact Chris Greef - cgreef@btinternet.com



Editor: Does your local group have some news for our readers? Why not send your news to the editor for inclusion in a future edition?

World Cup

Many across the world are united in watching the World Cup in the United States, Mexico and Canada. However, football is more than just a game; it can illustrate some key points about the Christian life. As Paul writes: *'But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus.'* (Philippians 3:13b,14).



A prize to be won: The dream of every player in the competition is to be able to hold up the World Cup themselves. Christians grasp for the prize of eternal life, God's gift to us of relationship with Jesus for now and eternity. However, there's an important difference between football and the Christian faith. To win the World Cup you have to be good enough, while Christ's love for us is undeserved and not dependent on how well we've done.

Training to be undertaken: If a team is going to win the World Cup, training is vital! Our training, as Christians, starts the moment we accept the gift of God's life. On a daily basis, we train ourselves to say *no* to the wrong things in



our lives. As we build up our *godly muscles* we are better able to choose to do what is right in God's eyes. To enable



us to do all this we need to engage in the spiritual disciplines of prayer, studying the Bible and being part of a church and small group. How is your training going?

The former Liverpool Manager Bill Shankly famously said, *'Some people believe football is a matter of life and death, I am very disappointed with that attitude. I can assure you it is much, much more important than that!'*



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Summer Comedies

Visiting professional touring companies bring fantastic drama to the Barn:

The Pantaloons : The (Almost) Complete History of Britain - Thu 2nd July, 7pm

Mud, blood and stiff upper-lips! A hilarious race through the centuries from the critically acclaimed Pantaloons Theatre Company, featuring live music, audience interaction and wild historical inaccuracy! Not to be missed! Early bird discounts available online until mid-June.

Shakespeare in the Barn : The Comedy of Errors - Friday 14th August, 7pm

Twins, with their twin servants, are separated in a shipwreck, leading to mistaken identity, great confusion and hilarious mishap. The Festival Players bring the very best in touring theatre with Shakespears's famous crazy farce.

Family Drama : The Wonderful Wizard of Oz - Sunday 16th August, 3pm

IKP provide a "bonkers" adventure in this relaxed inclusive family-friendly theatre adaptation of L. Frank Baum's classic book. Expect the unexpected in this comedy for all ages!

History Talks in the Barn

All talks start at 7pm.

Mon 20 July - Archaeology of the A417 "missing link": a Gloucestershire Landscape 12,000 years in the Making

Hear from Cotswold Archaeology about their amazing recent discoveries.

Mon 3 Aug - The Quest for the Historical King Arthur

Celebrated historian Prof Ronald Hutton looks at changing images of King Arthur over time and weighs up the actual evidence for Arthur's historical reality.

Tue 15 Sept - The Bayeux Tapestry, a new Interpretation

Prof Benjamin Pohl looks at how & where this tapestry was intended to be viewed.

See page 22 for more events

Free parking at the Barn for all events. The Medieval Barn is fully accessible for wheelchairs. More information and booking details on the Barn website

Winterbourne Medieval Barn, Church Lane, Winterbourne BS36 1SE

For further details about Winterbourne Medieval Barn Trust see
www.WinterbourneBarn.org.uk & facebook.com/winterbournemedievalbarn

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CAFÉ CHURCH

looking at a theme using Scripture,
music, informal discussion
(with provision for accompanied children)
and tea/coffee, of course!



SUNDAY 23rd AUGUST at 4pm

in St Michael's Community Centre

High Street, Winterbourne



Participatory Events

Basketry for Beginners - Tues 21 July, 10am - 2.30pm. Make a round willow basket.

Knight School with *Get Medieval* - Mon 10 August, 10am - 2.30pm. Learn the skills, discover the history, and earn your title as a medieval knight! Adults are welcome too!

Evening Bat Walk with Naturalist Dr Ed Drewitt - Thur 20 August, 8pm. Learn about bats. 1.5hr guided walk, followed by drink and nibbles in the Barn afterwards. For adults & teens.

Summer Barn Dance - Friday 21 August, 7pm (picnics from 6pm). A traditional Barn Dance in a real barn - and a spectacular heritage barn at that! With local folk band Sargents Mess.

Reflecting Faith: Intercessions

Last month we reflected on the Creed within our service. This month, we consider what comes next.

In the Book of Common Prayer, the Creed and the sermon appear in a different order, but in both traditions intercessions follow.



In Common Worship, they come straight after the Creed. By this point, we may feel we have already prayed a great deal, so what makes intercessions different?



Intercessions focus entirely on the needs of others. They are public prayers, not centred on 'me' but on the wider world. They gather the concerns of the Church, the world, our community, those in need, and those who have died, along with those who mourn and as a whole congregation we bring them before God.

They are not, repeat not, a time to slip in a couple of adverts for next week's summer fair and a prayer for enough volunteers to come forward – please see Mrs Jones after the service – or to tell the congregation of someone's ill health or funeral arrangements!

These prayers usually follow that order, though sometimes in reverse. Either way, there is a clear pattern that helps the congregation engage. We may begin broadly with the world and move towards the local and personal, or start close to home and widen our view.



For example, with a theme such as farming, intercessions might include churches in rural communities worldwide, countries dependent on food production, government ministers responsible for agriculture and fisheries, local farmers and food workers, and those in need or recently bereaved within the community.



Style matters as much as content. These are the prayers of the people, so they should use language that feels natural and accessible. Often, simplicity works best.

This month

Listen carefully to the intercessions when you attend a service. Do they follow a clear, engaging pattern? Is the language accessible? Which prayers stay with you through the week? Who leads them, and from where?



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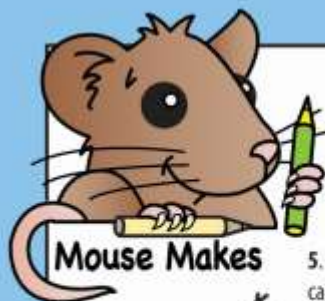
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Mouse Makes

1. What bird makes its nest on high?
Job 39:27



2. What ate the seeds along the path?
Matthew 13:4



3. The hair of which animal was used to make curtains?
Exodus 36:14

4. What insect can we learn from?
Proverbs 6:6

7. Which animal was Jesus compared to?
John 1:29



5. What plague came out of the River Nile?
Exodus 8:6



6. What animal would go through the eye of a needle easier than a rich person?
Luke 18:25



B I B L E



8. What bird did Noah release from the ark first?
Genesis 8:7



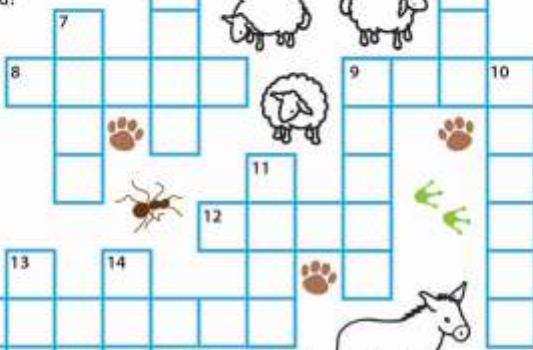
9 across. In what creature's mouth was a coin found?
Matthew 17:27



C R E A T U R E S



9 down. What lives in holes?
Matthew 8:20



10. What insect would God send to destroy the enemy?
Deut 7:20



12. Which bird did the Holy Spirit appear as?
Luke 3:22

13. Which animal did Jesus ride on?
Matthew 21:7



14. What bird did God provide for food in the wilderness?
Exodus 16:13



15. What insects did John eat in the wilderness?
Matthew 3:4



16. Which animal is the "mightiest among beasts"?
Proverbs 30:30



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Year 6 have had a very busy few weeks completing SATs and going on a residential to Morfa bay last week. SATs week was very tiring, but we all tried our hardest and deserved our fish and chip treat on the school field at the end of the week.

On camp, we all had a fantastic time. We faced our fears, challenged ourselves and experienced lots of new activities. We completed many sessions including rock climbing, zip line, high ropes, the assault course and a mountain bike trail.



One of the highlights of the week was body boarding in the sea. We had such a great time splashing and surfing the waves. On our last night at camp, we had a barbeque tea followed by disco. We had such a great time!

a



CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1, Wife. 3, To battle. 8, Obal. 9, Disciple. 11, Bitterness. 14, Niacin. 15, Attain. 17, Passionate. 20, Tertiary. 21, Meet. 22, Weakness. 23, Deer.

DOWN: 1, Woodbine. 2, Feast day. 4, Orient. 5, Accusation. 6, Type. 7, Eyes. 10, Dedication. 12, Gadarene. 13, Ancestor. 16, Esdras. 18, Stew. 19, Area.



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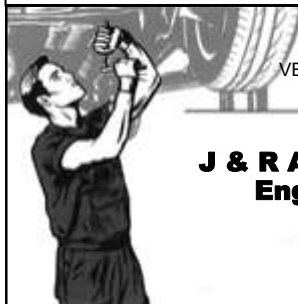
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SUMMER CONCERT AT ST MICHAEL'S



Please send contributions for the September Newsletter by email to Gill Greef (gill@gillgreef.com) or deliver them to the Church Office St Michael's Community Centre, 95 High Street by Saturday 15th August.