



Around the building

An update on work completed, under way and in prospect

In November, our church architect, George Chedburn, carried out his Quinquennial Inspection of our buildings, so called because a survey of the condition of every church building is required every five years. The Trustees are now awaiting his report, which will largely determine our programme of repair and maintenance for the next five years.

Meanwhile, our building contractors have completed their repointing at the north-east corner of the church building, in order to tackle the water penetration that was the probable cause of plaster falling off the wall inside. Scaffolding will be going up inside in the coming month, so that work can begin on removing the organ pipes damaged by falling plaster and then replastering.

Our organ will be out of action for many months, during which time we'll have the use of an electronic organ on loan from the organ builders. While the organ is dismantled, the Trustees plan to take the opportunity to carry out further repairs and refurbishment inside it – but exactly what can be done will depend on funds. See page 2 to find out how you can help with fundraising.

And finally... Since the completion of our entrance refurbishments at Easter 2017, we've been considering designs to add to the glass of the doors – a detail, but an important one: it both prevents people walking into the glass and is one of the first things visitors will see. We've now narrowed the choice down to three designs – take a look, and make sure to cast a vote at the back of the church.



Top: our church architect, George Chedburn, clambered all around the building, including the tower roof. Photo courtesy of Robin Kerr. Above: the re-pointing of the north-east corner in progress.

Time and Talent Challenge

Jonathan Stead, for the Christ Church “hands-on” Fundraising Team, writes:

As part of the Christ Church campaign to raise funds for the reordering of the East End of the church and the repair of the organ, we are organising a “Time and Talent” challenge during Lent. The physical improvements planned are intended to make our church a more accessible and welcoming place, both for visitors to events and of course to our fellow church members.

We are all aware of the bountiful gifts that God has given each one of us, and that these gifts are just as varied as we are, “the body of Christ”. No one’s gift or talent is more important than another’s, merely different – and all are given so that God might be glorified in their exercise. In spite of our protestations that we have such heavy schedules, we have also been given time in which to share our talents with those around us.

During Lent we will be asking members of the congregation to exercise their talents, and to use their time, to raise funds for the campaign. In so doing we hope that we will discover in each other unknown talents and that we will also share them with friends and neighbours outside Christ Church.

Each person who joins the challenge will be given £20 as seed money, and then the rest is over to us in terms of how we use it during the season of Lent. Some folk may opt to use the money to make things for sale to family and friends (by baking, cooking, sewing, knitting), and others may use it to buy ingredients to host a tea or meal for friends in return for a donation. Others may choose rather to offer their time and talent to provide a service for a small fee, for example to give someone a cooking or baking lesson, or an introduction to Facebook or to public speaking. Yet others may choose to run a raffle for something they would like to donate to the campaign. Whether you are a retired person or a school-goer (and everything in-between) you have a contribution to make, so please think creatively.

We will have a “Time and Talent” notice-board at the back of the church so that we can keep you up to date with the Challenge, and also to share what items and services people are able to offer, together with a list of items and services people are seeking. The Challenge will be launched at the service on Sunday 11 February (just before Ash Wednesday) and envelopes will be handed out after that service and on the following Sunday. We will be collecting the envelopes on Easter Sunday and the following week. The envelope will be numbered but will not indicate a specific person to whom it has been given, so the process will be confidential and no one will know what amount has been returned by any person.

It is for each of us, prayerfully, to commit this activity to God and then to share our time and talents with others around us. It is important to tell people why we are raising the funds, and that is not for the normal maintenance of the church or to pay salaries. We believe that part of Christ Church’s ministry is to provide a welcoming and accessible venue for our local community around Julian Road and Bath more widely, and this is the purpose of our campaign.

We are aware that Christ Church members are already contributing in so many ways to the church, and we thank you for all you do to make this a special place of worship and fellowship.

Fairtrade Fortnight

This year’s Fairtrade Fortnight is Monday 26 Feb – Sunday 11 March. We are already a Fairtrade Church, but schools, organisations and individuals are being invited to publicise the principles of Fairtrade and help the developing world. For information and ideas about activities, visit www.fairtrade.org.uk.



Looking to Lent

Revd Lore Chumbley writes:

Friday 2 February was Candlemas, the end of the great season of Christmas and Epiphany and the moment when we turn from looking back to the Incarnation and look forward to the Resurrection. This year we have just 12 days of ordinary time before Ash Wednesday, 14 February, when we plunge into the dry days of Lent. It's worth making use of that "ordinary time" as a time of preparation for Lent, Holy Week and Easter. The more effort we put in early on, the greater the joyful celebration of Easter.

Archbishop Justin has named Luigi Gioia's *Say it to God* as his recommended Lent book for 2018. Gioia is a Benedictine who knows the sheer slog of disciplined prayer. The Anglican Benedictines of the Community of the Resurrection in Yorkshire justify the hearty food they provide on the grounds that "praying is hard work." But Gioia also rejoices in the spontaneity of prayer, which is a relationship with God. We will be reading *Say it to God* as our Lent book. Copies will be available in church, and for anyone who would like to take part, there will be a weekly group to discuss our progress through the book.

Or you could come to our weekday Communion service every Thursday at 11 am in Christ Church. The service is a pool of calm in a busy week. It is preceded by 15 minutes of contemplation, and there is always a short sermon. During Lent it will be followed at noon by a light Lent Lunch of soup, bread and cheese with the chance to donate to the Bath and Wells Bishops' Lent Appeal for our five Zambian link Dioceses.

Jonathan Stead has written on the previous page about our "Lent challenge". I hope all of us will take part. We are challenged to use our time, talents and ingenuity to raise funds for the renovation of the organ and the chancel. What better time than Lent to dedicate energy and time to building up our church building, in order that it can serve our purpose as a worshipping community?

Last month in Christ Church



On Thursday 18 January Christ Church welcomed the largest audience we've had for a Toppings signing for some time, when around 300 people came to hear chef and author Tom Kerridge. This photo of the Christ Church stewarding team who did sterling service on the night is courtesy of Leon Day, www.leondayimages.com.

Lent lunches

It has been a tradition for some years to have shared Lent lunches with our neighbours at St Mary's Roman Catholic church, Julian Road. The idea is to build ecumenical links and raise money for those in need. Donations are made at the end of the simple meal and are split 50/50 between our two churches for their chosen charities. Watch for the dates soon.

This year, in addition, we are hosting a weekly Communion service at 11 am every Thursday in Lent for our Local Ministry Group, and – on the Thursdays when we don't have a Lent lunch with St Mary's – this will be followed by an LMG Lent lunch (soup, bread and cheese) in aid of the Diocesan Zambia Link

Can you offer support to a student in Bath?

The Guardian Family Network works with 40 independent schools across the UK, caring for 70 overseas students between the ages of 8 and 18. Our students spend most of their time boarding at school, but require a family for the occasional weekend and half-terms to provide a “home from home” experience and offer support whenever required.

At The Guardian Family Network, we carefully match students and their guardian families to ensure that everyone benefits from the experience and, as a result, develops lasting relationships. Our guardians range from young families with children through to grandparents whose children have left home and now have families of their own.

“Being a guardian is such a rewarding experience. Our family have gained a valuable insight into another culture and we have made life-long friends with another family



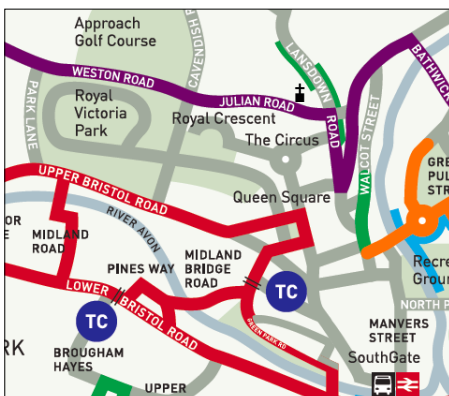
from overseas whilst offering a homely environment to a child studying at a local school.” – Mr and Mrs Robertson.

Being part of The Guardian Family Network is like having an “extended family” and is a fantastic opportunity to build relationships with young people from other cultures. Our dedicated team are on hand 24/7 to guide you when needed. All student-related expenses are fully reimbursed.

We are currently looking for a family for a student studying in Bath. If you have a spare room and would like to find out more, please give Hannah a call on 07802 282072 for an informal chat or email her on hannah@guardianfamily.co.uk for information, and visit www.guardianfamily.co.uk.



Road closures for Bath Half Marathon



Watch out when travelling to church on Sunday 4 March – the Bath Half Marathon is taking place on that day. Roads along the route (shown in red on the map at left) will be closed from 9:45am to 3:30pm (and parking on those roads – including disabled parking – will be suspended from 6am to 3:30pm). Traffic is likely to be heavier than usual on the diversion routes (shown in purple), which include Julian Road, so you might wish to allow extra time to get to and from Christ Church. Temporary crossings will be provided for pedestrians to cross the course route at Green Park and Brougham Hayes (marked TC on the map).

Bishop's Message for February

What it means to be living Lent



**From the Rt Revd Ruth Worsley,
Bishop of Taunton**

We've got one of our lovely sons and daughters-in-law living with us at the moment. It's great – for me at least. (I've never had to live with my mother-in-law, so can't speak for Danielle!) I find myself coming home to dinner on the table, the house swept clean and my cupboards all neatly rearranged. We've even got a newly painted downstairs loo! And we are having some really good conversations, sharing our hopes and dreams.

This month sees us enter Lent, the season of reflection as we trace Jesus' footprints and walk the road to the cross. It's an opportunity for us to do some clearing out. We empty our cupboards of the rich foods, beating up the batter of our pancakes, in preparation for a more abstemious few weeks.

However, living Lent is more than

merely attending to our diets but rather making room to reflect on those aspects of our lives that need adjustment. Those things we need to bring into God's light for him to forgive, help us to turn from and find a new way of being. This means doing more than just rearranging the shelves. It requires us to rid ourselves of those things that hold us back from God's call on our lives. What might that mean for you this Lent? What needs to go?

But it's not just about taking bags of old and unwanted items down to the recycling bank. It's also about how we form hopes and dreams for the future. How we look beyond the "now" to "what might be". How we move into a new resurrection, a renewal of life beyond the cross.

Many of us make plans, whether it's for this weekend or for our children's long-term future. How many of us seek out what God's plan might be for us? We will be hearing something of how Jesus "set his face towards Jerusalem" this Lent. How he walked towards what he must have sensed as imminent danger. But he did so in obedience to his father, not knowing what might be the outcome but expectant that the will of his father would be fulfilled.

At that moment in the Garden of Gethsemane Jesus seemingly faltered. "If it be your will, take this cup from me," he prays. However, it was only through the cross that resurrection hope, new possibilities could be revealed. What future are you seeking? God's will to be revealed? Or have you mapped it all out already?

+Ruth Taunton

This month's charity: USPG Malawi project

The loose collection in the plate on Sunday 11 February, plus an optional retiring collection for the rest of the month, will go to the USPG Malawi project. (Donations in collection envelopes will continue to go to Christ Church.)

Rebekah Cunningham writes:

As the Christ Church USPG link person I'm delighted that we're taking on a regular link with a new project that USPG is starting in Malawi, one of twelve projects in their Partners in Mission scheme (have a look at www.uspg.org.uk/support/pim if you want to find out more). The projects are a new venture this year and we are one of the first churches to become involved.

Malawi in SE Africa is one of the world's poorest and least developed countries depending mainly on agriculture. It's landlocked and one of Africa's smallest countries, with a third of its area occupied by Lake Malawi. It has a low life expectancy and high infant mortality, and HIV/AIDS is a major problem.

USPG will be involved in four parishes focussing on low-income households and particularly girls of school-going age, aiming to reach over a thousand households. The plan is for these households to pass on what they have learned to at least five other neighbouring households in the following areas:

- Income improvement
- Adoption of sustainable farming practices
- Increased school enrolment for girls
- Improved hygiene/sanitation
- Improved prevention and care for HIV/AIDS



I think that this link will have several benefits for us at Christ Church.

- It reminds us that we at Christ Church are part of the Body of Christ, the worldwide church, and our church giving is a way of building up and feeling a part of that relationship.
- It enables feedback to be received and means that a two-way relationship is formed, which should strengthen with time.
- It shows to newcomers and visitors (via a dedicated notice board) that we are an outward looking church.
- It is potentially a way of involving the children.

I worked for a short time in Africa many years ago and know how much this kind of link is appreciated, by both indigenous and expatriate workers.

We would like very much, rather than rely on generous loose change giving, to encourage people to consider taking out a regular direct debit to USPG for this project. If ten households committed to giving £5 by monthly direct debit, this would amount to £600 per year that we could commit to. Individual direct debits can be amalgamated by USPG and recognised as coming from Christ Church, and they will send us a yearly total of all we have given. They will also send us regular updates, including news, photos and prayer requests.

Please speak to me if you would like to know more or would like a direct debit form, and look at the display at the back of church.

Jonah-Man Jazz

St Andrew's School will be performing Jonah-Man Jazz at Christ Church in March (date to be confirmed) and would like to invite soprano and alto voices and selected instrumentalists to join them. If you'd like to be involved, have a word with Mark Elliott, our musical director.

Christ Church calendar Feb. 2018

	1	Thu	Eucharist, 11am, followed by coffee
	2	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm
	4	Sun	<i>The Second Sunday before Lent</i>
	6	Tue	<i>Accession of Queen Elizabeth II, 1952</i>
	8	Thu	Eucharist, 11am, followed by coffee Pilgrim Group meeting, continuing study of Acts, 7:30pm
	9	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm
	11	Sun	<i>The Sunday next before Lent</i> 8am Holy Communion (BCP)
	13	Tue	<i>Shrove Tuesday</i>
	14	Wed	<i>Ash Wednesday</i> 7pm Holy Communion with Ashing
	15	Thu	Eucharist, 11am, followed by LMG Lent lunch Christ Church Trustees meeting, 7:30pm
	16	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm
	18	Sun	<i>The First Sunday of Lent</i> 4:30pm Choral Evensong
	22	Thu	Eucharist, 11am, followed by LMG Lent lunch Pilgrim Group meeting, 7:30pm
	23	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm
	25	Sun	<i>The Second Sunday of Lent</i>
Mar	1	Thu	<i>David, patron of Wales</i> Eucharist, 11am, followed by LMG Lent lunch
	2	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm
	4	Sun	<i>The Third Sunday of Lent</i> Bath Half Marathon – watch for road closures and diversions Christ Church rostered to assist at Genesis Sunday Centre

Got something you want to let everyone know about? Pop a note in the “Magazine Editor” pigeonhole at the back of church or send an e-mail with all the details to magazine@christchurchbath.org. For the weekly notice sheet, e-mail notices@christchurchbath.org

Prayer Cycle for February 2018

Thursday	1	For good relations between different faiths
Friday	2	For the homeless
Saturday	3	For the work of Genesis
Sunday	4	For Alex and Malcolm our Churchwardens
Monday	5	For those who care for the sick
Tuesday	6	We give thanks for our blessings
Wednesday	7	For our plans for the church building
Thursday	8	For all at school
Friday	9	For all who face tragedy
Saturday	10	For the work of the Mothers' Union
Sunday	11	For all clergy taking services at Christ Church
Monday	12	For those who work in the transport industry
Tuesday	13	For our charity of the month
Wednesday	14	That we may have a spirit of penitence
Thursday	15	We give thanks for those who enrich our lives
Friday	16	For those with addictions
Saturday	17	For countries affected by the economic downturn
Sunday	18	For our Diocese of Bath & Wells
Monday	19	For scientists and engineers
Tuesday	20	For our Church Council
Wednesday	21	That we may be peacemakers
Thursday	22	For good relationships between the nations
Friday	23	For those in slavery or bonded labour

Saturday	24	For the chaplaincies at Bath's Universities
Sunday	25	For our link Dioceses in Zambia
Monday	26	For the Fairtrade movement
Tuesday	27	We give thanks for beauty in creation
Wednesday	28	For adoptive and foster families

Long-term Prayer List

Please remember those we've been asked to pray for...

John Burrows
David Slater
Maxine Hobday
Keith Warren and Jean
Katharine

Rose Brown
Donatella Phillips
Harry Pattullo
Joyce Fairburn

Want to add a name to the prayer list, either long-term or short-term, or remove one? Please use the lists at the back of the church, or let the Verger or one of the Churchwardens know.

Other LMG services

These are the regular services at our Local Ministry Group sister churches:

Sundays

- 9am Eucharist, Charlcombe St Mary's
- 10:45am Choral Communion or informal communion, St Stephen's Lansdown
- 6:30pm Evensong (BCP), Charlcombe St Mary's – 3rd Sunday of the month

Morning Prayer

- Monday 8:45am St Stephen's
- Tuesday 9am Charlcombe St Mary's
- Saturday 9:30am St Stephen's

Bishops' Lent Appeal 2018

The Bishops' Lent Appeal is now in its second year. Last year, through the generosity of individuals and churches, it raised over £16,000 to support refugees in Somerset and Greece. 2018 marks 40 years of the Bath and Wells companion link with the five Anglican dioceses of Zambia and, for that reason, this year the Bishops' Lent Appeal will raise money to support Lay Ministry in Somerset and Zambia. Churches and individuals can help by:

- Praying for lay ministry
- Engaging with the appeal
- Donating to the appeal

See more at <http://bit.ly/bishops-appeal-2018>

Rotas for February 2018

Readers and readings, Sunday 10am Eucharist

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
4 Feb 2nd before Lent	Emma Elliott Proverbs 8:1,22-31	Janet Mahto Colossians 1:15-20	Charles Rice John 1:1-14
11 Feb Next be- fore Lent	Malcolm Wall 2 Kings 2:1-12	Judith Anderson 2 Corinthians 4:3-6	Clive Tilling Mark 9:2-9
18 Feb Lent 1	Brenda Wall Genesis 9:8-17	Nick Wells 1 Peter 3:18-end	Jude Bishop Mark 1:9-15
25 Feb Lent 2	Richard Gabe Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16	Alex Soboslay Romans 4:13-end	Robin Kerr Mark 8:31-end
4 March Lent 3	Jane Fletcher Exodus 20:1-17	Virginia Knight 1 Corinthians 1:18-25	Morny Davison John 2:13-22

Laitry rota, Sunday 10am Eucharist

	Chalice assistants	Sidespeople	Intercessions
4 Feb	David Rawlings, Brenda Wall	Jonathan Stead, Margaret Silver	Penny Edwards
11 Feb	Keri Chivers, Janet Mahto	Jane Nicholson, Morny Davison	Nick Wells
18 Feb	Clive Tilling, David Rawlings	Janet Mahto, Margaret Silver	Sarah Jones
25 Feb	Brenda Wall, TBC	Morny Davison, Jonathan Stead	Rebekah Cunningham
4 March	Janet Mahto, Clive Tilling	Sylvia Ayers, Ken Ayers	Jonathan Stead

Who's who at Christ Church

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Revd Canon Simon Tatton-Brown
Revd Narinder Tegally

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Ringing Master** Will Willans

Tower Secretary Ian Hay Davison
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bells@christchurchbath.org

Steeple Keeper David Kelly

Laity rotas (acting) Judith Bishop

Prayer cycle Virginia Knight

Junior Church Emma Elliott

Cedar Tree café organiser Janet Mahto

**Churches Together in Bath,
USPG** Rebekah Cunningham

Traidcraft orders Chris Tanner
Judith Bishop

Mission to Seafarers Sylvia Ayers

Deanery Synod Reps Sarah Kerr
Jane Nicholson
Brenda Wall

Christ Church Link

This magazine is published on the first Sunday of each month. Please send any contributions of news and articles by the 15th of the preceding month to the editor, Alex Soboslay, or by e-mail to magazine@christchurchbath.org



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

About Christ Church

*We're a liberal, inclusive and open church,
seeking God through beauty in our worship, honesty
in our faith and doubt, and support in our community*

Christ Church has an unusual history, out of which has developed a distinctive ministry. It was founded at the end of the 18th century by a group of socially concerned clergy and lay people for those excluded from worship through the system of pew rents. It was probably the first church in England since the Reformation to provide seating for all free of charge. Early supporters included: John Moore, the Archbishop of Canterbury; William Wilberforce, the great evangelical and campaigner against slavery; and Martin Stafford Smith, godfather of John Keble, a founder of the Oxford Movement.

Christ Church is not a parish church and does not have a full-time vicar. This has led to the development of a shared ministry where clergy and laity both make important contributions to worship and church life.

Christ Church is part of the Anglican diocese of Bath and Wells, although it still sits outside the normal Church of England parish system. We see ourselves as a traditional and liberal Anglican church. Worship is led by our clergy, and music is provided by our

robed choir and organist. There is the option of separate activities for children in Junior Church groups during our 10am Sunday service.

As well as worship on Sunday and Thursday mornings, there are many other activities going on in our community. We support the Genesis Sunday Centre and have our own community café. The musical tradition of the church continues to thrive, and we have an active choir; new singers of all ages are always very welcome. Our ecumenical Pilgrim Group provides a space for exploration and discussion of faith in an open and non-judgemental setting.

Regular Sunday services

- 8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
On the second Sunday of every month
- 10am Sung Eucharist with Junior Church activities for children and young people
Every Sunday
- 4:30pm Choral Evensong
Usually on the third Sunday of every month, but see website or notice board for details

Baptisms, marriages and funerals by arrangement – please contact us!



Contacting us

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