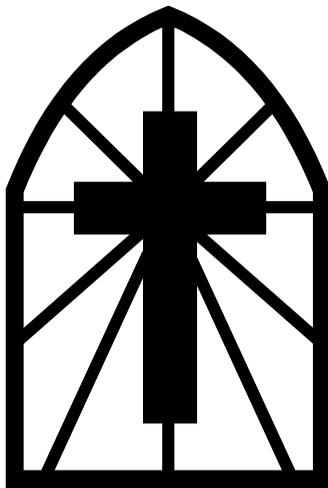


CHRIST
CHURCH
CHALLENGE



October 2009

CHRIST CHURCH, JULIAN ROAD
DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Family Communion, Junior Church & Crèche
First Sundays & Festivals	Choral Evensong and Sermon at 4.30pm
Other Sundays	Said Evening Prayer at 5.30pm

There is amplification to assist the hard of hearing

CHOIR

Junior Choir Practice	Friday 6.30pm - 8.00pm
Adult Practice	Friday 7.30pm - 9.00pm

New singers always welcome - please contact Director of Music 01225 445360

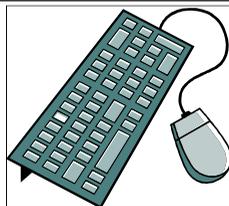
BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES, FUNERALS

By arrangement. Please 'phone the Vestry 338869 / Officiating Minister 427462

Angela and Chris, the churchwardens, would like to know about people who are ill, or of any circumstances in which the ministry of the Church would be welcome.

Forum...

All is safely gathered in. But what's it all about?



This edition of the magazine will be published on the day of our harvest celebrations. Our distant ancestors knew about thanksgiving, which is why some forms of celebration have been held for millennia. At first, people made sacrifices to various gods and goddesses, often in the form of an animal, which was killed for the purpose or by burning fruits vegetables and cereals.

In Old Testament times two harvest festivals were celebrated. There was one called Shavuot, which was held in either May or June after the cereal crops were gathered. The other, Succoth, was celebrated as a general festival commemorating the Exodus.

The Harvest Festival is one of the most popular in the Christian calendar. Yet there is no order of service for it—not even in the Book of Common Prayer. The reason is simple: it is a relatively new invention. It was the idea of a Reverend Rev R. S. Hawker, who in 1843 at Morwenstow in North Cornwall, created a special service to celebrate the bringing in of the crops. The idea soon caught on in rapidly industrialising Victorian Britain where increasing numbers of people were being cut off from the cycle of nature by living in the expanding cities. From its beginning it has been a romantic festival and, in a sense, we use it to get back to our rural roots.

At Christ Church we bring gifts of the land—whether wheat, bread, grapes, vegetables, eggs, pasta, baked beans or whatever—to lay on the altar as a thanksgiving.

However, the issue is not that simple. In Matthew's Gospel (5:23-24) Jesus said:

So, then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering.

There is little doubt that the way we live and the demands we make on our environment today mean we are not reconciled with our brothers and sisters of creation. In the western world we take more than our share of the fruits of the good earth. And there is the issue of what is happening to the planet.

Our farming methods kill and hurt countless creatures through insecticides, chemicals and factory farming of various kinds. Our desire for cheap fuel has produced acid rain and our use of the oceans as rubbish dumps has meant that life everywhere is affected by pollution. In this context, how can we bring the Harvest gifts before the altar without first seeking reconciliation with nature?

So let us at harvest time seek reconciliation with nature and God, so that we can, as Isaiah says:

Shout for joy, you heavens, for Yahweh has been at work! Shout aloud, you earth below! Shout for joy, you mountains, And you, forest and all your trees! For Yahweh has redeemed Jacob and displayed his glory in Israel.

Isaiah 44:23

Antony

Going on with our best wishes



The time has come for some of our young people to move on. Alice Pont is going right away to Birmingham University. We shall miss her but the good news is that she has promised to come back to us at the end of term.

Sophie Smith is moving on but not as far. She has taken up a place at Bath Spa University and will continue to sing in our choir.

Still at school but moving on, in a sense, is Alexander Soboslay. He achieved excellent results in his GCSE examinations and was admitted to his school Sixth Form to study A Levels.

All three move on with our good wishes and prayers for a happy and successful future.

Church Calendar for October

Oct	4	Sun	HARVEST FESTIVAL	
			10.30am	Holy Communion followed by Harvest Lunch
			3.00pm	Choral Evensong
	6	Tue	WILLIAM TYNDALE, Translator, Reformation Martyr	
	9	Fri	11.00am	The Cedar Tree Community Café
	11	Sun	EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
			Church duty at Genesis Lunch Box	
	12	Mon	ELIZABETH FRY, Reformer	
			EDITH CAVELL, Nurse	
	13	Tues	ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR	
	15	Thur	ST TERESA OF AVILA	
	16	Fri	NICHOLAS RIDLEY and HUGH LATIMER, Bishops	
			11.00am	The Cedar Tree Community Café
	17	Sat	ST IGNATIUS of Antioch	
	18	Sun	ST LUKE	
	21	Wed	7.30pm	Church Council Meeting
	23	Fri	11.00am	The Cedar Tree Community Café
	25	Sun	LAST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
	26	Mon	ALFRED THE GREAT	
	28	Wed	SIMON AND JUDE, Apostles	
	30	Fri	11.00am	The Cedar Tree Community Café
	31	Sat	MARTIN LUTHER, Reformer	
Nov	1	Sun	ALL SAINTS DAY	
			Travelling Light arrives from Manvers Street	

.org...see our website for latest details...www.christchurchbath.org...see o

Laity Rota for October

		OT Readers	NT Readers	Gospel
October	4	David Bishop	No reading	Jane Fletcher
	11	Margaret Heath	Sylvia Ayers	Judith Anderson
	18	Sarah Cade	No reading	Judith Bishop
	25	Emma Elliott	Richard Gabe	Bev Pont
November	1	Matthew Jones	No reading	Eileen Selmes
	8	Martin Palmer	Nicky Gladstone	Bob Siderfin

Chalice Assistants

October	4	Tessa Claridge	Bev Pont
	11	Margaret Burrows	Margaret Heath
	18	Janet Mahto	Jane Fletcher
	25	Penny Edwards	Bob Siderfin
November	1	Andrew Sillett	Tessa Claridge
	8	Bev Pont	Margaret Burrows

Intercessors

October	4	Rev Antony Claridge
	11	Mark Elliott
	18	Martin Palmer
	25	Penny Edwards
November	1	Bev Pont
	8	David Marles



Sidespeople		8am	10am
October	4	Arthur Jones	Ken & Sylvia Ayers
	11	Clive Tilling	Andrew Sillett Janet Mahto
	18	Arthur Jones	Morny Davison Margaret Heath
	25	Clive Tilling	Tessa Claridge Emma Elliott
November	1	Arthur Jones	Margaret Silver Frank Twissell
	8	Clive Tilling	Ken & Sylvia Ayers

Lectionary for October

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
Oct 4	Harvest Festival		
	Joel 2.21-27	No reading	Matthew 6.25-33
11	Trinity 18		
	Amos 5.6-7, 10-17	Hebrews 4.12-16	Mark 10.17-31
18	St Luke		
	Isaiah 35.3-6	No reading	Luke 10.1-9
25	Last Sunday after Trinity		
	No reading	2 Timothy 3.14-4.5	John 5.36b-47
Nov 1	All Saints Sunday		
	Isaiah 25.6-9	No reading	John 11.32-44

Mothers Union News

We will hold our annual Branch Collection for the Women's Refuge Appeal on Sunday 18th and 25th, and items can also be accepted during that week. It is still a regrettable fact that some of the women and children arrive at the Refuge with nothing but the clothes they stand up in, so anything in this line, particularly children's-wear, that we can give them will be very welcome. At any one time up to eight families can be welcomed in the house, and they are all told about the support given by the MU, which is where YOU come in.



If you think you can donate something, there is an on-going need for practical items: light bulbs, scourers, disinfectant, toilet cleaners, washing machine and dishwasher powders, washing-up liquid, household cleaners, soap, toilet rolls, cloths, dusters, polish, tea, coffee, tinned goods, pasta, etc. If *you* use it at home, *they need it too!*

We are sure that you will all want to support this worthwhile endeavour, so we invite each member of the congregation to give us at least one item on those Sundays. Be assured that every gift is very warmly welcomed by those in the Refuge, so do please be generous.

Sylvia M Ayers (MU Secretary)

Fresh Expressions

On various occasions, in discussions with various people, the subject of an extra-curricular activity for "grown-ups" (careful—I'm using that term as loosely as I dare!) at Christ Church has arisen. Now, either it's simply a deep-down feeling that really, one should be doing something worthy and holy with those one worships with on a Sunday, or this is a real area where we as a community might want to focus our attention. In either case, it seems to me to be a point worth considering.



To be fair, we did have a very successful time during Lent, where a small, dedicated team of crack philosophers debated the ins and outs of "New world, Old Faith", with a little help from some amateurs like the Archbishop of Canterbury.



And it's on the back of these that a few of us have got our heads together, and have decided to start a "home group". Now, before I get drowned out by the cries of "what exactly does that entail?", let me simply say... We're not totally sure just yet. That's why we're planning a series of experimental evenings over the course of this term to explore what might be useful to all of us, as a spiritual community.

Matthew and Sarah Jones and I would be delighted to invite all and sundry to join us on Tuesday evenings, once a fortnight, at the Jones residence. We are planning a short series of a number of different formats of gathering, ideally to try and define what it is that we collectively feel we lack as a community.

The intention is that, for the time leading up to Christmas, we try combinations of topical studies, bible studies and prayer groups. Whilst some of these may seem intimidating, or even not everybody's cup of tea, we'd love to encourage as many people as can make it to come along, and help us to shape this into a group which can help us all to build our friendships, and our fellowship as a church.



So, please join us at the Jones's

77 Brookfield Park, Weston, BA1 4JJ

01225 443284

7:30 on Tuesday 20th October

No need to sign-up, book-in or anything else.
Just come along, and let's get cracking!

Lewis

Churches Together in Bath Notes from Meeting on September 17th

The meeting opened with a reading and a prayer, and as the Chairman was absent, no report was available. The CTB Central Secretary, David Twine, said that the CTB now has a new Website, bathchurches.org.uk, through which he hoped to maintain a more immediate contact with all Bath Churches. He will also continue to publish the quarterly newsletter for distribution to all congregations, the next edition being imminent. One member voiced her continuing concern about the plight of Christians in Iran and distributed their Newsletter, which is now on the Church Shelf.

In November the three dates to remember are the arrival of the Travelling Light at Christ Church on November 1st; the Road Peace Service at 4.30pm on November 15th, which will this year be held at Christ Church; and the World Aids Day event on Thursday November 26th at Holy Trinity Queen Square, which will consist of a Candle Lighting Ceremony, to be followed by a Procession.

Under Any Other Business, David Twine confirmed that there were no proposals to disband CTB, but still urged us to think of ourselves as Christians first, and members of individual churches second. He commended the various activities in which we already co-operate, such as Genesis, Open Christmas, Street Pastors and the Soup Run, most of which are organised by individuals. However, he hoped more Churches would run joint Lent Courses, and participate more fully in the Good Friday event. In connection with this, next year there will be a presentation as opposed to an address, and the following year he is hoping to put on a dramatic re-enactment of the Passion Story.

The Central Zone committee will hold its next meeting on November 10th in the newly decorated Hall at St Mary, Julian Road. If any member of the Congregation has a subject they would like us to raise at this meeting, do please let me know.

*Sylvia M Ayers
CTB Representative
Central Zone*

*Are you thinking about who might come
for Christmas this year?*

Perhaps you would like to make it a bit different.

Some of the adults from overseas who are currently studying at UK universities would love to spend a couple of days in a real home, rather than on a deserted campus. It is interesting to share Christmas with people for whom it is all quite new (many international students are from China, for example).

HOST has been linking students with hospitable volunteers for 22 years, at Christmas and also one-off weekends throughout the year. HOST is a registered charity backed by the Foreign Office and many universities. It is not necessary for hosts to live near a university, as students are prepared to travel far for this unique experience!

See www.hostuk.org or call HOST's voluntary regional organiser, Margaret Astridge on 01458 251699.

Thank you!

A Friend



In Deed

The Christ Church Friends in Deed scheme is designed to provide a network of good neighbours who have volunteered to do the neighbourly things we used to do for each other when we lived closer together. When the need arises, they are prepared on request to:

- make friendship visits or telephone calls
- do shopping at times of illness or infirmity
- offer or find sources of advice
- handle occasional non-specialist odd jobs

All areas in which church members live are covered by the Friends in Deed scheme. If you need or know of someone else who needs help, you should in the first instance contact the Friends in Deed Co-ordinators, Jane Fletcher (01225 463758) and Yvonne Morris (01225 425555). They will then get in touch with the local contact best able to provide the help that is needed.

All our yesterdays

For the final time this year we dip into the archives for a taste of life at Christ Church at the end of the nineteenth century.

In the year 1899, Queen Victoria celebrated her Diamond Jubilee. She ruled over a vast empire. At this time, Britain's power and prosperity was at its zenith. For some this was not enough. The High Commissioner of Cape Colony in South Africa, Alfred Milner, certainly wanted more. He wanted to gain for the Empire the economic power of the gold mines in the Dutch Boer republics of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State.

Milner's ambitions precipitated a war with the Boers. As always, over-confident generals and politicians predicted the war would be 'over by Christmas' (the first time that phrase was used).

The war lasted for two and a half years. During that time, disaster was piled on disaster and military careers were destroyed. More than 22,000 British soldiers fell in the heat and dust of the veldt.

At the end of 1899, the Vicar of Christ Church, the Revd B Norton Thompson, wrote a patriotic New Year message. In it he referred to the war and to disputes within the Church of England.

Both as a nation and as a Church we need to enter [the New Year] in a spirit of dependence upon the guiding hand of God. As a nation, we are engaged in a war, which, independently of the sorrows and anxieties which it must bring to thousands of English homes, must have a bearing on our future as an Empire. As a Church we are beset with entanglements, which it will require both faith and patience to unravel, and the outcome of which it is not easy to foresee. Times of trouble, however, if they have their anxieties, have also their advantages, in that they tend to bring out much that is best in human nature. And as the war in South Africa has had the effect of calling forth our patriotism, and binding us more closely together as a people, so also ought the unsettlement in the Church [*probably High Church versus Low Church disagreements*] to have the effect of making her members lay aside their minor difficulties and study more considerately her welfare as a whole.



Prayer Cycle for October

October

- Sun 4** For all being mistreated or suffering injustice. For all prisoners who are held without trial or without the protection of legal systems.
- Mon 5** For Judith, who prepares our weekly notice sheet.
- Tues 6** For those affected by natural disasters, wars, famine or drought.
- Wed 7** For our Trustees, and for Mark, their chairman.
- Thurs 8** For Angela, our Verger.
- Fri 9** For Mark, our Director of Music and David, our Organist. For our choir.
- Sat 10** For all the children in our congregation. For those who lead the Junior Church.
- Sun 11** For the work of Genesis amongst the homeless and needy in Bath; for those helping at the Lunch Box today.
- Mon 12** For the University Ecumenical Chaplaincy Centre, for Angela the University Chaplain, and for all the chaplains.
- Tues 13** For David, our Treasurer and magazine editor.
- Wed 14** For our Clergy Team
- Thurs 15** For Cyril and Mark our Readers.
- Fri 16** For the work of the Cedar Tree. For Nicky and all the helpers.
- Sat 17** On the eve of St Luke's Day, we pray for our hospitals, nursing homes and local surgeries and for those who work for the emergency services.
- Sun 18** In the Churches Together in Bath rota, we pray for the people and leaders of Nexus Methodist Church.
- Mon 19** For children being bullied at school. For parents who worry about them and do not know how to help.

- Tues 20** For the staff, pupils and governors of St Andrew's and St Stephen's schools.
- Wed 21** For those who serve on Church Council and for their meeting tonight.
- Thurs 22** In this One World Week, we pray for a world in which human beings may enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want.
- Fri 23** For Rowan our Archbishop and for Peter our Bishop. For all Anglican Bishops and Primates.
- Sat 24** For Margaret and Andrew, our Deanery Synod representatives
- Sun 25** For the work of the Mother's Union around the world. For our own branch at Christ Church. For the Women's Refuge Centre.
- Mon 26** For all our readers, chalice assistants, intercessors and sidespeople. For the witness they bear. For Sarah, who draws up the Rotas.
- Tues 27** For those who care for our church building, arrange the flowers and prepare for our services.
- Wed 28** For the work of USPG in general, and especially for St Anne's Hospital, Lake Malawi.
- Thurs 29** For Chris and Lewis, our church wardens.
- Fri 30** For our LMG partners, St Stephen's and St Mary's Charlcombe.
- Sat 31** Let us thank God for the blessings of the month now ending.
- November**
- Sun 1** For those whose lives shine as a light for us; for all who have helped us walk in the truth and love of God.
- Mon 2** For those we love; for those who love us, in this world and the next.

O Lord hear my prayer

Christians Together in a Spiritual Age

Saturday, 17 October 2009

10.00 am – 3.45 pm

Locking Castle Church, Weston Super Mare

Keynote Speakers

Revd David Grosch-Miller Moderator, South Western Synod,
United Reformed Church

Steve Hollinghurst Church Army Evangelist

Somerset Churches Together invites you to our Autumn Forum and offers you an inspiring day of worship, teaching, and practical workshops.

This year we are delighted to have Steve Hollinghurst with us, a leading national speaker and author on how, as Christians, we can engage with contemporary culture. In his role as researcher in evangelism for the Church Army, Steve is a great person to address our theme of Christians Together in a Spiritual Age.

The day offers lots of opportunities for networking and encouragement. We will set the scene of what is happening ecumenically across Somerset. We will hear stories from groups of local churches seeking to bring the gospel to people in their communities. In smaller workshops we will explore practical ideas for mission in our context. Coffee and lunch (both provided) will create welcome space to chat and meet old friends and new.

We pray that this will be a day of inspiration and challenge as we continue to work together for the growth of God's Kingdom.

Officiating Minister	The Rev Antony Claridge, 62 Cranwells Park, Weston, Bath BA1 2YE 01225 427462
Assistant Clergy	The Rev Cliff Burrows, Stonecroft, Entry Hill Drive, Bath BA2 5NL 01225 334743
Reader / Director of Music	Mark Elliott, 32 Charlcombe Lane, Larkhall, Bath BA1 6NS 01225 445360
Reader / Magazine Distributor and Editor Emeritus	Cyril Selmes, 10 Daffords Buildings, Larkhall, Bath BA1 6SG 01225 420039
Churchwarden	Chris Gladstone, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BA1 7QE 01225 859969
Churchwarden / Christian Aid	Lewis Boyd, 5 Jesse Hughes Court, Lower Swainswick, BA1 7BE 01225 329190
Verger	Angela Soboslay, 285 Newbridge Road, Bath BA1 3HN 01225 333297
Church Council Secretary	David Bishop, The Old Tannery, Turleigh, Bradford on Avon, BA15 2HG 01225 869409
Treasurer to the Trustees / Magazine Editor	David Marles, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BA1 7QE 01225 859969
Chairman of the Trustees	Yvonne Morris, 3 Summerhill Road, Sion Hill, Bath BA1 2UP. 01225 425555
Secretary to the Trustees	Nicky Gladstone, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BA1 7QE 01225 859969
Deanery Synod / Laity Rotas / Junior Church	Sarah Cade, 2 Mortimer Close, Bath BA1 4EN 07983 556759
Deanery Synod / Churches Together in Bath (CTB)	Margaret Heath, St Lawrence, Lansdown Road, Bath BA1 5TD 01225 428272
Deanery Synod	Andrew Sillett
Mothers' Union (MU)	Margaret Burrows, Stonecroft, Entry Hill Drive, Bath BA2 5NL 01225 334743
CTB / MU Secretary & Treasurer / Missions to Seafarers / Calendar	Sylvia Ayers, 5 Forester Avenue, Bath BA2 6QD 01225 463976
USPG	Adrian Pegg, 68 London Road West, Bath BA1 7DA 01225 858809
Organist	David Wrigley, 3 Haydon Gate, Radstock, BA3 3RB 01761 439355
Concert and Bookings Co-ordinator / Weekly Notices	Judith Bishop, 01225 869409 Email concerts@christchurchbath.org

CHRIST CHURCH, JULIAN ROAD

DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

PAST HISTORY

Christ Church was built at the end of the 18th Century by the socially concerned clergy and lay people for those excluded from worship by the system of pew rents. It was probably the first church of that time to provide seating free of charge. Early supporters included the Archbishops of Canterbury and York; the great evangelical campaigner against slavery, William Wilberforce; Philip Pusey, the father of E B Pusey; and Martin Stafford Smith, the godfather of John Keble, who were both founders of the Oxford Movement. The building was designed by the famous Bath architect John Palmer, who was responsible for the completion of the Great Pump Room, Lansdown Crescent and St Swithin's, the parish church of Walcot. In November 1998, the congregation, friends and well-wishers from all over the world celebrated the bicentenary.

MINISTRY

Christ Church is unusual in not being a parish church. Much of the vitality of its life and worship derives from the fact that the congregation comes from all areas of the city and the surrounding districts. Whilst there is no full-time paid vicar, there is a non-stipendiary priest-in-charge, who leads a ministerial team of ordained and lay people. Worship at Christ Church largely reflects the traditions of those responsible for its foundation and the rich diversity of the Church of England as a whole. Thus, preaching and Bible-based teaching is firmly set within a liturgical setting which is best described as liberal and catholic.

SERVICES

The 8am Holy Communion is either Book of Common Prayer (1662) or Common Worship. At 10am the Eucharist is celebrated according to Common Worship. On the first Sunday of each month, there is a full Choral Evensong. A Junior Church and a Crèche cater for the children and young people who attend the 10am service. We hold special all-age services once a month and at festivals such as Easter, Christmas, Mothering Sunday and Harvest.

There are a variety of mid-week activities including Holy Communion at 11am every Wednesday during Lent, followed by lunch). The notice board and the weekly notice sheet provide details of discussion and prayer groups which are held at different times throughout the year. An all-age choir, which rehearses on Friday evenings maintains the much-admired music tradition at Christ Church.

CHURCH COMMUNICATIONS

Published on the first Sunday of every month, Christ Church Challenge brings news of the church locally, in the Diocese, and throughout the world. Our website is constantly updated and can be found at www.christchurchbath.org

**The deadline for articles for the magazine is the
15th of the preceding month.
Thank you.**