



Sunday 17th & 24th September 2023

A Note From **Your Vicar**

My brother has a new bike. It's a really fancy bike and I don't mind confessing that I am a bit jealous. Looking at the price of them online...I think I may have to remain jealous because I don't have enough of a commute to justify thousands of pounds worth of bicycle! It arrived last week and because it's one of those e-bikes he decided to cycle around the town in about 10 minutes.

Dropping into the park, I got to have a ride myself. It's been a long time since someone brought 'their bike over to play' but it was AMAZING and I can't remember smiling so widely. If you have ever played a video game it was like driving a race car across a speed boost, even the smallest pedal pushed you forward extra fast. This is quite marked at the beginning but then it is capped at 16mph, so when you reach that exalted speed, it stops helping and instead you are left to your own devices. I was told that 'you don't even get out of breath' but somehow, I managed to become out of puff...

Now my beloved brother can justify this bicycle because he commutes and prefers cycling to driving, works hard on long shifts etc...but there are lots of people that buy this sort

of newfangled thing as a bit of a toy. I know I would definitely fall into this category! How many have unused kayaks, 3d printers or drones stuffed into attics or garages.

Our entire economy is largely built upon people wanting more stuff than we probably need. Then there are whole industries of other people helping us to sell/get rid of stuff in order to relieve the stress caused by the things we don't really need! Stacey Solomon to the rescue! This is a strange situation. I'm reminded of the Dave Ramsey quote:

'We buy things we don't need; with money we don't have to impress people we don't like'.

Or as the old biblical command puts it 'do not covet'.

Turns out it's actually quite a difficult command for all of us to keep because stuff is really shiny and we can feel rather trapped into this cycle of consumption. The only real way to puncture it, is to subvert the whole process and give something meaningful away, to remind ourselves that 'our life does not consist in many possessions'. Now I wonder if I could get a new guitar....

God Bless
Nick

St George's **News**

ST GEORGE'S

PRAYER SHED

Colouring & **CONTEMPLATION**

**Thursday 21st
September
7.30 - 9pm**

An evening of colouring bible verses, contemplation, prayer and reflection together in the Prayer Shed

**For more info email:
karenjoanwilliams@gmail.com**



COLOURING & CONTEMPLATION

Thursday 21st September, 7.30 - 9pm

Join us in the Prayer Room for another evening of colouring Bible verses as a way to meditate on God's Word.

There are many beautiful designs to choose from and we will each pick one or two to colour. The aim is not to create great art, but to contemplate God's Word as we colour, and to rest in His presence. The evening will open and close with reflection and prayers, and will include music such as Taizé. Refreshments included.

Please email **karenjoanwilliams@gmail.com** to let her know if you are coming so she knows how many people to expect. Thanks so much.

PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED

Praise the Lord the holiday has arrived and just in time too. So the Parish Office will be flipping the door sign to closed (well, we don't actually have a door sign yet...but we will... just imagine there is one....) from **Thursday 14th Sept** and the sign will turn back to open on **Tuesday 26th September**.

I can but dream that by the time I return all the office building work will be completed but the reality is more likely that when I return it will be in even more of a "work in progress" than it already is. So when I say "OPEN" I mean that I am back working and can be contacted.

The Vicar and the Curate are still around and about though whilst I am off so do get in touch with them directly should you need them (check out the Who's Who page further on).

So, enjoy the cooler temperatures and probably a lot of rain (though that will more likely follow me than be here in Taunton) and I'll be in touch with you all when I am back!

Bethan x

ST GEORGE'S WILTON

Harvest On The Farm

SUNDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2023 11.00AM

CUTLIFFE FARM, SHERFORD, TAUNTON

Join us on the farm

With Worship led by our gospel band and choir.

**Let's celebrate the harvest
together!**

**Bring
yourselves,
your family and
your Harvest
donations
along!**



HARVEST IS COMING

It is already that time of year when we look to Harvest and we are delighted that we have been invited again to go to give thanks for the Harvest at our local parish farm - Cutcliffe Farm.

Like last year, on **Sunday 1st October** we will have our 9.30am Holy Communion Service as usual at Church for those of you not wishing to or able to join us at the Farm but our 11.00am service will not be on at the Hall but at the Farm - how exciting!

We would be delighted for as many of you as possible to join together to worship at the Farm with us and a great one to bring a friend along to or any families you may know!

There will be something there for the younger ones, we will have an expanded "choir" with our worship band and we're hoping to bring our Tuk Tuk along for refreshments and to join us for this special service.

We will be accepting harvest donations at both services, so please do read on to hear about what we're asking for to be donated further on in this NewsBoard.

FOOD WASTE NOT WANT NOT

It's been so so wonderful to have our Community Fridge finally open. We've certainly seen many more people "popping down" our way to go and take a look at and use our Fridge so hopefully in time, this will be a real asset to the Wilton and Sherford community.

We are so pleased to announce that last Friday we received our 5 Star Hygiene rating and huge thanks must go to Mervyn and the team for making this possible.

The sticker is now proudly displayed in the Shed.

Please do help us to spread the word - as Nick said to us today - we need to stress that this is about FOOD WASTE. If we can help to tackle food poverty then that is a brilliant bonus but the amount of food wasted is extraordinary and our Fridge is about us sharing what we have in our own fridges that we know will go to waste as we cannot use them in time and so sharing them with others. Equally it may mean being able to pop into the St G Fridge and see something ourselves that we may wish to use and so take home with us.

It's a Food Sharing place and space. You bring your cooking apples and I'll take them to make an apple crumble. I'll take along another time a cucumber I no longer need for a recipe but you may want one for a salad you're doing so you take that home..... SO **LET'S FOOD WASTE NOT WANT NOT** together!



ST GEORGE'S CHURCH
COMMUNITY FRIDGE
OPENING HOURS
**SUNDAYS, TUESDAYS,
WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS**
9.30am to 5.00pm
St George's Church Hall
Fons George
Taunton
TA1 1JX

OUR FRIDGE

- Bring Your Own Bag
- Help yourself to whatever food is there with a max of up to 5 items
- Food available will vary in quantity and description from day to day
- If you're bringing food to date, please weigh them and sign them in.
- Helping to tackle Food Waste and Food Poverty in the community

email: fridge@stgchurch.co.uk



WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN A HOMEGROUP?

There will be a new homegroup meeting fortnightly on **Monday evenings** starting on **October 16th**.

We will meet at Hilary McKegney's home in Sherford Road and it will be led by Michael and Hilary Hayes.

We will be looking together at the book of Colossians for the first few meetings

If you have never been to a homegroup before or are not sure what to expect or are interested in coming along then please chat to us for more information.

Michael and Hilary Hayes.

Email mhhayes@outlook.com or telephone 01823 444766.



Join one today for friendship and faith
Email carmen@stgchurch.co.uk

STROLL FOR THE SOUL

Next date for your diaries:

Thursday 5th October

- Autumn Stroll at Fyne Court.

Watch out for further details.....

*Jesus You Walk with Me -
Help Me to Walk with You*

SUPPORT LOCAL

After a long time stood there empty after a few Landlords had tried, it's brilliant to hear that The Vivary Arms is re-opening this weekend much to the delight of our Hospitality Coordinator Curate - Rob :) (who ran his college pub - The Badgers Pouch whilst doing his Ordination Training) as we would hope to be able to work together with them whenever we can.

It will be great to have the pub back open for the Parish - like us at St George's helping to create community so it would be great to support the pub and the new landlords if you can.

STARTING BACK THIS SUNDAY

YOUTH @11

COME JOIN THE YOUTH @11 TEAM

We're so pleased that we're able to offer **weekly Youth@11 Sessions** at our 11am Service, where we meet in the Church Hall and then head over to our new hangout - **The Prayer Shed**.

Drinks, snacks, games, videos, chats...and more...

But we'd really like for more help in our team

If you think you can help us either as a Leader or a Helper with this great group of young people and help to water those early sown seeds, do get in touch - even if just to find out more...

Contact Jay on his mobile 07817 172994

"start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."
Proverbs 22

IF YOU HAVE AN
ARTICLE FOR NEWSBOARD
PLEASE EMAIL BY WEDNESDAYS
@12PM
NEXT EDITION IS
FOR SUNDAY 1ST OCTOBER
EMAIL:
OFFICE@STGCHURCH.CO.UK

MOSSY CHURCH at St G's



We're excited to be relaunching Mossy Church for the new school year and we'd love for you to get involved too!

Mossy Church is an outdoor nature based group (similar to a "forest school model") which has been a brilliant way to engage with families in Taunton who we otherwise would not have at St G's as well as those in our church too. In the Bible it says that creation shows how amazing God is, so with that inspiration we have explored creation, engaged with each other and connected to the Creator through different themed sessions like bugs, birds, the seaside, hibernation, harvest and stargazing to name a few. We even had a special teddy abseiling fundraiser event

from the church tower! It's a really fun and relaxed group. Sometimes our sessions are for families with children aged 0-14 and sometimes they are 'Mini' Mossy sessions for those with 0-5's. The 0-5's sessions have been especially popular in recent times with 70+ people booking on each time!

We have some great sessions planned for the coming months, there's so much to explore in our wonderful world. However, in order for Mossy Church to continue running and broaden what we're able to offer, we desperately need your help. A number of the Mossy team have had to step back due to ill health, working hours and other commitments, so we need some more friendly folks to join the team who love nature.

Our sessions take place at various different times and days, both on weekdays and weekends so you could help at one or two of the sessions each term, it doesn't have to be all of them. If you'd like to know more about the Mossy Church group and serving on the team*, please email families@stgchurch.co.uk.

**All volunteers must complete St George's Safeguarding training and be DBS checked by our Safeguarding officer prior to helping.*

ST GEORGE'S WILTON
MINI Mossy Church
HARVEST, APPLES, ACORNS & SQUIRRELS!
For 0-5's @ 10-11.30am
On Tuesday 3rd October
FREE session to include...
* Squirrel scavenger hunt
* Rhymes & stories
* Nature based art & crafts
* Harvest sensory play
* Songs with toddler instruments
* & lots more!
Book your FREE place at
<https://mossyharvestapplesacornsandsquirrels.eventbrite.co.uk>



NEXT MOSSY CHURCH SESSION...

Our next session, just for families with 0-5's will explore all about harvest time, apples, acorns & squirrels.

You can book your free place at <https://mossyharvestapplesacornsandsquirrels.eventbrite.co.uk> and join us by the crackling campfire for some harvest fun!



CHARITY COLLECTION at St G's

Our Charity Collection....

**FOR CREATIONTIDE
WE'RE SUPPORTING
PRACTICAL ACTION**



"CREATIONTIDE" is the period in the annual church calendar, in September, which is dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of all life. The theme for this year is "Let Justice and Peace Flow". The prophet Amos cries out 'Let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never failing stream '. Amos 5.24.

We all know that the way we are treating the Earth is not as God intends - and that we are destroying the delicate balance of nature.. The urgency grows and we must make visible peace with the Earth and on the Earth, at the same time that justice calls us to repentance and a change of attitude and actions, and so we are called to join with that river of justice and peace, and to speak out with and for communities most impacted by climate injustice and the loss of biodiversity - and to care more for the Earth and it's people.

Therefore, for this year's 'Creationtide' we shall be making our retiring collections for " Practical Action " - a UK registered development charity dedicated to a world that works better for everyone, by supporting communities to develop ingenious, lasting and locally-owned low tech solutions for agriculture, water and waste management, climate resilience and clean energy. Then to share what works best with others so that many more people can work with and for their environment and conserve the natural resources that so many communities rely on - and which are increasingly under threat.

" Practical Action's " work over 50 years has shown that it is possible to design solutions that benefit both people and the planet. " Practical Action " has been nominated for an 'Earthshot' Prize in 2023 for it's work finding environmentally sound technologies to promote low carbon and climate resilient development. "



**Let Justice
and Peace Flow**
Season of Creation 2023

A Mighty River
Amos 5: 24

For Harvest this year we are collecting for Taunton Open Door, Taunton FoodBank and this year, if people would like to donate any fresh, chilled items then they will go towards our own St George's Church Community Fridge.

How wonderful is it that we now have an additional place to donate to with our own Fridge so anything that we receive that meets the requirements can go to our Community Fridge and anything else will go to two other fantastic local charities so please do donate what you can.

We will send out another list nearer the time, but for your information, please see below the list of items that we have been given for Open Door and FoodBank....

OPEN DOOR

FOOD

Tinned Food: Baked Beans, Tomatoes, Mushrooms, Peas, Beef, Ham, Custard

Basics: Cereals, Salt/pepper, Gravy Granules, Flour, Margarine/Spread, Cooking Oil

Drinks: Fruit Juice, Squash, Coffee, Long life Milk, Hot Chocolate Sugar

Sweet Things: Biscuits, Cakes, Sweets, Sauces, Mayonnaise, Ketchup, Brown Sauce

Snacks: Cuppa Soups, Crisps, Cereal Bars, Pot Noodles

NON-FOOD ITEMS

Washing Powder, Wet Wipes, Deodorant Clothing and footwear suitable for people aged 20-40 years (please check before taking to centre)

Office – A4 reams

FOODBANK

URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD ITEMS

Small Tins Cold Meat E.g. Ham, Corned Beef, Spam

Long Life Fruit Juice

Tinned Fruit

Sweets And Chocolate

Uht Dairy Milk

Clean Strong Carrier Bags

PLEASE NO MORE

Cereal

Baked Beans

Tea

Sanitary Items

Pet Food

Soya/Plant/Oat And Other Alternative Milk



Our Harvest Services will be on **Sunday 1st October** and we will have both our **9.30am** service as usual in the church for those who do not feel they can make it to our **11am Harvest Service which will take place at our local Parish farm - Cutliffe Farm.**

we can accept

✓ sealed packaged foods

✓ cheeses

✓ fresh fruit

✓ fresh vegetables

✓ table sauces

✓ pastry

✓ unopened pasteurised milk and yogurt

✓ unopened fruit juices

✓ salads



GIVE-A-LITTLE HELP-A-LOT

- If you have started coming to St George's regularly, or have been coming for some time but haven't yet done so, may I encourage you to **join our committed Christian Giving scheme** by completing a pledge form and possibly a standing order form. Just email office@stchurch.co.uk for Bethan to send you the form to complete.
- If you pay income tax, and have not already done so, please consider **Gift Aiding your giving**
- If you are putting your affairs in order and are considering making a will or revising an existing one, would you like to remember **St George's in your will?** It can make a huge difference to us.
- Another way to donate to the work of St George's, is via our **Give A Little page** which you can access on our website, Alternatively you can donate directly into our bank account using the following information and putting 'Donation' reference:
Account Name: **St George's Wilton Stewardship**
Account No: **59935227**
Sort Code **60-80-06**

Thank you so much!

wednesday prayer

A short time of worship and prayer
at 12.30pm each week in the
Prayer Shed.

ST GEORGE'S WILTON

OUR FORTNIGHT AHEAD

Sunday 17th September

9.30am Community Fridge

9.30am Holy Communion

11.00am Worship Service

Monday 18th September

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

10.00am Buggy Buddies

7.30pm Mens Shed

Tuesday 19th September

9.30am Community Fridge

Wednesday 20th September

9.30am Community Fridge

9.30am Stay and Play

12.30pm Prayer in the Prayer Shed

6.30pm Alpha Course

Thursday 21st September

7.30pm Colouring & Contemplation
in Prayer Shed

Friday 22nd September

9.30am Community Fridge

Sunday 24th September

9.30am Community Fridge

9.30am Holy Communion

11.00am Worship Service

Monday 25th September

10.00am Buggy Buddies

Tuesday 26th September

CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

9.30am Community Fridge

Wednesday 27th September

9.30am Community Fridge

9.30am Stay and Play

12.30pm Prayer in the Prayer Shed

6.30pm Alpha Course

Friday 29th September

9.30am Community Fridge

Who's **WHO**

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK WITH ANY OF OUR TEAM, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE OR GET IN TOUCH VIA EMAIL

Rev'd Dr Nick Griffin

Tel: 01823 774128

Email: nick@stgchurch.co.uk

Day Off: Fridays

Churchwardens

Peter Joyce 07761 407433

Di Vickery 07598 319163

Curate

Rev'd Rob Cromwell

Tel: 07889 452524

Email: rob@stgchurch.co.uk

Day Off: Fridays

Associate Minister

Rev'd Richard Kelley

Email: richard@stgchurch.co.uk

Worship Director

Chris Sampson

Email: chris@stgchurch.co.uk

Reader

Kate Taylor

Email: kate21taylor@icloud.com

Parish Administrator

Bethan Baigent

Tel: 01823 284253

Email: office@stgchurch.co.uk

Office Hours: Tues - Thurs 10-1pm

Safeguarding Officer

Jenny Norman

Email: safeguarding@stgchurch.co.uk

PCC Reps

Matt Norman

Paul Cole

Mary Carson

Pete Underwood

Laura Willetts

Katie Lanchbury

Families Coordinator

If you would like to find out more about what we have on for families here at St G's

Email families@stgchurch.co.uk

Pastoral Care Coordinator

Hilary McKegney

Email pastoral-care@stgchurch.co.uk

Digital and Technology Coordinator

Matt Norman

Email: matt@stgchurch.co.uk

Small Groups Coordinator

Carmen Cromwell

Email: carmen@stgchurch.co.uk

Community Fridge Coordinator

Mervyn Roberts

Email: fridge@stgchurch.co.uk

Hospitality Coordinator

Rob Cromwell

Email: rob@stgchurch.co.uk

Prayer Circle

To be in contact for confidential prayer amongst our Prayer Circle email:

prayer@stgchurch.co.uk

Christian Giving

Robin Stamp

Email: giving@stgchurch.co.uk

Electoral Roll Officer

Laurie Jeffery

Email: laurie.jeffery@sky.com

Deanery Synod Reps

Hilary Hayes

Hilary McKegney