



Fresh starts and blessings

From the priest-in-charge...

Revd Lore Chumbley writes:

This summer seems to have gone on for ever and even now, at the beginning of September, there is still warmth in the sun. As our young people return to school we invite them to bring their school bags to church to be blessed as they embark on a new school year.

Most of us will have memories of feeling excitement or dread at the thought of the return to school after the summer holidays – perhaps decades ago now. This year we are encouraged to build new memories of a fresh start both by welcoming the excitement of new starts and bringing something associated with our work to the 10am service on Sunday 4 September, so that our work can be blessed also.

I know someone who is planning to bring a garden trowel in celebration of the time that they are able to spend in the garden. Others might bring a laptop or a mixing bowl – whatever you bring, it is hallowed by being enabled to participate. The pause to receive the blessing may be what matters most.

A couple of weeks later we will celebrate harvest both figuratively, with our Harvest Festival service on Sunday 18 September, and practically with a shared lunch and a chance to help pick the apple harvest in Janet's garden.

At this time of year the harvest in gardens and allotments reminds us that the fruits we bring home so proudly as food are also the seeds of next year's harvest. "Except a seed fall into the ground and die it cannot bear

fruit, but if it die it will bear much fruit." The hard-won academic achievements of our young people and the discipline of attending a workplace as an adult – both require a conscious prioritising of time and effort towards a long-term goal.

As our school bags, bicycles, laptops, trowels and – I hope – many other things are blessed, we are given the chance to review our lives in the light of Christ's command to love God and each other. Like the love of Christ and the warmth of this summer's sun, may we grow together in love and commitment.



Thursday 29 September this year is the feast of St Michael and All Angels. On the Sunday before, 25 September, at our 10am Eucharist, we will be delighted to welcome Bishop Ruth to Christ Church to dedicate our new St Michael Chapel. It will also be an opportunity for us to express our thanks to Bishop Ruth for all she has done in the Diocese of Bath and Wells during the vacancy following the retirement of Bishop Peter.

From our bell-ringers

Maggie Willans writes:

Recently the bell-ringers at Christ Church got an upgrade to their facilities for teaching new ringers... and this now means that all eight bells can be rung with the clappers tied, so there is no noise outside but we get computer-generated sound in the ringing chamber! It is not quite the same as “real ringing” but it is jolly good fun, and we don’t have to worry about disturbing the neighbours with too much ringing outside of our usual Saturday morning practice and ringing for the service on Sunday. We can teach new ringers and not drive everyone mad with constant “ping... ping... ping... ping” sounds outside.

We were so excited about it that we decided to share it, and in August invited ringers from other local towers to book an evening at Christ Church to try our bells out. As many people are on holiday, it seemed a good way to deal with the problem of “so many people are away, we don’t have enough to practice...” Because with our new simulator, if you want to ring all eight bells but only have seven ringers present, the computer will fill in the sound of an eighth bell for you!

In addition, a week of sessions was organised to give ringers from other towers the opportunity to refine some of the physical techniques for ringing a bell. It isn’t very easy, you see, and takes numerous lessons to get the hang of how to make a bell sound exactly when you want it to. Often people don’t get enough time to work on the techniques because we are worried that the neighbouring area might not like the sound – but that’s not going to be a problem at Christ Church.

We are hoping the invitations to ringers from other churches will encourage them to be enthusiastic about their ringing, teach some more ringers for their “home” tower, and make friends with ringers from other churches. So that we can all have more fun together, and keep the sound of English change-ringing coming from our towers!

Circuit of Bath Walk



This year’s Circuit of Bath Walk in aid of Julian House takes place on Sunday 25 September. The event is now in its 21st year. Challenge yourself to take on the full 20-mile route, or a distance of your choosing, and raise sponsorship to help the many men and women experiencing homelessness and escaping domestic abuse across the South West.

The circuit takes in beautiful countryside, villages and spectacular views across the historic city. There are routes to suit most abilities and ages, even a designated pushchair route along the canal for young families. Dogs are welcome. Everyone who completes the full 20-mile route will receive a special commemorative medal to mark their achievement.

Your entry fee goes towards the costs of organising the walk, but it’s the money you raise through sponsorship that will help support vulnerable men, women and children in the care of Julian House. Find out more at www.circuitofbathwalk.co.uk.

Coming events

Harvest Thanksgiving & Apple Picking

What is it? Our Harvest Festival celebrations will take place at our 10am Eucharist followed by Apple Picking in Janet Mahto’s garden. As last year, we are invited to bring our own picnic. Janet will provide liquid refreshment.

When is it? Sunday 18 September

Where? Service at Christ Church, then Apple Picking at Granville Lodge, Weston Road, Bath BA1 2XU.

Generosity Week

September is the time of year when we celebrate Harvest, or Creationtide – a time to reflect on God's generous provision and an opportunity to consider how generosity is being cultivated within each of us. This is particularly important right now, as we witness the growing needs in our churches and communities, so this is a timely opportunity to reflect on our own experience of that generosity and consider how we can help.

To enable this, the national Church has created a resource for churches and individuals – Generosity Week. Gary Watson, Lead Giving and Funding Adviser, says: "Generosity Week is a fabulous opportunity to reflect, either individually or together, on the generosity we've experienced from God and that which we see in ourselves and others. What we do in response to that has incredible power to change lives and situations because generosity is so contagious! I'd encourage all churches to run a Generosity Week each year and even if your church isn't able to be involved you can still personally join in with the national church week online."

Generosity Week kicks off on Sunday 25 September with a national online Eucharist to celebrate generosity. Throughout the following week, daily reflections and podcasts will be available to help us consider the different facets of generosity, and the week ends with a final Eucharist of thanksgiving on 2 October. Church resources, including resources for children and young people and ideas of how to celebrate generosity in our wider community can be found at churchofengland.org/generosity-week or look on social media channels for #GenerosityWeek.

Pilgrim Group

The Pilgrim Group will start a new term this month, meeting at 7:30pm on Thursday 22 September in the Lower Mews. We will be reading Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. All are welcome.

Last month...



Family, friends and members of the congregation came together on 30 August for the funeral of Yvonne Morris, who had a long association with Christ Church and served for some years as Chair of Trustees. Our condolences to her family.

Services live and online

Our weekly 10am Sunday Eucharist is open to all in person and also live streamed at www.facebook.com/christchurchbath. With Covid restrictions lifted, we offer Communion wine, but taking this is entirely optional.

Our weekly Thursday 11am Eucharist takes place live in the church, and is not broadcast.

As the choir return from their summer break, Evensong resumes at 4:30pm on the third Sunday of the month.

An informal reflective service is held on the fourth Sunday of each month at 5pm. This uses the form of evening service in *A Wee Worship Book (Fifth Incarnation)* compiled by the Iona Community and published by their Wild Goose Resource Group. All are welcome. For further information, please contact Jonathan Stead. There is also a short service of silent contemplation on alternate Sundays – contact Kara Maylor for details of this.

Do add prayer requests to the list in church or post to Christ Church, Julian Road, Bath BA1 2RH. Bear in mind that some services will be online, so be mindful of the privacy of friends and loved ones. We will not use full names in any public prayers that are live streamed.

Everyone, Everywhere, Growing in Faith

Sometimes being a Christian is hard work, we feel stuck in a rut, nothing changes, and we may even feel like we go backwards in our faith journey. At other times, it feels like our relationship with God grows and develops and we learn more about who He is and draw closer to Him.

From 29 January to 4 February 2023 the Diocese of Bath and Wells is going to explore what faith growth means and looks like as part of the 2023 Everyone, Everywhere, Growing in Faith event, the new name for Archdeaconry Days.

For the last five years, the Archdeaconry Days have formed an important gathering point in the year for people across the diocese to gather around a theme to explore and grow. As a result of the pandemic, they became an online event that took place across a week, with various content, activities and opportunities for clergy and laity to come together to learn around a theme.

To recognise this change, and to reflect what is now taking place, the name has officially changed to Everyday Faith events.

In 2023 the diocese will be providing video content throughout the week, a range of intergenerational resources and opportunities to gather both locally in parishes or deaneries, as well as in a larger archdeaconry gathering. It will be seeking to maintain online opportunities, as well as in-person opportunities so all can be included.

Cheryl Govier, Growing Faith and Everyday

Faith Adviser for Wells Archdeaconry, explains: "We will be hinging all our content on the word 'Growth'. Throughout the week, we will be unpacking the following:

- Growth: what faith growth means and what it looks like
- Rhythms: what rhythms sustain and help people grow in faith
- Others: the impact of others on our faith journey
- Word: how the Bible enables faith growth
- Together: how faith communities have grown together
- Hope: being reminded of our hope in Christ and our hopes for our own faith journey.

"If you would like to know more and want to plan this into your local work and so want to know what the offer will be, then come along to one of our 45-minute Autumn Briefings, where you can find out more and ask questions.

"Throughout the week itself, we will be offering lots of opportunities for people to be involved. We will be live streaming a launch service, where we will be encouraging people to gather locally either as a family, small group, church, deanery or other to tune into an interactive opening time of worship.

"We will be hosting three in-person gatherings in each Archdeaconry on Saturday 4 February, so we would love you to get the date in your diary."

Find out more and sign up for an Autumn Briefing at <https://bit.ly/everyday-faith-event>.



Bishop's Message for September

The wonder of Harvest



**From the Rt Revd Dr Alastair Redfern,
Honorary Assistant Bishop,
Diocese of Bath and Wells**

In a simple sense harvest is about receiving – receiving the gifts provided from the fruits of the Earth on which our lives depend for survival. Harvest is also about giving – giving thanks for such wonderful and vital resources to provide us with what we need to live day by day.

But, of course, what we receive through the wonder of harvest does not just happen! Human beings who benefit from harvest have to contribute significantly to growing, pruning, fertilising, collecting and distributing the produce. We share in the creation as well as in the fruits.

This deep truth should remind us of

a number of important factors around receiving and giving:

- Each human life is received from the miracle of Creation, and is called to play a part in enabling this creation to produce the fruits that sustain us all – food, fellowship, dreams and hopes.
- We receive guidance in how to fulfil this primary purpose in our lives through the teaching and example of Jesus Christ.
- the key is partnership and participation – we are part of one body, with one Head. This is my body: do this in remembrance of me.
- The fact of sin and selfishness means that millions of God's children don't receive a fair share of God's harvest and are left hungry and struggling.

Harvest is the time for giving:

- giving thanks to God for our creation, and for our calling to play a part in the whole of the creation being fruitful.
- giving careful consideration to our failings to work harder for the inclusion of the excluded.
- giving priority to crafting actions which will enable a fairer sharing of the miracle of the harvest.

Harvest is a good time to go to church – let us join others in giving thanks, confessing our failings, and being joined in a universal body that seeks to include all God's children in the sharing of the fruits of the Earth. Give thanks, confess, commit to making a difference – and be part of our public witness for Harvest and Giving.

Every blessing,

+Alastair

This month's charity: Boys in Mind

The loose collection in the plate on the second and fourth Sunday of the month – 11 and 25 September – will go to Boys in Mind, chosen by our Junior Church. (Donations in collection envelopes will continue to go to Christ Church.)

Isaac Elliott writes:

Boys in Mind are a multi-agency alliance of professionals and young people across Bath & North East Somerset and beyond. They also work with arts organisations such as the Holburne Museum Education Department, using arts-based programmes to reduce stigma, challenge stereotypes and engage boys and young men.

Boys (and men) are hugely under-represented in the field of mental health and wellbeing. The charity wants the message to be that mental health and wellbeing are as important to boys as they are to girls. Young people, mainly boys and young men but also girls and young women, are actively involved in all aspects of their work. You can read more about the charity on their website, <https://boysinmind.co.uk>.

Girls mind too: The charity recognises that there are a growing number of girls and young women who are also struggling with their mental health. The charity's focus on boys' mental health is not intended to dismiss this very troubling trend. However, boys

often report that accessing help and support can present particular challenges for them as a result of unhelpful gender stereotypes, hence their focus on boys and young men. Girls and women of all ages agree that this work is important; after all, they have brothers, sons and male friends; and the messages and other resources pave the way to more general conversations about unhelpful gender-stereotyping and conditioning of girls as well as boys.

Following the pandemic, the mental health of many children has really suffered. The Junior Church have decided to support this charity that is doing good work with children, through our local schools. We have some plans to promote the charity later in the month – look out for a fun “Guess the Baby” quiz, coming soon – and a cake sale later in the month. There will be a Justgiving page (details in weekly bulletins) that you can use to donate to the charity, or speak to Emma or Isaac Elliott if you'd prefer to donate another way, and we can discuss options. Christ Church congregation is always so generous, particularly for our Children's Choice, and we want to thank you all for your generosity.

Curate's corner

Rev'd Kara Maylor writes:

Imagine not knowing where your next meal will come from or where you will sleep tonight... or worse, not knowing that you are loved or that anyone cares about you! The Genesis Trust works at the heart of our city to help the many of all ages who find themselves in this predicament. On 2nd October I will be running for 26.2 miles around London to help raise money for Genesis. My target is to raise £1,500. I would really appreciate your financial support if you are able but also your prayers as I set out on this challenge. I have set up a fundraising page at <https://tclondonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/kara-maylor-21a10>. Thanks so much!



Christ Church calendar Sep 2022

1 Thu 11am Eucharist

2 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

3 Sun *The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity*
10am Eucharist

8 Thu 11am Eucharist

9 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

11 Sun *The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity*
8am Holy Communion (BCP)
10am Eucharist

14 Wed *Holy Cross Day*

15 Thu 11am Eucharist

16 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

17 Sat *Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen*

18 Sun *Harvest Thanksgiving / The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity*
8am Holy Communion (BCP)
4:30pm Choral Evensong

21 Wed *Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist*

22 Thu 11am Eucharist
Pilgrim Group meeting, 7:30pm

23 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

25 Sun *The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity*
10am Eucharist
5pm Contemplative Service (Iona)

29 Thu *Michael and All Angels*
11am Eucharist

30 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

Oct 2 Sun *The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity*
10am Eucharist

Our Sunday 10am Eucharist, and other services as advertised, continue to be live-streamed at www.facebook.com/christchurchbath

Got something you want to let everyone know about? 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 September 2022

Thursday	1	For Bible scholars and theologians
Friday	2	For the elderly
Saturday	3	For the Fairtrade movement
Sunday	4	For Jane and Janet our churchwardens
Monday	5	For our armed forces and police
Tuesday	6	We give thanks for family and friends
Wednesday	7	For our Church Council
Thursday	8	That we may have the gift of patience
Friday	9	For countries recovering from wildfires
Saturday	10	For those preparing for marriage or recently married
Sunday	11	For Lore our priest in charge
Monday	12	For scientists and engineers
Tuesday	13	We give thanks for beauty in the world around us
Wednesday	14	For those on our long-term prayer list
Thursday	15	For vocations to the ministry
Friday	16	For those who live or work in care homes
Saturday	17	For our church environment group
Sunday	18	For our servers and others who assist at the altar
Monday	19	For those who work in local government
Tuesday	20	That we may hunger and thirst after righteousness
Wednesday	21	For all at school
Thursday	22	For our charity of the month
Friday	23	For all who face tragedy

Saturday	24	For good relationships between the nations
Sunday	25	For Mark our Lay Reader
Monday	26	For those who work in the hospitality industry
Tuesday	27	For Christian unity
Wednesday	28	We give thanks for those who enrich our lives
Thursday	29	For our Pilgrim Group
Friday	30	For those who have been forced to flee their homes

Long-term Prayer List

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

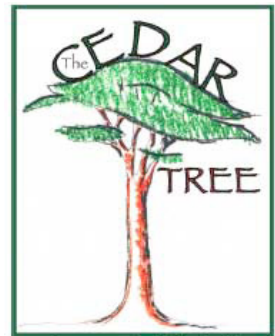
Tilly	Chris
Revd John	Thomas
Jean	David
Sister Margaret	Patrick
Amber	AJ
David	John Batup
Joyce W	Karin
Roger and Frances	Frankie
Joyce K	Mylene
Jean and John	Evelyn
Guo Ping Jiang	Kun Yue
Louise and Elliot	

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

Cedar Tree is open

The Cedar Tree community café is open every Friday from 11am to 1:30pm. All are welcome! If you live or work in the area, do consider dropping in for a chat, a cup of coffee, home-made cake or a light snack, to support this important part of our outreach to the local community. If you can help on a Friday or make a cake we can sell, then please contact Janet Mahto.

Your offers will be very gratefully received.



'Under it every kind of bird will live'

Julian Road Bath

Rotas for September 2022

Readers and readings, Sunday 10am Eucharist

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
4 Sep 12th after Trinity	Georgina Bowman Jeremiah 18:1-11	Sylvia Ayers Philemon 1-21	Zoë Bushell Luke 14:25-33
	Intercessions: Ian Hay Davison		
11 Sep 13th after Trinity	Robin Kerr Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28	Judith Anderson 1 Timothy 1:12-17	Peter Bowes Luke 15:1-10
	Intercessions: Mark Elliott		
18 Sep Harvest	Richard Gabe Jeremiah 8:18 – 9:1	Beryl Bowes 1 Timothy 2:1-7	Nick Wells Luke 16:1-13
	Intercessions: Peter Bowes		
25 Sep 15th after Trinity	Mark Elliott Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15	Jane Hoe 1 Timothy 6:6-19	Ian Hay Davison Luke 16:19-end
	Intercessions: Beryl Bowes		
2 October 16th after Trinity	Virginia Knight Lamentations 1:1-6	Malcolm Wall 2 Timothy 1:1-14	Morny Davison Luke 17:5-10
	Intercessions: Simon Tatton-Brown		

Who's who at Christ Church

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Revd Beryl Bowes
Revd Dr Peter Bowes

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Steeple Keeper David Kelly

Publicity co-ordinator Janet Mahto

Laitie rotas Judith Bishop

Prayer cycle Virginia Knight

Junior Church Emma Elliott

**Churches Together in Bath,
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Mission to Seafarers Sylvia Ayers

Deanery Synod Reps Brenda Wall
Pauline Swaby-Wallace

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 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. New singers of all ages are always very welcome.

Concerned about the health risks of congregational singing? We do not sing at the 8am BCP Communion or 5pm Quiet Service. As Covid restrictions are lifted, we do sing the Gospel acclamation at the 11am Thursday Eucharist.

As well as worship on Sundays and Thursday mornings, there are many other activities going on in our community, including our weekly community café every Friday. Visit the website to check service times and events.

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 – also streamed at www.facebook.com/christchurchbath*
- 4:30pm Choral Evensong – *Usually on the third Sunday of each month, resuming in September*
- 5pm Contemplative Quiet Service (Iona) – *On the fourth Sunday of every month*

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



Contacting us

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