



## Season of Creation

*Celebrating and sharing God's gifts of creation*

Creationtide or the Season of Creation is the period in the annual Church calendar, from 1st September to 4th October, dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of all life. Many churches choose to use this time of year to hold special services and events to give thanks for God's gift of creation, and to renew their commitment to caring for our one planet home.

The theme for the Season of Creation 2024 is To Hope and Act with Creation.

The symbol for the Season of Creation 2024 is the first-fruits of hope. We have hope that the Creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God (Romans 8:21).

Find more information and resources from the Church of England at <https://bit.ly/season-of-creation-2024>.

At Christ Church we are marking Harvest Sunday on 15 September. As

well as giving thanks for the bounty of the Earth, we are encouraged to share this by bringing items to church that Genesis can use to meet the immediate needs of homeless and vulnerable people in the Bath area. These can include tinned and long-life food (no perishables, please), household items, and toiletries such as shampoo, shower gel and women's pads. There will be a collecting point at the back of church for these items. Thank you in advance for your generosity!



# Meet our newest Trustee

## **Helen Speakman writes:**

Hello, my name is Helen Speakman, and I am the new Trustee joining the team at Christ Church. Some of you will know me from my involvement at Cedar Tree on a Friday and making the greeting cards on sale at the back of the church, but others might not know me at all, as I am a relatively recent newcomer to the family of Christ Church, joining in 2022, when we moved to Russell Street.

I am delighted to join the Trustees and feel very honoured to have the opportunity to give something back to Christ Church, as I have found it to be the most warm, welcoming and inclusive church I have ever had the fortune to walk into, that fateful day being a Sunday in April when Kara walked past me in the street and invited me to come and join the service at 10am. "We would love to meet you," she said, and so I did and have never looked back!

So, who am I? I am a retired secondary school teacher, born in Leicester, and moved to Bath at the age of 18 to study for a BSc in Home Economics at the College of Higher Education, living in Somerset Place. I met my husband, Mike, who was studying Engineering at the University, we married in 1989 and have two wonderful children.

My daughter, Lois, is a PE teacher and married the love of her life, Carla, last year in August and they are now expecting our first

grandchild at Christmas. Our son, Greg, is a police officer with Thames Valley Police.

I have always had a faith, but found church difficult at times, having gay children. Christ Church came as a breath of fresh air and I instantly felt at home. I didn't need to worry or hide who my family were. I could celebrate and share all of our exciting life experiences without fear of judgement or prejudice.

Whilst we have lived much of our married life in High Wycombe, we've always had a close association with Bath, originally owning a small mews in Pulteney Mews, near the Rec. Recently we've moved to a house in Russell Street, which is now our permanent home, ready for when Mike retires in a few years' time.

I enjoy many hobbies, but my main interest now, as many of you know, are my two horses, Maggie and Morgan. I have had a 35 year break from my lifelong passion for riding, so being able to get back into the saddle and owning my own horses is a dream come true. Despite this time-consuming hobby and a grandchild on the way, I still have plenty of energy and enthusiasm left for my new role at Christ Church. I am excited to get more involved, strengthen my relationship with God, and get to know you all a little better.

Love and Prayers,  
Helen



*Photo courtesy of Helen Speakman*



*Photo courtesy of Helen Speakman*

# A tribute of love to Del

*After a relatively short illness, Del Hutcheson died on 29 July at the age of 91. She was farewelled by family and friends, including many from Christ Church and Cedar Tree, at Haycombe Crematorium on 27 August. Georgina Bowman delivered this tribute to Del on behalf of all of us.*

For us all at Christ Church, our first memory of Del would be her welcoming smile, with that lovely sparkle in her eyes, as she stood behind the tea trolley, after the morning service, asking whether tea or coffee, two sugars or one, with or without milk? It didn't take her long to know everyone's name and our preferences. That was typical of Del: being observant and caring. She loved her role, calling herself "Trolley Dolly"!

Del's contribution to the life of Christ Church was immense: she was a superb cook and so enjoyed baking cakes and desserts for; and helping out at, our Cedar Tree café. If there was a special event coming up, she would always ask if we would like her to bring something, meaning could she cook something as her contribution. She was always eager to put on her apron and help.

Del was also part of the flower team, an important role in contributing to the beauty of our church, which she so enjoyed.

Del was appreciative of everyone's talents and gifts, young and old, with an interested ear and an encouraging compliment. Many



*Photo courtesy of Jane Nicholson*

times, you would hear her say, "ABSOLUTELY!"

Del was an extraordinary woman, an elegant lady, warm and friendly, a caring person; she must have been a wonderful nurse. She was fun. She was mischievous. She was generous. Her outlook was always positive. She often said, "I have been very blessed. I have had a good life, and an interesting one; I have a wonderful family, and really good friends."

Del's faith was so strong. She was so full of life, and her loving-kindness spilled over in abundance. She was a leading light and a fine example to follow.

She loved all of us at Christ Church. And we loved her.



*A floral tribute at Del's funeral service. She would have appreciated the care so evidently taken with the arrangement. Photo by Jane Nicholson*

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## Coming events

### **Big Band and Jazz Orchestra**

*What is it?* Bath Community Big Band and the South London Jazz Orchestra will perform in a joint gig. Put the date in your diary now for an evening of exciting music and contrasting bands. If you are available to help, either serving drinks or stewarding, then please let Matthew Jones know.

*When is it?* Saturday 5 October, 7:30pm

*Where?* Christ Church

Tickets can be purchased through [www.bathcommunitybigband.com](http://www.bathcommunitybigband.com)

# Thanks from Spafford Children's Center

**Djemila Cope, Director, Spafford Children's Center Board, writes:**

The Pam Rhodes evening at Christ Church on 2nd July, titled "Stories Behind Our Favourite Hymns", was a huge success – the stories and the hymn singing!

The UK Friends of the Spafford Children's Center in Jerusalem are most grateful for all the help received in creating such an enjoyable event with Pam, the BBCI "Songs of Praise" presenter, who gave her time to benefit the charity.

Particular thanks goes to Angela Soboslay for valuable support, to Mark Elliott and members of the choir for their important and beautiful choral input, and to David Winters for his vital contribution at the organ. Much

gratitude as well to Rev Dr Peter Bowes for introducing the evening with a prayer and closing it with a blessing.

It was so nice that many of the regular worshippers at Christ Church supported the event, as well as both the Churchwardens and the Chair of Trustees. Friends from Bath Abbey and other churches in the city also attended. Pam Rhodes and her husband Richard thoroughly enjoyed meeting and chatting to all those who stayed on after the performance for a glass of wine and delicious Palestinian buffet mezze.

£2,000 was raised and will be transferred to Jerusalem. Even more children and mothers will benefit from Psychosocial Trauma Therapy. This helps to lower their anxiety and stress levels while they continue to live with conflict, the threat of imminent danger, an unstable political situation plus unemployment and poverty. Trauma for them is an ongoing condition.

Thank you so much for helping to improve the lives of these vulnerable children.



*Jantien Dajani, Pam Rhodes and Djemila Cope.*



*Pam and Richard Rhodes with some helpers. Photos courtesy of Djemila Cope*

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## Saturday recitals

Following the success of last year, there will be a series of recitals at Christ Church on the following Saturday afternoons this autumn:

■ 14 September: Music for Organ & Strings, with the Strings of Trowbridge Symphony Orchestra. Conductor: Philip Draisey. Organist: David Winters.

■ 12 October: Christ Church Instrumentalists. Musicians from the choir and congregation of Christ Church.

■ 9 November: Organ Music for Remembrance. Organist: David Wrigley.

All the recitals will start at 3pm and last approximately an hour. Admission is free (with a retiring collection) and the church will be open from 2:15pm for refreshments.

Please note that parking will be very limited – please consider alternative locations to park or alternative means of transport.

# Bishop's Message for September

*Reimagining generosity*



**From the Rt Revd Michael Beasley,  
Bishop of Bath and Wells**

In John's Gospel, the first of the signs that Jesus offers to show who He is happens at a wedding in the town of Cana in Galilee (John 2:1-11). Jesus saves the whole event from being a social disaster. The presenting issue is that the wine runs out. This exposes the families that have organised the event to the possibility of severe embarrassment. Rather than modelling lavish hospitality, they are in danger of showing themselves to be stingy and disorganised. Thankfully, Jesus's mum is alerted to the situation and gets Jesus on the case. He comes up with a solution and all is well.

What gets me every time about this story is the scale and the quality of the solution that Jesus presents. If my calculations are right, Jesus saves the day by creating the equivalent of six wheelie bins full of wine. And not just your supermarket bottom shelf stuff. The wine He provides is of the very best quality – stuff that would delight sommeliers and wine snobs the world over.

In His first action, Jesus could have chosen to show any number of things about Himself – His wisdom, His power, His goodness or so on. What's striking is that He begins by revealing that He is someone of astonishing and abundant generosity. This is at heart who Jesus is.

If this is who Jesus is, then that means that this is who God is too. For "in God there is no unChristlikeness". In His first action, Jesus is showing us that at heart, God is abundantly and astonishingly generous.

If we're all made in God's image, might that be at heart who we're called to be too? Often, the call to be generous can be portrayed as hard and difficult, about self-sacrifice and denial, of the costly call to put others first. But what if we reimagined what being generous means? If we understood being generous as in fact the way to reveal and enjoy our true selves – lavishly, abundantly, joyfully... merrily?

A wheelie bin of wine, anyone?

**+Michael**

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## Morning Prayer on Zoom

One of the impacts of being without a Priest-in-charge is that there will be no 8am Sunday morning service at Christ Church during the Vacancy. Now that the holidays are over, however, our retired clergy and others will be saying Morning Prayer together on Zoom from Monday to Friday each week at 8am, starting on 2 September. If you would like to join them, please contact Simon Tatton-Brown ([simon@tattonbrown.myzen.co.uk](mailto:simon@tattonbrown.myzen.co.uk), or 07891 898472), who will give you the link.

# This month's charity: Lux Youth Project

*The loose collection on the second and fourth Sundays of this month and next – 8 and 22 September, and then 13 and 27 October – will go to the Lux Youth Project. (Donations in collection envelopes will continue to go to Christ Church.)*

Lux Youth Project is the Bath offshoot of Youth for Christ, and like Youth for Christ it delivers community youth work, mentoring and small group work in schools and chaplaincy. It runs open access drop-in clubs, a dance academy, breakfast club, one-to-one mentoring and enrichment courses in Bath particularly in areas of deprivation. Currently much of its work takes place in the South-down area of Bath but as it grows it may expand into other areas of need.

From the charity's website: "Lux Youth Project is a Christian charity inspired by our faith to work with young people across Bath & North East Somerset, meeting their physical, emotional and spiritual needs. We were formerly known as Bath Youth for Christ and



## Youth Project

have worked in Bath and the surrounding area for more than 30 years, providing open access and schools youth work. In 2023 we became Lux Youth Project.

"LUX is Latin for light and we want to be light for young people experiencing times of darkness and difficulty. We also believe that every person has light in them and that with the right support and encouragement can share that light to make their lives and communities brighter. As it says in the Bible: 'Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven' (Matthew 5:16)."

Find out more about the charity and its work at [www.luxyouthproject.co.uk](http://www.luxyouthproject.co.uk).

# Wave of Prayer Event

Young people from across Bath and Wells are invited to kick off the new academic year in prayer at a Movement event with Bishop Michael and Archbishop Justin. They will be at St Michael's Without (near Waitrose) on Friday 6 September, 7:30pm – 9:30pm.

While the Event is aimed at youth and young adults, it is open to everyone who wants to come together and pray for young people, the growth of our churches and the transformation of our communities. To find out more and book your place, visit [www.waremovement.net/events/2024/09/06](http://www.waremovement.net/events/2024/09/06).



## Inspiring generosity

### **From the Diocese of Bath & Wells:**

September is Harvest season, a time during which we can all give thanks for God's generosity to us. It is also Generosity Week (29 September – 6 October), an opportunity to reflect on all the good gifts that we have received within our churches and consider how our church family and wider community might explore together what it means to live generously throughout the rest of the year.

A range of resources is available to help us consider how we might shape our own lives as we seek to live out our Christian faith as generous disciples. *Living Generously* is one such resource, a series of films each exploring a different way of being generous – such as with our time, attention and wealth.

Find all the Generosity Week resources at [churchofengland.org/generosity-week](http://churchofengland.org/generosity-week).

# Christ Church calendar Sep. 2024

**1** Sun *The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity / Creationtide begins*  
10am Eucharist

5 Thu 11am Eucharist

6 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

7 Sat Bath and Wells Diocesan Day of Prayer

**8** Sun *The 15th Sunday after Trinity / Accession of King Charles III*  
10am Eucharist

12 Thu 11am Eucharist

13 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

14 Sat *Holy Cross Day*  
Music for Organ and Strings, 3pm

**15** Sun *Harvest / The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity*  
10am Eucharist  
4:30pm Choral Evensong

19 Thu 11am Eucharist

20 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

21 Sat *Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist*

**22** Sun *The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity*  
10am Eucharist  
5pm Iona Contemplative Service

26 Thu 11am Eucharist

27 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

**29** Sun *Michael and All Angels*  
10am Eucharist

**Oct** 3 Thu 11am Eucharist

4 Fri *Creationtide ends*  
Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

**6** Sun *The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity*  
10am Eucharist

**Our Sunday 10am Eucharist, and other services as advertised, continue to be live-streamed at** [www.facebook.com/christchurchbath/live](https://www.facebook.com/christchurchbath/live)  
**and** [www.youtube.com/@ChristChurchBath1798/streams](https://www.youtube.com/@ChristChurchBath1798/streams)

# Prayer Cycle for September 2024

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1</b>	For our Archbishop, bishops and clergy
<b>Monday</b>	<b>2</b>	For those who work in local government
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>3</b>	We give thanks for beauty in the world around us
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>4</b>	For our plans for the appointment of a new priest in charge
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>5</b>	For our own personal witness
<b>Friday</b>	<b>6</b>	For the mentally ill
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>7</b>	For adoptive and foster families
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8</b>	For our neighbours at St Mary's Catholic Church
<b>Monday</b>	<b>9</b>	For those who work in education
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>10</b>	For countries which have experienced forest fires
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>11</b>	For those who mourn
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>12</b>	For all who produce publicity for Christ Church
<b>Friday</b>	<b>13</b>	For the homeless
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>14</b>	We give thanks for the fruits of the earth
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>15</b>	For Jane and Jonathan our Churchwardens
<b>Monday</b>	<b>16</b>	For architects and designers
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>17</b>	That we may have the grace to love
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>18</b>	For those who live or work in care homes
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>19</b>	For those who have been baptised, confirmed or married at Christ Church
<b>Friday</b>	<b>20</b>	For those who have been forced to flee their homes
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>21</b>	For those on our long-term prayer list
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>22</b>	For our Church Council



<b>Monday</b>	<b>23</b>	For those who work in the legal profession
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>24</b>	For countries with economic problems
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>25</b>	For those who organise and attend events at Christ Church
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>26</b>	For our charity of the month, the Lux Youth project
<b>Friday</b>	<b>27</b>	For those who have suffered from terrorism
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>28</b>	We give thanks for those who enrich our lives
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>29</b>	For the Local Deanery Synod
<b>Monday</b>	<b>30</b>	For those who work in the transport industry

## Long-term Prayer List

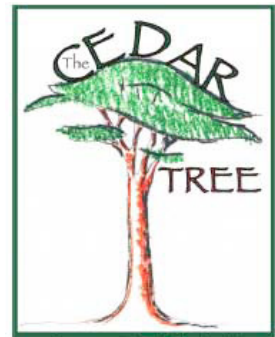
*Please remember those we've been asked to pray for...*

Geoff	Chris & David
Joyce	John
Daniel	Win
Milo	Chris
Naomi	Ken
Frankie	AJ
John & Sheila	Christine
Peter & Margaret	Larry
Sheila W	Joanna
John & Jean	
Stewart & Lillian	

**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 speak to 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 Jenny Hesketh. Your offers will be very gratefully received.



*'Under it every kind of bird will live'*

Bath  
**Julian Road**

# Rotas for September 2024

*Readers and readings, Sunday 10am Eucharist*

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
<b>1 Sept</b> 14th Sunday after Trinity	<b>Virginia Knight</b> Song of Solomon 2:8-13	<b>Marcus Bull</b> James 1:17-27	<b>Brenda Wall</b> Mark 7:1-8,14-15, 21-23
	Intercessions: <b>Simon Tatton-Brown</b>		
<b>8 Sept</b> 15th Sunday after Trinity	<b>Graeme Stacey</b> Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23	<b>Judith Anderson</b> James 2:1-10,14-17	<b>Nick Wells</b> Mark 7:24-37
	Intercessions: <b>Mark Elliott</b>		
<b>15 Sept</b> Harvest / 16th Sun. after Trinity	<b>Zoë Bushell</b> Joel 2:21-27	<b>Rachel Preston</b> 1 Timothy 6:6-10	<b>Morny Davison</b> Matthew 6:25-33
	Intercessions: <b>Georgina Bowman</b>		
<b>22 Sept</b> 17th Sunday after Trinity	<b>David Bishop</b> Proverbs 31:10-31	<b>Brenda Wall</b> James 3:13 – 4:3, 7-8a	<b>Nicky Mathiason</b> Mark 9:30-37
	Intercessions: <b>Simon Tatton-Brown</b>		
<b>29 Sept</b> Michael and All Angels	<b>Simon Tatton- Brown</b> Genesis 28:10-17	<b>Jude Bishop</b> Revelation 12:7-12	<b>Robin Kerr</b> John 1:47-51
	Intercessions: <b>TBC</b>		
<b>6 Oct</b> 19th Sunday after Trinity	<b>Malcolm Wall</b> Job 1:1, 2:1-10	<b>Graham Reaper- Brown</b> Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12	<b>Mark Elliott</b> Mark 10:2-16
	Intercessions: <b>Georgina Bowman</b>		

# Who's who at Christ Church

<b>Priest-in-charge</b>	(Vacant)	<b>Event/concert bookings, weekly notice sheet</b>	Judith Bishop 01225 858816 concerts@christchurchbath.org notices@christchurchbath.org
<b>Supporting clergy</b>	Revd Canon Simon Tatton-Brown 01225 835404 simon@tattonbrown.myzen.co.uk	<b>Deanery Synod Reps</b>	Brenda Wall Pauline Swaby-Wallace
<b>Reader, Director of Music</b>	Mark Elliott 01225 445360 mark.elliott@christchurchbath.org	<b>Tower Captain, Ringing Master</b>	Will Willans
<b>Churchwarden</b>	Jane Nicholson 07990 552413 jane@janemnicholson.com	<b>Tower Secretary</b>	Maggie Willans 07773 244024 maggiewillans@hotmail.com
<b>Churchwarden</b>	Jonathan Stead jonathanstead20@gmail.com	<b>Steeple Keeper</b>	David Guy
<b>Verger</b>	Angela Soboslay 01225 333297 angela.soboslay@christchurchbath.org	<b>Cedar Tree café organiser</b>	Jenny Hesketh jenny.hesketh@me.com
<b>Chair of Trustees</b>	Nick Wells 07774 104584 chair@christchurchbath.org	<b>Junior Church</b>	Emma Elliott
<b>Treasurer</b>	Zoë Bushell zoe.bushell@christchurchbath.org	<b>Laity rotas</b>	Judith Bishop
<b>Organist and Assistant Director of Music</b>	David Winters david.winters@christchurchbath.org	<b>Prayer cycle</b>	Virginia Knight
<b>Christ Church Link editor</b>	Alex Soboslay 07769 655927 alexs@christchurchbath.org	<b>Charitable Giving co-ordinator</b>	Jonathan Stead
<b>Safeguarding officer</b>	Virginia Knight 07896 916840 christchbathsafeguarding@gmail.com	<b>Mission to Seafarers</b>	Sylvia Ayers

## 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](mailto: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, Archbishop of Canterbury, and William Wilberforce, the great evangelical and campaigner against slavery. We must recognise, however, that much of Bath's wealth at the time derived, directly or indirectly, from the trafficking and exploitation of enslaved human beings, so that inevitably some of the funds donated ultimately derived from this source.

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.

As well as worship on Sundays and Thursdays, there are many other activities going on in our community, including our weekly community café every Friday. Our ecumenical Pilgrim Group provides a space for exploration and discussion of faith in an open and non-judgemental setting. Visit the website to check service times and events.

## Regular Sunday services

- 8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) – *Suspended while we are in Vacancy*
- 10am Sung Eucharist with Junior Church activities for children and young people – *Every Sunday – also streamed at [www.facebook.com/christchurchbath](http://www.facebook.com/christchurchbath)*
- 4:30pm Choral Evensong – *Usually on the third Sunday of each month*
- 5pm Contemplative Quiet Service (Iona) – *On the fourth Sunday of every month*

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

## Contacting us

Christ Church,  
Julian Road,  
Bath BA1 2RH  
Phone: 01225 338869  
(answer phone)

Email: [admin@christchurchbath.org](mailto:admin@christchurchbath.org)  
Website: [www.christchurchbath.org](http://www.christchurchbath.org)

