



CHEAP STREET CHURCH

To know the love of God through the power of the Holy Spirit and with Jesus as our teacher to show and share our faith.

Minister:

The Revd Duncan Goldie 01935 812916

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NEWSLETTER

3rd February 2021

From the Church Secretary

At our Church Meeting last Thursday, we recognised the longstanding commitment John Stinchcombe had made in looking after the Church finances for us for over 12 years. John is now ready for a break and in his place we appointed George Faris, who has had previous experience as a Church Treasurer. This meant George finishing as Safeguarding Officer, and we appointed Christine Rogers, who had volunteered to take on this job. George also needed to stop providing the newsletter on a fortnightly basis. We were so pleased that Ruth Rogerson said she would do this and she is taking it on straight away, with this being her first week as editor.

We say 'Thank you' to John, to George, to Christine and to Ruth for helping our Church family in many and various ways. And that is not all, for this week, as well as the newsletter to keep us in touch, we also have The Cheapstreeter. Thank you so much to Raymond, who has now reached issue No. 58 and who gives us so much information and news and articles to ponder about every time.

We have a lot to be grateful for, gifts from each other and gifts from God every day. We have received so much, so let us be ready to give too, within the Church and within our needy world.

Janet LeMoignan

Cheap Street Worship



Sunday 7th February at 3 pm on Zoom led by the Revd Duncan Goldie on Epiphany 5

Notices

Welcome & Call to Worship. Psalm 29:11.

Music. Singing the Faith 83. Praise my soul, the King of heaven;

Prayer

Readings Isaiah 40:21-31. Mark 1:29-39.

Sermon

What do the readings say to you?

Music. Singing the Faith 20. Be still, for the presence of the Lord,

Prayers

Music Singing the Faith 353. Jesus is Lord! Creations voice proclaims it.

Benediction

The joining instructions for this Sunday's service (and subsequent Sundays) are in this week's email. Please contact Penny Gardener or Ruth Rogerson (details at the end of the newsletter) to be added to the email distribution list and for help accessing Zoom.

Duncan's Message

Lectionary Readings for Sunday 7th February 2021 Epiphany 5.

Psalm 147:1-11 & 20, Isaiah 40:21-31, 1 Corinthians 9:16-23, Mark 1:29-39.

Telling people about Jesus and God's love for them is not just something which is reserved for a few gifted evangelists but is something that as Christians we all do in different ways. We all in our own way gossip the Gospel, and it can be indirectly with people overhearing what we share with one another. On the radio last week someone was talking about how they dealt with sorting out an uncle's possessions after he had died; at one point they came across a letter that was from his church and they said what a part of his life and what a support the church was to him, an unintended witness to Jesus and his church.

Paul in his letter to the Corinthians talks about what he is compelled to do, not because anyone has the right to compel him to do anything but because his love for Jesus compels him to tell anyone he can about Jesus. In doing so, he will respect what is important to others, even if it is not a matter of faith or important to him.

Jesus in our reading from Mark has brought the Gospel to Capernaum and, while there would have been the temptation to remain where he was and what he has to say has been well received, after prayer and to the amazement of his disciples, he knows he has to move on and deliver his message of God's love for them to others who have yet to hear it. In this time of Covid Lockdown there is not much meeting except on zoom or moving on, but it is important that we all seek to talk about Jesus both to ourselves and to others.

Hymn Singing The Faith 660. Called by Christ to be disciples

Listen on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5fl0N6umzc>

Pastoral News

On Saturday 30th January we heard that Annette's brother Winston, who had been suffering from COVID-19, had died. We send our love and prayers to Annette, Roger and the family from all at Cheap Street Church.

Eileen Higgins's daughter-in-law Dawn is in Shaftesbury Hospital suffering from COVID-19. We send our love and prayers to Dawn and her husband, to Eileen and the family, from all at Cheap Street Church.

We are also asked to pray for two of the Syrian families who live in Sherborne and have health problems. We send both families our love and prayers.

I heard yesterday that Myra Heard, who lives at Eastbury House care home, had tested positive for COVID-19. At present Myra is quite well, with no other symptoms. We send our best wishes to Myra and all residents and carers at Eastbury House.

I'm sorry to tell you that Barbara is back in Yeovil Hospital. On Sunday afternoon she had a fall which resulted in another injury. Initially it was thought that Barbara had fractured her femur, but the injury was near the hip end of the femur, which resulted in a partial hip replacement. Hopefully recovery will be much quicker than if it had been a fractured femur. Dennis told me yesterday that she could be in hospital 6 to 8 days; he also requests that we do not send emails or text messages to Barbara. He will update me, and I in turn will pass it on to the Church Family via The Newsletter. We send our love, best wishes and prayers to Barbara and Dennis from our Cheap Street Church Family.

Birthdays

Friday 5th February Tot Hansford (93) and Ada Hooper(11)
Sunday 7th February Sharon Hooper.

Love and best wishes to you from our Cheap Street Church Family.



Love and prayers to you all and Stay Safe. **Eirwen Cox**

Fellowship of Prayer

Whenever and wherever we pray in the silence of our hearts, we are part of a rich and powerful fellowship, which serves to sustain everyone in our Church Family. Anyone can join the prayer group by just praying.

We hold in prayer Barbara and Dennis Porter; Eileen Higgins's son Robert and his wife Dawn; Clive and Jill Turner and Ellie and Sophie; Yve and Ken Ackroyd and all the family; Janet Baker; Phyllis Batchelor; Duncan's mother; Eileen Higgins; Alex Palmer; Peter and Marjorie Kett.

We continue to remember the families of those who have died recently: Derek Hayward, Ron Dolling, Charles Pennington, Gill Hunt, John Hooper, Hilda Clarke, John Green, Graham Penlington and Brian Crew.

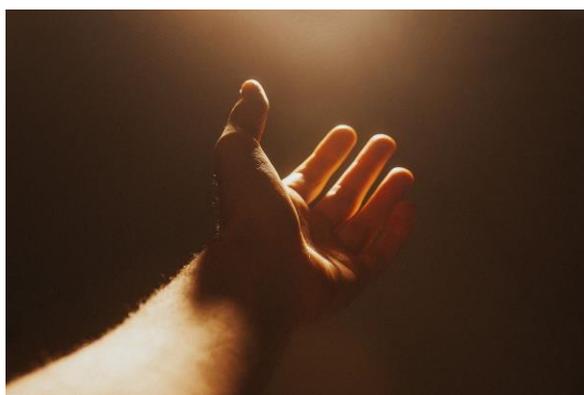
The Prayer Ring is available for an urgent need or situation.

Call any of these numbers and the circle of prayer will begin:

Eirwen Cox 01935 815960, Penny Gardner 01935 389153, Janet Le Moignan 01935 389662.

After the devastating news that 100,000 people have died in the UK after contracting Covid-19, the Archbishop of York and the Archbishop of Canterbury have invited the nation to join them in prayer every day at 6.00pm during the month of February. Everybody can join in.

Your prayer is important!



And here is a message from Yeovil Street Pastors:

We hope you are all well and coping with all things new.

We are having a 24-hour prayer time Friday 12th February evening through to Saturday 13th.

We wondered if you would like to send us any prayer requests as we would love to pray for you and your church. If so, let me know please, on www.streetpastors.org/locations/yeovil/ or tel. 07704 969366. Please be reassured that our usual guidelines on confidentiality will be adhered to.

With blessings, Christine at Yeovil Street Pastors

Prayers for the persecuted church

United Arab Emirates - is ruled by a Muslim dynasty that exerts pressure on society and doesn't allow dissent. Freedom of expression, freedom of press and freedom of association are restricted. Citizens are expected to be Muslims and preaching, praying or evangelising in public are banned. Believers from Muslim backgrounds face pressure from family members and the local community to recant their belief in Christ. This makes it almost impossible for converts to reveal their faith. Open Doors supports the body of Christ on the Arabian Peninsula by organising prayer, distributing Scripture resources and training believers and pastors. Let us pray that believers will find ways to share the good news of Jesus despite opposition; for courage for Christian converts who are afraid to reveal their faith in Jesus, and that the leaders of UAE will have the wisdom to allow their citizens greater religious freedom. Amen.

Jackie Bullen

Lent Course

During Lent, the Yeovil Methodist Churches will be studying a course based on the book "Holy Habits" by Andrew Roberts. You may remember that the URC suggested using it a few years ago. The following is from Kate's e-mail:

On Ash Wednesday, which this year is 17th Feb, we will start our Lent Course. This year we will be looking at Holy Habits: Following Jesus. More details below. If you want a book they are £6.99 but if there are 15 or more of us the price reduces to £5.60 per book. Do let me know if you want a book. I will order week commencing 8th Feb. It is being made into an online course, so there will be a video.

<https://www.brfonline.org.uk/collections/holy-habits-group-studies/products/holy-habits-following-jesus>

Rev Kate Konrad
Methodist Minister
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The Cheapstreeter

I wish to apologize for the poor quality of some of the magazines this time. I'm afraid I had a problem with the church photocopier.

If anyone has a poor copy, please let me know and I shall replace it.

Raymond raymondwood1949@gmail.com

Thought for the Day



Amanda Gorman, a 22-year old black American, recited her poem, "The Hill We Climb", at the inauguration of President Biden on 20th January 2021. Her words are inspirational. Here is the link to the YouTube clip:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rnt83tLy3Zc>

Her final sentence is one we should all take to heart:

"There is always light
– if only we are brave enough to see it
– if only we are brave enough to be it!"

Let's look to The Light

In the natural world the earth moves in a rhythm of seasons but our Bible reading this morning talks about seasons of a different kind - the seasons of life.

"There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under heaven . . ." So begins the third chapter of Ecclesiastes and in the next seven verses it lists 14 examples such as a time to be born and a time to die, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to embrace and a time to refrain. I look forward to the time when we can stop "refraining" - it's been a long season!

The passage also mentions a time to sow and a time to reap which brings us back to the world of nature. Are you smiling? If you are is it because we have seen the back of January, the Northern Hemisphere's coldest and darkest month, made colder and darker by Covid?

Now it's February, the shortest month, and after that it's Spring. Hurrah!!

A few weeks ago Raymond and Muriel shared with Newsletter readers a picture of their daughter Juliet having her first hug of the year - with a snowman! Our grandchildren in The Cotswolds were disappointed not to see more snow this winter and so were Ada and Elsie Hooper, the youngest members of the Cheap Street congregation, who got up and out full of excitement at 6.30 on the one morning snow fell fleetingly in our area.

I recall the quiver of excitement in my own childhood when the first flakes fell and fun was in the air... again when our own children were growing up. But now, while I appreciate the beauty of a snow scene from our house towards Dancing Hill bathed in dazzling winter sunshine and I love the sounds of children enjoying themselves, I am happy not to have seen more of the white stuff in Sherborne this year and I realise from this that I am in the winter of my life. Has that made me a grumpy old man?

I went into our back garden this week. For two months it has been colourless and cheerless except for two brilliant orange marigolds and a couple of yellow antirrhinums which survived the ravages of the winter weather and brought me joy in the darkest days. But now the bulbs I planted in early autumn are thrusting their way towards the light and I believe my garden will be an array of colour come Spring.

Our little apple tree, bought for £1.99 when Woolworths closed its Sherborne store for the last time, is standing forlorn and sad, stripped of its foliage. But I know that God is working a miracle and that by late Spring / early Summer the tree will be laden with beautiful blossom and later in the year it will give us a delicious harvest of fruit. Never have we made such a good investment!

Winter is cold, dark and fruitless but those of us in the winter of life must not allow our spiritual lives to be like that.

Just as plants in my garden are looking to the light of Spring so must we respond to God's love and look towards His light. No matter how old we are God is calling us to work and witness for Him in ways only He can direct and in times of inactivity (like the one enforced upon us by Covid) He will prepare us for a busier time ahead and make us fruitful.

If we respond to His call in faithful obedience we can know that one day we will be with Him . . . and there is nothing more beautiful than that.

Let us pray:

Heavenly Father for everything you provide a season and here we are all living through different experiences, some of us sad and some of us celebrating; some of us wounded, some of us active; some of us failing, some of us succeeding yet all of us dependent on your gifts of light and love and all of us dependent on each other's compassion and energy.

In every season make us grateful, in every season make us humble, in every season make us aware of one another, in every season keep us in touch with you who is the spring of life, the goal of our journey. Thank you that you give us love and light in Jesus, the man for all seasons and the Lord of all our days. Amen.

Hymn: All things bright and beautiful

Martin Heal

Cheap Street Zoom Coffee Morning

The joining instructions for our Coffee Morning on Thursday, 4th February at 10.30am are in this week's email.

A poem for the week



from Margaret Field

The Kingdom by RS Thomas

It's a long way off but inside it
There are quite different things going on:
Festivals at which the poor man
Is king and the consumptive is
Healed; mirrors in which the blind look
At themselves and love looks at them
Back; and industry is for mending
The bent bones and the minds fractured
By life. It's a long way off, but to get
There takes no time and admission
Is free, if you will purge yourself
Of desire, and present yourself with
Your need only and the simple offering
Of your faith, green as a new leaf.

Worship Resources

Radio 4 Sunday Worship at 8.10 am: Marking Chinese New Year and what is likely to be the largest UK immigration from outside Europe begins since Windrush, from Hong Kong. Chinese Christians have been worshipping in the UK for at least 70 years. Today the Chinese Christian community flourishes with congregations preaching in English, Mandarin and Cantonese in most major towns and cities across the country. As Chinese New Year approaches, Rev Henry Lu of Chinese Overseas Christian Mission leads today's Sunday Worship, exploring the themes of hospitality and welcome, particularly in anticipation of the many immigrants expected to arrive in the UK from Hong Kong in the coming months. Preacher: Rev. Connie Yu.

Methodist resources: [click here](#). URC resources: [click here](#).

URC: [daily devotions and a Sunday service \(click here to subscribe\)](#).

Contributions to future newsletters

Please send contributions by midday Wednesday to:
Penny Gardner pennylgardner@gmail.com 01935 389153 and
Ruth Rogerson rogersonruth@gmail.com 01935 813498.