

August/September 2018

CONTACT

St George's Church
High Heaton



Where faith comes to life

Coming up

August		
2nd	1.30 pm	Summer Zone Stay and Play begins 0 -12 years
5th	10 am 11 am	Minister, Rev'd Dr Grant Wilson. Holy Communion during Praise worship.
12th	10 am 11 am	Praise worship led by Harry Fawcitt Traditional worship led by Rev Harold Stutely
19th	10 am	Minister, Rev'd Dr Grant Wilson.
26th	10 am 11 am	Praise worship led by Angela Mackenzie, Sandra & Norman Nossiter. Traditional worship led by Prof John Derry
September		
2nd	10.30 am	All together worship led by John Durell to include Holy Communion
4th	7.30 pm	HCT meeting at Martha and Mary's
9th	10 am 11 am	Praise worship led by Alphonsi Solomon Traditional worship led by Rev'd Dr Tony Haws
12th	9.30 am	Little Fishes Toddler Group restarts
14th		Kema Kay Workshop
16th	10 am	Worship led by the minister, Rev'd Dr Grant Wilson.
19th	TBC	Safeguarding training
23rd	10 am 11 am	Praise worship led by June Holmes Traditional worship led by Mrs Jackie Haws
30th	10 am	Worship led by the minister, Rev'd Dr Grant Wilson.
October		
7th	10 am	Worship led by the minister, Rev'd Dr Grant Wilson
14th	10 am 11 am	Praise worship led by Judith Das Traditional worship led by Alphonsi Solomon.
18th	7 pm	Development Elders Meet

From Grant

A couple of weeks ago we made our second visit to the Big Church Day Out in Cheshire. It is a great celebration of contemporary Christianity, with lots of music and activities for young people and families. Browsing the book tent, I picked up a recent book called *A Church for the Poor*, by Martin Charlesworth and Natalie Williams. It's quite short (180 pages), and it's easy to read – but it's very challenging. 'We have a big vision to see churches of all denominations, in all areas of the country, becoming diverse families for everyone, regardless of class, wealth, social status or any potential barrier,' the introduction declares.

The vision is hard to deliver because, consciously or not, rich and poor, the comfortable and the struggling, have different values and priorities, and find it hard to relate to one another. The authors' previous book was called *The Myth of the Undeserving Poor*, a blistering attack on the ways the media presents the problem of poverty, and how even well-intentioned Christians find it easy to let themselves off the moral hook by blaming the poor for their own problems.

The new book presents a different but related argument. Its opening sentence declares, 'The church that Jesus planted was a church for the poor,' but our churches are not the institutions Jesus intended them to be. Somehow, in our own time, mainstream churches have become 'a respectable haunt for the middle classes instead of a radical haven of hope for the poor, the oppressed and the marginalised.' Charlesworth and Williams are not the only ones who see this: at the New Wine conference last year, the Bishop of Burnley, the Rt Revd Philip North, accused the church of being 'complicit in the abandonment of the poor.'

Over the years the demographics of our churches have narrowed, in terms of age, class, and ethnicity: to the point that there are major cultural barriers to our engaging with people beyond our doors – and vice versa. When people come into church, too often they feel like outsiders; when we go to places outside our familiar church territories, we feel a similar discomfort. As our churches have become narrower and less relevant, they have become smaller. The authors point to this problem: 'Churches are closing down across the Western world and, by and large, the poor are not noticing because the poor are not among them.'

It does not have to be like this. The authors point out that revival 'almost always starts with the poor'. It was true of the New Testament church. It was true, three hundred years ago, of the unlicensed fellowships that gave rise to the free churches, true of John Wesley's 'classes', true of William Booth's Salvation Army: all were born from the conviction that the gospel was for everyone, and so the church was for everyone. They encouraged poor people to better themselves as well as deepening their faith, but they succeeded almost too well: to the point where, over two or three generations, the churches they joined lost touch with their roots, so that another revival was needed. I believe the time is ripe again for a revival.

We recently had a thinking day devoted to the Synod Way Forward. It was a good day to get to know one another better, but there were few ideas for positive action. There is no point in proposing any radical re-organisation in the absence of a vision, and no vision has yet emerged for the future of the United Reformed Church in Newcastle. I believe we should aspire not just to be community churches, but 'churches that change communities', to borrow a phrase from the Jubilee+ organisation. However we must base our plans on the realistic perception that most individual congregations lack the resources to attempt meaningful projects on their own, and so we must learn to work together. The best way for churches to learn to work together is by doing it, and the most productive forms of work we can do together are projects in the community directed to the needs of the most disadvantaged. After that, we can think about the organisational issues.

There are hopeful signs here and there. I look forward to seeing the seeds that have been planted begin to grow.

A Short Reflection

July 5th marked the 70th anniversary of the NHS. The short reflection thinks about the three core principles on which it was founded, and what we can learn from this for our daily lives.

1. That it meets the need of everyone

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" .

This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it "Love your neighbour as yourself" (Matthew 22: 37-39)

Take a moment to reflect upon our neighbours who need to feel love.

2. That it be free at the point of delivery

"And if you lend to those from whom, you exact repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full" (Luke 6: 34)

Take a moment to reflect on a time when someone has been generous to you and to thank God for them.

3. That it be based on clinical need, not the ability to pay.

"A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, "If you are willing, you can make me clean" . Jesus was indignant. He reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing" he said, "Be clean" . Mark 1: 40-41.

Take a moment to reflect on those in need around us and to ask God to show us who we can serve today.

So let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord, in the name of Christ. Amen.

Let nothing disturb you,
Let nothing frighten you,
All things are passing;
God only is changeless.
Patience gains all things.
Who has God wants nothing.
God alone suffices.
St Teresa.

Congratulations

Our Love, Congratulations and Best Wishes go to Dennis and Julia as they celebrate their Golden wedding on September 28th. We wish them many more happy years together.

Readings for August and September

- 5-Aug-18 2 Samuel 11 vs 26- ch 12 vs 13a, Psalm 51 vs 1-12, (or Exodus 16 vs 2-4, 9-15),
Psalm 78 vs 23-29, Ephesians 4 vs 1-16, St. John 6 vs 24-35
- 12-Aug-18 2 Samuel 18 vs 5-9, 15, 31-33, Psalm 130 (or 1 Kings 19 vs 4-8), Psalm 34 vs
1-8.
Ephesian 4 vs 25 to ch 5 v 2, St. John 6 vs 35, 41-51
- 19-Aug-18 1 Kings 2 vs 10-12 & ch 3 vs 3-14, Psalm 111 (or Proverbs 9 vs 1-6) Psalm 34 vs
9-14, Ephesians 5 vs 15-20, St. John 6 vs 51-58
- 26-Aug-18 1 Kings 8 vs (1,6,10-11), 22-30, 41-43, Psalm 84 (or Joshua 24 vs 1-2a, 14-18),
Psalm 34 vs 15-22, Ephesians 6 vs 10-20, St. John 6 vs 56-69
- 2-Sep-18 Song of Songs 2 vs 8-13, Psalm 45 vs 1-2, 6-9 (or Deuteronomy 4 vs 1-2, 6-9),
Psalm 15, James 1 vs 17-27, Mark 7 vs 1-8, 14-15, 21-23
- 9-Sep-18 Proverbs 22 vs 1-2, 8-9, 22-23, Psalm 125 (or Isaiah 35 vs 4-7a), Psalm 146
James 2 vs 1-10, (11-13), 14-17, Mark 7 vs 24-37
- 16-Sep-18 Proverbs 1 vs 20-33, Psalm 19, (or Isaiah 50 vs 4-9a) Psalm 116 vs 1-9, James
3 vs 1-12, Mark 8 vs 27 - 38
- 23-Sep-18 Proverbs 31 vs 10-31, Psalm 1, (or Jeremiah 11 vs 18-20), Psalm 54, James 3 vs
13 - ch 4 vs 3, 7-8a, Mark 9 vs 30- 37
- 30-Sep-18 Esther 7 vs 1-6, 9-10, ch 9 vs 20-22, Psalm 124 (or Numbers 11 vs 4-6,
10-16, 24-29), Psalm 19 vs 7-14, James 5 vs 13-20, Mark 9 vs 38-50
- 7-Oct-18 Job 1 vs 1, ch 2 vs 1-10, Psalm 26 (or Genesis 2 vs 18-24) Psalm 8, Hebrews 1
vs 1-4, ch 2 vs 5-12, Mark 10 vs 2-16

June Day of Prayer

We were so excited to welcome visitors from all over Newcastle join with us and pray about The Way Ahead. For the churches across the city. There were prayer stations offered by Junior church and quiet spaces to reflect as well as opportunities to join together in prayer. It was a great time together and there was a real sense of God moving.

Bible a Month : Ghana

“Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven” Matthew 19, v14. (ESV)

Ghana is a country in Western Africa; its southern coastline borders on the Atlantic Ocean, and it has land borders with Cote d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso and Togo. It covers an area of 238,000 sq km, which is approx. 98% of the UK. It has a population of 27.5 million-include English, Asante, Ewe, Fante, plus other local languages. approximately 42% of that of the UK. The literacy rate is 76% and languages

Over 71% of the population of Ghana identifies as Christian and yet each year our team in Ghana receive almost 2,000 letters from young people requesting Scriptures. Furthermore, head teachers report rising problems in society such as family break down and incidents of bullying, drug abuse and robbery.

Thanks to Bible a Month gifts, the Bible Society team in Ghana has been able to respond to head teachers requesting assistance in increasing the Bible knowledge of children. The Bible storytelling project in schools is changing attitudes as young people apply what they learn to their lives. The project is able to expand. Over the last year, another 54 new volunteers have been trained to work in 8 new schools and the vision over the coming year is to extend the project into another 3 regions in Ghana.

Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks for children like David and Irene. May they continue to grow in faith and trust in the Lord.
- Ask God to bless the crucial relationship between churches and our team in Ghana, raising up new volunteers to expand the Bible storytelling project into new regions and schools.
- Thank God that head teachers are turning to the Bible and relying on the power of God to transform the lives of the children in their care and their society.
- Pray for the African Biblical Leadership Initiative in Ghana as it seeks to promote Biblical values and principles in wider society. Pray for the forum taking place in July 2018 as it works to influence young leaders in academia, government and corporate Organisations.

Thank you so much for your support for the

Bible Society,
which is bringing the Bible life at home and around the world

Our Swish ... a recycling event

On 7th July Inez and Beth organised our first SWISH, at St G to raise funds for their travel and accommodation costs for Uganda. The main hall was transformed: it looked gorgeous and the cakes were delish!

It was a quiet afternoon but very relaxing and it was good to see people young and older swapping not shopping.

We would like to thank everyone for coming along and for the kind donations of those who could not. We raised over £250 thanks to your generosity.



International Night

On the 28th July 4-7pm we are holding another wonderful International Night . Sharing music and chat Food, music and fun. Everyone is welcome.



CHRISTMAS is coming ! CAKES CAKES CAKES

Once again I am taking orders for Christmas Cakes (un-iced). As in previous years, all profits will go to Church funds.

A 6 inch square cake will cost £11.00. and an 8 inch square cake will be £20.00. Audrey Matfin



GREAT EXHIBITION
OF THE NORTH
22 JUN – 09 SEP '18

The Dog Ate My Wheelchair

The Dog Ate My Wheelchair is a unique multi-screen video installation offering glimpses into the world of a group of north east people who identify as 'disabled' or 'different' as a result of mental and/or physical health impairments. Disability North have been working with established artist, Neil Armstrong, to bring together disabled people from the North East to converse about their everyday lives and the places in the region which inspire them.

The project began with participants talking about objects which mean something to them in their everyday life, as seen in three video pieces facing outwards from Newcastle Central Library, Newcastle Haymarket, and Clayton Street. We later explored 'place' as a theme for discussion, and a longer film (with audio) sees three of the participants visiting their 'significant places' in the North East, including Tynemouth, Jesmond Dene and Gateshead. This can be found inside Newcastle Central Library. We hope the piece will stimulate conversation and provide a moment of contemplation for all who encounter it. Please do come along to discuss the project with the organisers and participants at Newcastle Central Library 4pm - 5pm on Monday 13th August 2018 in the Bewick Hall on level 2. email:

victoriaarmstrong@disabilitynorth.org.uk tel: 0191 284 0480

Prayers are asked for the following churches, and people associated with Northern Synod.

August 5th The work of Pastoral Committee and its convenor.

12 th Ponteland URC; St John's URC, Wideopen.

19 th St George's URC Morpeth; Great Bavington URC; Widdrington URC.

26th St Aidan's URC, Hexham; Horsley URC; West Denton URC.

September 2nd The RC Bishop of Middlesbrough, the Rt Rev'd Terry Draine

9th The work of the URC (Northern Province Trust Ltd) and convenor, Rev'd David Grosh- Miller and Secretary Dr Andrew Hamnett.

16 th St James's URC, Newcastle; St Andrew's URC, Kenton; Rev'd James Breslin.

23 rd Longframlington URC; Rothbury URC; St Andrew's URC, Glanton; Rev'd Ed Butlin

30th PCM (Presbyterian Church of Mozambique); Lay Training and evening classes at Khove in Maputo.

October 7th Synod meeting on 13th October; Moderator's Secretary, Mrs Wendy Watson; Trust officer, Mr Andrew Atkinson; Finance Officer, Mrs Helen Hogg; Ecumenical Officer, Mr Andy Lie.

14th Prisons Week (England and Wales),

8th October. The work of Mission Committee and its convenor, Rev'd Meg Robb



SUMMER
Zone *st*
@ George's

stgeorgesfamilies@gmail.com
stgeorges.biz

Thursdays in August
ALL FREE!

brunch at 1.30
play, crafts, games 2 till 4
...and coffee for
dads, mums
and carers

Each one Reach one using EE.

The early church grew quickly under persecution but as soon as Christianity became the state religion under Emperor Constantine evangelism was taken out of the hands of 'ordinary' Christians and became the business of the priests and church officials. To this day it is easy to think the paid people or the qualified will do it because it takes courage to share a testimony.

Yet Faith comes by hearing and hearing the Word of *God Rom 10:17*

How can people have Faith if they do not hear the Word of God? If Christians do not tell who will do it?

Evangelism Explosion What is it?

It is a program I would like to introduce to St George's. It has several objectives, e.g. Train Christians to share their Faith with others, bringing about Church growth, Discipleship.

The program describes 'It is more important to train a soul winner than to win a soul. Converts must become evangelists, disciples disciplers.

The Lord Jesus did not say go make more converts, but to go and make disciples. It is because winning a person to Christ is so important that training someone to win 10 people to Christ or 100 or 1000 people to Christ is so much more important. One of the wonderful parts of this program is that these tasks are combined and people are trained to evangelise by observing others being evangelised. One is not done to the exclusion of the other.

Christ's last instructions on this earth to his disciples were "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witness unto both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Christ that has begun and ended his ministry with the command to be witnesses and fishers of men! This thrust of his teaching is summed up in the Great Commission where Jesus commands his followers to go into all of the world and preach the gospel to every creature. The first and most world. But the question then arises, how is this to be done and by whom?

People say, "I'm just a nurse, or teacher, or builder, and what do I know about theology? I've never been to bible college; leave it to the trained ecclesiastical generals!" This I believe has been the greatest tragedy that has befallen the Church of Jesus Christ.

EVERYONE EVANGELISING

In Acts 8:1 where we read that “they were all scattered abroad except the apostles.: And (Acts 8:4) “they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word.” The word translated “preaching the word” “evangelizing.” That is, everybody except the apostles went everywhere evangelizing! Now we know that the apostles did their share. But the point here is that everyone besides the apostles also went and evangelized.

EE, starts with only two people who will get two prayer partners, it needs two hours commitment per week only for 14 weeks. Need people who are Faithful, Available, and Teachable. Please come and talk to me about it Solomon

Church Related Community Workers

It was great to welcome Fliss Tunnard to church on the 7th July to talk about the role of CRCW's . Fliss told us of her time as a Primary School Teacher and her growing sense that God was calling her to do something more! She shared her journey and her excitement about working in the community. She starts her course in September and asks for our prayers. It was a delight to have you with us Fliss and thank you for taking the time to speak with others who are interested.



Safeguarding Training - Book NOW!

We have booked two excellent trainers, Ann Tunnard and Mary Davidson who are coming all the way down from North Northumberland to lead our Safeguarding Training on the 19th September at 6pm. They will take us through this valuable training which in turn will let us continue the work we do in church and the community! Food can be available if you are coming from work or commitments so please let us know. It would be great to get as many people as possible signing up.

Church Meeting Sunday October 21st 2018 at 11.15 am

At our Church Meeting in October, we will be electing people to fill a number of positions as we seek to carry out God's work in this place. Each of these posts is an important part of our life and work here. May I encourage you to start praying NOW about them? If God puts a name into your prayers, please approach that person and encourage them to pray about it too. Don't leave it till the last minute!

The October/November issue of Contact will contain the "job descriptions" for the various tasks but if you would like to know more before that, please contact either Grant, myself or Tony Hall, Assistant Secretary.

The Pastoral Elders and/or Pastoral Visitors will need to have a DBS check carried out- Disclosure and Barring, to comply with our current Safeguarding church policy. This can be done with you either by Dorothy Coates or Dorothy Barker, who are our church Verifiers and who will explain the whole process. The DBS check is free for Volunteers.

Also in accordance with our Safeguarding policy, a Safe Recruitment Process will apply in the recruitment of volunteers to undertake work with children, young people and vulnerable adults. (For details please see Dorothy B or Marina).

The following people will be eligible for re-election if they so wish: the posts are also open to interested individuals. The length of the appointment is in brackets.

Pastoral Elders: (3 years). Audrey Matfin; Dorothy Coates. Julia Watson has indicated that she will not be standing for re-election.

Development Elders: (3 years). Dorothy Barker; Peter Willox.

Property Convenor: (3 years). No one in post.

Property Committee: (2 years). Harry Fawcitt.

Finance Committee: (2 years). Stewart Barclay; Peter Willox.

Church pianist and/or organist. It would give some respite to the current musicians - who are around every week apart from holidays- if we could have some help. Even if you think you can't play well enough, please have a word with Barbara Barclay or Dorothy B, to see if you could play occasionally to build up your confidence/repertoire. Everyone has to start somewhere and there **MUST** be keyboard players within our congregation!

Also, if anyone can help with the computer setting up and operating each week, as part of a team, please see Stewart Barclay.

St George's greatly appreciates all our post holders. Without your help, goodwill and diligence, many jobs would not be done around the church. Thank you

Prayer Power

When I struggle in life I always turn to God...eventually. Often after trying retail therapy, chocolate, wine, talking to friends, going to the gym, Netflix etc., and not necessarily in that order! I have been known to do anything to distract myself from getting down to the business of prayer. I think that this spiritual meandering is often a result of not knowing what to say, feeling ashamed of something, and/or (unwisely) deciding that I can do it alone and don't need God's help. For me, the thought of prayer can be daunting – how do I know I'm doing it right?

I want to share a recent and profound personal experience of prayer. It serves as a reminder of the intensity of God's power and love, and why I now know, more than ever before, that there is no 'right way' to pray.

I'd been having a bit of a hard time. I was talking to God a lot during this time and on a daily basis I asked for His help and comfort to know that I wasn't alone and that I was doing the right thing. His reassurance came in the form of trees, fresh air, favourite Rend Collective songs, parks, my dog, and even a little spider that came to visit me a few times on my bathroom window sill. But there was a particularly low night, a night when I had got myself so wrapped up in my feelings. I got angry, threw things that reminded me of the ex in the bin, drank some wine, , and asked God why I still felt this way. I went to sleep and woke in the early hours, upset and fed up, and still seeking God's help.

I regularly use my journal to jot down thoughts and feelings, and events of the day. It helps me process things. At that moment I thought it would be helpful to pray to God by writing my prayer in my journal. And so I did...

Thank you God for the life you've given me and the challenges and heartaches you have led me to experience. I am safe in the knowledge that I am where you need me to be right now. And I can pray to you any time, and you are my Father, and hear my prayers. I am trusting in you that I learn the lesson you are teaching and that it is you and our relationship I must focus on now whilst you reveal to me the next stage of my life. My life often feels painful when I think of the past. Please help me release the pain to you and accept what is your will. And teach me how to better do your work. Please stay with me God and I pray you stay close.

This was a '3am tears streaming down my face' sort of a prayer. I then picked up a book I was reading 'Red Moon Rising' by Pete Greig, about the 24-7 prayer movement. It was truly amazing that in the chapter I was about to read, I saw my prayer reflected in the verses of the Bible Pete had selected and reproduced...

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7).

The crying stopped. Less than 20 minutes before I had frantically scribbled down my prayer. And here it was reflected back at me; another God moment. I went to sleep knowing God was there and had the most vivid dream that would change how I saw things . I won't go into detail, but quite simply the dream did everything I needed it to . I woke up knowing that God had spoken to me and with the sense of peace I had been praying for.

God was there all along. He wanted my heart to be open to hear him and the next day I felt giddy on God's love. The experience served as a reminder that my relationship with God is by far the most important relationship I will ever have. Without it I would be looking to people and things to fill me up in a way which will always be lacking, because it is only God that can fill certain spaces and give me that sort of love. Nothing of what happened that night or over those weeks of despair was because I knew how to pray or because I had suddenly worked out how to do it right. I went to God with thanks, love, trust, and need...and God provided. For me, the basis of prayer is an open heart. Whether you write it down, sing it, speak it, think it, or maybe even mime it, through prayer of any sort we nurture our relationship with God. The rest is down to practise, a subject for another time!

Victoria Armstrong

Why you should be drinking Fairtrade wine and where to find it

by Will Thacker

You probably know that Fairtrade wine is a thing. But did you know that Fairtrade wine from Lebanon is the thing? As in, flying off the shelves at around 500 Co-op stores? Charge your glass and allow us to explain the story of Lebanese wine.

From Cannabis to Cabernet

Before the turn of the century, the fields of North Bekaa, a fertile valley between mountains, were known for illicit poppy and cannabis production, which came at great risk to growers who lived in violation of the law. Something needed to change.

Then in 2000, farmers in 11 villages established the Coteaux Heliopolis cooperative, replacing poppy and cannabis production with grapes for winemaking. With financial backing and logistical support from the French department of Oise, the farmers could establish a secure and stable livelihood by cultivating their new crop - the vines of Syrah, Cabernet Sauvignon, Tempranillo and

Caladoc. Today, the cooperative's 250 farmers cultivate 240 hectares of vineyards, providing a sustainable livelihood for producers in the region.

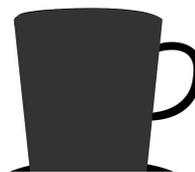
Opportunities for Refugees

The chance for producers to work in a legal supply chain - with stable prices and no risk of the authorities destroying their crops - has enabled Lebanese wine culture to blossom. Today, there are 50 Lebanese wine producers, compared with 14 in the early 2000s. But the benefits far outweigh mere dollars and cents (or the Lebanese pound). Coteaux Heliopolis promotes community cohesion between Muslims and Christians, and with more than one million Syrian refugees relocating to the Bekaa Valley, wine production has provided a valuable source of work for people eager to rebuild their lives. Lebanon itself endured a civil war between 1975 and 1990, when legendary winemaker Serge Hochar worked stoically to keep the industry alive, so the continued success of winemaking in Lebanon is a matter of pride to many. What's more, the transformation from cannabis to Cabernet Sauvignon has protected children from the potential harm caused by growing up around drugs.

Today, the wine world is really beginning to pay attention. Pop down to the Co-op and pick up a bottle of Coteaux les Cèdres, the world's first Lebanese Fairtrade wine and a Coteaux Heliopolis favourite. This full-bodied wine - the first in Lebanon and the Middle East to have both Fairtrade and Organic certifications - has the aroma of ripe strawberry and red cherry, a hint of rosemary and a touch of plum and nutmeg to finish. Oh, and not only is the wine organic, not only is it VEGAN, it's deliciously moreish, high-quality stuff. No wonder Coteaux les Cèdres made The Wine Merchant's Top 50 in 2013. And of course, it tastes all the sweeter knowing the first stock of Coteaux les Cèdres has already funded a fresh water tank to help address water shortages in remote parts of Lebanon. ...

So next time you play dinner party host, roll out the Fairtrade peanuts from Malawi, chocolates from Costa Rica and delicious wine from Lebanon!

From www.fairtrade.org.co.uk



CONNECT GROUP

Will start again in September. We have finished looking and chatting about Acts. It was full of interesting stuff and a real challenge to us. Not just that it's a great chance to get to know each other better! We are thinking about Luke for our next study. Let me know your thoughts Grant

Points to Ponder

God doesn't want you just to GO to church. God wants you to BE the church.

Cynicism creeps up on all of us. Let it grow unchecked and you will become the Christian who's seen it all, knows it all, and tells everyone about it. Which also means 2 things; you're no fun to hang out with and you've stopped growing. Curiosity appears to be the antidote to cynicism. The curious ask questions; they're interested; they're learners; they don't think they know it all. *Carey Nieuwhof*

The gospel is less about how to get into the Kingdom of heaven after you die, and more about how to live in the Kingdom of heaven before you die.

A good laugh and a long sleep are the two best cures for anything. *Irish Proverb*

Due to increased brain activity, people with higher intelligence tend to have a harder time falling asleep at night. *SimpleReminders.com*

Grief never ends....but it changes. It's a passage, not a place to stay. Grief is not a sign of weakness, nor a lack of faith....it's the price of love. *MindfulChristianityToday*

God is bigger than your past. Your depression. Your pain. Your hate. Your anger. Your doubt. Your fear. Your shame. Your anxiety. Your scars. This world. *Clergycoachingnetwork*

N.B. Most of the above are freely available on the Internet and cannot be attributed to any particular author.

Rotas for August - September

	5th Aug	12th	19th	26th	2nd Sept	9th	16th	23rd	30th
Duty Elder	L Dixon	D. Barker	S. Cowey	A Hall	J Das	S Nossiter	A Solomon	R Croft	A Hall
Door Steward	I. and B. Renton	J. Das Lesley	A. Matfin A. Armstrong	T and B Hall	M. Foster A N Other	H & D Fawcitt	S and S Cowey	D Coates Ann C	E Cowey M Applegate
Communion Steward	M Applegat S Cowey				T Hall H Fawcitt				
Comp Set Up	L. Dixon	S. Barclay	S. Nossite	S. Barclay	B. Renton	S. Nossite	S Barclay	B. Renton	L. Dixon
Comp Op	L. Cowey	A. Hall	H. Fawcett	A. Armstrong	B. Renton	S. Nossiter	S Barclay	A. Armstrong	L. Cowey
Sound Desk									
Count	Ivy Bob	Steve Sharon	Audrey	Denise Harry	Sandra Norman	Ivy Bob	Sharon Steve	Audrey	Denise Harry
Flowers Donation	Anthony, Fiona Armstron	Dorothy Alan Barker					Sandra, Norman Nossiter		
Flowers Arranger	C Hutton	D Barker	I Renton	S Nossite	K Wilkes	C Hutton	D Barker	I Renton	S Nossiter
Flowers Distrib	L Wilford	A Clough	D Ward	D Coates	J Cartman	L Cowey	D Barker	A Clough	L Wilford
Coffee Set up	Ann Renee	Solom Y C	Tony Babs	Kim Mitra	Clare	Tony Babs	Solomon Youth C	Kim Mitra	Ann Renee
Coffee Serve	Ann Renee	Solomo Y C	Tony Babs	Carole Ivy	Sandra Clare	Tony Babs	Solomon Youth C	Carole Ivy	Ann Renee