



*The Westgate  
Chronicle*

**Issue 457: August 2016**

Westgate Church, Peterborough  
*United Reformed/Methodist*  
Minister: The Revd Lesley Moseley  
Church Phone/Fax: 01733 311043  
Minister: 01733 751681  
<http://www.westgatechurch.org.uk/>



### **Our Mission Statement**

We at Westgate are called by God to highlight Jesus Christ's love for the people of Peterborough.

We pass on this good news by worship, fellowship, mission, education, personal life and social service.

Life is rather busy just now, not only for me; all our lives at Westgate are becoming rather frantic. As the various elements of selling property and reconfiguring our spaces loom ever larger, there are more and more tasks to undertake. All the old tasks are still there; we still need a treasurer, gardeners, greeters, washer uppers and so on but we also need new tasks to be undertaken. Mostly the new tasks are being taken on by the people who have been doing the 'old' tasks. On behalf of all of us I'd like to say a big thank you to you for what you do.



As we look to the future, I'd like to remind you of something that I've spoken about before. These are principles of the Scottish Episcopal Church's collaborative ministry programme. Some years ago I heard a very persuasive minister speaking of the two cardinal principles, which had enriched and rejuvenated many programmes in their smaller churches.

These two principles are:

- no one has two jobs until everyone has one
- if there is no one to do a job ask, 'Does God want that job doing?' The implication is that very often God does not want the job doing. Just because it has always been done doesn't mean we have

to continue to struggle to do it under changed circumstances.

If you don't have a job, then please consider what you can do. Remember that just being alongside others is an encouragement. Just coming to an event, even if you can't physically participate, helps those who undertake the physical tasks to know that they are not alone in their work. If you have too many jobs, consider which of them you can delegate and consider finding an apprentice who will be able to help you and maybe eventually take over the task.

May I remind you of the vision statement, which we adopted many months ago: **Westgate Church seeks to be a church which welcomes everyone and shows them God's**

**love. As part of Central Peterborough we aim to serve all sectors of the community through worship, friendship, activities and support.**

Once our relocation is complete we shall need to rethink our activities in line with this vision. As well as the 'tasks' of being a church, we have committed ourselves to proclaiming the gospel of love through the way we relate to God and to each other, and through serving the people we encounter from day to day. Now is the time to begin to ask afresh,

'What does this commitment mean for me? What does God want of me?' If you are unsure, then begin a conversation with your pastoral visitor, or our church leaders, to discover how your particular gifts can serve the kingdom of God. This is San opportunity for us to move forward together, to grow our community as a place where God's love is found and shared with all who enter.

Yours in Christ,

*Lesley*

*More from Lesley on p9*

---

## RICHARD GILLARD

One of the beautiful hymns in our hymn book (Singing The Faith) is entitled 'The Servant Song', Hymn 611, 'Brother, Sister, let me serve you ; Let me be as Christ to you. . .

This song was written by New Zealand composer Richard Gillard. He was born on May 22nd 1953 at Malmesbury, Wiltshire, England. The eldest of six children, when he was three he emigrated to New Zealand with his family and he has lived there ever since.

His Christian background is a mixture of the Anglican church on his mother's side and the Pentecostal church on his father's side. He attended a teacher's Training College and worked as a teacher in primary schools and later worked as a warehouseman until 1975 and then embarked on developing his music.

The Australian hymnologist Professor Wesley Milgate spoke of Mr Gillard's musical background: "He has had little musical training but from the age of seven began the ukelele and other musical instruments, often to accompany his own singing and learning by experiment and later with the help of his father and Pentecostal Church musicians. . .' Mr Gillard improved his compositional style



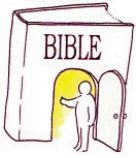
by joining the Singers at St Pauls Anglican Church in Auckland, New Zealand, where he and his wife are members, and introduced many folk songs to New Zealand congregations. He began writing his own songs in the 1970s.

Mr Milgate also offered an account of Gillard's best known composition, The Servant Song. "The song began in 1977, when Richard Gillard jotted down verse 3 on a piece of paper, which, on returning from travels in Britain, Europe and Israel, he found in his guitar case. He completed the song, the first line of verses 1 and 6 originally being "Brother, let me be your servant".

Since then the text has been altered to what it is today and is sung around the world, appearing in many hymnals.

*Manny*

Sources: United Methodist Reporter, Wikipedia



# STORIES WITHIN THE STORY: GOD'S HOLIDAY

*The story about writing a vital part of the Scriptures is told by Seth, a priest in Jerusalem:*

I got the plum job. We were bringing together traditions about the early history of our people and of the world. When lots were drawn I was in the team sifting through traditions about making the world, which has become Genesis chapter 1 (and ch 2 vs 1-3).

Of course, we knew little directly about those days – we are talking about before there were people on Earth – but we knew enough about the LORD to help us sift the evidence. The world is a place of order, not random events. Creatures come in categories – birds, insects, plants. . . time is not haphazard but runs in an orderly fashion; the heavens have a fixed if intricate pattern. Behind everything is a plan, revealing the mind of the Creator, which loves order and beauty.

Experience taught us that Holy God was separate from the world, speaking his will to prophets, rulers and priests. God is all-powerful, in a restrained way – on rare occasions we see that power directly at work, as when the waters rolled back to allow Moses to lead the people across the Red Sea, but mostly the Almighty just speaks to his people. It must have been the same, before there were people; God drew up his plan, spoke his will and it happened.

Things often come in sevens, so it seemed natural to describe creation over seven epochs. We observe the Sabbath,



the seventh day, devoted to relaxation and rest in God; I thought that if that works for us, it may also be how God works; certainly Sabbath rest is provided in God's great plan. After a busy week, we need down time; the LORD, being God, may not *need* down time, but

must have spent time reflecting, looking at all that was made, realising how good it was. Surely God took a holiday, reflection time, rest time, "Sabbath" time.

Read Genesis ch 1 and you will see how all this came together – God's ordered Plan for Creation, God keeping apart from the created world and yet fashioning everything by his powerful word, God's holiday in the seventh period, a Sabbath time which we reflect each week in our time of relaxation and praise – "Queen Shabbat".

## *Seth*

*Seth reflects one strand in Genesis; if this approach was followed for the second Creation account in chapter 2 verse 4 onwards, the personality and ideas of the writer would have been different.*

*He speaks of "Queen Shabbat": a Jewish expression reflecting the high status and significance of the Sabbath. He thought Sabbath – holiday – time was vital for God to reflect on what God made: holiday times are vital for us, to rest, relax and reflect on the created order God has given.*

*Ian*



# GREEN AND CHEERFUL



On July 5<sup>th</sup> there was a talk in Peterborough Cathedral's North Transept by Rev Dr. Claire Foster-Gilbert, arranged jointly by the Churches Together Eco-Faith Group and Peterborough Cathedral, as the annual Montgomery Trust lecture. It was attended by 30-40 people.

Dr Foster-Gilbert studied theology at Oxford, then medical ethics, and became policy adviser to the Archbishops' Council of the Church of England. She has led development of the Church of England's understanding of environmental issues. More recently she became Director of the Westminster Abbey Institute, which works with the public service institutions of Westminster to revitalise moral and spiritual values in public life.

Her talk drew on long experience of promoting environmental awareness in the church – "Green" issues. The main component was an imaginative, almost poetic tour through the "spheres" of our planet – atmosphere, hydrosphere (surface water, oceanic and fresh), lithosphere (rocks), pedosphere (soil layer) and biosphere (living organisms) – celebrating the fecundity of life throughout, and reflecting on changes in three hundred years of industrial revolution and Enlightenment thinking. There are detrimental effects in all areas as a result of pollution, including heat pollution, and of a cavalier approach to reshaping our environment for the perceived benefit of humans and in the interest of short-term gain, careless of the

impact on other creatures or the future. However, there are now signs of a turning tide as natural, replaceable energy generation begins to ease out fossil fuels, so we can be

"Cheerful" about long term prospects for the environment. We begin to mourn the end of the fossil fuel age!

Turning to the Bible, she contrasted the accounts of creation in the first two chapters of Genesis. While Chapter 1 builds up levels of creation and makes humankind its pinnacle with immortal souls made in God's likeness and commanded to "be fruitful. . . fill the earth and subdue it" (Gen 1:28), in Chapter 2 God forms Adam, the first human, from the adamah (dust, soil layer) making a much closer relationship with other creatures and the whole planet. Moreover, Adam tills the soil, a carer for the planet and all creatures.

The church has been accused – with some justification – of advocating the "subdue the earth" approach, leading to the current environmental crisis. We must learn to love the Earth and all living creatures, regarding ourselves as part of the "family of things" in a way that fits well with the Adamic account of creation.

The comprehensive account, of which I can only reflect a flavour, was well received. In view of Dr Foster-Gilbert's current role, it was unsurprising that questions and discussion included asking how political leaders can be persuaded to adopt an environmentally friendly approach. The answer was, they can't – popular perception must change and eventually politicians will follow what most people want to be done.

*Ian*

# A DEVOTION ON CHANGE

*Sarah wrote this for devotions at a Church Council meeting. She was then asked to pass it on to the Chronicle and we are very happy to print it.*

Firstly, I want to let you know I have never been asked to prepare devotions of any sort before, so please bear with me.



Many moons ago, when Dave and I were panning our marriage, we looked into Scripture to find out what a biblical wedding should actually be like. What we found surprised us: the Bible was surprisingly silent about it. It only told us two things:

- It needed to be a public declaration before God and witnesses
- It needed a party!  
So we did just that!

When I came to our devotions I decided to look at biblical references about change, and again I was surprised. There are a few constant things:

- God never changes
- God expects us to change as a result of faith
- We should not be afraid of the changes at death

but very little on changes in our lives. Indeed the passage that I thought would be sensible:

*"Forget the former things; do not*

*dwell on the past. See I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up, do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland" (Isaiah 43:18-19),*

goes on few verses later to say that Israel has not called on God or offered him sacrifices, so they have ignored the wonderful new things he has for them.

However, if we look at the life of Jesus, we see change all around him. His family have to flee for their lives to a foreign land, and after settling there and building a life, they have to do it all again after the removal of the threat to their lives.

As he comes into his ministry he experiences great change. 40 days in the wilderness, facing the devil full on, and then never really being at home for long again. I wonder if he ever feels nervous about speaking to the crowds? A carpenter's life is not exactly in the spotlight. I think that we accept the changes in Jesus's life without really thinking about what the impact is on both Jesus and those around him. For example, Mary had always known that her son was destined for more than whittling wood, she was told by an angel after all, but does that mean she was not nervous when it started to happen or worried when he disappeared for 40 days?

But I think the Bible is so silent about change and how it affects us, as it tells us to cling onto God and trust him with all aspects of our lives. Paul said in Ephesians, "for we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do". Jesus did not let change limit what he was doing, because he knew what God's plan was and he was determined to carry it out. If he takes change in his stride,

then I think we should too.

I, for one, am glad that the sale of the church and move to the new building is a finite project. I would like to get back to the other business of church: evangelism, helping the poor and fighting oppression. But I can see God's hand in

this, and want our work to bring glory to Him. I know it will not please all of the congregation, because you can never please so many different tastes, so I want to try to focus on what will please God in these and all decisions we make.

*Sarah*



## URC GENERAL ASSEMBLY 8-11 JULY

This United Reformed Church General Assembly made two important decisions.

1. To allow churches, which wish to register, to conduct same sex marriages. (It does not enable Westgate to do so as we need the approval of both Methodist and United Reformed Churches.)
2. To join the Churches Mutual Credit Union. Details follow.

**The URC has joined the Churches' Mutual Credit Union (CMCU), enabling ministers, elders and congregations to invest savings in it, funding affordable loans to people who might otherwise have to use payday lenders.**

General Assembly enthusiastically agreed to join the CMCU, commending the three years' work done by the URC treasurer, John Ellis, and the finance committee to make it possible.

Immediately after the debate, Mr Ellis and the President of the CMCU, the Ven Antony MacRow-Wood, started signing up the first CMCU members from the URC.

Founded in February 2015, the CMCU grew out of the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby's determination to compete out of existence high-interest payday lenders such as Wonga. The URC joins existing members including the Church of England, the Church of Scotland, the Scottish Episcopal Church and the Methodist Church of Britain. The decision to offer membership to the URC was

made at the CMCU's first AGM in January 2016.

Mr Ellis said: 'I am delighted at the enthusiasm with which the General Assembly has embraced this opportunity, and the eagerness already shown by URC ministers, elders and staff who are signing up to join the CMCU. I urge local churches to spread the word, join this movement and do something practical in the interests of economic justice.

'This is a chance to point to the values of the kingdom of God amid current financial structures.'

The Archdeacon of Dorset, Ven Antony MacRow-Wood, attended the General Assembly in his role as the President of the CMCU. He said: 'We are delighted to include the URC within the CMCU and be able to offer our ethical savings and loans products to URC ministers, trustees, elders and employees.

'John Ellis has kept in close touch with the project for the last three years and in conjunction with the URC finance committee has worked with us to bring about this first extension of CMCU's common bond. We are very grateful for his expertise and commitment and look forward to working with all of the URC in the years ahead.'

More at: <http://www.urb.org.uk/media-news/2089-urb-joins-churches-mutual-credit-union.html#sthash.HM3GC6j4.dpuf>

*Lesley*



# POST REFERENDUM: CHRISTIAN RESPONSE

The Revd Steve Wild and Jill Barber, the President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, have released this statement:

“The people have spoken through the democratic process. We recognise that the result will cause pain to some people who voted with passion and integrity and that now is the time to move forward together with goodwill. The structures have changed but our hopes for a fair, just and equal society continue. We must now gather the political will to tackle poverty, climate change and the refugee crisis.

“This referendum has shown both the best and the worst of our democracy. It is to be celebrated that major constitutional change has happened peacefully and transparently; something that is all too rare in the world even today. We are saddened that the referendum debate has at times promoted feelings of fear and even hatred and racism. We do not believe that most people, however they voted in the referendum, wanted this. It certainly does not represent the kind of country that Britain wants to be. We must be careful now that these narratives do not shape the way that we do politics in the future.

“As the future of our role in the EU is negotiated, we cannot cut ourselves off from Europe. We pray for our brothers

and sisters in Europe, and particular in our sister Churches, and assure them that our love and commitment towards them is undiminished.”

Along with a reflection on events on its website, the Joint Public Issues Team offered this prayer:

*God of every nation and people,  
at this historic moment we pray for all  
who are affected by the decision that  
we have made.*

*Whatever differences this has revealed  
within our own society,  
may they not eclipse what we have in  
common.*

*Where the narratives of political  
debate have caused harm and division,  
help us to reclaim the true values of  
our shared humanity.*

*Where exaggeration and distortion  
have generated suspicion and fear,  
may truth and honesty restore hope  
and goodness.*

*We pray for all the nations of Europe  
that you will help us to find ways of  
living and working together  
to pursue the mercy and justice that  
you require.*

*We recommit ourselves – together –  
to the values of your eternal kingdom,  
and pray that along with all people  
we might help your world become  
more as you intended. Amen.*



The Church of Scotland The Methodist Church



Churches working together...

## joint public issues team

...to live out the gospel of Christ in church and society

I trust that all of us at Westgate, whichever way we voted, will be able to join in with this prayer.

*Editor*



# SOLIDARITY AGAINST RACISM



Sisters and brothers in Christ,

I write to you from the Methodist Conference in order to act upon a resolution which it passed yesterday afternoon.

What follows is the text which the Conference agreed should be read in all our churches this coming Sunday, or as soon as is possible.

The statement is also shared on our website [www.methodist.org.uk/nationallife](http://www.methodist.org.uk/nationallife) where it can be turned into an email which will be automatically sent to your local Member of Parliament. The Conference also encourages the Methodist people to send this letter to their MP.

The Conference also encouraged the Methodist people to join the campaign to wear an empty safety pin as a badge symbolising solidarity against racism (please see [www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-36661097](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-36661097) for details).

The 2016 Annual Conference of the Methodist Church passed a resolution containing the following text:

The United Kingdom, as a result of the referendum on 23 June 2016, has voted to leave the European Union. In this time of very significant change and uncertainty there is a need for leadership which seeks the common good and encourages people to work together, to respect one another and to uphold the dignity of all.

The Methodist Conference believes that the British Isles are enriched by diversity and celebrates the contribution made by those who have come from other parts of the world.

The Christian tradition calls for respect, tolerance, love of neighbour and hospitality to the stranger. All bear the responsibility of speaking and acting for healing, reconciliation, and mutual respect.

The Methodist Conference abhors and deeply regrets those actions and words which incite hatred and lead to the victimisation of groups within society and notes with concern that such actions and words have been normalised in recent public discourse. Believing that racism is a denial of the gospel and that to stay silent when others are abused is to collude with those who seek to promote hatred and division, the Methodist Conference calls:

- on the Methodist people to challenge racism and discrimination
- for a political debate which neither demonises any nor leaves the vulnerable (the foreigner, the immigrant and refugee) in danger of victimisation.
- on political leaders to work together for the good of the whole community putting the needs of the nation before party politics.
- on all those in positions of power and authority to hear the voices of those who have been marginalised and alienated and to respond to them in ways which offer real hope for the future.

I recognise that you have many demands upon your time, but please do ensure that this important statement is shared as widely as possible.

With gratitude for our continued partnership in the gospel,



The Reverend Gareth J Powell  
Secretary of the Methodist Conference

**The Methodist Church**

# HAVE FAITH – BEFORE YOU STEP OFF THE CATHEDRAL BELL TOWER!

Saturday 9 July 2016

When I got up it was raining heavily, but when I left the house at 08:30 it was down to a drizzle, but I still put on waterproof leggings and top as I set off for my abseil attempt down the 150ft. of the Cathedral front. This idea was set off a couple of weeks ago when Lesley informed the Church Council meeting of a sponsorship event on 8th and 9th July. Always being ready for a challenge, after overnight thought, I e-mailed the Cathedral and volunteered. I was then scheduled for this morning at 09:40.

The Cathedral sent me details of why they are raising money for new and improved structures ready to celebrate their 900th anniversary in 2018, with a sponsors' form and suggestion for donations on-line via VirginMoney (of which the Cathedral is a registered charity) said to be more efficient than other donation sites. I set up on the site and sent details to my e-mail contacts. Later, I tried to put photos on the site, but couldn't get the arrangement to work.

Yesterday I called in to the Cathedral to witness the first people managing the descent. After a long pause, they said a girl had "chickened-out" at the top, causing some confusion as they had to get her down again. The first person I saw come down was an elderly lady, who looked rather dizzy as she landed, and a helper assisted her to lean back on the wall. "Oh, dear!" I pondered. They then brought her walking stick and electric wheelchair – so I thought, "If she can do it, so can anybody!"

This morning I arrived at Becket's Chapel, was given a cup of tea and biscuit and a told to sit down and relax! – and

used the rest-room. In the rain groups were taken to the Cathedral and began to climb 120 or so steps (corkscrewing clockwise so that attackers could not use their swords) up to the ringing chamber in the bell tower. There we were given abseiling harnesses, hard hat and glove and then climbed the remaining 40 steps, through the trap door in the floor at the base of the spire and then through a window to the tower roof. Unfortunately the vista, in the drizzle, was less than hoped for. A scaffolding platform was set up, where several members of the Derby Mountain Rescue (DMR) team supervised the descents. I was hooked up to a temporary rope, climbed onto the platform and shuffled along to my position, to make room for another member alongside me. I was then hooked to the belaying rope looped through a metal ring, that I would hold to control my speed of descent, and to a secondary rope that Dave (of DMR) would hold to control me in case I let go of mine. The ropes were suspended from a scaffold projecting out beyond the face of the tower; we were advised not to kick too much on the stonework as the sandstone face is crumbling.

The worst part of the descent is the start, leaning back into space. Dave said, "Stand in front of me toe-to-toe; now go back a bit, a bit further; now lean back until you are sitting on the harness"! At that moment you feel nothing supporting you! THAT is when you need faith, that as you lean back something will stop you from falling! As soon as the belay rope tightens on the harness you feel secure and by gradually letting the rope slip through your gloved hand you can control



your speed. There was one slight problem during the descent when I spun slightly and couldn't find anywhere to kick – but then I just let go with my spare hand that

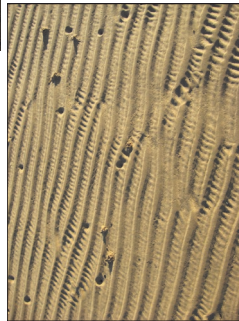
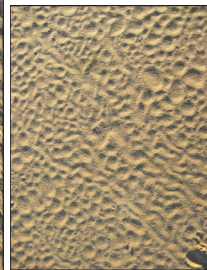
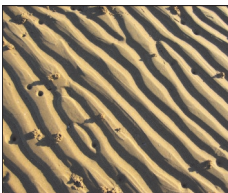
had unnecessarily clung to the other rope for dear life (white knuckled!), and push myself back to where I wanted to be.

It was an interesting experience – **once on the way down!** My grateful thanks to DMR, and to all who sponsored me to raise a sum which this afternoon approaches £500. *Ewan*

## LOOK CLOSELY AT CREATION

I'm sure you've seen the pattern left on the sand by the receding tide, but did you realise how many different patterns there are? These were all found on the same Norfolk beach on the same day!

*Linda*



# AFTERNOON TEA AT THORPE HALL



On Thursday June 30<sup>th</sup> twenty members of the NHS Retirement Fellowship descended on Thorpe Hall to partake of Afternoon Tea, which is provided in one of the rooms in the old building, which will seat approximately 50 people round various sized tables. The tea starts at 2.30pm and is made up of sandwiches with several fillings, sausage rolls, scones with jam and cream and several sorts of cakes. These are all placed on cake stands. The table that Trevor and myself were on had ten members and four cakes stands and plates with the sandwiches, so there was plenty for all. Tea and coffee was provided and always kept topped up, so you could have as much as you needed.

The first time that we went cakes were set out on a large table so that you go and choose

which one you wanted, but it is now set out differently, probably to reduce the number of volunteers needed to staff the event.

Raffle tickets were sold as the event is a fund raiser for the Hospice. Our table picked up two prizes.

The cost of a ticket is £8.50 and for the amount of food provided is great value. You do not have to belong to a group, so a couple can ring up and book, but you will need to book early as it is very popular.

*June*

*Pictures by Trevor. You can see June front right in both pictures.*

---

## KIDS!

A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible, Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the chapter.

Little Rick was excited about the task, but he just couldn't remember the Psalm.

After much practice, he could barely get past the first line.

On the day the children were due to recite Psalm 23 in front of the whole congregation, young Ricky was so very nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, "The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know."



# NEW SCHOOL ON OUR PATCH



Trevor doubts that it will be ready in time. We wait with interest!

Trevor has sent us a photographic update on progress on the new building for West Town school on the site of the old District hospital.

Regular readers may remember that the school holds memories for several members who learned or taught there and that the hospital holds memories for many more of us.

In the top picture you can see how the facade of the old memorial wing is being incorporated into the new building, preserving part of our city's history.

It was planned for the school to move into the new building in September, but

## AUGUST FRONT COVER

This picture shows a cross, a slightly crooked cross. This reflects our human understanding of it; it would be a miracle indeed if we could see it as God does!

Parts of the cross are in bright light and parts in shadow, just like our human lives, which lurch from happy to sad and back again as we travel on life's journey.

The message of the picture is that God, through Jesus, who died on the cross to save us, and the Holy Spirit, our companion along the route, is with us in both the bright and the dark parts of life. We have to learn to look out for God's presence, even when it is not immediately obvious.



# STAN AND PAULA DIAMOND WEDDING



On June 30th 1956, Stan and Paula were married at Wentworth Street Methodist Church, one of the two churches which joined together to form the present day Westgate Church.

60 years later, they were kind enough to include friends at Westgate Church in their Diamond Anniversary celebrations. On June 26th, Sheila presented them with flowers during our morning service, with Revd David Parkes, who led the service, looking on. (Pictures left). After the service there was cake (top right) for us

all to share. They received many cards, which were on display at their home (middle and bottom right) and they were proud to receive one from the Queen.

Many congratulations to you both.  
*Westgate pictures by Phil and Linda, pictures of cards at home provided by Stan and Paula.*

# SPECIAL DAYS IN AUGUST

## Childfree Day - 1<sup>st</sup> August

This day goes back to the 1970's, when it was staged by Non-Parents organisation; they selected a man and a woman who have chosen not to have children and the day is still celebrated. Details of how the couple are chosen are on their website and the individuals are given a small award.

However, when I first read the title I read it as Child Free Day, my thoughts went to children who are slaves, either through being sold by family to clear debts or having been kidnapped. So I did a bit of research.

The children are used in prostitution, pornography, drug trade, forced begging and theft. They are also used a child labourers in factories, mines, farming, and tourism to name a few.

Children of all ages are forced into fighting, to become child soldiers. What must go through their minds – do they have the initial thrill of being chosen before reality sets in? According to UNICEF there are about 300,000 child soldiers involved in over 30 areas of conflict worldwide, some even younger

than 10 years old.

I am sure that the two individuals that are chosen for the 'Childfree Day' are honourable and caring people.

For me, I can't get images of children working in factories or begging in streets out of my mind.

So on this day think by all means think of the original reason for the day but also have a thought and prayer for the child slaves. If you wish to know more about child slavery one of the many websites is [www.antislavery.org/](http://www.antislavery.org/).

## National Happiness Happens Day – USA – 8<sup>th</sup> August

Think of what makes you happy and celebrate it. One of my daily songs is Bob Marley's 'Don't worry be happy.'



## World Bee Day – 20<sup>th</sup> August

Bees are having a hard time at the moment. When you next buy plants for your garden or pots please think of our bees and insects. Bees cross pollenate, help to save plant species and provide us with lovely honey.



## URC FOUR CHURCHES WALK BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 29TH AUGUST

Meet at Queen Street Car Park Whittlesey, 2pm  
Join friends from Christchurch, St. Andrew's, Westgate and Whittlesey  
in a walk of about four miles  
followed by

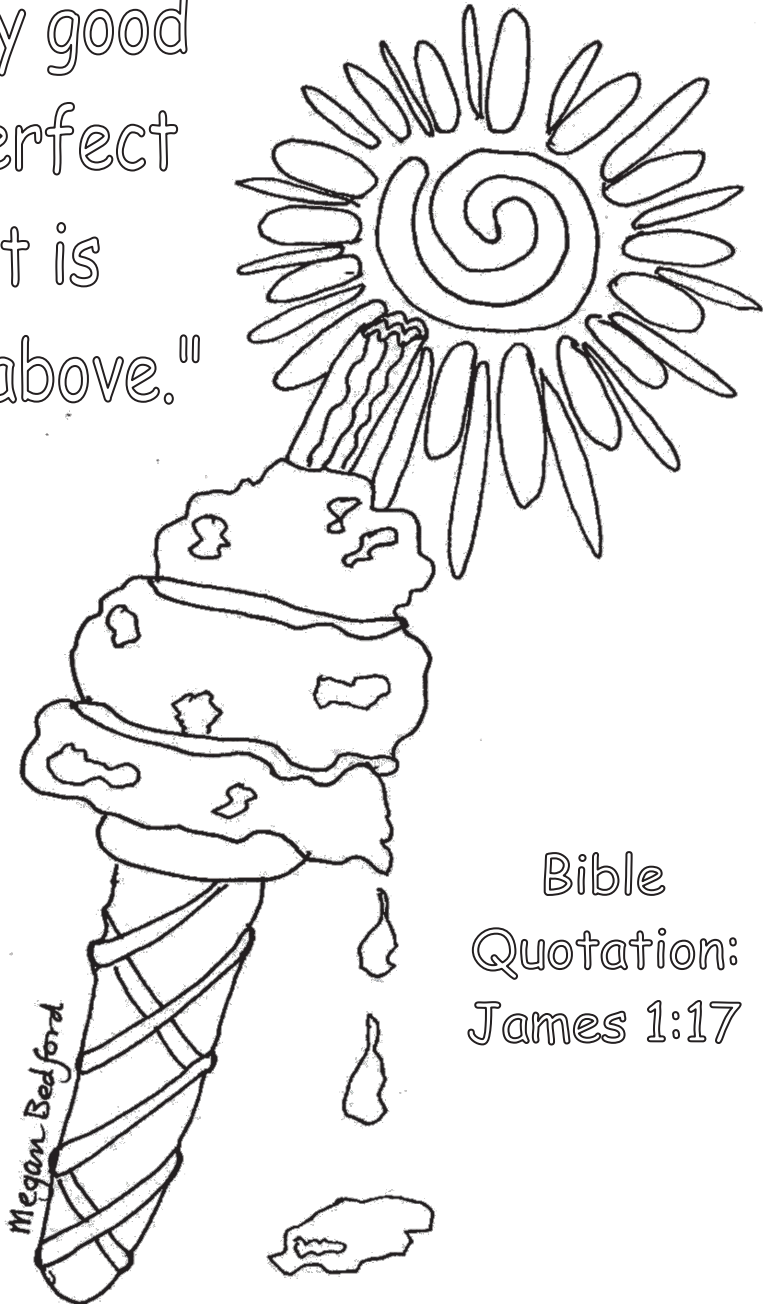
## BRING AND SHARE TEA

4.30pm, Queen Street Church, Whittlesey  
Non-walkers very welcome



Inspirational Colouring Verse

"Every good  
and perfect  
gift is  
from above."



Bible  
Quotation:  
James 1:17



## Inspirational Colouring Verse

I encourage you to meditate on the words from James and count your blessings.

Please colour the picture of the ice cream and sun, then let Megan add it to the collection in the vestibule. The display is growing nicely thanks to those who have contributed over the months.

Megan

---

## CHRISTIAN AID LUNCHES



The lunches this year are down in numbers but the money taken has

been swollen by donations which included £310.00 from Andrews Building Supplies, so to date our total for seven Fridays has been £1775.95.

The last two were over average at £635.45 from the efforts of the team from The Sacred Heart and St Oswald's Catholic Churches. In order to get to our target set by the EU of £5,000.00, we need to get nearly £300.00 per week. The Peterborough Christian Aid office have promised to add other donations to our total to ensure we reach the target. In spite of our decision to leave the EU, they have confirmed that the promise of five times as much from them is safe, as it will take us approximately two years to negotiate ourselves out. We could be on course to get a total of £30,000.00 for the women of south west Ethiopia. As you may recall this is to educate and provide safe care for women and children from the worst death rate in the world from poor hygiene and unsafe practices,



I have received a suggestion from our Christian Aid HQ that we should think of something additional for harvest.

Vi and I are doing our bit with the help of others from outside our church to set up and clear up each Friday. I am grateful for the care and support from my minor accident on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June. Many hands have become available to take on the task of putting up bunting and taking it down as well as help in moving tables and putting out chairs. Thank you all.

*Des*

*Lunches are from noon every Friday from now until the end of September. If you are able to help with either setting up or clearing away, please contact Des.*

# FRIENDS OF STADT VIERSEN



This Peterborough/German Twinning Group was originally part of the the Cambridgeshire/Kreis Viersen Twinning founded in 1982 as a Cambridgeshire Education Dept and teacher link with the Greater Administration Area of Viersen in Germany. The Friends of Stadt Viersen was founded in 1983 as a direct Twinning Link between Peterborough and the Town of Viersen. Viersen is right on the border of Germany and the Netherlands, near to Dutch town of Venlo.

The Twinning, though it was originally sponsored by the City it is now very much a personal twinning between the inhabitants. Normally we exchange these days with the Germans coming the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of May with us staying with them in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of September. We host in our own homes so we usually consist of the older members of our generation with our children off our hands and a spare bedroom.

This year our guests are coming a little later and arrive on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May and staying five nights and returning on the Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> May.

Our Itinerary this time is a Welcome Lunch at the Red Lion in Warmington on the Friday. Saturday is a trip to the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge, via the Peterborough bus to St Ives, and then continuing in the same bus onto the Guided Bus Lane to Cambridge (We can

use our Bus Passes!)

We will return the same way. On Sunday there will be a visit to Jordan's Mill (Breakfast Cereals) near Biggleswade.

Monday is a free day with a farewell party in the evening.

If anyone would like to join us in one of our activities or

would like more information about the group then please contact us (Michael and Marilyn Court) on 01733 310136 or email us on

[friendsofstadtviersen@googlemail.com](mailto:friendsofstadtviersen@googlemail.com)

We would like to have new members; speaking German is useful but not a necessity.

*This was originally written for another organization and the visit has now happened. The Welcome Lunch was also attended by past members of the group. The trip to Cambridge via the Guided Bus Route was a great success even allowing for a wrong walk to the Fitzwilliam Museum. Jordan's Mill visit and a guided tour of the original Jordan's Mill and a meal in the Restaurant and a walk round the gardens was much appreciated by all of us. The Farewell Party was held in a member's home and much homemade food and entertainment was enjoyed by all.*

*If you wish to join, do not think you have to speak German, though it does help, but most of our twinners speak good English, and those that do not are hosted by people who do speak German.*

*Contact is via Michael Court, Co-ordinator, Tel: 01733 310136, Email: [friendsofstadtviersen@googlemail.com](mailto:friendsofstadtviersen@googlemail.com)*

Our thanks to Trevor for obtaining this article for us.

# PRAISE FOR A&E, CITY HOSPITAL



After a Christian Aid Lunch, Paul and I were getting notice boards, flag and bunting in at 1.30. Unwrapping the last bit of bunting from a bush on our south boundary, I tripped on the roots of a weed behind the boundary wall with Westgate, and fell prone in the car park.

A delivery man backing out of the car park saw me fall, stopped and came to offer help, said, 'Stay there,' got his jacket from his cab and put it under my head now I was in the recovery position on the floor. Paul put the bunting in the box and rang 999. He arranged for an ambulance, giving a full description of my state, got a blanket from a pew and put that under my head to let the driver retrieve his coat with advice from Vi to let cold water run over the blood on it to avoid a stain, before he went with our thanks. The fast response car and ambulance arrived together but the fast response paramedic didn't stop; the young ambulance crew did an assessment and helped me to my feet and into the Ambulance which, though wonderfully equipped, was a bumpy ride, but we got to A&E safely.

After a short wait I was handed over to the staff. A male nurse got me onto a trolley bed in a cubicle. He took my details, then tagged me, took my blood

pressure, put a cannula in my arm and took four phials of blood and a sample of urine to the lab. A young nurse gave me a tetanus boost. Soon a young doctor arrived. She asked for all the details again, looked into my eyes and at my left ribs, then listened to my lungs and heart. I had half recognised her and as she left I asked "What is your name?" She said "Emily". It was our Westgate organist who gave up because of her transfer to A&E and the unpredictable nature of her shifts including Sundays. If you think about it we normally saw her back. She prescribed pain killers and we gratefully thanked her.

A nurse to come and clean me up. The young girl sponged sterile water onto lint to get rid of the dried blood and clean up nine abrasions to hands, knees, elbows and cuts to eyebrow, nose and lip. She had to lift the flap of skin in the heel of my right palm; the pain killers deadened the pain. She swilled out bits of gravel and stone before applying steri-strips all round the edges of the flap. She was so gentle, as only a person who cares can be. Dr Emily came back and discharged me. We left after four hours as predicted.

We rang my son to cadge an escape; he couldn't come, having had a couple of beers while watching the football on television, but arranged for his daughter to take us to the Church car park to retrieve my car and glasses. We picked up fish and chips from Netherton.

I couldn't sleep on my left bruised ribs but got a good night's sleep; it was nine o'clock before I got up on Saturday.

I cannot praise the Peterborough A&E enough, they were truly wonderful, thorough, caring and professional, but with gentleness that only comes from a love of what they do.

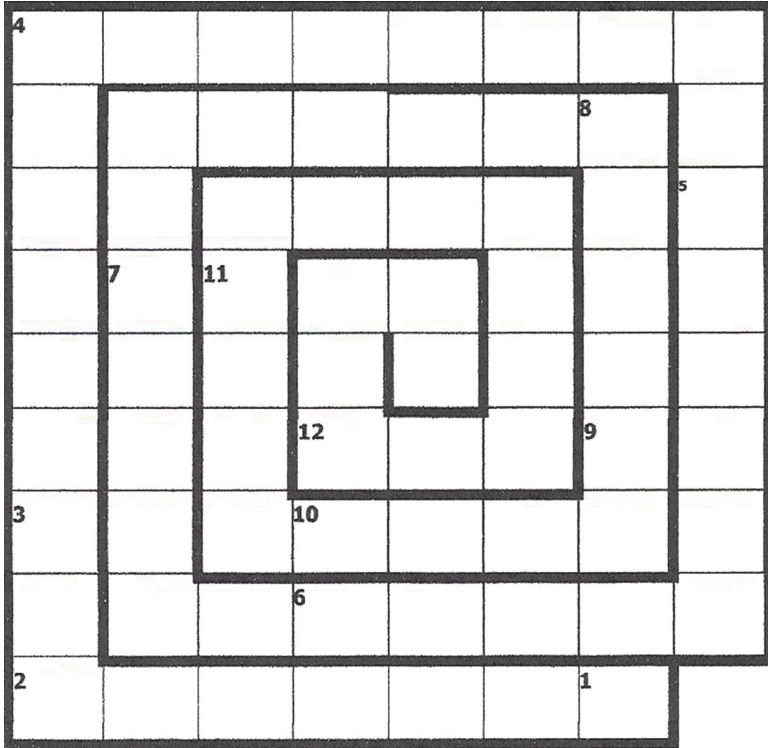
*Des*

# WESTGATE PUZZLE PAGES

We continue in August studying the gospel of Luke. During the month we are encouraged to respond to God's gift of the kingdom, recognize the signs of our time, honour the Sabbath, observe and be observed and give without receiving.

## Puzzle 1: Luke 12 v 49-56

Look at the numbered clues, determine the correct word, and write that word in the spiral puzzle. Each numbered square ends a word and begins a new word. All the words are taken from the NIV version of the text.



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. The here and now                            | 8. Opposite of wrong                            |
| 2. The smallest prime number                   | 9. What number does the prefix 'tri' signify?   |
| 3. The person who would throw you into prison! | 10. The third planet from the sun               |
| 4. To have made up after an argument           | 11. People who pretend to be what they are not. |
| 5. To be unhappy                               | 12. Which wind blows to give hot weather.       |
| 6. Separated into parts or pieces              |   |
| 7. A female child of human parents             |   |

Anybody can observe the Sabbath, but making it holy surely takes the rest of the week.

Alice Walker



**Puzzle 2:** Luke 14 v 7-14

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.

<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
C	U	W	A	N	E	J	R	Y	O	M	G	K
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
Q	F	L	P	B	I	Z	D	V	X	H	S	T

19 5 22 19 26 6

15 8 19 6 5 21 25

16 4 11 6

18 16 19 5 21

5 6 19 12 24 18 10 2 8 25

8 6 16 4 26 19 22 6 25

8 19 1 24

18 16 6 25 25 6 21

17 10 10 8

1 8 19 17 17 16 6 21

## CELEBRATIONS AND EXHIBITIONS

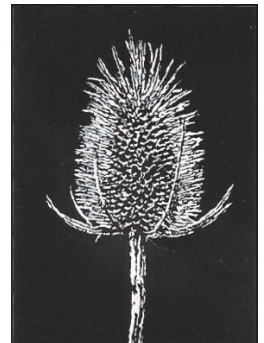
June 2016 can be remembered as a month of important celebrations and an art exhibition being held at the same venue, Peterborough City College.

First it was the Queen’s 90th birthday celebration weekend from the 11th-12th of June. Apart from the celebrations across Peterborough, there was a special celebration at City College where local 90 year-olds were invited to attend a special lunch to celebrate the Queen’s birthday with the local Mayor, Mr David Sanders, Peterborough MP Mr Stewart Jackson and other local dignitaries. They all toasted the Queen and enjoyed the special day.



In the same month and at the same place Peterborough Artists’ Open Studios were celebrating their 16th Anniversary with the public by exhibiting inspirational art in homes and studios throughout the city and surrounding villages from 25<sup>th</sup> June to 10<sup>th</sup> July. One particular art exhibit I was interested to see was one by Mr Mark Lonnie. The reason for my interest was to see our own Foodbank delivery driver, who has a special skill in art as a printmaker. Mark exhibits his work as a printmaker working in lino, and his work is inspired by his Scottish background and his interest in traditional “Sailor Jerry”-style tattoos. It was very inspiring to see his exhibit.

*Manny*



## 1st–7th August

Churches: St. Andrew's (URC),  
Thorney (Methodist group without a  
chapel)

Countries: The Caribbean: Antigua and  
Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba,  
Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada,  
Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis,  
Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines,  
Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago

Events: CTiCP Prayer Breakfast in the  
Park (6th)\*\*

People: Everyone involved in preparing  
for our move\*



## 8th–14th August

Churches: All Saints (CofE). Westgate  
(URC and Methodist)

Countries: Canada, USA

Events: Music at the Cathedral,  
Wednesdays this month\*\*,  
Peterborough Green Festival\*\*

People: Child slaves and soldiers\*

Organisations: CTiCP Eco-Faith  
Group\*, the Solidarity Against Racism  
Initiative\*, the A&E Department at  
the City Hospital\*

Special Prayer: on p 27\*



# AUGUST PRAYER PROMPTS



## 15th–21st August

Churches: All Souls (RC), Whittlesey  
(URC and Methodist)

Countries: Aotearoa New Zealand,  
Australia

Events: Christian Aid Lunches at  
Westgate\*

People: Everyone working to heal the  
divisions cause by the referendum. Use  
prayer on p 10\*.

Organisations: Thorpe Hall Hospice\*,  
Schools in Central Peterborough; West  
Town, like us preparing to move\*



## 22nd–31st August

Churches: Peterborough Cathedral  
(CofE) preparing for their 900th  
Anniversary\*, Yarwell (CofE and  
Methodist)

Countries: The Pacific islands: Fiji,  
Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru,  
Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands,  
Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Western Samoa and  
the French Overseas Territories of New  
Caledonia (Kanak) and French Polynesia  
(Tahiti)

Events: URC Four Churches Walk and  
Tea (29th)\*

The Churches mentioned are taken from the Methodist Circuit and from a list of Churches in CTiCP and other churches with whom we have a close association. The countries are from the Ecumenical Prayer Calendar.\* Further information elsewhere in the magazine  
\*\* See Diary on next page

# AUGUST DIARY

*Tuesdays, 10.30 in the Prayer Place in Church: Pause for Prayer*  
*Tuesdays, 2.30 at Park Road Baptist Church: Women's Fellowship*  
*Wednesdays, 10.30 in the Church Vestibule: Circuit Intercessions Service*  
*Wednesdays 1.00 pm at the Cathedral: Wednesday at One (W@1)*  
*Fridays 12.00 in Westgate Hall: Christian Aid Lunch*  
*Saturdays, 10.00-12.00 in the Church Vestibule: Morning coffee*  
*Saturdays, 12.30-2.30 in the Church Vestibule: Foodbank open*

\* \* \*

Wed	3	1:00	W@1: Classical Reflection: Naomi and Hannah Moxon
Sat.	6	8:00am	At Central Park: CTiCP Prayer Breakfast. At Park Road Baptist Church if necessary
Sun.	7	10:30 6:30	Morning worship, led by Revd. Raymond Garfoot In the Church Vestibule: Service of Holy Communion, led by Revd Lesley Moseley
Wed.	10	1:00	W@1: Recital by Leilani Barratt, mezzo-soprano
Sat.	13		Peterborough Green Festival
		10:30	At Oundle: Coffee and cakes
Sun.	14	10:30	Morning worship, led by Mrs Ann Tooth
Wed.	17	1:00	W@1: Roman Rudnytski piano recital
Sun.	21	10:30	Morning worship and service of Holy Communion, led by Revd Lesley Moseley
Wed.	24	1:00	W@1: Piano recital by Daniel Nugent
Sun.	28	10:30 6:00	All age worship, led by Revd. Dr. Michael Jagessar At Southside: United Youth Service led by Mrs Janet Rich and Mrs Helen Crofts
Mon,	29	2.00 4.30	URC Four Churches Walk see p17 Bring and Share tea to follow above at Queen St Church, Whittlesey see p17
Wed.	31	1:00	W@1: Cello recital by Nathaniel Watson
Sat	3	8:00am	CTiCP Prayer Breakfast at St. John's (NOT Westgate)
Sun.	4	10:30 6:30	Morning worship In the Church Vestibule: Service of Holy Communion

September

## EVENT ELSEWHERE

13th–14th September, **Charismatic Renewal Conference**, Wycliffe Hall, Oxford.  
 Historical perspectives 1950-2000. Sponsored by the Open University and Wycliffe Hall.  
 More at <https://wycliffehall.org.uk/news/charismatic-renewal-conference>.

**Please note that you can find the rotas on p24 of this issue.**

## SCAMWATCH

Please note that our attention has been drawn to:

**Spoof emails** claiming to be from a company you have used to buy something on line, asking for money or details of

your payment. Reputable companies to not use emails like this.

**Fake letter boxes** which fraudsters use to collect your mail. Check an unfamiliar box carefully and if not sure, don't use it.

**Last minute holiday offers.** If it seems too cheap to be true, it probably is.

# ST. ANDREW'S FLOWER FESTIVAL

No, not St Andrew's, Peterborough, St Andrew's Methodist Church, Sheringham. In the calendar every year is a date for a Flower Festival at the Methodist Church. Arrangements are made by people from the Church and neighbouring churches. In its 47<sup>th</sup> year, the theme was 'I am. . .' From the 32 displays my favourites were:



**"I am a Bake Off Contestant":** 'Imagine the excitement, the nerves, the mixture of emotions as the contestants gather; tables full of flower, sugar, spices, eggs, bowls, tins, spoons, mixers, all ready to make their creations. Will they turn out well or be a flop?!' I loved the colour in this display and how it matched up to the ingredients used. Even tubs of baking powder and food colouring had flowers protruding.

## **"I am the Light of the World":**

'How important light is. Imagine living in a world with no light – everything dark and black. Our lives feel like that at times of troubles and disasters, when we can't see light at the end of the tunnel. We need to remember Jesus' words – "I am the Light of the World" (John 8:12) and put our trust in Him.' I liked the contrasting colours used in this display – dark at the base and light at the top – it was very effective.



**"I am a fisherman" :** Until the festival I had not realised the pulpit was shaped like a boat – apt for the fishing heritage of the town, highlighted through this display.

'Around our coastline fishing boats of all sizes and fishermen in small or large crews are a familiar sight. So it was for Jesus by the Sea of Galilee, from where he called the fishermen Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John to be his first disciples. They left their nets and everything to follow Him. We too are called to discipleship in our daily lives and together to form a disciple movement.'



'Around our coastline fishing boats of all sizes and fishermen in small or large crews are a familiar sight. So it was for Jesus by the Sea of Galilee, from where he called the fishermen Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John to be his first disciples. They left their nets and everything to follow Him. We too are called to discipleship in our daily lives and together to form a disciple movement.'

A marquee on the Church lawn was for quiet reflection and prayer: "We praise and thank you Lord for the wonder of nature all around us in your world in which we live; for the beauty of your creation, for flowers and trees, countryside and coast. And most of all we thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen."

Sue