

Winterbourne Churches' Newsletter

www.fromsidechurches.org.uk

www.salemchurch.org.uk



September 2024

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Church Lane, Winterbourne, BS36 1SE

Rector: Rev Malcolm Strange, 70 High Street, Winterbourne
Phone: 01454 775529
Email: m.strange@fromesidechurches.org.uk

Assistant minister Rev Julia Chard - contact via Benefice Office

Churchwardens Chris Greef 01454 774479
Derek Andow 01454 775024

BENEFICE AND PARISH OFFICE

95 High Street, Winterbourne, BRISTOL, BS36 1RD

Administrator Nessa Jarman Phone: 01454 776518

Email: office@fromesidechurches.org.uk

Opening hours Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9am-1pm

WEDDINGS/BAPTISMS/CONFIRMATION/FUNERALS

Enquires should be made to the Benefice Office - 01454 776518

PASTORAL VISITING

If you need a pastoral visit or know someone who does, please contact Jo on 01454 775529 or Pearl on 01454 314184

St Michael's Room Bookings Contact the Benefice Office!

SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

Factory Road, Winterbourne, BS36 1QL

Minister Rev Leigh Maydew, 31 Quedgeley, Yate, Bristol, BS37.4JJ
Phone: 07388 083488
Email: leigh.maydew@methodist.org.uk

To whom enquiries for Weddings, Baptisms, or Funerals should be made.

Senior Steward Margaret Johnston Phone: 01454 773626
Email: 123margaretjohnston@gmail.com

Hall Bookings Jayne Glass Phone: 07935 377790
Email: jaglass103@gmail.com

A message from Revd. Malcolm Strange

All change platform one! We have a new government and the new MPs have been sworn into parliament - it takes three days once the speaker has been hauled into place for all the niceties to be completed. I am told that we now **have the most 'Godless Parliament' in history with forty per cent of MP's making** a secular affirmation rather than a religious one. This is of course broadly in line with national data with 42 per cent of the population saying they do not believe in a divine being (God) and 53 per cent declaring no religious affiliation or membership. We have come a long way since 1888 when the first openly atheistic MP Charles Bradlaugh, was barred from taking his seat because he would not swear the oath of allegiance to God.



The papers tell me in the light of this latest evidence of religious decline that there is a sense of rejoicing in humanist circles, as Christianity continues to circle the wagons and face up to what might be its last stand. I have never quite **grasped this rabidity and desire amongst some 'Humanists' to dance on the grave** of organised religion and particularly in the UK Christianity.

As well as being a Priest I am also a qualified RE Teacher and have always advocated the importance of valuing and teaching the Humanist position in the courses I have delivered in the classroom. I have always admired their desire to promulgate the best qualities to be found in the human condition, promoting key values that can help society to be a better place for us all. Like many Christians, I have to a degree reflected this in my own ministry being focused on our human talents, gifts and strengths as much as on divine deliverance. To be honest there is something quite incarnational in all this.

What saddens me is that sometimes Humanists can come across as just as fundamentalist as some of the religious positions, beliefs and practices they challenge and seek to eradicate. This is a shame given that one of the greatest of human strengths is the desire to understand others and value them as human beings.

In my experience of working with young people and families it is clear, that adherence to an organised faith position is very much in decline. The one thing which is not though, is the reality that most humans are very spiritual beings and awareness of this is, actually, on the rise as greater numbers engage with and explore the spiritual side of their nature.

Perhaps it is in this spiritual oneness, that both non-religious and religious people might find a common denominator to help us all to live better lives and enhance our understanding of each other, thus, enabling the communities in which we live to be built on the firm foundations of love and care for all.

Fr Malcolm Strange
Rector of the Fromeside Benefice

What we are doing to support...
Our Care Homes
Our Schools?







How are we... Listening to those Struggling?

COME AND FIND OUT...
EXPLORE how everyone can help...

PASTORAL AWARENESS DAY
for the Benefice and Mission Area

Saturday October 5th
9.30 to 12.30
at St Nicholas, Abbotswood, Yate

Refreshments Provided



SUNDAY WORSHIP IN OUR CHURCHES

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

1st Sunday 4pm St Michael's Community Centre

ST MICHAEL'S PRAISE

2nd Sunday 10.30

St Michael's Church

PARISH COMMUNION



3rd Sunday 10.30

St Michael's Community Centre

CELTIC WORSHIP

4th Sunday 10.30

St Michael's Church

PARISH COMMUNION



Also in St Michael's Church

2nd Sunday at 4pm - Pause for Thought or Healing Service

1st & 3rd Sunday at 8am - Holy Communion

See page 17 for details of special events
www.fromesidechurches.org.uk

Recorded services are available on 2nd & 4th Sundays
on the Benefice website
www.fromesidechurches.org.uk
where details of all services in the Benefice can be found.

SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES at 10.30

1st Sept Rev Leigh Maydew/Ms Naomi Sharp (HC)

8th Sept Mr D Carter

15th Sept Rev David Alderman

22nd Sept Mrs Joy Harris

29th Sept Rev Leigh Maydew (Holy Communion)



Further details on the website www.salemchurch.org.uk

SALEM PAGE

In the July Salem page I said that, whatever the result of the election there might be some surprising results in individual constituencies. That proved to be the case. Despite winning a huge victory, the Labour Party also lost a few seats, one to the Greens, three in constituencies with a high number **of Muslims who were not happy the party's views on Gaza**, and another to Jeremy Corbyn, who stood as



an independent against the official Labour candidate. All these must give our new Labour government cause for thought. Perhaps the most significant is the loss to the Greens, a party that is particularly influential amongst the younger generation for the obvious reason that they will have to live longer with excessive global warming than the rest of us.

I suspect we were all very distressed by the extraordinary degree of violent rioting in the wake of the election and the appalling killing of the three little girls in Southport. I fear that both racism, especially against the Muslim community, and a sense of deprivation in some particularly poor communities, played a part in this.



Our new government faces a severe challenge. It has rightly decided that the courts must act vigorously against rioters prepared to use violence, but it also needs urgently to address the growing gap between those adequately well off and richer and the minority of the population unable to afford even the sheer necessities of life.

In one sense, the Government is hemmed in by its promises not to raise taxes. I think there is no alternative but to follow the suggestion I would make. First, for about two years, the Government will be able to do little - it must keep its election promises and prove its honesty thereby. However, the Prime Minister and Chancellor should then consider a new election, saying that the only



way we can deal with the poverty at the bottom of our society is by spending far more to help people gain the necessities in housing, food and fuel. This would involve higher taxes, especially for those on well above average incomes.

The Government should spell out the likely cost and put the question as a moral question. How far are we prepared in the UK to display real community in helping the poor minority out of poverty? We should remember **that, In God's eyes, a nation is only great when it lives out** its responsibility to the poorest and most marginalised. It is the vocation not just of Christians to work for such as society but also of Jews and Muslims. Remember that the Old Testament prophets denounced neglect and exploitation of the poor, remember too that Islam also highly commends giving to and aiding the poor.



The next two years or so will be very testing for Keir Starmer's Government and they will need courage to address the underlying issues at a further election. How we as electors respond, how we prioritise the needs of the poorest, will be serious moral test for all of us.

With love to you all from us at Salem,

With love to you all from us at Salem,
David.



SEPTEMBER 8th at 4pm

Service of thanksgiving
for 58 plus years of service as a local preacher.

with
Rev Teddy Kalongo, superintendent minster
and Rev Leigh Maydew.

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Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Mk 4:35-41, Mt 8:23-27, Lk 8:22-25

Jesus had spent the day teaching big crowds by Lake Galilee, and when evening came he told his disciples..

We'll sail over to the east side of the lake



Suddenly a massive storm blew up



Even the experienced sailors panicked



But Jesus was fast asleep at the back of the boat



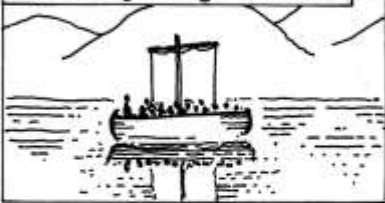
Master Lord, save us!
Teacher, don't you care we're going to drown?

Teacher, don't you care we're going to drown?

Be quiet!



Immediately the wind stopped and everything was calm.



Why were you afraid? Don't you trust me?

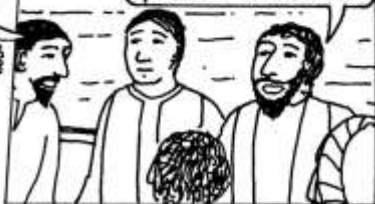


Now the disciples were even more afraid.



Who is he? Even the wind and sea obey him!

Only God has power like that!



The seasons are changing



The seasons aren't what they used to be. Perhaps not **surprising**, since **we've just had the warmest year on record** globally. People who live in Earth's middle latitudes are **accustomed to a spring, summer, autumn and winter**. We're in the northern hemisphere, and you may have noticed plants flowering earlier than usual. It's not your imagination: a 2022 study revealed that spring blooms are arriving a month sooner in the UK due to climate change.

Most species can't coordinate their activities around a date and time. Plants, the bedrock of most ecosystems, stay up to date by paying close attention to changes in light and temperature. They are among the first to know when the days shorten in autumn, and they start to make chemical changes that cause deciduous trees shed their leaves and grow tough winter buds that are resistant to frost. In the same way, temperature tells many plants when to start growing in the spring.



That's where climate change has complicated things: rising air temperatures have yielded shorter, milder winters. Since 1986, plants in the UK now greet spring 26 days earlier, on average. This relatively rapid shift has severed an arrangement plants and animals have negotiated over thousands of years. Insects that are used to feasting on April-flowering plants may find themselves arriving a month late if warmer temperatures mean that the plants now flower in March. The plants themselves suffer too because many rely on insects to pollinate them.

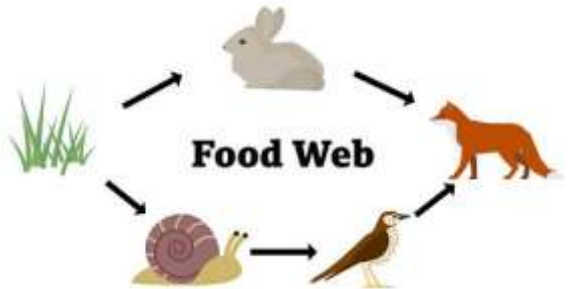


Hungry bugs are bad enough but if insects are emerging too late to visit expectant flowers then it's the entire ecosystem that suffers. For example, the birds of European oak woods, such as the blue tit, great tit and pied flycatcher rely on caterpillars to feed their young. The caterpillars are trying to keep up with the earlier flowers and then the birds are desperately trying to keep up with the earlier caterpillars. But for every ten-day advance in caterpillar emergence, the birds are only able to bring forward their egg laying by three to five days, so they end up being too late. One example of the effects of this is a huge reduction in the pied flycatcher population in the Netherlands.



In the same way as it causes earlier springs, climate change also leads to later autumns. **But we don't just get seasons where everything happens either a month earlier or later.** Some species will delay hibernation and emerge in spring sooner, but others will stick to their original schedule, taking their cues from day length rather than temperature.

The result will be chaos and many well established food chains will be at risk of breakdown. The mismatch between flowering and insect emergence will also have an impact on agriculture, since many of the crops grown for human consumption rely on insects for pollination.



There is much we still don't understand about climate change. But what is clear is that species and ecosystems, already weakened by habitat destruction, overharvesting, invasive species and pollution, face a major new threat. If we are to preserve the living planet and avoid the extinction of many species we need to do more than just stop climate breakdown. We need to invest in conservation **too, to help wild plants and animals adapt to the changes we've already locked in.** Not doing so would be bad news for all of us.

Chris Greef



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heritage open days

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from 10-4

Sunday 15th September
from 1-5

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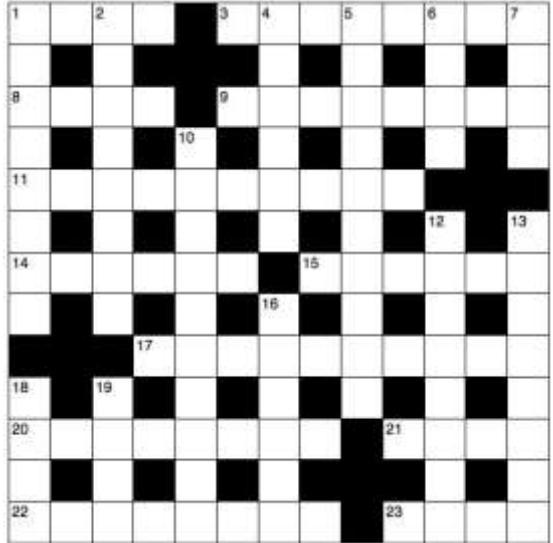


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CROSSWORD



Across

- 1 and 3 Two of the disciples who witnessed the transfiguration of Jesus (Luke 9:28) (4,3,5)
- 3 See 1 Across
- 8 **'Let us draw — to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith' (Hebrews 10:22) (4)**
- 9 O Simon is (anag.) (8)
- 11 Form of government under the direct rule of God or his agents (10)
- 14 How Jesus found his disciples when he returned to them after praying in Gethsemane (Luke 22:45) (6)
- 15 **In The Pilgrim's Progress, the name of the meadow into which Christian strayed, which led to Doubling Castle (2-4)**
- 17 Glad sin rat (anag.) (10)
- 20 Spinal column (Leviticus 3:9) (8)
- 21 Valley of the Balsam Tree with a reputation of being a waterless place (Psalm 84:6) (4)
- 22 **'The oracle of Balaam son of Beor, the oracle of one — — sees clearly' (Numbers 24:3) (5,3)**
- 23 **Adam and Eve's third son (Genesis 4:25) (4)**

Answers on page 27

Down

- 1 **David's great friend (1 Samuel 20:17) (8)**
- 2 **'The Lord... will bring me safely to his — kingdom' (2 Timothy 4:18) (8)**
- 4 **'I, Daniel, mourned for three weeks. I ate no choice food; — or wine touched my lips' (Daniel 10:3) (2,4)**
- 5 Seeking to vindicate (Job 32:2) (10)
- 6 Female servant (Isaiah 24:2) (4)
- 7 **'For Christ died for — once for all' (1 Peter 3:18) (4)**
- 10 **'Offering spiritual sacrifices — to God through Jesus Christ' (1 Peter 2:5) (10)**
- 12 **Jesus said that some people had renounced this 'because of the kingdom of heaven' (Matthew 19:12) (8)**
- 13 One of the three men thrown into the furnace for refusing to worship **Nebuchadnezzar's golden image (Daniel 3:20) (8)**
- 16 **'You have — of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry' (Luke 12:19) (6)**
- 18 **'There before me was a white horse! Its rider held — — , and he was given a crown' (Revelation 6:2) (1,3)**
- 19 Equipment to Charity Hospitals Overseas (1,1,1,1)

SALEM DIARY

*September sees the beginning of the new connexional year
and our regular activities will recommence*

Coffee morning will be on
Wednesday September 4th from 10 a.m
This is an opportunity to meet with friends for
conversation and enjoy coffee or tea



Film afternoon starts again on
Tuesday September 10th at 2 p.m.



Bacon Butty morning will be on
Saturday September 21st from 10 a.m.
Please come and join us for a bacon butty
and /or toasted teacake with tea or coffee



September Women's Fellowship meeting will be on
Tuesday September 24th

We would encourage all ladies to join us for an hour
of fellowship together



The new season of "THE CHOSEN" will start again in September

Some of us enjoyed the previous episodes and we look forward to
seeing more of the story of the life of Jesus .

Dates will be announced

Church Anniversary— Sunday September 15th at 10.30 a.m.
Preacher will be Rev David Alderman—former superintendent

Special events in & around St Michael's

Sunday 1st September
at 4pm
ST MICHAEL'S PRAISE
in St Michael's Community Centre



Sunday 8th September
at 4pm
PAUSE FOR THOUGHT
in St Michael's Church

Saturday 14th
& Sunday 15th September
HERITAGE OPEN DAYS
in St Michael's Church
See page 13 for details



Sunday 15th September
at 10.30
Celtic Worship
in St Michael's Community Centre

Saturday 21st September
from 3.30-5.15
MESSY CHURCH
in St Saviour's Church Hall



Sunday 29th September
at 10am
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Let's run with perseverance

'Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race that is marked out for us.' (Hebrews 12:1)

With the Paris Olympics still so recent, this imagery can really speak to us. The Christian is like a highly trained athlete, and the surrounding 'stadium' is filled with champions and heroes of the past; they watch US - and we draw inspiration from *THEM*.



Because we are in training spiritually, it is obvious that every 'sin' is to be treated in the same way as by a modern athlete - for whom drug-taking, indeed any form of cheating or breaking the rules, is out!



But Christ's athletes are also to be careful to shun 'everything that hinders.' The wrong running shoes? A faulty diet? In the Christian's case, if the problem area is not an actual sin, what is it? Why, it is anything that, while in itself legitimate, nevertheless is a weak point, and 'hinders' progress.

The artist Rubens in the 17th century created a painting of Thetis - the mother of Achilles in Greek mythology – dipping her son into the supposedly protective waters of the river Styx. But, because she held him by his heel, this single part of him was untouched by the water. Achilles grew to be a mighty warrior; yet, during a fateful battle, an arrow that pierced his vulnerable heel was the means of his downfall.



The Achilles heel factor affects every single one of us. There comes a moment when those who mean business with Jesus Christ become aware that the Holy Spirit is quietly speaking within: "You're blocking the blessing in your life at this weak spot of yours.... by holding onto this object... by entertaining this objective... by persisting in this relationship... by continuing this activity. *Let it go.*"

What is this 'thing'? No one else can spell it out for us. It is between us and Christ alone. There need be no sudden crisis, no emotional surge. But the thing that 'hinders' is firmly – deliberately – to be discarded; no longer to have any part in our Christian living. And the sunshine of heaven smiles down upon us as we run on....



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FOR DETAILS OF ALL THESE EVENTS SEE THE BARN WEBSITE
www.winterbournebarn.org.uk

Down at the Barn with Leonie Evans and friends - 5th September at 7.30
Our host for the evening, vocal talent and multi-instrumentalist Leonie Evans, also has a passion for history so plays a lot of pre war Jazz, blues, country, gospel and Latin music.

Heritage Open Day - Sunday 15th September from 1-5
A chance to explore the history of the Barn

Concorde - Queen of the Skies - 17th September at 7pm
We are delighted to welcome back Chris Bigg to The Barn for another fascinating talk. By popular demand after his last talk on the history of aircraft production in Filton, he will be focusing this talk on Concorde.

Cider tasting evening - 20th September at 7pm
We welcome Tim from Orchard Revival and David from Bushel+Peck to guide us through the aromas and flavours of a range of cider and perry in this informative but fun workshop.

Sisters of Swing Big Band - 27th September at 7.30
We are very excited to welcome Sisters of Swing to The Barn for a fantastic evening of live music with a 20+ piece swing band!

ORCHARD HARVEST DAY Sunday 6th October MORE DETAILS NEXT MONTH

Book for these events from the website:www.winterbournebarn.org.uk
Winterbourne Medieval Barn, Church Lane, Winterbourne BS36 1SE
For further details about Winterbourne Medieval Barn Trust
see www.WinterbourneBarn.org.uk
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Becoming
**Dementia
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A DAY OUT

We had a great day at The Kendleshire having a “taster” golf activity with people with young onset dementia (YOD) and their carers. A lot of laughs and fun was had by all, chipping and putting, finally finishing up at the “19th hole” for tea and cake.



Stay & Play

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Mouse Makes

"AND WHEN YOU PRAY,
PRAY THEN LIKE THIS ..."

Where does Jesus say
to go to pray?
Matthew 6:6



What does God know
before you ask Him?
Matthew 6:8



What can we ask God
to deliver us from?
Matthew 6:13

If you forgive others
what will God do?
Matthew 6:14



"Always be full of joy.
Never stop praying.
Whatever happens,
always be **thankful!**"

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

D	L	O	R	D	S	P	R	A	Y	E	R
L	F	W	R	E	A	R	T	H	K	S	O
D	A	I	L	Y	K	E	D	A	S	K	O
E	T	L	V	T	H	Y	E	L	H	D	M
B	H	L	A	M	E	N	L	L	O	O	I
T	E	M	P	T	A	T	I	O	N	N	H
S	R	A	R	A	V	I	V	W	O	E	E
S	K	N	A	M	E	T	E	E	U	V	A
I	C	J	Y	V	N	E	R	D	R	I	R
N	O	U	R	N	A	V	B	R	E	A	D
S	M	E	W	I	K	I	N	G	D	O	M
J	E	S	U	S	U	L	Y	O	U	R	J
N	E	E	D	S	F	O	R	G	I	V	E



ROOM • PRAY • ASK • NEEDS • HEARD • JESUS
LORDS PRAYER • OUR • FATHER • HALLOWED • HONOURED
NAME • THY • KINGDOM • COME • YOUR • WILL • DONE
EARTH • HEAVEN • DAILY • BREAD • FORGIVE • DEBTS
SINS • TEMPTATION • DELIVER • EVIL • AMEN

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St Michael's C of E Primary School

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Linden Close, Winterbourne
Headteacher Mrs. Kirsty Robson
Phone 01454 867105

At the start of the summer term, St. Michael's CE Primary School in Winterbourne had The Hobgoblin Theatre Company perform the story of 'The Wizard of Oz', to the whole school. The children were fascinated by the characters and story and used this as a stimulus for art and other subjects in Term 6.



The children explored a variety of art skills and resources. The pupils enjoyed weaving rainbows, making flowers using clay, producing textured lion collages, creating tin man models, sewing the yellow brick road, making hot air balloon models using papier mâché and we even made a large-scale school scarecrow.

We also organised a community scarecrow trail around Winterbourne. Thank you to all the families that participated in either making a scarecrow or purchasing a map to complete the scarecrow trail. The scarecrows were made to a very high standard and it has been great fun for the community searching for all the scarecrows.

Below are just a few examples of the artwork and magnificent scarecrows created:



Did you see the scarecrows?

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1, John. 3, And James. 8, Near. 9, Omission. 11, Theocratic. 14, Asleep. 15, By-path. 17, Stalingrad. 20, Backbone. 21, Baca. 22, Whose eye. 23, Seth.

DOWN: 1, Jonathan. 2, Heavenly. 4, No meat. 5, Justifying. 6, Maid. 7, Sins. 10, Acceptable. 12, Marriage. 13, Shadrach. 16, Plenty. 18, A bow. 19, ECHO.



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Friday
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Room



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Contact Nessa for details
office@fromsidechurches.org.uk
01454 776518

Please send contributions for the October Newsletter by email to Gill Greef (gill@gillgreef.com) or deliver them to the Church Office St Michael's Community Centre, 95 High Street by Sunday 15th September.