

Winterbourne Churches' Newsletter

www.fromsidechurches.org.uk

www.salemchurch.org.uk



September 2025

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Church Lane, Winterbourne, BS36 1SE

Rector: **Rev Malcolm Strange**, 70 High Street, Winterbourne
Phone: 07792 275237
Email: m.strange@fromesidechurches.org.uk

Associate Priest **Rev Joanne Hodge** Phone: 07758 648264
Email: j.hodge@fromesidechurches.org.uk

Associate Priest **Rev Julia Chard** Phone: 07811 524533

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 07792 275237 or Pearl on 01454 314184

St Michael's Community Centre Bookings Contact the Benefice Office

SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

Factory Road, Winterbourne, BS36 1QL

Minister **Rev Leigh Maydew**
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 Leigh Maydew

For some unknown reason the Methodist Church work is based on an academic year, so just like schools and colleges, we're settling into a new year right now. Over the last month or so Methodist ministers have been moving across the country ready to take up new appointments and to begin new phases of their ministry.

In our local communities, students have been getting themselves ready for new classes, new teachers, and for some new schools. No doubt some anxiety in places about what might be next and what this next step might be like.



Anxiety is something we all face from time to time, especially when we might be asked to face something new, something different, something that might well take us outside of our comfort zone.



When anxiety hits, the Bible has it covered. '*Do not be afraid*', or some version of that text appears 365 times in the Christian Bible, a coincidence or a God-incidence. For every day of the year, we're reminded to not be afraid.

It's easy to say isn't it, '*Do not be afraid*'. If only life were that straight-forward, but instead anxiety often gets the better of us.

This is where community is really important, people around us who can support and encourage us, people who can journey alongside us when things become difficult and we might end up being '*afraid*'.

That community might well be our family, our friends, people in groups that we attend, or it might even be the church, a community that is open to all.

So, as we enter this new year, '*Do not be afraid*', but share your problems and your concerns with those around you who can support and encourage you.

Revd Leigh A Maydew CF

Methodist
history

Heritage Open Day

Treasure
hunt

Saturday September 20th

Doors open from 10am until 4pm



Come and find out the history of this little chapel in the heart of Watleys End, where John Wesley, the founder of Methodism preached on "the foundations of a new preaching house" in 1787

Church Anniversary Service Sunday 21st September at 10.30am

Organ and piano
recitals

Floral
arrangements

Local
history

All Welcome



Refreshments
available all day

Family history
research

Salem Methodist Church, Factory Road, Winterbourne, Bristol BS36 1QL

www.facebook.com/watleysendmethodist

www.salemchurch.org.uk

SUNDAY WORSHIP IN OUR CHURCHES

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.fromsidechurches.org.uk

SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES at 10.30

7th Sept	Mrs Chris Leese
14th Sept	Rev Leigh Maydew (Holy Communion)
21st Sept	Rev Margaret Goodall
28th Sept	Mrs Jenny Clark



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

Time to agree on the plastic waste problem?



By the time you read this an international committee will have finished its deliberations and with luck come to some sort of agreement on how to manage the ever-growing problem of plastics pollution. UN committee INC5.2 has been meeting in Geneva in August and was charged with getting a legally binding agreement among all the nations of the world.

The problem of plastics pollution is now widely recognised and accepted as an important issue. However, views on how to deal with it differ. Logically, many believe that part of the solution has to be to tackle the problem at source, by not producing so much plastic in the first place. But not surprisingly the plastics manufacturers don't like this approach and would rather see all the effort go into recycling. I've written about the issues several times in these articles and there are many aspects for what is a very complex subject.



Plastics come in many varieties serving a wide range of different purposes, making them so convenient to use. But this variety makes it much more difficult to deal with them when they are no longer required. They are very durable too, but this means they are long-lasting and don't degrade in the environment at all readily, unlike natural substances such as paper and wood. When

they do degrade, they tend to produce tiny pieces of so-called microplastics which get literally everywhere: they are found in the deepest oceans, in our rivers and soils, even in our own bodies. They have even been found in developing foetuses in the womb, accentuating concerns about the health effects of compounds that can leach out of the tiny particles. We are told not to reuse plastic bottles for precisely this reason.

Many things have been done to try to reduce the problem. We are told to reduce, reuse and recycle, many single use plastic bags have been banned, kerbside recycling waste collections are widespread but still the waste mountain grows. And sadly, like many problems, it simply gets exported because it's seen as too difficult to deal with it ourselves. And who suffers?

As usual, it's the poorer parts of the world, where there are not the facilities to deal with waste disposal issues. One of the worst aspects is the huge amount of waste from the fast fashion industry. This results in vast quantities of perfectly usable clothing being discarded and being dumped abroad on the promise of recycling which doesn't in practice happen.



In response to this sorry picture Tearfund, the Christian charity, has been campaigning for many years for ways to tackle the problems create in developing countries, including work to develop a global plastics treaty. As part of this campaign, they have asked people to pray for a successful outcome to the Geneva conference. They sent a delegation to Geneva to present the arguments for urgent agreement. Perhaps you could pray too, support Tearfund financially and continue to do the right thing yourself, doing what you can to reduce your own contribution the plastic waste problem.



Chris Greef

PS Sadly, as we go to press, I have to report that no agreement on a treaty to manage the plastics mountain was reached. There were irreconcilable points of view on how to proceed. So, as further work continues in the background to strengthen the arguments and lobby reluctant parties on the need for action, please continue to do your bit, praying for progress, reducing your plastic footprint and pressing those in power to push harder.



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Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Ruth chapters 1 and 2

When famine came to Bethlehem, Elimelech took his family to the nearby country of Moab. The two sons married local girls.

But Elimelech and his sons died, leaving Naomi, Orpah and Ruth as widows.



Naomi told her daughters-in-law she was returning to Bethlehem.



Go back to your parents' homes.

The girls cried, and Orpah left, but Ruth stayed.



I will stay with you. Your people and your God will be mine.



So Naomi and Ruth went back to Bethlehem.

Call me 'Mara' not 'Naomi' because God has made my life bitter.



'Naomi' means 'Pleasant' 'Mara' means 'Bitter'

It was the start of the barley harvest. Poor people were allowed to glean - to pick up the ears of grain that had been dropped. Ruth went out to glean.



She picked a field, asked if she could glean, then worked hard



The field's owner, Boaz, arrived

Who's that girl?



That's Ruth, who came from Moab with Naomi.



Boaz told Ruth she was welcome to work in his fields.

He told her to join his workers at lunch-time, and made sure she had more than enough to eat.



Ruth worked hard and took home a huge bag of grain.

I worked in Boaz's field.



He is a near relative!

Ruth worked all through the barley and wheat harvests in Boaz's fields.





Looking for a present? or just a treat for yourself!

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(gill@gillgreef.com 01454 774479)

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Gooseberry & Elderflower
Rhubarb & Raspberry
Blackcurrant & Orange

Seville Orange Marmalade

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from Marmalade!)*

CHUTNEYS etc

Gooseberry Chutney
Old Doverhouse Chutney
Green Tomato Chutney
Piccalilli
Cucumber Relish



St Michael's
Community
Centre

Sunday 7th September
at 4pm

Praise



*A lively
service with
activities
for all
ages
followed by
tea, coffee
and cake!*

Reflecting Faith: Saying 'Hello'

I'd like to consider some key moments in our church services and start at the very beginning.... Just saying hello!

How do you say 'hello' to the people you meet? We don't use the same words, gestures and tone to each person, nor on each occasion.

When we meet a very senior person in our workplace; we tend to be deferential and formal. By the time we have worked together for some months, we will still hold them in high regard and with respect, but we are probably more relaxed in their presence.



As for members of our close family, there's a time for huge hugs and explosions of laughter, such as at the arrivals desk of the airport, but such a greeting is probably not so appropriate when we meet them in a formal restaurant for lunch.

So it is on a Sunday morning, when we meet with the members of our church in the setting of a church service.

By meeting together for worship, we have come deliberately into a consciousness of God's presence. It's not that He hasn't been with us on the way there, but this is a specific and intentional thing.

So, when the person leading the service says 'hello' at the start of the service, they are not just welcoming you as an individual but rather acknowledging that we are meeting together in the presence of God, to worship Him.



This is special. This is amazing. This is huge.

This month: When you next go to a church service take note of the leader's opening words and your expected response to them. What is your acceptance to that wonderful invitation?

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Telephone: 01454 776873

Email: office@fromesidegym.co.uk



EXPLORE YOUR CHURCH

WINTERBOURNE PARISH CHURCH

Church Lane, Winterbourne, BS36 1SE



Saturday 13th September
from 10-1

Sunday 14th September
from 1-4

14th century effigies & paintings
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Churchyard Bells



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to join two other members from St Michael's Church.

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(see page 2 for contact details)



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people with dementia and their
carers



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cake and a
cuppa



Crafts

Games



Singalongs



Quizzes

We meet on the first Wednesday and the third
Thursday of each month

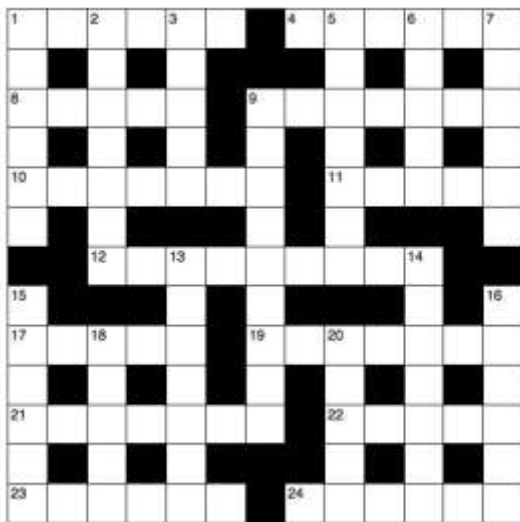
Come and join us, we'd love to see you.

Further information from Edna Snaith 07789 662694

CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 'The people were — at his teaching' (Mark 1:22) (6)
 4 'He saved —; let him save himself' (Luke 23:35) (6)
 8 He addressed the crowd in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:14) (5)
 9 Father of James and John (Matthew 4:21) (7)
 10 One who charges another with an offence (Job 31:35) (7)
 11 '— thy ministers with righteousness' (Book of Common Prayer) (5)
 12 and 15 Down 'All — is God-breathed and is — for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness' (2 Timothy 3:16) (9,6)
 17 'No — of the field had yet appeared on the earth and no plant of the field had yet sprung up' (Genesis 2:5) (5)
 19 Made to feel embarrassed (Isaiah 24:23) (7)
 21 This man built his house on sand (Matthew 7:26) (7)
 22 David's hypocritical message to Joab on the death in battle of Uriah: 'Don't let this — you' (2 Samuel 11:25) (5)
 23 Detest (Job 10:1) (6)
 24 'God made two great lights, the greater light to govern the day and the — light to govern the night' (Genesis 1:16) (6)



Down

Answers on page 25

- 1 To make a serious request (1 Corinthians 1:10) (6)
 2 Launches an assault against (Genesis 32:8) (7)
 3 'The wicked man — deceptive wages' (Proverbs 11:18) (5)
 5 Tuba ale (anag.) (7)
 6 'The day thou gavest, Lord, is —' (5)
 7 Old Testament measure of weight, equivalent to about 12 grammes (Exodus 30:13) (6)
 9 Where Elijah restored life to the son of a widow with whom he lodged (1 Kings 17:10) (9)
 13 Paul said of whatever was to his profit, 'I consider them —, that I may gain Christ and be found in him' (Philippians 3:8) (7)
 14 City visited by Paul, described by the city clerk as 'the guardian of the temple of the great Artemis' (Acts 19:35) (7)
 15 See 12 Across
 16 Rioted (anag.) (6)
 18 She had a surprise when she answered the door & found 8 Across outside (Acts 12:13) (5)
 20 Maltreat (1 Chronicles 10:4) (5)

Salem Diary

September sees the start of the new connexional year for the Methodist church. For some churches it will mean saying goodbye to ministers and welcoming others,. We offer our prayers for all ministers and their families who are “on the move”. Leigh will continue as our minister for another few years.

During the summer most of our regular activities have continued, apart from our film afternoons, and we look forward to the new season .

The coffee morning on the 1st Wednesday of the month and the Bacon Butty morning on the 3rd Saturday offer a chance for friends, old and new, to come together to enjoy food and chat . It is good to welcome a number from the local community .



The Film afternoon will recommence on Tuesday September 9th at 2pm. We will show the film “Conclave” , starring Ralph Fiennes , about the election of a new pope. It is well worth seeing. Admission is free, but we welcome donations for refreshments.



It is many years since we opened the church for a Heritage Open Day, but we doing just that on September 20th this year. On September 17th we celebrate our 238th Church Anniversary and it is appropriate to invite the community to come in to see our little chapel. (see poster on page 4). On Sunday September 21st, Rev Margaret Goodall, who grew up in Factory Road, will be the anniversary preacher.



Special events in & around St Michael's



Sunday 7th September at 4pm
ST MICHAEL'S PRAISE
in St Michael's Community Centre
with activities for children
see page 10

Saturday 13th September 10-1 &
Sunday 14th September 1-4
HERITAGE OPEN DAYS
in St Michael's Church
see page 13



Saturday 13th September from 3-6
WORLD WAR II STREET PARTY
at St Saviour's Church Hall
see page 19

Sunday 14th September at 4pm
HEALING SERVICE
in St Michael's Church



Saturday 20th September
from 3-30-5.15
MESSY CHURCH
in St Saviour's Church Hall

Sunday 21st September at 10.30
CELTIC WORSHIP
in St Michael's Community Centre



The Nicene Creed: Who is God?

'We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.'

2025 sees the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed as we saw in the June magazine. We use it at Communion services, but how much notice do we take of the words? In this new series we are looking at what it means to believe in God as Trinity.

We believe: In Greek, the Creed begins *'we believe'* (in Latin, *'I believe.'*). It was formulated at the time of Arius, who declared that Jesus was the first and greatest of God's creatures, but not the same as God the Father. His teaching proved so damaging that the Emperor Constantine called an ecumenical council in Nicaea (AD 325) to clarify the core beliefs for all Christians.



in one God: We believe in a God who is both one and Trinity: *'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one'* (Deuteronomy 6:4). He is the Old Testament God, who we know through the life and work of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. We are to worship Him alone and not people or things.

the Father, the Almighty: God is both the almighty Creator and loving Father: *'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name'* (Matt 6:9). Although the Father of all that exists, He is specifically Father to those who His children through their faith in Jesus.



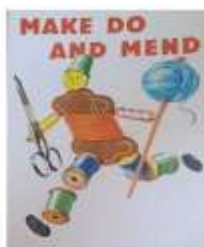
maker of heaven and earth: God comes before anything that was created, and Creation is His alone: *'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty'* (Genesis 1:1,2). The implication is that He created *'ex nihilo'* ie out of nothing. He is one God who is unchangeable, lacking in nothing and the source of all that exists.

of all that is, seen and unseen: God did not just create the physical universe, but also the spiritual powers: *'For in Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and for Him.'* (Colossians 1:16). Reality is more than what we can see, smell, taste, touch or measure.

The Creed establishes the 'big picture' of who God is and challenges our commitment to Him. *How do these opening words of the Nicene Creed speak to us today?*



Come and join us at
St. Saviour's Church Hall
Badminton Road,
Coalpit Heath
for an



80th Anniversary of the end of WWII STREET PARTY

Saturday 13th September
3pm until 6pm

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For further information contact,
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sallykitching@googlemail.com



September at Winterbourne Medieval Barn

Sunday 14th September from 1-4 -

Heritage Open Day

Winterbourne Medieval Barn is an extraordinary survivor from our medieval past. It was built in 1342 for Sir Thomas de Bradeston, who was Lord of the Manor of Winterbourne from 1328 until 1360. Come on in to find out the history of this beautiful barn and admire original medieval timbers.

Thursday 18th September at 7.30pm

Music from the Land of a thousand rhythms

We are delighted to welcome international prize-winning musicians, Emily Andrews and Francisco Correa to The Barn for an evening of beautiful South American music, performed on guitar, flute and voice.

This multitalented duo break down musical barriers with an evening full of heartfelt songs and virtuosic dances from Francisco's native Colombia, Brazil and Venezuela.

Thursday 25th September at 7pm

2 Talks: The Life & Times of Sir Thomas de Bradeston & The chantry chapel of St Michael, Breadstone

We are delighted to welcome local historians and archaeologists, Sally Gallia and Neil Baker to The Barn to share some fascinating insights into Sir Thomas de Bradeston, who was Lord of the Manor of Winterbourne from 1328 until his death in 1360 and had Winterbourne Medieval Barn built in 1342.

Free parking at the Barn for all events. The Medieval Barn is fully accessible for wheelchairs. More information and booking details on the Barn website

Winterbourne Medieval Barn, Church Lane, Winterbourne BS36 1SE

For further details about Winterbourne Medieval Barn Trust see
www.WinterbourneBarn.org.uk & facebook.com/winterbournemedievalbarn

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Mouse Makes

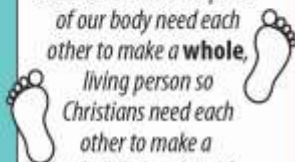
"Just as a **body**, though **one**, has **many** parts, but all its many **parts** form one body, so it is with **Christ**. For we were all baptised by one **Spirit** so as to form one body... Even so, the body is not made up of one part but of many..."

...Now you are the body of Christ, and **each** one of you is part of it."

from 1 Corinthians 12:12-27



Just as the different parts of our body need each other to make a **whole**, living person so Christians need each other to make a whole living church!



K N E E S
J O W H O L E
T E E T H H Q J V
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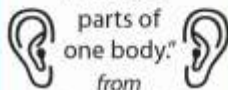
Look in the Bible verses for the words written in **bold** then look for these words too!

GOD • TOGETHER • EQUAL • ALL • EVERY
HEAD • EYES • EARS • MOUTH • TONGUE
TEETH • NOSE • ARMS • HANDS • FINGERS
LEGS • KNEES • FEET • TOES • GIFTS



"Though we are many, we are one body in **union** with Christ, and we are **joined** to each other as **different** parts of one body."

from
Romans 12:1-7



A message from Revd Julia Chard

written before the summer holidays but just as relevant today

There is a famous saying – never judge a book by its cover! So, apart from the images and author on the cover, what constitutes an enjoyable book? I like to read something recommended which challenges me to immerse into the story and leaves me not wanting to put it down! I wonder who would admit to reading the last page to know the outcome- when only halfway through the book!

In the holiday season, many of us take time to relax – whether in faraway places or in the garden, even a swimming pool to cool down in a heat wave!

For me this summer, my holiday read is on hold because of eye surgery -so I am still anxiously wondering ‘who done it’ in my latest fictional read of murder and mystery.



This time out from reading my chosen novel, made me consider how much our lives are like an open book with blank pages. The question is how those pages can bring fulfilment and riches when life does not go the way we planned it. We might prefer to (shut and) tightly close our eyes to the reality, which cause distress to people around us. We should understand that there are bound to be mysteries to unravel, as we venture outside of our comfort zones- taking on a new hobby, joining a new group to meet different people, or facing a new reality.

Investing more time for spiritual contemplation and prayer can open more pages to bring fresh insight- even excitement to what can feel like a mundane daily routine.

Unlike a conclusion in a novel, the outcome of the last page of life is unknown. But the certainty is that the light of love and hope prevails where there may be darkness and fear. Peace, that calms the most torrent storm that sometimes swirls within us can be found through prayer. Here we can hand over to God our concerns for world peace, the daily



stresses of life, family, work, and health matters. In lifting our eyes from the pages of our favourite book (or digital book!) and focusing on something else, the beauty of creation, the kindness of strangers, who can become friends. and the joy of living can be seen.

This intrigue and mystery - amid a backdrop of uncertainty are in the pages of the Bible and direct everyone to a relationship with Jesus Christ. The same Christ child born into a murky world to illuminate the darkness of suffering and fragile peace. The same unsettled world that fills our tv news channels from day to day.

The Bible, with its mystery, cannot become a dull read, to go back on the bookshelf, dusty and forgotten or used as a prop for a wonky table. It holds words of hope with an invitation to read more, of how one life born into a broken world - given in love - can transform a dampened spirit, seeking purpose and new life. It was a journey fraught with danger and mystery - that many others doubted and were unwilling to entertain.



But like the line from the classic film Forest Gump said, *“Life is like a box of chocolates you never know what you’re going to get.”*

If you invest in a few minutes of prayer every day you can handle whatever comes your way! Resources are in all in our churches, so come along to open a new chapter in your life’s journey.

Therefore, as we dwell on our “book of 2025” with its yet to be read pages, I pray the content will soon reveal happy, joyous sentiments to bring excitement and new life to its reader.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1, Amazed. 4, Others. 8, Peter. 9, Zebedee. 10, Accuser. 11, Endue. 12, Scripture. 17, Shrub. 19, Abashed. 21, Foolish. 22, Upset. 23, Loathe. 24, Lesser.

DOWN: 1, Appeal. 2, Attacks. 3, Earns. 5, Tableau. 6, Ended. 7, Shekel. 9, Zarephath. 13, Rubbish. 14, Ephesus. 15, Useful. 16, Editor. 18, Rhoda. 20, Abuse.



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David Pickup, a solicitor, considers the process of contacting God.

“Thank you for your call. It’s important to us”

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and He will say, Here I am. (Isaiah 58.6-9a)

I spend a lot of time trying to communicate with people. Technology should make it easy, but it can be a nightmare. Trying to log on to websites, changed passwords, secret words, and then getting ‘no-reply emails’ demanding information, but there is no way to give it to them! Then holding on a phone, trying to talk to someone human, and going through security questions.

Yesterday, after a difficult time trying to sign documents online, which all had to be signed at the same time, I came across this passage. It is a beautiful insight in trying to get through to God. God does not ask security questions, your mother’s milkman’s name or your cat’s date of birth. God does expect us to have similar priorities and the sense of justice. We may not always get the answer we want, but He will answer.

Any questions? Please call. Your call is important to Him.

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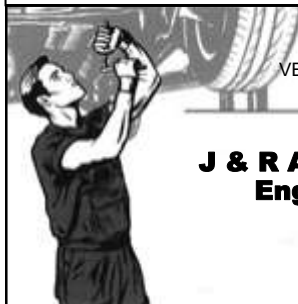
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