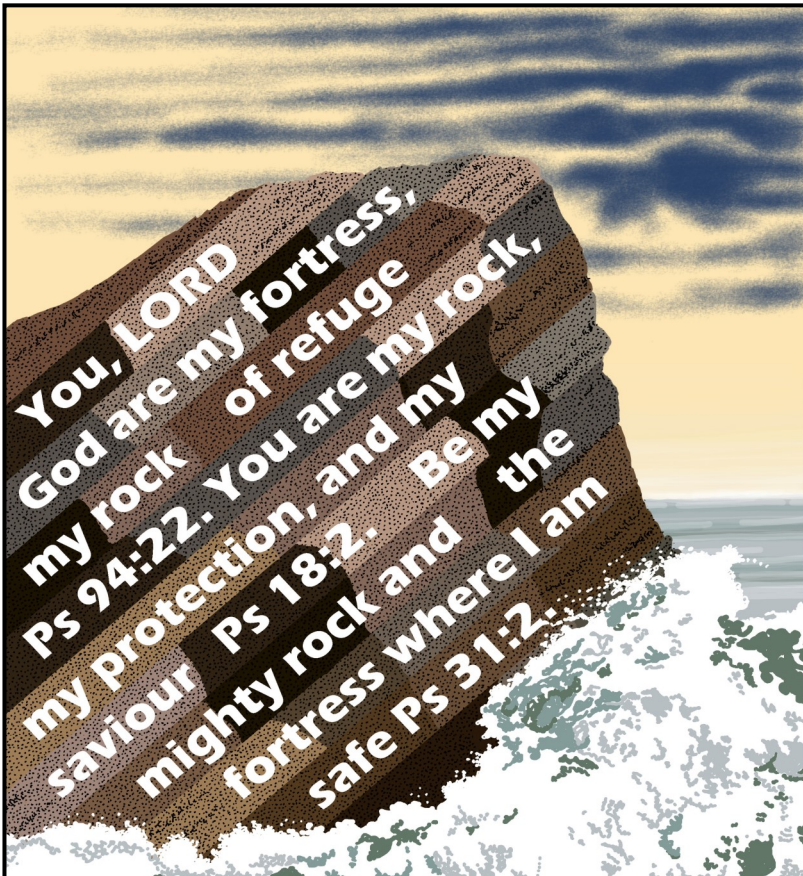




St. Paul's Church Ansdell & Fairhaven  
Working In Unity To Share The Good News Of Christ

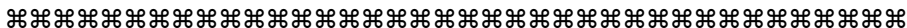
# PEWS NEWS EXTRA

Issue No 142 ~ August 2020



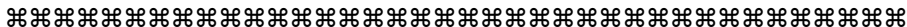
# CHURCH OFFICERS

<b>Vicar</b>	The Rev Paul Bye
<b>Licensed Lay Minister (Curate)</b>	Mr Kyle Mulholland
<b>Licensed Lay Minister (Reader)</b>	Miss Janet Kimber
<b>Church Warden</b>	Mrs Pamela Rowell
<b>Parish Secretary</b>	Mr Alan Curtis
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mrs Loraine Lee



## Useful Information

<b>Vicarage</b>	01253 734562
<b>Parish Office:</b>	01253 732939
<b>Fundraising Shop:</b>	01253 732253
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com">www.stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com</a>
<b>E-mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:stpaulsoffice2@gmail.com">stpaulsoffice2@gmail.com</a>



**Help St Paul's Church, Ansdell & Fairhaven to raise money every time you shop online.**

Every time you shop online using the Easy Fundraising website or the Easy Fundraising app, St. Paul's will receive a donation from the online store that you visit. There are more than 3,000 to choose from and it doesn't cost you any more than the price of your purchases!  
Visit: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stpaulsansdell>

# Letter from the vicarage...

It feels a strange time. The schools have broken up and the summer holidays have begun. But things just don't feel normal.

For some, they are heading off somewhere overseas, or travelling in the UK. A chance to see some different scenery or finally catch up with friends and family.

For many, that won't be the case. Because of finances, practicalities, health or risk, we will be staying at home – literally.



For everyone, the past 5 months have been stressful and an exhausting time. For some it has been the increased workload, or juggling of priorities. For others, it will have been the difficulty of working from home, or simply the worry or isolation which has worn us down.

So how do we rest when we are potentially at home?

I want to lead us to Jesus. The apostles had had a busy time – they had been on their first mission. This is Jesus' response to them:

*'The apostles gathered round Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught. Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, 'Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.'* Mark 6:30-31

Two things we see. Jesus recognises we need physical rest.

We all need time to slow down, quieten the race, and recharge our batteries. Many of us might not be able to do that in a different place this summer. But we still all need it.

For some it might mean setting a week or two aside and telling people 'I'm on holiday', setting an 'out of office email' alert, getting some different food in, seeking out some different puzzles or books which we like...whatever. Just to take some time from our normal patterns, and not to be afraid to say 'I am taking time away' (even if here!) for rest.

But Jesus also recognises we need spiritual rest. Rest found only in Him.

He takes the disciples away to be with him. To hear from him. To grow to know him better. To see him in action. To enjoy him. Now more than ever in a time of fear, uncertainty and stress, spending time with Jesus is vital.

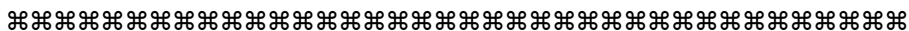
For he is the one in control, the one who loves his people, who works for their good, who is unchanging when everything is changing. To spend time with Jesus is what is needed.

So make time this summer to spend time with Jesus. Maybe get a Christian book and slowly work through it. Or carve out a little time each day to read some verses from the Bible and just enjoy Jesus. If you need help with both of those things, please do be in touch.

Whatever you are doing this summer, we wish you real rest – physical, but also vitally spiritual. Rest from Jesus, who said, ‘Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.’

Every blessing

## *Paul*



*'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened,  
and I will give you rest.' (Matthew 11:28)*



# Services this August

Here is what is coming up this August! We are still very much finding our feet, and exploring ways for us to meet at this interim time. Because of summer holidays in particular, August will look a little different. Our longer term pattern of services is something which is being, and will be, explored in the coming days and months.

## **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August**

10 am in the Church Building (livestreamed),  
11am in the Church Hall

## **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August**

10 am in the Church Building (livestreamed),  
11am in the Church Hall

## **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August**

10 am in the Church Building (livestreamed),  
11am in the Church Hall

## **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August**

10am in the Church Building only  
(pre-recorded service online for those unable to attend)

## **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August**

10am in the Church Building only  
(pre-recorded service online for those unable to attend)

**We will have a reduced capacity on both Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> August – having only one service, not two.**

This means that for those two Sundays all those who have been, or by then would like to be, attending across the two current Sunday services will not be able to. We will seek to plan and accommodate as much as possible so that people can attend **one service out of the two** across the fortnight. However, we may not be able to accommodate everyone.

So we need to ask people who wish to attend in person one of either Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup> August to make contact with Paul on 01253 734562 or email [vicar.stpaulsaf@gmail.com](mailto:vicar.stpaulsaf@gmail.com) so we can seek to 'book' people in to one of the two services across the fortnight. For those unable to attend in person, there will be a pre-recorded service online each Sunday.

# Some Summer Reading – for Free!

## Acts 1-12 For You – Albert Mohler



R. ALBERT MOHLER, JR.  
THIS IS FOR YOU TO READ, CHARTING THE BIRTH OF CHRIST'S CHURCH.  
THIS IS FOR YOU TO READ, HELPING YOU MEDITATE ON GOD'S WORD DAY BY DAY.  
THIS IS FOR YOU TO READ, EQUIPPING YOU TO TEACH THE BIBLE TO OTHERS. THIS IS  
**ACTS 1-12 FOR YOU**

On Sundays, we have been working our way through Acts 1-7 – seeing the beginning of the early church as God's purposes for the world take shape.

This is a book to help you understand those passages more. You can use it to read as a daily devotional, or to help you as you read that part of the Bible yourself.

It has helpful applications to what it means for us in our individual lives, as well as to our church.

Best of all – if you have access to e-books – you can get a free copy here - <https://www.thegoodbook.co.uk/free-ebook> so you can take it with you wherever you end up this summer. Or if you would like to order a paper copy (£10.19), speak to Paul. You need an email address to sign up, but *you can unsubscribe at any time from the newsletters they send.*

## Before You Open The Bible – Matt Smethurst



BEFORE YOU OPEN *your* BIBLE

NINE HEART POSTURES FOR APPROACHING GOD'S WORD

MATT SMETHURST

We might think that the hard bit comes after we have opened the Bible – seeking to understand it! But actually there are things to do in preparation, which will really help us make the most of our time with god in his word. This short book look at nine areas to think through as we prepare to open God's word – heart attitudes to pray about and seek. It is short and accessible.

You can find it free here - <https://www.10ofthose.com/uk/free-ebook>. You need an email address to sign up, but *you can unsubscribe at any time from the newsletters they send.*



## *God Doesn't Mind If You Are Messy* *~ says online service*

A vicar who has nearly 170,000 followers on Instagram and who regularly broadcasts on YouTube, says that God welcomes us all, however 'messy' we may believe our lives to be.

The Revd Chris Lee, vicar of St Saviour's in Wendell Park, warned against any of us being 'embarrassed' about the state of our lives when considering whether to 'open our hearts' to God or not.

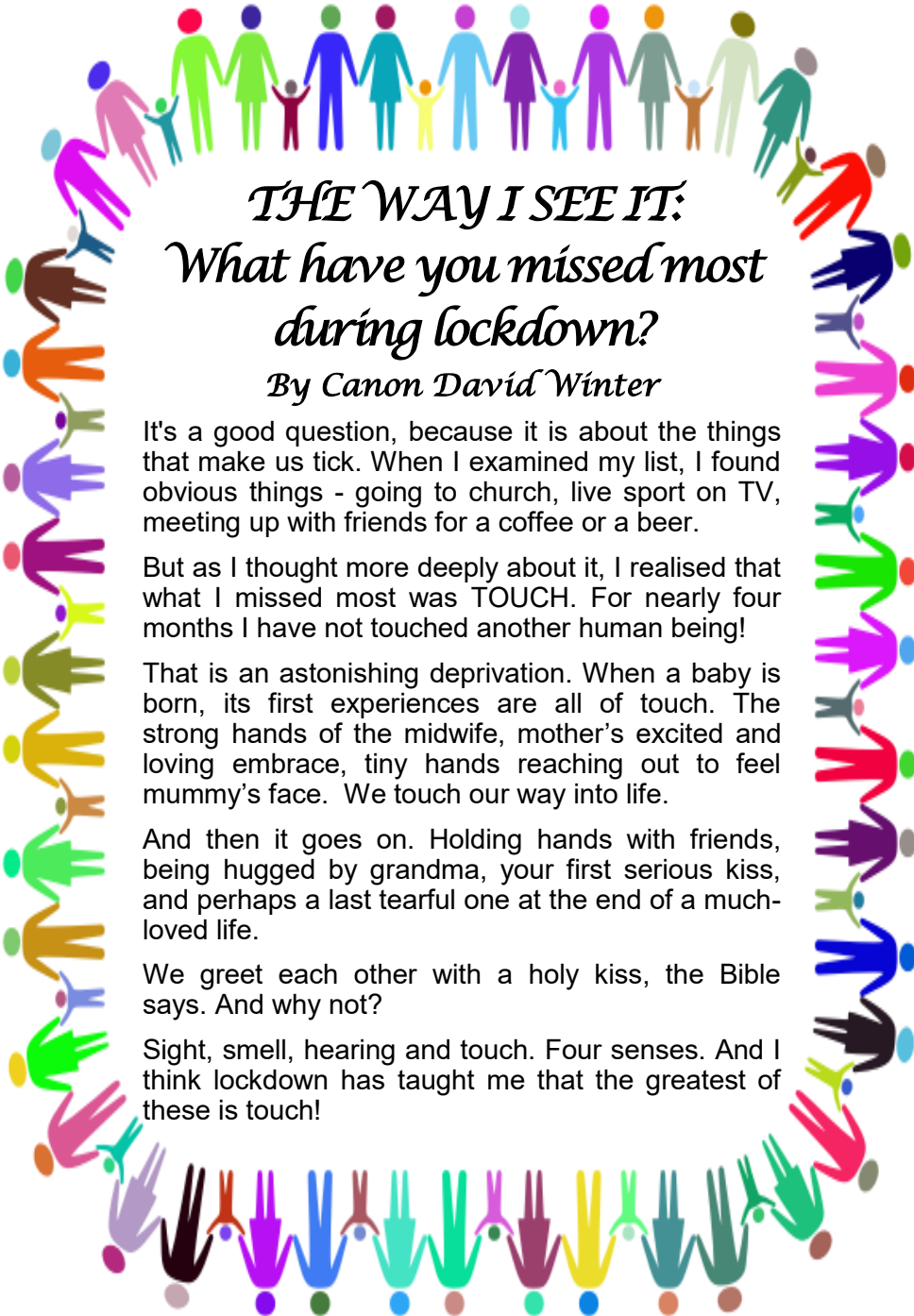
"God is not going to stand at the door of your heart, knock and look in and think to Himself 'you know what, I am not going to come in, it is a little bit messy there,'" he said.

Chris Lee was leading a recent weekly online service for the Church of England.

He said that Christians are not called to be 'bouncers' who police whether people are leading 'good enough' lives to come to church.

"No, as (the Gospel of) Matthew records Jesus saying, whomever welcomes one of you, welcomes Me. Anyone is welcome, God's grace is sufficient for all of our needs."

He added: "God's welcome is wide, His love is deep, He is generous to all who come to Him. As Christians we should be welcoming. We are not called to be bouncers at the doors of our churches seeing if people are good enough, clean enough, moral enough, to come in, we should be welcoming to all people."



*THE WAY I SEE IT:*  
*What have you missed most  
during lockdown?*

*By Canon David Winter*

It's a good question, because it is about the things that make us tick. When I examined my list, I found obvious things - going to church, live sport on TV, meeting up with friends for a coffee or a beer.

But as I thought more deeply about it, I realised that what I missed most was TOUCH. For nearly four months I have not touched another human being!

That is an astonishing deprivation. When a baby is born, its first experiences are all of touch. The strong hands of the midwife, mother's excited and loving embrace, tiny hands reaching out to feel mummy's face. We touch our way into life.

And then it goes on. Holding hands with friends, being hugged by grandma, your first serious kiss, and perhaps a last tearful one at the end of a much-loved life.

We greet each other with a holy kiss, the Bible says. And why not?

Sight, smell, hearing and touch. Four senses. And I think lockdown has taught me that the greatest of these is touch!



## Getting To Know Next Door

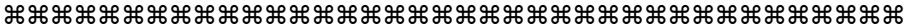
This time last year, how well did you know your neighbours? Around one in five of us have since admitted that we had never even spoken to them.



What a difference a pandemic makes. Now twice as many of us have talked to our neighbours in the past week as compared with last year. A further one in three of us have also done something to help a neighbour. This works out to 33 million people having talked to a neighbour in the past week, and 15 million of them even helping one during lockdown.

Seven in 10 of us also said that people in our area are now more likely to stop for a chat, and three quarters of us want their new-found friendliness to continue.

The survey was commissioned for the Big Lunch, a National Lottery-supported initiative from the Eden Project.



### **ARTICLES FOR THE SEPTEMBER PNE**

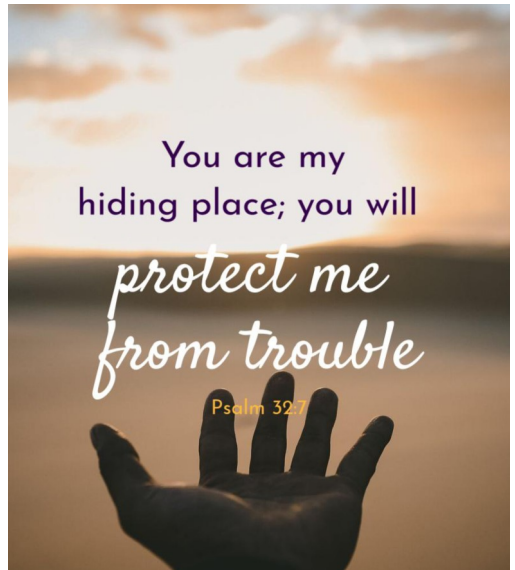


If you have an article for inclusion in the September PNE, please make sure that I have a copy by

**Saturday 15th August.**

Thank you.

*Janet Kimber*



# When Tourists Get Lost

Have you ever got into trouble while abroad? The true story is told of a group of tourists who went to Israel some years ago and arrived in Jerusalem very eager to see the sites of the old city.



Four members of the group were so engrossed in taking pictures of each other by the Wailing Wall that they ignored the summons from the tour group leader to go back to the bus.

A little while later, they realised that they were all on their own in Jerusalem. That's when their problems started.

The four tourists decided to head back to their hotel. But no one could remember the exact name of the hotel. So, they hailed a taxi, and asked it to drive around Jerusalem looking for the hotel. An hour or so later, the driver gave up and demanded payment.

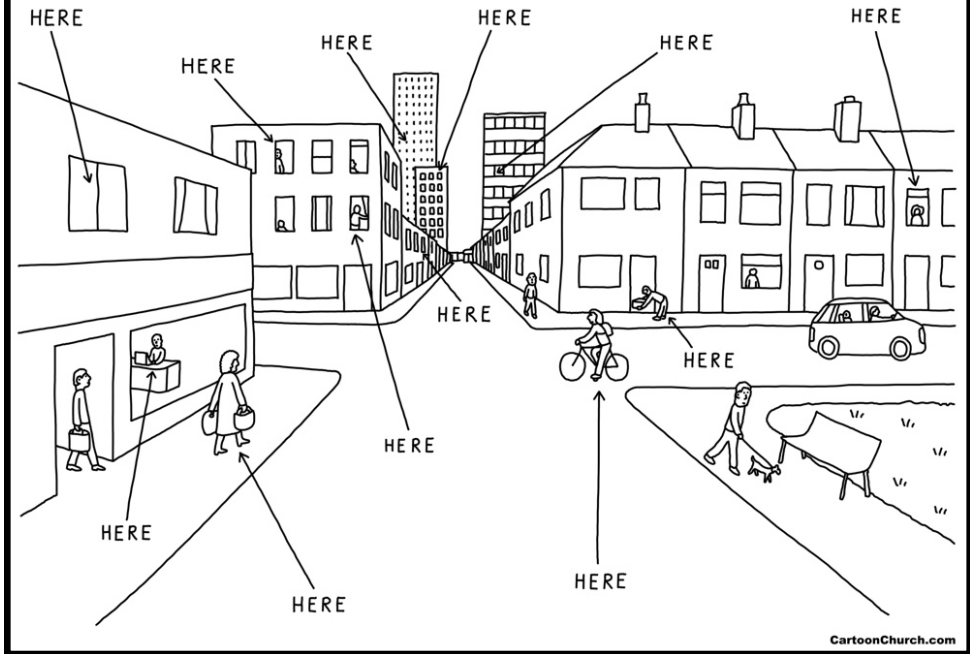
That's when they discovered that they did not have enough money to pay the driver. So the driver took them to the police, who demanded some identification. That's when the four tourists remembered that they had left their passports in the hotel safe...

Some hours later, the tour guide tracked down the missing tourists. They greeted her with tears of relief as she provided the police with their passports, paid their debt, and prepared to lead them safely back to their hotel. The police gave some parting advice to the tourists: "From now on, you stay close to your friend!"

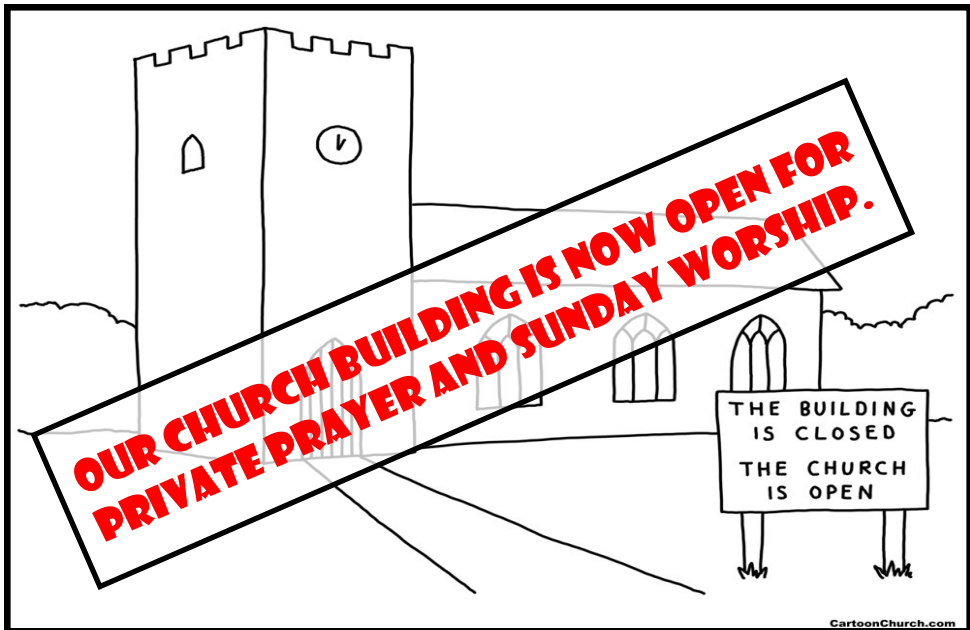
Stay close to your friend. It's good advice for all of us. If your life is going in the wrong direction, if you have run up debts of wrong-doing, if you feel lost and alone, you need to take action. You need to stop going on like this. Turn around and go in another direction. The Bible calls this action of 'stopping and turning around' repentance.

Repentance is when you stop one direction, and you *turn* to God. For the good news is that there *is* a heavenly tour guide on whom we can all call. Only God can save us from the mess we are in. He sent us His Son to forgive us our sins, to provide us with an identity, and, if we walk with Him, lead us safely through life. As the Bible says: "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

# WHERE THE CHURCH IS



CartoonChurch.com



CartoonChurch.com

## *Picking Up Jam Jars*

I am planning early in August to pick up empty jam jars from the homes of parishioners who have kindly been storing them during the lockdown.

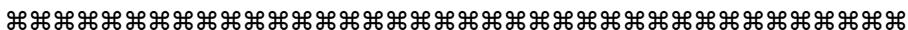
My annual charity jam making usually starts in August with plum and then damson jam and this year, even more than normally, I need the help of parishioners to ensure I have sufficient jars.

I know that some already have filled their garage, garden shed and spare bedroom with jars and now is the time to request that I collect them from you.

You can contact me by phone 01253 731040 or send an email to [julian.wilde@btinternet](mailto:julian.wilde@btinternet) – please let me have your name, address and contact details, so we can arrange a convenient collection time, with, of course, social distance.

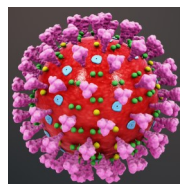
You will welcome the space and I will welcome the jars!

*Julian Wilde*



### **A Musing on Coronavirus (1)**

A minute, unseen enemy has shaken global society to its foundations. This is bringing about a new way of being-in-the-world... In the long run, this pandemic may hasten the emergence of a renewed vision of community and progress towards environmental renewal which we had hardly dared to think could happen.



*The Rev Dr Christopher Steed, Team Rector in the Totton Team,  
Hampshire and Visiting Professor at Winchester University.*

## *CAP still helping people out of debt*

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) have been thanking their donors for helping “some wonderful things happen” despite the challenge of coronavirus.

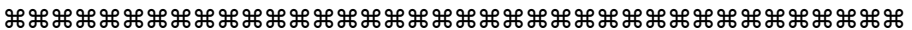
“These beautiful moments were made possible by your support,” says Paula Stringer, UK chief executive of CAP. “We’ve been able to make sure our clients don’t go without essentials like food, fuel and staying in touch with loved ones. Our frontline workers have distributed 345 instances of emergency client support so far, and they will be able to continue providing this for many more.

When one client could not get to the supermarket because her car needed repairs, she was astonished to find that her Debt Coach, Beth, had arranged for a delivery of groceries to her house. In return, she sent this message:

“I was so shocked and welling up. It was such an amazing thing to do. Your gift came at the right time, as I wouldn’t have had enough to get that much food.”

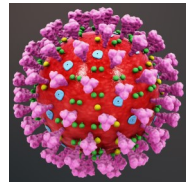
During lockdown, CAP has adjusted its service to offer phone appointments to clients, 479 of these so far.

“We’ve also seen a fabulous 494 people become debt free during lockdown! Despite the new challenges, we’re seeing that there really is always hope,” says Paula Stringer.



### **A Musing on Coronavirus (2)**

This crisis has in many ways made us more grateful for each other and ... it has shown people at their best – volunteering, helping neighbours, protecting those at greatest risk, pulling together as communities to support one another.



*Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury*

## *Eternity in the Human Heart*

*'He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.'* (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

The 60s hit *'Turn! Turn! Turn!'* by the Byrds is based on verses in this chapter: *'There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.'* The different seasons of life are not random, for God is in control and His timing is perfect: *'He has made everything beautiful in its time.'*

The verse goes on to say that God *'has also set eternity in the human heart.'* This means that we all have an in-built sense that there's more to life than what we can see, as we search for meaning in life. However, we can fill our lives with other things: career, pleasure, shopping and relationships. While good in themselves, these things can never ultimately satisfy. It is only a relationship with God through Jesus that truly satisfies. How does this challenge us?

Firstly, we are to live for God in all that we do, knowing that it all counts for eternity. This includes helping others find a personal relationship with Jesus Christ for eternity.

Secondly, we accept that there is lots in the current *'season'* where it's difficult to know what God is doing: *'no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.'* However, we do know that everything has consequences for eternity.

Finally, how can we be more aware of eternity every day? Spending time with God in worship and prayer will bring us the true pleasure that belongs to eternity.

*'You made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you.'* (St Augustine).

# Lockdown Worship

**Editor:** *Worship has been very different during our time of Lockdown with many services being recorded and played back through YouTube. More recently at St. Paul's, we have been live-streaming our services to an online congregation; but have you ever wondered what goes on behind the scenes? Let Nigel Beeton enlighten you, in a poem that he wrote before Lockdown began!*

*He writes: One of the unsung heroes who give up a great deal of time to facilitate our worship are those wonderful people who tackle rebellious microphones, failed batteries, and all sorts of other issues so that we can hear what is going on during our services.*

## *The Sound of Worship*

As we gather for the service  
Greeting, laughing, chatting we,  
While a genius is working  
Deep in electricity.



Checking all the wires are plugged in,  
Running gremlins down to ground.  
1,2,3 – that mike is working!  
No more faults there to be found!



Have you seen that desk he/she uses?  
Sliders, switches, buttons, knobs;  
Looks to me just like a flight deck –  
Someone really knows their job!

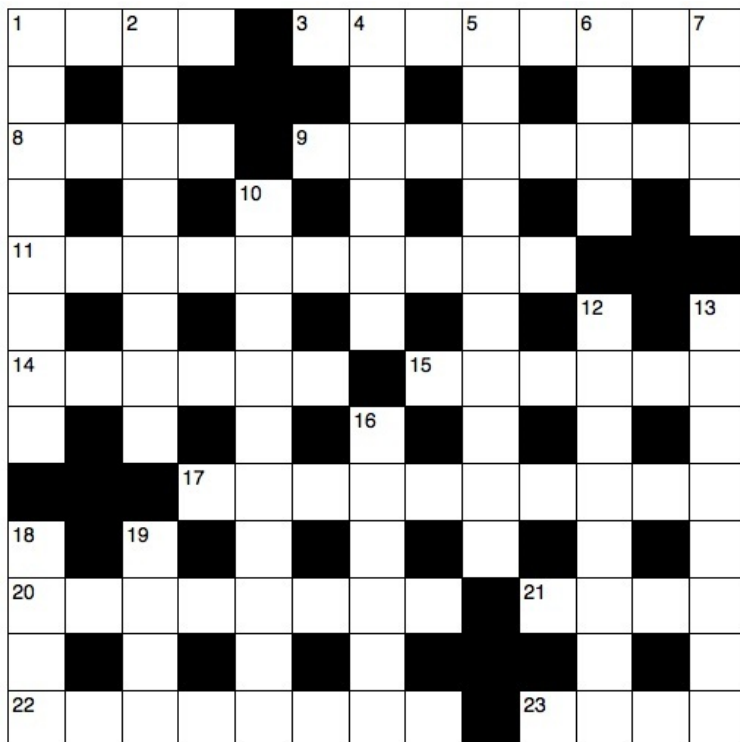
While you listen, learn, and worship  
May a prayer of thanks be found  
Then, perhaps a little feedback  
For the one who does the sound.



*By Nigel Beeton*

# AUGUST 2020 CROSSWORD

(The Bible version used in these crosswords is the NIV.)



## Across

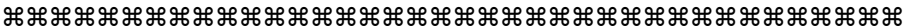
- 1 & 3 Two of the disciples who witnessed the transfiguration of Jesus (Luke 9:28) (4,3,5)  
 3 See 1 Across  
 8 'Let us draw — to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith' (Hebrews 10:22) (4)  
 9 O Simon is (anag.) (8)  
 11 Form of government under the direct rule of God or his agents (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 Doubting 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)

**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)



**Crossword Solution ~ July2020**

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



parish pump  
www.paritypump.co.uk

Many of the articles and pictures in the Pews News Extra are sourced from the Parish Pump Website and the Association of Church Editors monthly edition of "Ideas Forum". We have recently added a subscription with 'Cartoon Church'.



# Time for a Smile

## Where was God?

A Sunday School teacher challenged her children to take some time on Sunday afternoon to write a letter to God. They were to bring their letter back the following Sunday. One little boy wrote, "Dear God, we had such a good time at church today. I wish you could have been there."

## Guilt?

While repairing a picture frame, a lady had to replace some chipped gold leaf. She asked at the hardware shop, "Do you have any guilt?" The shopkeeper replied. "Sometimes it's overwhelming,"



*"Looks like no-one was available to fill in for the vicar's annual holiday again."*

## Multiply

Noah opened up the ark and let all the animals out, telling them to "Go forth and multiply!" He began to close the great doors of the ark when he noticed that there were two snakes still sitting in a dark corner. Concerned, he said to them: "Didn't you hear me? You can go now. Go forth and multiply."

"We can't," said the snakes sadly. "We're adders."



## Sick of Preaching

Our new vicar had just been prescribed bifocals. The reading portion of the glasses improved his vision considerably, but the top portion of the glasses didn't work so well. In fact, he was experiencing dizziness every time he looked through them. He tried to explain this to the congregation on Sunday: "I hope you will excuse my continually removing my glasses. You see, when I look down, I can see fine, but when I look at you all, it makes me feel sick."

## No Change?!

A lady lost her handbag in the hustle and bustle of a large store. A small boy found it and he returned it to the information desk. The worried lady turned up while he was there and she was relieved to see her handbag had been returned. Looking in her purse, the lady said, "That's strange, when I lost my bag there was a £20 note in the purse. Now there are three £5 notes and five £1 coins. With a cheeky look on his face, the boy said, "That's right madam. I was always told at my church not to take anything that didn't belong to me. The last time I found a lady's purse, she lady said she didn't have any change.



*As Lay Rectors, he reminded them, the chancel roof was their responsibility.*



*Here are a couple of topical 'Smile Lines'!*

## All in a name

I'm dyslexic, and recently attended a Zoom conference about the disorder with a friend. The speakers asked us to share a personal experience with the group. I told them stress aggravates my condition, in which I reverse words and letters when I'm tense. When I finished speaking, my friend blurted out, "Now I know why you named your daughter Hannah!"



## What am I?

A teacher gave her young class a lesson on Zoom on the magnet and what it does. The next day in a short test, she included this question: "My full name has six letters. The first one is M. I am strong and attractive. I pick up lots of things. What am I?"

When the answers were sent in, the teacher was astonished to find that more than half her students had answered the question with the word: "Mother."

*And finally ....*

DEUTERONOMY 31

BE STRONG &  
FOR THE LORD YOUR GOD  
COURAGEOUS.

GOES WITH YOU;

HE WILL NEVER

BE AFRAID

LEAVE YOU

OR TERRIFIED

NOR FORSAKE YOU