



The Messenger

Wallingford Methodist Church



July/August 2019
Issue 376

Thoughts for July and August

'And it's from the old, I travel to the new, keep me travelling along with you'. So wrote Sydney Carter in the hymn that we sing in all sorts of situations; baptisms, end of year celebrations, weddings, at the beginning of the year and we sang it at my fathers funeral 2 year ago. This time of year sees all sorts of beginnings and endings and all sorts of journeys. Holidays, moving schools and Ministers moving round. My eldest son Alex was 25 on the 17th June - I cannot quite believe that he has grown up and left home. Elliot is nearing the end of his first term at Uni and his first hospital placement. He was born while I was training for ministry - its that long ago! Time is flying. The longest day of the year has passed and the nights will soon be drawing in (well not until the end of August probably) - I am reminded of the hymn words

'The day Thou gavest, Lord, is ended,
The darkness falls at Thy behest;
To Thee our morning hymns ascended,
Thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

We thank Thee that Thy church, unsleeping,
While earth rolls onward into light,
Through all the world her watch is keeping,
And rests not now by day or night.



From the very beginning the people of God were constantly on the move. Abraham and Sarah called to leave their homes and families and set out on an adventure of faith that would lead them to new places and new responsibilities. The disciples called to leave family and business and follow Jesus. Paul on his journeys as the word of God spread from Jerusalem to all the corners of the world.

When I was a probationer, the boys bought me a sat nav, and recently she has been upgraded to a better model. The trouble is that I am not really sure how to use it properly – and the settings have taken me on some really interesting journeys recently. So have to have great trust when going somewhere unfamiliar. But she can get me to places that otherwise I would've had to spent ages with a map and a calculator. She does make mistakes and try and take me up impossible tracks and then I try and fool her by going the way I know rather than the way her computer tells me. There is nothing worse than getting lost in a strange place, where even the road signs don't help. You can wonder around purposefully for ages until you get to somewhere that you recognise. Or you can hit a traffic jam and try and find a detour, only to take longer than you might have done had you been patient.

Searching is something we all do in life. And many people search for meaning and purpose, looking for things that satisfy and last. We may not know what we are searching for. But as St Augustine wrote 'Truly our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you, O God'.

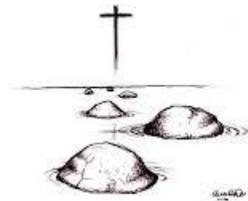
Many people seek God by going on a pilgrimage, making a conscious choice to seek out the holy. There places such as Lindisfarne and Walsingham that people make a pilgrimage to. Or walk the Camino de Santiago de Compostela in Spain, or visit the holy sites in Palestine. I have a fascinating translation of 'Egeria: Diary of a Pilgrimage' written by a lady who visited the holy sites in the period 381-388. She describes in detail her journey, the daily liturgy and the cycle of the liturgical year in Jerusalem, the life of the monasteries she stayed in, ascending Mount Horeb and much more.



Often when we embark on a pilgrimage to find God, we end up finding ourselves, travelling an inward journey - To know you more clearly, love you more dearly and follow you more nearly - getting close to God and close to ourselves. But where to start? Which book to read, who to talk with, where to stay and how to actually start to get closer to God. To take a step further than usual, a bit more time to listen, taking little steps and putting our foot on the first stepping stone rather than scarily diving in. And such a pilgrimage, such a journey can be life changing if we allow it.

The first verse of a hymn for moving on - I can't remember who wrote it - but I find these words helpful.

God, we praise you with our dreaming,
thinking first of things to come -
all the goodness you will show us,
love that's far more than its sum;
first we praise you with our hoping,
as we trust in your good news
so that we, who worship gladly,
may see you in other's views.



stepping stones

Enjoy the summer, wherever you go and whatever you do

with love,

Jocelyn x

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Food Bank Analysis For May 2019

Despite the fact that there have been two bank holidays in May the Food Bank has still been busy helping those in need. We saw 82 adults and 51 children receiving food packages to help them through their time of need. Like last month, we have seen a lot of single people seeking help and there are, as ever, a number of one parent families who I know rely on our services. I am still surprised to find that there are people in Wallingford who are not aware that there is a Food Bank and we are still meeting folk who tell us that there really isn't a need for one.

As far as news on the re-location of the Food Bank goes, I'm disappointed to say that there is no news. A draught plan was submitted to the scouts for the possible siting of CAB and the Food Bank in Hut two – which we had already been to see – but unfortunately they were not happy with our plan and are suggesting a further meeting with us to discuss different possibilities. Plans also have to go to the local authority with regard to change of use and of course this all takes time. This means that there will really be very little chance of us being able to move before the end of July – our termination date – even if some other plan is approved as there will be quite a lot of work that will be needed to be done before the Hut could be used. The main concern at the moment is temporary accommodation which could house the three large cabinets and two smaller filing cabinets and from which we could operate for a short time at least. Your prayers in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Your generosity in supplying food and money for the Food Bank is so much appreciated by all who receive food parcels and again I say a big thank you on their behalf.

With best wishes,
Jean Burt



1st Wallingford Boys Brigade & Girls Association

May and June have been action packed for the BB.

Swimming - Our Company section were this year pushed into 2nd place by 3rd Didcot BB from Milton Methodist Church. The points were really close with just 2 points separating the teams. Our Juniors however took the Junior swimming trophy from 1st Didcot BB with a massive points total.

Ten Pin Bowling - This year there were 5 teams in the ten pin bowling with 2 of the teams from ourselves. Our B team came out on top with Millie taking the individual prize for the highest score.

Kayaking - At the end of May three of our members attend a Kayak training weekend in North Wales. The weekend was run by the BB Canoe Club and during the weekend Fin was awarded her Kayak Discover award and Chris and New we award Kayak Instructor qualifications.

Cholsey Colour run - We had our stand present at the Cholsey Colour run and had several members enter again for this fun event to raise funds for CHOKO. The charity provides education and support to communities in Ntwetwe, Uganda.

Fire & Water for Pentecost - On Sunday 9th June we hosted the Oxfordshire joint service for Pentecost. We were joined by BB members from Kings Sutton and Cholsey Baptist Churches along with members from Witney and Milton Methodist. We had 46 parents and members there for the service led by Jocelyn on the Riverside at Crowmarsh, followed by games on the bank (and in the water) and a barbeque.

Night Hike - Our next big event is the annual night hike on 28th June along the Ridgeway. Covering 10 miles our intrepid members will attempt to traverse various styles and gates whilst avoiding the numerous farm animals along the way. The walk is a lovely chance for all of our age groups to undertake a challenge together.

A treasure of a Treasurer - After five years looking after us Philip is standing down as our treasurer. Philip has done a wonderful job and we would like to thank him for his service. We are therefore looking for a new volunteer to take over the role of Treasurer. If you feel able to step into this role please speak to any BB member or Philip and we will be able to give you full details of what is required.

Nev Keating Captain



Wallingford Street Pastors May 2019 Newsletter No 22

Last month I talked about the possibility of volunteering to join us and I have not given up on the theme. If you like being appreciated and told what a wonderful person you are (the language used may be a little different) then there is no better way than coming out on patrol on a Friday night. For the last couple of weeks we have been especially blessed by the number of people expressing their appreciation. "You really don't get paid for doing this?" is a common expression of amazement. It can sometimes be a good opportunity to tell people why we do it.

However, listening can be just as important, perhaps more so, than talking. That is why it is included in our training schedule. Three of our Street Pastors will be doing the Listening Skills course at Wantage next week. We also try to be aware of the situation regarding drugs and alcohol abuse and to be able to recognize symptoms when we see them. For this we are taking advantage of courses being run by "Turning Point" in Didcot and Oxford. These are not restricted to Street Pastors and are open, free of charge, for anyone to attend. If you would like more information contact me and I will put you in touch with the organization.

Our running costs are small and we are grateful this year for grants from Wallingford Bridge Estates Charity and sometimes we are offered money while out on patrol. It is contrary to our policy to accept these because we do not wish to be labelled as fund raising. Donations can always be delivered or posted to
22 St Mary's Street, Wallingford
OX10 0EW Phone 07927188636
Enjoy the summer!



Our stand at the Wallingford Carnival

We like patrolling on those warmer Friday nights! *Neville*

September!!!

Any items for the next issue of the Messenger should be sent to Pauline Ainley, please, no later than

Friday August 23rd

paulineainley@btinternet.com

Remember, if you are a puzzler!



We are planning to have a monthly sale of used - but complete - jigsaws at coffee time on the first Sunday of each month.

Donated puzzles will be sold for £3 each and hopefully you will return them for resale once you have completed them so they can be sold again!

Proceeds will be donated to church funds. The first sale will take place on **Sunday July 7th**. Please bring any of your surplus puzzles on the day of the sale.

Thanks from the fund raising team.

Didcot Divas Present Concerts In Aid of



Songs from the shows - comedy - monologues.
Music fun and laughter for the whole family with Guest Performer

Bethan Pithers

Student of Performing Arts at Abingdon & Witney College

Saturday 6th JULY 7pm

Harwell Village Hall
and at

Saturday 20th JULY 7pm

East Hagbourne Church

Please come along and support this ladies' choir raise funds for a most deserving cause and exceed the amount the DIVAS made last year (£5000 plus for Sobell House 2018)

TICKETS £10

Children/Students £5 concession

to book and for further information please contact
Judithsawyer2010@hotmail.com or telephone 01235 798387

PA Operatives

	10.30am	6.30pm
July 7th	Ian Scrivener	At Trinity
July 14th	Iain Revell	Iain Revell
July 21st	Graham Ifill	Norman Atkinson
July 28th	Wendy Warrick	Graham Ifill
August 4th	Ian Scrivener	Iain Revell
August 11th	Sarah Ifill	Graham Ifill
August 18th	Iain Revell	Ian Scrivener
August 25th	Norman Atkinson	Sarah Ifill

Coffee Rota

(Sunday Morning)

July 7th	Ruth/Norman
July 14th	Sally/Belinda
July 21st	Pauline /Joan
July 28th	Sue/Mary
August 4th	Pauline A/Shirley
August 11th	Ruth/Norman
August 18th	Sally/Belinda
August 25th	Sarah/Nicky

Organists

	10.30am	6.30p
July 7th	Libby Bolton	At Trinity
July 14th	Gill Hall	Gill Hall
July 21st	Gill Hall	Libby Bolton
July 28th	Tbc	James Garnett
August 4th	Gill Hall	Gill Hall
August 11th	Libby Bolton	Libby Bolton
August 18th	Gill Hall	Gill Hall
August 25th	Gill Hall	Gill Hall

Church Stewards

July 7th	Belinda Kaur
July 14th	Graham Ifill
July 21st	Wendy Warrick/Belinda Kaur
July 28th	Carl Hill
August 4th	Wendy Warrick/Daphne Savage
August 11th	Carol Hill
August 18th	Graham ifill
August 25th	Daphne Savage

Door Stewards

	10.30am	6.30pm
July 7th	P Smail/G Hall	At Trinity
July 14th	A & A Lowe	B Calcutt
July 21st	M & J Chalkley	R Atkinson
July 28th	E Chamberlain/S Smith	S Scrivener
August 4th	S & D Shepperson	B Calcutt
August 11th	P Maskrey/H Brown	R Atkinson
August 18th	A & A Lowe	S Scrivener
August 25th	I & S Scrivener	B Calcutt

Sunday Worship	10.30am	6.30pm
July 7th	Helen Carter	At Trinity
July 14th	Rev Jocelyn Bennett S	Rev Ian Griffiths
July 21st	Libby Bolton	Alan Snith
July 28th	Rev James Garnett	Rev's Garnett & Bennett
August 4th	Geoffrey Caudle	Atkinson
August 11th	Marlene Chalkley	Barbara Kershaw
August 18th	Rev Jocelyn Bennett S	Miller
August 25th	Barbara Kershaw	Rev Keith Underhill

A - All Age Worship

S- Communion Service

L - Local Arrangement

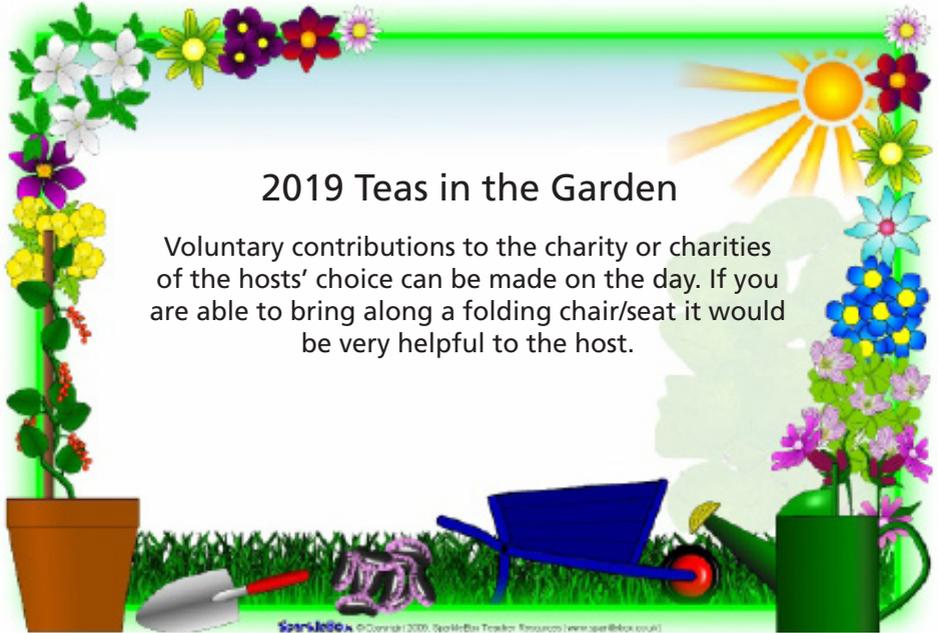
C Church Anniversary

P - Parade

U - United Service

Lectionary Readings

July 7th	Isaiah 66:10-14 Galations 6:7-16	Psalms 66:1-9 Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
July 14th	Deuteronomy 30:9-14 Colossians 1:1-14	Psalms 25:1-10 Luke 10:25-37
July 21st	Genesis 18:1-10a Colossians 1:15-28	Psalms 15 Luke 10:38-42
July 28th	Genesis 18:20-32 Colossians 2:6-15	Psalms 138 Luke 11:1-13
August 4th	Eccl 2:12-14, 2:18-23 Colossians 3:1-11	Psalms 49:1-12 Luke 12:13-21
August 11th	Genesis 15:1-6 Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16	Psalms 33:12-22 Luke 12:32-40
August 18th	Jeremiah 23:23-29 Hebrews 11:29-12:2	Psalms 82 Luke 12:49-56
August 25th	Isaiah 58:9b-14 Hebrews 12:18-29	Psalms 103:1-8 Luke 13:10-17



2019 Teas in the Garden

Voluntary contributions to the charity or charities of the hosts' choice can be made on the day. If you are able to bring along a folding chair/seat it would be very helpful to the host.

You are invited to visit any or all of the following gardens between 3-5pm

Delia & Philip Burns
12 Sinoudin Road, Wallingford OX10 8AB
Thursday 18th July

Sarah & Graham Ifill
3 Richmere Road, Didcot OX11 8HT
Tuesday 6th August

Esther & Philip Chamberlain
Crowmarsh Battle Farm, Preston Crowmarsh OX10 6SL
Sunday 4th August