



Sunday 3rd October 2021

Harvest!

A Note From **Your Vicar**

The Autumn is a season of new beginnings and so a time of greetings and goodbyes. Our dear friend and pastoral coordinator, Rachel Neal will shortly relocate to Manchester to be with her extended family.

This is a happy event for her family to offer support to everyone but a sad parting from the rich life that Rachel and David have built here in Taunton and especially at St George's Church.

Rachel is a true Christian woman of deep faith who has served this community with great energy and devotion. To list her ministries is to risk missing out on something, but when I was thinking about what I will miss about her presence in Taunton; it was exactly that, I will miss her presence. In meetings, in person, in letters and emails, Rachel is one of the most positive, kind and encouraging characters I have ever met. I will miss her, as I know, so many of you will.

There are many things to do for the Neal family over the next few months as they relocate and pack up a life here in Taunton, so we still have a few months with our dear Rachel but I wanted to let the whole church family know.



We also say a farewell to Cathryn and Chris Howse who are moving to a different church setting in Priorswood to facilitate her final year of training as an ordinand. Cathryn and Chris have been long term members both at St Georges and St Michaels, so both the diocese and her training college have made this move to offer a new experience of ministry. The whole leadership team is delighted that Cathryn is being given new space for her development as a minister of the gospel ahead of her ordination in 2022. Do pray for her.

On towards the greetings! On Monday we begin our new intern programme which we are hosting and leading here at St Georges. Many of these candidates are exploring ordination and wondering what God might be calling them towards in the future.

Three interns will be based here at St Georges and we will soon get to meet Lucy Davies, Tim Whitfield and Ozzy Marco who will be supporting and tasting the Anglican ministry in all of its forms. We'll do a proper introduction soon but this represents a really exciting new chapter for the life of St Georges, as the diocese entrusts us with helping people to explore the call of God upon their lives.

God is good.
May he bless you this week!

Nick

St George's **Small Groups**

****Important notice for Strollers for the Soul: ****

Our walk on **Thursday 14 October** will begin at Trull Church.

Assemble at about 10.15 for a 10.30 local walk. Please let Janet know if you require a lift or email the church office on **office@stgchurch.co.uk**



If you would like to join one of our small groups, a bible study based one or an activity based one, then please do get in touch with either the church office or speak to Nick , Geoff or Clare and we'll put you in touch with the right people.

We cant recommend enough how much you can get out of being part of a small group, so don't be shy, come and give it a try!

Future Small Group Dates



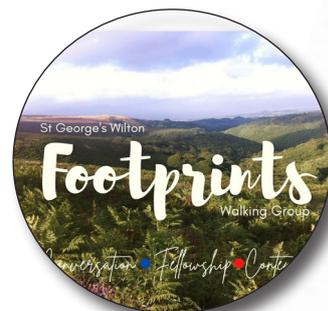
Here are the fortnightly dates for our Buggy Buddies - do tell anyone you know who may like to meet up!

Monday 11th October
Monday 1st November
Monday 15th November



And here are the future dates for our Strolls for you to pop in your diaries:

Thursday 14 October
Thursday 4 November
Thursday 9 December
(A Stroll with a pre-Christmas flavour)



**Footprints Walking
group dates to
follow soon!**

With a crisp in the air and the fluttering of colourful leaves, we all know that Autumn is truly with us.

During the month of October, why not take a Mossy Moment each day and join us as we take part in "Thanktober" - bringing to mind one thing each day which you are thankful for.

Our first Mossy thanks is *"for the beauty of creation"*!

There are some fantastic creative ways which you can take part in this.

- You could cut out some leaf shapes or gather some real leaves or even conkers and write on a new one each day. You could hang these up on a branch or twig, or collect them in a bowl.
- Alternatively, writing on a pumpkin with a sharpie, a different thing each day, so that by the end of the month it is covered in your gratitude (you can then be thankful for eating the yummy pumpkin insides).
- You could have a simple list on the fridge or a different family member could add to the list each day.
- Perhaps you could cut out strips of autumn coloured papers, and add a new chain each day with a new thanks written on.

However you do it, do give it a go! Taking a moment to notice and see things around you to be grateful for. Psychologists have found this activity to be wonderful for our mental and spiritual wellbeing.

We are encouraged to "give thanks" multiple times throughout the Bible.

As a church, St Georges is about to give a hearty Harvest thanks this coming Sunday for God's provision in all ways and the Mossy Church team are delighted to be doing this in the heart of the countryside up at Wildside. But our thanks need not be reserved for one special service or day. A famous Harvest hymn says *"all good gifts around us are sent from heaven above, so thank the Lord, oh thank the Lord, for all His love"*



ST GEORGE'S
Charity Information

Practical ACTION

Our collections for Harvest and October will go to **PRACTICAL ACTION** who work with local farmers in developing countries where farming is difficult - to develop small-scale, sustainable ways to increase production which enhance the fertility of the soil and reduce climate change.

In Kenya Practical Action is working with young farmers on a poultry project which increases production, teaches how to use chicken droppings to grow worms that can be fed to the chickens, and how to use crushed egg shells from hatched eggs to supplement the chickens' feed to boost their calcium levels - and how to make briquettes from wood ash to provide heat for brooding chicks instead of using electricity, reducing energy use. These small techniques are making small poultry businesses profitable and sustainable, so that farmers can feed their families from their local land.

In other projects they are teaching ways of sustainably recycling plastics to make alphabet blocks which are used as teaching aids in local schools, and helping communities access clean, sustainable water supplies - learning about hand hygiene and preventing the spread of severe disease.

Practical Action knows that working with local people to use these small sustainable actions can greatly enhance the life chances of families.

Please donate if you can. There will be a retiring collection by the church door for those of you who come along to our in church services and for those joining in with Church At Home, you can still donate either by donating online at: <https://practicalaction.org/donate/> or post a cheque to **The Robbins Building, 25 Albert Street, Rugby, CV21 2SD**



From **Thursday 7th October at 12.30**, we're partnering with Pursuit Prayer Room ministry to offer a weekly contemporary and free time of worship.

This isn't a full service with readings, sermons and liturgy; rather it will be plenty of praise, prayer and with space for this Holy Spirit to speak to us.

All are welcome and we hope to see folk from other churches too, blessed by this time of worship, as we bless the Lord.

We're not sure of numbers for this new adventure and because parking is limited midweek, please don't park at the hall.



*Thankyou so much for your cards, verbal greetings and enormous cheque - I am overwhelmed, though the huge generosity of the people of St George's should be no surprise. That is such an important part of your ministry. May you continue to be blessed in it.
Bob.*



IT'S BACK!

ST GEORGE'S WILTON'S
Soup Saturday

**SATURDAY 9TH
OCTOBER 2021
FROM 12.15PM**

ST GEORGE'S WILTON CHURCH HALL
FONS GEORGE
TAUNTON TA13JT
Voluntary Donations Welcome

Join us for a bowl of wonderful, warming homemade soup with a couple of stalls to take your fancy too



The
Coventry *Story*

With Rev'd Martin Kirkbride
on **Monday 11th October**
at **7pm**
in **St George's Church Hall**
Fons George, Taunton

Using original video footage, music and story, we embark on a journey of reconciliation, concluding with insight into the dynamics of personal reconciliation. The Coventry Story takes us from the 1940 Coventry blitz, the 1982 sinking of HMS Coventry, to a 2020 'reunion'



Tickets will be limited so to book your FREE place, please email office@stgchurch.co.uk



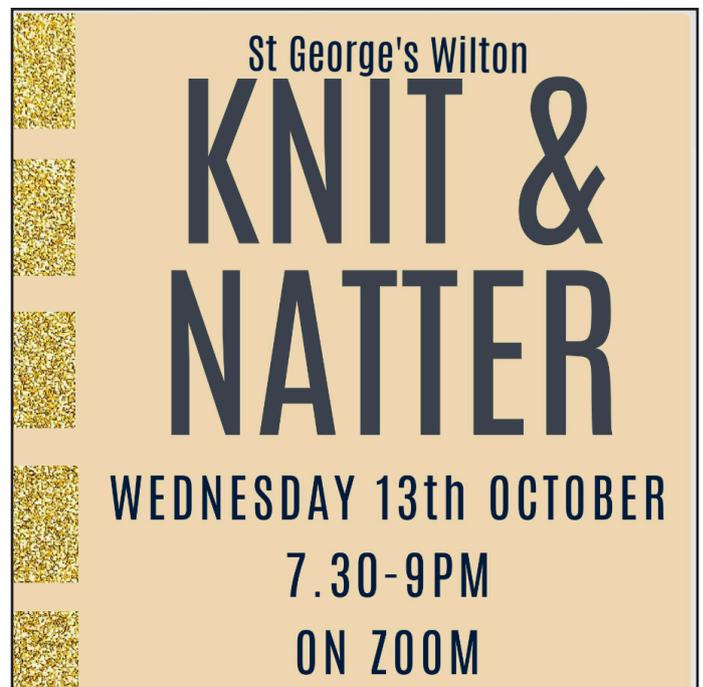
Our popular, friendly playgroup for Babies & Toddlers is back with fun and fresh snacks for them and an excellent coffee for you!

Care &
JOIN IN!
@stgeorgeswilton

Stay & Play

9.30AM - 11.00AM
Term Time Wednesdays

Toys
Crafts
Songs
Stories & Snacks
Coffee & Cake
£2 per family



St George's Wilton
KNIT & NATTER

WEDNESDAY 13th OCTOBER
7.30-9PM
ON ZOOM

Take a look at just some of things we have happening at St Georges!
Souper **Soup Saturday** returning again on Saturday 9th and HURRY!
You need to get in quick to book your seat for Martin's fascinating presentation on **The Coventry Story** which is all about HMS Coventry - a very moving talk on reconciliation.
There's more for baby and toddlers again with our wonderful **Stay and Play** on Wednesdays - get in touch to book in.
And for the ladies we have another of our Knit and Natter session coming up very soon.

If you would like any information on any of our groups, events etc do get in touch and we'll give you all the details you need to join in - whether it be for food, fun, family or fellowship!

St George's

Our Week

SUN

9.45AM ONLINE SUNDAY SERVICE
10.00AM HARVEST COMMUNION SERVICE
11.00AM COFFEE ZOOM
3.30PM HARVEST AT THE WILDSIDE

MON

9.00PM COMPLINE NIGHT PRAYER ON ZOOM

TUES

WED

9.30AM STAY AND PLAY

THURS

FRI

SAT

12.15PM SOUP SATURDAY IS BACK!

FUTURE DIARY DATES TO NOTE!

MONDAY 11TH OCTOBER THE COVENTRY STORY
WEDNESDAY 13TH OCTOBER KNIT & NATTER

Rev'd Dr Nick Griffin

Tel: 01823 774728

Email: nick@stgchurch.co.uk

Day Off: Fridays

Bethan Baigent - Parish Administrator

Tel: 01823 284253

Email: office@stgchurch.co.uk

Office Hours: Tues - Thurs 10-1pm

Churchwardens

Peter Joyce - 07761 407433

Hilary McKegey - 07460 471514



CALLING ALL CRAFTY CHURCH MEMBERS!

Are you a creative, craft, arty person who would like to have a stall at our Candlelit Christmas Fayre? The fayre will be from 2-5pm and there will be a mix of stalls mainly in the Churchyard but some will be in the Hall.

It'll be a sparkly, festive community event and a great way to get into the Christmas Spirit and raise lots of funds for our Church.

So get in touch asap and we'll give you more information!

If you would like to help with this event, do get in touch and email office@stgchurch.co.uk It's going to fun fun fun! Ho! Ho! Ho!

Harvest Services!

Harvest Is Here!

We have our Online Harvest Service on Youtube from 9.45am as usual which you can join in with at whatever time works best for you.

We then have our In Church Communion Service where we will be giving thanks for the Harvest offerings for Open Door and Taunton Foodbank from your donations.

Finally, we have a fabulous opportunity to all come up to Wildside no matter what age we are to worship in the great outdoors together.

There will be so much going on up there from digging up the harvest offerings with our bare hands, making sweet treats and toasting them on the campfire, harvest crafts but it's ultimately a

time to worship together to give thanks. Our worship band will be there to lead us and we'd so love you to join us if you can.

If you cannot make it to a service but would still like to give to Taunton Foodbank and OpenDoor, you can still do so by buying something for Open Door's wishlist online <https://www.tauntonopendoor.org.uk/donations/> or to do a financial donation direct to Taunton Foodbank via BACS

Account Name: Taunton Foodbank

Sort Code: 60-80-06

Account Number: 59881410

Come on down to the Church on Saturday morning as we're decorating the church for Harvest and any help would be really appreciated! Plonking is all that is required - no flower arranging talent necessary! It would be great to see you there. Do contact Sue (01823 283524) or Sheena (01823 662366) if you have any queries!! It'll be great to see you there!



Come Ye Thankful People Come To Our
Harvest Services
at St George's Wilton

Sunday 3rd October

9.45am Online Harvest Service
Over on our YouTube Channel

10.00am In Church Harvest Service
Bring your Harvest donations for OpenDoor and Foodbank at our Communion Service

3.30pm Harvest On The Wildside
Our All Age service at Wildside, Dunkerswell with praise and worship, activities, crafts and more!
Bring your wellies and own picnic tea around the campfire!

For more information email: office@stgchurch.co.uk

ST GEORGE'S
Prayer Space

Our pedestal flowers in church this week are in loving memory of

Peter Smith.

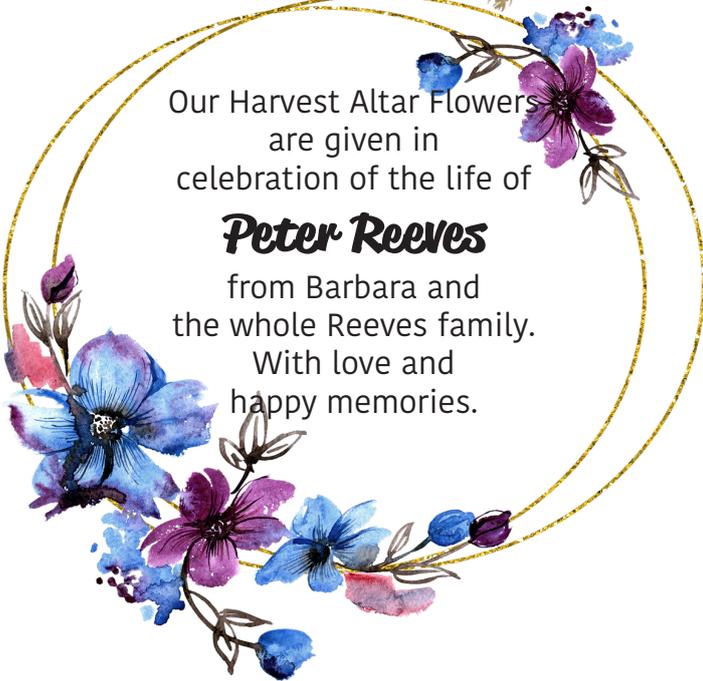
They were very kindly donated by Jennifer and all the family, thinking of all the happy times together.



Our Harvest Altar Flowers are given in celebration of the life of

Peter Reeves

from Barbara and the whole Reeves family. With love and happy memories.



Merciful Lord, your love reaches beyond the grave. At the end of our days on earth be with us and with those we love and with those whom we love and have gone before us. We pray now for those who have recently died - we particularly think of

Marion Hoad and Ruth Rogers
who have recently died

We remember those whose anniversaries are around this time.

Peter Reeves, Gordon Pointing, Peter Smith and Alexander Watt
so comfort those bereaved by their passing and hold them close.

*Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.*

Father God we give you thanks that once again the earth has produced her increase. All over our beautiful world the harvest of grain is drying, ready for feed and bread and the harvest of roots crops and vegetables have been lifted or picked and stored.

Holy God thank you that you give us our daily bread and fruit in its season but beyond this bread we look to the bread of heaven; beyond this fruit we look to the fruits of eternal life and so we pray for your church here in Wilton and those who minister to us Sunday by Sunday and help to fulfil our spiritual hunger.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Creator God we pray for harvests in parts of your world suffering drought, natural disaster, disease and terrorism. We pray for the struggling and the oppressed. Help those without power to negotiate or bargain within fairly traded markets and help all whose work goes unrewarded or whose produce is undervalued to realise their true value and worth and to be paid a fair wage for their labours.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Loving God we pray for those who are ill and in pain, longing to live full lives, for those who are sad and hurt longing for comfort, for those in hospital awaiting treatment, for those convalescing, seeing an end to their suffering and for those whose only relief will come through death. May we always offer gentle support to those in trouble sensitive encouragement to those in need, and strength and support to those in weakness.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Holy God we ask that you your guiding hand may be upon our lives. Make us always grateful for the harvest and bounty of your creation and all those who provide for our daily needs and continue to inspire us again with your spirit that those who have, may readily share with those who have not.

**Merciful Father: accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen**