



SUNDAY 25th JULY 2021

A Note From **Your Vicar**

This last Monday was 'Freedom Day'. Historic speeches with flags and statues were planned but, on the day, it fell a bit flat as our leaders refused to self-isolate and then caved to pressure to isolate within the time it takes for England to lose a football match.

Freedom is an interesting word because it always implies some kind of captivity followed by some release. The clear 'lockdown' requirements that legally shuttered society have been removed and we are now called to step into the light of our newfound freedom. But rather like turning on the bathroom light in the middle of the night, this light is rather harsh on the eyes. We are now expected to take responsibility with our freedom rather than others. What to do?

At the very beginning of Christianity, one of the major issues was whether it was legitimate for Christians to eat meat offered to idols. Some felt it was fine; others that it was sacrilegious. St Paul wrote; 'Take care that your liberty does not become a stumbling block to others'. Eating meat offered to idols is not a major consideration for many of us...yet here is a principle about how to use our newfound 'freedom'. Not to convince, push or pull others to our own position but to make things possible for others. I've been in situations where people have insisted on or even blanked me when I have not pursued a handshake. This is plain awkward, but these smaller matters do not need to cause us division; if you need to wear a mask, so someone else can feel comfortable, it is a minor inconvenience. This won't go on forever. The value of our relationships and community is more valuable than 'being right' or 'getting my way'.

Blessed are the peacemakers.

God bless *Nick*

St George's **Small Groups**



I think we shall be needing to rename the Stroll for the Soul this last week to Shady Stroll for the Soul :) So wonderful to hear that the small group met once more for a gentle stroll and a time of discipleship and fellowship together. These new small groups are really wonderful to see in action.

The Footprints Walking Group will be putting on their boots again on Saturday 14th August—more details will follow soon but do get in touch if you are interested in joining our activity based groups.

If you'd prefer more of a Home Group, bible study small group, we now have a few groups that have started looking at a Bible Study called Marks of Discipleship—looking discipleship through the experience of Peter.

So don't miss out! Come and join a small group today. A great way to not only know Jesus better, but one another too!

Send us an email office@stgchurch.co.uk

**NEXT FOOTPRINT WALK
SAT 14th AUGUST**

ST GEORGE'S **Charity Information**

Our next charity collection is for **Scripture Union camps and holidays**. These are a great experience as they have a huge range of fun on offer, from camping in tents to sleeping in log cabins, and from outdoor activity centres to luxury boarding schools.

Children can choose from multi-activity residential with a mix of sport, adventure, arts and crafts, fun and games, or go for one of our specialist holidays which focus on a specific activity. examples include: horse riding, sailing, motor sport, performing arts and baking.

They have holiday clubs and other activities on parks, beaches and in community centres around England and Wales.

Scripture Union have been organising holidays and activities for children, young people and families for more than 100 years. Each of their events is unique, but they all share the core values of fun, friendship and faith exploration. Their holidays and other events are run by high-quality volunteer teams (suitably vetted and trained).

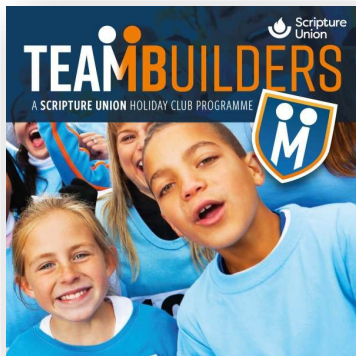
We will be collecting for them for the next two weeks so do consider donating if you are coming along to the church on Sundays and if you are still preferring to watch our Church At Home services online but would like to donate please go to:
<https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/support-us> and follow the instructions to donate.

Alternatively you can give by sending a cheque in the post to

Scripture Union
Trinity House
Opal Court
Opal Drive
Fox Milne
Milton Keynes
MK15 0DF



Scripture Union



Christian Aid have put out an appeal for famine especially in South Sudan, but also in north-east Nigeria, Ethiopia, Burkina Faso and Afghanistan. Covid, climate change and conflict have worsened a situation which was already dire. If you would like to support this appeal to help stopping our neighbours round the world dying of starvation, please send your donation to Christian Aid, The Data Solution Centre, Manton Wood Enterprise Park, Workson, S80 2RT. Many thanks,

Helen Price



Stay and Play families have been able to meet up for the last two Wednesdays, it has been great to get together after over a year. New babies have arrived, older children will be starting school in September and some new families were welcomed.

The first Wednesday we had nature themed activities in the churchyard, weaving, making crowns, suncatchers and investigations with magnifying glasses. The second week was physical fun with balls, hoops, beanbags and more fun with the magnifying glasses. Some of the mums gave hula hoop demonstrations.

To finish with there was homemade cake, individually wrapped and our favourite songs. Please pray for the 20 adults and 30 children who attended and for hopefully restarting Stay and Play in the autumn. Finally a big thank you to our helpers!

The Stay & Play Squad

Take a closer look...



TAKE A MOSSY MOMENT AND LOOK OUT FOR THE UNUSUAL THINGS IN NATURE TODAY. THESE INSECTS ARE CALLED 'ROSEMARY BEETLES' BECAUSE THEY LOVE LIVING ON STRONG SMELLING HERBS. FROM A DISTANCE, THEY LOOK SILVER, BUT WHEN YOU TAKE A MOMENT THEY ARE SO DETAILED AND COLOURFUL. I WONDER WHAT NEW DETAIL YOU MIGHT SEE IF YOU STOP AND LOOK CLOSELY OUT AND ABOUT TODAY!



We used up all the packs, and even our spares too! We shall make more for next time! The children had fun making and creating nature themed crafts and doing activities in the beautiful churchyard. The nature bookmarks were especially popular.

Why not have a go at making one yourself? You just need a piece of card and some glue or double-sided sticky tape which we put in a line, but you could do whatever pattern you like with it. Gather tiny natural items, like blades of grass or fallen leaves or petals and arrange them on the card however you like. Do share a picture with us if you make one.

In taking small moments like this, in noticing little details in nature, we can come to know the love and care of the One who made it all. The author of Psalm 104 while marvelling in awe of his Creator "*How many are your works, Lord! In wisdom you made them all*".

So, what's next for Mossy Church? Over the Summer holidays we shall be sharing some Mossy makes,

ST GEORGE'S WILTON
MOSSY CHURCH
on the Wildside

EXPLORE: WOODLAND, MEADOWS & HABITATS
ENGAGE: FARM & WILD ANIMALS, NATURE & CAMPFIRE 25TH AUGUST
CONNECT: OTHER FAMILIES, CREATION & THE CREATOR 10AM-1PM
EMAIL: FAMILIES@STGCHURCH.CO.UK

TICKETS AVAILABLE TO BOOK FROM 18/7/21 FROM
[HTTPS://MOSSYCHURCHONTHEWILDSIDE.EVENTBRITE.CO.UK](https://mossychurchonthewildside.eventbrite.co.uk)
FREE EVENT BUT OPTIONAL DONATIONS TAKEN FOR OUR HOSTS WILDSIDE EXPERIENCES

activity printables, bakes and mossy moments on our Facebook page as well as some on Newsboard. 'Mossy Church on the Wildside' on 25th August, is now open for bookings. Places are free, but with the option to make a small donation on the day for the brilliant work of Wildside Experiences. From 10am-1pm we shall connect with our Creator by exploring meadows and woodlands, meeting animals, fun activities and eating lunch around the campfire. We can't wait! If you have any questions about the session, or anything else to do with Mossy Church, do drop us a message on our facebook page or email families@stgchurch.co.uk. There will be lots more Mossy Church fun in the Autumn term and beyond so watch this space for more news.

As term finishes for most schools this week, do join with us and say a prayer...

We thank You God for this year of school.

Thank You for the successes and excitements but also our challenges and difficult times.

We pray especially for the teachers to have a good rest after this strange year.

Please help us to know Your peace and protection through this Summer holiday as we relax and have some time off school.

As we explore Your creation this holiday time, may we engage and come to know more about You.

Amen.

DIARY DATES

SUN 25th From 9.45am
Online Sunday Service
10.00am
CW Holy Communion
11.30am
Outdoor Worship

MON 26th 9.00pm
Compline Service on Zoom

THURS 29th 10.00am -12.00pm
Open Church for Prayer

FUTURE DATES

SAT 14th Aug—Footprints Walking Group
WED 25th Aug—Mossy Church at the Wildside

SAVE
THE
DATE

On Saturday 7th August at 2.00pm there will be a Memorial Service for Richard Booth who we sadly lost last year to give thanks and celebrate his life. Richard's funeral was one of the first we had where numbers were severely restricted, so many of us were unable to pay our respects and give thanks for what he meant to us all.

More information will follow but please pop the date in your diary!

x

ST GEORGE'S **Contact Info**

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Peter

Churchwarden

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Hilary

Churchwarden

Tel: 01823 976694 or 07460 471 514

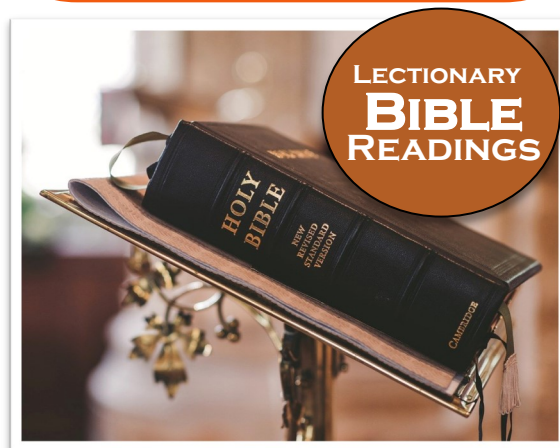
Website: www.stgchurch.co.uk

Facebook: St Georges Wilton

Twitter: @StGeorgesWilton

Instagram: @StGeorgesWilton

YouTube: St George's Church Wilton



As we are following a Sermon Series—
The Mission of God, using different Bible verses,
we thought some of you may like to know what
the lectionary readings would be for the next 2
Sundays.

Sunday 25th July

Acts 11:27-12:2 and Matthew 20:20-28

Sunday 1st August

Ephesians 4:1-16 and John 6:24-35

ST GEORGE'S **Prayer** Space

Prayers this week

Holy God out of your goodness, a great crowd was fed and satisfied from a small offering of food. In this time of prayer we thank you for supplying all our needs and offer you the love of our hearts as we pray for our Church here in St George's with all its varied ministries; for the youngest to the oldest; for those of certain faith and for those who struggle with doubts. **Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Creator God we pray for those throughout the world who are physically hungry. We know that so many of the world's people lack enough nourishment; help us to be diligent in prayer and generous in giving to those agencies which try to alleviate their suffering. **Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Father God, we raise before you our homes and our relationships for you to work in. We thank you for the community of which we are part; for those who share with us in its activities, for all who serve its varied interests. Help us, to make our own contribution to the community and to learn to be good neighbours at all times. **Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Loving God we place in your hands those who are sick. We ask that you ease their pain, and heal the damage they are suffering in body, mind or spirit. Be present with them through the support of friends and in the care of doctors and nurses. **Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Faithful God, through these prayers we offer afresh our lives as well as our words; send us out into the world determined that each moment from now on becomes an offering of love for you.

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

In Loving Memory

Merciful God we commend into your hands those whom we have loved and have lost, especially

Polly Hearn and Florence Evans.

And for *Alan Wedderkopp*

who will be laid to rest this week.

You gave them breath, and loved and cared for them throughout their lives. Hold them in your eternal kingdom and may the rest peace and rise in glory.

Amen



**Morning Prayer
Service**

Wednesdays on our YouTube channel from 8am

Grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end



Compline
Mondays @9pm

To join, email office@stgchurch.co.uk

0800 804 8044
DailyHOPE

A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers

Our **Prayer Circle** is a confidential way to ask for prayer for yourself or someone on your heart.

If you have any prayers that you would like please do not hesitate to email

rachelmneal@btinternet.com

The Collect for Sunday 25th July

Lord God,
your Son left the riches of heaven
and became poor for our sake:
when we prosper save us from pride,
when we are needy save us from despair,
that we may trust in you alone;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen