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The Spire



**August and
September 2022
Summer Edition**

The Parish Magazine of
CHRIST CHURCH
Southgate



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Welcome!

From The Reverend Dr Chrichton Limbert Vicar of Christ Church Southgate

Welcome to the Spire Summer Special. As the number of pictures of what has happened in the church community in the last two months will show, I think we could all do with a break!

In fact, the choir (and Judith and I) have just come back from a short city break to Amsterdam, which had all the elements you look forward to in a good holiday – but in miniature. The sights and sounds of somewhere new were very exciting, there were a lot of interesting things to see and learn from, as well as many lovely new people to meet and different things to eat.

In our case, we also had to learn how to sing and speak like we understood Dutch – which was harder than it sounds. Who knew that “ij” in Dutch was pronounced “ay”? One of the things we had to sing was the Lord’s Prayer, which was just about recognisable – “Onze Vader, die in de hemel zijt.” However, since the last edition of Spire, praying the Lord’s Prayer in Dutch at Christ Church is entirely welcomed.

I went on the Edmonton Area Clergy Conference in Liverpool in July, which was focusing on us becoming Courageous Anglicans to fully embrace all people and cultures, adjusting as we go, to remain

welcoming to all. As part of this I was particularly struck at every service with the invitation to pray the Lord’s Prayer in words or language that came from the heart. The diversity of languages from Edmonton Clergy was remarkable. As a result, we have tried it at Christ Church for Eucharist services for a couple of weeks and I have been really encouraged by the positive comments. So next time you are saying the Lord’s Prayer in church, use the language from your heart to call on God – Dutch works well!

In a couple of weeks, a group of us will be hearing the Lord’s Prayer in German when we go to the Oberammergau Passion Play – it is not too late to join if you act quickly – and hear the story we all know so well, acted out by a cast of thousands on a huge stage. It is really very affecting and makes the events very real.

If you are managing to get away anywhere, or just hoping to take it a bit easier, there is plenty to look forward to in September. We will be taking part in Open House London weekend again on the 17th and 18th, when we will be showing off our lovely building to visitors.

This year will be particularly special as we have been awarded a Heritage Lottery Grant from “Stories of Enfield” to promote and share

our special set of stained-glass windows. There will be a lot of crafts available to try out to do with stained-glass, so come and have a go, or come and help supervise.

On the Sunday at 5pm there will be a special session of hymn singing, where we will sing the top ten hymns that you have voted for by pledging money to the charity Sightsavers. For more detail of how to take part in: "I see

the sights that dazzle the tempting sounds I hear", see the weekly e-mail, the pew sheets and our website.

Have a lovely and restoring summer if you can, it will soon be Harvest again in October!

Every blessing.

Fr Chrichton

Views from the Pews

**This month we asked:
Share a memory about Chrichton and Hazel!**



My first memory of the Vicar and Hazel was when they came to see me in hospital (first time around). I remember asking a lot of questions! Nothing has changed. Hazel was lovely as she brought me communion and I've felt comfortable every since.

Jane McMahon

When Hazel had just been made a priest there was a celebratory service at church - lots and lots of people came to support and congratulate her, including many members of the clergy! I had been assigned server, so I was bustling about 'backstage'. I entered the vestry to find it full to the brim with priests. I loudly remarked, 'blimey! It's like an episode of Father Ted in here!' They were not best pleased...

Freya Carroll

In a hospital in the City of London, my six children and I were with my dear wife Jean who was sadly passing away. Father Chrichton and Hazel arrived to be with us late in the evening. The family will always be grateful for their wonderful support.

John Clarke

Their great kindness and support when my father passed away.

Kate Carroll

Note from the Editors

Thank you again to all our contributors - we can't do this without you. Copy for our next edition is due **Wednesday 21st September** - email to christchurchspire@gmail.com - we love to hear from you!

We hope you are enjoying looking for Walker the Mouse - can you spot him again? See Children's Corner for his hiding place from the last edition.

In an attempt to be more economical with postage and over printing, and as more of us are able to collect a copy of Spire from church, we are cutting down our circulation. If you are no longer on the mailing list and would like to be, please get in touch with Hilary Meur.

Wishing you a happy Summer!

Freya and Imogen



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Better than Back to Normal

Many of us have been longing for things to get back to 'Normal', but we realise that the future is never going to be exactly the same as the past. Jesus didn't teach us to long for the past, he wanted us to look forward.

He wanted us to spread the Christian message, and that's what we try to do. For many years a small group of parishioners have taken short services in each of the two Residential homes in our parish. Gradually we have been able to return to take those services. At first it was just one person allowed, then I could take two others, so Judith Lo now comes to play the piano to accompany our hymn singing and Ron comes to swell the singing.

Last month's service was just before the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebration, so their cardboard Queen joined us for the service. The photo above is of Her Majesty the Queen, Nancy Piper, Judith and Ron Lo and me, taken at Minchenden Lodge. The

only real difference now, to before lockdown is that we are required to wear face coverings, but we have adjusted to that.

The Cub Scouts' activities are more or less back to normal. However, this year, we have increased the venues for our local history walk. In addition to a visit to the Churchyard to find the graves of the Walker and Taylor families, and learn a little about Christian tradition over the years, and finding places of interest on the Green, we this year had a longer walk to include Conway Rec. We saw the brand new 'Mosaic Learning Circle'.

This was instigated by the Friends of Conway Rec. The children of St. Monica's school submitted drawings of flora and fauna found by the pond to Tamara Froud of Mosaic Art Ltd. She used their artwork as a basis for her mosaic. The pictures represent plants, animals and bugs. The colours chosen are lifelike and a favourite of children and adults alike was the shiny tiles representing the slime of the snail and the water on the spider's web. The letters in the 'pond' are the initials of Friends of the Rec who died recently.

One tradition that hasn't changed since before the pandemic was the treat of ice lollies at the end of the walk!

Hazel Miall



A man was driving down the street worried because he had an important meeting and couldn't find a parking place. So, looking up toward heaven, he said "Lord, take pity on me. If you find me a parking place I will go to church every Sunday for the rest of my life and give up whisky." A moment later, miraculously, a parking place appeared. He looked up again and said, "Never mind. I found one."

Extracts from the sermon preached by Bishop Christopher Foster on St Thomas' Day, 3 July

As we celebrate Paul's arrival and mark Hazel and Chrichton's decade of ordained ministry, you may have a sense of déjà-vue - and not only seeing me in this pulpit again. Many of you don't have anywhere near enough fingers to count the number of curates' beginning at Christ Church and the number of clergy passing milestones in ministry. In my time here we welcomed seven curates and I celebrated my tenth anniversary - so there's almost two hand fulls in just eight years!

It is good to be here for this day not least because such occasions enable the recollection I've just made and also remind us of the continuity in which we stand looking back and also forward. Clergy do come and go - occasionally they come back, like me today - but the life and witness and service of a congregation and church to its parish and community continues as we go.

It's the verses we heard from the letter to Ephesians to which I want to direct you. 'You are citizens with the saints and also members together of the household of God, built upon the foundations of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord.' Celebrating as we do today with Chrichton, Hazel and Paul, it isn't really about them. It would be wrong to concentrate on them and on those called into the ordained ministry, who are certainly crucial to the life of the church and the mission of the Gospel, but not central to it. This is about us all.

We are together members of the household of God with Christ Jesus our cornerstone. It is in Jesus that the whole structure is joined together. Just as St Paul, or someone very close to him, wrote to the Christians in

Ephesus about the community of the church using that word 'structure', which sounds such a modern contemporary term, I'm bold to remind us this morning of the importance, and indeed the urgency, of giving attention to the ordering and structuring we need to be effective as the church, as disciples of Jesus, for growing the Kingdom. God forbid that our decisions, in the parish, in the diocese, or in the CofE are about the church for itself and put some, the congregation or the clergy first.

Our shared calling is to be the church, members together - a place where God dwells and which enables us to be for others, for our parish and community, for our world, not for ourselves and each other. We must support and help and encourage each other, and structure ourselves to be a bigger and better church to make a bigger difference out there.

We can and must help each other. Together as the church, congregation and clergy, we can together work through the challenges and opportunities which are ours as we live the Gospel, as we grow together spiritually into that dwelling place for God that Paul urged the Ephesians to build. Our deacons and our priests have a particular vocation to help you by standing at the watch-posts seeing what is happening in the world, and listening to what God says, so that with deeper theological understanding you may be ministers of the Gospel in Southgate.

Finally, I encourage you to be like Thomas. He has a bad and undeserved reputation. At most he was sceptical, but never doubting. 'Unless I see the marks of the nails, I will not believe' are the words of one wanting to embrace the utterly unexpected reality of the resurrection but, like others of us, finding that a challenge. When he saw the marks of

the cross his faith was confirmed. Every day you and I see marks of the cross, in our streets, on our televisions, perhaps in our own families but certainly in the schools, shops, forgotten corners and backsides of our communities, in the ‘shadowed homes’ so powerfully described on the memorial above the vicar’s stall to James Baird, Christ Church’s first incumbent. We see marks of the cross where people are hurting, helpless

and hope-less because of the mental, physical, financial and emotional pain and suffering they face.

So be like Thomas. Clergy, take the risk to be where you can be alert for the signs of the cross and resurrection; people of God be ready to serve and to witness in the name of the risen Jesus.

Bishop Christopher Foster

Sumpters Yard

As we welcomed Bishop Chris back - **John Clarke** shared this cartoon from when he left Christ Church to go to St Albans. John writes:

“Sumpters Yard leads to the Cathedral and is [the reverend’s] new home in St Albans. Revd Christopher Foster was due to be placed “in his stall” at St Albans on Saturday 3rd December. He regularly attended race meetings in London.”



Eliot and Caitlin Voelker’s wedding

Philip and I were invited to the wedding of Caitlin Mahoney and Eliot Voelker, in Nice, with Fr. Peter Jackson officiating.

Eliot gained a Masters degree from Durham University and now works in the IT industry. Caitlin is just finishing her medical training to become a General Practitioner. They live in America.

Anneli Voelker was a bridesmaid. She has just finished a Masters degree and is also now living in America.



Hazel Miall

Pilgrimage reflections: Walsingham Way

14-21 May 2022

We are very glad we decided to go on the pilgrimage after some hesitation on John's part as to whether he would manage the distances every day. In the end he only missed one leg. Apart from a little drizzle which greeted us in Walsingham, the fine weather was astonishing.

The house where we stayed was situated in a lovely position on the edge of a wood overlooking a meadow with a clear view of the village church. We heard the cuckoo call several times. We made good use of the kitchen for preparing hearty breakfasts. A memorable recipe was eggs (bought several times from small farms along the way) scrambled with wild herbs: wild garlic, mustard, cress and nettles all provided by Mother Nature. As we were a small group, things were simple and everybody was on time ready for the next stage of the journey.

We set off from Norwich after the Sunday service in the cathedral and walked along disused railway lines, footpaths and sometimes country roads with very little traffic through villages with often beautiful mediaeval churches. And so we came to Walsingham.

It is difficult to imagine that we were following in the footsteps of thousands of pilgrims over nearly five hundred years until the great abbey was despoiled in the reign of Henry VIII. Now once again a shrine church stands over the well, but few these days pose waxen images, as Church Commissioner

Richard Southwell reported in July 1536. Nevertheless pilgrimages have come back into fashion



both for believers and non-believers. Perhaps the effort expended and the fellowship engendered help to concentrate the mind, and our thoughts and our prayers help to bring peace and reconciliation to a troubled world.

Francoise and John Rose

There was a notice in a newsletter of the Anglican Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham in the autumn of 2021 about the newly established Walsingham Way pilgrimage walking trail. There was no guide book or other information about it except on the Internet from the people who devised the route. This was a challenge which we decided to tackle. After due notices in the parish, six of us with differing abilities eventually accepted the challenge as it was custom-designed to allow as much flexibility as possible. The walk of 62 km (38 miles) from Norwich Cathedral to the Anglican Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham was broken up into 6 unequal sections, walking one section per day. We used a self-catering cottage as our base and transferred ourselves to the walks in our own cars. This was a new format from our previous walking Parish Pilgrimages – the cottage provided a good private space for our group's daily devotions as well as flexibility with making our own breakfasts and lunches. We ate dinners at local eating establishments.

As it turned out, the weather during the period of the pilgrimage was well suited for walking, and you might detect a bit of sun tan on some of us afterwards. Living and walking together for a week made the pilgrims a close-knit group, helping each other where needed as well as getting to know each other better.

The route out of Norwich initially followed the Marriott's Way along the River Wensum valley. Criss-crossing the R. Wensum many times, we eventually crossed it the last time at Great Ryburgh and headed to the hills about Walsingham, eventually dropping down to the River Stiffkey valley on the last day on approaching Walsingham.

Each of the pilgrims has a personal take on the walk, but for my part, it was a mentally challenging, spiritually fruitful and physically delightful trip in the natural beauty of Norfolk. Of course, there were the incidents where certainly divine intervention resolved our problems! Thanks be to God!

Ronald Lo

Cleopas and his friend found themselves walking with Jesus on the road to Emmaus. Saul (later called Paul) encountered Jesus on his way to Damascus. Though nothing as dramatic as these happened on our way to the Shrine of Walsingham, none the less, it is filled with the divine presence.

We were blessed with brilliant weather. We had soft breezes and glorious sunshine on most days. We also had periods of soft refreshing rain. On our way, we saw countless birds – swans, little egrets, pheasants, not to mention the more common ones. We also saw caterpillars and butterflies, hares and rabbits. We spent time identifying the colourful wayside flowers and foraging herbs for scrambled eggs in the morning. After sunset, we saw the bright full moon; early in the morning, we woke up with the sweet dawn chorus (including the cuckoo). What a wonderful world our heavenly Father has created! All these remind us of His presence! Praise the Lord!!!

Judith Lo

It was a privilege to walk a new pilgrimage in the spring in Norfolk, the county with the greatest number of medieval churches worldwide, 1000, of which now 650 remain. Round church towers are a feature in Norfolk (120), fewer in Suffolk (42) and very few

elsewhere, thought to be because of the lack of local building stone, round needing less than square. We were pleasantly surprised to find all those we visited except one were open; some had card readers for anyone who wished to make a donation.

In the green countryside we saw pheasants, hares, rabbits, muntjacs; ducks, geese and different birds; wild flowers in the hedge-rows. Many times we crossed the River Wensum and at other times walked alongside it. Freshly laid eggs (hens, ducks, turkeys!) were bought from homes and farms for our tasty breakfasts in the mornings. Evening meals were opportunities to try the local pub food.

I was blessed by our morning and evening devotions, following the Book of Common Worship, led by Jackie, after which in the mornings we often had interesting discussions. In the evenings we were tired and ready for bed!

It was altogether a lovely experience to walk with friends in the beauty of God's creation, beginning with morning service at Norwich Cathedral and ending six days later at the Shrine in Walsingham.

Ellen Carter

1 June 2022

A Prayer of Praise to the Lord:

For the sunrise, the newness of each day, the chorus of bird song, the breaking of light.
We praise You Lord



For the meadows, fields, the flowers, the trees.

We praise You Lord.

For every living creature great and small. For your gracious giving in nature and all provisions.

We praise you Lord.

For friendship, conversation, giving and sharing, fun and laughter and for worship together.

We praise You Lord.

For our capabilities - physical, mental, emotional, and for our individuality, similarities and differences.

We Praise You Lord.

For all Christian people who have guided others in truth and demonstrated how to walk with Christ. For Saints and Martyrs and all people of faith.

We praise you Lord.

For safety, protection, guidance and care.

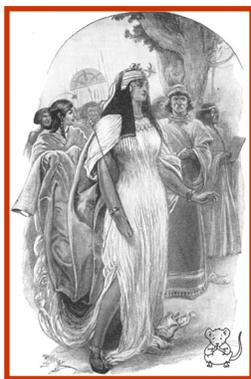
We praise You Lord.

Jackie Anderson

Thus says the Lord: Stand by the roads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls. Jeremiah 6:16

An Interlude

I was on a music course recently and we were playing a string orchestra arrangement of Handel's Entry of the Queen of Sheba. Someone piped up, "Who was she? Was there such a person? And where is Sheba, anyway?" There was some muttering about The Bible and King Solomon and then one of my fellow-cellists stood up.



"I can tell you a bit about her. Sheba is thought to be in modern Abyssinia/Ethiopia. When Solomon was king in Israel, he was famed for his wisdom, and the Queen of Sheba heard about him and came on a visit. They got on very well and Solomon wanted her to stay, but she said she had to go home. By the time she left, she was pregnant and in due course had a son. When he was grown up, the Queen of Sheba sent him to Israel to meet Solomon.

Solomon liked him and wanted him to stay, but he said he had to go home, so Solomon sent him back accompanied by the sons of various high Israeli officials. After they had gone, Solomon realised that they had taken the Ark of the Covenant (the wooden chest containing the stone tablets with the Ten Commandments) with them. Solomon asked for it back but didn't get it.

Since then, the Ark has stayed in Ethiopia, sealed up in a remote chapel, guarded and preserved by a monk who devotes his whole life to its care and nothing else. No-one has seen it for a very long time, but every church in Ethiopia has a sign or a feature in it to show that the Ark of the Covenant is in that country."

There were many mutterings of "Fancy that!" "I never knew that!" "WOW!" etc. and then we went back to fiddling with our crotchets and quavers.

After I got home, sitting with a cup of tea and a biscuit, relaxing after the rigors of the course, I googled The Ark of the Covenant. Inevitably there was a whole mosaic of information and references, some contradictory. A sample is: The Queen of Sheba's son was called Menelik. The Ark might have been taken by his staff without Menelik's

knowledge. It might not have been considered as theft because no-one was killed. He might have taken the Ark for safe keeping after Jerusalem was sacked in 586/587 BC and Solomon's Temple was destroyed (I don't know how the dates might match up). He took it to Aksum, where the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church has it. It is under guard in a Treasury near the Church of Our Lady Mary of Zion. And so on. This seems to be a good mixture of gossip, legend, fable and religions including Christianity. It is interesting reading about it, not too seriously, and perhaps, if anyone has any information, they might share it?

The references in the Bible to the Queen of Sheba's visit are in 1 Kings chapter 10 verses 1-13 and 2 Chronicles chapter 9 verses 1-12.

Jill Holiday

Illustration in public domain from <http://breadsite.org>

Meet the Choral Scholars of 2021-2022

We have been privileged this year to have two exceptional sopranos as our Choral Scholars, Emily Chapman and Natalka Pasicznyk, both of whom we have heard sing many superb solos in church. In this article, we have taken the opportunity to ask them about the musical careers and what they have gained from a Choral Scholarship at Christ Church.

Emily Chapman – Soprano



It feels like only yesterday that I was writing this little piece for the Spire Magazine last summer and yet, magically, a whole year has passed! It has been a delight to continue on as one of the Choral Scholars at Christ Church this year, and particularly lovely to be able to take part in all of the traditions that had to be put on hold during the lockdowns. My highlights at Christ Church this year include performing in the Christ the King Concert; singing evensong at St Paul's Cathedral; and getting to know all of the Christ Church family either at the bar, the BBQ or over a curry! At the time of writing, the choir is also due to travel to Amsterdam which is bound to be yet another highlight of an incredible year in the choir.

I feel so lucky to be a part of Christ Church and am forever grateful in particular to Richard and Kate for their continued support during my first year studying for a postgraduate at the Royal College of Music. I've had an amazing and ridiculously busy year studying opera at RCM and am looking forward to continuing my Masters there next year. My highlights at RCM have been performing the characters of Miss Wordsworth in Britten's *Albert Herring*, Miss Pinkerton in Menotti's *The Old Maid and the Thief* and Iphise in Rameau's *Dardanus*. I have also been lucky enough to be a soloist in performances of Bach's *Magnificat in D* and in Mahler's *Fourth Symphony* this year. My performance confidence has soared over the past year and that is no doubt due to the wonderful support that I have received both from RCM and the Christ Church Choir. I am very grateful to everyone and am immensely looking forward to another year of gorgeous music-making at both the Royal College of Music and Christ Church Southgate.

Natalka Pasicznyk – Soprano

Being a Choral Scholar at Christ Church has been really fulfilling and a new experience for me. I joined the choir to improve my sight-reading and learn new religious repertoire, having mainly focused my musical training in opera and art song. As a third-generation Ukrainian, I was more familiar with the Byzantine and Orthodox services and was brought up with a folk-style of learning music.

Joining the choir has been an incredible experience and I got meet some lovely people as well. Christ Church is a warm community that has a vibrant musical culture. The services are very fulfilling with new and unique perspectives and ideas being discussed in the sermons and talks.

This year has been a bit of a roller-coaster for me in many respects, trying to maintain a busy and healthy work life, alongside the personal concerns for family in Ukraine. Christ Church has been so supportive of me throughout the year and it is lovely to be part of a choir that really practices what they preach in church, through gestures of kindness.

Singing at Christ Church has been the icing on the cake, for what has been a busy musical year having performed my first *Marriage of Figaro*, an international debut in Ireland, and a concert at King's Place. The Cathedral tour to St Paul's was an incredible experience and I am very excited to be singing with the choir in Amsterdam. I am so grateful to Christ Church for this incredible opportunity and plan to return in the future for some more beautiful singing!



Would you like to support the Choral Scholarship Fund?

Christ Church has given Choral Scholarships to promising young singers for over a decade. The scholarships have benefitted many young people, aged 16-25, who have used their time in the choir to sing in a fun, supportive environment and be part of our busy musical programme. As a scholar, they are committed to sing for all our major choral services, concerts, and tours. Many scholars have stayed on as voluntary members of the choir.

Our Choral Scholars receive £1000 for one academic year to support their membership of the choir and their musical studies. Scholars use their stipend to pay for things such as music tuition, choral courses and sheet music. Although the scholarships are budgeted from a restricted fund, they are not part of a trust, and therefore we rely on donations to maintain the programme. If you would like to find out more about the fund or would like to donate to the Choral Scholarship programme, please contact our

Director of Music, Richard Brain, at music@christchurch-southgate.org

Music is one of the greatest gifts that God has given us: it is divine and therefore Satan is its enemy. For with its aid many dire temptations are overcome; the devil does not stay where music is - Martin Luther

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Parish Life in Pictures

June and July 2022



Jubilee Celebration -
June 5th



Ashmole Year 4 Visit - June 10th



Ordination of Fr Paul Ellerby - July 2nd



Marriage of Felicity Youngman and
Mitchell Hill - July 9th



Celebration service of Fr Paul, Hazel, and Chrichton, feat. Chris Foster – July 3rd



Commissioning of Christ Church Wardens, Kate and Claire, and Creation Care Lead, Sandra - July 13th



Walker School End of Term Service and Retirement of Head Ms Frances Warhurst



**Choir Concert and Barbecue - July 10th
(Richard Brain on Laptop as had covid)**



Choir Trip to St Nicholas Basilica Amsterdam - July 16th and 17th



The Choir Featured on Amsterdam TV!



What we do in Church and Why

Saying Prayers

There is a well-known Acronym for what our prayers should include which is A.C.T.S. This stands for Adoration, Contrition, Thanksgiving and Supplication.

We include all these in our worship on Sundays. I think we can include our singing of hymns and the Gloria under Adoration, and Contrition is included in our Penitential Rite. The word 'Eucharist' means Thanksgiving and so our whole Act of Worship is one of thanksgiving.

That leaves Supplication, which we are doing in making our Intercessions. Many people seem to think that during that bit of the

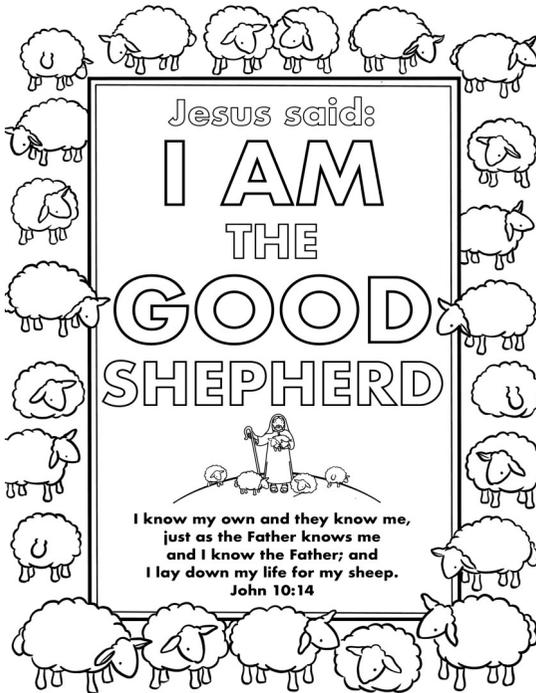
service only we are 'saying our prayers', but of course that is a far too narrow view of prayer. But it is a valuable and important part of prayer.

It is very good to have different people involved in the leading of the Intercessions because they can bring their own interests and concerns to the prayers. But it is important that they are brief and concise.

The parish has two very good short books: 'Leading Intercessions' and 'Hear our Prayer', both by Raymond Chapman, which have suggestions for Intercessions for every Sunday of the year and for Holy Days and Festivals. I certainly find them helpful, and I think other people would too. They live in the cupboard in the Sacristy and could be borrowed.

Cathy Dallman

Children's Corner



Find the mouse!

Did you find the mouse in the last edition? He was sitting on the heron's log on page 5

Walker the church mouse on his travels again!

See if you can find him hiding somewhere in this magazine.

**The poster read: Where will you be on judgement day?
The graffiti below read: Still waiting for the Southgate bus.**

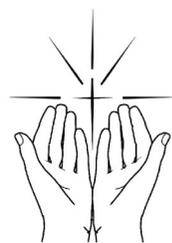
**Where does seaweed go to look for a job in the summer?
The 'kelp wanted' section.**

Services at Christ Church - All Welcome!

Weekly Services

**Sunday 8.00 am
10.00 am
6.30 pm**

**Said Eucharist
Choral Eucharist
Evensong**



Tuesday 7.30 pm

**Said Eucharist
(Healing on First & Third week)**

Thursday 12.30 pm

Said Eucharist

***The Choir is on holiday during August.
Choral Services resume on Sunday 4 September***

We are the Champions



Last week I attended a service, taken by the Archdeacon, at St Aldhelm's in Silver Street during which all churchwardens were acknowledged and admitted to the church for another year, and, for the first time, the newly appointed creation care champions were commissioned. Each church is now encouraged to identify their champion, and it seems I am yours. How, why, what next I hear you cry.

During the service Father Chrichton gave a presentation reminding everyone about their duty to help care for the planet, and the consequences of not doing so, which are now blatantly apparent in every walk of life. I am charged with guiding all of us at Christ Church to make caring for creation part of everyday life. This is what I signed up to (with others):

As our Creation-Care Champions you will seek to encourage, steer and enable us to make a positive difference in response to the climate and ecological crisis. Will you undertake this role?

My response: with the help of God I will

The next part is for all of you:

You cannot accomplish this on your own.

Will you within your parishes, do all in your

power to support this work of Creation-care?

Response: with the help of God, we will.

I am honoured to be given this role and, needless to say, I will do my best, but I really cannot do this on my own. I need God's help and yours. Please support me, please come to me with ideas, please help with the garden, please come to me if you're interested in helping us to be registered as a Fairtrade church, please let me know what else we can do as an eco church and then, join in. We've done a lot. We have a silver award but let's keep going. We simply have to try and reverse some of the awful mistakes that mankind has made.

From the service:

Creator God, giver of life, You sustain the earth and direct the nations. In this time of climate and ecological crisis grant us clarity to hear the groaning of creation and the cries of the poor; challenge us to change our lifestyles; guide our leaders to take courageous action; enable your church to be a beacon of hope; and foster within us a renewed vision of your purposes for your world;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
by and for whom all things were made.
Amen.

Sandra Anderson

PS. article written in 100 degrees of heat!
Climate change is real.

The Stag Beetle

Rescued by the Churchwarden this fine specimen was stranded on the path outside Church and directed towards the Beetle Hotel's reception area in the Grounds.

It was registered online with the People's Trust for Endangered Species and we received the following message:



Thank you for taking the time to add your stag beetle record to our national survey, the Great Stag Hunt. This will help us build a better picture of where stag beetles live and prevent their decline in the UK. There are lots of ways you can help stag beetles thrive in your garden or outdoor space. Stag beetles rely on dead wood, so if you haven't already done so, why not try making a log pyramid? Thank you from everyone at People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES).

News from the Committees

News from the various sub-committees of the Christ Church Parochial Church Council (PCC) was rounded up at its meeting on 19th July ... at the end of a day of unprecedented heat, with temperatures soaring to over 40 degrees! Luckily, the ambience in the Lower Walker Hall remained suitably temperate!

Outreach news, as always, was summarised in the Vicar's report which described an extremely busy two months during which Christ Church, as well as being locally active, reached out both nationally and internationally as well - hosting visits from the British Decorative Arts Society and the US Arts & Crafts Tour Company and who both came to see our Morris windows. More locally, there have been educational visits from two nearby schools: year 10 students from Ashmole came to learn more about Christian traditions and what happens in church, and year 10 Walker students came as part of their final year 'goodbye' activities.

Locally, too, we again acted as a Polling Station in the local elections on 5 May, and more recently the excellence of our piano enabled us to become a venue for ABRSM examinations – something that we very much hope will be repeated. Importantly, too, as well as 'reaching out', these last two events also earn Christ Church some much needed income.

It is also worth noting that our outreach includes not just welcoming people onto our premises, but also making visits ourselves which assist in putting our church – and our faith – more widely on the map. Both the choir and the clergy have recently been active in this respect. The choir sang choral evensong at St Paul's Cathedral at the end of May and at the beginning of July, travelled to Amsterdam to sing both choral evensong and High Mass at the Roman Catholic Basilica of St Nicholas.

Meanwhile, Fr Chrichton has engaged in a number of events, including an inter-faith dialogue with a Rabbi at the final meeting of the *In Good Faith Group* in May, hosting a meeting of the Deanery Chapter in June, and attending the Clergy Conference in Liverpool in July. Christ Church is reaching out, too, through our Eco Church initiatives, spearheaded by the Vicar and Sandra Anderson. Sandra is now a commissioned Creation Care Champion and Fr Chrichton is organising a Creation Care Conference for the clergy in Central London (to be held next October).

Mention of income in the previous paragraph leads to other financial news. The Treasurer's Finance report this time identified a sizeable deficit (c. £25.5K) brought about by one-off costs including emergency maintenance and repairs to the fabric of the church and its properties, and the organ. This rather overshadowed the modest £8.3K surplus in our day-to-day funds and pointed the way for serious fund-raising endeavours that will be necessary to secure the longer-term future of the organ, the continued rentability of our residential properties (once the law governing EPCs changes in 2025), repairs to the chancel floor, eventual upgrading of the lighting system, etc. After some discussion (and detailed information from the Music Team), the PCC agreed a budget for the longer-term repair and renovation of the organ (which now has only a very limited 'playing life' left in its present condition); this work will be scheduled to begin after work on the chancel floor is completed.

Plant & Fabric (P&F) news was brief, confirming that the application for a faculty to enable repair of the chancel floor is now under way and that once the timetable is established for the floor repairs, work will begin on submitting the faculty that will be required for the organ repairs. We also learned that the choir vestry door knobs have been replaced.

Eco and Care Creation (E&CC) reported continued, but rather slow progress by the Friends of Christ Church garden – slowed by the recent reduction in numbers of active volunteers. Although the front gardens are being maintained, without more help, it is impossible to start work on longer term garden projects. Nonetheless, some vegetables have been planted, as has an apple tree, and an Irish Yew tree will be planted to commemorate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. E&CC also identified that fund-raising will be required to purchase a new colony of bees for 2023.

As usual, thanks to Hilary Meur, all the news from Social Responsibility can be read elsewhere in this magazine.

Patricia Ashby

Christchurch Association News

The Christchurch Association (CCA) provides a social centre for the parish and runs the “Top Step Bar”, serving soft and alcoholic drinks upstairs in Church House. We are now able to take contactless payments as well as accepting cash.

The CCA Top Step bar opens early at 6pm on the first Friday of each month, except August, with complimentary **cheese and snacks** available through the evening. The next such occasion is **Friday 2nd September**, which will also mark the reopening of the bar after our August summer break (Friday 29th July will be the final opening session of this term).



Our Top Step Talks resumed on Sunday 12th June with a most entertaining talk from Bea Limbert about her experiences of working in



a number of venues that are open to the public. Her anecdotes from working at Buckingham Palace were of particular interest – including an encounter with Princess Anne in a corridor – and she brought along a collection of souvenirs.

Friday Foodie evenings have continued; we enjoyed a selection of Indian Snacks in June and pizzas in July, and the next event will be on **Friday 16th September**. On these and other occasions we have been collecting donations for the DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal, and a payment will be made to the charity in September.

The Top Step Bar is open on a regular basis as follows (**except during August**):

Sundays from 7:30 to 10:30pm

Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 to 11pm

Early opening at 6pm on the first Friday of every month

The CCA is a Registered Club with membership open to anyone who worships at Christ Church, lives in the parish or uses the church halls. Membership costs just £2 per year and new members are always welcome. Please contact Clive for more information or if you would like to become a member

Clive Woodhouse
Chairman, Christchurch Association

Open House London Festival

As part of Open House London which runs from 8-21 September 2022 Christ Church will be welcoming visitors on:

Saturday 17th September 10am-5pm
Sunday 18th September 12.30pm -4.30pm

There will be tours on the hour and refreshments will be available.

This year will be particularly special as we have been awarded a Heritage Lottery Grant from “Stories of Enfield” to promote and share our special set of stained-glass windows. There will be lots of crafts available to try out to do with stained-glass, so come and have a go, or come and help supervise.

Keep an eye on the Weekly Notices for more details nearer the time.



SONGS OF PRAISE

A SERVICE OF FAVOURITE HYMNS
SUNDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 5pm
OPEN HOUSE WEEKEND



“I SEE THE SIGHTS THAT DAZZLE, THE TEMPTING SOUNDS I HEAR”

Please choose your favourite hymn and bid for it to be sung
Proceeds to SIGHTSAVERS

We hope to sing the top 10 sponsored hymns
Please come, sing and enjoy



Name _____

Favourite Hymn _____

Hymn tune _____

Pledged amount £ _____

Contact details _____

Please return form or inform Clare Boulton or member of SRC by **Sunday 14th August**
Email: ccsoces@gmail.com

SRC Report

St. Swithun's tide has started in a heat wave, but rain is much needed as some lawns and plants are looking very sad. **Shelter Box** is our chosen charity this year. It is still not too late to join in by choosing WET or DRY & pledging a daily amount for the appropriate outcome. Test the legend;

St. Swithun's day, if thou dost rain,
For forty days it will remain.
St. Swithun's day, if thou be fair,
For forty days 'twill rain an mair.

Have you joined in?

Coffee on Sundays has been well received and we have sent £400 to **Grief Encounters**. Proceeds until the end of the year will go to **Nightingale Cancer Support Centre**. They provide emotional and physical support as well as complimentary therapies for patients and their families. Some members of our congregation have benefitted from the local Enfield branch.

Friday morning coffee is sometimes busy, but we are always welcoming & ready for a chat. Why not join us for a cuppa and a natter, bring your knitting or sewing? 10 till noon.

We have been given various items for the stall recently and will increase our range in September ready for OPEN HOUSE WEEKEND. Any other goods gratefully received.

Recently we were given three bags of coins and old notes. One for a particular charity which we will put on one side until we can increase the donation. As old notes are called in by the banks,

please have a look at home! Do you have a box or tin with a few coins or even the odd old note (even a £50!!) perhaps overflowing? We would welcome them all. Some can be paid into the bank, others will have to find a different home. We are happy to give this a try to increase our charitable giving. Thank you.



The Jubilee raffle raised £300 which we gave to **Homeless Action in Barnet**. We are trying to support local charities whose aim is to help people who are on the

margins or who are really struggling with the rising cost of living. The Food bank and The Ark at St. John's Palmers Green are doing just that. Thank you for the continuing supply of goods that come into church for both these groups.

We sent £290 to **Christian Aid**, most of which was gift aided so made another good donation.

We are planning a SONGS OF PRAISE at the OPEN HOUSE WEEKEND. Details can be seen on the previous page. Please choose your favourite HYMN & TUNE which need not be in the current hymn book and pledge an amount for **"SIGHT SAVERS"**. Return the slip by Sunday 14th August. Then come to the service on Sunday 18th September at 5pm to hear the top 10 hymns selected.

Many thanks

Hilary Meur

Tel.02083602362

Email ccsocres@gmail.com



SONGS OF PRAISE



Pledge to hear your favourite song (see previous page for details)

Return this slip by **Sunday 14th August**

Leave at Church, post to the Parish Office or email details to ccsocres@gmail.com

Stewardship

*Mick Meur,
Stewardship Recorder*



I note with many thanks that those donors using Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) who have elected for the annual inflationary increase have all agreed the suggested annual increase, even though it was larger than usual. This will help towards the ever-rising costs of Christ Church. I would obviously recommend that as many donors as possible using the PGS do elect for this, I understand that it is not always appropriate, but it is an easy way to ensure your gift is not eroded over time, especially in the present financial climate. As most people joining the PGS do so directly it means I do not have the opportunity to talk this through, although I do know it is brought up by the PGS as part of the setting up procedures.

The blue Gift Aid envelopes in the pews are being used reasonably well and contactless is proving popular too along with donations over the Web, and I thank all those that use any of these methods. However, it should be noted that in all those ways of donating there is an administration cost, either bank charges or handling fees by our electronic

payment provider. These can easily be avoided by joining the PGS and committing to a regular payment as those cost us nothing. The alternative is to pay your donation direct to the Parochial Fund account by direct bank transfer - I will provide our bank details upon request.

The best way forward to regularly contribute to the work of Christ Church is to join our Stewardship Scheme and to sign up to regular payments via the PGS. If you need any information to help you decide how to make regular donations, please let me know. It is now really easy to join the PGS, see below.

My telephone contact details are in the Directory at the back of The Spire, and my email address is: mikestatistics@gmail.com

Finally, I am pleased to say that I have, at last, got my act together and my annual "thank you" letters are on their way. If you receive The Spire they will be included therein, otherwise snail mail or home delivery.

HOW YOU CAN HELP!

Please consider joining the Parish Giving Scheme now, this can be set-up easily over the telephone. All you needed to do is make one call to their dedicated helpline number 0333 002 1271.

When calling please quote our parish code 230623352 or online using the following link:

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/southgate-christ-church-london/>

Or scan the QR code below on your smartphone or tablet



PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Office *Open on Wednesdays and Fridays 10 a.m. — 1 p.m. and 2.30—5 p.m.
Please phone beforehand if you have any special requests or needs.
N.B. Notices for the Sunday pew sheets should reach the Office no later than
10 a.m. on a Friday. If possible, please e-mail them.*

Mail 1 The Green, London N14 7EG
Phone 8886 0384
Email office@christchurch-southgate.org
Website www.christchurch-southgate.org

Clergy

Vicar The Reverend Dr Chrichton Limbert
Address 1 The Green, Southgate, London, N14 7EG
Phone 8882 0917
Email frch138@btinternet.com

Assistant Priest The Reverend Hazel Miall
Address 85 Conway Road, Southgate, London, N14 7BD
Phone 07980 740587
Email hazelhmiall@btinternet.com

Lay Readers

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Cathy Dallman, 4 Greenacre Walk, Southgate, N14 7DB | 8886 5918 |
| Jackie Anderson | 8245 0305 |
| Sandra Anderson | 07947 027265 |
| Amy Li | via the office |

Churchwardens

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Clare Boulton, 321 Gladbeck Way, Enfield, EN2 7HR | 8367 5961 |
| Kate Carroll, katecarroll1@aol.com | 07974 437966 |

PCC

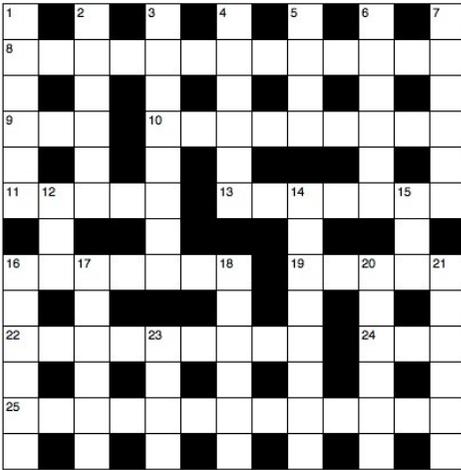
| | | |
|--------------------|---|-----------|
| <i>Secretary</i> | Caroline Robertson office@christchurch-southgate.org | 8886 0384 |
| <i>Treasurer</i> | Clare Boulton (as above) | |
| <i>Stewardship</i> | Michael Meur, 136 Green Dragon Lane, N21 1ET | 8360 2362 |

Music Department

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|--------------|
| <i>Director of Music</i> | Richard Brain music@christchurch-southgate.org | 07979 850546 |
| <i>Organist</i> | Kate Macpherson | |
| <i>Associate Organist</i> | David Hinit | |
| <i>Treasurer</i> | Ian Winton, 7 Foxgrove, N14 7EA | 8882 3680 |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Sacristan | Vacancy | |
| Sidesmen | Judith Lo | 8882 3335 |
| Sub-committee Chairs/contacts | | |
| <i>Outreach</i> | Fr Chrichton Limbert (as above) | |
| <i>Plant and Fabric</i> | Kate Carroll (as above) | |
| <i>Social Responsibility</i> | Vacancy | |
| <i>Resources</i> | Ronald Lo | 8882 3335 |
| Electoral Roll Officer | Patricia Ashby | 8886 2528 |
| Parish Magazine "The Spire" | | |
| <i>Editorial Team</i> | Freya Carroll and Imogen Cooper Copy to be sent to christchurchspire@gmail.com | |
| <i>Treasurer</i> | Hilary Meur, 136 Green Dragon Lane, N21 1ET | 8360 2362 |
| Flower Arrangers | Contact the Parish Office (see above) | |
| Parish Centre/Church Halls | | |
| <i>Chairman</i> | Philip Miall, 85 Conway Road, N14 7BD | 8882 6738 |
| <i>Secretary</i> | Clare Boulton (see above) | |
| <i>Lettings</i> | christchurchparishcentre@gmail.com | |
| <i>Treasurer</i> | Michael Meur (as above) | |
| Christ Church Association Bar | | |
| <i>Contact</i> | Clive Woodhouse, 41b Osborne Road, N13 5BT | 8882 0014 |
| Friday Coffee Morning | | |
| <i>Contact</i> | <i>Every Friday morning 10.30 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. in Church</i> Hilary Meur (as above) | |
| Lunch Fellowship | <i>Usually on 2nd Wednesday in the month at noon in Church</i> | |
| <i>Contact</i> | Cathy Dallman (as above) | |
| Scout Group | The Reverend Hazel Miall, <i>Cubs</i> Stephen Smith, <i>Group Scout Leader</i> | 07980 740 587 8882 0991 |
| Bellringers | <i>Practice held Wednesdays 7.30 p.m.</i> | |
| <i>Captain</i> | Martin Sutcliffe, 46 Brookdale, N11 1BN | 8368 1974 |
| Young Fogeys | <i>For the active and retired, though you need not be either!</i> | |
| <i>Contact</i> | Jean Thomas, 1 Bramford Court, N14 6DH | 8882 8133 |

AUGUST CROSSWORD



Across

- 8 One of the titles given to the Messiah in Isaiah's prediction (Isaiah 9:6) (6,2,5)
- 9 International Nepal Fellowship (1,1,1)
- 10 Single (1 Corinthians 7:27) (9)
- 11 Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn's seminal book about Soviet prison camps, The — Archipelago (5)
- 13 Treachery (2 Kings 11:14) (7)
- 16 Of India (anag) (2,3,2)
- 19 'God has put us apostles on display at the end of the procession, like men condemned to die in the —' (1 Corinthians 4:9) (5)
- 22 Follower of a theological system characterized by a strong belief in predestination (9)
- 24 'Put these old rags and worn-out clothes under your arms to — the ropes' (Jeremiah 38:12) (3)
- 25 They brought together all the elders of the Israelites in Egypt (Exodus 4:29) (5,3,5)

Down

- 1 The season when kings 'go off to war' (2 Samuel 11:1) (6)

- 2 Simon Peter's response to Jesus by the Sea of Galilee: 'Go away from me, Lord; I am a — man' (Luke 5:8) (6)
- 3 Beaten with whips (1 Kings 12:11) (8)
- 4 'You shall not — adultery' (Exodus 20:14) (6)
- 5 Encourage (Hebrews 10:24) (4)
- 6 Service of morning prayer in the Church of England (6)
- 7 'Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and — him in your heart by faith with thanksgiving' (4,2)
- 12 Run (anag) (3)
- 14 Member of 17th-century party that denied the right of autonomy to the Church (8)
- 15 'We will triumph with our tongues; we — our lips' (Psalm 12:4) (3)
- 16 Earnings (1 Corinthians 16:2) (6)
- 17 'I rejoice greatly in the Lord that — you have renewed your concern for me' (Philippians 4:10) (2,4)
- 18 How Paul described Philemon (Philemon 1) (6)
- 20 Multiple territories under the rule of a single state (Daniel 11:4) (6)
- 21 'You have been unfaithful; you have married foreign women, — to Israel's guilt' (Ezra 10:10) (6)
- 23 This month(abbrev.) (4)

JUNE SOLUTION





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e-mail:

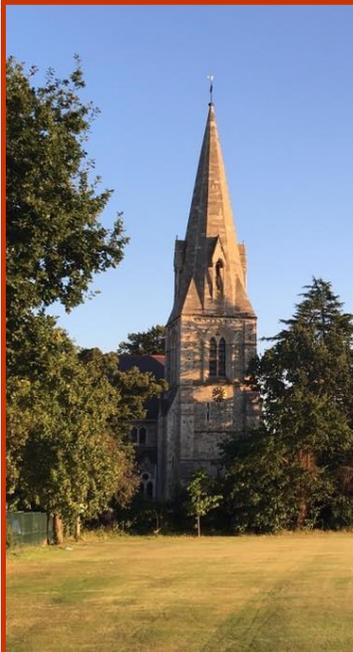
martina@macroryward.co.uk

or

margaret@macroryward.co.uk

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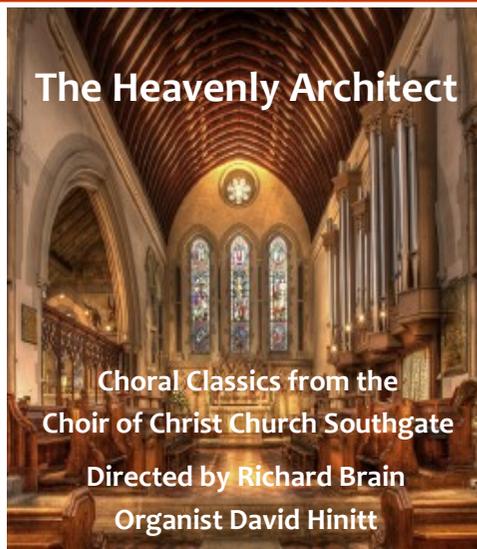
Christ Church Southgate
The Church on the Green N14
Where everyone is welcome



Christ Church Southgate is an Eco-Church, we have recently achieved the Silver Award.

We are committed to caring for God's earth in the different areas of our life and work and are actively working to reduce our environmental impact

“We believe in inclusive Church – church which does not discriminate, on any level, on grounds of economic power, gender, mental health, physical ability, race or sexuality. We believe in Church which welcomes and serves all people in the name of Jesus Christ; which is scripturally faithful; which seeks to proclaim the Gospel afresh for each generation; and which, in the power of the Holy Spirit, allows all people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ.”



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Organist David Hinitt

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