

The Good News

Autumn 2020



North West Northants Pastorate

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Welcome to the autumn edition of The Good News! It is "The season of mists and mellow fruitfulness" as Keats put it. We move on from summer, through Harvest Festival and eventually into the beginning of Advent.

Inside you will find a message from the Minister, the latest news and information from across our Pastorate and a guide to the forthcoming Lectionary readings.

Also; the editors humorous reflections on the season; even a seasonal recipe to try.

Be patient, then brothers and sisters, until the LORD's coming.
See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop,
patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains.

James 5:7 NIV

A Message and News from the Minister

The World Unwinding

Noises in the night.

The street is dark, the curtains of all the houses are pulled and lights turned off. The rare noise of a car almost sounds out of place and then a lone "CLANG!" of one bell from the village church, joins in the mix.. I detect no pattern with the bells - the strike is seldom on the hour.

Some nights, when the windows are open, it's possible to hear a hunting owl or the chitter-chatter of small mammals foraging, hunting or looking for a mate. Cats yowl, but it's the noises outside human hearing range which cause most disturbance. Lewis, my geriatric Labrador hears something I do not, he gets out of bed and stands in the middle of the room, he gives a "woof!", then walks back to his bed, whimpers, turns around in a circle three times, then lies down and goes back to sleep.

These noises of the night are not frightening, it's like the world unwinding itself...the activity and tensions of the day-light being released.

Do you remember chalk board being used in your school class room? How at half -term and during the holidays, the black boards would be washed ready for the next lessons and on that freshly-washed board, we could not see the writing which had previously been there?

It was quite literally, a clean slate.



**A Message and News from the Minister Cont.
Hope for the Future**

Someone squeezes a tube of toothpaste hard and a great curl of paste swirls into the basin. But we didn't want that much and it serves no purpose there. Can we return it to the tube, so that our accident can be rectified? We can no more do that, than we can take back the words we spoke but didn't intend to cause mischief or pain.

So here's the thing, nature re-groups after busyness; it has a fallow season, a time of rest, when the night offers a calm, when sleep offers refreshment, when the dormancy of Winter hides the energy waiting to burst forth in Spring.

Throughout our lives, during pandemics and famines, floods and grief, through harvests and growth, joy and laughter God keeps faith with us. When we know it and even when we do not, God is with us and will continue to be with us, offering us forgiveness and refreshment, new beginnings and hope for the future.

Allow yourself to rest in God's love. You do not have to solve all of the world's problems, you do not have to prove anything to anyone.

"Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you". 1 Peter 5:6-7

Keep safe,

Shalom

Elizabeth
→



**A Message and News from the Minister Cont.
Looking Forward...**

Ongoing Plans

We have no plans for a blanket return to normal service arrangements across the Pastorate. Visiting Preachers have been cancelled through September.

We have another short service of Holy Communion in the Long Buckby Large Hall 11a.m. on August 30th - **please reserve your seat with Richard Bignell. (01327 844979)**

Harvest Festival

Long Buckby celebrates Harvest Festival on 13th September- tins for the Daventry Food Bank, please. **Again seats reservable through Richard Bignell.**



Creaton News

All Quiet

Hello from Creaton

Like other Churches, although not able to meet, Creaton URC have been making use of Zoom video conferencing for Elders Meetings and Margaret expresses "the hope that you will hold us all in your prayers as we will you; Blessings and Peace"

The following usual events and activities are currently suspended:

Poppies Coffee Shop

From 9.00 am to 12 noon Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Poppies is closed on Thursdays and Tuesdays. Everyone is very welcome

For the Men

Creaton host "Nosh and Natter" (Men's lunch) on the 1st Thursday of every month at 12.00 noon

'Pilots'

meets on a Monday night in term time from 7.00pm.

Details are available from the Church Secretary.

But we look forward to their return as soon as it is possible

For more information on the activities at Creaton United Reformed Church, please visit the Creaton website :

www.creaton.org.uk

Click on Churches and then click on United Reformed Church

Kilsby News

Longing to Return...

Mission Statement

The purpose of this church is to provide a warm, welcoming place for all people of any age to worship and to learn about the faith.

Hello and best wishes from Kilsby,

As time goes on there is increasing sadness that services are not possible at the church for the time being. It is hoped that with suitable measures and precautions this might begin to change; perhaps in line with practices at Long Buckby.

In addition, the Community Café and other facilities provided by the church are being increasingly missed and the various groups using these facilities are asking what might be done.

Val Janes and all from Kilsby

The following usual events and activities are currently suspended:

Community café

The purpose of the café is to provide somewhere where you can meet up with friends old and new to have a chat and enjoy refreshments together. Held every Monday and Thursday from 9.00am until midday.

Sewing Group

The sewing group meets at 2pm every other Friday, contact Val for details.

Scrabble Club

Wednesdays at 1.00pm

But we look forward to their return as soon as it is possible.

Crick News

Determined to have a 200th Anniversary Service; but when?

Mission Statement

The purpose of this Church is to provide a warm, welcoming place for people of all ages to worship God and to grow in faith.

Greetings to you all from Crick,

I do hope you are all keeping well and busy during these difficult times.

Who would have predicted that our churches would still be closed and that we would still be relying on podcast services after so many weeks? I am enjoying the URC Daily Devotions and the weekly service, but I look forward, as I'm sure we all do, to returning to a regular church service.

Zoom and Skype are great, but it's no substitute for meeting face to face. But, as we are a small and elderly congregation, we have decided not to open for worship in September.

We regret that we have had to cancel our 200th Anniversary service and meal together at the end of August, but it remains something to look forward to.

My husband's lockdown project, a history of the chapel, and non-conformism in Crick, is now complete, waiting to be published in some form (yet to be decided) so that we can share it with you.

Birthday wishes to Tom Nisbet and Brenda Morgan in September.

Keep well, stay safe - we look forward to meeting up again in the not too distant future.

Jenny and Brenda M, on behalf of all of us at Crick.

Crick News Cont.
Announced with Sadness

Mrs Brenda Tomalin

It is with great sadness that we have to announce the death on August 15th of our very good friend Mrs Brenda Tomalin. Her passing will leave a very big hole in our church life as she has held the position of elder, treasurer and organist for over 25 years.

In the 1950s and 60s she was very involved with the Sunday School when there were 40 plus children attending, and she only took a break when she was expecting her third child.

Brenda loved her music, and she was the accompanist for the Crick Music Society group, and later for Village Voices. Both of these choirs used our schoolroom for their practices.

The church has meant a great deal to Brenda for most of her life and she worried a lot about our decreasing congregation. She managed our finances very well, and made sure we did not get into debt, and always helped with our fund raising events when needed.

Brenda was very proud of her family. We extend our deepest sympathy to Peter, Jane, and Claire, their partners, her seven grandchildren and one great grandchild and we pray that they will find comfort from the many happy memories that they will have.

Rest in peace Brenda - we shall miss you.



Long Buckby News

Flowers Please...

Flower Rota if the church reopens

The church is beginning to reopen to those invited to worship. It is yet uncertain when the church will be open in October and November. The Elders will notify those offering to do flowers for services in October and November when decisions have been made.

13th September Diana Osborne
27th Norman Chandler



Birthdays

September Andrew Howes
 Frank Berry
 Norman Chandler

October Michael Bond
 Peggy Bond
 Joy Paterson
 Marion Boucher

November Lucy Faulkner
 Emily Faulkner
 Sian Ellison
 Ruth Collins
 Abbey Faulkner
 Yvonne Howes

For Prayer: This quarter we are asked to remember:

- Lebanon. The people and the Government
- The Elders of our churches. Called to make big decisions.
- The way forward in times that are completely new to us all
- Think your way round the church and pray for the needs of the people you know.

Long Buckby News Cont.

This 'Mite' Help

The Mite Scheme

After much counting of mites (of the currency variety) Kath is pleased to announce that from April 2019 to March 2020 £83 was collected and sent to UNICEF

Thankyou for your support from Kath.



The following usual events and activities are currently suspended:

Charity Coffee Morning on the first Saturday each month, 10.30 am—11.30 am (Not January)

Ladies Circle first Wednesday each month at 2.15 pm.

Lunch Club—2nd Friday each month 12.30 pm for 1.00 pm

But, we look forward to their return as soon as it is possible.

Lectionary Readings

September 2020

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost - September 6,
2020

Exodus 12:1-14

Psalms 149

Romans 13:8-14

Matthew 18:15-20

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost - September 13,
2020

Exodus 14:19-31

Psalms 114

or Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21

Romans 14:1-12

Matthew 18:21-35

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost - September 20,
2020

Exodus 16:2-15

Psalms 105:1-6, 37-45

Philippians 1:21-30

Matthew 20:1-16

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost - September 27,
2020

Exodus 17:1-7

Psalms 78:1-4, 12-16

Philippians 2:1-13

Matthew 21:23-32



Lectionary Readings

October 2020

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost - October 4, 2020

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Psalms 19

Philippians 3:4b-14

Matthew 21:33-46

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost - October 11, 2020

Exodus 32:1-14

Psalms 106:1-6, 19-23

Philippians 4:1-9

Matthew 22:1-14

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost - October 18, 2020

Exodus 33:12-23

Psalms 99

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Matthew 22:15-22

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost - October 25, 2020

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Psalms 90:1-6, 13-17

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Matthew 22:34-46



Lectionary Readings

November 2020

All Saints Day - November 1, 2020

Revelation 7:9-17

Psalm 34:1-10, 22

1 John 3:1-3

Matthew 5:1-12

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost - November 8, 2020

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Psalm 78:1-7

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Matthew 25:1-13

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost - November 15, 2020

Judges 4:1-7

Psalm 123

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Matthew 25:14-30

Last Sunday after Pentecost - November 22, 2020

Christ The King

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalm 100

Ephesians 1:15-23

Matthew 25:31-46

First Sunday of Advent - November 29, 2020

Isaiah 64:1-9

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Mark 13:24-37

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18



Granny Townsend and the Marrow Chutney

A Seasonal Reflection

Granny Townsend went to Harpole Chapel every Sunday, often taking me and mum with her. This is where we met The Reverend Thomason!

Initially we went to visit Granny Townsend on the bus, but then in 1968 my dad passed his driving test. That same year, my mum began a part-time job working in a greetings card factory. This meant that they could now afford to run a car.

So now with a car, after Chapel in the mornings, my dad was able to take me, my mum and often Granny Townsend for a ride in the country. I would wonder why it was, that we went to the 'Baptists' but dad always went to the one a few doors up called 'The Bull' which also began its service at 11am on a Sunday.

In the early years it was in his Ford Anglia and in the latter years his Toyota Corolla. It never occurred to me that despite the fact that it was my mothers labour that paid for the car, it was always exclusively his car. That was until, the day he died.

I was 22 when he died, it was unexpected and came as a great shock. Suddenly I was the man of the house and I had to drive the car. So it was, that I found myself one Sunday afternoon driving my mum and Granny Townsend down the country lane from Wormleighton to Fenny Compton on the way to Avon Dasset Country Park, or Burton Hills as we then knew it.

When my mum was a girl, she went to school at Wormleighton; as Granny and Grandad Townsend lived at and worked Hall Farm nearby. Granny Townsend began to reminisce of the times when she was a girl and drove the grain wagon from Hall Farm to the mill at Burton Hills.

I had never known that Granny could drive, let alone a grain lorry! I thought that it was perhaps something to do with the war. I asked Granny Townsend if she had needed a driving licence in those days, she answered "A driving licence? For a horse and Cart?"

How quickly things can change, even in one or two generations. "I suppose you'll be telling me next that it was a windmill!", I joked. "It was." She replied curtly.

Granny Townsend and the Marrow Chutney

A Seasonal Preserve

As a child I remember that after Chapel and our ride out we would go back to Granny Townsends for supper. Every week it was the same; grated cheese and Marrow chutney sandwiches. So, with Harvest Festival and preserving in mind, here is the recipe:

Ingredients

4lbs Marrow
1/2lbs Pickling Onions
6 Cloves
1&1/2lbs Loaf Sugar—(I guess back then it was bought as a solid block)
1/2oz Turmeric
9 Chilies
1&1/2oz Ground Ginger
1&1/2oz Mustard— (I guess powder)
2 qts Vinegar—(I'm guessing 4 pints)
Salt

Method

Cut marrow into small cubes. Place on a dish and shake some salt over it and leave overnight. Drain and set aside. Boil remaining ingredients for ten minutes, then add marrow and boil for half an hour or until tender and put into jars.

Now you have enough marrow chutney to last forever. No wonder we had it every week! That was except for one week of the year; when The Reverend Thomason organised Bangers and Mash Harvest Festival Supper at the Chapel.

The reason I have this recipe is that while flicking through an old family wartime cookbook a sheet of writing paper fell out, it was Granny Townsends handwriting.

In all truth I seem to remember that it was quite nice and even made the cheese that you could get in the sixties and seventies edible.

In fact it might be the only way to make a marrow edible!

Hope you enjoy!

Andrew Bodsworth.

Dates for your Diary

How Many Dates can you Spot?

Every Sunday:

"Sunday Service" - From the United Reformed Church website to read or listen to as a podcast; including prayers, readings, hymns and sermon.

Every Day:

"Daily Devotions" - Short Bible Reading, Reflection and Prayer available from the United Reformed Church website to read or listen to as a podcast.

Finally:

Did you know that William Shakespeare was in the employ of King James when the King James Bible was being prepared?

Shakespeare had his 46th birthday in 1611, the year the KJV was completed.

If you look at Psalm 46 in the KJV and count 46 words from the beginning, the next word is shake.

If you count 46 words backward from the end of Psalm 46, guess what? You come to the word spear.

Many Thanks to all contributors!

Newsletter Editor

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Deadline for contributions to next issue: 16th November 2020

Footnote:

Granny Townsends windmill was at Burton Hill. It was a wooden post mill which operated between 1664 and 1912. It was restored in 1933 and operated again until 1946; when ironically blew down in a storm, or should I say tempest. Nothing of it remains today.