



# CONNECTED

For the Display of His Splendour | Sunday 26th June 2022

**“Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.”**

*Colossians 3. 16*

A very warm welcome to St Swithin's today.

## **The Spirit and Worship**

We're concluding this part of our Summer Series on the person and work of the Holy Spirit in Paul's letters on the theme of the Spirit and Worship.

Paul's letters paint a joyful and a wonderful picture of the Christian life of walking by the Spirit. Paul 'the apostle of the heart set free', speaks of a life of praise and thanksgiving, of listening and praying, of singing and studying, of participating in Communion and enjoying fellowship and encountering the Presence of the living God. Whether our circumstances are good or bad, Christians express our love to and for God in worship.

In our own personal lives and when we gather as a Community to worship, we long to be Spirit-led and empowered by the Holy Spirit. Yet, this is not always straightforward. How do we create space for all that God wants to do in us, whilst maintaining some structure and rhythm to our own personal and corporate worship? Most writers tend to describe how we need to find 'freedom within a framework' to enable our worship life to grow and flourish, I'm sure that we will be able to share helpful ways we've found in our own worship-life about how our

worship has grown and come to life. Come, Holy Spirit, we pray.

## **Fran Youings**

Today we say an official fond farewell to Fran Youings as she moves on to the next phase of her ministry. Every Curate brings a unique gift to the church and Fran has been no exception, as she has served so wholeheartedly for the last 3 years through some of the most challenging times for us as a nation and has therefore had a very unusual curacy!

We remain hugely grateful for Fran and all she's given to us over the last few years, with particular for her work with students and the families, youth and children. We'll miss her, but know that it's the right time for her to move on to the next challenge. Please pray for her and Adrian as they adjust to the new opportunities of this season and encourage them as they go.

Tim

# NEWS



## Sexuality

If you found yourself angry, irritated or confused after last week, from either end of the debate, please contact Tim at [tim@stswithinswalcot.org.uk](mailto:tim@stswithinswalcot.org.uk) for a conversation. I do want to listen and understand the issues, so that we can work out how to help our discipleship in the future.

## Fran Leaving: 26 June

Join us after the service today for a bring and share picnic in the garden to give thanks for Fran's time with us and bless her as she moves on to the next phase of her ministry.

## Teaching Evening – Sculptor Spirit: 26 June 6pm

How does the Spirit work to shape God's people into the image of Christ? Join us to look at different Christian traditions, and models of discipleship, that help us to discern how the spirit is calling each of us to live a life of faith and obedience.

## Bridgemead Care Home's 30th Anniversary: 2 July

Fundraising £1million for necessary river flood defences.

Come & support by joining a Garden Party at Northend, Batheaston, Saturday afternoon 2nd July.

4-acre garden, beautiful walks, orchard, lake etc! Refreshments provided, jazz band, plant & cake sale. And learn more about Bridgemead's plans.

Tickets £40 each; more details and book via:

[www.bridgcare.org.uk/gardenparty](http://www.bridgcare.org.uk/gardenparty)

## Church BBQ: 10 July

Please sign up at the back for the church BBQ on Sunday 10th July at 12noon. Any questions please speak to Amanda.



## Pete and Beth's Wedding: 30 July

Pete and Beth have been members of our church family for a number of years and we recently said goodbye to them as they moved to Wales. However, we are delighted that they will be returning to St Swithin's for their wedding day on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July at 1pm. Please do feel free to come to the service and enjoy celebrating the beginning of their married life together.

## Prayer Tree

For anyone in need of instant prayer please send your requests to the prayer tree via 07974 387782.

## ChurchSuite

We will be moving to a new digital database system over the next few weeks. Please keep an eye out for an email from ChurchSuite asking you to confirm your details are correct. We will speak to those not online individually.

## Family and Youth Weekend Away: 26-29 August

After two years of lost opportunities to get away, we would love to invite the children, youth and parents to an 'informal' weekend away in the Gower Peninsula at the St Madoc Retreat Centre, positioned right by the beach.



It will be a fun weekend combining worship, teaching, and activities for 'all the family'. The dates are 26th to 29th August and the basic cost is roughly £20 per individual per night, plus food. The Accommodation is simple, dormitories and bunk beds and it will be fun!

If you are interested, please speak to Suzi or Dan Darwin or contact them [dan.darwin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:dan.darwin@hotmail.co.uk) (please note the email address for Dan was wrong in last weeks Connected) or [suzi.darwin@outlook.com](mailto:suzi.darwin@outlook.com). More details to follow.

## Lee Abbey Week: 3-7 October

After two years of pandemic and lost opportunities to get away, we would love to celebrate being able to be together and so we invite you to join us at Lee Abbey, Devon for a week and receive some excellent teaching from Russ Parker on the subject of the power and purpose of Biblical Blessing. The dates are 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> October and the cost will be £295 per person or £355 per person for an en-suite room. If you are interested, please speak to Janet Cornish on 01225 443771 or [janetrcornish@gmail.com](mailto:janetrcornish@gmail.com)

Booking forms available at the back.



## Summer Sunday Preaching

We're continuing our yearly series of walking by the Spirit, and over the remaining summer months we're going to focus on the famous passage in Galatians 5. 22, 23 on the Fruit of the Spirit.

|        |                        |  |
|--------|------------------------|--|
| 26-Jun | The Spirit and Worship | Phil 3.3, Col 3.16, Eph 5. 19, 1 Cor 14    |
| 03-Jul | Love                   | 1 Cor 13                                   |
| 10-Jul | Joy                    | John 16. 16-22                             |
| 17-Jul | Peace                  | Philippians 4. 4-9                         |
| 24-Jul | Patience               | James 5. 7-16, 1 John 3. 11-20             |
| 31-Jul | Kindness               | 1 John 3. 16-20                            |
| 07-Aug | Goodness               | 1 John 1. 5-2.8                            |
| 14-Aug | Faithfulness           | 2 John 1. 5-2.8                            |
| 21-Aug | Gentleness             | Phil 4. 5-7                                |
| 28-Aug | Self-Control           | Eph 2. 1-3, Luke 11. 14-26, 1 Cor 9. 23-27 |



# PLEASE PRAY FOR

## Ukraine

We continue to bring the situation in Ukraine before the Lord, asking that in His mercy he will bring peace there. We thank Him for the kindness of strangers in hosting Ukrainian refugees.

## Famine

There are many areas of the world currently standing on the brink of famine, especially Sub-Saharan Africa. We thank God for relief agencies such as Tear Fund working in these areas, and ask that they will receive the resources they need to bring food and clean water to those in need.



society. Lord, help us to shine brightly as your people, being gentle and gracious to all



## Fran

We thank God for all he has done amongst us through Fran during her time with us. We pray God's blessing on her as she moves on in her ministry, and ask that God will meet her in a special way during her time away on Retreat this week

## UK

We pray for a speedy resolution to the train strikes, and pray that the Lord will give wisdom to negotiators and Government ministers. We pray for all those in or out of employment who are struggling with finances. We thank you for the work of Christians Against Poverty.

## The church in this country

We pray for the witness of Christians in the UK as we seek to live to Godly standards in our increasingly secular



## Mission

Please pray for CHIT as they plan ahead for the much needed classroom, for the new intake of children. That their environment will be beneficial to their learning & their growing in maturity.