

inspire

JUNE 2017

YOUR LIFE AT ST CHAD'S CHURCH

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DAILY PRAYER

28 May - 1 July 2017



Church aflame ...

As June begins, we are in the middle of the period between Ascension Day on May 25th and Pentecost Sunday on June 4th. We have been praying for the Kingdom of God to come in response to the Archbishop's appeal to us. I hope you are praying earnestly for more of the Holy Spirit. Our country desperately needs the church in this land to be aflame again with the love, joy and power of the Holy Spirit as at that first pentecost. Most of us will vote on June 8th for a new government. I've included an extract from an article by a friend of mine who gives some helpful advice to us as Christians on how we should approach voting. On June 18th we will have Bishop Libby with us for a joint service, the Mitre she wears is a symbol of the flame of the Holy Spirit. Please pray that God's Spirit will be poured out on us this month.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Burmester'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Revd Steve Burmester Vicar, St Chad's Church



T.ed - Last month I had a knee replacement. The period of convalescing gave me lots of time to pray and ponder on the goodness of our Lord Jesus and answered prayer, which has given me a speedy recovery. I am truly grateful to Him and all who prayed for me. My pre-op research caused me to feel daunted and expecting pain until a dear sister in Christ here at St Chad's prayed for me and said she saw the Lord holding my

hand in His and He said 'do not fear'. This sustained me through the spinal anaesthetic and beyond. I find it hard to believe that I had no pain afterwards! What I have since discovered is that the speed with which I am recovering is remarkable in comparison to others, the bruising and swelling was minimal and the return to movement in the joint is coming along very fast. I could walk without a crutch at day 12! God is good!!

I was thrilled to receive and hope you enjoy this month's testimony by Margaret Wood and will be encouraged by how our Lord Jesus heals and restores us.

Your contributions to Inspire are invited and will be welcomed by the 12th of the month, send them to: dalenemoore2@gmail.com

Dalene Moore, Inspire's Editor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dalene Moore'. The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.

Getting to know you

John Knowles



I was extremely fortunate to be sent to a school with a very strong Christian tradition where Bible reading and prayer were regarded as very 'normal' activities. In my late teens, I was invited to a Scripture Union holiday during which I inked in a personal Christian commitment which had been there in pencil for some years.

Over the following 25 years Scripture Union house parties were a significant part of my life, my growth as a Christian and nurture as a Christian leader. Meanwhile physics at Manchester University, coupled with a music scholarship and then a post-graduate year at Oxford lead to a teaching post in a boarding school in London, a definite response to a calling, an out working of my Christian faith.

Roey and I met courtesy of Scripture Union - she was cooking - I was the 'officer' responsible for making sure that everyone working in the kitchen was happy. We have three adult daughters and six grandchildren.

I was selected for Reader training in the mid '70s and served in 4 parishes - a consequence of my career taking me from

London to Lancashire and then a headship in Birmingham. Unexpected things happened in the parish where we lived which coupled with comments from various folk meant that I had no option but to consider offering for ordination. Things moved rapidly - ordination, yes but with the strong advice from the bishop that I should stay in the educational world - and so began 3 years of part-time study before ordination in 1998. Soon after, we were on the move again following my appointment as head of an independent school in Glasgow but by 2004 I felt that 20 years in school senior management was more than enough and I retired.

In January 2005 we moved to Woodford with the dual role of Vicar and diocesan Warden of Readers. Both jobs brought great satisfaction. By 2012, the two part-time roles had become too much and so I resigned as Vicar and we moved to Handforth, continuing as Warden of Readers until the end of last year.

Apart from enjoying being a volunteer on the clergy team at St Chad's, my hobby is helping in the preservation of the music of Elgar.

So I'm now fully retired - or perhaps more accurately, no longer in paid employment!

How will you vote?

6 things to keep in mind when you go to vote... David Baker

I (Steve) was at college with David and I find his advice in this article particularly helpful.

1. **Please vote.** It is a hard-won privilege which many societies lack. I am always a bit baffled by the 30 per cent or so who never vote, perhaps because almost everyone I know does. As a Christian you can make a positive, prayerful difference.

2. **Remember politicians are human** – like you! I was a political journalist for some years and while, yes, there were some crooks, which libel laws forbid me from naming, most were well-motivated. So we don't need to impute the worst motives to others just because they have different political views.

Political leaders may have views which we personally find abhorrent. But that doesn't mean we have to be derisive about them, or attach unkind epithets to them.

3. **Realise that whoever you vote for, you will be disappointed.** This is partly because politicians are fallible – like you. But it is also because from a Christian perspective neither capitalism nor socialism (nor any mix) takes account of the human heart (our thoughts and motives). Thus, for example, capitalism may generate wealth but can default to greed if people are not philanthropic; equally, socialism may provide public services but can default to laziness because of a lack of incentive when there is limited competition.

That's why the message of Jesus Christ is so

distinctive. If we want to change the world, we ourselves need to be changed. And that is what Christ offers.

4. **Recognise that Christians, like others, disagree.** There is an inter-party group of Christian MPs who meet to pray and read the Bible together, transcending political boundaries. That is how it should be, irrespective of party. It is possible to be a Christian Socialist, Conservative, Liberal Democrat and so on, although it would not be possible to be a Christian and vote for an implicitly racist grouping.

6. **Read the Scriptures** and let them inform your vote. At the start of his ministry Jesus set out what is often called the Nazareth Manifesto: 'Good news to the poor... release to the captives... recovery of sight to the blind... letting the oppressed go free...' (Luke 4:14 onwards). And there is a strong Biblical mandate for caring for the environment too. 'The earth is the Lord's and everything in it,' as several Scripture verses state, with us being given the responsibility of being wise stewards of it.

6. **Rejoice in Prayer.** It is good to pray for wisdom about how to vote, and to pray for governmental leaders afterwards. As the New Testament puts it, we should pray for 'all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.'

VOLUNTEER VACANCIES

There is a constant need for volunteers in the various and many areas of Ministry at St Chad's. If you could help, please contact the names stated below:

Aroma Café – Greg Aspinall

Flower arrangers – Sue Thompson

Coffee/tea set up/clear up – Margaret Wood

Pastoral Care team – Carol Cutts

Prayer Ministry team (especially for the 9 a.m. service) – Dalene Moore

Cleaning rota – Lynda O'Briane

Sunday clubs – Carole Harding

Messy Church – Jo Burmester

Rhyme time – Liz Donohue

Praise and play – Sheila Millar

Musicians and singers – Gareth Brown

Maintenance – Chris Birch

Church service prayers – Jim Lethbridge

Church service scripture readers - Jim Lethbridge

We still don't have a permanent Verger – please speak to Steve but if you can only help out part time that would still be very useful.

Weather forecasting with dogs.

To tell the weather, go to the back door and look for the dog. If it's there looking wet, it's probably raining.

If the dog is at the door looking very wet and soaked through, it's probably raining very hard.

If the dog's fur looks like it's been rubbed the wrong way, it's probably very windy.

If the dog has snow on it's fur, it's probably snowing.

Of course to tell the weather this way, you have to leave the dog outside all the time.

Sincerely, The Cat!



Sunday 28 May

☺ Summer is a busy time for Christian bikers in the **God Squad** as they travel around the country to join many bike rallies, meeting with the riders and seeing how God can open up conversations. Pray for leaders, Howie and Lennie, as they plan their activities and disciple younger Christians. Pray also for Howie, who travels many extra miles as European President. Locally God Squad are still in need of a home base for meeting together. Pray for this. † Pray for an increased sense of unity between those who come to our 9:00, 10:30 and Rhema services and to our mid week activities. 🌿 Pray that residents will recognise the unity in Jesus shown by Christians in Handforth rather than their denominational differences.

Susan Clarke-Berry & Alan Berry

Residents of Crossfield Road

Monday 29 May

☺ As antibiotic resistance increases pray for an increasing awareness of the long term danger of over-prescription and that doctors and medical authorities will help change public demand for 'a pill for every ill'. (Chester Diocese) † Pray for the children who come to Ignite Club at the Grange Primary School and for Steve who leads the group. 🌿 Give thanks for our local Garden Centres and the easy availability of plants and accessories to enrich our gardens.

Margaret Collins *Residents of Cuddington Way*

Tuesday 30 May

† Tearfund and Barnabas both ask us to pray for the thousands living as refugees in Northern Nigeria because of the destruction wrought by *Boko Haram*. Give thanks for the release of some of the abducted girls and for those they still hold. ☺ Pray for our mission links. Join in prayer for them at 7:00 this evening if you can. † Pray for the candidates for Tatten in the General Election and for wisdom in our voting.

Nancy Connolly *Residents of Dairybrook Grove*

Wednesday 31 May

† Despite the restoration of a democratic government in Myanmar (Burma), the Muslim Rohingya people are some of the most persecuted in the world. Pray for a just settlement for them and for persecuted Christian minorities in Myanmar. ☺ Give thanks for the way the Wednesday 10:30 services and fellowship has developed. Pray a special blessing on those who cannot get to our Sunday worship. † Pray for police who have to follow up missing persons calls - 1000's a year, just in Cheshire.

June Cottam *Residents of Dairy House Road*

Thursday 1 June

★ Pray for the work of the Agricultural Chaplaincy team in Cheshire. Coordinated by Churches Together, chaplains are on call 24/7. Depression and loneliness account for the biggest number of calls. † Pray that a team can be built up to carry out the many routine maintenance jobs needing attention around St Chad's. 🌿 Give thanks for local gyms, fitness and leisure centres. Pray that concern for physical health will be matched by concern for spiritual well-being.

Beryl Cotton *Residents of Davenham Road*

Friday 2 June

☺ The Big Day Out begins at Capesthorne Hall today. Pray that this major national Christian Festival 'on our doorstep' will be a time of celebration and encouragement for families and Christians who feel themselves very much in a minority. † Give thanks for those who keep our grounds attractive and well cared for. 🌿 Give thanks for a healthy and green environment around Handforth. Pray against the effects of over-development.

Norman & Denise Critchell *Residents of Dean Close*

Saturday 3 June

☺ Many Mission Agencies will be represented at the Churches Big Day Out. Pray that their displays will attract many visitors and open their eyes to God's work in many places and the part they can play in it. † Pray for our Sidespeople and ourselves, that everyone who comes to our services will know they are welcome and able to feel at home. 🌿 Give thanks for the contribution made to our life and economy by many immigrant and migrant workers. Where their input is positive may they be kept from negativity.

Nisrene Cunningham *Residents of Dean Drive*

Pentecost Sunday 4 June

☉ **Thy Kingdom Come** For Chester Diocese, the Archbishops' call to prayer concludes today with a pilgrimage and celebration in the Cathedral. As the General Election is held this week may we continue to pray for righteousness and justice in our government and nation. † Give thanks for those who lead intercessions at St Chad's. Pray that the Holy Spirit will be their inspiration. 🌿 Most often in Britain our freedom to worship, or not to worship, is taken for granted. Pray for the coming of God's Kingdom in Handforth, for His Spirit to be moving in our community and in the lives of individuals that they may find new life in Jesus.

Carol Cutts

Residents of Dean Road

Monday 5 June

☉ **OM Ship Logos Hope** is visiting Jamaica this month. Give thanks for many encouragements already on their tour of West Indian islands and the practical and spiritual support the crew have given to poor communities. † Pray for our Pastoral Care team. Lord give us all a sense of ministry in your name as we meet one another. 🌿 Pray for all those who will be taking exams at this peak time.

Josie Daniels

Residents of Dean Row Road

Tuesday 6 June

☉ Pray for the Episcopal Church of Scotland Synod this week who are debating provision for same sex marriage in church. † Mission Committee tonight. Give thanks for the visit of Bob and Debbie Adhikari. Give thanks and pray for all our mission links. 🌿 Lord help us to see the world in which we move, working, shopping, leisure time, as our mission field as we live for you.

Allan & Anne Dawson *Residents of Delamere Road*

Wednesday 7 June

☉ Pray that no one will feel put off from voting tomorrow because they think their vote won't matter. Commit to the Lord the outcome of the election. 🌿 Pray for the fellowship at Christ Church Colshaw, that with eyes fixed on Jesus they will be a blessing to each other and their neighbours. 🌿 Pray for the voters of Tatton Constituence and for the Lord's hand upon the person who will be elected as our MP.

Tony & Carol Dawson *The residents of Derwent Drive*

Thursday 8 June

☉ **World Oceans Day** (Care) Pray that our new government will not sideline environmental issues. May they recognize that the welfare of people depends on the health of our environment. † Pray for Hampers of Hope 'Befrienders' and their clients. 🌿 Give thanks for the welcome Hampers of Hope have had in Fallibroome School, pray for a good partnership with them in Religious Studies lessons and in food collection.

Malcolm & Julia Dean *Residents of Dinglebrook Grove*

Friday 9 June

☉ Pray for the 12,000 fishermen in the UK's fleets, giving thanks for their harvest. Pray for the future of the industry following Brexit negotiations. † Pray that tomorrow's LIFT Tea with Val Furber will be a time when new ladies can be encouraged to join our fellowship. 🌿 Pray for our new MP and for all those who have been elected to Parliament for the first time.

Alan Derbyshire

Residents of Dunham Road

Saturday 10 June

☉ Pray that the multinational crew of Logos Hope will be used to encourage Jamaican Churches to have a world vision. † Pray for those who are preparing for Confirmation with Bishop Libby on 18th June. 🌿 Pray for God's Spirit to watch over Styal Prison; prisoners, staff and voluntary helpers. Pray that programmes of restorative justice will be effective.

Gareth & Tracey Brown *Residents of Chamberlain Drive*

Trinity Sunday 11 June

☉ I bind unto myself the name, the strong name of the Trinity; By invocation of the same. The Three in One and One in Three, Of whom all nature has creation, Eternal Father, Spirit, Word: Praise to the Lord of my salvation, salvation is of Christ the Lord. (St Patrick's breastplate) † Give thanks for the link we have with Colin and Ikekie and God's work in Turkey. We look forward to their visit to us at the end of July. 🏠 Pray that we will use all the opportunities we have to be involved in and strengthen community in Handforth, and that as Christians representing Churches Together in Handforth, our input will be a witness to God's care and concern for every aspect of life.

Liz Donoghue

Residents of Edlestone Grove

Monday 12 May

☉ Pray that the impact which Colin and Ikekie have had on many couples through their marriage intensive teaching will be of longlasting benefit. Give thanks for the children who come to Ignite Club at the Grange Primary School. Pray for ways to further encourage them in faith. Pray for counsellors and groups who help the many people, particularly younger girls who struggle because their identity derives from false body image or sexuality.

Bernard East

Residents of Elm Grove

Tuesday 13 June

☉ Local Government elections are due in Nepal tomorrow, the first in many years. Pray for a peaceful outcome and for Christian Nepali now becoming involved in politics there. † Pray for Steve, John, Ian and Jim as they meet this evening to review the preaching ministry at St Chad's. Pray that all who teach us will continue to 'rightly handle the word of God'. 🏠 Give thanks for local gyms and fitness centres. Pray that users will also seek spiritual health.

Hilary Elbourne

Residents of Elton Close

Wednesday 14 June

☉ **World Blood Donor Day** Give thanks and pray for those who work for the transfusion service and the lives they save. Pray for more donors to come forward. † Pray for Dianne Armstrong and the team who take monthly services in Eden Mansions. May they be a blessing to residents and their families and to staff. 🏠 Give thanks for AGE UK. Pray for their staff and volunteers as they enable older people to maintain their independence and dignity.

Brenda Evans

Residents of Elworth Way

Thursday 15 June

☉ Pray that retired Christian Workers, particularly ladies with no immediate family, will find both the fellowship and also practical help they need to continue to live fulfilled lives. † Pray for the children and families who come to Rhyme Time. Pray for Liz Donoghue as she leads this work and carries many other responsibilities at St Chad's. † Pray for Door to Door Salesmen. May they be seen as people trying to earn a living not just nuisances.

Alex & Betty Fairweather Residents of Fairywell Close

Friday 16 June

☉ Give thanks for increasing numbers of positive contacts coming through the Bible Correspondence Course in Turkey. Pray for God's wisdom and protection for those, like Colin, who follow up initial contacts. † Pray for the customers, staff and clients at Aroma Cafe and for the Traidcraft Stall which is open on Fridays. † Pray for Street Pastors in Manchester and other centres. Friday nights are a peak time for their ministry.

Dawn & Connor Fairweather Residents of Ferndale

Saturday 17 June

☉ Pray for those who will be ordained as Priests in Chester Cathedral today including Jeremy Bentliff who will be continuing as Curate in Moreton. † Give thanks for everyone who gives regularly to St Chad's. Pray that all who are able to make the commitment will give including Gift Aid. 🏠 Pray that Handforth may be seen as a disability friendly village where those living with disabilities will be given the help they need and be treated with respect.

Gavin & Pauline Ferguson Residents of Finney Close

Sunday 18 June

☹ **Tear Fund** ask us to pray for the restoration of family life, particularly through providing safe local water supplies. In Sierra Leone, recovering from the Ebola crisis, Lamin, 13 yrs, has to care for 3 younger siblings. Give thanks that a new village well gives Lamin time to go to school again. 🗨️ Pray for Bishop Libby's visit to us today and that those who will be confirmed may truly know the power of God's Spirit in their lives. 🏠 **Father's Day** Pray for all those who carry the responsibility of fatherhood. Pray that those whose experience of an earthly father is not good may find true love and care in knowing God as their heavenly Father.

Lillian Firth

Residents of Finney Drive

Monday 19 June

☹ Tearfund partners Scripture Union provided the well in Lamin's village. Give thanks and pray as they help many other similar communities. † Pray for the Hampers of Hope centres in Handforth, Colshaw and Lacey Green and for their Money Management counsellors. 🏠 Pray for God's blessing on the Cheshire Show and for the contacts which the Agricultural Chaplaincy team will have there.

Margaret Firth *Residents of Finsbury Way*

Tuesday 20 June

☹ Tearfund ask us to pray for peace in the Kasai region of the Democratic Republic of Congo, where with violence increasing, 1.3m people have been displaced † Give thanks that we have Bible Study notes readily available for us. Pray that daily Bible reading will be seen as the norm for Christians. 🏠 Give thanks and pray for those who farm locally. Farming in a semi-urban area has particular difficulties.

Margarita Forber *Residents of Foden Walk*

Wednesday 21 June

☹ Pray for God's Kingdom to come in NE Africa where living conditions are poor and persecution of Christians intense. (Crosslinks and Feba Radio prayer requests) † Pray for the fellowship at Christ Church Colshaw, giving thanks for those who prepare notice sheets, play and lead intercessions. 🏠 Give thanks for the businesses which provide local employment. Pray that all employers will work to provide for the safety and welfare of their workforce.

Noel & Gill Foulkes *Residents of Frodsham Way*

Thursday 22 June

☹ **Christians Against Poverty** ask us to pray for clients under pressure; parents dreading summer holidays and those where money troubles are causing family breakdown. † Pray for wisdom for our Resources Committee. Give thanks for major work completed but there is still a lot to do to maintain our premises. 🏠 Give thanks for the enjoyment many find in local choirs. May their music also give praise of God.

Mark Fox *Residents of Gawsforth Way*

Friday 23 June

☹ Pray for the leaders of Christian Camps and Holidays. This is a busy time for them as they finalise their teams and activity programmes. † Pray for the Men's Breakfast tomorrow as Keith Wood shares with us how God is at work amongst the Chinese diaspora. 🏠 Pray for those who have to live with chronic pain. For wisdom in the use of painkillers so that addiction is avoided.

Jal Framji *Residents of Goodrington Road*

Saturday 24 June

☹ **Eid**, the Muslim festival ending their fasting month, begins tomorrow. Pray that Muslims who have had an encounter with Jesus over the past month will meet Christians who can help them to faith in Him. Give thanks and pray for our Wardens, Steve and David, that they will know God's presence in every aspect of their lives. **Wilmslow Wells Garden Walk** today. Give thanks for those who by sharing their gardens bring pleasure to their visitors and clean water to many people in Africa.

Steve & Val Furber *Residents of Goostrey Close*

Sunday 25 June

☹ Give thanks that there are those in government and the authorities in Pakistan who are seeking justice for minority groups, including Christians. However violent Islamist groups oppose any changes such as revision of the Blasphemy Laws used against Christians. Pray for determination and protection for those who work for justice and for Christians facing a death sentence on false charges. † Give thanks for our Sidespeople. Pray that they will have discernment in recognising and welcoming newcomers. 🏠 **Day of the Seafarer** Give thanks for the many blessings which come to us because we are an Island Nation; for the 'harvest of the sea' and for the pleasure of seaside holidays. Pray for our fishermen and all seafarers.

Sheila Gardener

Residents of Gowy Close

Monday 26 June

☹ Pray for those who are victims of torture. Give thanks for those who risk their own lives to highlight their plight. Pray that in their dealings with countries where torture is still carried out, our government will not turn a blind eye to such abuses. † Pray that safeguarding measures at St Chad's will be dealt with sensitively and effectively. 🏠 Give thanks for the restoration of the 378 bus service. Pray that decisions concerning cuts to public transport will take account of the needs of those who are dependent on them.

Bob & Margaret Garner Residents of Grangeway

Tuesday 27 June

† Feba ask us to pray for the expanding work of Community Radio in Nepal. Pray for the communities where Bob and Debbie Adhikari are bringing the gospel for the first time. ☹ Pray for the 'It's Your Move' leavers assembly at Wilmslow Academy (Dean Oaks) today. † Give thanks that road traffic accidents in UK are among the lowest in the world. Pray that all road users will be vigilant and show care for other users.

David & Valerie Gilbert Residents of Grason Avenue

Wednesday 28 June

† Pray for those so desperate to escape from conflict and persecution that at great risk they commit their lives to people smugglers. Give governments the wisdom and courage to stop this evil. (CARE) ☹ Give thanks and pray for those who handle our account at St Chad's and ensure our bills are paid. † Thank God for those who serve in our Armed Forces and for our local Cadet Corps. Pray for those who care for their physical and mental health as they are called to work in many stressful situations.

Margaret Gill

Residents of Green Drive

Thursday 29 June

✳ The elite of North Korea attend Pyongyang Technical University which is staffed by overseas Christians. Pray the staff may be as wise as serpents and as innocent as doves as they live and work in this otherwise 'closed' country. † Give thanks for the way our church gardens have recovered after the building work - and for those who maintain them. 🏠 Give thanks for the community spirit in Gwynneth Morley Court and the witness of Christians living there.

Matthew & Lia Greatrix Gwynneth Morley Court

Friday 30 June

☹ In Kenya (and much of Africa) there is only one one trained pastor for more than 1000 Christians. Pray for a continued growth of theological training that God's people may be well fed. (Crosslinks) † Give thanks for those who keep our church and halls clean and attractive. 🏠 As road traffic volumes continue to increase, pray for honesty in the assessment of the dangers from air pollution and boldness in the actions needed for its control.

Catlin, Callum, Lowen, Coby & Dexter G. Hall Road

Saturday 1 July

☹ Pray for those (20) who will be ordained as Deacons in Chester Cathedral tomorrow, including Fiona Robinson who was with us for part of her training. † Pray for the children who come to St Chad's and their families, giving thanks for the way they enjoy Sunday Club with Carole Harding and her team. 🏠 Pray for Handforth Parish Council as they respond on our behalf to many difficult planning applications.

Donna Gleeson

Residents of Hallwood Road

Trust Me

I HAVE ALWAYS HAD POOR EYE SIGHT and have worn glasses since I was a child. Christmas two years ago I started with a pain in my right eye. Some days the pain was absolutely excruciating. I lay with my eyes closed until the pain passed hours later. One afternoon I sensed that someone had come into my room and sat on the edge of my bed. I turned and saw a figure in white. It was Jesus. The next evening the same thing happened again and He turned to me. His face was full of light, love and peace. "You really do care then?" "I care very much." "Why the pain?" "I want to make you more like Me." A few days later He appeared again as I was crying with the pain. He knelt down and held me close.

Later that year (2015) I had a cornea transplant done privately to avoid a long wait at a cost of £6,500, every penny given to me by generous friends. It was hoped I would have good sight after that but I could hardly see at all in that eye and had to give up driving. A scan showed a blocked blood vessel and a hole in the retina.

In February of this year the surgeon removed the last of the stitches and I was speechless!! I could see!! Certainly not perfect but better than almost no sight at all. It was a miracle!

In difficult times I have felt God say to me, "Trust Me. It is easy to trust when everything is going well. Anyone can do that." As I face other serious health problems it is an opportunity to trust and not be afraid.

Margaret Wood

WHEN I SAY... "I am a Christian" I'm not shouting "I'm clean livin'"
I'm whispering "I was lost, Now I'm found and forgiven.
When I say... "I am a Christian" I don't speak of this with pride.
I'm confessing that I stumble and need Christ to be my guide.
When I say... "I am a Christian" I'm not trying to be strong.
I'm professing that I'm weak and need His strength to carry on.
When I say... "I am a Christian" I'm not bragging of success.
I'm admitting I have failed and need God to clean my mess.
When I say... "I am a Christian" I'm not claiming to be perfect,
My flaws are far too visible but, God believes I am worth it.
When I say... "I am a Christian" I still feel the sting of pain.
I have my share of heartaches, so I call upon His name.
When I say... "I am a Christian" I'm not holier than thou,
I'm just a simple sinner who received God's good grace, somehow!

by Carol Whimmer

Services This Month

Sunday 4th - Pentecost

9.00 am Morning Prayer
10:30 am Holy Communion
6.00 pm Rhema

Wednesday 7th

10.30 am Guest - Katy Thomas

Sunday 11th - The Life of Jesus

9.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Morning Praise
6.00 pm Rhema

Wednesday 14th

10.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 18th - Messengers

10.00 am Joint Service with Bishop Libby
6.00 pm Rhema

Wednesday 21st

10.30 am Morning Worship

Sunday 25th- Messengers of Love

9.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Morning Worship
6.00 pm Rhema

Wednesday 28th

10.30 am Holy Communion (CW)

Vicar

Revd Steve Burmester 01625 250559

Associate Minister

Revd John Knowles 01625 526531

Readers

Jim Lethbridge 01625 520815
Ian Pettigrew 0161 4394737

Wardens

David Gilbert 01625 250485
Steve Furber 01625 522370

Administrator

Liz Donoghue 01625 532145

Funeral Verger

Roey Knowles 01625 526531

Safeguarding Officer

Peter Armstrong 01625 525774

Treasurer

Chris Birch 01625 251018

Musical Director

Gareth Brown 01625 533303

Pastoral Work Coordinator

Carol Cutts 01625 527659

Prayer Ministry Coordinator

Dalene Moore 01625 540116

Praise & Play Coordinator

Sheila Millar 01625 525138

House Groups Coordinator

Steve Burmester 01625 250559