

inspire

JULY-AUG 2017

YOUR LIFE AT ST CHAD'S CHURCH

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2 July - 29 August 2017



8th JULY
Garden Party



Dayspring from on High ...

As I write, today is the summer solstice, the longest day. We've also been having a mini heat-wave in Britain and sun is hot as it shines down on us. It brings us warmth and light and we generally feel more upbeat and happy about things. It allows us to do events like our Garden Party on 8th July and community festivals. We often find more time to rest from the busyness of life and take a holiday to find refreshment. Over the summer let's make time to enjoy rest. Both Light and Rest are images given to us in the Bible of God's relationship to us. In the Magnificat, Mary says, about the birth of Jesus, 'The Dayspring (sunrise) from on high hath visited us' ... and Jesus, the light of the World says: 'Come to me all who are weary and I will give you rest for your souls.' My prayer for us this summer is that each of us will see more of the Son of God at work in our lives and know his Rest, which is light and easy and not burdensome.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Burmester'.

Revd Steve Burmester Vicar, St Chad's Church



T.ed - As most of you know, we had a wonderful visit from Bob and Debbie Adhikary in March. Rob Moore wrote an article from his perspective, being part of the men's group who had a visit from Bob. It seemed appropriate therefore to include one from the perspective of the women's group who enjoyed a visit from Debby. It is written by Jo Burmester. It's taken a while to include it, apologies for that.

I am also very happy to share a poem by our very own poet; Judy Adshead. It blessed me to find out about her gift and be able to share some of her work with you. Hopefully there will be more to come in the future.

As ever your contributions will be welcomed please send them to dalenemoore2@gmail.com by the 10th of the month.

Dalene Moore, Inspire's Editor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dalene Moore'.

Getting to know you

David Gilbert



I came to Handforth in 1966 following my marriage to Valerie at St. Andrew's in Crewe and lived in Coniston Drive. We first at-

tended St. Chad's when David Lumb was the vicar.

I was born in Lincoln where my father was in the RAF during the war and attended a local primary school and later, Lincoln Grammar School - I was a regular member of the Crusaders, a Bible reading class and later the Scripture Union. In 1953 my father was moved to Lytham St. Annes and I transferred to King Edward School in St. Annes on Sea.

In 1956 I joined the Westminster Bank in Blackpool and later Fleetwood.

In 1958 I signed up for National Service and spent almost 2 years in the RAF Mountain Rescue which at times could be very difficult, but rewarding when helping people in difficulty.

On release from the RAF I rejoined the bank in Preston but soon after, moved with my parents to Northwich and joined the bank in Crewe, where I met my wife, Valerie.

After our marriage I was transferred to Manchester, hence our move to Handforth, where we stayed for 7 years.

I had two more moves, to Chester and Crewe, returning to St. Andrew's for 3 years. A further move to Stockport resulted in our return to Handforth in 1979 when we purchased our current home. I later became Manager of the National Westminster Bank in Handforth Precinct and ended my working life in Manchester.

Valerie and I rejoined St. Chad's in Peter Isherwood's day and have attended regularly since Steve became our Vicar. I have been a sidesperson for 3 years and last year became a Church Warden and I will continue to do all I can to support St. Chad's.

My main interest, apart from my family, is gardening, having been Chairman of Handforth Gardening Society for over 10 years. I also like to help with keeping the Church Garden a place where people can enjoy the colour and the planting.

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:

Administrator - Steve Burmester

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 & 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.

Bats in the Belfry

Three Vicars from Churches Together were having a quiet coffee together in Aroma Cafe.

One complained that he's been having trouble with bats in the belfry.

The second agreed that he too has had this problem, they have even become quite tame and fly around in the vestry.

The third admitted that is a problem no longer his. On enquiring as to how he managed this, he told them: I baptized all mine, made them members of the church and haven't seen them since!





*A perspective on
Debbie's visit to
St Chad's*
by Jo Burmester

On the 19th of March, When Debbie and Bob arrived in Handforth, I invited Debbie to come to the women's bible study meeting and share her story with us. As the other half in this partnership of mission and evangelism, Debbie's story is amazing and inspiring. She told us a little of her early life as a Christian and her sense of calling to the life of a missionary, but when she met Bob she was heading in the direction of Pakistan.

God obviously had plans for Debbie and Bob which neither of them quite expected, but Debbie's willingness to give up her own hopes and plans to step way outside of her comfort zone is a challenge to all of us. She described for us the early years in Nepal, no electricity or running water, not a single Christian for many miles and two long years before a single person came to Jesus. It's easy for us to look at them now and see the success of so many converts and churches, but all of that has come at a high cost, and it was sobering to hear of the persecution, beatings, death threats, and the times they just wanted to give it all up. When we feel that being a Christian is difficult, or we are anxious about sharing our faith, I hope

we will remember Debbie and Bob and put things into the right, eternal, perspective. One thing she said which I remember vividly was "If you read the book of Acts, everything that happened in Acts happened to us in Nepal."

During the visit Debbie worked with Bob behind the scenes, putting together the slide shows and video clips which he used in his talks. While Bob is "up front" Debbie quietly gets on with the day to day stuff which enables Bob to fulfil his calling from God. She has raised two children and supported Bob throughout the many years of their ministry in Nepal. It doesn't matter who sees our hard work, it only matters that we do it for God and His glory.

On Sunday morning, after helping Bob with his slides, Debbie paid a visit to our Sunday clubs, teaching them a song in Nepali.

On a personal level, having Bob and Debbie staying with us was a joy. Debbie is a strong, funny and wise woman of God and I was blessed and inspired by getting to know her.

Sunday 2 July

☉ St Chad's has committed to praying for and supporting financially True Freedom Trust which offers biblically based teaching and counselling on sexuality and addiction and help for those affected by same sex attraction. † Pray that we will know how to hold together grace, truth and love, particularly in regard to sexuality and relationships. 🏠 On Disability Sunday pray that 'equality' legislation will be matched in an accepting and caring society.

Steve, Charlie & Hanna Greenlees Hampson Crescent

Monday 3 July

☉ Pray for Jonathon Berry, TFT Director and Rob Wood, Teaching Assistant. † Pray that improved disability access at St Chad's will be matched by personal care. 🏠 Give thanks for Stanley Hall Park.

Barbara Gunshon Residents of Handforth Road

Tuesday 4 July

☉ Pray for the USA, for President Trump and his advisors and for its changing international relations. † Pray for Leavers Assemblies in local schools. 🏠 Pray for good communities in residential apartments.

David & Chris Hall Residents of Hanna Court

Wednesday 5 July

☉ Pray for Christian students witnessing to international students in Manchester this month. † Pray for Carole and the children at Sunday Club. 🏠 Pray for strength for teachers looking to the end of term.

Carole Harding Residents of Harefield Road

Thursday 6 July

☉ Pray for Christian broadcasts bringing hope to the people of Yemen, trapped by a bitter proxy war. † Pray for those who come to the Handforth Hope Centre. 🏠 Give thanks for the Royal British Legion and Help for Heroes supporting former service personnel.

Zee & Jon Hardisty Residents of Hassall Way

Friday 7 July

☉ Pray for CoE General Synod this week-end, same sex marriage is again being considered. † Give thanks for our church gardens, pray for the gardeners. 🏠 Pray for couples who need help in parenting.

Ellen, Edwin & Henry Hardisty Residents of Healty Way

Saturday 8 July

☉ Pray for churches in Stockport Deanery, several of which are in vacancy † Pray for all the families who come to today's Messy Garden Party 🏠 Pray for families threatened by divorce proceedings.

Alec & Anne Harris Residents of Helsby Way

Sunday 9 July

☉ **Sea Sunday** Pray for 'those who go down to the sea in ships; and those who care for their physical and spiritual welfare. As Josh Carlson and his family come to the end of their first year in Durham, give thanks for the way the Lord has provided for them. † Pray for the possible placement of a Curate at St Chad's next year. 🏠 Give thanks for the sheltered accommodation provided in Henbury Road and pray for the residents with special needs living there and their carers.

Joyce Holland Residents of Henbury Road

Monday 10 July

☉ Pray for the Carlson family as they look to return to Cheshire next year when Josh will be a Curate. † Pray for St Chad's Pastoral Care network 🏠 Pray for Manchester in the light of the 22/5 bombing.

Gene Holt Residents of Hereford Drive

Tuesday 11 July

☉ Pray with Scripture Union for ways to reach 95% of children with no knowledge of the Bible. † Pray for the PCC as they meet this evening. 🏠 Give thanks for tennis and other facilities in Handforth.

Arthur & Margaret Holt Residents of Hilbre Way

Wednesday 12 July

☉ Pray with CARE for those who work in medicine and health care. † Pray for several members of St Chad's who work in healthcare. 🏠 Give thanks for our local Health Centres and pray for their staff.

Clare Hornby Residents of Hill Drive

Thursday 13 July

☉ Pray for those in danger of human trafficking, for those who work to curb this trade and to help its victims. † Give thanks for Alcoholics Anonymous. Pray for the weekly AA meetings at St Chad's. 🏠 Give thanks for Meriton Road Park and the work of its 'Friends'.

John & Denise Horrocks Residents of Hooton Way

Friday 14 July

☉ Pray for France, its new President Macron and his government. † Pray for those who will use Aroma Cafe today. 🏠 Pray for those who will come to worship in South Manchester Mosque today.

Jenny Ithell Residents of Hope Avenue

Saturday 15 July

☉ **World Youth Skills Day** Pray for a world where all young people can fulfil their potential. † Pray for young people you know whose lives are in transition. 🏠 Pray for God's blessing on Handforth Garden Show at St Chad's today.

Marjorie Jackson Residents of Howty Close

Sunday 16 Jul

☺ Jane is working on a new edition of Booyataa, the Fula language gospel paper. Pray for her relationship with her Fula language helpers, some of whom are Muslims. Jane's earlier work was with Fula people in Senegal. † Pray for Jane in her home life in Dawlish; keeping an eye on Mum, Jean, and helping Syrian refugees there. 🏠 Give thanks for the contact we have with the Seashell Trust through Aroma Cafe. Pray for God's blessing on the work of the Trust, the carers and the residents.

Jim & Pat Jones

Residents of Hunters Close

Sunday 23 July

☺ Over the next few weeks thousands of children and young people will be joining Christian camps and holidays. Pray for safety, good fun and that through deepening relationships young people will meet with Jesus through the lives of the Leaders. † Pray that we will meet with Jesus in new ways through the holiday period. 🏠 Pray that families who cannot afford to go away on holiday will find positive things they can do together without getting into debt.

Sally Kingsford

Residents of Kenilworth Avenue

Monday 17 July

☺ Pray for Wycliffe translators in Senegal working to publish the **Wamey** New Testament there next year. † Pray for Christ Church Colshaw, for those who go to take services each week and those who get everything ready. 🏠 Pray for those struggling in hot weather. *Liz Kelly*

Residents of Hunters View

Tuesday 18 July

☺ Jane Austen died, aged 41, 200 years ago today. Give thanks for her insights into the human character. (Chester) † Pray that the Diocesan Review will help guide the future of Christ Church Colshaw. 🏠 Give thanks for the service provided by Handforth Library.

Cathleen Kennedy

Residents of Hurlbote Close

Wednesday 19 July

☺ Give thanks with Barnabas Fund for the greater freedom Christians now have in Albania. Pray for their witness in this Muslim background country. † Pray for those preparing our church Notices. 🏠 Pray for the work of the Information Commissioner based in Wilmslow.

Denise Kennedy, Kirsty & Amy

Residents of Irwin Drive

Thursday 20 July

☺ Pray that the RHS Tatton Show will be a celebration of the wonder and beauty of God's creation. † Pray that those who enjoy our church garden will also be drawn into our church. 🏠 Give thanks for all those who work to keep Handforth clean and attractive.

Carole Kenyon

Residents of Jubilee Court

Friday 21 July

☺ Uganda has a Christian majority and Muslims are turning to Christ but the influence of Islam is also growing. Pray! † Give thanks and pray for those who clean our church and halls, and for new helpers. 🏠 Give thanks for businesses based in Handforth, pray for their staff.

Sue Kershaw

Residents of Kelsall Way

Saturday 22 July

☺ Give thanks and pray for Christians taking a lead in rebuilding Nepal after the 2015 earthquake. (TEARfund) † Pray for children who come to St Chad's who will not have Sunday Club through the holidays. † Commit to the Lord planned developments at Handforth Dean.

Jill & Steve Kimber

Residents of Kennet Close

Monday 24 July

☺ Pray that camp leaders will have wisdom to know how to adapt their programmes to changes in the weather and other circumstances. † Pray for John and Roey as they balance family commitments with on-going ministry and 'retirement' time for themselves.

John & Roey Knowles *Residents of Kettleshulme Walk*

Tuesday 25 July

☺ Pray for all those at the Keswick Convention, for the speakers and mission agency staff. † Take time to pray today for St Chad's mission links. 🏠 Pray for Cheshire East Borough Councillors Barry Burkhill and Dennis Mahon.

Feriel Lu Labebedi

Residents of Kingsley Avenue

Wednesday 26 July

† Give thanks for over 1000 children restored to families and communities through the work of **Retrak** in 2016. 🏠 Give thanks for the support Jane receives through Dawlish Christian Fellowship. Pray for that Fellowship. 🏠 Pray for the future of the Cypress House site.

Jane L.

Residents of Kingston Road

Thursday 27 July

☺ Pray for God's working amongst the many 1000's at OM's Teen Street youth challenge this week. † Pray for Colin and Ikekie as they report back to us on their work in Turkey this week-end. 🏠 Give thanks and pray for Spath Lane Residents Association.

Jackie Lawton

Residents of Knowle Green

Friday 28 July

☺ Pray that many will have their faith strengthened and challenged through the Soul Survivor Festival this week-end. † Traidcraft Stall at Aroma today. Pray for a greater awareness of the value of Fairtrade. 🏠 Pray for Cynthia Samson, Chair, and our Handforth Parish Councillors *Jim & Avril Lethbridge*

Residents of Knowle Park

Saturday 29 July

☺ Pray for Manchester University students joining Mission teams this summer. (UCCF) 🏠 Pray for those who make flower arrangements at St Chad's and the ministry of remembrance through flowers. 🏠 Give thanks for U3A, University of the third age.

Janet Lewis

Residents of Ladybrook Grove

Sunday 30 July

☺ Colin and Ikekie have worked in Turkey with Operation Mobilisation, OM, for many years. They use personal links, Bible Correspondence courses and marriage intensives to share the gospel, with a particular focus on SE Turkey and Kurdish people along the tense border with Syria. We welcome them today and pray that our partnership with them will deepen. † Pray for parents who care for children with special needs, not least as their children grow into adulthood.

Anne Long

Residents of Lancaster Road

Monday 31 July

☺ Pray for good personal follow up for contacts from Bible Correspondence courses in remote areas of Turkey. † Continue to pray 'Thy Kingdom come' for St Chad's and Handforth. ☺ Pray that through the summer all road users will be safety conscious.

Rachael & Charlotte McDowell

Residents of Lamerton Way

Tuesday 1 August

☺ Pray for God's enabling for a new Team Leader for OM's work in Turkey † Pray for the preparation of the September Inspire. Now is the time when articles and prayers are prepared. ☺ Pray for our new MP, Esther McVey.

Enid McFall

Residents of Langley Drive

Wednesday 2 August

☺ Pray for the World Athletics Championships beginning in London and for Christian witness there. † Give thanks and pray for those who are covering the role of Verger. ☺ Pray that vandalism will be curbed as everyone is more vigilant.

Anne McFarlane

Residents of Lincoln Road

Thursday 3 August

☺ OM Transform, Summer outreach teams, will be in Turkey and around the Mediterranean this month. Pray for them. † Pray for the helpers needed to keep up with repairs at St Chad's. ☺ Give thanks and pray for the community provided by Thursday Club.

Jacqui, Trudie & Tom McFarlane Residents of Lostock Road

Friday 4 August

☺ Pray for UK Government and EU Ministers involved in Brexit negotiations. † Give thanks and pray for the way IT can enhance our worship, from screen presentations to sermon recording. ☺ Pray for the positive use of Social media in Handforth.

Derek & Helen Malpas

Residents of Lyngard Close

Saturday 5 August

☺ Pray that governments will continue to implement measures from the Paris Climate Change agreement. † Give thanks for the St Chad's Website; pray that it will continue to be a flag ship for our parish. ☺ Pray that local betting shops will act responsibly with customers.

Rev. Will & Sami Marshall

Residents of Malpas Close

Sunday 6 August

☺ OM Ship Logos Hope moves on this week from the Bahamas to Haiti. Pray for the crew as they adjust from a more prosperous environment to one with great needs, that their aim will still be to strengthen and encourage the churches in service to their communities and to widen their vision for God's work. † Pray that we will be peacemakers in our community. ☺ Pray for those who have a gambling addiction.

Stuart & Sheila Millar

Residents of Marlow Drive

Monday 7 August

☺ Pray with Logos Hope crew for the mobilisation of 200 missionaries from the Caribbean in the next 5 years. † Pray for the on-going work of Hampers of Hope. ☺ Pray for those who come to the Hope Centres in Handforth, Lacey Green and Colshaw.

David & Diane Mobbs

Residents of Manchester Road

Tuesday 8 August

☺ A cholera epidemic continues to ravage Haiti. Logos crew can help bring knowledge and hope to the country. † Pray those whose lives seem restricted because of their commitment as carers in their family. ☺ Pray for the work of The Wellspring in Stockport.

Vicki Mobbs

Residents of Marina Close

Wednesday 9 August

☺ Pray for Canon Andrew White's Foundation for Peace and Reconciliation in the Middle East. † Pray for opportunities for St Chad's to be seen outside our walls in the public spaces of Handforth. ☺ Pray for Colshaw Food Bank helping those with hidden needs.

Darlene & Robert Moore

Residents of Marthall Way

Thursday 10 August

☺ Pray for God's protection on Egyptian Christians. Although they now have some government support, Islamist groups see them as an easy target. † Pray for the continued development of Prayer Ministry at St Chad's ☺ Pray for young people doing National Community Service.

Friday 11 August

☺ Pray for scientists who by their work are finding solutions to many health and environmental problems society faces today. † Pray for Tony O'Niell as he speaks at the LIFT Breakfast tomorrow. ☺ Pray for a greater awareness of and resistance to door step fraud.

John Moreton

Residents of Medway Close

Saturday 12 August

☺ Pray that legislation on the 'Protection of Minorities' in Pakistan will not be stopped by Islamists. † Give thanks for Meriton Road Park and the Friends who work to improve its value.. ☺ Pray for greater awareness and tighter control of telephone fraud..

Catherine & Luke Morgan

Residents of Meriton Road

Sunday 13 August

☪ Katharine Norton, Wycliffe Translators in Nigeria, has developed 'Creation Care', as part of a Bible into Action course modeling at her home and in her teaching God's care for creation with good farming practice and minimal environmental impact. Give thanks for the benefits already seen. † Pray that the concept of 'Eco-church' may develop at St Chad's, increasing efficiency and reducing waste. 🏡 Pray for an increasing culture of environmental care and waste reduction in Handforth.

Matthew & Ellie Morgan *Residents of Millbrook Grove*

Monday 14 August

☪ Pray for Bible Society's work teaching biblical principles of leadership with government ministers in Africa. † Give thanks for our good relationship with Eden Mansions and pray for the monthly services there. 🏡 Pray for the staff at Eden Mansions..

Wayne Morrison *Residents of Moorsbrook Grove*

Tuesday 15 August

☪ Pray for Christian Student groups meeting in universities in the Middle East and North Africa (IFES) † Pray for families at St Chad's who have children at universities. 🏡 Pray for those who must make decisions after getting their A Level results this Thursday.

Michelle & Gary Myers *Residents of Moran Close*

Wednesday 16 August

☪ Pray that the Church in China will know how to reach the student E-Generation who seem to live in cyber space. † Pray that we may be a church where students and young people feel welcome and comfortable. 🏡 Pray for Styal Prison

Gracie, Owen & Tiegan Myers *Residents of Moreton Drive*

Thursday 17 August

☪ Pray for the work of Retrak restoring children to their families in Uganda and Ethiopia. † Pray for Ian Pettigrew who has taken over as Chairman of Retrak Trustees. 🏡 Give thanks and pray for The Clink training restaurant in Styal Prison

Stephen & Michelle Nash *Residents of Nantwich Way*

Friday 18 August

☪ Tear Fund give thanks for the way Self Help Groups in Ethiopia have restored dignity and hope to many families. † Pray for Steve and John in their ministry to bereaved families. 🏡 Pray for the work of HMP Thorn Cross for Young Offenders.

Esther Nuttall *Residents of Neston Way*

Saturday 19 August

☪ **Retrak** Give thanks that in 2016 Retrak helped over 1000 children to be reintegrated with their families. The work continues! † Pray for the ministry of those who serve tea/coffee on Sundays and for more willing helpers. 🏡 Pray for those who run our local bus services.

Lynda O'Briane *Residents of Norbury Way*

Sunday 20 August

☪ **God's Garage** Give thanks for the progress the God Squad bikers have made towards a permanent local base and Charity status. Pray for Howie and the leaders in their contact with other biker groups. † Pray that those whose faith has grown through the Rhema services will find the work God has prepared for them to do. 🏡 Give thanks for the Oakmere Singers and pray for all those who give others a strong purpose for living into older years.

Andrea & Martin Paxton *Residents of Oakenclough Close*

Monday 21 August

☪ Pray for Howie as he travels widely to visit and encourage Christian bikers from Russia to Australia. † Pray that Christians returning to work today will know God's presence is as real on Monday as on Sunday. 🏡 Pray for Handforth PCSO Gareth Harding.

Noah & Alice Paxton *Residents of Oaklands Close*

Tuesday 22 August

☪ Pray for the 200 new OM workers now at GO Induction Conference in preparation for their assignments. 🏡 Give thanks and pray for our organ and keyboard players. 🏡 Pray that the display of Speed Recorders will increase road safety in Handforth.

Dennis & Margaret Pepler *Residents of Oakmere*

Wednesday 23 August

☪ **Slavery Memorial Day** Pray that remembrance of the past will stir governments and people to fight against present day slavery. 🏡 Give thanks for our House Groups, pray Leaders will be refreshed † Pray for a greater awareness of the dangers of in-car mobile phone use.

Ian & Susan Pettigrew *Residents of Oakmere Road*

Thursday 24 August

☪ Pray for the 'One Event' Christian Convention and Jonathan Berry. TFT, who will be speaking there. † Pray for Steve as he responds to baptism and wedding enquiries. 🏡 Pray for those awaiting GCSE results today as they plan their further education.

Margaret Rhodes *Residents of Old Hall Crescent*

Friday 25 August

☪ Pray for the war-weary people of Syria and for those who risk their lives to bring them help. † As we give thanks for the Lord's financial provision for our work, pray that we may be wise stewards. 🏡 Give thanks for the Lindow Singers and other local choirs.

Paul & Jane Rickard *Residents of Old Road*

Saturday 26 August

☪ Pray for the 'Forum' conference for Christian Union leaders as they prepare for a new year. † Pray for students who will soon be leaving home for further study. 🏡 Pray for Cheshire East long term planning for waste disposal.

Julie Robertson *Residents of Ollerton Road*

MRS NOAH

I am Mrs Noah. My husband built a boat.

It was so absolutely huge, it surely
couldn't float?

But God Himself decreed the size, be-
cause He had a plan,

That though the whole world had to
drown, yet He would save one man.

One man and his family, and every kind
of beast,

from the very greatest, to the very least.

For sorrow broke the heart of God, and
He was full of grief

At the lawlessness of men and their total
unbelief.

But Noah loved the Lord His God, and
talked with Him each day,

And listened to His word and learned to
see the world His way.

So God gave him instructions and a very
detailed plan,

Even the special wood to use, and then
the work began.

The neighbours scorned him to the skies,
and came to mock and jeer,

He couldn't make them understand that
danger was so near.

One day God said the time had come for
us to go on board,

Along with all the animals and the food
that we had stored.

Soon after that the sky grew dark, and
rain began to pour.

The waters rose beneath us too, till land
was seen no more.

It wasn't very nice in there, the noise, the
smell, the dark !

But we were just so thankful to be safe
inside the ark.

For many weeks we tossed about. We had
no sail or rudder,

So we were thrilled when at long last, the
boat stopped with a shudder.

We had to wait for long weeks more until
the earth was dry,

But then the Lord God spoke to us, "Go
forth, and multiply !"

Life would go on after all, His creatures fill
the earth.

The obedience of Noah had turned away
His wrath.

The first thing Noah did was build an altar
to the Lord,

And offer sacrifice to Him, who saved us
by His word.

And then we saw the rainbow! God's
covenant in the cloud,

His promise that He'd never again destroy
earth with a flood.

That glowing arch of colour, that comes
just after rain,

Tells that as long as earth survives, its
rhythms will remain.

Summer, winter, night and day, seed time
and gathering in,

Oh praise our great Creator, who saves us
from our sin !

Judy Adshead

Rhema

In Scripture there are two Greek words which are translated into the English word 'Word'. The first is *logos* the second is *rhema*. Traditionally, the word *logos* has been used to refer to the written word, the scriptures. *Rhema* is used to describe the spoken word. For example, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word [rhema] that proceedeth out of the mouth of God' (Matthew 4:4).

We have called our evening service *Rhema*, because during the service people often share and speak about what God, the living Word, is doing in their lives.



CAROL DAWSON (The Lady in the wheelchair)

As Carol will be celebrating her 60th Birthday on June 29th, I felt called to contribute a short article about her this month. Many at St. Chad's may only think of Carol as "the lady in the wheelchair" who comes to church Sundays and Wednesdays, but she is a very special person whom it has been my privilege to know for about 25 years.

Carol was an active girl and was confirmed in the local Church. Her eyesight deteriorated during her late teens however, and although she had a job, she was registered blind when she was 20, and went to a Rehabilitation Centre in Torquay for 3 months where she met her first husband Malcom who was a Mancunian. They were married in 1978, and came to live in Handforth 5 years later. They became

regular members of St Chad's.

Carol was widowed in 1999 and a friend of Malcom's moved in to care for her. Tony and Carol were married at St. Chad's in June 2003.

Nine years later, Carol was diagnosed with MS, and she is now totally paralysed in her lower body. She cannot write or feed herself, but is still mentally alert. She greatly appreciates every opportunity to attend services and events in Church, and to meet with other people.

So this "lady in a wheelchair" who has experienced many traumas in her life, and whom I have NEVER heard question "Why me?", is one of the bravest and most special people I know. May she enjoy a very Happy 60th Birthday!

Services in July & August

July

Sunday 2nd July - Oratubg Messengers

9.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Morning Praise
6.00 pm Rhema

Wednesday 5th July

10.30 am Visiting Speaker - Philip Berry

Sunday 9th July - Selfless Messengers

9.00 am Morning Prayer
10.30am Holy Communion
6.00 pm Rhema

Wednesday 12th July

10.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 16th July - Peaceful Messengers

9.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Morning Worship
6.00 pm Rhema

Wednesday 19th July

10.30 am Morning Prayer (CW)

Sunday 23rd July - Wise Messengers

9.00 am Morning Prayer
10.30am Holy Communion
6.00 pm Rhema

Wednesday 26th July

10.30 am Holy Communion (CW)

Sunday 30th July - Fiery Messengers

9.00 am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship
6.00 pm Rhema

August

Wednesday 2nd August

10.30 am Talk

Sunday 6th - Repenting Messengers

9.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Morning Praise
6.00 pm No Rhema

Wednesday 9th August

10.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 13th - Powerful Messengers

9.00 am Morning Prayer
10.30am Holy Communion
6.00 pm No Rhema

Wednesday 16th

10.30 am Morning Worship

Sunday 20th - Humble Messengers

9.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Morning Worship
6.00 pm No Rhema

Wednesday 23rd

10.30 am Holy Communion (CW)

Sunday 27th - Generous Messengers

9.00 am Morning Prayer
10.30am Holy Communion
6.00 pm No Rhema

Wednesday 30th

10.30am An outing

Ministry Leadership Team

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
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Administration

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