



St Helen's Church Magazine

October 2024



Autumn and harvest

The earth is the
Lord's, and
everything in
it, the world,
and all who
live in it;
Ps 24.1



Harvest Service followed by Harvest Lunch
11.00am Sunday 13th – see page 5

Gifts and donations will go to
Jigsaw Food Bank



We do not charge for our magazine but a contribution towards publishing costs would be most welcome.

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Please feel free to contact any member of the PCC or Social Committee if you have a question or suggestion.

www.sthelensdarleydale.org.uk

New website www.darleydale-southdarley-winstler-churches.org.uk

An October Thought

As I sit down to write this thought there has been yet again a news story of water pollution, this time in Leicestershire. Quite rightly pollution is a big issue today. It seems to affect us much more than we realise – quite rightly people want clean air; clean water and clean food. But if we think for a moment about the world we live in at this time, with wars and injustice and various abuses etc. Maybe there are more levels of pollution in the world. Evil is a pollution which at all times and in all places affects our world. Pride, anger, hate, lust, greed – to name but a few are deadly pollutions in our world. We see the effects of this every day on our news programmes. Doesn't it, at times, feel overpowering? What can we do in the face of so much negativity? The simple and yet very challenging answer is – like so many things which suffer pollution we need to start at the source. For Christians, in fact for all people the heart is the source. It's the well spring from which all our thoughts, words and action flow. If our hearts are clean all that comes from us will be clean. That is why we are told in the Beatitudes, "Blessed are the pure in heart they shall See God." It's not easy, is it? Due to our fallen nature, we are so often not really in tune with the call of God. We often seem to try but then we go our own way. Even our season at this time seems to show us things dying, things not growing nor thriving. Yet, we know that in Spring and Summer we will see an outpouring of new life. So, we start from our hearts, trying to be pure and positive. We try to live in the light and hope of the Gospel. If we fall, then we will once more stand in the grace of God. So, let's all remember that we cannot pass the buck in our churches, nor in our community, nor in the country or world. We all have a responsibility to work for the purifying of our hearts, our world and our churches. May the grace of God wash away all that is not of God. May we work for the purifying of our world, and so truly be the children of God.

God bless. Love & Prayers.

Stephen Monk (Revd)

A Mini Thought

In all our church we have a few people doing a lot of work. Wouldn't it be great to see a lot of people doing a little work? Think of the change that would make for the few who do so very much. How can you help, what skills do you have that you can share? There is a real danger that the few will burn out. Please think about how you can help build up the Kingdom of God.

Parishes Weekend

When? 15th November – 17th November

Where? Masson Mill Cromford.

Why? We need to step out and look at what we are going in our parishes and communities. How can we in our rural settings be a force for the Gospel? How can we support each other and how do we want our parishes to grow? The weekend is a mixture of worship, reflection, conversations within our own parishes and with other local parishes. There are two sessions:

- 1) **Friday night 6.30pm to 9.00pm**
- 2) **Saturday morning 9.30pm – 1.00pm**

These are followed by **Sunday Communion at Christ Church Holloway at 11.00am**. You are welcome to all or just individual parts.

But I cannot ask you strongly enough please do support. Find more information on Rural Missions below. More details to come.

Who? Rural Missions

The Signpost Logo



Our logo emphasizes that there is more than one way to engage in mission, just as there are no two villages or village churches that are the same. Our many years of wide experience is helpful to those that want to discover the most appropriate and effective pathways of mission.

A Wealth of Experience

Following 25 years of highly successful short-term evangelistic outreaches around the country in a related organisation, the founders of Rural Missions (formerly Rural Sunrise) introduced a new paradigm for rural mission.

Drawing on that previous experience but combining it with the latest effective methods that secular organisations were using to breathe new life into businesses, and ensuring that everything was founded on theological principles, we set about the task to help rural churches become more missional in ethos and practice.

Today, mission activity has been combined with many years of settled pastoral ministry in rural churches, adding a valuable dimension to the broad experience out of which we can help others who want their church to be good news to their local community.

Harvest Lunch 13th October.



This will be a Ploughman's followed by apple crumble or fruit salad and cream.

The cost is £5 per person.

Please give your name to Penny Dakin or Roz Woodley (the last day to do this is Sunday 6th October). Do let them know any special dietary requirements you have.

October – Harvest Service and Harvest Lunch



Come and join us for our Harvest Festival at St Helen's Church 11.00am on Sunday 13th October

10.40am. Tea, coffee or squash and biscuits will be served before the service.

Harvest Lunch after the service in the hall (Please let us know if you would like to come to the lunch – see page 5)



There are activities for children during the service and a play area for preschool children.

Charity supported: the **Jigsaw Food Bank**.

There is no collection during the service but there will be an opportunity to bring donations of food or money should you be able to and wish to do so.



Jigsaw currently need **tins of meat and fish, coffee, custard, rice pudding and biscuits, laundry powder/liquid, nappies, deodorant and pet food.**



October Diary

Open Door Sunday 6th October



And on the 29th 2.00pm is the
Open Door Light Party!
Everyone welcome!

Chill and Chat with Coffee Toddler Group in St Helen's Church Hall

Thursdays 9.00am to 11am term time only



Coffee bar open for tea, coffee, toast and biscuits throughout the morning. Children's snack followed by singing and story time at 10.15. No charge but donations to cover the costs welcome if you are able.

The church is also open for quiet reflection and prayer

Thursday Coffee Social – most Thursdays

12noon to 2.00pm In St Helen's Church Hall –

a space and time to relax and enjoy good company.

Everyone is welcome. Light refreshments available.

Please bring your own packed lunch.

For more information contact Ann Bradley.



Prayer Meeting Saturday 12th October

9.30 – 10.00am in church

You can pray as you feel led or prepare something in advance. You don't need to pray aloud at all, other than an Amen at the end of a prayer. Don't forget there's coffee/tea and cake in the hall afterwards!



The Saturday Coffee Morning

Saturday 12th September 10.00am in the Church Hall



Home-made scones and cakes and a time to relax with friends. Take time out from Saturday chores and come and join us! Bring a friend or neighbour! Or both!

If you are a baker, a cake contribution would be great!

Monday Lunchers

Salt – 14th October

Pepper – 21st October

11.45 am for 12noon at the Whitworth Terrace Café

For more information contact Kath on 01629 732805



Ecumenical Holy Communion

Friday 11th October 11.00 a.m. at Darley Methodist Church

Come if you can for a time of worship and fellowship with our Methodist brothers and sisters.



Home Groups



Thursday Ecumenical Home Group

Dates in October Thursday 10th and 24th at 7.30pm.

For more details contact Margaret on 735778

Thursday Group led by Diana Wills will not be meeting until after the Alpha Course has finished

For details contact Diana on: dwills@doctors.org.uk

The Worship Group meets most Wednesdays 6.00pm in church, as arranged. Contact Dea Ayling or Stephen and Jayne Walker for more information and if you are interested in joining.



Looking ahead

Bereavement Service –

Sunday 3rd November 3.00pm at St Helen's

Cakes are needed for refreshments after the service. If you can contribute a cake or cakes, please let Roz or Penny know in advance so they can calculate how many will be needed in addition.



Remembrance Service –

Sunday 10th November 10.45am



All items for the next magazine to be with me by the 15th October please: christowndsend2@sky.com

Editor: Canon Paul Hardingham considers the crisis facing Nature

Care for Creation

António Guterres (United Nations Secretary-General) has said that we're at *'Code red for humanity: the alarm bells are deafening, and the evidence is irrefutable: greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel burning and deforestation are choking our planet and putting billions of people at immediate risk.'*

At this time of Creationtide, how are we to respond to these climate concerns?

The world belongs to God:

'The earth is the Lord's and everything in it' (Psalm 24:1). The world is not ours, but God's! We are called to share in care for God's world: *'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.'* (Genesis 1:28). We represent God by governing with the same self-giving generosity that we see in His creation of the earth. This challenges our consumer mindset, that sees the earth's resources as both limitless and existing simply for our needs. For example, the fashion industry uses as much carbon per minute, as a car emits going six times round the world! How can we make a difference in our world?

We belong to Christ:

We also belong to the one who's plan is: *'to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfilment – to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.'* (Ephesians 1:10). We can look forward to the time when God will create a new heaven and a new earth and make everything new. Meanwhile, we are called to serve as He

serves, caring for the earth and our fellow humans, by living simply, recycling, conserving energy and choosing reusable options.

In terms of our world, there is no plan B! God gave us only one planet!



Editor: The Revd Dr Jo White considers the reason for stained-glass windows

Reflecting Faith: Window Glass

Last month I wrote about the Arts and Crafts Movement’s influence in the decoration of churches in Britain. This is often evidenced in the designs of windows – but why do we have so much coloured glass of all shapes and sizes in church buildings?

Stained glass in churches is similar to wall paintings in that it adds colour as well as traditionally serving the purpose of teaching non-literate people the great events and characters of their religion.

But glass is so much more than that.

The techniques used to create these windows have been refined over the centuries, and their intricate beauty has inspired countless artists and designers.

The way the light shines through the glass creates a unique atmosphere that is often described as ethereal or heavenly. In this way, the use of stained-glass windows helps to create a sacred space that is set apart from the secular world.

The light shining through the glass is shown onto the brickwork or stonework surrounding the glass and depending on the original colours, the intensity of the light, the angle of the sun’s rays as well as the height and angle away from the watcher: these can range from vibrantly strong to softly muted.

Hundreds of years ago people saw the changes in light in this way as being very significant. It was thought that the light passing through was transformed or transmuted and because of this it had a healing and revivifying effect on people who placed themselves within its light.

This month

Visit a church on a sunny day and just enjoy the play of light being put on for you. What does it say about God's love for you?



Smile Lines

Signs of our times? Pew-sheet notices that didn't come out quite right...

Would the person who took the church step ladder last week please bring it back, or further steps will be taken.

After Sunday morning coffee, please empty the teapot and stand upside down on the draining board.

Our visiting monster today is the Revd Jack Bains.

Church toilet out of order. Please use floor below.

Worshippers are asked to wail, until the choir has been served Holy Communion.

Pray for continual growth for our teens, that a food foundation will be laid in their lives.

Hymn: 'I am Thin, O Lord.'

When children meet liturgy...

"Give us this steak and daily bread, and forgive us our mattresses."

"Hail, Mary, full of grapes."

"He suffered under a bunch of violets." (Pontius Pilate)

Definitions

CHOIR: A group of people whose singing allows the rest of the Congregation to lip-sync.

HYMN: A song of praise usually sung in a key two octaves higher than that of the congregation's range.

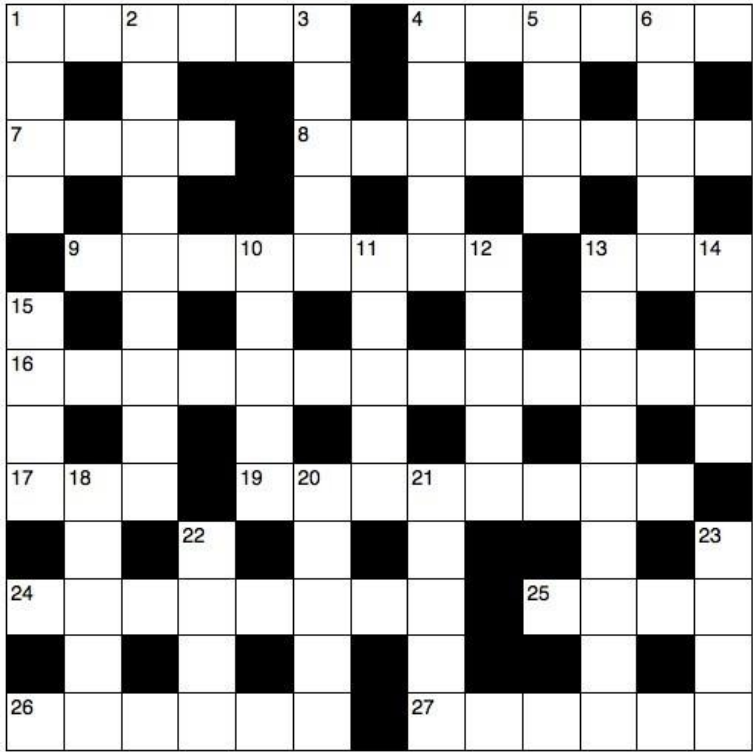
RECESSIONAL HYMN: The last song at a church service, often sung a little more quietly, since most of the people have already left.

AMEN: The only part of a prayer that everyone knows.



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boss

- 1 He must be 'the husband of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well' (1 Timothy 3:12) (6)
- 4 'For we must all — before the judgement seat of Christ' (2 Corinthians 5:10) (6)
- 7 'They reeled and staggered like drunken men; they were at their — end' (Psalm 107:27) (4)
- 8 See 19 Across
- 9 It concerned who among the disciples would be the greatest(Luke 9:46) (8)
- 13 Formed by the Jews in Thessalonica to root out Paul and Silas (Acts 17:5) (3)
- 16 'He has sent me to bind up the — ' (Isaiah 61:1) (6-7)
- 17 Moved rapidly on foot (Matthew 28:8) (3)

- 19 and 8 ' — a great company of the — host appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (8,8)
- 24 Hindrance (Romans 14:13) (8)
- 25 Comes between Luke and Acts (4)
- 26 Empower (Acts 4:29) (6)
- 27 'Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a — !' (John 2:16) (6)

Down

- 1 Sunrise (Psalm 119:147) (4)
- 2 The part of the day when Cornelius the Caesarean centurion had a vision of an angel of God (Acts 10:3) (9)
- 3 He was one of those who returned with Zerubbabel from exile in Babylon to Jerusalem (Nehemiah 7:7) (5)
- 4 'No one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born — '(John 3:3) (5)
- 5 Animal hunted or killed as food (Ezekiel 22:25) (4)
- 6 'He encouraged them — — remain true to the Lord' (Acts 11:23) (3,2)
- 10 Ruses (anag.) (5)
- 11 Jewish priestly vestment (Exodus 28:6) (5)
- 12 Visible sign of what had been there (Daniel 2:35) (5)
- 13 This was the trade of Alexander, who did Paul 'a great deal of harm' (2 Timothy 4:14) (9)
- 14 'This is my — , which is for you; do this in remembrance of me' (1 Corinthians 11:24) (4)
- 15 One of Noah's great-great-grandsons (Genesis 10:24) (4)
- 18 Traditionally the first British Christian martyr (5)
- 20 Relationship of Ner to Saul (1 Samuel 14:50) (5)
- 21 Jacob had one at a place he named Bethel while on his way to Haran, fleeing from Esau (Genesis 28:12) (5)
- 22 Bats (anag.) (4)
- 23 'You strain out a — but swallow a camel' (Matthew 23:24) (4)

Answers – page 19

*Editor: We continue our occasional series looking at the stories
BEHIND some of our favourite hymns.*

HYMN: The story behind ... Come Ye Thankful People Come

*Come, ye thankful people, come,
Raise the song of harvest home!
All is safely gathered in,
Ere the winter storms begin;
God, our maker, doth provide
For our wants to be supplied;
Come to God's own temple, come;
Raise the song of harvest home!*

*We ourselves are God's own field,
Fruit unto his praise to yield;
Wheat and tares together sown,
Unto joy or sorrow grown;
First the blade and then the ear,
Then the full corn shall appear:
Grant, O harvest Lord, that we
Wholesome grain and pure may be....*

By H Alford (1810 – 71)

Very probably, you will sing this well-loved Harvest hymn this month. It was written by the Revd Henry Aldford, DD, a Victorian clergyman who had been a fellow student at Trinity College, Cambridge with Alfred Tennyson, and whose transparent goodness and friendliness seem to have made him liked and appreciated wherever he went.

His ministry began as vicar of Wymeswold, a tiny village in Leicestershire with a badly neglected church. Over 18 years, Henry rebuilt the faltering Christian community, faithfully visiting every person in his parish, and preaching his way through the Bible in sermons that were so clear that everyone could understand him. He

then moved on to the incumbency of Quebec Chapel in London for four years, before moving to the Deanery of Canterbury, in 1857, where he lived until his death in early 1871.

Henry was one of life's good people; gentle, kindly, grateful for everything he had (he used to say 'grace' before AND after each meal), and eager to encourage all those whom he served. He was prodigiously productive: writing something like 50 books. The best known of these was a four-volume exposition of the New Testament, which took him nearly 20 years.

His famous hymn draws upon two of Jesus' parables: the story of the wheat and tares (Mt 13:24-30) and also the story of the seed that grows unbeknown to the sower (Mark 4:26-29). Both are parables drawn from agriculture; both are about the ultimate harvest of our souls before God. During this lifetime we properly give thanks to God for our harvest of His gifts of creation, but we should also reflect on what seed we are sowing in our lives, and what harvest we may expect; as one day God will gather together *only His own* for the eternal heavenly harvest.



The world's migrants are mostly Christians

A new analysis of data by the Pew Research Centre in Washington DC has found that of the more than 280 million people, or 3.6% of the world's population, who are currently international migrants (living outside their country of birth), 47% of them are Christian. They are followed by Muslims (29% of all living migrants), followed by Hindus (5%), Buddhists (4%) and Jews (1%).

Over the past three decades, the total number of people living as international migrants has increased by 83%, outpacing global population growth of 47%.

The report, 'The Religious Composition of the World's Migrants', is based on an analysis of UN data and 270 censuses and surveys to compare migration data from 1990 and 2020.

The analysis found that in Europe, 56 per cent of migrants are Christian. Muslims make up 18 per cent of migrants in Europe, although they make up only 7 per cent of Europe's overall population. Jews, Hindus and Buddhists make up much smaller shares of European migrant numbers.

The Christian migrants in Europe are most often from Russia, Ukraine, and Poland. Many of the Muslim migrants to Europe were born in Turkey, Syria, Morocco, and Algeria. In Europe, Germany and France have welcomed the most Muslim immigrants.

Jews make up just 0.2 per cent of the world's population, but they account for one per cent of all migrants. This means they are the most likely people in the world to live outside their country of birth. In 2020, one in five Jews had moved from their home country. Israel has 51 per cent of all Jewish migrants, owing to its Law of Return. The US has the second largest population of Jewish migrants, and the UK is the third most common destination for Jewish migrants.

The report observes that: "many migrants have moved to escape religious persecution or to live among people who hold similar religious beliefs."

Feeding hungry children in Kenya

Do you know that in Kenya, many parents and caregivers struggle to provide their children with even one meal a day?

As a response to the need, the Kisumu Children Trust has long been feeding as many desperately hungry children as it can in the Kisumu area of Kenya, where food is often scarce and expensive.

The Trust provides a nutritious cooked lunch, and currently gives free daily lunches to 150 children a day. It has served more than 120,000

meals since it began the free meals in September 2020. For 80% of those children, it is the only meal they get that day.

Is it worth it? The headmistress of the local school says that the children are now more attentive in the afternoons, learning is better, and they are getting better exam results.

The Kisumu Children Trust also runs Bible Camps and Bible lessons. The children are eager to learn about God, and many have come to faith in the Lord Jesus.

For the past 20 years the Trust has also run a sponsorship programme. With the support of Christians in the UK, more than 200 youngsters have been accommodated, educated, medically cared for, clothed, and befriended.

As one visitor to Kisumu said: "It was a privilege to see children who have lost parents and family and faced lives filled with hunger and despair become dressmakers, carpenters, nurses, teachers, and more besides. Above all, they have self-belief and the skills to face life's challenges in Kenya with optimism, hope, and Christian values."

The Trust says: "Jesus cares about poor people, and we seek to share His compassion."

The Kisumu Children Trust is a small charity based in Tunbridge Wells. For more details, please visit: <https://www.kisumuchildren.org.uk/> or write to Kisumu Children Trust 36, Beulah Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2NR.

Crossword Answers

ACROSS: 1, Deacon. 4, Appear. 7, Wits. 8, Heavenly. 9, Argument. 13, Mob. 16, Broken-hearted. 17, Ran. 19, Suddenly. 24, Obstacle. 25, John. 26, Enable. 27, Market.

DOWN: 1, Dawn. 2, Afternoon. 3, Nehum. 4, Again. 5, Prey. 6, All to. 10, Users. 11, Ephod. 12, Trace. 13, Metalwork. 14, Body. 15, Eber. 18, Alban. 20, Uncle. 21, Dream. 22, Stab. 23, Gnat.

United Benefice Services October 24

St Helen's:

- 6th** 11.00am Holy Communion
2.00pm Open Door
- 11th** **11.00am Friday Ecumenical Holy Communion**
@ Darley Methodist Church
- 13th** 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.00am Harvest Service
- 20th** **10.00am United Benefice Harvest Service @ St John's**
- 25th** 11.00am Friday Holy Communion
- 27th** 11.00am New Beginnings
Starting with refreshments in the Hall @ 10.30am
2.00pm Open Door Light party

St Mary's:

- 6th** 10.00am Holy Communion
- 13th** **10.00am Harvest Service**
- 20th** **10.00am United Benefice Harvest Service @ St John's**
- 27th** 10.00am Morning Worship

St John's:

- 6th** 4.15pm Café Service
- 13th** No service
- 20th** **10.00am United Benefice Harvest Service**
- 27th** No service

Monday Evening Zoom Sessions: Details and access invitation:

christownsend2@sky.com