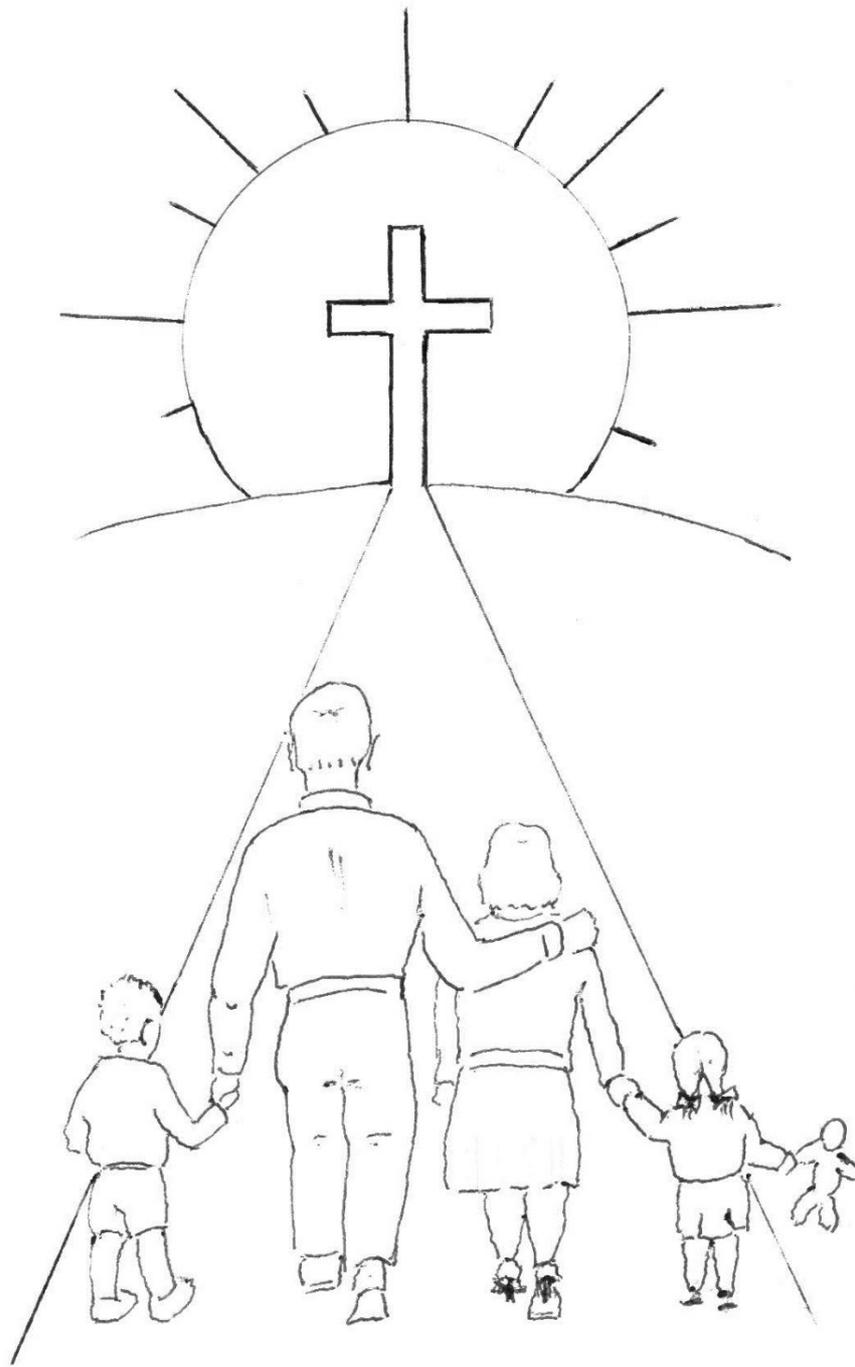


CONTACT

September 2018



Volume 59 - Issue 9
Sawston Free Church – Little Abington URC – Castle Camps URC

Sawston FC Regular Church Activities but please check diary below for full details or contact the relevant group.

Sunday	Every Sunday 1 st Sunday of month 2 nd Sunday of month 3 rd Sunday of month 4 th Sunday of month 5 th Sunday of month	10.30 am 3.00 pm 10.30 am 6.00 pm 6.00 pm 6.30 pm	Morning Worship Messy Church No evening service Holy Communion as part of Morning Worship Quiet Time with God Evening Communion Go4th Praise Service (No evening service
Monday	Alternate - see diary	10.00 am	Craft Group
Tuesday	Term time only	6.15 – 9.00 pm	Boys' and Girls' Brigades
Wednesday	Fortnightly see diary	2.00 pm	Wednesday Fellowship
Thursday	Term time only	10.30 – noon	Time for Tots
Saturday	Last Saturday of month	10.30 am	Monthly Prayer Meeting
For further details of these activities, please contact one of the Elders (see back page). Four housegroups meet regularly. For information contact the Minister or Church Secretaries.			

Three Churches Services and Dates for Your Diary

Date	Sawston	Lt Abington	Castle Camps
Sun 2 Sept	10.30am: Morning Worship - Faith Paulding 3.00pm Messy Church	10.15am: Morning Worship - Mrs Wendy Roe	10.30am: Merchant Navy Day - Rev Norman Setchell
Mon 3 Sept	10.00am: Craft Group (page 15)		
Sat 8 Sept	8am – Workday (page 15)		
Sun 9 Sept	10.30am: Communion - Rev Bruce Waldron 6.00pm Quiet Time - Valerie	10.15am: Morning Worship - Rev Alex Jacob	10.30am: Holy Communion - Dr Janet Bottoms
Sun 16 Sept	10.30am: Morning Worship - Rev Bruce Waldron & Bring and Share lunch 6.00pm Evening Communion - Rev Bruce Waldron	2.30pm: Harvest Festival	10.30am: Family Service - TBA
Mon 17 Sept	10.00am: Craft Group (page 15)		
Sun 23 Sept	10.30am: Launch Shoebox Appeal - Rev Bruce Waldron 6.30pm: Go4th Waldron/Purdy	10.15am: Morning Worship - Mrs Sarah Devereux	10.30am: Morning Worship - Rev Norman Setchell
Sun 30 Sept	10.30am: Morning Worship - Waldron/Purdy		10.30am: United Service at Shudy Camps

This diary appears on the website. If you know of anything else you would like on the web diary, email: contact@sawston.com

Rotas

	Car	Flowers		Car	Flowers
Sept 2	John Conway 833953	Rosemary Livings	Sept 23	Jill Legg 01799 218318	Malcolm Mackintosh
Sept 9	Tim Sparrow 473937	Margaret Wilson	Sept 30	Tony Moss 834220	Margaret Oglesby
Sept 16	Gordon Heald 833983	Mary Simuyandi			

The closing date for **October Contact** is **Friday 14th September.**

**David Nunn is the editor, so please email your items
to contact@sawston.com or anne.nunn@btinternet.com**

Contact

The monthly magazine of
**Sawston Free Church, Little Abington & Castle Camps URC's
United Reformed – Methodist**

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www.sawstonfreechurch.org.uk
www.facebook.com/SawstonFreeChurch

From the Minister's Desk

On the 16th September (morning worship), I've invited Mia and Kate to come to our morning worship to tell us about "Besom Baby Bundles" and how their worship is expressed in this particular service. Mia and Kate send this to help us understand what they are trying to achieve. I hope you can come and hear more.



The Besom in Sawston exists to enable church goers to give their time, skills, money or things to local people who need help.

- Our Baby Bundles team has delighted in being able to provide boxes of baby goodies for local mums over the last 5 years. We meet as a team once every month, currently on a Friday morning during term-time, to put together boxes for babies up to the age of 6 months.
- Inside our boxes we put clean, pressed clothing aged 0-3 & 3-6 months, full packets of nappies, baby wipes, muslins, blankets, plastic eating implements, cups, baby bath gels, bath toys, small books, powder milk if requested and something for Mum such as a luxury bottle of bubble bath or chocolate.
- We also deliver the boxes directly to the mums who need them so we get to meet them and have a quick chat at the door.
- At Christmas time we deliver Christmas hampers to these mums too, to remind them how much God loves them and doesn't forget them.
- We will be visiting Sawston Free Church on September 16th to show you what we do and introduce ourselves; we look forward to seeing you there. Or look us up on the web:

www.besom.com/local-besoms/sawston.

Throwing chips at seagulls to make them go away

"Present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship", writes St. Paul.

St Paul makes it pretty clear that worship is a lot more than coming to church on Sunday. In fact, he probably never thought about worship like that, and here we enter into tricky territory. As your minister, it's my duty to make sure you are motivated to come to church on Sunday morning so I'm on a sticky wicket if I start to say that's not what is most important.

It's easy to tie ourselves up in knots arguing what's most important, and forget that we're doing what Jesus jokingly referred to as "straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel." It is not a competition, any more than asking whether the front or the back wheel is most important on a bicycle. Either way, you're not going to travel too well.

So talking about "practical Christianity" as though it's a moral virtue as opposed to those "pious people" who just want to spend time in church, is just as pointless as talking about being "spiritual Christianity" as though it's a superior discipleship to people who bust their boiler in expressing God's love in practical action. Either side of the argument is akin to throwing potato chips at seagulls to make them go away. Our faith asserts that Jesus was fully God and fully man. He did both, equally.

Our time with God lets us in on how we can serve best with the life we've been given. Our physical service, and our reflecting on it, helps us ground the faith that we are given by the God we come to for direction, strength and motivation.

Leave the action off and our worship gets very self-serving and if that happens, no matter how hard we pray we'll be moving away from God.

But, if we leave the worship off, our actions start to reflect our narrow self-perspective rather than God's perspective. We lose touch with our compass and we are likely to walk really hard and long, in the wrong direction.

Now I sit with another danger. The argument can so easily create another form of pride, and pride is not on either. This is the pride where I sit and judge from my high ground of "moral and spiritual balance":

"He's too practical."

"She's too spiritual."

But me, I'm straight down the middle, balanced, noble... umm except for the pride bit – which of course means I'm not balanced at all. I've actually already started to topple, badly.

So here's another reality. It's not about me, or you, or any one individual. We are all out of whack a bit, somewhere. Jesus formed a community of very imperfect people to carry his message, not a book of regulations, and it is in community that the answer must lie.

So if you are too practical, thank God for the worshippers, honour their mission, and strive to be like them.

And if you are too pious, thank God for the practical, and honour their calling, and strive to be like them

Let the presence of each call the other into question, and praise be to God for the question and challenge.

Let each give thanks for the other, honour their service, and see in them too, the grace and mercy and presence of God.

Let love be the rule; and thanks be to God for all things, united in Him.

All about me, or all about you, Jesus?

Sometimes I worry when I hear people talk about mission.

The conversation that worries me, sounds something like this.

“What can we do to get more people to church? If we do a coffee shop service it might draw people in!”

I saw a sign in front of a church in a city I was visiting recently and it read that one of its aims was to “Attract people from outside the church.” It really jarred with me.

If we do things to try and make the church grow, then we are doing it for ourselves. It’s not different to a bowls club saying, “How can we get more members.” The motivation is our needs.

If we think, from the perspective of God’s love for people around us, “How can I demonstrate the love of God for this person, these people?” then the first and last part of the motivation is the love of God. That’s authentically Christian. He gave himself to the cross for us all, out of the love of God. And it was that self-expression of the unremitting, uncompromising God-love that drew people. What did He say. “If I be lifted up, I will draw all people to me.” The motivation is the being lifted up, the sacrifice on the cross for us. The other is the result.

We must not make the result the motivation. If we become success or outcome orientated, we cannot faithfully follow Christ who emptied himself of everything for you and me.

The question is not “What can we do to get people into our church?” The question is “As God has given us this church, how are we to use what God has given us, to faithfully express the love of God to our community?”

The first motivation gives up because people don’t come flocking in. It doesn’t work (for us).

The second motivation keeps on because its aim is to demonstrate the never ceasing wellspring of God’s love for His creation.

One is conditional, success or outcome driven. It relies on goals and payoffs that “we” achieve.

The other is driven by the eternal unlimited love of God. The achievement was already attained on Calvary.

Footprints Café

Have you tried it yet? It’s cleaner, lighter, brighter, tastier, friendlier, cheaper and more nutritious. It’s great for breakfast and lunch and morning tea and elevenses and afternoon tea or high tea. The Coffee is the best in the village. Good choice Malcolm and Ange and Clare, and I’m a coffee snob.

And if you tried FOOTPRINTS and really like it, have you told it, facebooked it, google rated it, emailed and texted and tweeted and gossiped it?

Please do. No one should miss out on such a ‘you-beaut’ venue as this.

Sorry. Terribly Australian of me. I should have said “It’s positively marvellous.”

Meet Jacob Bali

Dear members of Sawston Free Church, Little Abington URC and Castle Camps URC,

I am Jacob Bali and I would like to introduce myself as the ministerial trainee who will be joining you for the coming academic year of 2018/19. I am 30 years old and I grew up in Kinston-Upon-Thames in South-West London. I was raised in a Christian home and I was introduced to the church from infancy as my maternal grandfather was a Chaplain, uncle was an Anglican Canon and my mother was a URC Elder. I am the youngest of four siblings and I am married to my wonderful wife, Esther. Esther is from South-Korea and is a qualified nurse, with a second degree in music and theology. She is currently studying an MA in Music Therapy with a vision to work as a music therapist.

Regarding my call to ministry, I had a sense that God was calling me to be a minister since the age of seven years old and even when I pursued veterinary science in university, the feeling never left. A turning point came when I had news that a close friend of mine had died in an accident and I had many profound questions that I could not shake from my mind. After a conversation with my minister, I decided to take a gap year, while working as a youth worker in the KURC. During the year I studied TLS LITE and other theological short courses, while also taking Bible studies. I felt hungry to study more about God and the Bible, and my minister noticed. She asked me to lead a prayer service and from that experience I felt with every fibre of my being that I was doing, what I was meant to be doing, exactly where I was meant to be doing it, and I decided to give up on my dream to be a vet and to follow God.

While studying the TLS foundation course I thought that I may be called for some form of ministry and I started the candidating process. I was already familiar with a URC army chaplain and after a conversation he recommended that I put my candidature on hold and try getting some experience as a soldier first to test whether chaplaincy was what God was calling me to. Following prayer and many discussions, I applied for the British Army and was accepted to join the Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment. After working as a mounted dutyman for some time, I received a life changing injury in 2014. During my time at the Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre Headley Court, I discerned that it was the right time to recontinue the candidating process for ministry and my sense of calling to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament was strengthened. Upon completion of the candidating process in 2015, I was offered a place at Westminster College.

Following three years of academic studies, I am now entering my fourth-year placement and I look forward to joining you all soon.

Yours faithfully,



You will no doubt get to meet and work with Jacob a lot over the next nine months, but if you would like to get a chance to say hello to him very early in his placement, we are planning a Bring-and-Share Lunch at SFC on the 16th September. Possibly Jacob will bring his wife Esther with him to meet us all.

Please pray for Jacob as he enters into this very important phase of his "Formation for Ministry" programme.

Bruce

Message from Castle Camps and Little Abington

September is here once again and the harvest was finished earlier than usual, due to the hot dry weather. We hope you enjoyed the holidays and had a relaxing time.



A lot of children will be starting school for the first time, with many changing schools or going to university. We wish you all well, as the new term commences.

We had an interesting United Service at the end of July that was taken by Rev. Bruce Waldron and Rev. Ian Fisher. The same evening, we had our Summer Songs of Praise led by Bruce and we welcomed Richard Hart and the choir of St Mary's Church, Haverhill. The proceeds of the service went towards Richard's grandson, Cayden aged 10, who is having treatment for a brain tumour and is now blind.

On Friday of the same week at St Mary's, Haverhill, there was an evening concert of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat" in aid of Cayden. Six of our members attended and it was a splendid evening; particularly memorable when Cayden opened the show with "Any Dream Will Do."

In early July, Steve Morris from Haverhill, and his son Lee Taylor from Steeple Bumpstead, Cayden's uncle, cycled 243 miles in soaring July temperatures to raise funds for equipment for Cayden and improve his life style. They raised £3000.

Our Harvest Festival is on 14th October and in the evening we are having our Harvest Songs of Praise, when we are hoping to be joined by the Hadstock Silver Band.

We send our best wishes to you all and God's blessing.

Val and Friends.

It has been a difficult month or so for Little Abington URC. Our afternoon services that happen every third Sunday have simply been impossible in the heat. By the afternoon the little chapel is like an oven when the temperature is up around 30C. Added to this we have had some health matters impacting on our church community. But services are still a joy to be a part of and the refreshments afterwards are invariably a great lubricant for good fellowship.



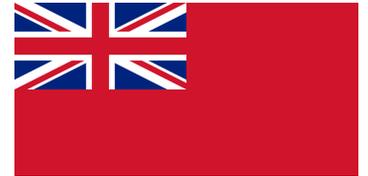
With a Priest now being appointed to the Anglican Group of Seven Churches, I attended the Licensing of the Rev. Iain McColl with our church Secretary Lynne Rieckansky. We are now planning to have two combined services at Abington, one on the 14th October at Gt. St. Mary and then again possibly on the 23rd December. It is easier to warm the chapel than the church in December so perhaps it will be held at the URC.

Bruce



Merchant Navy Day

Please remember the 3rd September and say a prayer for all those who lost their lives at sea during times of war.



With thanks to Captain John Dodsworth, Abington URC

Heroes

Don't speak to me of heroes until you've heard the tale
Of Britain's merchant seaman who sailed through storm and gale
To keep those lifelines open in our hour of need
When a tyrant cast a shadow across our island breed.
Captains, greasers, cabin boys, mates and engineers
Heard the call to duty and cast aside their fears.
They stoked those hungry boilers and stood behind the wheel
While cooks and stewards manned the guns on coffins made of steel.
They moved in icy convoys from Scapa to Murmansk
And crossed the western ocean never seeking thanks.
They sailed the South Atlantic where raiders lay in wait
And kept the food lines open from Malta to the Cape.
Tracked by silent U-boats which hunted from below.
Shelled by mighty cannons and fighters flying low,
They clung to burning lifeboats when the sea had turned to flame
And watched their shipmates disappear to everlasting fame.
I speak not of a handful but 30,000 plus,
Some whose names we'll never know in whom we placed our trust;
They never knew the honour of medals on their chests
Or marching bands and victory and glory and the rest.
The ocean is their resting place, their tombstone is the wind.
The seabird's cry their last goodbye to family and friend.
Freighters, troopships, liners and tankers by the score.
Fishing boats and coasters, 2000 ships and more.
They flew the Red Duster as they sank beneath the waves
And took those countless heroes to lonely ocean graves.
Their legacy is freedom to those who hold it dear,
To walk with clear horizons and never hide in fear.
So when you speak of heroes remember those at sea
From Britain's Merchant Navy who died to keep us free.

David Partridge

There are no roses on sailors' graves
Nor wreaths upon the storm-tossed waves.
No last post from the Royals band
So far away from their native land.
No heartbroken words carved on stone
Just shipmates' bodies there alone.
The only tributes are the seagull's sweeps
And the teardrop when a loved one weeps.
Amen.



Prayer Diary for September

“Please take some time out, somewhere each day, to bring the churches’ mission and ministry to God”

Week 1

- Messy Church are meeting this first Sunday in September and the theme is the feeding of the 5000
- As the children go back to school, please keep the schools communities in your prayers. Monday 3rd is often used for Staff Training Days.
- Remember our Sawston Brigades as they reform. A Staff meeting will be held on the first Tuesday in September and then back to it on the 11th.
- On Thursday night the Sawston elders will be meeting. Please pray for them.
- Many parents will be taking children to school for the first time. Some students will be moving to Secondary Schooling for the first time this week.
- Pray for pupils and staff coming into new schools for the first time.

Week 2

- Brigades and Time for Tots will be starting again. Please pray for staff and for families as they meet.
- Our church meeting on Monday 10th will need to deliberate on some significant matters. Pray for the meeting. Come to the meeting in prayerfulness.
- Jacob Bali will be meeting with Bruce for the first time. Please pray for them both.
- On Tuesday, Castle Camps elders will be meeting.
- On Thursday, Bruce will be meeting with Rev Iain McColl to discuss shared mission with Anglican churches in the Abingtons.
- Pray for Messy Church and T4T families to be able to nurture faith at home in fun ways that bring families together and closer to God.

Week 3

- Visitors to Sawston Free Church on Sunday will be representatives of BESOM Baby Bundles. It is a local mission, packing up baby essentials for families struggling with the means to purchase essentials for their babies.
- Little Abington URC will be celebrating their Harvest Festival on Sunday.
- Castle Camps URC will be holding their church meeting on Wednesday. Please keep them in your prayers.
- Please pray for the Messy Church teams putting together the programme for the October Messy Church. Please pray for them as they wrestle with the October theme of Harvest, and the Five Values of Messy Church, **Hospitality, Creativity, Celebration, Christ-centred and All-Age.**
- Thursday evening this week there will be a meeting at Fulbourn URC to discuss the future shape of ministry deployment in the Cambridge Area Partnership. Please pray for the delegates from our churches attending that meeting, that is, our minister and church secretaries.

Week 4

- Our churches will be starting to think about the HOLY HABITS Programme for next year as we consider how to respond to the “Walking the Way: Living the life of Jesus today” programme.
- Please pray for our Moderator and Training Officer as they wrestle with the Walking the Way programme for our Synod.
- Castle Camps URC will be travelling to the Waterbeach Recycling Centre to gain a better understanding of how to care for our planet.
- On Friday, Greener Sawston will again be using the SFC back hall to turn donated waste materials into reusable cloth bags that will be given away to encourage people to use reusable rather than disposable plastic.
- On Saturday, the URC’s Eastern Synod, Faith In Action Committee will be meeting to discuss ways of putting our faith into practical steps to preserve our planet and work for justice and compassion.

HOLIDAY CLUB 2018 “Seaside Spectacular”

We have just come to the end of our Seaside Spectacular Holiday Club for this summer – a joint venture involving Sawston Free Church, Our Lady of Lourdes and St Mary’s, and held at Bellbird School. What an amazing experience – for both volunteers & children! Some comments from our volunteers ...

There were two school teachers that pass us on the way to the mobile classrooms, they could hear what was happening in the hall and said what a fabulous time the children were having. High praise from professional teachers!

Refreshments was my responsibility. OLOL kindly donated the cakes/biscuits/jellies. As one child described the jelly- ‘seaside in a cup!’ It consisted of blue & green jelly (representing the sea) with a jellybaby sunbathing & biscuit crumbs representing the beach. What amazing imaginations!

It was so easy to get ‘lured in’ with the puppet shows/seaside characters/songs, etc.

Nicola has an amazing presence with the children and, together with Faith, helped the whole experience run smoothly. Everyone had their part to play and helped make the whole week such fun.

The children went away having learnt the Christian message through the songs/stories, etc.
Roll on 2019!!

Anne Nunn

Everything was so well organised, the children were busy right from the minute they arrived each morning. They were assigned to an age related group so got to know their group leaders over the week. There were quiet sitting down crafts, more energetic activities, fun songs and bible stories. Lots of team games and skills tests outside in the playground with plenty of free time at lunchtime. The highlight of the day was snack time when they were offered drinks with something fun to eat i.e. cakes, jellies, chips, ice cream. Each day was fun for the children and adults alike.



Wonderful to witness how many different ways you can bring the message of God into children's lives.

The fun and the energy that went into that week was amazing.

Another wonderful week, all thanks to Nicola and Faith's hard work and brilliant organisation. We had amazing enthusiastic children who in spite of the weather being so hot, still played football at the hottest time of the day!

The leaders and helpers were so patient and kind and joined in with gusto!

Thanks to Our Lady of Lourdes as each day trays of goodies arrived in the morning at 8.30am to sustain helpers and children alike. All the food was based on a seaside theme and was much enjoyed and appreciated.

Thanks to everyone who prayed for us through the week so we would be safe and in God's hands all the week long.

We were, and give thanks to Him for this.



=====

Seventeenth Century Nun's Prayer

Lord, thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will some day be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody; helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom it seems a pity not to use it all, but Thou knowest Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details; give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by. I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of other's pains, but help me to endure them with patience. I dare not ask for improved memory, but for a growing humility and a lessening cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a saint-some of them are so hard to live with-but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the Devil. Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places and talents in unexpected people. And, give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so.

Amen.

A Mother's Occupation

Inspirational Story on the importance of a mother's role

A woman named Emily renewing her driver's licence at the Transport office was asked by the clerk to state her occupation. She hesitated, uncertain how to classify herself. "What I mean is," explained the clerk, "do you have a job, or are you just a ...?" "Of course I have a job," snapped Emily. "I'm a Mum." "We don't list 'Mum' as an occupation, 'housewife' covers it," said the clerk emphatically.

I forgot all about her story until one day I found myself in the same situation, this time at our local police station. The Clerk was obviously a career woman, poised, efficient, and possessed of a high-sounding title like, "Official Interrogator" or "Town Registrar." "What is your occupation?" she probed. What made me say it, I do not know...

The words simply popped out. "I'm a Research Associate in the field of Child Development and Human Relations." The clerk paused, pen frozen in midair, and looked up as though she had not heard right. I repeated the title slowly, emphasizing the most significant words. Then I stared with wonder as my pronouncement was written in bold, black ink on the official questionnaire!

"Might I ask," said the clerk with new interest, "just what you do in your field?" Coolly, without any trace of fluster in my voice, I heard myself reply, "I have a continuing programme of research, (what mother doesn't), in the laboratory and in the field, (normally I would have said indoors and out). I'm working for my Masters, (the whole family), and already have four credits, (all daughters). Of course, the job is one of the most demanding in the humanities, (any mother care to disagree.?) and I often work 14 hours a day, (24 is more like it). But the job is more challenging than most run-of-the-mill careers and the rewards are more of a satisfaction rather than just money." There was an increasing note of respect in the girl's voice as she completed the form, stood up, and personally ushered me to the door.

When I got home, buoyed up by my glamorous new career, I was greeted by my lab assistants -ages 10, 7, and 3. Upstairs, I could hear our new experimental model, (a 6-month-old baby), in the child-development programme, testing out a new vocal pattern. I felt I had triumphed over bureaucracy! And I had gone on the official records as someone more distinguished and indispensable to mankind than "just another Mum." Motherhood...What a glorious career! especially when there's a title on the door.

Does this make grandmothers "Senior Research Associates in the field of Child Development and Human Relations", and great grandmothers "Executive Senior Research Associates"??? I think so!!! I also think it makes Aunts "Associate Research Assistants".

Author Unknown

Diary of a Church Mouse



Here among long-discarded cassocks,
Damp stools, and half-split open hassocks,
Here where the vicar never looks
I nibble through old service books.

Lean and alone I spend my days
Behind this Church of England baize.
I share my dark forgotten room
With two oil-lamps and half a broom.

The cleaner never bothers me,
So here I eat my frugal tea.
My bread is sawdust mixed with straw;
My jam is polish for the floor.

Christmas and Easter may be feasts
For congregations and for priests,
And so may Whitsun. All the same,
They do not fill my meagre frame.

For me the only feast at all
Is Autumn's Harvest Festival,
When I can satisfy my want
With ears of corn around the font.

I climb the eagle's brazen head
To burrow through a loaf of bread.
I scramble up the pulpit stair
And gnaw the marrows hanging there.

It is enjoyable to taste
These items ere they go to waste,
But how annoying when one finds
That other mice with pagan minds
Come into church my food to share
Who have no proper business there.

Two field mice who have no desire
To be baptized, invade the choir.
A large and most unfriendly rat
Comes in to see what we are at.
He says he thinks there is no God
And yet he comes.....it's rather odd

This year he stole a sheaf of wheat
(It screened our special preacher's seat),
And prosperous mice from fields away
Come in to hear our organ play,
And under cover of its notes
Ate through the altar's sheaf of oats.

A Low Church mouse, who thinks that I
Am too papistical, and High,
Yet somehow doesn't think it wrong
To munch through Harvest Evensong,
While I, who starve the whole year through,
Must share my food with rodents who
Except at this time of the year
Not once inside the church appear.

Within the human world I know
Such goings-on could not be so,
For human beings only do
What their religion tells them to.

They read the Bible every day
And always, night and morning, pray,
And just like me, the good church mouse,
Worship each week in God's own house,

But all the same it's strange to me
How very full the church can be
With people I don't see at all
Except at Harvest Festival.

John Betjeman

John Betjeman (1906-1984) is one of the most beloved poets of the last century in Great Britain. He was also a broadcaster, an architecture writer and critic and a highly lauded travel writer. He won many awards and was Poet Laureate of England from 1972 until his death.

Faith In Life Group

Our 'Faith in Life' group met up recently where we discussed the direction we thought might be of interest to us all. It was decided that we would have a break during August and meet up again on the 12th September. This meeting would be more social than study, and the following meetings would be focused on known Christians and their journey through life.

On the 19th September Margaret Wilson will be talking about her mother who recently passed away, and her spiritual journey. Then on the 3rd October we will discuss C S Lewis.

The meeting after this is on the 17th October where we will be going to the Area Partnership Meeting at St Ives. The speaker is a Professor Lea Tarragin Zeller and her topic is 'Creation, the Hebrew Scriptures'. ***If you are interested in coming along then please contact Bruce who will make the necessary arrangements.***

Our usual meetings are at 7.45 pm at 22 London Road (opposite the Medical Centre). If you would like to join us you are very welcome; call Kate on 01223 660943.

Kate Leach

**Creation in Hebrew Scriptures
At The Free Church, (United Reformed) St Ives
St Ives, Cambs.
Wednesday 17th October 2018
7.15 for 7.45 pm**



**Speaker:
Professor Lea Tarragin-Zeller
Wolf Institute**

**Cambridge Area Partnership
Pastoral Advocates; David Lloyd, Revd Deborah McVey,
Revd Dr Catherine Ball
M&M Advocate: Alison Jiggins**

DVD's

I have a number of interesting DVD's which I would like to share with you.

Sisters of War	Based on a true story of an army nurse and a catholic nun in Papua New Guinea during the second world war when the Japanese invaded. Well worth watching.
Courageous Heart	Another true story of a young catholic social worker in Warsaw during the war. An amazing story of how she saved countless children from the Ghetto.
Alone in Berlin	Another true story of a German couple in Berlin; a remarkable story of courage. Emma Thompson and Brendan Gleeson.
Mary Magdalene	A recently released film about Mary and her journey with Jesus to Jerusalem
Peter :The Redemption	With John Rhys-Davies, Stephen Baldwin, Bobbie Phillips, Steve Byers, Brittany Bristow. Set in 64 AD Peter is arrested and thrown into prison and depicts his journey of faith and a fight for the right to believe in a radical new faith called 'Christianity'.
The Young Messiah	With Adam Greaves-Neal and Sean Bean. A fictional look at a year in the life of Jesus as a boy. Very Hollywood but let me know what you think.
Risen	Joseph Fiennes stars as Clavius, a Roman soldier, given the task of finding out what has happened to Jesus after the crucifixion.

It's that time of year again when those who manage to bottle fruit or make jam are no doubt under way. Is there anyone who needs jam jars? I have quite a number of them and would love someone to put them to good use. Call me on 660943.

Kate



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The Chapels Society - Chapel of the Month – August 2018

John Ellis, Immediate Past Moderator of the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church, brings a little sunshine to August's Chapel of the Month with a trip to Polynesia. "Go and make disciples of all nations"



Moorea is all you could wish for in a Pacific island. This speck in the ocean can provide a luxury holiday experience with all mod cons in a fake Polynesian hut. But should you find yourself there, turn off the perimeter road at Papetoai and walk down to the beach. Alongside you will see a lovingly tended and beautiful octagonal chapel with exceptional acoustics. You will also be contemplating a turning point in world history.

The London Missionary Society was formed to be an ecumenical sponsor of missionary activity. Its first overseas project resulted in thirty missionaries landing in Tahiti in 1797. There was no evangelistic response whatever and local politics resulted in them all being expelled. Most despaired and left but a handful believed God had plans and moved no further than to the adjacent island of Moorea. There they created a base at Papetoai. Still there was no response to the Gospel.

After twenty long years, the tide turned, they rejoiced in the first Polynesian baptism and in 1822 were able to form the first Christian church. In 1827 it erected its distinctive chapel on the site of a former native temple. Work was able to resume on Tahiti and from there the evangelisation of the Pacific Ocean islands was led through the remaining decades of the nineteenth century. While the focus may have moved elsewhere, the Papetoai chapel stands quietly amongst the coconut palms as the oldest Christian church in the Pacific.

In 1842 the French took political control of what is now French Polynesia and the LMS handed over the Church leadership to the French Protestant Mission. They refurbished the church in the 1880s but always acknowledged the crucial contribution of the LMS pioneers and erected a memorial to them in the church. Some of their graves are outside, alongside the ocean that was their highway.

In 2016 the Maohi Protestant Church in French Polynesia came home to its historical roots by joining the Council for World Mission, the equal partnership of Churches that succeeded the imperial model of the LMS.

All this may be 10,000 miles away but Chapels Society members who think of John Williams as a missionary martyr rather than a guitarist will have spotted the link. For decades, almost every British Congregational chapel had its Missionary Sunday when the octagonal LMS hut collecting boxes were opened. Sunday school scholars collected ship halfpennies to fund the work of the John Williams missionary ships around the islands of the Pacific. Vivid stories of dedicated service were told and in the chapel at Papetoai they spring into life.

And is our organist striking up:
***In Christ there is no East or West,
In Him no South or North,
But one great fellowship of love
Throughout the whole wide earth.***

(With thanks to the Chapels Society website)

Sawston Free Church

Craft Group

We meet in the back hall of the Church on alternate Monday mornings between 10am and 12noon.

Dates for September: 3rd and 17th.

For more information please contact **Yvonne** (01223) 473937 or **Pam** 834220

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Wednesday Fellowship

There are **no meetings in September** due to the holiday season.

The next meeting is on the 10th October with our Harvest Festival

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Flower Rota

Please remember the flower rota at the back of the church.

It is always welcoming to see the flowers in the church.

Please contact **Janet Parr** for more information: 832840

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Time For Tots at Sawston Free Church

Showing and Sharing God's love

Time for Tots is a church run group for babies and preschool children and their carers. During our weekly session there is time to play, make things, chat, have a drink and snack, have a bible story and sing some songs.

For more information please contact **Rosemary**.

Email: timefortots@sawstonfreechurch.org.uk

Next session – 6th September

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Church Workday – September 8th - 8am till noon

Please come and help keep our premises looking good.

There are various tasks to suit all talents and capabilities from painting to gardening, and a chance for a chat over cake and coffee.

Please let me know if you can come it really helps me to plan the work.

Thank You Gordon (833983)



Dates For Your Diary

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 16 September | – Bring & Share Lunch to welcome Jacob Bali(student minister) |
| 14 October 10.30am | – Harvest Service – led by Faith Paulding & Jacob Bali |
| 14 October | – Harvest Bring & Share Lunch – Castle Camps will be joining us for lunch |
| 18 November 10.30am | – Elders' Service |

Church Meetings – all at 7.30pm

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 10 September 2018 | 11 March 2019 | 9 September 2019 |
| 12 November 2018 | 13 May 2019 | 11 November 2019 |
| 14 January 2019 | 8 July 2019 | |

CAMBRIDGE METHODIST CIRCUIT Events for September 2018



For more details contact the Circuit Secretary: Mrs Miriam Webb
 Email: office@wesleycam.org.uk or secretary@cambridgemethodistcircuit.org.uk

Sun 2nd	6.30pm	CIRCUIT FAREWELL SERVICE for Revd Barbara Garwood to thank her for her work for Wesley and the Circuit over the last 3 years. All welcome.	Wesley Methodist Church
Royston Fringe: in on the theme of Voyages of Discovery and is part of Royston Arts Festival. All tickets can also be booked from Ticketsource.co.uk/rmc or at the contacts below.			
Sat 22nd	7.30pm	Royston Fringe: Blue Skies Big Band Tickets £10 Contact Sue 01763 243815 walter962@btinternet.com	Royston MC
Fri 28th	7.30pm	Royston Fringe: Inquisitive Minds with Brushes with Henrietta Ward of the Fitzwilliam Museum. Tickets £5 Contact Sue 01763 243815 walter962@btinternet.com	Royston MC
Sat 29th	2.30pm	Royston Fringe: Dumisa Rumbidza Praise Entrance free	Royston MC
Sun 30th	2.30pm	Royston Fringe: Jazz in the Afternoon with Caxton Swing. Tickets £7 from Sue 01763 243815 walter962@btinternet.com	Royston Methodist Church
Sat 29th & Sun 30th	10am-5pm 11am-5pm	Royston Fringe: Art Exhibition and Art Competition – free entry Open to all-comers. See royston-methodist.org.uk for entry forms and more details.	Royston Methodist Church

Church Directory

Minister		Tel
Rev. Bruce Waldron	The Manse, 3 High Street, Sawston Email: revbruce@sawstonfreechurch.org.uk	836786 07814 920187
Secretaries:		
Maggie Jones - Sawston	21 Hillside, Sawston	565637
Lynne Riecansky – Lt. Abington	7 Meadow Walk, Great Abington	893295
Val Spencer – Castle Camps	20 South Road, Abington	892214
Elders: Sawston		
Mary Simuyandi	28 New Road, Sawston	837433
Anne Nunn	10 London Road, Sawston	832913
Mike Purdy	42 Granta Road, Sawston	830903
Sue Sisk	63 Babraham Road, Sawston	833508
Sue Lelliott	26 Park Road, Sawston	520383
Chris Sales	2 Edinburgh Avenue, Sawston	473829
Joint Treasurers:		
Lynne Hays	Baggot Hall, Station Road, Harston	871800
Terry Penny	April Lodge, 81 Brewery Road, Pampisford	833635
Contact Editors		
David & Anne Nunn	10 London Road, Sawston Email: anne.nunn@btinternet.com	832913
Church Bookings		
	Terry & Beryl Penny	07532 081221
Church Website:		
	www.sawstonfreechurch.org.uk/	
Facebook page:		
	www.facebook.com/SawstonFreeChurch	



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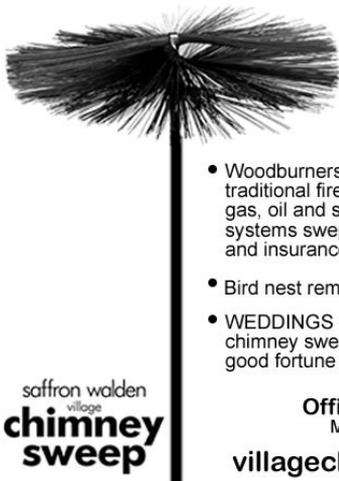
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