

CONTACT

December 2022



Volume 63 - Issue 12
Sawston Free Church - Castle Camps URC

Churches Services and Dates for Your Diary

**Future Services-(also available via zoom) SFC email: secretary@sawstonfreechurch.org.uk,
Castle Camps email: sarabdavey@outlook.com**

Sawston Free Church:

04 December 10.30 Morning Worship – Andy Nightingale
 03.00 Messy Church
 11 December 10.30 Junior Church Nativity Service – Rev Phil Nevard
 18 December 10.30 Christingle Service – Rev Phil Nevard
 21 December Wednesday 7.30pm : Village Carol Service – Sawston Free Church
 24 December Saturday 5.00pm : Pyjama Service – Rev Phil Nevard
 11.30pm : **Joint Midnight Service @ St Mary's**
 25 December Sunday 10.00am : Christmas Day Service – Rev Lythan Nevard



NO SERVICE – Sunday 1st January

The closing date for **January** Contact is **Thursday – 29th December**

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

Minister		Tel
Rev Phil Nevard	12 Hinton Way, Gt Shelford, minister@sawstonfreechurch.org.uk	07814920187
Secretaries:		
Maggie Jones - Sawston	21 Hillside, Sawston	565637
Sara Davey - Castle Camps	Quinney's, High St, Castle Camps	07766101446
Elders: Sawston		
Rosemary Livings	The Gables, 1a Granhams Road, Gt Shelford	845948
Beryl Penny	April Lodge, 81 Brewery Road, Pampisford	833635
Mike Purdy	42 Granta Road, Sawston	830903
Mary Simuyandi	28 New Road, Sawston	837433
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		
	Maggie Jones, 21 Hillside, Sawston	565637
Church Website:		
	www.sawstonfreechurch.org.uk/ www.castlecampsurc.org	
Facebook page:		
	www.facebook.com/SawstonFreeChurch	

Contact

The monthly magazine of
**Sawston Free Church United Reformed Methodist
& Castle Camps URC**

Minister: Reverend Phil Nevard – 12 Hinton Way, Gt Shelford, Cambs CB22 5BE
Tel: 07814 920187 Email: minister@sawstonfreechurch.org.uk
www.sawstonfreechurch.org.uk, www.castlecampsurc.org
www.facebook.com/SawstonFreeChurch



Dear Friends,

Buried in amongst the sparkle and the lights; tucked away between the sheets of discarded wrapping paper and cracker tubes; at the heart of all the familiar carols and readings; hard to spot as we regret that last slice of christmas cake and argue about which christmas special television programme to fall asleep to, are the bottomless depths of the theological idea of incarnation, the idea that God takes on human flesh and dwells among us.



There are many folk tales of Kings pretending to be paupers for a day, there have been many examples of politicians making a big show of “living on benefits for a whole week” or “sleeping rough for a night or two” as if they can even get close to what that feels like when it is not a choice or a media stunt. Incarnation is none of those things. Incarnation is nothing less than God’s total commitment to humanity. Being born, growing up, living and dying in human flesh. Experiencing poverty, being a refugee, making choices about family, following a calling, confronting injustice and paying the ultimate penalty. This is nothing less than God’s total commitment to human-kind.

This isn’t a bit of role-play, this isn’t dressing up, this isn’t pretending for a week, this is God BEING fully human - knowing how it feels and where the heights and depths of human experience lie. This is a God who has been there, a God who knows, a God who has seen what we see and felt what we feel. And this God, in Jesus, has shown us what a fullness of life looks like. It’s not like we imagined! Jesus’ life is a walking, talking, living, breathing, dying and rising-again pattern for the fundamental values by which we are meant to live our lives. Fullness of life is about compassion for the poor and a passion for justice - compassion and justice worth dying for.

That might not sound very christmassy! But without Incarnation, Christmas is soon discarded, washed away by the January rain, a fleeting moment of planned pleasure that ultimately fails to satisfy. With incarnation, Christmas transforms your life and changes the world! Happy Christmas!

**Every Blessing,
Rev’d Phil Nevard**

Phil

Sawston Warm Hub

We have gone into partnership with Our Lady of Lourdes and St Mary’s to offer a warm hub between the end of November and March in Sawston. A huge thankyou to the many people who have volunteered to help from Sawston Free Church. If you would value some time in the warm or just a chance to socialise with others keeping warm – then the hub is for you!

Monday and Friday Afternoons from 12:30-4:30 at Our Lady of Lourdes church hall. It’s free! If you know someone who might benefit but doesn’t get this magazine – please let them know!

The Good Old Days!

Back in the days of tanners and bobs,
When Mothers had patience and Fathers had jobs.
When football team families wore hand me down shoes,
And TV gave only two channels to choose.
Back in the days of three penny bits,
When schools employed nurses to search for your nits.
When snowballs were harmless; ice slides were permitted
and all of your jumpers were warm and hand knitted.
Back in the days of hot ginger beers,
when children remained so for more than six years.
When children respected what older folks said,
and pot was a thing you kept under your bed.
Back in the days of Listen with Mother,
when neighbours were friendly and talked to each other.
When cars were so rare you could play in the street.
When Doctors made house calls; Police walked the beat.
Back in the days of Milligan's Goons,
when butter was butter and songs all had tunes.
It was dumplings for dinner and trifle for tea,
and your annual break was a day by the sea.
Back in the days of Dixon's Dock Green,
Crackerjack pens and Lyons ice cream.
When children could freely wear National Health glasses,
and teachers all stood at the FRONT of their classes
Back in the days of rocking and reeling,
when mobiles were things that you hung from the ceiling.
When woodwork and pottery got taught in schools,
and everyone dreamed of a win on the pools.
Back in the days when I was a lad,
I can't help but smile for the fun that I had.
Hopscotch and roller skates; snowballs to lob.
Back in the days of tanners and bobs.

Author Unknown

With thanks to Mike Purdy

As I see it ...

by Mike Wilson

(Please note that the views expressed in this article are those of the author, Michael Wilson, and not in any way representative of the views of Sawston Free Church.)

Jung Chang, in her astonishing book '*Mao*' (2007) says that Mao went into the Korean War (1950-53) not to rescue the North Koreans but to prevent the USA having troops on the Chinese border. Russia has invaded Ukraine for similar reasons. Chang says that to Mao, the fact that the war was leaving Korea virtually destroyed was immaterial. China mattered -Korea didn't. Vladimir Putin seems to think similarly. Instructing his generals to expect a long war, Mao sent waves of virtually unarmed, bare-footed soldiers against the American guns in mid-winter because, eventually, the Americans would run out of bullets. They did. Russia, having given up hope of a quick, glorious victory, is now digging in for the long term, assuming that Nato will eventually tire of supplying the Ukraine with sophisticated weaponry. Who taught Mao these tactics? They were partly self-taught from the revolutionary war he had just won, and partly learned from Stalin, who himself learned them on the Eastern Front in 1945. The theory is that overwhelming numbers of poor troops will always defeat small numbers of crack troops provided (i) the appalling cost in terms of lives and infrastructure is acceptable and (ii) time is on your side. It is a brutal theory.

So the war in Ukraine grinds into winter stagnation and Nato wonders how long it can keep this up. Equally, Nato wonders whether the West can afford to lose this war, and have Russian troops once more on the borders of Moldova, Hungary, Romania and Poland, together with a Moscow leadership triumphant in the knowledge that Nato could not stop them invading the second largest country in Europe. Where does that leave Eastern Europe?

In Britain, only the Quakers are committed to Christian pacifism. I waver. Jesus clearly abhorred violence, but I don't think pacifism can be argued out of the New Testament. Yet the earliest Christians *were* pacifist, for which the Romans deeply distrusted them.

Can the Christian stand idly by and watch their neighbour suffer? Does there come a point at which physical intervention is more Christ-like than total inactivity or pacifist humanitarian intervention? Has that point already been reached? If not, where does it come? Does it come with the invasion of the Baltic States? Or Hungary? Or Poland?

Perhaps for the nearly-Christian-pacifist the crunch question is not so much 'How much am I prepared to see my neighbour suffer?' but 'How much am I prepared to suffer myself?' Vladimir Putin, I think, is making it clear that the price of thwarting his long-term ambitions in Europe could be very high indeed. Our current economic woes and falling living standards pale into insignificance. He miscalculated with his lightning strike. Now he is calculating on the long haul, a tried and trusted strategy. Maybe you and I will not be asked to give up our actual, physical lives, but, it seems to me, we in the West might be required to commit much, much more of our livelihood to the cause than we originally bargained for, regardless of whether we ourselves are actually waging war or not. And it is *that*, I have long been persuaded, that Jesus meant by 'committing' one's life, far more than dying (John 15:13).

The Poppy

From the website of the Royal British Legion

Our red poppy is a symbol of both Remembrance and hope for a peaceful future

The Western Front

During WW1, much of the fighting took place in Western Europe. The countryside was blasted, bombed and fought over repeatedly. Previously beautiful landscapes turned to mud; bleak and barren scenes where little or nothing could grow.

Fields Of Poppies

There was a notable and striking exception to the bleakness - the bright red Flanders poppies. These resilient flowers flourished in the middle of so much chaos and destruction, growing in the thousands upon thousands.

In The Spring Of 1915

Shortly after losing a friend in Ypres, a Canadian doctor, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae was moved by the sight of these poppies, and that inspiration led him to write the now famous poem 'In Flanders Fields'.

The Spread Of The Poppy As A Symbol

The poem inspired an American academic named Moina Michael to adopt the poppy in memory of those who had fallen in the war. She campaigned to get it adopted as an official symbol of Remembrance across the United States and worked with others who were trying to do the same in Canada, Australia, UK. There she met Earl Haig, our founder, who was persuaded to adopt the poppy as our emblem in the UK. The Royal British Legion, which had been formed in 1921, ordered nine million poppies and sold them on 11 November that year.

Sold Out!

The poppies sold out almost immediately. That first 'Poppy Appeal' raised over £106,000 to help veterans with housing and jobs; a considerable sum at the time.

For today's Poppy Appeal 40,000 volunteers distribute 40 million poppies.

An Enduring Symbol

Remembrance in the UK today is very different than it was 100 years ago. People take part whatever their political or religious beliefs. The poppy remains a humble, poignant symbol of remembrance and hope.

Different Coloured Poppies

From The BBC Newsround Website

The red poppy is the most famous symbol used to commemorate those who sacrificed their lives in World War One and conflicts that followed. Wearing a poppy was inspired by the fields of poppies that grew where many of the battles were fought.



The red poppy belongs to the Royal British Legion - a charity created by veterans of World War One. They say that the red poppy represents remembrance and hope.

The purple poppy is often worn to remember **animals that have been victims of war**. Animals like horses, dogs and pigeons were often drafted into the war effort, and those that wear the purple poppy feel their service should be seen as equal to that of human service. In particular, many horses were killed or injured in World War One. Donations to the Animal Purple Poppy Fund go to charities including World Horse Welfare and the Household Cavalry Foundation.

The black poppy rose commemorates the contributions of black, African and Caribbean communities to the war effort - as servicemen and servicewomen, and as civilians. The charitable organisation was launched in 2010 and aims to highlight "largely untold historical legacies" from the 16th century onwards.

Some people feel that the red poppy glorifies war and conflict. Instead they might choose to wear a white poppy. The white poppy is handed out by a charity called Peace Pledge Union, which promotes peace. They say that the white poppy commemorates people who died in conflict, but focuses on achieving peace and challenging the way we look at war.

(With thanks to Inform – The Methodist magazine for Royston and Orwell)

=====

Reflections: Every Problem Solved

Man has such strange ideas of the meaning of the invitation "Come unto Me". Too often has it been interpreted as an urge to pay a duty owed to a Creator, or a debt owed to a Saviour.

The "Come unto Me" holds in it a wealth of meaning far surpassing even that. "Come unto Me" for the solution of every problem, for the calming of every fear, for all you need - physical, mental, spiritual.

Sick - come to Me for health

Homeless - ask Me for a home

Friendless - claim a friend

Hopeless - a refuge "Come unto Me" for everything

This is certainly what we need to remember in these uncertain times.

Many blessings to you all.

Kate Leach

Greener Cleaning

(top tips from parkavenuecleaning.com)

The first in a series of articles offering tips for cleaning with generally available household ingredients rather than harsh chemical sprays. As requested by a church member at a recent Church Meeting!

This month's star ingredient: **SALT**

Sodium chloride, also known as ordinary table salt, is nifty at removing stains and grime. It can clean almost anything when mixed with other ingredients, and it's non-toxic and inexpensive.

For stubborn grease and odour buildup, use hot water, baking soda, and white distilled vinegar with salt to pour down your kitchen drain.

- 1 cup Salt
- ½ cup White Distilled Vinegar
- 1 cup Baking Soda
- Let mixture sit For 15 minutes
- Pour hot mixture down drain

Tackle pots and pans by scrubbing away caked-on grease with a thin paste of salt, dish soap, and water.

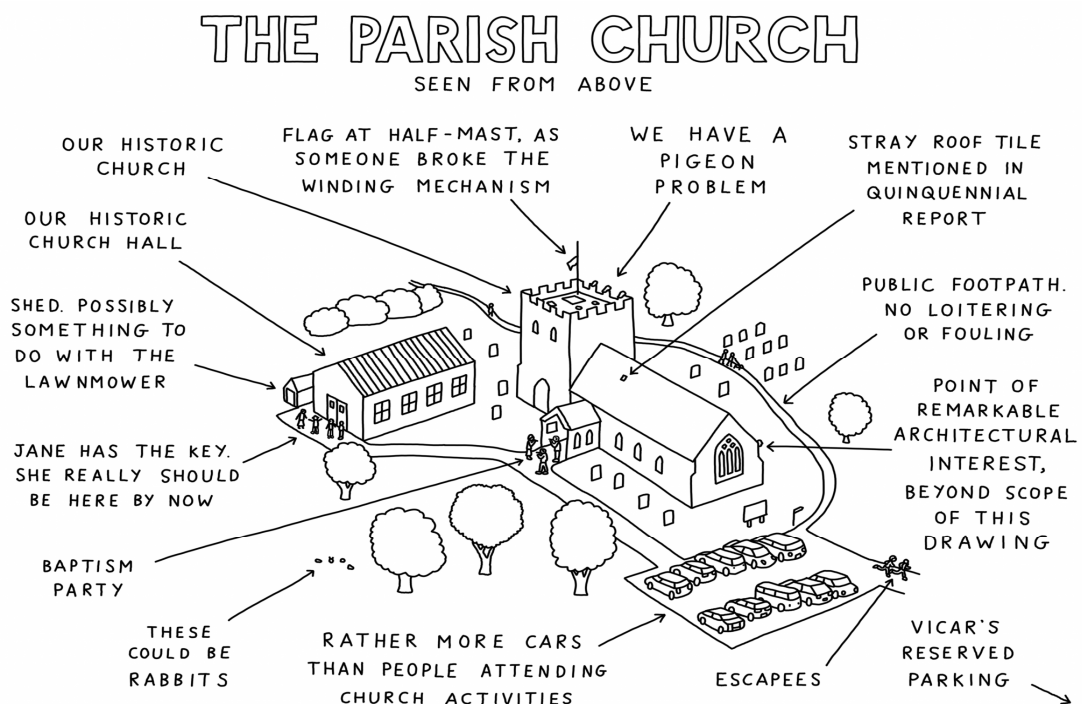
- Sprinkle Thin Salt Layer On Pan
- Small Amount of Water
- A Couple Drops washing up liquid
- Scrub Grease Away With Bristled Brush

For stubborn stains: Use a balled-up piece of foil with the above recipes.

BONUS SALT CLEANING TIPS

- **Bonus Tip 1:** Use either of the above salt cleaning recipes to gently scrub away almost anything, such as rust, water rings, oven spills, frying pans, copper pots, irons, vases covered in slimy old flower water, fridges that need deodorizing, clogged bathroom sinks, stained coffee pots, and soap scum.
- **Bonus Tip 2:** Use salt along doorways, windowsills, or anywhere else ants are sneaking into the home from. This is a fantastic way to deter pesky critters (chemical-free!).

Next month, the power of lemons!



Four Ignatian Advent Meditations

(by Steve Connor, IgnatianSpirituality.com)

Advent 1: The Mountain of the Lord's House

"The mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest mountain." (Isaiah 2:2)

Preparation

As we begin this time of quiet prayer, I invite you to find a comfortable place to sit with your back straight and your legs planted on the ground. Allow yourself to notice your breathing as you breathe normally. Breathe in. Breathe out.

Take a few moments and close your eyes, preparing yourself to listen to what God may be saying to you during this prayer. As you sit with your eyes closed, use these or similar words: "Here I am, Lord. Here I am." When you are ready, open your eyes and pray...

Imagine you are climbing up the mountain of the Lord. As you start the path is wide with beautiful trees and flowers along the way. You fill your lungs with the cool, clean air. As you continue you notice the path is becoming narrow and steep. There seem to be more rocks sticking up from the ground. You find yourself a little out of breath as the air becomes thinner the higher you climb. You decide to rest on a large rock to catch your breath. You look up the path to see how much more you need to climb. You see someone in the distance. He's looking at you. It looks like his hand is waving for you to come. Though you are alone, you are not afraid. In fact, you feel a pull, a desire to go this person.

You are standing in front of him. He is dressed in long robes that are moving gently in the mountain air. He smiles at you and asks, "What are you seeking on this path?" What do you say to him? What are you seeking?

"I am the prophet Isaiah. This is the mountain of the Lord. It is rich with life and dreams. What dreams do you bring to this place?" What are the dreams you bring to this mountain? What are your dreams that you want to share with the Lord?

Isaiah looks at you with eyes that know how to dream. "My dreams beat swords into ploughshares. They are dreams of peace, of life, of hope." What are the swords in your heart that need to be changed? What are the swords that wound you and hold you back from dreaming and from climbing the mountain of the Lord? Give those swords to Isaiah, the prophet, the dreamer. Ask him to help you change them into something life-giving.

"I will change your swords into ploughshares so you can till the soil of your soul and know that God is with you. Are you ready for this dream to be real?" You look into the eyes of this dreamer, Isaiah, and you say, *Yes. Yes, I am ready.* Isaiah smiles at you and takes your hand in his. He looks at you with eyes filled deep with hope and life. He understands you. "Come," he says, "let us walk in the light of the Lord!"

Concluding Prayer

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Advent 2: What is impossible is possible.

Preparation (as for Advent 1)

Imagine you are walking along a path in a park. It is a beautiful day. The sun is shining in a clear, blue sky. The air is crisp and cool. It is fragrant with the smell of evergreens that are in clusters along the path. You stop to look and listen to what is around you. You hear the sound of the wind as it whispers through the trees. You notice a squirrel as it runs left then right then left, looking for something to take to his nest. You smile. All is good. All is full of life. You feel a part of all that is.

You make your way home and make a cup of tea. Sitting by the fire you think over your morning walk and you pray: *My God, thank you for all that surrounds me. I know your presence embraces me, helping me to know you are here. Thank you.* You sit in the quiet and begin to doze off. Resting your head on a pillow you fall asleep and dream. In your dream, you are lying under a large tree. Its trunk is enormous and leads up to branches that spread out over a great distance. You look up and begin to see the faces of those you love sitting on the branches of the tree. Who do you see in the tree? Do they see you? What are they doing? Why are they here?

You hear some movement near you. You raise your head and see coming towards you a small child. He is smiling, perhaps laughing. He comes up to you with open arms and wraps them around your neck. "Let's play," he says. "I will run and you try to catch me." His joy makes you laugh. You wonder where this child has come from. Why is he here? You ask him, "But what about all these people in the tree? I don't want to leave them." He looks at you with such joy. "It's OK. They'll be happy because you're happy." As you stand up, he runs off giggling and laughing. You pretend not to be able to catch him. He suddenly stops and jumps into your arms. He kisses your neck and says, "Look. Everyone is laughing so hard the tree is shaking." You look into his eyes and are overwhelmed with such peace and love that your eyes are brimming with tears. You think, *Why am I feeling this way about this little child?* He jumps down from your arms and walks towards the tree. You follow him and sit with him under the tree still shaking with laughter. "I love you," he says. "I've always loved you. You are a part of who I am." He then begins to climb the tree. As he climbs, he greets each person with joy and laughter. He climbs all the way to the top of the tree and stands on the furthest branch. You see standing beside him a wolf and a lamb. Who is this small child? What do you want to say to him as he stands on the top of the tree?

As you look up to him, his words come back to you: *You are a part of who I am.* What does this mean to you? What does it mean to all those you love who are there with you?

Who are the children in your life that have shown you the face of God? How has God helped to make what you thought impossible, possible? (Is. 11:6)

Concluding Prayer

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Advent 3: Where is my wilderness?

Preparation (as for Advent 1&2)

Imagine you are walking down a busy street in a large city. There are people everywhere. It's hard to move ahead because you are surrounded. The sounds of cars and buses and horns fill the air. Surprisingly, in the midst of the crowd and the noise you are calm. *There is so much life around me*, you think. How does this make you feel? As you walk further, you notice someone all bundled up sitting on the sidewalk. He is wrapped in a furry blanket on top of multiple layers of clothing. As you look closer, he is holding a sign that reads, "Are you ready to enter the wilderness?" You think, *how strange*. What do you think this means?

You are curious, so you decide to walk over to him. He looks up at you. His eyes look directly into yours. He smiles. What do you want to say to him? He says to you, "Are you ready? The time is coming and is now. Are you ready?"

"Ready for what?" you answer. He smiles and laughs a little. "Are you ready to enter your wilderness, ready to go into the wild to find what is most real?" His laugh makes you smile. You wonder, *where is my wilderness?* The man looks up at you with a look that is full of love and acceptance. "I can only bring the message. It's up to you to accept it. There is one coming who is fully alive, and he offers that to you. He has been to his wilderness, and he knows pain and suffering." Where is your wilderness? What in your life do you need to accept? What pains are you holding onto?

He looks up at you and sees how you may be struggling to understand. He smiles and says, "He is coming to take all that you want to hide in darkness and bring it into the light of love and acceptance. Will you let him?" He smiles. You think you see such love in his eyes but you aren't sure.

As you walk away, you think about what he said about acceptance and love, about pain and suffering. But your mind goes back to one phrase he said. *Will you let him?* Will you let him? Will you?

Where is your wilderness?

Concluding Prayer

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Advent 4: Do not be afraid. God is with us.

Preparation (as for Advent 1,2&3)

It's early morning. You are just waking up. It's still dark outside. But you woke up because you feel drawn to take a walk in the neighbourhood. There is a fresh snowfall covering everything. It's cold but the wind is calm. As you walk, you feel the soft crunch of new snow. It makes you smile. In the distance, you see someone standing at the bus stop. He is leaning against the wall and seems tired. You think he might even be asleep as he leans against that wall.

As you approach, he looks up and says, "Good morning." You answer, "Good morning. Nice snow this morning." He looks at you with eyes that are tired but gentle. "Yes. The snow is nice in the morning before it gets trampled." He looks at you with gentle eyes and says, "I just got off my shift at the factory. Time to get the bus and go home. Why are you out so early this morning?" His voice and face are so inviting. He makes you feel safe and peaceful. There is something you want to share with him, something you've been holding onto, afraid to let go of. What do you say to him?

His whole body seems to be listening to you. "I understand," he says. "I too have been afraid. My wife gave birth to our son a few months ago, and I was out of work. I didn't know how I was going to take care of them. I was scared." You notice that he is smiling as he tells you this. You ask him, "Why are you smiling?" He looks at you with a big smile and says, "Because I knew that God would help me. I knew God was here with me." You see the confidence, the trust in his face. What do you say to him?

He continues to look at you with those gentle eyes. You can see the joy and the strain in them. You wonder how he got such confidence, such faith in God. "When I was out of work I prayed and asked God to help me. I was tired and afraid of the future. Then one day at a bus stop, like this one, I talked to a man who let me know about the possibility of a job. When I went to look into the job, he was the one who was doing the hiring. It's like God sent me an angel at the bus stop. That's why I talk to people here. You never know when one might be an angel."

What fears do I need to hand over to God who is always with me?

Who are the "angels" in my life who have shown me the face of God?

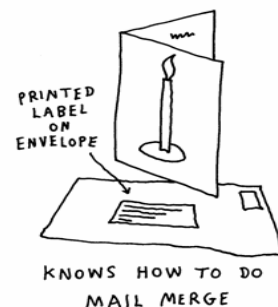
Concluding Prayer

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

=====

CHRISTMAS CARDS



CartoonChurch.com

Thoughts On The Autumn Statement

Paul Morrison - Policy Adviser |Joint Public Issues Team|



This month, the Food Foundation reported that over half of households receiving Universal Credit skipped meals to make ends meet. What makes this even more shocking is that around half the families receiving Universal Credit are in work. As the Chancellor prepares to deliver his budget, reversing the reality of growing and deepening poverty in the UK must be at the forefront of his mind.

In the short term, people need to get through the winter. We know an average family of four receiving Universal Credit will need £1,400 more this year than last simply to maintain the standard of living they had last winter, even taking into account the various additional payments and energy caps. While churches and civil society prepare to do their part this winter by opening warm banks and supporting foodbanks, government must do its part and ensure that low income families and their children have enough for the essentials.

In the long term we need the Chancellor, alongside other leaders in our nation, to recognise that mass poverty and hunger should not and need not exist in a country as wealthy as the UK. It is an outrage that it exists today and a moral imperative that steps are taken to turn that tide.

The last decade was rightly viewed as economically disappointing but there remains huge and growing wealth in the UK. Over the past decade, the average household income grew from £28,000 to £32,000; the average household wealth including housing, pensions and investments has increased from around £200,000 to over £300,000, and FTSE 100 company values increased by almost half. Despite the difficulties our collective wealth per person has steadily increased.

But we also know that those increases in wealth did not find their way to large parts of society. Poverty over the last decade increased from 13.1 to 14.6 million people. Destitution, a form of poverty we thought had all but vanished in the UK, soared past 1.5million in 2015 to 2.5 million by the start of the pandemic.

Entering this budget round the conversation has been framed by increasing inflation alongside political and economic instability. While there are undoubted challenges, we should not convince ourselves that our nation is poor or that we cannot afford to ensure people have the basics. Leaving people without would be a choice, a choice lacking in compassion or morality.

Churches, through foodbanks, debt centres and by simply remaining present and faithful, have been alongside those who were at the sharp end of the last decade's economic choices. Whatever decisions the Chancellor makes simple justice demands that this time these communities are protected.

The Joint Public Issues Team (JPIT) is a partnership between the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Methodist Church, and the United Reformed Church. The purpose of JPIT is to help the Churches to work together for peace and justice through listening, learning, praying, speaking and acting on public policy issues.

From the Minister's Desk – Royston Methodist

Dear Friends,

In the last few weeks, we have experienced a definite change in the air. Children have returned to school, nights are drawing in, and our summer clothes have gone back into our suitcases and lofts. Many of us do not look kindly upon the changing season and increasing cold especially at night, not least in the light of the rising cost of living and fuel costs. Many will find this winter very difficult as they will struggle to heat their homes or to feed their families.

Today I braved the cold and went for a walk which I enjoyed. The incredible bursts of colour we enjoy in autumn are diminishing; the crunchy leaves are mulching into the earth. There is such an unadorned and raw quality to the magnificence of winter.

It reminded me of those much loved words from Ecclesiastes 3

1 For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

2 a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

3 a time to kill, and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

4 a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

5 a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

6 a time to seek, and a time to lose;

a time to keep, and a time to throw away;

7 a time to tear, and a time to sew;

a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

8 a time to love, and a time to hate;

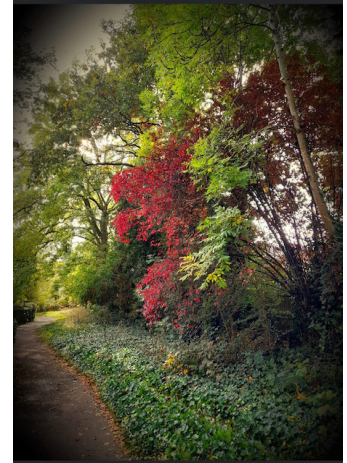
a time for war, and a time for peace.

Winter has a beauty of its own; not despite it being winter but because it is winter. This season brings us the time for deep nourishment ahead of the season of growth and new life. Each is vitally important to the other. Soon we will be in the season of remembering those who died in wars past and present, as we celebrate Remembrance Sunday and all the activities in and around our communities. Not long after that, we will join in celebrating events such as Guy Fawkes Day, Halloween night and All Saints Day. That will bring us into the season of Advent, where Christmas music, decorations and presents will fill our screens and our stores. We also become aware of the many people for whom this time of year is difficult and challenging for many reasons, including the loneliness which becomes more acute with longer darker nights.

My hope and my prayer is that as a community we will continue to watch over one another in love. I invite you to think about and to pray for those living alone, those living with chronic illness, the elderly who can no longer look after themselves.

With my love and prayers

Revd Charity Nzegwu



PEASGOOD & SKEATES

THE FAMILY FUNERAL SERVICE
EST 1847

A personal, caring service from a local business, day or night

48a High St
SAWSTON
01223 791065

45 Moorfield Rd
DUXFORD
01223 833463

Offices also at Cambridge, Haverhill
and Saffron Walden

www.peasgoodandskeates.co.uk



43 High Street, Sawston, Cambridge CB22 3BG

Tel: 01223 832939

email: enquiries@adams-harrison.co.uk
website: www.adams-harrison.co.uk

YOUR LOCAL SOLICITOR
FOR ALL YOUR LEGAL SERVICES
Offices also in Saffron Walden & Haverhill

L.A. Kerridge

Painting & Decorating

15 years + Experienced Tradesman
Quality interior & exterior decoration
Artex ceilings smoothed
Free Estimates & Quotes

Telephone 01223 832 745
Mob. 07843 850 484

CERBERUS SECURITY LOCKSMITHS

Sawston UPVC Specialist



Call Us Now 01223 902234

South Cambs's No1 Favourite Locksmith

www.cslocksmiths.com
info@cslocksmiths.com



Proud members of
Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters

No Call Out Fee
Rapid Response
O.A.P. Discounts
Local Family Run

The Footprints Café



at

Sawston Free Church

The **Footprints Café** is a community cafe offering a wide range of reasonably priced Snacks and Meals together with Teas & Coffees, Cold drinks, Cakes and Pastries.

We are open Monday to Friday from 8.30 am to 3.30 pm. Breakfasts are served until 11.30 am.

The **Footprints Café** is located at the back of Sawston Free Church. Car parking behind the church.

NEW! children's menu

LINTON VILLAGE MOTORS

01223 830550



- M.O.T Testing
- All makes of vehicles serviced and repaired
- Tyres at competitive prices
- Courtesy car provided
- Polite and friendly staff

Find us in Great Abington
opposite Granta Park

Mon-Fri: 8.30am - 5.30pm
Sat: 8.30am - 12.30pm

www.lintonvillagemotors.co.uk

STEVE the PLUMBER

Steve the Plumber is a friendly, reliably, locally based Plumber that would love to help you out!

All those jobs you thought weren't worth getting someone out for I would love to do for you.

No job is too small (individually priced at great rates)

Call or click:
07803 922517
www.stevetheplumbersawston.co.uk

Price Bailey The right advice for your business life

- Accounting
- Audit & Assurance
- Payroll
- Pensions & Employer Services
- Tax Compliance & Consultancy

T: 01223 565035 E: cambridge@pricebailey.co.uk pricebailey.co.uk

H J PAINTIN LTD FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Personal attention assured at all times
24 Hour Service



8, MORLEY'S PLACE, SAWSTON, CAMBRIDGE
Tel: 01223 830065

43, HIGH STREET, LINTON, CAMBRIDGE
Tel: 01223 891226

60, WITHERSFIELD ROAD, HAVERHILL
Tel: 01440 703218

Private Chapels of Rest : Estimates given
Golden Charter Pre-Payment Funeral Plans
Memorials supplied and erected in any area



www.hjpaintin.co.uk

This space could contain your Advertisement!

You can have a single advert,
a double advert, or a group of four.

Free design and artwork available.

Cheap rates.

For details contact the editor

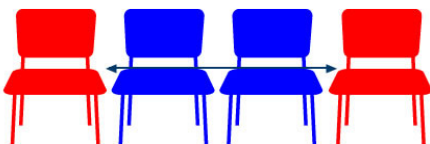
contact@sawstonfreechurch.org.uk

**We're back to normal
Every Sunday at 10.30am
but with a difference!**

You can now join us in church,
or from the comfort of your home using Zoom!

Email secretary@sawstonfreechurch.org.uk for more details

in person



online

